



**IASBABA'S
DAILY CURRENT
AFFAIRS QUIZ
COMPILATION
UPSC 2022**

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**9169191888
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Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971'

1. The act prohibits unmarried women who are between 20 and 24 weeks' pregnant from aborting pregnancy
2. An amendment in 2021 raised the ceiling for abortions to 26 weeks for special categories of pregnant women such as rape survivors
3. It allowed abortion within 12 weeks of pregnancy requiring the opinion of one doctor

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.1) Solution(c)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Correct
The act prohibits unmarried women who are between 20 and 24 weeks' pregnant to abort with the help of registered doctors	An amendment in 2021 raised the ceiling for abortions to 24 weeks for special categories of pregnant women such as rape survivors, minors, women with mental disabilities, women with foetuses that had major abnormalities and married women whose marital status had changed during the pregnancy, with the approval of two registered doctors.	It allowed abortion within 12 weeks of pregnancy requiring the opinion of one doctor and between 12 and 20 weeks requires opinion of two doctors.

Context - In a significant ruling on reproductive rights, the Supreme Court extended the right to safe and legal abortion up to 24 weeks of pregnancy to unmarried and single women

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Information Technology Rules, 2021'

1. The rules provide for the identification of the first originator of the information
2. The rules have stemmed from Section 69 of the Information Technology Act

Select the correct statement(s)

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

d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.2) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
Rule 4(2) covers the "identification of the first originator of the information". The extent of the first originator is limited to India— "Provided further that where the first originator of any information on the computer resource of an intermediary is located outside the territory of India, the first originator of that information within the territory of India shall be deemed to be the first originator of the information."	The 2021 rules have stemmed from section 87 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 and are a combination of the draft Intermediaries Rules, 2018 and the OTT Regulation and Code of Ethics for Digital Media

Context – Government recently banned 67 sites under this rules.

Q.3) 'Cook Islands' seen in news recently is located in

- a) Atlantic Ocean
- b) Indian Ocean
- c) Pacific Ocean
- d) Southern Ocean

Q.3) Solution(c)

The Cook Islands is a nation in the South Pacific, with political links to New Zealand. Its 15 islands are scattered over a vast area. The largest island, Rarotonga, is home to rugged mountains and Avarua, the national capital.

Context - The Biden administration announced that the United States would recognize Cook Islands and Niue, a self-governing territory whose foreign and defense policies and currency are linked to New Zealand.

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to the state of 'External debt' in the recent times

1. Indian Rupee-denominated debt remains the largest component of India's external debt
2. The outstanding debt of the general government decreased, while non-government increased

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.4) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
U.S. dollar-denominated debt remained the largest component of India's external debt, with a share of 54.7% at end-June 2022, followed by debt denominated in the Indian rupee (30.4%), SDR (6.3%), yen (5.1%), and the euro (2.8%).	The outstanding debt of the general government decreased, while non-government increased at end-June 2022.

Context - India's external debt during the first quarter of 2022-23 declined by \$2.5 billion to \$617.1 billion over end-March 2022, the Reserve Bank said on Thursday.

Q.5) With reference to 'Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)', consider the following statements

1. Democratisation and decentralisation of e-Commerce is the objective of ONDC
2. It is an initiative of the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)
3. It is an application designed to foster open, unbundled, and interoperable open networks

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.5) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Incorrect
Major ONDC objectives are: - Democratisation and decentralisation of eCommerce	Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), a Section 8 company is an initiative of the Department of Promotion of	ONDC is not an application, platform, intermediary, or software, but a set of specifications designed to foster

- Inclusivity and access for sellers, especially small and medium enterprises as well as local businesses - Increased choices and independency for consumers	Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce, Government of India,	open, unbundled, and interoperable open networks thereby eliminating the dependency on a single platform.
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Context - ONDC network starts beta testing with consumers in Bengaluru

Q.6) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Swachh Survekshan Survey 2022'

1. Service level progress has the highest weightage in determining the rank
2. The survey was launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
3. Indore emerged as India's first 7-star Garbage Free city

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.6) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Correct
Service level progress has the highest weightage in determining the rank with 40% weightage. Citizens' voice and certification have 30% weightage each	Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) had launched the seventh consecutive edition of Swachh Survekshan (SS), the world's largest urban cleanliness survey conducted by Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U). Designed with 'People First' as its driving philosophy, Swachh Survekshan 2022 is curated towards capturing the initiatives of cities for the overall welfare and well-being of frontline sanitation workers.	Indore, the city of lakes and palaces, walked away with the Cleanest City title for the sixth consecutive year, in the 'more than 1 lakh population' category, while Surat was adjudged the second cleanest city, for the second time in a row. Navi Mumbai bagged the third spot. Indore further cemented its position by emerging as India's first 7-star Garbage Free city, while Surat, Bhopal, Mysuru, Navi Mumbai, Vishakhapatnam, and Tirupati earned 5-star Garbage Free certifications.

Context - President of India Announced Results of Swachh Survekshan 2022**Q.7) Consider the following pairs****Textile: State**

1. Thigma: Sikkim
2. Himroo: Uttarakhand
3. Mashru: Gujarat
4. Khes: Odisha

How many pair(s) mentioned above is/are correctly matched

- a) Only one pair
- b) Only two pairs
- c) Only three pairs
- d) All the pairs

Q.7) Solution(a)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3	Statement 4
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct	Incorrect
Thigma or wool tie and dye from Ladakh A resist tie-dye technique on wool – Thigma is similar to the technique of Bandhani. Crafted mainly in Nubra Valley, Ladakh the term Thigma is a derived from the word “thitoo” or dot. The cloth is pinched, without any tools and the part to be resisted is tied tightly with thread.	Himroo is from Maharashtra. Himroo is a fabric produced in Aurangabad from locally grown silk and cotton. Himroo is a replica of Kum-Khwab, which was made for the royal families in ancient times from strands of gold and silver.	Mashru weaves and Patola from Gujarat Mashroo is a woven textile craft form with a purpose stemming from religion. ‘Mashroo’ meaning ‘permitted’ in Arabic lends credibility to the textile since wearing pure silk was prohibited.	Khes from Panipat, Haryana. These were woven in a double-cloth weave with cotton yarn in a chequered design. The Khes was thick enough to be used more popularly as a bedding material, but also additionally as a shawl or a wrap.

Context - UNESCO released a list of 50 exclusive and iconic heritage textile crafts of India.

Q.8) Which one of the following statements best reflects the issue with Burkina Faso, sometimes mentioned in the news?

- a) It is generally believed that Ebola virus originated here
- b) It is affected by maritime piracy
- c) It witnessed a second coup this year
- d) A permanent military base is set up here by China

Q.8) Solution(c)

Burkina Faso is a landlocked country in West Africa, bordered by Mali to the northwest, Niger to the northeast, Benin to the southeast, Togo and Ghana to the south, and the Ivory Coast to the southwest.

Context: Burkina Faso witnessed second coup of the year.

Q.9) Consider the following statements with respect to '5G Technology'

- 1. It has a latency rate higher than that of 4G technology
- 2. 5G has higher bandwidth and can thus connect more different devices

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.9) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
5G technology has a latency rate lower than that of 4G technology. While 4G has a latency rate of 60-100 milliseconds, 5G has 5 milliseconds.	In addition to 5G being faster than existing networks, 5G has higher bandwidth and can thus connect more different devices, improving the quality of Internet services in crowded areas.[4] Due to the increased bandwidth, it is expected the networks will increasingly be used as general internet service providers (ISPs) for laptops and desktop computers, competing with existing ISPs such as cable internet, and also will make possible new applications in internet-of-things (IoT) and machine-to-machine areas.

Context – Government launched commercial 5G service.

Q.10) With reference to 'Stockholm Convention', consider the following statements

1. It is a global treaty to protect human health and environment from Ozone Depleting Substances
2. India has ratified this legally binding convention
3. The convention classifies the substance into four annexes depending upon the severity

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.10) Solution(d)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Incorrect
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants is an international environmental treaty, signed on 22 May 2001 in Stockholm and effective from 17 May 2004, that aims to eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants (POPs).	The Stockholm Convention is a legally binding international instrument, designed to lead to gradual decrease of the presence of persistent organic pollutants in the environment. India ratified the Stockholm Convention in 2006.	The Stockholm Convention addresses the control of POPs under three Annexes that relate to the intended method of controlling their release – Elimination (Annex A), Restriction (Annex B), or Unintentional Production (Annex C). Parties are required to take measures to eliminate the production and use of Annex A chemicals and eliminate production and use of Annex B chemicals. The goal with regard to Annex C chemicals is to continually minimize, and where feasible eliminate, unintentional releases.

Context - Eighteenth meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (POPRC.18) took place recently

Q.11) Consider the following statements about PM YUVA (Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors) 2.0 Scheme

1. The scheme functions under the aegis of the Department of Higher Education, the Ministry of Education.
2. The National Book Trust is the implementing agency of the scheme.
3. The scheme aims to mentor and train young and budding authors below the age of 30 years.

Chose the correct statements:

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

Q.11) Solution (a)**Statement Analysis**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Correct
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Education, Department of Higher Education, launched YUVA 2.0 - Prime Minister's Scheme for Mentoring Young Authors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Book Trust (NBT), India, as the implementing agency under MoE will ensure the phase-wise execution of the scheme under well-defined stages of mentorship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The scheme is an Author Mentorship programme to train young and budding authors (below 30 years of age) in order to promote reading, writing and book culture in the country, and project India and Indian writings globally. In view of the significant impact of the first edition of YUVA with large scale participation from young and budding authors in 22 different Indian languages and English, YUVA 2.0 is now being launched. The launch of YUVA 2.0 (Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors) is in tune with the Prime Minister's vision to encourage the youth to understand and appreciate India's democracy.

Context: The Ministry of Education launched the YUVA 2.0 (Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors) scheme.

Q.12) Consider the following statements about Narmada River

1. It rises from Maikala range near Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh.
2. Hiran River and Orsang River are the major left bank tributaries of Narmada River
3. The Dhuandhar Falls are located on the Narmada River in Bhedaghat.

Choose the incorrect statements:

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

Q.12) Solution (b)

Statement Analysis

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Correct
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narmada is the largest west flowing river of peninsular India. • Narmada flows westwards through a rift valley between the Vindhyan Range on the north and the Satpura Range on the south. • It rises from the Maikala range near Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh, at an elevation of about 1057 m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right bank tributaries are the Barna, Hiran River, Tendoni River, Choral River, Kolar River, Man River, Uri River, Hatni River, Orsang River • Left bank tributaries – Burhner River, Banjar River, Sher River, Shakkar River, Dudhi River, Tawa River, Ganjal River, Chhota Tawa River, Kaveri River, Kundi River, Goi River, Karjan River 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Dhuandhar Falls are located on the Narmada River in Bhedaghat and are 30 meters high. The Narmada River, making its way through the world-famous Marble Rocks, narrows down and then plunges into a waterfall known as Dhuandhar.

Context: Madhya Pradesh govt. cancelled all contracts with Maheshwar Hydroelectric Project; the Maheshwar dam is one of the large dams of the Narmada Valley Development Project.

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. Seawater is normally alkaline, with a pH value of around 8.1.
2. When carbon dioxide dissolves in the ocean, the pH of the ocean increases to become acidic.
3. Arctic Ocean is witnessing much faster ocean acidification than other world's oceans, due to melting of ice.

Choose the correct statements:

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

Q.13) Solution (c)

Statement Analysis

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Correct
Seawater is normally alkaline, with a pH value of around 8.1.	Because of human-driven increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, there is more CO ₂ dissolving into the ocean. As the ocean continues to absorb more CO ₂ , the pH decreases and the ocean becomes more acidic.	A research study has revealed that the Arctic Ocean is seeing much faster acidification than elsewhere in the world due to the sea ice melting. Due to climate change and the subsequent retreat of sea ice, a large area of seawater that was initially covered by ice has been exposed to the atmosphere. This accelerates the uptake of atmospheric CO ₂ , thus leading to drastic ocean acidification and lowering oceanic buffering capacity.

Context: Researchers have recently highlighted the changing chemistry of the western region of Arctic Ocean.

Q.14) Consider the following statements about National Informatics Centre

1. It was established in 1976 and works under the aegis of the Ministry of Science and technology.
2. It has developed digital governance platforms like MyGov and PM-Kisan.

Choose the incorrect statements:

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

Q.14) Solution (a)

Statement Analysis

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Informatics Centre (NIC) was established in 1976 and is located in New Delhi. • It comes under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Its main objective is to provide technology-driven solutions to the Central and State Governments. • It has developed digital governance platforms including MyGov, PM-Kisan, National Power Portal, and e-Shram. • It offers free services to state government entities and funded by the Central budget.

Context: The Government of India has issued Request for Proposal (RfP) for NIC's organizational restructuring.

Q.15) Global Innovation Index (GII) 2022, was released by?

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) World Intellectual Property Organisation
- c) Yale and Columbia University
- d) World Bank

Q.15) Solution (b)

Option b

Correct

- Recently, India was ranked 40th position out of 132 in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2022 rankings released by World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).
- Switzerland is the most innovative economy in the world in 2022 - for the 12th year in a row - followed by the United States, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.
- China is nearing the top 10 while Türkiye and India enter the top 40 for the first time.

Context: Global Innovation Index (GII) 2022 rankings released by World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).

Q.16) 'Pahari', a community seen in news are native of

- a) Uttarakhand
- b) Jammu and Kashmir
- c) Ladakh
- d) Arunachal Pradesh

Q.16) Solution(b)

The Pahari people or Pahari-speaking people is a cover term for a number of heterogeneous communities inhabiting the Indian union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and parts of Azad Kashmir administered by Pakistan.

Context – Pahari community is set to get Scheduled Tribe (ST) reservation

Q.17) Consider the following statements regarding 'Hind Swaraj'

1. Hind Swaraj or Indian Home Rule is a book written by Mohandas K. Gandhi
2. The book presents a proposal for the removal or alleviation of poverty
3. It also deals extensively about untouchability and suggests suitable remedies to overcome it

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

- c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1 only

Q.17) Solution(d)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Incorrect
Hind Swaraj or Indian Home Rule is a book written by Mohandas K. Gandhi in 1909. In it he expresses his views on Swaraj, modern civilization, mechanisation, among other matters	It is remarkable that while Gandhi shows so much concern for the poor, he does not present any proposal in Hind Swaraj for the removal or alleviation of poverty itself	Hind Swaraj does not talk about untouchability and its ill-effects.

Context – Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated recently and Hind Swaraj was in news.

Q.18) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana’

1. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) is an initiative which has an aim of building 5 crore affordable houses by 2022
2. The houses given under this scheme will be owned by females only
3. Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs) is a sub-scheme under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U)

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.18) Solution(a)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct
Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) is an initiative by the Government of India in which affordable housing will be provided to	The houses given under this scheme will be	Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs), a sub-scheme under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban

the urban poor with a target of building 2 crore (20 million) affordable houses by 31 March 2022. It has two components: Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) (PMAY-U) for the urban poor and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin)(PMAY-G and also PMAY-R) for the rural poor.	owned by females or jointly with males.	(PMAY-U). This will provide ease of living to urban migrants/ poor in Industrial Sector as well as in non-formal urban economy to get access to dignified affordable rental housing close to their workplace.
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Context – 69% houses under PMAY in rural India are owned by women according to Government data.

Q.19) With reference to ‘Light Combat Helicopter- Prachanda’, consider the following statements

1. The LCH is the first indigenous Multi-Role Combat Helicopter designed and manufactured by DRDO
2. It is capable of operating from high altitude terrain and carrying out precision strike at high altitude targets

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.19) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
The LCH is the first indigenous Multi-Role Combat Helicopter designed and manufactured by HAL. It has potent ground attack and aerial combat capability.	The helicopter possesses modern stealth characteristics, robust armour protection and formidable night attack capability. Onboard advanced navigation system, guns tailored for close combat and potent air to air missiles make the LCH especially suited for the modern battlefield. Capable of operating from high altitude terrain and carrying out precision strike at high altitude targets

Context - Indigenously Designed and Developed Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) inducted into Indian Air Force

Q.20) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Biomass co-firing'

1. Biomass co-firing stands for adding biomass as a partial substitute fuel in high efficiency coal boiler
2. Biomass pellets have the same calorific value as coal

Select the INCORRECT statements

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

Q.20) Solution(d)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
Biomass co-firing stands for adding biomass as a partial substitute fuel in high efficiency coal boilers. Coal and biomass are combusted together in boilers that have been designed to burn coal. For this purpose, the existing coal power plant has to be partly reconstructed and retrofitted.	Biomass pellets have the same calorific value as coal and mixing them with coal saves consumption as well as reportedly cuts emissions.

Context - The Power Ministry in October 2021 had decreed that all thermal power plants ensure 5% compliance by October 2022.

Q.21) 'Network Planning Group' seen in news is used in the context of

- a) 5G technology
- b) Connectivity infrastructure
- c) Internet penetration in rural areas
- d) Military communication

Q.21) Solution(b)

An integrated multi-modal Network Planning Group (NPG) with heads of Network Planning Division of all connectivity infrastructure ministries and departments is responsible for unified planning and integration of the proposals. It will assist the empowered group of secretaries (EGOS), which is headed by the cabinet secretary. NPG will guide all the departments and ministries responsible for creation of economic zones and connectivity infrastructure during the planning phase itself.

Context - Network Planning Group (NPG) constituted under the institutional framework of 'PM GatiShakti' has recommended 3 important road connectivity projects.

Q.22) Consider the following statements regarding 'Click chemistry'

1. It is a single specific reaction that describes a way of generating products that follow examples in nature
2. Click chemistry is not limited to biological conditions alone
3. Incorporation of unnatural amino acids containing reactive groups into proteins and the modification of nucleotides is possible using click chemistry

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.22) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Correct
Click chemistry is not a single specific reaction, but describes a way of generating products that follow examples in nature, which also generates substances by joining small modular units	Click chemistry is not limited to biological conditions: the concept of a "click" reaction has been used in chemoproteomic, pharmacological, and various biomimetic applications. However, they have been made notably useful in the detection, localization and qualification of biomolecules.	Novel methods have been used to incorporate click reaction partners onto and into biomolecules, including the incorporation of unnatural amino acids containing reactive groups into proteins and the modification of nucleotides using click chemistry

Context - The 2022 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded to chemists Carolyn R. Bertozzi and K. Barry Sharpless from the U.S., and Morten Meldal from Denmark, for their work in the field of click chemistry and bioorthogonal chemistry.

Q.23) With reference to 'OPEC+', consider the following statements

1. The non-OPEC countries which export crude oil are termed as OPEC plus countries
2. It is an informal grouping which consists of Mexico, Russia and United Arab Emirates

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.23) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
The non-OPEC countries which export crude oil are termed as OPEC plus countries. These countries also participate in the organisation's initiatives such as voluntary supply cuts in order to further bind policy objectives between OPEC and non-OPEC members	OPEC+ includes Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Philippines, Russia, Sudan and South Sudan. United Arab Emirates is a member of OPEC.

Context - The OPEC+ alliance of oil-exporting countries has decided to sharply cut production to support sagging oil prices

Q.24) Consider the following statements with respect to 'herSTART' platform

1. The platform aims to help women entrepreneurs connect with government as well as private enterprises
2. The platform is an initiative of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and NITI Aayog

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.24) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
The platform has been launched with the aim that it will not only boost innovation and start-up efforts of women entrepreneurs but	herSTART' is the initiative of Gujarat University Startup and

also help them connect with government as well as private enterprises. Through this platform, free resources and training modules free will be provided to aspiring women entrepreneurs. It will build a digital community and also a digital publication to spread their success stories.

Entrepreneurship Council aims at supporting women-led startups.

Context - The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu, launched 'herSTART' – a start-up platform

Q.25) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Chola Dynasty'

1. The Chola Dynasty was divided into several provinces called valanadus
2. Silk weaving attained a high degree and Kanchipuram became one of the main centres for silk during their reign
3. Jain and Buddhist authors also flourished during the times of Cholas

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.25) Solution(c)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Correct
The Chola Dynasty was divided into several provinces called mandalams which were further divided into valanadus, which were subdivided into units called kottams or kutrams.	During the Chola period silk weaving attained a high degree and Kanchipuram became one of the main centres for silk. The Chola rulers actively encouraged the weaving industry and derived revenue from it. During this period the weavers started to organise themselves into guilds. The weavers had their own residential sector in all towns. The most important weaving communities in early medieval times were the Saliyar and Kaikolar.	Jain and Buddhist authors flourished as well, although in fewer numbers than in previous centuries. Jivaka-chintamani by Tirutakkatevar and Sulamani by Tolamoli are among notable works by non-Hindu authors. The grammarian Buddhmitra wrote a text on Tamil grammar called Virasoliyam.

Context – A movie which was released recently depicted the Cholas

Q.26) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant'

1. It is provided to the States under Article 275 of the Constitution
2. It is released to the States as per the recommendations of the successive Finance Commissions

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.26) Solution(c)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
The Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grants are provided to the States under Article 275 of the Constitution.	The grants are released to the States as per the recommendations of the successive Finance Commissions to meet the gap in Revenue Accounts of the States post devolution. The eligibility of States to receive this grant and the quantum of grant for the period from 2020-21 to 2025-26 was decided by the Fifteenth Finance Commission based on the gap between assessment of revenue and expenditure of the State after taking into account the assessed devolution during this period.

Context - The Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance has on Thursday released the 7th monthly instalment of Post Devolution Revenue Deficit (PDRD) Grant of Rs.7,183.42 crore to 14 States.

Q.27) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Quality Council of India'

1. It was set up as a non-profit autonomous society under The Companies Act of 1956
2. The Chairman of QCI is appointed by the Minister of Commerce and Industry on recommendation of the industry to the government
3. Its mandate is to establish and operate the National Accreditation Structure (NAS)

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.27) Solution(a)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct
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 spread the quality movement in India by undertaking a National Quality Campaign.	The Chairman of QCI is appointed by the Prime Minister on recommendation of the industry to the government.	Its mandate is to establish and operate the National Accreditation Structure (NAS) for conformity assessment bodies and providing accreditation in the field of health, education and quality promotion.

Context - Commerce Minister urged Quality Council of India (QCI) to bring about convergence of all quality and standards organizations in the country to make quality a national mission.

Q.28) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme'

1. ECLGS is under the operational domain of the Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance.
2. First-time borrowers too can raise funds under this scheme
3. 100% guarantee is provided by the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company (NCGTC)

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.28) Solution(c)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Correct
ECLGS is under the operational domain of the Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services (DFS). It was announced as part of the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Package in 2020 with the objective to help businesses including	First-time borrowers and Non-Performing Asset (NPA) accounts cannot raise funds under the scheme.	100% guarantee is provided by the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company (NCGTC) to Member Lending Institutions (MLIs) – banks, financial

MSMEs to meet their operational liabilities and resume business in view of the distress caused by the COVID-19 crisis.

institutions and Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs).

Context - The Department of Financial Services (DFS) (under the finance ministry) has modified the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) for the aviation sector.

Q.29) 'Trade and Development report 2022' was released by

- a) World Trade Organization
- b) International Monetary Fund
- c) World Bank
- d) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Q.29) Solution(d)

Trade and Development Report is an annual report released by UNCTAD. It provides comprehensive and authoritative analysis of economic trends and policy issues of international concern. It offers recommendations for building a global economy that ensures better future for all people and the planet.

Context – The report was released recently.

Q.30) With reference to 'Parliamentary Committees', consider the following statements

1. It is a panel of MPs that is appointed or elected by the House or nominated by the Speaker
2. Every Departmentally Related Standing Committee has members from both the houses
3. Parliamentary Committees have their origin in the British Parliament

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.30) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Correct

<p>A Parliamentary Committee is a panel of MPs that is appointed or elected by the House or nominated by the Speaker, and which works under the direction of the Speaker. It presents its report to the House or to the Speaker.</p>	<p>There are 16 Departmentally Related Standing Committees for Lok Sabha and eight for Rajya Sabha; however, every Departmentally Related Standing Committee has members from both the houses. Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha panels are headed by members of these respective houses.</p>	<p>Parliamentary Committees have their origins in the British Parliament. They draw their authority from Article 105, which deals with the privileges of MPs, and Article 118, which gives Parliament authority to make rules to regulate its procedure and conduct of business.</p>
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Context – A revamp of the Parliamentary Committees is set to take place soon

Q.31) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘United Nations Human Rights Council’

1. The Council undertakes a periodic review of all UN member states, called the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).
2. It traditionally meets thrice a year in April, August and December
3. The members of the General Assembly elect the members of the Human Rights Council

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.31) Solution(c)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Correct
<p>An important component of the Council consists of a periodic review of all 193 UN member states, called the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The mechanism is based on reports coming from different sources, one of them being contributions from non-governmental organisations (NGOs).</p>	<p>The UNHRC holds regular sessions three times a year, in March, June, and September. The UNHRC can decide at any time to hold a special session to address human rights violations and emergencies, at the request</p>	<p>The Council consists of 47 members, elected yearly by the General Assembly for staggered three-year terms. The term of each seat is three years, and no member may occupy a seat for more than two consecutive terms.</p>

Each country's situation will be examined during a three-and-a-half-hour debate.

of one-third of the member states

Context – India abstained on UNHRC resolution against Sri Lanka

Q.32) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Delimitation Commission'

1. It is a commission established by the President of India under the provisions of the Delimitation Commission Act
2. The orders of the commission cannot be challenged in any court of law
3. The modifications are permitted only after the orders are laid before the Lok Sabha and the respective State Legislative Assemblies

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.32) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Incorrect
The Delimitation commission or Boundary commission of India is a commission established by the Government of India under the provisions of the Delimitation Commission Act. The main task of the commission is redrawing the boundaries of the various assembly and Lok Sabha constituencies based on a recent census.	The Commission is a powerful and independent body whose orders cannot be challenged in any court of law.	The orders are laid before the Lok Sabha and the respective State Legislative Assemblies. However, modifications are not permitted.

Context - Central govt filed response against plea challenging Delimitation Commission formation

Q.33) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS)'

1. It provides credit guarantees to loans extended by Scheduled Commercial Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies and all registered Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs)
2. It has been notified by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)

Select the **INCORRECT** statement(s)

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

Q.33) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
It provides credit guarantees to loans extended by Scheduled Commercial Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies and Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) registered Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs). CGSS is aimed at providing credit guarantee up to a specified limit against loans extended by Member Institutions (MIs) to finance eligible borrowers viz. Startups as defined in the Gazette Notification issued by DPIIT and amended from time to time.	The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry notified the establishment of the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups. Along with institutional mechanisms for operationalizing the Scheme, DPIIT will be constituting a Management Committee (MC) and a Risk Evaluation Committee (REC) for reviewing, supervising and operational oversight of the Scheme. The National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Limited (NCGTC) will be operating the Scheme. (CGSS)

Context – The scheme was notified recently.

Q.34) With reference to 'Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO)', consider the following statements

1. The organization has regulatory control over the import of drugs, approval of new drugs and clinical trials
2. It is an independent body functioning under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Select the **correct** statement(s)

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

Q.34) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, CDSCO is responsible for approval of Drugs, Conduct of Clinical Trials, laying down the standards for Drugs, control over the quality of imported Drugs in the country and coordination of the activities of State Drug Control Organizations by providing expert advice with a view of bring about the uniformity in the enforcement of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act.	The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation(CDSCO)under Directorate General of Health Services,Ministry of Health & Family Welfare,Government of India is the National Regulatory Authority (NRA) of India.

Context - CDSCO took up urgent investigation on WHO's complaint for India-made cough syrups

Q.35) Which of the following adopted a law which gave approval to online safety-focused legislation for its citizens' called Digital Services Act (DSA)

- a) Australia
- b) Canada
- c) European Union
- d) United States of America

Q.35) Solution(c)

Digital Services Act tightly regulates the way intermediaries, especially large platforms such as Google, Meta, Twitter, and YouTube, function in terms of moderating user content.It was enacted by European Union.

Context - The European Union (EU) has given final approval to online safety-focused legislation called the Digital Services Act (DSA).

Q.36) Consider the following statements

1. Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) is a promotion body set up by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.
2. Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) is responsible for approving and licensing of drugs and medical devices in India.

Choose the correct statements:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.36) Solution (b)**Statement Analysis**

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) is a promotion body set up by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. • It was set up to promote the Indian pharmaceutical industry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCGI is responsible for approving and licensing of drugs and medical devices in India.

Context: The Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTBA) has recently recommended a ban on certain codeine-based formulations to curb their abuse following concerns about their misuse of narcotics and intoxicants.

Q.37) Consider the following statements about mRube, seen in news recently

1. It is a pan-India electronic trading portal to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.
2. Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) is the lead agency for implementing mRube under the aegis of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

Choose the incorrect statements:

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

Q.37) Solution (d)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The portal attempts to figure out certain impending issues in the current rubber marketing system. • The electronic trading platform is likely to complement the existing trade system by bringing in more transparency and market visibility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently, the Rubber Board launches the updated version of online portal mRube, the electronic trading portal for rubber in India.

Context: Recently, the Rubber Board launches the updated version of online portal mRube, the electronic trading portal for rubber in India.

Q.38) Consider the following statements about Sabka Vishwas Scheme

1. It is a onetime measure for liquidation of past disputes of Central Excise and Service Tax.
2. It is implemented by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs.

3. It ensures to disclosure of unpaid taxes by a person eligible to make a declaration.

Choose the correct statements:

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

Q.38) Solution (b)

Statement Analysis

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Correct
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a onetime measure for liquidation of past disputes of Central Excise and Service Tax. • It provides for certain immunities including penalty, interest or any other proceedings under the Central Excise Act, 1944. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is enforced by the Central Government and implemented by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Ministry of Finance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It also ensures to disclosure of unpaid taxes by a person eligible to make a declaration.

Context: The Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Custom recently said interest arising out of delayed payment of tax dues can be waived off under Sabka Vishwas (Legacy Dispute Resolution) Scheme, 2019.

Q.39) Consider the following statements

1. Shaliganga Nallah is a feeding channel for the Hokersar Wetland Reserve, a Ramsar site.
2. Kuhls are traditional, community-managed irrigation systems in Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh.

Choose the incorrect statements:

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

Q.39) Solution (d)

Statement Analysis

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shaliganga Nallah is in Budgam district of the Kashmir Valley. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kuhls are traditional, community-managed irrigation systems in Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh.

- It is a feeding channel for the Hokersar Wetland Reserve.
- Hokersar Wetland Reserve is an internationally declared Ramsar site and home to migratory birds.

Context: The National Green Tribunal has halted the mining activity in Shaliganga Nallah, because it may be detrimental to natural flow and quality of water flowing into Hokersar.

Q.40) Bathukamma festival, recently seen in news is celebrated in which of the following state?

- Karnataka
- Telangana
- Tamil Nadu
- Odisha

Q.40) Solution (b)

Option b

Correct

- The nine-day Bathukamma festivities celebrated in the state of Telangana was culminated recently.
- Bathukamma means Mother Goddess come Alive.
- It is a vibrant, colourful floral festival celebrated by women in Telangana.
- It is celebrated towards the end of monsoon.
- The festival begins on the day of Mahalaya Amavasya.
- It is the festival for feminine felicitation.

Context: The nine-day Bathukamma festivities celebrated in the state of Telangana was culminated recently.

Q.41) Consider the following statements with respect to 'North Eastern Council'

1. It is a statutory body established under the States Reorganization Act of 1956
2. The Prime Minister is the ex-officio chairman of the council
3. It comprises Governors and Chief Ministers of all the North-Eastern States

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

- 1 and 2 only
- 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 2 only

Q.41) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct
NEC is not a constitutional body, but a statutory organization established in 1971 under the North Eastern Council Act, 1971. The functions are: 1) To function as Apex Regional Planning Body for the North Eastern Region. 2) Implementing various projects through the State and Central agencies.	In June 2018, Union cabinet approved the nomination of the Home Minister as the ex-officio chairman and Minister for DoNER (Development of North-East Region) as the council's vice chairman.	It comprises Governors and Chief Ministers of all the 8 North-Eastern States and three members nominated by the President.

Context - The Plenary meeting of North Eastern Council concluded recently.

Q.42) 'Manesar Anti – terror 2022' is being hosted under the aegis of

- a) Quadrilateral security dialogue
- b) BIMSTEC
- c) Shanghai Cooperation Organization
- d) BRICS

Q.42) Solution(c)

It is being held under the framework of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS). It is stage 2 of the exercise and the Stage-1 of the Exercise was conducted from July 27 to August 1 by the National Counter Terrorist Forces of SCO Member Countries in their respective territories. The exercise is aimed at exchanging expertise, best practices and build synergy between the Counter Terrorism Forces of the SCO RATS Member Countries to enhance capabilities for conducting Anti-Terrorist operations and countering other security threats collectively.

Context - India is currently hosting the multilateral anti-terror exercise 'Manesar Anti-terror 2022' scheduled from October 8 to 13.

Q.43) With reference to 'Quantum entanglement', consider the following statements

1. It is a state where several particles behave like a single unit even when they are separated
2. Quantum communication, quantum computation and information processing tasks is possible through entanglement that are impossible for classical systems
3. Higher dimensional systems (dimension greater than two) are proven to have advantages in both quantum computing and quantum communications

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

- a) 1 and 2 only

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

Q.43) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Correct
Quantum entanglement is a state where several particles behave like a single unit even when they are separated)	Entangled state is a crucial state of quantum mechanics and can be used as a resource for quantum communication, quantum computation and information processing tasks that are impossible for classical systems.	Higher dimensional systems (dimension greater than two) are proven to have advantages in both quantum computing and quantum communications. Thus experimentally realising higher-dimensional entangled states along with the studies of quantification of the entanglement are of critical importance.

Context - Indian scientists find efficient way to quantify quantum entanglement in higher dimensional systems

Q.44) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Sustainable Mountain Development Summit-XI’

1. The Sustainable Mountain Development Summit (SMDS) is a flagship annual event of TERI
2. The theme for SMDS-XI is ‘Harnessing tourism for sustainable mountain development’

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.44) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
The Sustainable Mountain Development Summit (SMDS) is a flagship annual event of IMI, a civil	The theme for SMDS-XI is ‘Harnessing tourism for sustainable mountain development’. The

society-led forum working across the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) that comprises 10 mountain states, two union territories and four hill districts. In addition to the central event, two integral components of the SMDS include the Mountain Legislators' Meet (MLM) and the Indian Himalayan Youth Summit.

main focus of the summit is to reduce the negative impacts of tourism while harnessing its positive contributions to building climate and socio-ecological resilience and sustainability.

Context - Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Shri Bhupender Yadav attended the inaugural session of Sustainable Mountain Development Summit-XI, (SMDS-XI) being held at Leh, Ladakh UT from 10-12 October, 2022.

Q.45) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Election symbols'

1. A symbol is allotted to the party/candidate by the Election Commission of India on a first-come-first-serve basis
2. The decision of the ECI regarding the dispute over the election symbols is binding on all kinds of political parties

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.45) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
As per the guidelines, to get a symbol allotted: A party/candidate has to provide a list of three symbols from the EC's free symbols list at the time of filing nomination papers. Among them, one symbol is allotted to the party/candidate on a first-come-first-serve basis.	Whenever parties split, there are chances of a dispute arising over claims to its election symbol. The ECI adjudicates the matter, using Para 15 of the Symbols Order, 1968. This decision is binding on them. This applies to disputes in recognized national and state parties. For splits in registered but unrecognized parties, the ECI usually advises the warring factions to resolve their differences internally or to approach the court.

Context - Election Commission froze Shiv Sena symbol

Q.46) 'Automatic Exchange of Information' seen in news is used in the context of

- a) Taxpayer information
- b) Military agreements
- c) Terrorism
- d) Free trade deals

Q.46) Solution(a)

Automatic exchange of information involves the systematic and periodic transmission of "bulk" taxpayer information by the source country to the residence country concerning various categories of income (e.g. dividends, interest, etc.). It can provide timely information on non-compliance where tax has been evaded either on an investment return or the underlying capital sum, even where tax administrations have had no previous indications of non-compliance.

Context - India has received the fourth set of Swiss bank account details of its nationals and organisations as part of an annual information exchange, under which Switzerland has shared particulars of nearly 34 lakh financial accounts with 101 countries.

Q.47) Consider the following statements with respect to 'United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress'

1. It is organized by the United Nation Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) biennially
2. "The Geospatial Way to a Better World" is the theme of this year's congress
3. It aims to enhance international collaboration among the Member States and relevant stakeholders in Geospatial information management and capacities

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.47) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct
The United Nation Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial	The theme of the 2nd conference is 'Geo-	The objectives of the congress are enhancing international

Information Management (UN-GGIM) organizes the United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC) every four years.	enabling the Global Village: No one should be left behind'.	collaboration among the Member States and relevant stakeholders in Geospatial information management and capacities.
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Context - PM addressed United Nations World Geospatial International Congress

Q.48) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Flexi-Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles (FFV-SHEV)'

1. These vehicles can run on 100% petrol or with upto 100% blended ethanol and electric power
2. Strong hybrids cannot run purely on one of these modes and use the secondary mode merely as a supplement to the main mode of propulsion

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.48) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
When FFV is integrated along with strong hybrid electric technology, it is referred as FFV-SHEVs, which would run on 100% petrol as well as 20 to 100% blended ethanol and electric power	Strong hybrid is another term for full hybrid vehicles, which have the capability to run solely on either electric or petrol modes. In contrast, mild hybrids cannot run purely on one of these modes and use the secondary mode merely as a supplement to the main mode of propulsion.

Context - Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari Launched Toyota's first of its kind pilot project on Flexi-Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles (FFV-SHEV) in India today

Q.49) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Chandrayaan – 2'

1. The orbiter of the mission contains a Large Area Soft X-ray Spectrometer (CLASS) which makes use of X-ray spectra to determine the elemental composition of the lunar surface
2. The main scientific objective is to map the location and abundance of lunar water
3. The mission has recently detected presence of Sodium on lunar surface

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.49) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Correct
Chandrayaan-2 Large Area Soft X-ray Spectrometer (CLASS) from the ISRO Satellite Centre (ISAC), which makes use of X-ray fluorescence spectra to determine the elemental composition of the lunar surface . Solar X-ray monitor (XSM) from Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad, primarily supports CLASS instrument by providing solar X-ray spectra and intensity measurements as input to it.	The main scientific objective is to map and study the variations in lunar surface composition, as well as the location and abundance of lunar water.	The abundance of sodium was mapped in a recent work published in 'The Astrophysical Journal Letters' for the first time using CLASS (Chandrayaan-2 Large Area Soft X-ray Spectrometer), the national space agency. Built at the U R Rao Satellite Centre of ISRO in Bengaluru, CLASS provides clean signatures of the sodium line thanks to its high sensitivity and performance.

Context - ISRO's Chandrayaan-2 spectrometer mapped abundance of sodium on moon for first time

Q.50) With reference to 'Collegium to the Supreme Court of India', consider the following statements

1. There is no mention of the collegium either in the original Constitution of India or in successive amendments
2. Judges of the higher judiciary are appointed only through the collegium system

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.50) Solution(c)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
The collegium system is not rooted in the Constitution or a specific law promulgated by Parliament; it has evolved through judgments of the Supreme Court. There is no mention of the collegium either in the original Constitution of India or in successive amendments.	Judges of the higher judiciary are appointed only through the collegium system, and the government has a role only after names have been decided by the collegium. Names that are recommended for appointment by a High Court collegium reaches the government only after approval by the CJI and the Supreme Court collegium.

Context - SC Collegium resolved not to undertake further deliberations on appointments of Judges

Q.51) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE)'

1. It is a central sponsored scheme implemented by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern region
2. The scheme will provide support to infrastructure and social development projects instead of isolated projects

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.51) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
The new Scheme, PM-DevINE, is a Central Sector Scheme with 100% Central funding and will be implemented by Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER). The PM-DevINE Scheme will have an outlay of Rs.6,600 crore for the four year period from 2022-23 to 2025-26 (remaining years of 15th Finance Commission period).	PM-DevINE will provide support to infrastructure and social development projects which may be larger in size and will also provide an end-to-end development solution instead of isolated projects. It will be ensured that there is no duplication of project support under PM-DevINE with any of the other schemes of MDoNER or those of any other ministry/department.

Context - Cabinet approves new Scheme “Prime Minister’s Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE) for the remaining four years of the 15th Finance Commission from 2022-23 to 2025-26

Q.52) ‘Karish gas field’ seen in news is located in

- a) Western Indian Ocean
- b) Eastern Mediterranean Sea
- c) Southern Caspian Sea
- d) Northern Black Sea

Q.52) Solution(b)

The Karish gas field is a natural gas reservoir located in the Eastern Mediterranean. It is located near the much larger Leviathan and Tamar gas fields. The field had initially been allocated to a consortium of companies including Noble Energy (now Chevron) and Delek, but due to their monopolistic position in the Israeli market (as owners of the Tamar and Leviathan fields), Delek and Noble were forced by regulators to sell their rights in the field

Context - Israel has reached a US-brokered agreement with Lebanon to settle their long-disputed maritime border regarding Karish gas field.

Q.53) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme’

1. The scheme is a joint initiative of Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Panchayati Raj
2. The scheme also includes the skilling of girls in non-traditional livelihood (NTL) options
3. A national committee headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development will be the apex committee to review the implementation of the scheme

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.53) Solution(c)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Correct
The scheme is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Education	The Central government recently announced the inclusion of skilling of girls in non-traditional livelihood (NTL) options in Beti Bachao Beti Padhao programme. The scheme will now also focus on increasing the enrolment of girls in secondary education, particularly in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) subjects	A national committee headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development will be the apex committee to review the implementation of the scheme at regular intervals with State governments and Union Territory administrations.

Context - Union Minister Smriti Irani recently released an operations manual of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao.

Q.54) With reference to 'Central Information Commission', consider the following statements

1. The members of the commission are appointed by the President of India on the recommendation of Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition and Union Home Minister
2. It is a statutory body established under the Right to Information Act of 2005
3. The Commission has the powers of a civil court in respect of summoning, requiring documents etc.

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.54) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Correct
The members are appointed by the President on the recommendation of a committee consisting of the Prime Minister as Chairperson, the Leader of	The Central Information Commission is a statutory body, set up under the Right to Information Act in 2005 under the Government of India to act upon complaints from those	While inquiring, the Commission has the powers of a civil court in respect of summoning, requiring documents etc. It

<p>Opposition in the Lok Sabha and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister.</p>	<p>individuals who have not been able to submit information requests to a Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer due to either the officer not have been appointed, or because the respective Central Assistant Public Information Officer or State Assistant Public Information Officer refused to receive the application for information under the Right to Information Act</p>	<p>can order an inquiry into any matter if there are reasonable grounds (suo-moto power).</p>
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Context - Nearly 3.15(three point one five)lakh RTI complaints or appeals are pending with 26 information commissions across India.

Q.55) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Lifestyle for the Environment (LiFE) Movement’

1. The idea of LiFE was introduced by India at the CoP of Convention on Biodiversity
2. The Mission plans to create and nurture a global network of individuals, namely ‘Prime-Planet People’ (P3)

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.55) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
<p>The idea of LiFE was introduced by India during the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow in 2021. The idea promotes an environmentally conscious lifestyle that focuses on ‘mindful and deliberate utilisation’ instead of ‘mindless and wasteful consumption</p>	<p>The Mission plans to create and nurture a global network of individuals, namely ‘Pro-Planet People’ (P3). P3 will have a shared commitment to adopt and promote environmentally friendly lifestyles. Through the P3 community, the Mission seeks to create an ecosystem that will reinforce and enable</p>

environmentally friendly behaviours to be self-sustainable.

Context – UN Secretary General to launch initiative on environment which is a part of LiFE campaign.

Q.56) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Sloth bear'

1. They are classified as 'Vulnerable' under IUCN red list and listed under Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972
2. This species of bear is endemic to the Indian subcontinent
3. Sloth bear primarily hibernates during the winter season

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.56) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Incorrect
Sloth bears are identified by their very distinct long, shaggy dark brown or black fur, distinct white V-shaped chest patch and four-inch long ivory-coloured curved claws used for digging out termites and ants from rock-hard mounds. Listed under Schedule I of The (Wildlife Protection) Act of India, 1972 the species has the same level of protection as tigers, rhinos and elephants. They are classified as 'Vulnerable' under IUCN red list	Classified as 'Vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List, sloth bears are endemic to the Indian sub-continent and 90% of the species population is found in India.	Due to the warm climate in which the sloth bear resides, it does not hibernate during the winter, as many northern bear species do

Context – World Sloth Bear Day was celebrated recently.

Q.57) With reference to 'Places of Worship Act of 1991', consider the following statements

1. It provides for the maintenance of the religious character of all places of worship as it existed on the 15th day of August, 1947

2. Any legal proceeding with respect to the conversion of the religious character of any place of worship existing on August 15, 1947 pending before any court are abated

Q.57) Solution(b)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
The act provides for the maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship as it existed on the 15th day of August, 1947. However, Section 5 stipulates that the Act shall not apply to the Ramjanmabhoomi-Babri Masjid case, and to any suit, appeal, or proceeding relating to it.	Section 4(2) says any legal proceeding with respect to the conversion of the religious character of any place of worship existing on August 15, 1947, pending before any court, shall abate — and no fresh suit or legal proceedings shall be instituted. The proviso to this subsection saves suits, appeals and legal proceedings that are pending on the date of commencement of the Act, if they pertain to the conversion of the religious character of a place of worship after the cut-off date.

Context – Supreme Court sought Centre's stand on Places of Worship Act**Q.58) Consider the following statements with respect to 'National Financial Reporting Authority'**

1. It is an independent regulator set up under the Companies Act of 2013
2. It can undertake investigation related to companies and bodies corporate called Public Interest Entities
3. The account of NFRA is monitored by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.58) Solution(d)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Correct

<p>National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) is an independent regulator set up to oversee the auditing profession and accounting standards in India under the Companies Act 2013. It came into existence in October 2018</p>	<p>It can undertake investigation related to the following class of companies and bodies corporate called Public Interest Entities: Companies whose securities are listed on any stock exchange in India or outside India. Unlisted public companies having paid-up capital of not less than Rs. 500 crores or having annual turnover of not less than Rs. 1,000 crores or having, in aggregate, outstanding loans, debentures and deposits of not less than Rs. 500 crores as on the 31st March of immediately preceding financial year. Insurance companies, banking companies, companies engaged in the generation or supply of electricity.</p>	<p>The account of NFRA is monitored by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.</p>
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Context - NFRA Published a list of Audit firms/ auditors which had defaulted on mandatory declarations.

Q.59) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Grameen Udyogi Project'

1. It was launched with the aim to augment skill training in tribal communities
2. The scheme has been funded by National Skill Development Corporation

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.59) Solution(c)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
<p>The Grameen Udyami Project was launched with the aim to augment skill training in tribal communities for inclusive and sustainable growth. Under the initiative, students were upskilled and multi-skilled in order to increase their employability. It also focuses on providing employment opportunities in both local and rural economies. The</p>	<p>The Grameen Udyami project is one of its unique kinds of projects funded by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). The project's main objective is to train 450 tribal students in Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand.</p>

project is being implemented in six states— Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Gujarat.	
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Context - The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) felicitated 165 students under the second phase of Grameen Udyami project

Q.60) 'Biological Passport' often seen in news is related to

- a) Ancestry of a person
- b) Vaccine certification
- c) Anti-doping tool
- d) Complete DNA profiling

Q.60) Solution(c)

Athlete Biological Passport (ABP), a powerful anti-doping tool that monitors selected biological variables over time to reveal the effects of doping rather than attempting to detect the doping substance or method itself. It works against doping through enhanced target testing and analysis, investigations, deterrence, and as indirect evidence for use of prohibited methods or substances.

Context - National Anti Doping Agency (NADA) & National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL) India are hosting the 3rd edition of the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) Athlete Biological Passport (ABP) Symposium

Q.61) Consider the following statements with respect to 'New Gen Launch Vehicle'

1. It is a two stage reusable heavy lift vehicle
2. It will feature semi-cryogenic propulsion for the booster stages
3. It can carry 50 tonne payload to Geostationary Transfer Orbit

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.61) Solution(c)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Incorrect
NGLV is understood to be a cost-efficient, three-stage to orbit, reusable heavy-lift vehicle with a payload capability of ten tonnes to Geostationary Transfer Orbit (GTO).	NGLV will feature semi-cryogenic propulsion (refined kerosene as fuel with liquid oxygen (LOX) as oxidiser) for the booster stages which is cheaper and efficient	It can carry 10 tonne payload to Geostationary Transfer Orbit

Context – ISRO is developing a Next-Gen Launch Vehicle (NGLV)

Q.62) Consider the following statements with respect to India's Foreign Exchange Reserve

1. India's foreign exchange reserves are mainly composed of US dollar in the forms of US government bonds
2. Reserve Bank of India Act and the Foreign Currency Regulation Act set the legal provisions for governing the foreign exchange reserves
3. India has the fifth largest foreign exchange reserve in the world

Choose the correct answer using the code give below

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

Q.62) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Incorrect
India's foreign exchange reserves are mainly composed of US dollar in the forms of US government bonds and institutional bonds. with nearly 6.75% of forex reserves in gold. The FCAs also include investments in US Treasury bonds, bonds of other selected governments and deposits with foreign central and commercial banks.	Reserve Bank of India Act and the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 set the legal provisions for governing the foreign exchange reserves. Reserve Bank of India accumulates foreign currency reserves by purchasing from authorized dealers in open market operations. Foreign exchange reserves of India act as a cushion against rupee volatility once global interest rates start rising	As on 7 th October 2022, India has the sixth largest foreign exchange reserve in the world following Russia.

Context – India's foreign exchange reserve has depleted from \$642 billion to \$537 billion over the last year.

Q.63) With reference to 'East Asia Summit', consider the following statements

1. It consists of members from the Asian continent only
2. India is one of the founding members of the East Asia Summit

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.63) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
The East Asia Summit (EAS) is a regional forum held annually by leaders of, initially, 16 countries in the East Asian, Southeast Asian, South Asian and Oceanian regions, based on the ASEAN Plus Six mechanism. Membership expanded to 18 countries including Russia and the United States at the Sixth EAS in 2011	India is one of the founding members of the East Asia Summit. The EAS has 18 members - the ten ASEAN countries (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam) along with Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States.

Context - India participated at the 6th East Asia Summit Education Minister's Meeting.

Q.64) The land cover in this national park changes with increasing elevation from tropical evergreen forest to temperate broadleaf and mixed forest. It is also home to three large cats – tiger, leopard and clouded leopard. There are settlements of Lisu tribe within this park. The national park is

- a) Nameri National Park
- b) Raimona National Park
- c) Manas National Park
- d) Namdapha National Park

Q.64) Solution(d)

Namdapha National Park is a 1,985 km² (766 sq mi) large protected area in Arunachal Pradesh of Northeast India. The land cover changes with increasing elevation from tropical evergreen forest to temperate broadleaf and mixed forest. Three pantherine species are found in the park: leopard (*Panthera pardus*), tiger (*P. tigris*) and clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*). There are a few settlements of Lisu tribal people within the park. Most of the Lisus are, however, located beyond the eastern border of the park towards the international border of India with Myanmar.

Context – A survey is being undertaken to ascertain the presence of Snow Leopard at this park.

Q.65) Consider the following

1. Battery recycling
2. Adulterated spices and traditional medicine
3. Smelting
4. Automobile repatriating
5. Welding and soldering

Which of the options mentioned above are a source of lead poisoning?

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 1, 3 and 5 only
- c) 2, 4 and 5 only
- d) All the above

Q.65) Solution(d)

Lead is a naturally occurring toxic metal found in the Earth's crust. Lead poisoning is caused by battery recycling, occupational sources such as lead mining, smelting, welding, soldering and automobile repatriating. Other inconspicuous sources include adulterated spices, cosmetics and traditional medicines.

Context - A central government report has found that India bears the world's highest health and economic burden due to lead poisoning.

Q.66) Consider the following statements regarding 'Global Hunger Index'

1. The report is released by Concern Worldwide and Welt Hunger Hilfe
2. All the indicators used for calculation of the index are related to health of Children

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2

4. Neither 1 nor 2

Q.66) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
The Global Hunger Report 2022 released by Concern Worldwide and Welt Hunger Hilfe, Non-Government Organisations from Ireland and Germany respectively, has ranked India at 107 among 121 countries.	Three out of the four indicators used for calculation of the index are related to health of Children and cannot be representative of the entire population. The fourth and most important indicator estimate of Proportion of Undernourished (PoU) population is based on an opinion poll conducted on a very small sample size of 3000.

Context – Global Hunger Index rankings were published recently.

Q.67) Consider the following statements with respect to 'International Monetary and Financial Committee'

1. IMFC has formal decision making powers and provides strategic direction to the policies of the Fund
2. The IMFC operates by consensus, including on the selection of its chair
3. The IMFC meets twice a year, during the Spring and Annual Meetings

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.67) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Correct
The IMFC advises and reports to the IMF Board of Governors on the supervision and management of the international monetary and financial system, including on responses to unfolding events that may	The IMFC operates by consensus, including on the selection of its chair. While there are no formal rules on term limits, since 2007	The IMFC meets twice a year, during the Spring and Annual Meetings. The Committee discusses matters of common concern affecting the global

disrupt the system. Although the IMFC has no formal decision-making powers, in practice, it has become a key instrument for providing strategic direction to the work and policies of the Fund.	IMFC chairs have been appointed for a term of three years	economy and also advises the IMF on the direction its work.
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Context - Union Finance Minister attended the International Monetary and Financial Committee in Washington DC

Q.68) With reference to 'Carbon Dating', consider the following statements

1. The dating method is based on the fact that Carbon-14 is radioactive, and decays at a well-known rate
2. Carbon dating can also be used to determine the age of non-living things like rocks

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.68) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
The dating method is based on the fact that Carbon-14 (C-14), an isotope of carbon with an atomic mass of 14, is radioactive, and decays at a well-known rate. The most abundant isotope of carbon in the atmosphere is C-12. The ratio of C-12 to C-14 in the atmosphere is almost static, and is known.	Carbon dating cannot be used to determine the age of non-living things like rocks. Also, the age of things that are more than 40,000-50,000 years old cannot be arrived at through carbon dating.

Context - Court in Varanasi rejected a plea asking for a scientific investigation into the structure found inside the Gyanvapi Mosque.

Q.69) Consider the following statements

1. Parole is a system of releasing a prisoner with suspension of the sentence.
2. Orders regarding parole and furlough can be challenged before a court of law
3. The procedure regarding parole is covered by sections in the Indian Penal Code

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.69) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Incorrect
Parole is a system of releasing a prisoner with suspension of the sentence. The release is conditional, usually subject to behaviour, and requires periodic reporting to the authorities for a set period of time.	Temporary release under provisions for parole or furlough is given by the state, but its decision can be challenged before a court of law.	There are no sections in the Indian Penal Code that deal with parole, and because there is no unified legislation in India that deals with it, individual states have their own laws governing it. As a result, there is some ambiguity when it comes to concerns about parole.

Context - Gurmeet Ram Rahim, the head of Dera Sacha Sauda, was released from jail on parole.

Q.70) 'Narcondam' an island seen in news recently is known for

- a) Having India's only active volcano
- b) A submarine command was established
- c) It is India's easternmost island
- d) It is home to the Sentinelese

Q.70) Solution(c)

Narcondam, India's easternmost island, is a small volcanic island located in the northern Andaman Sea. The island's peak rises to 710 m above mean sea level, and it is formed of andesite. It is part of the Andaman Islands, the main body of which lie approximately 74 km (46 mi) to the west. The island is part of the Indian union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The island is small, covering an area of approximately 6.8 square kilometres. It was classified as a dormant volcano by the Geological Survey of India.

Context – The island was recently seen in news.

Q.71) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Digital Banking Units'

1. They are online portals which will help people access various banking facilities
2. They will help spread digital financial literacy and also offer real-time assistance

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.71) Solution(b)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
DBUs will be brick-and-mortar outlets which will provide a variety of digital banking facilities to people such as opening savings accounts, balance-check, print passbooks, transfer of funds, investment in fixed deposits, loan applications, stop-payment instructions for cheques issued, applying for credit/debit cards, view statement of account, pay taxes, pay bills, make nominations, etc.	DBUs will enable customers to have cost-effective, convenient access and enhanced digital experience of banking products and services throughout the year. They will spread Digital Financial Literacy and special emphasis will be given to customer education on cyber security awareness and safeguards. Also, there shall be adequate digital mechanisms to offer real-time assistance and redress customer grievances arising from business and services provided by the DBUs directly or through Business Facilitators/ Correspondents.

Context - PM dedicated 75 Digital Banking Units across 75 districts to the nation**Q.72) Consider the following statements with respect to 'India-Africa Defence Dialogue (IADD)'**

1. The Defence Dialogue has been institutionalized to be held every year on the sidelines of DefExpo
2. Observer Research Foundation (ORF) is the knowledge partner for IADD

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.72) Solution(d)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
The first-ever India-Africa Defence Ministers Conclave was held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh in conjunction with DefExpo on February 06, 2020. A Joint Declaration - 'Lucknow Declaration' - was adopted at the end of the conclave as an outcome document. In continuance of the 'Lucknow Declaration' and in consultation with stakeholders, IAAD has been institutionalised to be held once every two years on the sidelines of DefExpo. The IADD will explore new areas of convergence for mutual engagement, including in areas like capacity building, training, cyber security, maritime security and counter terrorism.	Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (MP-IDSA) is the knowledge partner for the India-Africa Defence Dialogue.

Context - India-Africa Defence Dialogue was held on October 18 on the sidelines of DefExpo 2022 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat

Q.73) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Commission for Air Quality Management'

1. It is a statutory body established under Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
2. A government official of the rank of Secretary or Chief Secretary will chair the Commission
3. The Commission will have the powers to overrule directives issued by the state governments in the region

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.73) Solution(b)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct
The Commission for Air Quality Management	The Commission shall be chaired by a full-time Chairperson having	The Commission has been given overarching powers in achieving its

(CAQM) is a statutory body formed under the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas, Act 2021.	special knowledge in the field of environment protection or pollution control with experience of not less than fifteen years or having administrative experience of not less than twenty-five years	mandate. It is a powerful body whose rulings will override anything contained in any other law. It will also have the powers to overrule directives issued by the state governments in the region, that may be in violation of pollution norms.
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Context - Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR & Adjoining Areas (CAQM) has reiterated to all implementing agencies of the Central and State Governments of NCR to strictly implement actions under Stage I of the GRAP

Q.74) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Foreign Direct Investment'

1. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is an investment through capital instruments by a person resident outside India in an unlisted Indian company
2. FDI in India can be under both automatic as well as government route
3. A FDI holding which falls under a certain threshold, can be reclassified as FPI

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.74) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Incorrect
Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is the investment through capital instruments by a person resident outside India (a) in an unlisted Indian company; or (b) in 10 percent or more of the post issue paid-up equity capital on a fully diluted basis of a listed Indian company.	FDI enters in India through either of the two routes: Automatic Route: Foreign Investment is allowed under the automatic route without prior approval of the Government or the Reserve Bank of India, in all activities/ sectors as specified in the Regulation 16 of FEMA 20 (R). Government Route: Foreign investment in activities not covered	For an FPI investment, once the investment is classified as FDI (basis total holding), if the FDI holding comes back to <10%, will be still classified as FDI. Once an FDI always an FDI.

	under the automatic route requires prior approval of the Government.	
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Context - India has the potential to attract FDI worth \$475 billion in the next five years, according to a report by EY and the Confederation of Indian Industry.

Q.75) Indian Bison or Gaur in India is usually found in

- a) Indo-Burma region
- b) Eastern Highlands
- c) Western Ghats
- d) Trans Himalayan region

Q.75) Solution(c)

Indian Gaur is a protected species and included in Schedule I of the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972. It is listed as “vulnerable” in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List. In India, the population was estimated to be 12,000–22,000 in the mid-1990s. The Western Ghats and their outflanking hills in southern India constitute one of the most extensive extant strongholds of gaur, in particular in the Wayanad – Nagarhole – Mudumalai – Bandipur complex.

Context – Sri Lanka requested India to translocate 6 Indian Bisons to reintroduce them in the Island

Q.76) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Compressed Bio Gas’

1. It is produced naturally through a process of aerobic decomposition from waste / bio-mass sources
2. It is exactly similar to the commercially available natural gas in its composition and energy potential
3. Municipal solid waste, sugarcane press mud, distillery spent wash, cattle dung can be used to produce CBG

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.76) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Correct
Bio-gas is produced naturally (through a process of anaerobic decomposition) from waste / bio-mass sources like agriculture residue, cattle dung, sugarcane press mud, municipal solid waste, sewage treatment plant waste, etc. After purification, it is compressed and called CBG, which has high methane content.	Compressed Bio-Gas is exactly similar to the commercially available natural gas in its composition and energy potential. With similar calorific value and other properties similar to CNG, Compressed Bio-Gas can be used as an alternative, renewable automotive fuel.	Compressed Bio-Gas can be produced from various bio-mass/waste sources, including agricultural residue, municipal solid waste, sugarcane press mud, distillery spent wash, cattle dung and sewage treatment plant waste. The other waste streams, that is, rotten potatoes from cold storages, rotten vegetables, dairy plants, chicken/poultry litter, food waste, horticulture waste, forestry residues and treated organic waste from industrial effluent treatment plants (ETPs) can be used to generate biogas.

Context - Asia's largest Compressed Bio Gas plant was inaugurated in Sangrur today.

Q.77) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Women Involvement in Science and Engineering Research (WISER) programme’

1. The programme is open to all the areas of STEM and has a three year tenure period
2. It allows the researchers to work on international projects while continuing to stay in India

Select the INCORRECT statement(s)

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

Q.77) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
The programme has a three-year tenure period or till completion of the project and is open to all the areas of STEM	It allows the researchers to work on international projects while continuing to stay in India. It will cover one visit per year for a short stay up to 1 month.

Context - The first 11 awardees of the Women Involvement in Science and Engineering Research (WISER) programme were felicitated

Q.78) With reference to 'International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol)', consider the following statements

1. It is a supranational law enforcement agency but does not have agents with arresting powers
2. Interpol issues four types of colour-coded notices with red being accorded the highest priority

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.78) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
Contrary to the common idea due to frequent portrayals in popular media, Interpol is not a supranational law enforcement agency and has no agents with arresting powers. Instead, it is an international organization that functions as a network of law enforcement agencies from different countries. The organization thus functions as an administrative liaison among the law enforcement agencies of the member countries, providing communications and database assistance, mostly through its central headquarters in Lyon	There are eight types of notices, seven of which are colour-coded by their function: red, blue, green, yellow, black, orange, and purple. The best-known notice is the red notice which is the "closest instrument to an international arrest warrant in use today". An eighth special notice is issued at the request of the United Nations Security Council.

Context – The Prime Minister addressed the 90th INTERPOL General Assembly recently

Q.79) Which one of the following ancient towns is known for the oldest man-made dockyard and for trade of beads, gems and valuable ornaments in the Indus Valley Civilization

- a) Dholavira
- b) Ganeriwal
- c) Lothal

d) Mitathal

Q.79) Solution(c)

Lothal was one of the southernmost sites of the ancient Indus Valley civilisation, located in the Bhal region of the modern state of Gujarat. Lothal was a vital and thriving trade centre in ancient times, with its trade of beads, gems and valuable ornaments reaching the far corners of West Asia and Africa. Lothal was one of the prominent cities of the Harappan civilization and is known for the discovery of the oldest man-made dockyard.

Context - National Maritime Heritage Complex at Lothal was in news

Q.80) Consider the following statements

1. A judgement delivered by a larger bench will prevail over the smaller bench irrespective of the number of judges constituting the majority in the larger bench
2. A bench of equal strength cannot overrule or reconsider a decision of a coordinate bench
3. India follows the Doctrine of Precedents as found in the Constitution of United States of America

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.80) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Incorrect
A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court has unanimously held that a judgment delivered by a larger Bench will prevail over the decision of a smaller Bench, irrespective of the number of judges constituting the majority in the larger Bench.	It is a settled position that a Bench of equal strength cannot overrule or reconsider a decision of a coordinate Bench; it can, at best, doubt the correctness of it	Doctrine of Precedents is usually avoided in the U.S. and in South Africa owing to the fact that any reconsideration of a precedent is a matter deliberated by the entire sitting strength of the court as opposed to division(s). While both the U.K. and Australia follow a system similar to that of India, the entire act of 'reconsidering a precedent' is viewed as a

		delicate and grave judicial responsibility in these countries.
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Context – It was in news.

Q.81) Consider the following statements with respect to 'National Credit Framework'

1. It will enable the integration of academic, vocational and skill education
2. It supports educational acceleration for students with gifted learning abilities and Recognition of Prior Learning
3. It encompasses National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF), National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) and National School Education Qualification Framework (NSEQF)

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.81) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Correct
National Credit Framework (NCrF) to enable the integration of academic and vocational domains to ensure flexibility and mobility between the two. NCrF would be a game changer by opening numerous options for further progression of students and intermingling of school and higher education with vocational education and experiential learning, thus mainstreaming skilling and vocational education.	It also supports educational acceleration for students with gifted learning abilities and Recognition of Prior Learning for the workforce that has acquired knowledge and skills informally through the traditional family inheritance, work experience or other methods.	NCrF will seamlessly integrate the credits earned through school education, higher education and vocational and skill education by encompassing the National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF), National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) and National School Education Qualification Framework (NSEQF).

Context - Union Minister of Education and Minister of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched the draft of National Credit Framework (NCrF) for public consultation

Q.82) 'Positive indigenisation list', a term often seen in news is used in the context of

- a) Pharmaceuticals
- b) Defence equipment
- c) Space technology
- d) Vaccine development

Q.82) Solution(b)

The positive indigenisation list essentially means that the Armed Forces—Army, Navy, and Air Force—will only procure the listed items from domestic manufacturers. The manufacturers could be private sector players or Defense Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs). This concept was rolled out in the Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020.

Context - The 'Fourth Positive Indigenisation List' of 101 items was announced by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during the opening ceremony of DefExpo 2022 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat on October 19, 2022.

Q.83) With reference to 'Special campaign for Disposal of Pending matters' (SCDPM 2.0)', consider the following statements

1. The campaign will fasten up the pendency of cases which are older than 2 years at district court level
2. Ministry of Law and Justice is the nodal department for this initiative

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.83) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
The Special Campaign 2.0 will focus on outstation offices in addition to the Ministries/ Departments and their attached/subordinate offices. Campaign is a sequel of the first Swachhata Campaign and Special Campaign for	The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) will be the Nodal Department and oversee implementation of the Special

Disposal of Pending Matters organized from 2nd October, 2021 to 31st October, 2021. The Special Campaign 2021 was implemented and monitored through a real-time dashboard (www.pgportal.gov.in/scdpm). Technology was leveraged to bring all Ministries/ Departments on a single interactive platform for experience sharing and learning from the best practices of each other.

campaign 2.0. The DARPG has issued detailed guidelines for the implementation and monitoring of the Special campaign.

Context - Best practices were adopted under the 'Special campaign for Disposal of Pending matters' (SCDPM 2.0)

Q.84) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Soil Carbon Stability'

1. Removal of grazing by herbivores from ecosystems can increase the fluctuations in the level of soil carbon
2. Soil contains more carbon than all plants and the atmosphere combined
3. Nitrogen always stabilizes the carbon pool in the terrestrial ecosystem

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.84) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Incorrect
Experimental removal of grazing by herbivores from such ecosystems was found to increase the fluctuations in the level of soil carbon, which can have negative consequences for the global carbon cycle.	When plants and animals die, dead organic matter remains in the soil for a long duration before microbes break it down and release carbon into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide. Soil contains more carbon than all plants and the atmosphere combined.	A key factor underlying the carbon level fluctuations was nitrogen. Depending on the soil conditions, nitrogen can either stabilise or destabilise the carbon pool. Grazing by herbivores, however, changes their interactions in ways that tip the balance in favour of the former.

Context - A study carried out by researchers at the Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES) and the Divecha Centre for Climate Change (DCCC), IISc, has revealed that grazing animals hold the key to long-term soil carbon stability.

Q.85) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)'

1. RBIH will provide the platform to anchor a shared vision among all financial ecosystem stakeholders
2. It is a joint initiative between Ministry of Finance and Reserve Bank of India

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.85) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
RBIH will provide the platform to anchor a shared vision among all financial ecosystem stakeholders and aid them in crafting forward-looking innovation strategies while addressing the most pressing issues in the Indian financial sector. The organisation serves as a focal point to position India as a global innovation hub for a network of financial services providers, fintech innovation hubs, policymakers, technologists, academia, and the investor community.	The Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Context - India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) and Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) collaborated for innovations in Financial Product and Services

Q.86) Consider the following statements with respect to 'United Nations Security Council Resolution'

1. The term "resolution" appears in Article 15 of the United Nations Charter
2. Draft resolutions on "procedural matters" is adopted if it is not vetoed by any of the five permanent members
3. If the Security Council cannot reach consensus, they may choose to produce a non-binding presidential statement

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.86) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct
The term "resolution" does not appear in the text of the United Nations Charter. It contains numerous formulations, such as "decision" or "recommendation", which imply the adoption of resolutions which do not specify the method to be used.	The UN Charter specifies (in Article 27) that a draft resolution on non-procedural matters is adopted if nine or more of the fifteen Council members vote for the resolution, and if it is not vetoed by any of the five permanent members. Draft resolutions on "procedural matters" can be adopted on the basis of an affirmative vote by any nine Council members	If the Security Council cannot reach consensus or a passing vote on a resolution, they may choose to produce a non-binding presidential statement instead of a Resolution. These are adopted by consensus. They are meant to apply political pressure—a warning that the Council is paying attention and further action may follow.

Context – China blocked 2 proposals by India to designate Pakistan based terrorists.

Q.87) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Swadesh Darshan 2’

1. The scheme promotes theme-based tourist circuits moving away from destination tourism
2. The Swadesh Darshan scheme is entirely centrally funded

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.87) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
The scheme is promoted as part of India’s new domestic tourism policy which moves away from theme-based	Under the scheme, the Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to State governments, Union Territory Administrations or Central Agencies for development of

tourist circuits and focuses on revving up destination tourism.

tourism infrastructure in the country. The Swadesh Darshan scheme is 100% centrally funded

Context - The Union Government has launched Swadesh Darshan 2 with chosen destinations from 15 States.

Q.88) 'Rustom 2' seen in news is a

- Artillery Gun System
- 3D Surveillance Radar
- Advanced Air Defence Missile
- Unmanned Aerial vehicle

Q.88) Solution(d)

Rustom-2 is also known as Tapas-BH (Tactical Airborne Platform for Aerial Surveillance-Beyond Horizon 201) is MALE UAV with an operating altitude of 30000 ft, endurance of 24 hrs with EO & SAR payloads and a range of 250 kms. It can carry a variety of payloads up to a maximum of 350 kgs. Rustom-2 is a platform designed to perform Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance missions for Indian Armed Forces. Its mission requirements are to provide continuous wide area coverage and yet be able to identify small targets. Rustom-II is comparable in the same class such as IAI's HERON.

Context - The indigenous medium altitude long endurance (MALE) unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) is expected to complete all user trials by August 2023.

Q.89) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Web 3.0'

- It refers to a "read-write-execute" web – with decentralization as its bedrock
- It is a digital world where people are able to interact with each other without the need of an intermediary
- Users will have ownership stakes in platforms and applications under 3.0 unlike earlier versions

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- All the above

Q.89) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Correct
Web 3.0 is an evolving term that is used to refer to the next generation of Internet – a "read-	With block chain, the time and place of the transaction are recorded permanently. Thus, Web3 enables peer to peer (seller to buyer)	In Web3, users will have ownership stakes in platforms and applications unlike now where tech

write-execute” web – with decentralization as its bedrock.

transactions by eliminating the role of the intermediary.

giants control the platforms.

Context - According to NASSCOM's latest report, India is home to 11% of the global Web3.0 talent

Q.90) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Tribal Youth Exchange Programme’

1. The aim of this programme is to sensitize LWE tribal youth to rich cultural heritage of India
2. It is being organized by National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) across the country

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.90) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
The aim of this programme is to sensitize LWE Tribal Youth to Rich Cultural Heritage of India and to enable them to appreciate the concept of unity in diversity, expose them to development activities and industrial advancement and at help the tribal youth to develop emotional linkages with their peer groups in other part of the country and enhance their self-esteem.	Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan has been organizing Tribal Youth Exchange Programme since 2006 for the development and main streaming of Tribal Youth in collaboration and financial support from Department of Left Wing Extremism (LWE), Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India. During this financial year 2022-23, 26 Tribal Youth Exchange Programmes are being organized by NYKS across the country.

Context - Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in collaboration with Ministry of Home Affairs organises Tribal Youth Exchange Programme for the development of Tribal Youth

Q.91) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Competition Commission of India’

1. It is a statutory body within the Ministry of Commerce and Industry responsible for enforcing the Competition Act, 2002
2. The commission comprises a chairperson and not less than five members appointed by the Central Government
3. The commission is required to give an opinion on competition issues on a reference received from a statutory authority established under any law

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

- a) 1 only

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

Q.91) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct
The Competition Commission of India (CCI) is the chief national competition regulator in India. It is a statutory body within the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and is responsible for enforcing the Competition Act, 2002 to promote competition and prevent activities that have an appreciable adverse effect on competition in India.	The commission comprises a chairperson and not less than two and not more than six other members appointed by the Central Government. Ashok Kumar Gupta is the current chairperson of the CCI.	The commission is also required to give an opinion on competition issues on a reference received from a statutory authority established under any law and to undertake competition advocacy, create public awareness and impart training on competition issues

Context - Competition Commission slaps ₹1,338-crore penalty on Google for unfair practices

Q.92) Consider the following statements regarding ‘Cyclone warning system in India’

1. The weather warning is issued by the India Meteorological Department based on tidal surges
2. Cyclones are colour coded based on their intensity into white, yellow, red and black

Select the INCORRECT statements

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

Q.92) Solution(c)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
Cyclones are classified into five different levels on the basis of wind speed. They are further divided	The four colors used by IMD are Green, Yellow, Orange, and Red. Green - No Action needed; Yellow

into five categories according to their capacity to cause damage

- Watch and stay updated; Orange - Be prepared; Red - Take action.

Context – Possible cyclone sitrang likely to reach West Bengal by Tuesday.

Q.93) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Official Languages Committee'

1. It is a statutory committee constituted under the Official Language Act of 1963
2. The Act makes it obligatory for the President to issue directions in accordance with the report
3. The committee also has the mandate to recommend the medium of instruction in central universities

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.93) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Incorrect
Official language committee is a statutory committee constituted under Section 4 in the Official Language Act, 1963.	The Act makes it obligatory for the President to issue directions "in accordance with the whole or any part of the report.	The remit of the committee is to review the progress made in the use of Hindi for the official purposes of the Union and submit a report to the President. The committee is not mandated to recommend the medium of instruction in universities and professional institutions.

Context - The 11th volume of the Report of the Official Language Committee was submitted to the President of India.

Q.94) National Crisis Management Committee is chaired by the

- a) Union Home Minister
- b) Prime Minister
- c) Minister of Earth Sciences
- d) Cabinet Secretary

Q.94) Solution(d)

A National Crisis Management Committee is a committee set up by the Government of India in the wake of a natural calamity for effective coordination and implementation of relief measures and operations. It is headed by Cabinet Secretary

Context - National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) under Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary Shri Rajiv Gauba meets and reviews preparedness for possible cyclonic storm over Bay of Bengal

Q.95) With reference to 'Nutri-cereals', consider the following statements

1. They are gluten free, non- allergenic and non-acid forming foods
2. Jowar, Ragi, Kutki and Cheena are some of the nutri-cereals

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.95) Solution(c)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
Nutri-cereals are gluten free, non-allergenic non acid forming foods. Millet consumption decreases triglycerides and C- reactive protein, thereby preventing cardiovascular disease	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has declared Millets comprising of Sorghum (Jowar), Pearl Millet (Bajra), Finger Millet (Ragi/Mandua), Minor Millets i.e., Foxtail Millet (Kanngani/kakun), Proso Millet (Cheena), Kodo Millet (Kodo), Barnyard Millet (Sawa/Sanwa/Jhangora), Little Millet (Kutki), Brown top millet and two pseudo millets i.e., Buck- wheat (Kuttu), Amaranth (Chaulai)) as "Nutri-Cereals" for production, consumption and trade point of view.

Context - Union Agriculture Minister and the Minister of Botswana hold talks, focus on promoting the cultivation of nutri-cereals

Q.96) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Financial Action Task Force'

1. It is an intergovernmental organization founded on the initiative of the G7
2. FATF monitors progress in implementing its recommendations through Special Rapporteurs
3. Countries known as Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories (NCCTs) are put in the grey list

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.96) Solution(a)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Incorrect
The Financial Action Task Force (on Money Laundering) (FATF) is an intergovernmental organisation founded in 1989 on the initiative of the G7 to develop policies to combat money laundering and to maintain certain interest .	FATF monitors progress in implementing its Recommendations through "peer reviews" ("mutual evaluations") of member countries. Special rapporteur (or Independent Expert) are titles given to independent human rights expert whose expertise is called called upon by the United Nations to report or advise on human rights from a thematic or country-specific perspective	Countries known as Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories (NCCTs) are put in the blacklist. These countries support terror funding and money laundering activities. The FATF revises the blacklist regularly, adding or deleting entries. Countries that are considered safe haven for supporting terror funding and money laundering are put in the FATF grey list. This inclusion serves as a warning to the country that it may enter the blacklist.

Context – Pakistan was recently removed from FATF grey list

Q.97) With respect to 'General Consent given to Central Bureau of Investigation', consider the following statements

1. CBI may begin investigations taking consent as having been already given under this route
2. CBI would still have the powers to investigate old cases even when general consent is withdrawn

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.97) Solution(c)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
General consent is normally given by states to help the CBI in the seamless investigation of cases of corruption against central government employees in their states. This is essentially consent by default, which means CBI may begin investigations taking consent as having been already given.	The CBI would still have the power to investigate old cases registered when general consent existed. Also, cases registered anywhere else in the country, but involving people stationed in states which have withdrawn consent, would allow CBI's jurisdiction to extend to these states.

Context - Maharashtra government has restored general consent for CBI

Q.98) Consider the following statements with respect to 'LVM3-M2/ Oneweb India – 1 Mission'

1. It is a dedicated commercial space mission of the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe)
2. The mission placed the satellites in the Low Earth Orbit 600 km above Earth
3. The launch vehicle LVM3-M2 consists of three stages consisting of two solid propellant strap-ons

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.98) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct

LVM3-M2 is the dedicated commercial satellite mission of NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Department of Space, Government of India.	The launch is also first for LVM3-M2 to place the satellites in the Low Earth Orbit (up to 1,200 kms above the earth) unlike Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).	LVM3-M2 is a three-stage launch vehicle consisting of two solid propellant S200 strap-ons on its sides and core stage comprising L110 liquid stage and C25 cryogenic stage.
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Context - ISRO's dedicated commercial satellite mission LVM3-M2/OneWeb India-1 lifts off

Q.99) Jim Corbett National Park is located along the banks of which river

- a) Bhilangna
- b) Rispana
- c) Mandakini
- d) Ramganga

Q.99) Solution(d)

Jim Corbett National Park is a national park in India located in the Nainital district of Uttarakhand state. The park has sub-Himalayan belt geographical and ecological characteristics. Dense moist deciduous forest mainly consists of sal, haldu, peepal, rohini and mango trees. The park encompasses the Patli Dun valley formed by the Ramganga river.

Context – NGT stopped Corbett tiger safari work

Q.100) Consider the following statements regarding 'Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U)'

1. States and Union Territories have the discretion to decide the cut-off date on which beneficiaries need to be resident of an urban area for being eligible under the scheme
2. Mission will be implemented as a central sector scheme with central assistance routed to Urban Local Bodies directly

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.100) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
States/UTs, at their discretion, may decide a cut-off date on which beneficiaries need to be resident of that urban area for being eligible to take benefits under the scheme.	Central assistance will be provided to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and other implementing agencies through States/UTs for: In-situ Rehabilitation of existing slum dwellers using land as a resource through private participation Credit Linked Subsidy Affordable Housing in Partnership Subsidy for Beneficiary-led individual house construction/enhancement. Credit linked subsidy component will be implemented as a Central Sector Scheme while other three components will be implemented as Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS).

Context - Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu bag top three positions in PMAY-U awards

Q.101) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs)'

1. InvIT contains investment in real infrastructure assets like roads, power plants and pipelines etc
2. They are regulated under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Real Estate Investment Trusts) Regulations, 2014
3. SEBI has allowed Foreign Direct Investment in InvITs, but has barred Foreign Portfolio Investment

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.101) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Incorrect
An Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvITs) is like a mutual fund, which enables direct investment of small amounts of money from possible individual/institutional investors in infrastructure to earn a small portion of the income as return. While mutual	Sebi notified the Sebi (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) Regulations, 2014 on September 26, 2014, providing for registration and regulation of InvITs in India. The objective of	An announcement was made in the Union Budget 2021-22 that debt financing of Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) will be enabled

funds invest the sum received in financial securities, an InvIT invests the same in real infrastructure assets like roads, power plants, transmission lines, pipelines etc.	InvITs is to facilitate investment in the infrastructure sector.	by making suitable amendments in the relevant legislations. FPIs can acquire debt securities issued by InvITs and REITs under the Medium-Term Framework (MTF) or the Voluntary Retention Route (VRR). Such investments shall be reckoned within the limits and shall be subject to the terms and conditions for investments by FPIs in debt securities under the respective regulations of MTF and VRR.
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Context – InvITs were in news.

Q.102) 'The Lions' Den', a militant group recently seen in news are based in

- a) Philippines
- b) Nigeria
- c) Palestine
- d) Sudan

Q.102) Solution(c)

The Lions' Den is an armed Palestinian terrorist group operating in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. It was formed in 2022 by former members of other Palestinian militant organizations and is reportedly based in the Old City of Nablus.

Context – The group recently accused Israel of carrying out killings in West Bank

Q.103) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act'

1. The Act requires every person or NGO wishing to receive foreign donations to be registered
2. The Act prohibits receipt of foreign funds by candidates for elections, judges and government servants etc
3. FCRA registration is valid for a period of three years and is expected to be renewed six months before expiry
4. Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal Ministry for handling FCRA registrations and all its orders can be challenged in High Court

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.103) Solution(a)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3	Statement 4
Correct	Correct	Incorrect	Correct
Broadly, the FCRA requires every person or NGO wishing to receive foreign donations to be registered under the Act, to open a bank account for the receipt of the foreign funds in State Bank of India, Delhi, and to utilise those funds only for the purpose for which they have been received, and as stipulated in the Act.	The Act prohibits receipt of foreign funds by candidates for elections, journalists or newspaper and media broadcast companies, judges and government servants, members of legislature and political parties or their office-bearers, and organisations of a political nature.	Once granted, FCRA registration is valid for five years. NGOs are expected to apply for renewal within six months of the date of expiry of registration. In case of failure to apply for renewal, the registration is deemed to have expired.	The MHA is required to approve or reject the application within 90 days — failing which it is expected to inform the NGO of the reasons for the same. Once the registration of an NGO is cancelled, it is not eligible for re-registration for three years. All orders of the government can be challenged in the High Court.

Context - The Ministry of Home Affairs cancelled the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) licence of Rajiv Gandhi Foundation (RGF) and Rajiv Gandhi Charitable Trust (RGCT)

Q.104) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Basmati Rice production in India'

1. It is prominently grown in the Himalayan foothills of the Indian sub-continent
2. Most of the exports of Indian basmati is to West Asian countries

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.104) Solution(c)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
“Basmati” is long grain aromatic rice grown for many centuries in a specific geographical area, in the Himalayan foothills of the Indian sub-continent. India is known for its Basmati rice, with seven States — Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand — earmarked for geographical indication (GI).	75% of the export is to West Asian countries, European Union countries also import Indian Basmati. Iran, Saudi Arab, Iraq, United Arab EMTs, U S A and Yemen Republic are the major destinations of export.

Context - Five new varieties of seeds of Basmati rice were developed recently.

Q.105) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘World Anti-Doping Code’

1. The provisions of the WADC are enforced by the UNGA International Convention Against Doping in Sport
2. The code harmonizes anti-doping policies, rules, and regulations within sport organizations and among public authorities

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.105) Solution(b)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
The World Anti-Doping Agency is a foundation initiated by the International Olympic Committee based in Canada to promote, coordinate, and monitor the fight against drugs in sports. The agency's key activities include scientific research, education, development of anti-doping capacities, and monitoring of the World Anti-Doping Code,	The code "harmonizes anti-doping policies, rules, and regulations within sport organizations and among public authorities" for the purpose of "protect[ing] the athletes' fundamental right to participate in doping-free sport".

whose provisions are enforced by the UNESCO International Convention Against Doping in Sport.	
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Context – An Indian discus thrower was banned for three years for testing positive for a banned substance

Q.106) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Sandalwood Spike Disease’

1. The disease is caused by a fungus which are transmitted by an insect vector
2. There is no cure for this disease currently

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.106) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
It is an infectious disease which is caused by Phytoplasmas, which are bacterial parasites of plant tissues which are transmitted by insect vectors and involved in plant-to-plant transmission.	Presently, there is no option but to cut down and remove the infected tree to prevent the spread of the disease.

Context - India’s sandalwood trees, particularly of Karnataka are facing a serious threat with the return of the destructive Sandalwood Spike Disease (SSD).

Q.107) With reference to ‘Agni Prime missile’, consider the following statements

1. It is a two stage ballistic missile which can be launched from land, air and sea
2. It is a nuclear-capable missile has been manufactured by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
3. It is guided by a ring laser gyro inertial navigation system optionally augmented by GPS/NavIC satellite guidance

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

- a) 1 and 2 only

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

Q.107) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct
Agni-P is a two-stage, road mobile and solid-fueled MRBM which is transported by a truck and launched via a canister. In addition, since it is canisterised, it can be launched from rail or road, be stored for longer periods and can be transported as per operational requirements. It cannot be launched from air	The nuclear-capable missile has been designed and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). It is manufactured by the Bharat Dynamics Limited	It is guided by ring laser gyro inertial navigation system with redundant micro inertial navigation and digital control system, Optionally augmented by GPS/NavIC satellite guidance

Context - The Agni Prime new generation ballistic missile was successfully test fired off the coast of Odisha.

Q.108) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Bhoota Kola'

1. It is an animistic ritual dance performed in parts of Karnataka and Kerala
2. Paddanas are epics which recount the origins of the deity involved in this artform

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.108) Solution(c)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
Bhoota Kola is an animistic ritual dance performed in Tulu Nadu and	The ritual performance at a būta kōla or daiva nēma involves music, dance, recital, and elaborate costumes. Recitals in Old

parts of Malēnādu of Karnataka and Kasargod in northern Kerala, India.

Tulu recount the origins of the deity and tell the story of how it came to the present location. These epics are known as pāḍḍanas

Context - Kannada movie Kantara opened up a controversy related to the origins of Bhoota Kola

Q.109) 'Sukapaika' a river seen in news is a distributary of

- Kosi
- Mahanadi
- Narmada
- Banas

Q.109) Solution(b)

Sukapaika is one of the several distributaries of the mighty Mahanadi river in Odisha. It branches away from the Mahanadi at Ayatpur village in Cuttack district and flows for about 40 kilometres (km) before rejoining its parent river at Tarapur in the same district.

Context - Odisha Government has started working on Sukapaika River revival plan following a recent direction from the National Green Tribunal (NGT).

Q.110) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Target Olympic Podium Scheme(TOPS)'

- The scheme is a flagship program of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- It is applicable to all individual sporting disciplines but not group sports like Hockey
- Certain sports have been categorized as "High Priority" under this scheme

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

- 1 and 2 only
- 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1 only

Q.110) Solution(c)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Correct
The scheme is a flagship program of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in an	The scheme currently supports 105 TOPS Core Group Athletes	Under this scheme, certain sports have

attempt to provide assistance to India's top athletes. The program is aimed at providing the required support to the athletes in their preparation and training, so that they can win medals for the country at international events (with the main focus being on the Olympics)	across 13 sporting disciplines. This includes Hockey- both men's and women's teams and 269 TOPS Development Group athletes across 12 sports disciplines.	been categorized as "High Priority" which are Archery, Badminton, Boxing, Hockey, Shooting and Wrestling.
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Context - TOPS athletes to feature in Phase 2 of Khelo India National Ranking Women's Weightlifting tournament

Q.111) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Blue flag certification'

1. It is an eco-label accorded by the Foundation for Environment Education (FEE)
2. Beaches outside mainland India were awarded this certification for the first time recently
3. Blue flag certification entitles the beach administration to grants from UNEP

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.111) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Incorrect
Foundation for Environment Education in Denmark (FEE) accords the globally recognized eco-label - Blue Flag certification. In order to qualify for this prestigious award, a series of stringent environmental, educational, safety-related and access-related criteria must be met and maintained. The mission of Blue Flag is to promote sustainability in the tourism sector, through environmental education,	The Indian beaches in the blue list are Shivrajpur-Gujarat, Ghoghla-Diu, Kasarkod and Padubidri-Karnataka, Kappad-Kerala, Rushikonda- Andhra Pradesh, Golden-Odisha, Radhanagar- Andaman and Nicobar, Kovalam in Tamil Nadu and Eden in Puducherry beaches.	The advantages of the Blue Flag programme are many and varied: from the primary objectives of environmental protection and education for sustainable development, to the financial rewards such accreditation brings in the form of more visitors looking for a higher level of environmental responsibility, the Blue Flag is a trusted symbol the world

environmental protection and other sustainable development practices.	Radhanagar beach in Andamans was the first blue flag beach outside mainland India	over. There is no entitlement for grants from UNEP
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Context - "Blue Flag", has been accorded to two new beaches – Minicoy Thundi Beach and Kadmat Beach- both in Lakshadweep. This takes the number of beaches certified under the Blue Flag certification to twelve (12).

Q.112) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Like Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) Group'

1. They are an inter-governmental group consisting of developing countries that tend to share similar sustainable development challenges.
2. India is part of the LMDC grouping along with China and Saudi Arabia
3. They were first recognized as a distinct group of developing countries at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.112) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Incorrect
The Like Minded-Group of Developing Countries (LMDC) is a group of developing countries who organise themselves as a block negotiators in international organizations such as the United Nations and the World Trade Organization, they represent more than 50% of the world's population.	LMDC countries who negotiate in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change fora, the members are Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Venezuela and Vietnam.	The SIDS and not LMDC were first recognized as a distinct group of developing countries at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in June 1992

Context - Union Minister for Environment Forest and Climate change recently participated in Ministerial Meeting of Like Minded Developing Countries (LMDC).

Q.113) 'Tigray' a region which is conflict-ridden seen in news is in

- a) Syria
- b) Nigeria
- c) Ethiopia
- d) Burkina Faso

Q.113) Solution(c)

The Tigray Region is the northernmost regional state in Ethiopia. The Tigray War is an ongoing civil war that began on 3 November 2020 in the Tigray Region of Ethiopia. The war is primarily being fought by the Ethiopian federal government and Eritrea on one side, and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) on the other.

Context - The first formal African Union-led peace talks between an Ethiopian government team and Tigray forces (since the war of 2020 with Tigray) are underway.

Q.114) With reference to 'The Roadmap 2030', consider the following statements

1. It provides a framework for India to scale up renewable energy usage to meet climate goals
2. It is formulated by NITI Aayog in association with Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate change

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.114) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
It was launched in 2021, during the India-U.K. virtual summit. The roadmap heralds the commencement of an 'Enhanced Trade Partnership' between India and the United Kingdom, with goals of doubling the value	It is not related to environment. It was jointly

of UK-India trade by 2030 and expediting the first phase of pre-negotiations for a future free trade deal

formulated by Indian and U.K. governments.

Context - Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated British Prime Minister-elect Rishi Sunak and said he looked forward to working closely together on global issues and implementing the Roadmap 2030 for bilateral relations

Q.115) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Chola Bronze Sculptures'

1. Chola period bronzes were created using the lost wax technique and the bronze alloys were known as Panchaloham
2. Chola bronzes have higher intricate ornamentation in comparison with the subsequent bronzes in the Nayaka period

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.115) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
Chola period bronzes were created using the lost wax technique. It is known in artistic terms as "Cire Perdue". Beeswax and kungilium (a type of camphor) are mixed with a little oil and kneaded well. The figure is sculpted from this mixture fashioning all the minute details. This is the wax model original. The entire figure is then coated with clay made from termite hills until the mould is of a necessary thickness. Then the whole thing is dried and fired in an oven with cow-dung cakes. The wax model melts and flows out, while some of it vapourises. The metal alloy of bronze is melted and poured into the empty clay-mould. This particular bronze alloy is known as Pancha Loham.	Chola bronzes have little intricate ornamentation in comparison with the subsequent bronzes of the Vijayanagar and Nayaka period. There is gentle grace, a restrained and quiet elegance, an ethereal, out-worldly beauty, and above all else - a life that throbs and pulsates and thereby enlivens the bronze sculpture

Context - Two Chola period bronze idols stolen from Tamil Nadu were traced to the U.S.

Q.116) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC)'

1. It is a statutory committee functioning under Ministry of Science and Technology
2. No Objection Certification from the State/UT Government is required for confined field trials related to Genetically Modified (GM) crops by GEAC
3. GEAC is chaired by an expert in the field of bio-technology nominated by the Union Government

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.116) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Incorrect
The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) is the statutory committee constituted under the "Rules for the Manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells (Rules, 1989)" framed under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.	For the consideration of any application related to confined field trials of Genetically Modified (GM) crops by GEAC, NOC from the State/UT Government is required.	GEAC is chaired by the Special Secretary/Additional Secretary of MoEF&CC and co-chaired by a representative from the Department of Biotechnology (DBT). Presently, it has 24 members and meets every month to review the applications in the areas indicated above.

Context - Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) recently approved commercial cultivation of genetically modified mustard variety DMH (Dhara Mustard Hybrid)-11.

Q.117) Consider the following statements

1. Reserve Bank of India has the sole right to issue banknotes in India
2. The final decision regarding any change of design of the currency notes lies with RBI
3. The role of the RBI in the case of coins is limited to distribution and minting of coins is done by the Central Government

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.117) Solution(c)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Correct
Section 22 of The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, gives RBI the “sole right” to issue banknotes in India.	The RBI’s Department of Currency Management has the responsibility of administering the core function of currency management. If the design of a currency note has to change, the Department works on the design and submits it to RBI, which recommends it to the central government. The government gives the final approval.	The Coinage Act, 2011 gives the central government the power to design and mint coins in various denominations. In the case of coins, the role of the RBI is limited to the distribution of coins that are supplied by the central government.

Context - Delhi Chief Minister recently appealed to the Union government to print images of Goddess Lakshmi and Lord Ganesh on new currency notes.

Q.118) ‘Yashovati, Vakpushta, Didda’ were

- a) Social reformers
- b) Traditional medicine practitioners
- c) Administrators
- d) Playwrights

Q.118) Solution(c)

The Ministry of Culture organized a dance-drama titled “STREEDESH” based on the lives of 13 legendary women of Jammu and Kashmir. The event showcased the history of Jammu and Kashmir as a land of great women and depicted the lives of Yashovati, Ishaan Devi, Vakpushta, Suganda Rani, Rani Didda, Srilekha, Silla, Sooryamati, Kalhanika among many others.

Context - Ministry of Culture organizes Stree Desh- A dance drama production by Dr Sonal Mansingh on the forgotten legendary women of Jammu and Kashmir

Q.119) Consider the following statements

1. Site-Directed Nuclease (SDN) genome editing involves the use of different RNA-cutting enzymes (nucleases)
2. All the SDN processes do not involve alien genetic material and the end result is indistinguishable from conventionally bred crop varieties

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.119) Solution(d)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
Site-Directed Nuclease (SDN) genome editing involves the use of different DNA-cutting enzymes (nucleases) that are directed to cut the DNA at a predetermined location by a range of different DNA binding systems. After the cut is made, the cell's own DNA repair mechanism recognizes the break and repairs the damage, using one of two pathways that are naturally present in cells:	SDN 1 & SDN 2 processes do not involve alien genetic material and the end result is indistinguishable from conventionally bred crop varieties. The SDN3 process involves larger DNA elements or full length genes of foreign origin which makes it similar to Genetically modified organisms (GMO) development.

Context - Notification of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for regulatory review of Genome Edited Plants under SDN-1 and SDN-2 categories, 2022**Q.120) With reference to 'NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation)', consider the following statements**

1. The satellites under this system are stationed in both geostationary and geosynchronous orbits
2. NavIC covers India and a region extending 6000 sq.km around it

Select the correct statement(s)

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.120) Solution(a)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
NaVIC or the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) uses seven satellites to provide real-time positioning and timing services in India and an area extending up to 1,500 km from the country's borders. Of the seven satellites used by NaVIC at present, three are in the geostationary orbit and four in the geosynchronous orbit.	The Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), with an operational name of NavIC is an autonomous regional satellite navigation system that provides accurate real-time positioning and timing services. It covers India and a region extending 1,500 km (930 mi) around it, with plans for further extension

Context - The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is working on a series of improvements to the NavIC, or India's equivalent of the Global Positioning System (GPS)

Q.121) 'Research Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG)' seen in news is associated with

- a) G20
- b) BRICS
- c) NATO
- d) I2U2

Q.121) Solution(a)

Research Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) is associated with G20. India highlighted that materials for sustainable energy, scientific challenges & opportunities to achieving a sustainable blue economy, biodiversity, and economy would be the major themes and topics of the Research Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) during India's presidency starting from 1st December 2022.

Context - Major themes of the Research Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) during India's presidency highlighted at G-20 Research Ministers meeting

Q.122) Consider the following statements with respect to 'News Broadcasting & Digital Standards Authority (NBDSA)'

1. It is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
2. The Authority may initiate proceedings on its own and take action in respect to any matter falling within its regulations

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.122) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
It is an independent body set up by the News Broadcasters & Digital Association (NBDA). It serves as a representative of private television news, current affairs and digital broadcasters.	The Authority may initiate proceedings on its own and issue notice or take action in respect to any matter which falls within its regulations. This can also be through complaints referred to the Authority by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting or any other governmental body, or by anyone else via its website.

Context - The News Broadcasting & Digital Standards Authority (NBDSA) has recently fined a Hindi TV channel for not adhering to guidelines.

Q.123) Consider the following statements with respect to 'National Investigative Agency'

1. The agency has the mandate to deal with terror related crimes across states without special permission from the states.
2. The jurisdiction of the special courts of NIA is decided by the Supreme Court
3. NIA is empowered to probe terror attacks targeting Indians and Indian interests abroad

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.123) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Correct
The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is the primary counter-terrorist task force of India. The agency is empowered to deal with the investigation of terror related crimes across states without special permission from the states under written proclamation from the Ministry of Home Affairs.	Various Special Courts have been notified by the Central Government of India for trial of the cases registered at various police stations of NIA under Section 11 and 22 of the NIA Act 2008. Any question as to the jurisdiction of these courts is decided by the Central Government. These are presided over by a judge appointed by the Central Government on the recommendation of the Chief Justice of the High Court with jurisdiction in that region.	The NIA (Amendment) Bill 2019 was passed by the parliament on 17 July 2019. The Bill aims to give more teeth to the investigating powers of the NIA. It empowers the NIA to probe terror attacks targeting Indians and Indian interests abroad. The amended legislation, which aims to primarily empower the anti-terror agency to investigate scheduled offences such as human trafficking; circulation of fake currency; manufacture and sale of prohibited arms; and cyber-terrorism

Context - Union Home Minister recently said that National Investigation Agency (NIA) agency will have offices in all states by 2024.

Q.124) Consider the following statements with respect to 'CAR T-cell therapy'

1. CAR T cells can be either derived from T cells in a patient's own blood (autologous) or from another healthy donor
2. The Engineered T cells allows doctors to control the persistence or activity of the T cells in the patient's body

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.124) Solution(c)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
CAR T cells can be either derived from T cells in a patient's own blood (autologous) or derived from the T cells of another healthy donor (allogeneic). Once isolated from a person, these T cells are genetically engineered to express a specific CAR, which programs them to target an antigen that is present on the surface of tumors.	Adding a synthetic control mechanism to engineered T cells allows doctors to precisely control the persistence or activity of the T cells in the patient's body, with the goal of reducing toxic side effects. Current methods for controlling CAR T cells include systemic immunosuppressive agents, e.g., corticosteroids

Context – It was in news

Q.125) With reference to 'Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal', consider the following statements

1. CESTAT is a quasi-judicial body constituted under the Administrative Tribunals Act
2. It has the power to grant compensation owing to unlawful action of revenue authorities
3. The Tribunal also has appellate jurisdiction in Anti-Dumping matters

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.125) Solution(b)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct
The Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal (CESTAT) is an Indian quasi-judicial body that hears appeals against orders and decisions passed under the Customs Act, 1962 and Central Excise Act, 1944 as amended from time to time. It was constituted as	CESTAT functions with the following limitations as it CAN NOT – 1)grant compensation owing to unlawful action of revenue authorities- 2)review its own order as any quasi-judicial authority cannot review its own order -3) exercise powers beyond statute as it is a creature of	The Tribunal also has appellate jurisdiction in Anti-Dumping matters and the Special Bench headed by the President, CESTAT, hears appeals against the orders passed by the

Customs, Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal (CEGAT) under section 129 of Customs Act, 1962	statute only. It cannot issue writs or grant relief which ought to be granted by high court.	Designated Authority in the Ministry of Commerce.
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Context – CESTAT has asked Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs to frame norms in IBC cases.

Q.126) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act’

1. It will apply to the offenders in the same manner even if a crime is committed outside India
2. There is a provision for default bail but normal bail rules do not apply to an accused under this Act
3. An investigating officer does not require any approval to seize properties that may be connected with terrorism under this Act

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.126) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Incorrect
Under UAPA, both Indian and foreign nationals can be charged. It will apply to the offenders in the same manner, even if a crime is committed in a foreign land, outside India.	The police normally have 60 to 90 days to investigate a case and submit a charge-sheet failing which the accused may obtain default bail. However, under the UAPA, this pre-charge sheet time is extended to 180 days. Further, normal bail rules do not apply to an accused under Section 43(d)5 of the UAPA	Under the Act, an investigating officer is required to obtain the prior approval of the Director General of Police to seize properties that may be connected with terrorism. The Bill adds that if the investigation is conducted by an officer of the National Investigation Agency (NIA), the approval of the Director General of NIA would be required for seizure of such property.

Context - Prime Minister said that Central laws such as the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) had given an impetus to the system in a decisive fight against terrorism.

Q.127) Consider the following statements

1. Red Mud is the waste generated after pure iron is separated from ferrous ore
2. It can be used to build radiation shielding structures in diagnostic X-rays, CT scanner rooms and Cath labs
3. It is low cost, non-toxic and has very less chances of leaching the surrounding environment

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.127) Solution(b)**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Incorrect
Red mud, now more frequently termed bauxite residue, is an industrial waste generated during the processing of bauxite into alumina using the Bayer process. It is composed of various oxide compounds, including the iron oxides which give its red colour.	Red mud can be turned into X-ray shielding tiles in a green and economically viable manner through a ceramic route by adding a certain weight percentage of high Z material and binder with it. These tiles can be used to build radiation shielding structures in diagnostic X-rays, CT scanner rooms, Cath labs, bone mineral density, dental X-rays, etc., instead of the toxic lead sheet to protect the public from radiation hazards.	It is considered to be toxic due to its extreme alkalinity and heavy element leaching. Although the scientific community has patented more than 700 applications of red mud, very few of them have reached industries due to high cost, low public acceptance, environmental issues, and limited market.

Context - CSIR- Advanced Materials and Processes Research Institute (AMPRI) has converted Red Mud into X-ray shielding tiles**Q.128) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Northeast Monsoon'**

1. Southward movement of Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) is one of the causes of the northeast monsoon
2. All the states receive lesser rainfall in Northeast Monsoon as compared to Southwest Monsoon

3. Northeast monsoon's performance is not influenced by sea-surface temperatures as it moves from land to sea

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.128) Solution(a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Incorrect
One of the primary causes of the northeast monsoon is the southward movement of Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) — a dynamic region near the Equator where the trade winds of the northern and southern hemispheres come together. This southward movement of the ITCZ, coupled with the heating up of the Indian Ocean, reverses the direction in which the lower-atmosphere moisture-laden winds blow (from southwest to northeast), thereby triggering the NEM.	The northeast monsoon offers a mere 11% contribution to India's annual rainfall, as opposed to the 75% offered by the southwest monsoon. As per the IMD, the Tamil Nadu subdivision receives at least 48% of its annual rainfall (on average) from NEM. Being in the rain shadow region of the Western Ghats, Tamil Nadu gets only 36% of its annual rainfall from the southwest monsoon. This makes the NEM the chief monsoon season for the southern state, with its performance playing a key role in TN's agricultural activities and reservoir management.	Upon its onset, its subsequent performance is notably influenced by sea-surface temperatures. The NEM rains are positively impacted during the prevalence of an active Indian-Ocean Dipole (IOD) phase (warmer sea surface temperatures in the western Indian Ocean) as well as the El Niño phase (warmer sea surface temperatures in the equatorial Pacific).

Context - The India Meteorological Department (IMD) recently announced the onset of the northeast monsoon over South India.

Q.129) With reference to 'Kalanamak Rice', consider the following statements

- 1. Kalanamak is a traditional variety of paddy with black husk and strong fragrance.
- 2. It is usually grown in Terai region of north-eastern Uttar Pradesh and in Nepal

Select the INCORRECT statement(s)

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

Q.129) Solution(d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
Kalanamak is a traditional variety of paddy with black husk and strong fragrance. It is considered a gift from Lord Buddha to the people of Sravasti when he visited the region after enlightenment.	The traditional Kalanamak rice is protected under the Geographical Indication (GI) tag system. Grown in 11 districts of the Terai region of north-eastern Uttar Pradesh and in Nepal.

Context - Indian Agriculture Research Institute has successfully tested two new dwarf varieties in Uttar Pradesh that give double the yield of traditional variety of Kalanamak rice.

Q.130) 'Glyphosate' considered harmful is most likely used in which one of the following?

- a) Food preservatives
- b) Plastic Manufacturing
- c) Industrial solvent
- d) Herbicides

Q.130) Solution(d)

Glyphosate is an herbicide. It is applied to the leaves of plants to kill both broadleaf plants and grasses. The sodium salt form of glyphosate is used to regulate plant growth and ripen specific crops. It is widely used in plantation agriculture

Context - The Agriculture Ministry, in a notification early this week, said the use of glyphosate is hereby restricted and no person shall use glyphosate except pest control operators (PCOs).