

**UPSC PRELIMS 2025 EXAM  
DAILY QUIZ COMPILATION- NOVEMBER**

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Q1. 'Dubrovnik Declaration' was recently seen in the news. It is related to:

- Promoting regional cooperation for security and counter-terrorism in the Balkans
- Establishing a free trade and customs union among the Western Balkan countries.
- Advancing the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans towards measurable climate and biodiversity action.
- Strengthening defence and strategic partnership between NATO and non-EU Balkan states.

Solution: c

Explanation:

**From the IUCN website:**

**BLOG** 31 OCT, 2025

What's next for nature after the Dubrovnik Declaration?

The Western Balkans has reaffirmed its collective commitment to a greener and more sustainable future. At the Second Ministerial Meeting on the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans (GAWB) held in Dubrovnik in October, Ministers of Environment and Sustainable Development from across the region endorsed the **Dubrovnik Declaration**, a major milestone in advancing regional cooperation on climate and nature.

**Dubrovnik is in Croatia.**

Q2. In reference to **GSAT-7R (CMS-03) communication satellite**, consider the following statements.

- CMS-03 was India's heaviest communication satellite launched to Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) from Indian soil.
- It will provide services over a wide oceanic region including the Indian landmass.
- It is indigenously designed and developed satellite launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

**INDIAN NAVY TO BOLSTER SPACE-BASED COMMUNICATION WITH INDIGENOUS GSAT-7R SATELLITE**

Posted On: 02 NOV 2025 8:00AM by PIB Delhi

October 26, 2025

India's LVM3 launch vehicle has successfully launched the CMS-03 communication satellite in its 5th operational flight (LVM3-M5) on November 02, 2025. CMS-03 is a multi-band communication satellite that will provide services over a wide oceanic region including the Indian landmass. CMS-03, weighing about 4400kg, will be the heaviest communication satellite to be launched to Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) from Indian soil. The previous mission of LVM3 launched the Chandrayaan-3 mission, where in, India became the first country to land successfully near the lunar south pole.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding **Biannual Transparency Reports (BTR)**.

1. Under the Enhanced Transparency Framework, Parties to the Paris Agreement are required to submit biennial transparency reports (BTR) every two years.
2. India has not yet submitted its first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR).
3. The BTRs replaced the earlier Biennial Update Reports (BURs) for developing countries under the UNFCCC.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

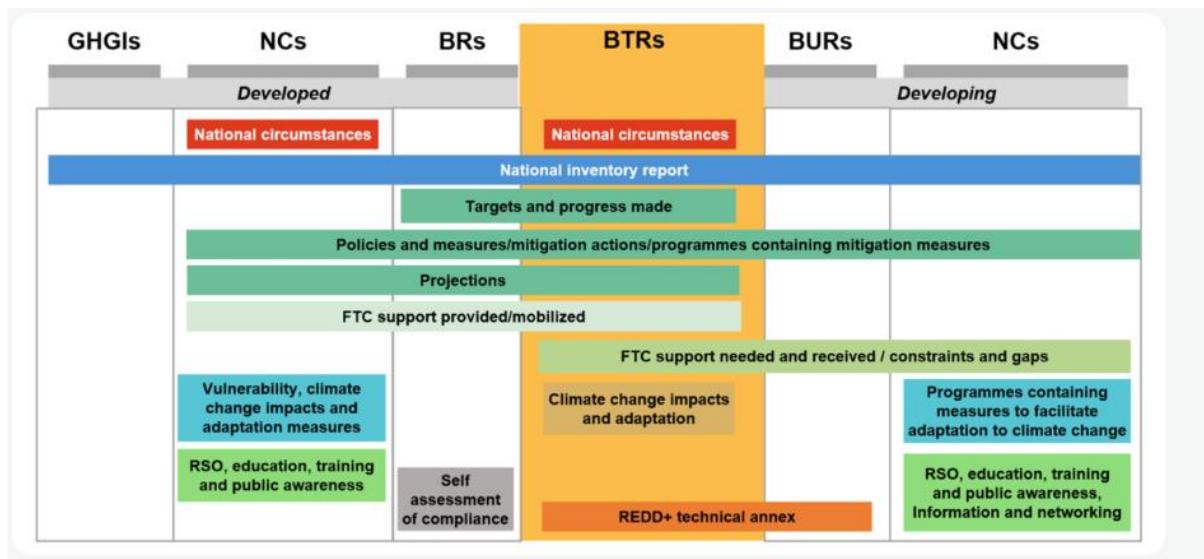
- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: c

Explanation:

Read:

Under the Enhanced Transparency Framework, Parties to the Paris Agreement are required to submit biennial transparency reports (BTR) every two years, with the first submission due by 31 December 2024. According to the modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) for the Enhanced Transparency Framework ([annex to decision 18/CMA.1](#)), BTR include information on national inventory reports (NIR), progress towards NDCs, policies and measures, climate change impacts and adaptation, levels of financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support, capacity-building needs and areas of improvement. Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) may submit the information required for the BTR at their discretion.



The BTRs replace the previous system of Biennial Reports (BRs) for developed countries and Biennial Update Reports (BURs) for developing countries under the parent UNFCCC.

**India yet not submitted the BTR.**

Q4. Which new creative field was recently added to UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) with existing seven?

- a. Design
- b. Architecture
- c. Scientific developments
- d. Film

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

30 October 2025 - Last update: 31 October 2025

→ Learn more about the 58 new cities

"UNESCO Creative Cities demonstrate that culture and creative industries can be concrete drivers of development. By welcoming 58 new cities, we are strengthening a Network where creativity supports local initiatives, attracts investment and promotes social cohesion,"

✓ Lucknow has been added to the list of UNESCO creative cities for its rich and diverse culinary heritage. The city has been recognised in the category of Gastronomy at the 43rd session of its General Conference in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. The designation places Lucknow among 70 gastronomy cities worldwide and makes it the second Indian city to win the title after Hyderabad.

This year, a new theme, **Architecture**, has been added to the seven existing ones: Crafts and Folk Art, Media Arts, Design, Film, Gastronomy, Literature and Music.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding **2025 Asian Youth Games**.

1. This was the first edition of Asian Youth Games held at Beijing, China.
2. The Asian Youth Games (AYG) organized by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), functions under the authority of the International Olympic Committee (IOC)
3. China won the highest medals.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

Prime Minister congratulates young athletes for historic performance at Asian Youth Games 2025

Posted On: 02 NOV 2025 1:09PM by PIB Delhi

The 2025 Asian Youth Games, officially the **3rd Asian Youth Games** was the **third edition of the Asian Youth Games**, a pan-Asian multi-sport event that **took place in Bahrain from 22 to 31 October 2025**.

It marked the **first time the Games were held since the last in 2013**, after the two previous editions in 2017 and 2021 were cancelled.

Indian athletes produced a historic show at the Asian Youth Games 2025, closing the continental meet with a rich haul of **48 medals, including 13 gold, 18 silver and 17 bronze in Manama, Bahrain**. It was India's best show in the history of the championships.

**This edition marked the nation's second appearance at the Games.**

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China ✓	63	49	35	147
2	Uzbekistan	37	16	28	81
3	Kazakhstan	24	29	40	93
4	Iran	22	18	36	76
5	Thailand	15	15	18	48
6	India ✓	13	18	17	48
7	Hong Kong	13	13	10	36

**The Asian Youth Games (AYG) organized by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), functions under the authority of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).**

Q6. With reference to the **non-permanent members** at **UNSC**, consider the following statements:

1. The non-permanent members elected by the General Assembly for a term of three years.
2. The UN General Assembly elects each year five non-permanent members of the Security Council.
3. As per the rules, the non-permanent members of the Security Council are elected by a two-thirds majority.
4. The seats of non-permanent members are distributed according to regional groupings.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Only first is incorrect:**

In accordance with Article 23 of the Charter, as amended, the General Assembly increased the number of non-permanent members of the Security Council from 6 to 10. The Security Council consists of five permanent members (China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America) and **10 non-permanent members elected by the General Assembly for a term of two years.**

In accordance with rule 142 of the rules of procedure, **the General Assembly elects each year five non-permanent members of the Security Council.**

**Under rule 83 of the rules of procedure, the non-permanent members of the Security Council are elected by a two-thirds majority.**

At its eighteenth session, in 1963, the Assembly decided that the non-permanent members of the Council should be elected according to the following pattern:

- a. Five from African and Asian States;
- b. One from Eastern European States;
- c. Two from Latin American States;

**d. Two from Western European and other States.**

In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election is held by secret ballot and there are no nominations.

Q7. Consider the following countries.

1. Eritrea
2. Yemen
3. Djibouti
4. Somalia

Which of the above countries share/s boundary with Red Sea?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

There are six countries (Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, and Djibouti) bordering the Red Sea.



Q8. Consider the following statements.

1. The President of India, as advised by the Prime Minister, direct the allocation of portfolios among the following members of the Union Council of Ministers.
2. Allocation of departments is as per the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961.
3. The Cabinet Secretariat is responsible for the administration of the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: c

Explanation:

Read:

## Functions

The Cabinet Secretariat functions directly under the Prime Minister. The administrative head of the Secretariat is the Cabinet Secretary who is also the ex-officio Chairman of the Civil Services Board. The business allocated to Cabinet Secretariat under Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 includes (i) Secretarial assistance to the Cabinet and Cabinet Committees; and (ii) Rules of Business.

The Cabinet Secretariat is responsible for the administration of the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961 and Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 facilitating smooth transaction of business in Ministries/ Departments. The Secretariat assists in decision-making in Government by ensuring Inter-Ministerial coordination, ironing

**The allocation is as per the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961.**

**In 1961 rules, it is mentioned:**

### Allocation of Departments among Ministers<sup>2</sup> –

- (1) The business of the Government of India allocated to the Cabinet Secretariat is and, shall always be deemed to have been allotted to the Prime Minister.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of sub-rule (1), the President may, on the advice of the Prime Minister, allocate the business of the Government of India among Ministers by assigning one or more departments to the charge of a Minister.

Q9. Under Article 25, which test is applied to determine whether a belief constitutes a religion or not for the purpose of protection?

- a. The Doctrine of Essential Practices
- b. The Rational Nexus Test
- c. The Public Order Test
- d. The Morality Test

Solution: a

Explanation:

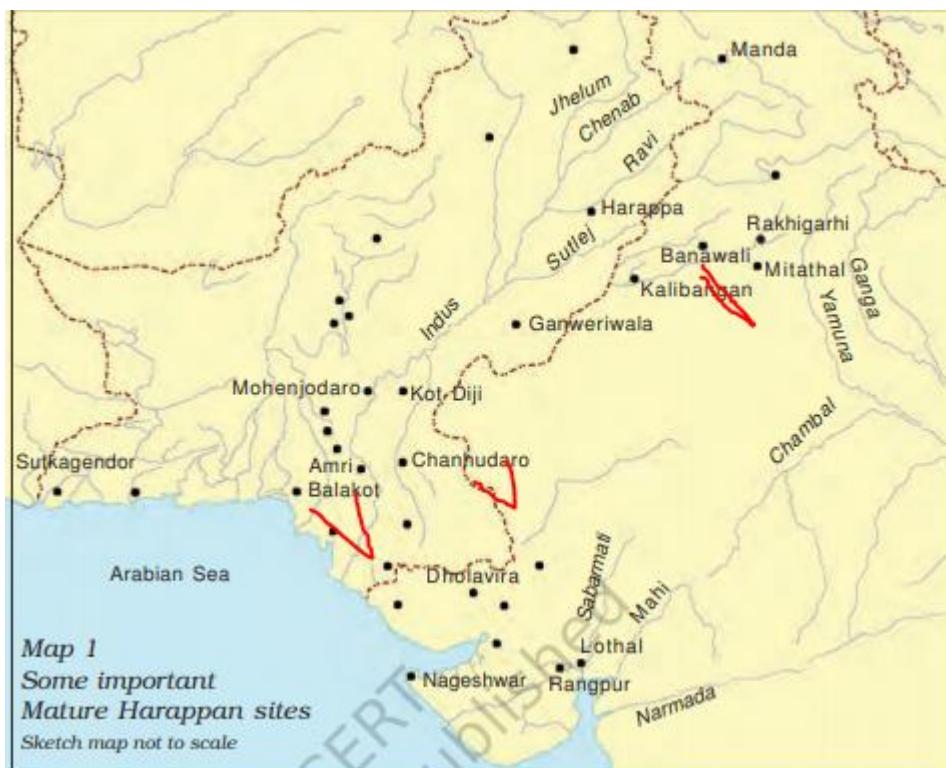
The doctrine of essentiality is a jurisprudence or a legal principle developed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court through various judicial precedents. Essential religious practices are those rituals and customs which are important and necessary for a particular religion and must be adhered to by people practising it.

Q10. Which of the above Harapan sites located near the coast?

- a. Chanhudaro
- b. Balakot
- c. Banawali
- d. Rakhigarhi

Solution: b

Explanation:



If you locate Nageshwar and Balakot on Map 1, you will notice that both settlements are near the coast. These were specialised centres for making shell objects – including bangles, ladles and inlay – which were taken to other settlements. Similarly, it is likely that finished products (such as beads) from Chanhudaro and Lothal were taken to the large urban centres such as Mohenjodaro and Harappa.

Q11. The “Doha Political Declaration” was recently seen in the news. It is related to:

- Reforming the World Trade Organization’s dispute settlement system.
- Advancing social development through poverty eradication, decent work, and social inclusion under the 2030 Agenda.
- Promoting global cooperation on maritime security in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Establishing new commitments for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

4 November 2025 | SDGs

Against a backdrop of escalating geopolitical tension and widening social divides, global leaders at the Second World Summit for Social Development on Tuesday adopted the Doha Political Declaration, signalling renewed resolve to advance justice and inclusion worldwide.

## The Doha Political Declaration

Named after the city of its adoption, the [Doha Political Declaration](#) renews leaders' commitment to the 1995 Copenhagen Declaration and the [2030 Agenda](#), centering social development on three mutually reinforcing pillars: poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social inclusion.

It links social justice to peace, security and human rights, vows to leave no one behind, and urges urgent climate action under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change ([UNFCCC](#)) and [Paris Agreement](#), reaffirming the Rio principles, including common but differentiated responsibilities.

Financing is put front and centre: the Declaration reaffirms the Addis Ababa Action Agenda as integral to the 2030 Agenda, welcomes the Sevilla Commitment to renew the financing framework, and calls for stronger, more representative multilateral institutions.

Q12. Consider the following pairs (regions in news: location)

1. Grand Sud and Grand Sud-Est: Madagascar
2. Quneitra: Sudan

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Read:

## Madagascar hunger crisis deepens amid drought and disease, UN warns

Madagascar is facing a worsening humanitarian emergency as drought, cyclones and disease outbreaks devastate communities in the south of the country, the United Nations warned on Tuesday.

Speaking in New York, Deputy UN Spokesperson Farhan Haq said the situation in the regions of Grand Sud and Grand Sud-Est has become "increasingly dire" due to successive climatic shocks and the lingering impact of El Niño.

Quneitra is the largely destroyed and abandoned capital of the Quneitra Governorate in **south-western Syria**.

## Israel sets up checkpoint in Syria's Quneitra in new breach of sovereignty

Q13. The **Informal Prior-Informed Consent (iPIC) Mechanism** is sometimes mentioned in the context of:

- a. Preventing illegal trade in ozone-depleting substances and hydrofluorocarbons
- b. Regulating prior consent for access to genetic resources
- c. Ensuring informed consent in human drug trials
- d. Controlling cross-border movement of hazardous electronic waste

Solution: a

Explanation:

News:

4 NOV 2025 | OZONACTION | QUOTA TRACKER

### The Informal Prior-Informed Consent (iPIC) Mechanism - 2024 Annual Report

The OzonAction iPIC Annual Report provides a clear overview of the operation of the **informal Prior Informed Consent (iPIC) mechanism** during 2023 and 2024. It also includes a retrospective analysis of data from the past 10–15 years, highlighting the platform's evolution and impact.

The *Informal Prior-Informed Consent (iPIC) Mechanism* is an **initiative under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** and the **Ozone Secretariat**.

It is a **voluntary and informal information exchange mechanism** between countries to help prevent illegal trade in ozone-depleting substances (ODS) and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

**Voluntary system:** It is *informal* — not legally binding.

**Example:**

If Country A plans to export HCFC-22 to Country B, the iPIC mechanism allows Country A to confirm with Country B's authorities whether the import is authorized before shipment.

Q14. Consider the following statements regarding **Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN)**.

1. The Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) is a global initiative designed to fund the implementation of NDCs under Paris agreement.
2. BIOFIN was launched by UNEP Secretariat.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

News:

## Global momentum for nature finance: UNDP's biodiversity finance initiative helps countries unlock over \$2.7 billion for nature

Governments around the world are accounting for nature in their fiscal planning at an accelerating pace, signaling a shift in how economies value and finance our ecological life-support systems

NOVEMBER 4, 2025

The Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) is a global initiative designed **to address the significant challenge of financing biodiversity conservation**, now being implemented across 133 countries.

**Launched by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 2012**, BIOFIN provides technical support to countries to develop and implement comprehensive strategies for biodiversity finance.

**With respect to India:**

**BIOFIN was launched in India in 2015** to enhance resource mobilization of biodiversity conservation and ensure alignment of private and public, domestic and international finance to the NBAP, the National Biodiversity Targets and related targets and commitments.

It is led by the MoEF&CC with support from the National Biodiversity Authority of India and UNDP India.

Q15. How many of the following indicators used in **QS Asia University Rankings**?

1. Academic Reputation
2. Employer Reputation
3. Faculty–Student Ratio
4. Research Expenditure per Faculty
5. International Research Network

Select the correct code.

- a. Only two
- b. Only three
- c. Only four
- d. All five

Solution: c

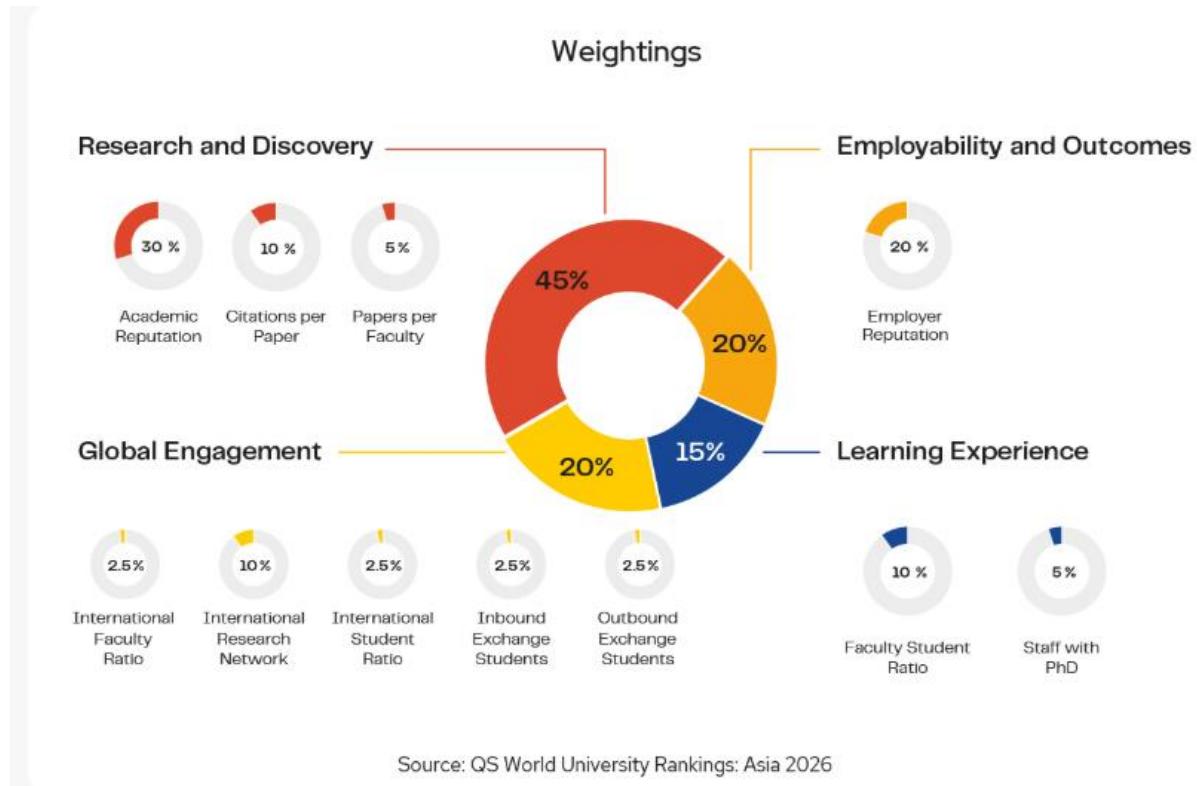
Explanation:

News:

Prime Minister welcomes the record increase in the number of Indian universities in the latest **QS Asia University Rankings**

Posted On: 04 NOV 2025 9:22PM by PIB Delhi

Fourth is incorrect.



Q16. Which species has recently been reported to produce offspring (sons) belonging to two different species?

- a. Butterfly
- b. Spider
- c. Ant
- d. Frog

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

## The curious case of the ant queen producing sons of two species

*Messor ibericus* is the first instance of an ant colony including drones of another species: it's possible that the *Messor ibericus* genome evolved caste-biasing genes that caused females bearing them to be destined to become queens: by generating *M. structor* drones, the colony could produce hybrids that bypassed caste-biasing and became workers

D.P. Kasbekar

Cats give birth to kittens, and dogs give birth to puppies. Neither cats nor dogs can give birth to both kittens and puppies. Yet a paper recently published in *Nature*, by researchers at the University of Montpellier in France, reported such a thing. The group found that females of one ant species, *Messor ibericus*, routinely produce sons belonging to two species: *M. ibericus* and *M. structor*.



### THE GIST

Neither cats nor dogs can give birth to both kittens and puppies. Yet researchers in France have reported such a phenomenon. The group found that females of one ant species, *Messor ibericus*, routinely produce sons belonging to two species: *M. ibericus* and *M. structor*.

Q17. How many of the following is/are elected in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote?

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Member of Parliament in Lok Sabha
4. Representatives of state in Rajya Sabha

Select the correct code.

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: c

Explanation:

**President:**

~~(3) The election of the President shall be held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the voting at such election shall be by secret ballot.~~

**Vice President:**

~~66. Election of Vice-President.—(1) The Vice-President shall be elected by the <sup>1</sup>[members of an electoral college consisting of the members of both Houses of Parliament] in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the voting at such election shall be by secret ballot.~~

**Rajya Sabha:**

~~(4) The representatives of each State <sup>1\*\*\*</sup> in the Council of States shall be elected by the elected members of the Legislative Assembly of the State in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.~~

**Member of Lok Sabha: NOT BY PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION**

Q18. Consider the following Central American Countries.

1. Costa Rica
2. Nicaragua
3. Panama
4. Guatemala

Arrange the above countries from West to East.

- a. 2-1-3-4
- b. 2-1-4-3
- c. 4-2-1-3
- d. 4-1-2-3

Solution: c

Explanation:

The correct order of countries from West to East:

**Guatemala- Nicaragua- Costa Rica- Panama**



**Q19.** Consider the following statements regarding Law Commission of India.

1. The first Law Commission was established by the Charter Act of 1813 presided by Lord Macaulay.
2. After independence, the first law commission was constituted from 1955-1958 under the Chairmanship of Mr. M. C. Setalvad.
3. Law Commission is neither Statutory nor Constitutional Body.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Even if you don't know second statement, you can solve this question.**

**Third statement is correct.**

**The Law Commission of India is a non-statutory body** constituted by the Government of India from time to time. The Commission was originally constituted in 1955 and is re-constituted every three years. Constitution of India does not provide for creation of Law Commission of India and hence, **it is not a constitutional body**.

**It is constituted through a government order and hence, it is created through an executive order.**

**First statement is incorrect.**

The first Law Commission was established during the British Raj era in 1834 by the **Charter Act of 1833**. It was presided by Lord Macaulay. After that, three more Commissions were established in pre-independent India. **The first Law Commission of independent India was established in 1955 for a three-year term.**

After independence, the first law commission was constituted for **a period of three years from 1955-1958 under the Chairmanship of Mr. M. C. Setalvad.**

Q20. The term "**sixth mass extinction/sixth extinction**" is often mentioned in the news in the context of the discussion of

- Widespread monoculture practices in agriculture and large-scale commercial farming with indiscriminate use of chemicals in many parts of the world that may result in the loss of good native ecosystems.
- Mankind's over-exploitation/misuse of natural resources, fragmentation/loss of natural habitats, destruction of ecosystems, pollution and global climate change.
- Fears of a possible collision of a meteorite with the Earth in the near future in the manner it happened 65 million years ago that caused the mass extinction of many species including those of dinosaurs.
- Large scale cultivation of genetically modified crops in many parts of the world and promoting their cultivation in other parts of the world which may cause the disappearance of good native crop plants and the loss of food biodiversity.

Solution: b

Explanation:

Unlike previous extinction events caused by natural phenomena, **the sixth mass extinction is driven by human activity, primarily (though not limited to) the unsustainable use of land, water and energy use, and climate change.** Currently, 40% of all land has been converted for food production.

Q21. This year, **November 07, 2025, marks the 150th anniversary of India's National Song Vande Mataram.**

Consider the following statements.

- Adopted as India's National Song by the Constituent Assembly in 1950.
- Vande Mataram was initially composed independently and later included in Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's novel "Anandamath".
- First sung by Rabindranath Tagore at the 1896 Congress Session in Calcutta.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Solution: c

## Explanation:

All statements are correct.

You will do one thing, save the below link. It contains lot of information on *Vande Mataram*. You can read it today or later.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2186984>

**Q22. Consider the following statements regarding Fair and Remunerative Price of Sugarcane:**

1. Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) is the minimum price declared by the central government that sugar mills are legally bound to pay to farmers for the sugarcane procured from them.
2. FRP is fixed under the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966.
3. FRP is determined on the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

## Explanation:

**Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) is the minimum price declared by the central government that sugar mills are legally bound to pay to farmers for the sugarcane procured from them.**

**FRP is fixed under the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966.**

The Essential Commodities Act 1955	The Sugarcane(Control) Order 1966	The Sugar (Control) Order 1966	The Sugar Price (Control) Order 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sugarcane and sugar are covered under the Act.</li> <li>• Section 3 &amp; 5 gives powers to regulate Sugar Sector</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gives powers to fix FRP of sugarcane, ensure payment of cane dues to farmers</li> <li>• Provisions to establish sugar factory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To regulate production, sale, packaging and international trade of sugar</li> <li>• To release quota for sale, movement and export/import of sugar</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To determine Minimum Selling Price (MSP) of sugar</li> <li>• To inspect, entry, search &amp; seizure of sugar mills, godown etc.</li> </ul>

FRP is determined on the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), by considering factors like:

- a. Cost of production
- b. Sugar recovery rate
- c. Market price of sugar
- d. Reasonable margins for farmers

**Alternatively, the states can set a separate SAP (State Advised Price), often higher than FRP to support local farmers.**

**Q23. With reference to the Microalgae, consider the following statements:**

1. Microalgae can produce various types of bioactive molecules, including vitamins, and lipids.
2. Microalgae are used as antioxidant and anti-allergy agents.
3. Microalgae are also applied in cosmetic products.
4. They grow very slowly.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two

- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Only fourth is incorrect.**

**Microalgae can produce various types of bioactive molecules**, including carotenoids, polysaccharides, vitamins, and lipids.

**Furthermore, they have potential uses as antioxidant**, anti-inflammatory, antitumor, anticancer, antimicrobial, antiviral, and anti-allergy agents; therefore, they play a key role in the biomedical and pharmaceutical industry.

**Microalgae are also applied in cosmetic products**, environmental biotechnology, and animal feeds

**Microalgae are capable of growing rapidly**, their high photosynthesis efficiency coupled with the ability to accumulate a large amount of bioproducts within their cells make them a suitable candidate to serve as industrial raw material.

Q24. Consider the following statements.

- 1. Both SC and High Courts can exercise powers under Article 142 of the Constitution.
- 2. The power under Article 142 can be exercised majorly when there is a gap in existing legal provisions.
- 3. Article 142 is a source of original jurisdiction for the Supreme Court.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: d

Explanation:

**All are incorrect.**

Article 142 is exclusive to the Supreme Court of India and empowers it to pass any decree or order necessary "for doing complete justice" in any case pending before it.

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

Article 142 allows the Supreme Court to do "complete justice," but it cannot override the Constitution and is not limited only to situations where there is a legal gap.

**Original Jurisdiction is Article 131:**

**131. Original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.**—Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Supreme Court shall, to the exclusion of any other court, have original jurisdiction in any dispute—

- (a) between the Government of India and one or more States; or
- (b) between the Government of India and any State or States on one side and one or more other States on the other; or
- (c) between two or more States,

if and in so far as the dispute involves any question (whether of law or fact) on which the existence or extent of a legal right depends:

Q25. With reference to the **funding mechanism of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)**, consider the following statements:

1. The primary source of IMF's financial resources is the quota contributions made by its member countries.
2. IMF can supplement its resources through multilateral and bilateral borrowing arrangements.
3. All IMF funding to member countries is given as grants and does not require repayment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Read:

#### Who funds the IMF?

IMF funds come from three sources: member quotas, multilateral and bilateral borrowing agreements.

#### MEMBER QUOTAS

Member quotas are the primary source of IMF funding. A member country's quota reflects its size and position in the world economy. Read more on how the [IMF regularly reviews quotas](#).

[LEARN MORE](#)

#### NEW ARRANGEMENTS TO BORROW

[New Arrangements to Borrow \(NAB\)](#) between the IMF and a group of members and institutions are the main backstop for quotas. The size of the NAB was doubled in 2021. The NAB currently contributes SDR 364 billion, or \$489 billion, to total IMF resources.

#### BILATERAL BORROWING AGREEMENTS

Member countries also have committed resources through bilateral borrowing agreements (BBAs). In 2020, the IMF Executive Board approved a new round of BBAs, which currently contribute SDR 141 billion, or \$189 billion, to total IMF resources.

**Statement 1 is correct:** IMF's core funding comes from quota subscriptions from member countries, which are determined based on their economic size.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The IMF can raise additional resources via bilateral borrowing agreements, the New Arrangements to Borrow (NAB), and other facilities.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** IMF does not give grants. Its support is in the form of loans, which are repayable with interest over a set period.

**Q26. Under Article 51 of the UN Charter (member states exercising the right of self-defense), which of the following statements is/are correct?**

1. Every UN member state has the inherent right to defend itself if it is attacked — either individually or collectively.
2. A member state may exercise the right to self-defense; however, once the UN Security Council intervenes, the responsibility for further action shifts to the Council.
3. Any country using force in self-defense must inform the UN Security Council immediately about what it has done.

Select the correct code.

- a. 1 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. All statements are correct.

Solution: d

Explanation:

**What Article 51 Says (Simplified):**

*Article 51*

“Nothing in the present Charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs against a Member of the United Nations, until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security. Measures taken by Members in the exercise of this right of self-defence shall be immediately reported to the Security Council and shall not in any way affect the authority and responsibility of the Security Council under the present Charter to take at any time such action as it deems necessary in order to maintain or restore international peace and security.”

*“Nothing in the present Charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs against a Member of the United Nations...”*

This means:

Every UN member state has the inherent right to defend itself if it is attacked — either individually or collectively (with allies). This right is not taken away by the UN Charter.

**Role of the UN Security Council:**

*“...until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security...”*

This means:

A member state may exercise the right to self-defense immediately following an armed attack; however, once the UN Security Council intervenes to maintain or restore international peace and security, the responsibility for further action shifts to the Council.

**Obligation to Report:**

*“Measures taken by Members in the exercise of this right of self-defence shall be immediately reported to the Security Council...”*

This means:

Any country using force in self-defense must inform the UN Security Council immediately about what it has done.

**Limits on Self-Defence:**

*“...and shall not in any way affect the authority and responsibility of the Security Council...”*

This means:

A state's actions in self-defence do not override the power of the Security Council. The Council can take whatever steps it deems necessary to maintain peace.

Q27. Consider the following statements regarding **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)**.

1. FATF was established by G-7.
2. FATF sets international standards to combat money laundering and the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.
3. The Secretariat of FATF is located at the OECD Headquarters in Paris.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) was established in 1989 **by the G7 to examine and develop measures to combat money laundering**. It originally included the G7 countries, the European Commission and eight other countries.

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an intergovernmental body that sets international standards to combat **money laundering, terrorist financing**, and the financing of the **proliferation of weapons of mass destruction**.

*Washington, D.C., 12 April 2019 - Today, Ministers agreed an open-ended Mandate for the FATF and its role leading global action to counter money laundering, terrorist financing and the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.*

The Secretariat is located at the OECD Headquarters in Paris.

Q28. Consider the following statements.

1. National Ganga Council is chaired by Prime Minister.
2. National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has a two-tier structure with a Governing Council and Executive Committee, both headed by its Director General.
3. Empowered Task Force (ETF) on river Ganga is chaired by Union Minister of Jal Shakti.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

**NMCG has a two-tier management structure and comprises of Governing Council and Executive Committee. Both are headed by Director General, NMCG.**

**17. Constitution of Empowered Task Force on River Ganga as authority.** - (1) With effect from the date of commencement of this Order, there shall be constituted an authority by the name to be called the Empowered Task Force on River Ganga for the purposes of the Act and to exercise powers and discharge functions as specified in this Order and the Act.

(2) The Empowered Task Force on River Ganga shall consist of the following members, namely:-

(a)Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation - Chairperson, *ex-officio*;

**11. Constitution of National Council for Rejuvenation, Protection and Management of River Ganga.** - With effect from the date of commencement of this Order, there shall be constituted an authority by the name to be called the National Council for Rejuvenation, Protection and Management of River Ganga, (hereinafter in this Order called as the National Ganga Council) for the purposes of the Act and to exercise powers and discharge functions as specified in this Order and the Act.

**12. Composition of National Ganga Council.** -The National Ganga Council shall consist of the following members, namely:-

(a)Prime Minister - *Chairperson, ex-officio*

Q29. Consider the following.

1. Turkey is bordered by Black Sea and Mediterranean.
2. Caspian Sea borders Turkey from North.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Check map:



Q30. In reference to **Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC) Principle**, consider the following statements.

1. The principle of CBDR-RC is first used in the Paris Agreement (2015).
2. It forms the basis for differentiated commitments of developed and developing countries in international climate agreements.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**Statement 1 is incorrect.**

The CBDR-RC principle was first introduced in the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), not in the Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement (2015) reaffirmed the principle but did not originate it.

### **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**

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#### **ARTICLE 3 PRINCIPLES**

In their actions to achieve the objective of the Convention and to implement its provisions, the Parties shall be guided, INTER ALIA, by the following:

1. The Parties should protect the climate system for the benefit of present and future generations of humankind, on the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. Accordingly, the developed country Parties should take the lead in combating climate change and the adverse effects thereof.

**Statement 2: Correct**

The CBDR-RC principle is a core basis for differentiating obligations between developed and developing countries in various international climate agreements (like the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement). It recognizes both historical emissions and current capacities of countries.

Q31. With reference to the **Cool Cities Accelerator (CCA)**, consider the following statements:

1. It is an initiative under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
2. It commits cities to take “Protect” actions within two years and “Transform” actions within five years.
3. Indian cities are part of CCA framework.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**News from India Today:** I am covering every such article and magazines where questions can be framed for Prelims. It all depends on you now how you are practicing.

## Climate crisis: Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Bengaluru join coalition to redesign urban space

In India, metropolitan cities like Delhi and Mumbai have seen temperatures soar beyond 45C in recent summers, leaving millions vulnerable.

The CCA is a global initiative launched by C40 Cities (a network of major world cities) to help cities prepare for, adapt to and reduce risks from extreme urban heat.

Cities that sign the C40 Cool Cities Accelerator commit to protecting residents from extreme heat and transforming urban environments to remain liveable as temperatures rise.

This Accelerator recognises that cities need both urgent life-saving interventions and long-term design changes. Cities achieve this through two complementary action areas:

### Protect: Immediate heat response (within two years)

- Establish heat leadership and cross-agency governance structures with clear coordination protocols.
- Activate heat-health awareness outreach and early warning systems informed by climate data to protect vulnerable communities.
- Deploy cooling solutions during heat emergencies, including designated cooling centres, home and work-based cooling support, and outdoor cooling pop-ups.

### Transform: Long-term urban cooling (within five years)

- Update building codes to require safe indoor temperatures sustainably, such as mandating cool or green roofs, improved insulation, or renewably powered active cooling.
- Create networks of cool corridors and public spaces by increasing tree canopy, green cover, and shading, cooling or depaving streets, and deploying water features.

Indian cities are part of:

## Cities committed to the C40 Cool Cities Accelerator

Accra, Ahmedabad, Amsterdam, Athens, Austin, Barcelona, Bengaluru, Boston, Buenos Aires, Chicago, Durban (eThekewini), Fortaleza, Freetown, Guadalajara, Karachi, London, Melbourne, Milan, Mumbai, Nairobi, New York City, Paris, Phoenix, Quezon City, Rio de Janeiro, Rome, Salvador, Santiago, Singapore, Tel-Aviv Yafo, Tokyo, Tshwane, Vancouver

Q32. *Land-use change*, not climate change was the main driver behind the loss of nearly 75 per cent of natural plant species on the lower slopes of:

- a. Atlas Mountains
- b. Rwenzori Mountains
- c. Mount Kilimanjaro
- d. Mount Elbrus

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

 OCTOBER 29, 2025

 The GIST

## Kilimanjaro has lost 75% of its natural plant species over the last century

by Public Library of Science

A study published in *Nature* (2024) found that **land-use change**, particularly the expansion of agriculture and human settlements, was the **primary driver** behind the loss of nearly **75% of natural plant species** on the **lower slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro** in Tanzania — not climate change.

Q33. INS *Sandhayak*, INS *Nirdeshak* and INS *Ikshak* are examples of which of the following types of Indian Naval ships?

- a. *Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs)*
- b. *Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvettes (ASW)*
- c. *Survey Vessel (Large) Ships (SVL/SVS)*
- d. *Amphibious Transport Dock Ships*

*Solution: c*

*Explanation:*

*News:*

## INDIAN NAVY TO COMMISSION 'IKSHAK', CHARTING A NEW COURSE IN INDIGENOUS HYDROGRAPHIC EXCELLENCE

SVL Ikshak is a beacon of precision, purpose, and self-reliance on India's maritime horizon

Posted On: 05 NOV 2025 10:23AM by PIB Delhi

*Ikshak (Yard 3027), the third of four Survey Vessel (Large) ships, 102nd ship steered by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau, built at Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata and overseen by Warship Overseeing Team (Kolkata) was delivered to the Indian Navy on 14 Aug 25. The first ship of the class, INS Sandhayak was commissioned on 03 Feb 24 and second ship, INS Nirdeshak, on 18 Dec 24. The contract for four Survey Vessel (Large) was signed on 30 Oct 18.*

The SVL ships are designed and built as per classification rules of Indian Register of Shipping by M/s Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata. The ship aims at full scale coastal and deep-water Hydrographic survey of Port/ Harbour approaches and determination of navigational channels/ routes. The ship will also collect oceanographic and geophysical data for defence and civil applications. With a displacement of about **3400 tons**

*Q34. With reference to **IndQA**, recently seen in the news, consider the following statements:*

1. *It is a benchmark launched by Google to evaluate how well AI models understand and reason about Indian languages.*
2. *It currently evaluates responses in 22 Indian languages.*

Select the correct code.

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

*Solution: d*

*Explanation:*

*News:*

# OpenAI's IndQA to deepen focus to contextualise Indian languages

AVIK DAS

Bengaluru, 4 November

OpenAI has launched IndQA, a new benchmark designed to evaluate how well AI models understand and reason about questions pertinent to various Indian languages across a wide range of cultural domains, to deepen its focus in the country that has its second highest user base after the US.



## Expanding reach

- IndQA evaluates knowledge and reasoning about Indian culture and everyday life in 12 Indian languages
- As of now its reach spans across 2,278 questions
- Firm wants to make its LLM contextual to help it adopt in other countries

scription fee.

IndQA covers topics such as architecture and design, arts and culture, everyday life, food and cuisine, history, law and ethics, literature and linguistics, media and entertainment, religion and spirituality, and sports and recreation.

Each data point includes a culturally grounded prompt in an Indian language, an English translation for auditability,

**IndQA is a benchmark by OpenAI to test AI model understanding of Indian languages and culture.**

It covers 10 cultural domains including architecture, arts, cuisine, law, literature, media, and religion.

**It currently spans 12 Indian languages, not 22.**

Q35. Consider the following statements regarding Green Climate Fund (GCF).

1. It is a fund established within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
2. GCF follows a country-driven approach, which means that developing countries lead GCF programming and implementation.
3. Ministry of Environment in India is National Designated Authorities (NDAs).

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: c

Explanation:

**First statement is correct:**

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a **fund established within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change** as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism to assist developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change. The GCF is based in Incheon, South Korea.

**Second statement is correct.**

~~Key features~~~~Country driven~~

A core GCF principle is to follow a country-driven approach, which means that developing countries lead GCF programming and implementation. Country ownership of GCF financing decisions enables developing countries to turn NDC ambitions into climate action. GCF's country-driven approach is underpinned by capacity-building support through its Readiness Programme that is available to all developing countries.

**Third statement is correct.**

**National Designated Authorities (NDAs)** are government institutions that serve as the interface between each country and the Fund. They provide broad strategic oversight of the GCF's activities in the country and communicate the country's priorities for financing low-emission and climate-resilient development.

~~National Designated Authority~~~~Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change~~~~Ms. Rajasree Ray~~ PRIMARY~~Economic Advisor~~

Q36. With respect to National Human Rights Commission of India, consider the following statements.

1. As per the Act, the Commission is not authorized to investigate complaints against armed forces.
2. Chairperson of the Commission is the person who has been Chief Justice or judge of Supreme Court.
3. The financial expenditure of Commission is approved by the Parliament annually.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: b

Explanation:

**First statement is correct.**

**The Commission is not authorized to look into complaint against armed forces. It can only seek report from Central Government.**

**19. Procedure with respect to armed forces.**—(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, while dealing with complaints of violation of human rights by members of the armed forces, the Commission shall adopt the following procedure, namely:—

- (a) it may, either on its own motion or on receipt of a petition, seek a report from the Central Government;
- (b) after the receipt of the report, it may, either not proceed with the complaint or, as the case may be, make its recommendations to that Government.

(2) The Central Government shall inform the Commission of the action taken on the recommendations within three months or such further time as the Commission may allow.

(3) The Commission shall publish its report together with its recommendations made to the Central Government and the action taken by that Government on such recommendations.

**Second statement is correct: As per the latest 2019 Amendment:**

~~SECTION 3- CONSTITUTION OF A NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION~~

(1) The Central Government shall constitute a body to be known as the National Human Rights Commission to exercise the powers conferred upon, and to perform the functions assigned to it, under this Act.

(2) The Commission shall consist of:

- a Chairperson who has been a Chief Justice or Judge of the Supreme Court;
- one Member who is or has been, a Judge of the Supreme Court;
- one Member who is, or has been, the Chief Justice of a High Court;
- three Members to be appointed from amongst persons having knowledge of, or practical experience in, matters relating to human rights, of which at least one should be a woman.

(3) The Chairperson of the National Commission for Backward Classes, the National Commission for Minorities, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, the National Commission for the Scheduled Castes, the National Commission for the Scheduled Tribes and the National Commission for Women and the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities shall be deemed to be Members of the Commission for the discharge of functions.

**Third statement is incorrect: It has to depend on Central Government.**

~~FINANCE, ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT~~

~~32. Grants by the Central Government.—(1) The Central Government shall, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, pay to the Commission by way of grants such sums of money as the Central Government may think fit for being utilised for the purposes of this Act.~~

Q37. In reference to **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity**, consider the following statements.

1. The Protocol seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology.
2. It establishes an advance informed agreement (AIA) procedure.
3. India is a Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: c

Explanation:

On 29 January 2000, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted a supplementary agreement to the Convention known as the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. **The Protocol seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology.**

It establishes an **advance informed agreement (AIA) procedure** for ensuring that countries are provided with the information necessary to make informed decisions before agreeing to the import of such organisms into their territory.

**India is a party.**

#	Country	Date of signature	Date instrument of rtf/acs deposited	Date of entry into force
70	India	Jan 23, 2001	Jan 17, 2003	RTF Sep 11, 2003

Q38. Consider the following statements.

1. The president has power to pardon the punishment or sentence of an individual by a Court Martial.
2. If election of a President is declared void by Supreme Court, all acts of President before this decision of Supreme Court is declared as invalidated.

Which of the above statements is correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: a

Explanation:

We will see here article 71 and 72.

<sup>1</sup>[71. **Matters relating to, or connected with, the election of a President or Vice-President.**—(1) All doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with the election of a President or Vice-President shall be inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court whose decision shall be final.

(2) If the election of a person as President or Vice-President is declared *void* by the Supreme Court, acts done by him in the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of the office of President or Vice-President, as the case may be, on or before the date of the decision of the Supreme Court shall not be invalidated by reason of that declaration.

**72. Power of President to grant pardons, etc., and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases.**—(1) The President shall have the power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites or remissions of punishment or to suspend, remit or commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence—

(a) in all cases where the punishment or sentence is by a Court Martial;

Q39. Which of the following **pollutants** are part of **National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)**?

1. Sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)
2. Carbon Dioxide
3. Benzene
4. Arsenic
5. Nickel

Select the correct code.

- 1, 2 and 3 only

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

The National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) in India were first formulated by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in 1982 under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

(1)	(2)
1	Sulphur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> ), $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
2	Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> ), $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
3	Particulate Matter (size less than 10 $\mu\text{m}$ ) or PM <sub>10</sub> $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
4	Particulate Matter (size less than 2.5 $\mu\text{m}$ ) or PM <sub>2.5</sub> $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
5	Ozone (O <sub>3</sub> ) $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
6	Lead (Pb) $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
7	Carbon Monoxide (CO) $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$
8	Ammonia (NH <sub>3</sub> ) $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

(1)	(2)
9	Benzene (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ) µg/m <sup>3</sup>
10	Benzo(a)Pyrene (BaP) - particulate phase only, ng/m <sup>3</sup>
11	Arsenic (As), ng/m <sup>3</sup>
12	Nickel (Ni), ng/m <sup>3</sup>

Q40. West Bank does not share boundary with which of the following?

- a. Dead Sea
- b. Jordon
- c. Israel
- d. Syria

Solution: d

Explanation:

**See the map below. And see other places too.**



Q41. The UN Human Rights Council has expressed regret over the United States' decision not to take part in a key **Universal Periodic Review (UPR)** of its human rights. We will see one question on UPR.

Consider the following statements.

1. UPR provides an opportunity for all States to declare what actions they have taken to improve the human rights situations in their countries.
2. The reviews are conducted by member states of Human Rights Council.
3. Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is mandatory for all UN Member States.
4. The UPR will assess the extent to which States respect their human rights obligations set out in the UN Charter.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: d

Explanation:

News:

## **UN rights body regrets US withdrawal from human rights review**

The UN Human Rights Council [has expressed regret](#) over the United States' decision not to take part in a key review of its human rights record, scheduled for this week in Geneva.

The review, known as the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), is a process in which all UN Member States have their human rights performance examined by their peers.

**UPR is a unique mechanism of the Human Rights Council that calls for each UN Member State to undergo a review of its human rights records every 4.5 years.**

**The UPR provides each State the opportunity to regularly:**

1. Report on the actions it has taken to improve the human rights situations in their countries and to overcome challenges to the enjoyment of human rights; and
2. Receive recommendations – informed by multi-stakeholder input and pre-session reports – from UN Member States for continuous improvement.

**The reviews are conducted by the UPR Working Group which consists of the 47 members of the Council;** however, any UN Member State can take part in the discussion/dialogue with the reviewed States.

**Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is mandatory for all UN Member States, as they are all subject to review by the Human Rights Council.** The Human Rights Council will decide on the measures it would need to take in case of persistent non-co-operation by a State with the UPR.

**The UPR will assess the extent to which States respect their human rights obligations set out in:**

- a. the UN Charter;
- b. the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- c. human rights instruments to which the State is party (human rights treaties ratified by the State concerned);
- d. voluntary pledges and commitments made by the State (e.g. national human rights policies and/or programmes implemented); and,
- e. applicable international humanitarian law.

Q42. In the context of sustainable agriculture, consider the following statements regarding **practices adopted to improve rice cultivation:**

1. Adoption of alternate wetting and drying (AWD) reduces methane emissions by promoting periodic aerobic soil conditions.
2. Use of biochar in rice fields enhances soil organic carbon and simultaneously suppresses nitrous oxide emissions.
3. Continuous flooding of paddy fields helps retain soil nutrients and therefore is a recommended climate-smart practice.
4. Removal of rice straw after harvest instead of in-situ burning can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1, 2 and 3 only
- b. 1, 2 and 4 only

- c. 2, 3 and 4 only
- d. 1, 3 and 4 only

Solution: b

Explanation:

The question framed from FAO website:

## 5 science-backed solutions for a climate-resilient future

How can we transform our agrifood systems to both withstand climate shocks and help tackle the climate crisis?

### Improving rice cultivation

Using smarter methods to grow rice

Improving how we grow rice has the potential to cut 0.3 (ranging from 0.1 to 0.8) gigatonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents from 2020 to 2050. It can also help farmers use water more efficiently and adapt to droughts more effectively. Practices such as rice variety selection, alternate wetting and drying, straw removal and use of biochar can:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 24% with higher soil carbon, and by 44% when using single or multiple drying events.
- Help farmers save 25.7% of their water by using alternative wetting and drying and better irrigation management.
- Protect crop yields and better adapt to drought.

Continuous flooding creates **anaerobic conditions** that favour methane formation. It **wastes water** and is **not climate-smart**, even though it may retain some nutrients.

Q43. **Litin Onyx** (*Horaga takanami*), **Tibetan Junglequeen** (*Stichophthalma neumogeni renqingduoiei*), and **Tibetan Duke** (*Euthalia zhaxidunzhui*) are species of:

- a. Frogs
- b. Lizards
- c. Butterflies
- d. Orchids

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

# A bridge of wings: Discovery of 6 butterfly species link Tibet and India across the Brahmaputra

*The findings in Arunachal Pradesh's Siang Valley highlights the region's role as a biodiversity bridge between the Tibetan plateau and India's eastern Himalayas*

Q44. Consider the following statements.

1. Environment Protection Act, 1986 defines environmental harm as a “crime against nature” or Ecocide.
2. IUCN has adopted motion to recognize ecocide as an international crime.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

By adopting Motion 061, **IUCN Members recognised ecocide – severe, widespread or long-term harm to the environment – as an international crime.**

This motion declares such acts should be prosecutable under national and international law and tasks IUCN's World Commission on Environmental Law with studying how criminalising ecocide could help restore and rehabilitate ecosystems.

The EPA, 1986 empowers the central government to regulate and penalise polluters but **does not define environmental harm as a “crime against nature” or treat it at par with Ecocide.**

Q45. Consider the following pairs. (military exercises: between countries)

1. MITRA SHAKTI XI – 2025: India and France
2. Malabar Exercise 2025: India, US and Japan

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

## INDIA - SRI LANKA JOINT ~~EXERCISE MITRA SHAKTI XI~~ – 2025 COMMENCED TODAY

Posted On: 10 NOV 2025 4:33PM by PIB Delhi

## EXERCISE MALABAR 2025 AT GUAM

Posted On: 09 NOV 2025 5:54PM by PIB Delhi

Exercise Malabar is a naval exercise involving India, the United States and Japan as permanent partners. Australia re-joined the exercise in 2020.

Q46. With reference to Gallantry Awards in India, consider the following statements.

1. Gallantry awards were instituted by the Government during Rajiv Gandhi's Primeministership.
2. Ministry of Home Affairs gives final recommendations to the President for the approval.
3. These gallantry awards are announced twice in a year.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: a

Explanation:

First and second are incorrect.

**Ministry of Defence gives final approval.**

### ~~About US~~

~~Post-independence, first three gallantry awards namely Param Vir Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra and Vir Chakra were instituted by the Government of India on 26th January, 1950 which were deemed to have effect from the 15th August, 1947.~~

~~Thereafter, other three gallantry awards i.e. Ashoka Chakra Class-I, Ashoka Chakra Class-II and Ashoka Chakra Class-III were instituted by the Government of India on 4th January, 1952, which were deemed to have effect from the 15th August, 1947. These awards were renamed as Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra and Shaurya Chakra respectively in January, 1967.~~

~~These gallantry awards are announced twice in a year - first on the occasion of the Republic Day and then on the occasion of the Independence Day. Order of precedence of these awards is the Param Vir Chakra, the Ashoka Chakra, the Mahavir Chakra, the Kirti Chakra, the Vir Chakra and the Shaurya Chakra.~~

### Selection Process:

Ministry of Defence invites recommendations twice in a year from the:

- a. Armed Forces and
- b. Union Ministry of Home Affairs

for gallantry awards.

- a. **Recommendations in respect of civilian citizens** (other than Defence personnel) are received from the **Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)**. MHA calls for recommendations (in respect of civilians) from all State/UT Governments, Central Ministries/ Departments, Central Armed Police Forces and Railway Protection Force etc.
- b. **Recommendations received directly from private individuals, including VIP references are not accepted.** Recommendations are scrutinized by a Sub-Committee in the MHA and their **recommendation is received in the Ministry of Defence with the approval of Union Home Secretary.**
- c. **Recommendations received from the Armed Forces and MHA are considered by the Central Honours & Awards Committee (CH&AC) comprising of Raksha Mantri, three Service Chiefs & Defence Secretary.**
- d. Thereafter, recommendations of the CH&AC are submitted for approval of the Prime Minister and the President. **After approval of the President, awards are announced on the occasion of the Republic Day and Independence Day.**

Q47. Consider the following statements regarding Cobalt.

1. Cobalt is an essential mineral for the lithium-ion batteries used in electric vehicles.
2. 90 percent of India's usage of cobalt is from its indigenous ores.
3. China is the largest producer of cobalt in the world.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Cobalt is an important ferromagnetic strategic alloying metal having irreplaceable industrial applications. Cobalt is associated mostly with copper, nickel and arsenic ores. Cobalt is extracted as a by-product of copper, nickel, zinc or precious metals.

**First statement is correct.**

Cobalt is an essential mineral for the lithium-ion batteries used in electric vehicles, laptops and smart phones. It offers the highest energy density and is key for boosting battery life. **Demand for cobalt is projected to surge fourfold by 2030 in pace with the electric vehicle boom.**

**Cobalt is used in the following core applications, all of which are important for both the quality of life and for a sustainable planet:**



Rechargeable Batteries



Electronics



Catalysts



Inks and Pigments



Alloys



Healthcare

**Second statement is incorrect.** *Below information is from Indian Bureau of Mines, so believe and learn.*

**Presently, there is no production of cobalt in the country from indigenous ores.** The demand for cobalt was met through imports. Refining capacity of cobalt in India is estimated at about 2,060 tonnes per year.

**Third statement is incorrect.**

**The Katanga region in the south of the Democratic Republic of Congo is home to more than half of the world's cobalt resources,** and over 70% of the current cobalt production worldwide takes place in the country.

**Q48. Which of the following state shares boundary with only one Indian state and only one neighboring country?**

- a. Sikkim
- b. Meghalaya
- c. Nagaland
- d. Mizoram

**Solution:** b

**Explanation:**

**See, here only two states share boundary with one Indian state: Sikkim and Meghalaya**

Sikkim shares boundary with only West Bengal. Meghalaya shares boundary with only Assam.

Now, Sikkim shares boundary with Nepal, Bhutan and China. Meghalaya shares boundary only with Bangladesh.

**So, Meghalaya is correct (one Indian state and one neighbouring country)**



Q49. Consider the following statements regarding **UN Security Council**.

1. It has 15 Members, and each Member has one vote.
2. The resolution 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.
3. If any permanent member abstains from voting, the resolution cannot be adopted.

How many of the above statements is/ae correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Third statement is incorrect. Read the image given in the end.

**Each member of the Security Council shall have one vote.**

**The resolution 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**

## ✓ The Right to Veto

The creators of the United Nations Charter conceived that five countries – China, France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) [which was succeeded in 1990 by the Russian Federation], the United Kingdom and the United States –, because of their key roles in the establishment of the United Nations, would continue to play important roles in the maintenance of international peace and security.

They were granted the special status of Permanent Member States at the Security Council, along with a special voting power known as the "right to veto". It was agreed by the drafters that if any one of the five permanent members cast a negative vote in the 15-member Security Council, the resolution or decision would not be approved.

All five permanent members have exercised the right of veto at one time or another. If a permanent member does not fully agree with a proposed resolution but does not wish to cast a veto, it may choose to abstain, thus allowing the resolution to be adopted if it obtains the required number of nine favourable votes.

Q50. Consider the following statements with respect to a Joint Sitting in the Parliament:

1. The first joint sitting was held in 1961 following a disagreement between the two Houses over certain amendments to the Dowry Prohibition Bill, 1959.
2. It is governed by the Rules of Procedures of the Lok Sabha and not of the Rajya Sabha.
3. A joint sitting of both Houses is convened by the Speaker of the House.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Question 35. What is the mechanism for resolving such a deadlock between the two Houses?**

Answer. A joint sitting of both Houses is convened by the President for this purpose. [Article 108]

**Question 36. How many joint sittings of the Houses have been convened so far?**

Answer. So far, joint sittings of the two Houses have taken place on three occasions. The first joint sitting was held on 6 May 1961 following a disagreement between the two Houses over certain amendments to the Dowry Prohibition Bill, 1959. This was followed by another sitting on 9 May 1961 when the Bill, as amended, was finally passed. The second joint sitting was held on 16 May 1978, following the rejection by the Rajya Sabha of the Banking Service Commission (Repeal) Bill, 1977 and the Bill was passed. The third joint sitting was held on 26 March 2002 when the motion to consider the Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2002, seeking to replace the Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance (POTO) as passed by the Lok Sabha was rejected by the Rajya Sabha. At this sitting held for the purpose of deliberating and voting on the Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2002, the Bill was passed.

**Question 37. Who presides over the joint sitting of the two Houses?**

Answer. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha presides over the joint sitting of the two Houses. [Article 118(4)]

**The joint sitting is governed by the Rules of Procedure of Lok Sabha and not of Rajya Sabha.**

Q51. With reference to the **Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF)**, consider the following statements:

1. It is a financing mechanism to help countries to close gaps in basic weather and climate observations.
2. It prioritises support to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
3. It works in line with the Global Observing Basic Network (GBON) which is a World Meteorological Organization (WMO) agreed framework.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

All statements are correct.

News:

~~Belem, 14 November 2025~~ – The [Systematic Observations Financing Facility \(SOFF\)](#) today opened for contributions to raise USD 200 million towards a climate impact bond aimed at strengthening systematic observation of the planet and help close critical weather and climate data gaps.

The Systematic Observation Impact Bond will be announced as part of the COP30 Action Agenda, supported by the Government of Brazil as COP30 Presidency. If backed, the bond would enable 30 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to meet the requirements of the Global Basic Observing Network (GBON) – the international standard for the weather and climate observations that underpin every forecast, climate action, and early warning system.

Q52. With reference to the **Food Waste Breakthrough (FWB)**, consider the following statements:

1. It was launched by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) along with partners under the 2030 Climate Solutions.
2. It aims to halve global food waste by 2030.
3. It aims to cut methane emissions from food waste by up to 7%.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

News:

~~Belém, 13 November 2025~~ – The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and partners today launched a new initiative to halve food waste by 2030 and cut up to seven per cent from methane emissions as part of efforts to slow climate change.

Launched at COP30 in Belém, the [Food Waste Breakthrough](#) is a [2030 Climate Solution](#) under the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, and unites governments, cities, and civil society to act on an issue that strikes at the heart of global hunger and climate change.

The world wastes [over one billion tonnes of food every year](#), contributing [up to 10 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions](#). It accounts for [up to 14 per cent of methane emissions](#) – a short-lived climate pollutant that is 84 times more potent at warming the atmosphere than carbon dioxide over 20 years.

Q53. Consider the following statements regarding **Quality Control Orders (QCO)**.

1. Under QCO, no person shall manufacture, import, distribute or store any product unless it bears Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) mark.
2. QCO act as a non-tariff barrier to restrict low-quality imports into the country and facilitate the 'Make in India' programme.
3. A foreign manufacturer covered under a QCO can sell products in India without BIS approval if the product is routed through a Special Economic Zone (SEZ).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

QCOs are issued by various Line Ministries (Regulators) under the Central Government to make compliance with certain Indian Standards mandatory for products. Such powers of the Government have been defined **under Section 16 of the BIS Act, 2016**.

**QCOs are issued to promote consumer safety and product quality.** In addition, they act as a non-tariff barrier to restrict low-quality imports into the country and facilitate the 'Make in India' programme.

SEZ routing does **not** bypass QCO compliance for sale in domestic tariff area.

**Foreign manufacturers, who wish to import such goods into India, shall also be required to obtain a License from BIS under the Foreign Manufacturers Certification Scheme (FMCS) of BIS.**

India, as a member of the WTO, must ensure that its trade-related regulations, such as QCOs, comply with the **WTO's Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement**. The TBT Agreement aims to prevent member countries from using regulations, standards, or testing procedures to create unnecessary obstacles to trade.

According to the TBT Agreement, any technical regulation (such as a QCO) that sets product standards must:

- a. **Be non-discriminatory** (i.e., it should not treat imported products less favorably than domestic products).
- b. **Be transparent** (countries must notify the WTO and allow other members to comment on proposed regulations).
- c. **Serve a legitimate purpose**, such as protecting human health, safety, or the environment, without being a disguised restriction on international trade.

Q54. Which of the following correctly describes the **three-pronged implementation** strategy of NMBA (Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan)?

- a. Demand reduction via awareness, law enforcement for supply control, and financial penalties for users
- b. Preventive education, supply reduction, and treatment & rehabilitation.
- c. Only demand reduction and rehabilitation — there is no supply control under NMBA
- d. Legal action, financial compensation to addicts, and nationwide mandatory screening

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

**5 years of NMBA.**

To tackle the issue of Substance Abuse and a vision to make India Drug Free, **Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA)** was launched on 15th August 2020, in 272 Districts identified as most vulnerable in terms of usage of drugs in the country.

These vulnerable districts were identified on the basis of findings from the Comprehensive National Survey and the inputs provided by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

Nasha Mukt Bharat Campaign is a three-pronged attack combining the supply curb by Narcotics Control Bureau, Outreach and Awareness and Demand Reduction effort by Social Justice and Empowerment and treatment through Health Department.



**Three-Pronged Approach for the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan**

Q55. Consider the following statements.

1. The Supreme Court should mandatorily report to President if President has asked for an opinion related to public importance.
2. The Constitution has given power to Parliament to increase the number of judges of High Court.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

It is **not mandatory** for Supreme Court to respond for such opinion. See article 143 below. The Constitution has given power to **President** to increase the number of judges of High Court. Refer article 216 below.

#### Central Government Act

##### Article 143 in The Constitution Of India 1949

143. Power of President to consult Supreme Court ( 1 ) If at any time it appears to the President that a question of law or fact has arisen, or is likely to arise, which is of such a nature and of such public importance that it is expedient to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court upon it, he may refer the question to that Court for consideration and the Court may, after such hearing as it thinks fit, report to the President its opinion thereon

#### Central Government Act

##### Article 216 in The Constitution Of India 1949

216. Constitution of High Courts Every High Court shall consist of a Chief Justice and such other Judges as the President may from time to time deem it necessary to appoint

Q56. Consider the following statements.

1. As per the Act, Director of Enforcement (ED) is appointed for three years from the date on which he assumes office.
2. Central Government appoints ED on the recommendations of committee headed by Prime Minister.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

See below:

(f) the Central Government shall appoint a Director of Enforcement in the Directorate of Enforcement in the Ministry of Finance on the recommendation of the Committee consisting of—

- (i) the Central Vigilance Commissioner—Chairperson;
- (ii) Vigilance Commissioners — Members;
- (iii) Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs in the Central Government — Member;
- (iv) Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Ministry of Personnel in the Central Government — Member;
- (v) Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance in the Central Government — Member;
- (b) while making a recommendation, the Committee shall take into consideration the integrity and experience of the officers eligible for appointment;
- (c) no person below the rank of Additional Secretary to the Government of India shall be eligible for appointment as a Director of Enforcement;
- (d) a Director of Enforcement shall continue to hold office for a period of not less than two years from the date on which he assumes office;

Q57. As per the Constitution, 'Unsound mind' is one the way for the disqualification from membership of which of the following?

1. Member of Legislative Council.
2. Finance Commission
3. Member of Parliament
4. A Judge of the Supreme Court

How many of the above bodies is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: b

Explanation:

Read:

**102. Disqualifications for membership.**—(1) A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of either House of Parliament—

<sup>1</sup>[(a) if he holds any office of profit under the Government of India or the Government of any State, other than an office declared by Parliament by law not to disqualify its holder;]

(b) if he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court;

**191. Disqualifications for membership.**—(1) A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of the Legislative Assembly or Legislative Council of a State—

<sup>2</sup>[(a) if he holds any office of profit under the Government of India or the Government of any State specified in the First Schedule, other than an office declared by the Legislature of the State by law not to disqualify its holder;]

(b) if he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court;]

**Finance Commission:**

**The term ‘unsound mind’ is mentioned not in Constitution, but Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951.**

**5. Disqualifications for being a member of the Commission.**—A person shall be disqualified for being appointed as, or for being, a member of the Commission,—

(a) if he is of unsound mind;

(b) if he is an undischarged insolvent;

(c) if he has been convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude;

(d) if he has such financial or other interest as is likely to affect prejudicially his functions as a member of the Commission.

**For SC judge, the criteria is not “unsound mind”.**

(4) A Judge of the Supreme Court shall not be removed from his office except by an order of the President passed after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting has been presented to the President in the same session for such removal on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.

**Q58. The “Great Channel in the Indian Ocean” separates:**

- Great Nicobar Island of India and Indonesia.
- Maldives and Seychelles
- Sumatra and Java of Indonesia
- Australia and New Zealand

**Solution:** a

**Explanation:**

The Great Channel in the Indian Ocean separates Great Nicobar Island of India and Aceh Province of Indonesia. The Great Channel is located at six degrees north of equator and is popularly referred to as the ‘Six Degree Channel’.



Q59. Consider the following statements.

1. At the commencement of the first session after each general election to the House of the People, the President shall address both Houses of Parliament assembled together.
2. If at the time of commencement of the first session of the year, the Lok Sabha has been dissolved and the Rajya Sabha has to meet, then the Rajya Sabha can have its session without the President's Address.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

~~87. Special address by the President.—(1) At the commencement of <sup>3</sup>[the first session after each general election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first session of each year] the President shall address both Houses of Parliament assembled together and inform Parliament of the causes of its summons.~~

Ok one more thing here,

**Article 87(1) originally required the President to address both Houses of Parliament at the commencement of “every session”. The Constitution (First Amendment) Act, 1951, amended this provision and replaced “every session” with “first session.”**

**7. Amendment of article 87.-In article 87 of the Constitution,-**

(1) in clause (1), for the words "every session", the words "the first session after each general election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first session of each year" shall be substituted;

No other business is transacted till the President has addressed both Houses of Parliament assembled. But.

If at the time of commencement of the first session of the year, the Lok Sabha has been dissolved and the Rajya Sabha has to meet, **then the Rajya Sabha can have its session without the President's Address.** During the dissolution of the Lok Sabha in 1977 and 1991, the Rajya Sabha had its sessions on 1 February 1977 and 3 June 1991, respectively without the President's Address.

Q60. Which of the following topics is NOT covered in the **Tirukkural (AUTHORED BY Thiruvalluvar?)**

- a. Ethics and morality
- b. Politics and governance
- c. Love and relationships
- d. Warfare strategies

Solution: d

Explanation:

The Tirukkural focuses on universal values like morality, socio-economic governance, and love. While it indirectly addresses war through discussions on good governance, it does not provide detailed strategies for warfare.

Q61. Consider the following statements regarding **Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea.**

1. The Convention is also called Tehran Convention as it was adopted in Tehran.
2. It is the first legally binding regional agreement signed by Caspian littoral States.
3. Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan share boundary with Caspian Sea.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

18 NOV 2025 | PRESS RELEASE | OCEAN, SEAS AND COASTS

# Boost for Caspian Sea protection as new environmental rules come into force

## History of the Convention

The Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea, also known as the "Tehran Convention" named after the city where it was adopted in 2003, is the first legally binding regional agreement signed by all five Caspian littoral States, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Turkmenistan. It lays down the general requirements and the institutional mechanism for environmental protection in the Caspian region.

Q62. Consider the following statements regarding **Global Initiative for Information Integrity on Climate Change**.

1. It was launched by UNFCCC secretariat.
2. It aims to boost support for urgent climate action at a time when scientists are warning that the world is running out of time.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

**COP30, Belém, Brazil, 12 November 2025** – The Global Initiative for Information Integrity on Climate Change today launched the Declaration on Information Integrity on Climate Change at COP30, establishing shared international commitments to address climate disinformation and promote accurate, evidence-based information on climate issues.

The Declaration commits signatories to promote the integrity of information related to climate change at international, national and local levels, in line with international human rights law and the principles of the Paris Agreement.

**The Global Initiative for Information Integrity on Climate Change aims to boost support for urgent climate action at a time when scientists are warning that the world is running out of time.**

**It was launched by UNESCO, the Government of Brazil, and the UN.**

Announced at the G20 Leaders' Summit in Rio de Janeiro in November 2024, the Initiative is a dedicated multilateral collaboration among States and international organizations to fund research and action promoting information integrity on climate issues.

Q63. Consider the following (species: Habitat)

1. Ethiopian mountain viper: High-altitude montane regions
2. Galapagos iguana: Arid volcanic islands, coastal dry zones
3. Pernambuco tree: Atlantic Forest biome

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

News:

12 November 2025 | Climate and Environment

Renewed efforts to protect the world's most exotic and endangered animals and plants from illegal traders, overexploitation and extinction are set to begin at UN-partnered biodiversity talks in Uzbekistan at the end of the month.

Ethiopian mountain vipers, Galapagos iguanas and Brazil's Pernambuco tree – prized by violin bow-makers - and are just three of the more than 30 species that could be listed for special protection under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

"Because the trade in wild animals and plants crosses borders between countries, the effort to regulate it requires international cooperation to safeguard certain species from over-exploitation," CITES said in a statement.

Q64. **Transforming and Empowering Resilient and Responsible Agribusiness (TERRA) initiative:**

- It was launched by the World Bank to provide long-term concessional loans to large agribusiness corporations in high-income countries.
- It was launched by FAO aims to support micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in agri-food systems of low- and middle-income countries by improving their access to finance.
- The initiative focuses mainly on developing genetically modified crop varieties through public-private partnerships.
- TERRA exclusively targets export-oriented agribusiness firms engaged in global commodity trade.

Solution: b

Explanation:

Taken from:

11 November 2025 | UN News Today



- Gaza: vaccination campaign begins as immunisation rate drops below critical threshold, warns UNICEF
- Sudan: Harrowing testimony from El Fasher survivors highlight scale of needs – UN gender equality agency
- All credit to a new FAO-backed lending initiative for small-scale farmers in the Sahara and beyond

In low- and middle-income countries, MSMEs (micro, small, and medium agrifood enterprises) face big barriers to accessing finance.

TERRA was launched by FAO to help these MSMEs.

Q65. In the context of **Critical 'Tiger' habitats (CTHs)**, consider the following statements.

1. CTHs are identified under the Wild Life Protection Act (WLPA), 1972.
2. They are notified by the State Governments.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Critical 'tiger' habitats (CTHs), also known as core areas of tiger reserves—are identified under the Wild Life Protection Act (WLPA), 1972** based on scientific evidence that "such areas are required to be kept as **inviolate** for the purpose of tiger conservation, without affecting the rights of the Scheduled Tribes or such other forest dwellers".

**The notification of CTH is done by the state government in consultation with the expert committee constituted for the purpose.**

(i) core or critical tiger habitat areas of National Parks and sanctuaries, where it has been established, on the basis of scientific and objective criteria, that such areas are required to be kept as **inviolate** for the purposes of tiger conservation, without affecting the rights of the Scheduled Tribes or such other forest dwellers, and. **notified as such by the State Government in consultation with an Expert Committee constituted for the purpose;**

**'Inviolate'** is a general term used to indicate no human settlement and usage. This inevitably implies that establishing CTHs as inviolate areas requires relocation of people living in such areas.

Q66. In reference to the '**privileges of the members of Parliament**'. Consider the following statements.

1. Disqualification of a member on ground of defection under Tenth Schedule can be referred to Privilege Committee by Speaker.
2. As per the Constitution, no member of Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**First statement is correct:**

thereon or direct that it be laid on the Table of the House. With the coming into force *w.e.f.* 18.03.1986 of the Members of Lok Sabha (Disqualification on ground of Defection) Rules, 1985, made by the Speaker under paragraph 8 of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution, an additional function has been assigned to the Committee. The Speaker may refer to the Committee any petition regarding disqualification of a member on ground of defection for making a preliminary inquiry and submitting a report to him. The procedure to be followed by the Committee in these cases is so far as may be same as in applicable to questions of breach of privilege.

**Second Statement is correct:**

7 In the above context, it may be pertinent to refer to relevant extract of Article 105 of the Constitution, which is reproduced as under:-

*"Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliament and its Members:-*

**105. Powers, privileges, etc., of the Houses of Parliament and of the members and Committees thereof.**

- (1) *Subject to the provisions of this Constitution and to the rules and standing orders regulating the procedure of Parliament, there shall be freedom of speech in Parliament.*
- (2) *No member of Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or any Committee thereof, and no person shall be so liable in respect of the publication by or under the authority of either House of Parliament of any report, paper, votes or proceedings.*

Q67. Which of the following Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) are **administered or provided secretariat functions by UNEP?**

1. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
2. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
3. Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
4. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

Select the correct code.

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: d

Explanation:

Read:

~~✓~~ As the leading global environmental authority, UNEP administers, or provides secretariat functions for numerous Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and other entities as follows:

Global MEAs

~~✓~~ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

~~✓~~ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

~~✓~~ Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)

- Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds › (AEWA)
- Agreement on the Conservation of Gorillas and Their Habitats ›
- Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats › (EUROBATS)
- Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas › (ASCOBANS)

Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal

Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

~~✓~~ Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

Minamata Convention on Mercury

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Q68. Consider the following statements regarding Finance Commission.

1. The Chairman of the Commission shall be qualified to be appointed as Judges of a High Court.
2. Any member of the Commission can resign his office by letter addressed to the President.
3. Members of Commission once appointed can only be removed after resolution is passed by the Parliament.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: a

Explanation:

Ok, have a small clarity.

If we read Constitution, it states: Read clause 2.

**280. Finance Commission.**—(1) The President shall, within two years from the commencement of this Constitution and thereafter at the expiration of every fifth year or at such earlier time as the President considers necessary, by order constitute a Finance Commission which shall consist of a Chairman and four other members to be appointed by the President.

(2) Parliament may by law determine the qualifications which shall be requisite for appointment as members of the Commission and the manner in which they shall be selected.

**So, Parliament enacted Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951. Under this Act, all three statements mentioned above are written.**

**First statement is incorrect:**

**3. Qualifications for appointment as, and the manner of selection of, members of the Commission.**—The Chairman of the Commission shall be selected from among persons who have had experience in public affairs, and the four other members shall be selected from among persons who—

- (a) are, or have been, or are qualified to be appointed as Judges of a High Court; or
- (b) have special knowledge of the finances and accounts of Government; or
- (c) have had wide experience in financial matters and in administration; or
- (d) have special knowledge of economies.

**Second statement is correct:**

**6. Term of office of members and eligibility for reappointment.**—Every member of the Commission shall hold office for such period as may be specified in the order of the President appointing him, but shall be eligible for reappointment:

Provided that he may, by letter addressed to the President, resign his office.

**Third statement is incorrect:**

**5. Disqualifications for being a member of the Commission.**—A person shall be disqualified for being appointed as, or for being, a member of the Commission,—

- (a) if he is of unsound mind;
- (b) if he is an undischarged insolvent;
- (c) if he has been convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude;
- (d) if he has such financial or other interest as is likely to affect prejudicially his functions as a member of the Commission.

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Q69. Consider the following places.

1. Sahara Desert.
2. Andaman Sea
3. Red Sea
4. Persian Gulf

Which of the above places does Tropic of Cancer passes?

- a. 1, 2 and 3 only
- b. 1, 3 and 4 only

- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 3 and 4 only

Solution: c

Explanation:



Q70. Consider the following statements.

1. INC founded in 1885 at the Hindu College, Varanasi.
2. A.O Hume, one of the founding fathers of INC was also considered the 'Father of Indian Ornithology'.
3. Annie Besant was the first women President of INC elected in 1917.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: B

Explanation:

**Only first statement is incorrect: Its Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit College**

Q71. Consider the following statements regarding **National Adaptation Plan (NAP)**

**Implementation Alliance.**

1. The Alliance was established by UNEP Secretariat.
2. The Alliance aims to accelerate collaboration between the organizations supporting the implementation of NAPs.

Select the correct code.

- a. 1 only

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

## **COP30 Presidency and UNDP announce the launch of the National ~~Adaptation~~ Plan Implementation Alliance**

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

The COP30 Presidency was launched by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in partnerships with the Governments of Italy and Germany.

The Alliance, established as a Plan to Accelerate Solutions (PAS) within the COP30 Action Agenda, aims to accelerate collaboration between the organizations supporting the implementation of NAPs and mobilize public and private investment to advance national adaptation priorities. This collaboration will increase awareness and expand the global knowledge exchange on crucial innovations necessary to scale adaptation initiatives, replicate promising solutions, strengthen country platforms and country-owned coordinated delivery mechanisms, and promote greater transparency of existing efforts over the longer term to ensure continuity between consecutive COPs.

Q72. Consider the following statements.

- 1. As per the rules, purchases through GeM by Government users have been made mandatory.
- 2. Autonomous institutions and Local bodies can procure from Government e-Marketplace (GeM).
- 3. GeM is 100% Government owned functions under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: B

Explanation:

News:

### **GeM and UN Women sign MoU to Boost Participation of Women Entrepreneurs in ~~Public~~ Procurement**

Posted On: 20 NOV 2025 8:07PM by PIB Delhi

**The Government e Marketplace is an online platform for public procurement in India. The initiative was launched on August 9, 2016, by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India with the objective to create an open and transparent procurement platform for government buyers.**

**First and second statement are correct:**

Government e-Marketplace (GeM) is the National Public Procurement Portal; an end-to-end online Marketplace for Central and State Government Ministries / Departments, Central & State Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs & SPSUs), Autonomous institutions and Local bodies, for procurement of common use goods & services. The portal is owned and managed by GeM SPV which is a Section 8 (Non-Profit) Company registered under the Companies Act, 2013. GeM SPV operates, monitors and supervises all the business transactions on the portal through the Managed Service Provider as per defined roles and responsibilities.

The **Ministry of Finance** amended the **General Financial Rules (GFR), 2017** by inserting **Rule 149**, which **authorises and makes it mandatory** for Government buyers to procure goods and services through the **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)**.

**Third is incorrect.**

**Government e Marketplace is a 100 percent Government owned Section 8 company setup under the aegis of Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.**

Q73. Consider the following statements regarding **seaweeds**:

1. They are a source of cell wall polysaccharides such as agar and carrageenan.
2. They are used as a binding agent in toothpaste and jelly.
3. They serve as bio-stimulants for enhancing crop productivity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

Statements taken from:

In the last decade, seaweed farming grew by 66 percent in Latin America and the Caribbean, a new report from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has found. BUT THEN, I searched for India. And found a report from NITI Aayog website:

**NITI Aayog**

---

**Strategy For The Development Of  
Seaweed Value Chain**

**Fostering Diversified Livelihoods**

**Corporate Author: NITI Aayog**

**Photo Credit: ICAR-CMFRI & NIOT**

**Published: June 2024**

Seaweeds are nutrient-rich, possess medicinal properties, including anti-inflammatory and anti-microbial effects and have potential in cancer treatment. Seaweeds have wide-ranging applications in manufacturing, serving as effective binding agents in preparing commercial products such as toothpaste and fruit jelly, as well as popular softeners in organic cosmetics and skincare items. Seaweed farming has emerged as a pivotal industry, providing a sustainable and renewable source of these versatile marine plants and algae, supporting various sectors while meeting the increasing global demand for seaweed-based products.

Seaweeds are prized commercially for their bioactive metabolites, manure, and fodder, as well as for their cell wall polysaccharides, which include agar, algin, and carrageenan. They are used in the food, pharmaceutical, cosmetic, and mining industries for a wide range of commercial purposes. Apart from their usage as raw materials in the extraction of marine chemicals and bioactive compounds, some species of seaweed are also becoming more and more important as nutritious foods for human consumption. Seaweeds are an important source of crop bio-stimulants that can enhance agricultural crop productivity and quality, besides warding off. They also can be used to make animal feed additives.

Q74. Consider the following statements.

1. MSP was first introduced for crops in 1975-76.
2. The major objectives are to support the farmers from distress sales and to procure food grains for public distribution.
3. Jowar and Bajra are examples of Kharif crops.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**Minimum Support Price (MSP) is a form of market intervention by the Government of India to insure agricultural producers against any sharp fall in farm prices.**

The minimum support prices are announced by the Government of India at the beginning of the sowing season for certain crops **based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)**.

**The major objectives are to support the farmers from distress sales and to procure food grains for public distribution.**

The Price Support Policy of the Government is directed at providing insurance to agricultural producers against any sharp fall in farm prices. The minimum guaranteed prices are fixed to set a floor below which market prices cannot fall. **Till the mid-1970s, Government announced two types of administered prices:**

- Minimum Support Prices (MSP)
- Procurement Prices

**This means MSP already existed before 1975–76.**

**What changed in 1975–76 was the merging or evolution of the system: from two prices (MSP and procurement price) to a single set of prices, now just MSP for both procurement and support.**

Q75. Which of the following statements regarding the Ordinance-making power of the Governor is/are **not correct**?

1. It is a discretionary power and does not entail the advice of the Ministers.
2. The Ordinance-making power of the Governor is confined to subjects in all the three Lists of Schedule VII.
3. With regard to repugnancy with a Union Law relating to the concurrent subjects, the Governor's Ordinance will prevail notwithstanding repugnancy, if the Ordinance had been made in pursuance of 'instructions' of the President of India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** The Governor's ordinance-making power under Article 213 of the Constitution is not a discretionary power and must be exercised on the advice of the Council of Ministers.

**Statement 2 is incorrect.** The ordinance-making power of the Governor is not confined to subjects in all three lists of Schedule VII. The Governor can only promulgate ordinances on matters with respect to which the State Legislature has the power to make laws (i.e., the State List and the Concurrent List). However, even in the Concurrent List, the Governor's power is subject to the President's assent in certain situations as outlined in the proviso to Article 213.

**Statement 3 is correct.** As per the proviso to Article 213, if a Governor's ordinance on a subject in the Concurrent List is repugnant to a Union law, the Governor's ordinance will prevail if it was made in pursuance of instructions from the President.

Therefore, the statements that are not correct are 1 and 2.

Q76. Which of the following conditions is/are necessary for the **issue of a writ of certiorari** in India?

1. There should be a tribunal or an officer, having legal authority to determine questions affecting rights of subjects and having a duty to act judicially.
2. Such tribunal or officer has acted without jurisdiction.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

To issue a writ of certiorari in India, the following conditions must be satisfied:

- (a) There must be a tribunal or officer having legal authority to determine questions affecting rights and a duty to act judicially – This is essential because certiorari is issued to quash judicial/quasi-judicial orders.

(b) Such authority must have acted without jurisdiction or in excess of jurisdiction – This is a fundamental ground for issuing certiorari.

Q77. Which of the following is/are benefits of hydroponic farming?

1. Growers have total control over climate temperature, humidity, rainfall etc.
2. Water is not used in hydroponic farming.
3. Plants grow slow and nutrient uptake for the plants is low.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Benefits:

**Benefits of hydroponics farming**

- **No soils needed:** In a sense, you can grow crops in places where

- **Climate control:** Like in greenhouses, hydroponic growers can have total control over the climate temperature, humidity, light intensification, and the composition of the air. In this sense, you can grow foods all year round, regardless of the season. Farmers can produce foods at the appropriate time to maximize their business profits.
- **Water-saving:** Plants grown hydroponically can use only 10–25% of water compared to field-grown ones. In this method, water is re-circulated. Plants will take up the necessary water, while run-off ones will be captured and returned to the system. Water loss only occurs in two forms - evaporation and leaks from the system (but an efficient hydroponic setup will minimize or don't have any leaks).
- **pH control of the solution:** All of the minerals are contained in the water. That means one can measure and adjust water mixture's pH levels more quickly than the soil. That ensures optimal nutrient uptake for plants.

• ***Better growth rate:***

Hydroponically, plants grow faster than in soil if plants are placed in ideal conditions, while nutrients are provided in sufficient amounts, and come into direct contact with the root systems. Plants no longer waste valuable energy searching for diluted nutrients in the soil. Instead, they shift all of their focus to growing and producing fruits.

• ***Fewer pests and diseases:*** Like

weeds, getting rid of soils helps make your plants less vulnerable to soil-borne problems like birds, gophers, and groundhogs; and illnesses like *Fusarium*, *Pythium*, and *Rhizoctonia* species. Also, gardeners can easily control most surrounding variables when growing indoors in a closed system.

• ***Labour and time savers:***

Besides spending less on tilling, watering, cultivating, and fumigating weeds and pests, when agriculture is planned to be more technology-based, human intervention can be minimized to a considerable extent.

Q78. In reference to International Criminal Court (ICC), consider the following statements.

1. ICC does not have its own police force or enforcement body.
2. ICC is not a United Nations organization.

3. Both the Prosecutor and the Defence have the right to appeal on the verdict of ICC.
4. India is signatory to the treaty that established the International Criminal Court.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Only fourth is incorrect.**

The **Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court is the treaty that established the International Criminal Court.** It was adopted at a diplomatic conference in Rome, Italy on 17 July 1998 and it **entered into force on 1 July 2002.**

Governed by an international treaty called the Rome Statute, the ICC is the world's first permanent international criminal court.

**As a judicial institution, the ICC does not have its own police force or enforcement body;** thus, it relies on cooperation with countries worldwide for support.

**While not a United Nations organization,** the Court has a cooperation agreement with the United Nations. When a situation is not within the Court's jurisdiction, the United Nations Security Council can refer the situation to the ICC granting it jurisdiction.

The ICC is intended to complement, **not to replace, national criminal systems;** it prosecutes cases only when States do not are unwilling or unable to do so genuinely.

As an international court, **the ICC's legal process may function differently from that in your national jurisdiction.**

Both the Prosecutor and the Defence **have the right to appeal** on the verdict (decision on guilt or innocence of the accused) and the sentence.

**India is not a member of ICC.**

Q79. Consider the following statements.

1. Dead zones occur when a body of water gets too many nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen.
2. Dead zones are often located near inhabited coastlines.
3. The largest dead zone in the world lies in the Arabian Sea.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: c

Explanation:

Read.

~~Dead zones are low-oxygen, or hypoxic, areas in the world's oceans and lakes. Because most organisms need oxygen to live, few organisms can survive in hypoxic conditions. That is why these areas are called dead zones.~~

Dead zones occur because of a process called eutrophication, which happens when a body of water gets too many nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen. At normal levels, these nutrients feed the growth of an organism called cyanobacteria, or blue-green algae. With too many nutrients, however, cyanobacteria grows out of control, which can be harmful. Human activities are the main cause of these excess nutrients being washed into the ocean. For this reason, dead zones are often located near inhabited coastlines.

**The largest dead zone in the world lies in the Arabian Sea**, covering almost the entire 63,700-square mile Gulf of Oman.

**The second largest sits in the Gulf of Mexico** in the United States, averaging almost 6,000 square miles in size.

Around the world, dead zones have developed in continental seas, such as the **Baltic Sea, Kattegat, Black Sea, Gulf of Mexico, and East China Sea**.

Q80. Consider the following pairs (new initiatives: launched by)

1. Critical Minerals Circularity Initiative: European Union at G-29
2. World AI Cooperation Organization (WAICO): China at APEC 2025 summit

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

At APEC leaders' meeting, **Xi Jinping pushed proposal for World Artificial Intelligence Cooperation Organization to set AI governance rules**.

# PM Modi proposes critical minerals circularity initiative at G20 Summit

*In his address at the second session at the G20 Summit in Johannesburg, he also proposed setting up of a G20 Open Satellite Data Partnership*

**India's G20 Critical Minerals Circularity Initiative** promotes recycling, urban mining, and second-life battery innovations.

Q81. Consider the following statements regarding **IBSA Dialogue Forum**.

1. The Bangkok Declaration formalized the establishment of IBSA Forum.
2. IBSA Fund for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation is managed by the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC).
3. All three coordinate for reform of global institutions like UNSC.
4. All three countries are G20 members.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

IBSA is a unique Forum which brings together **India, Brazil and South Africa**, three large democracies and major economies from three different continents, facing similar challenges.

All three countries **are developing, pluralistic, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-lingual and multi-religious nations**.

Second statement is correct.

The grouping was formalized and named the IBSA Dialogue Forum when the Foreign Ministers of the three countries met in **Brasilia on 6 June 2003 and issued the Brasilia Declaration**.

**The IBSA facility for poverty and hunger alleviation (IBSA Fund) was established jointly by India, Brazil and South Africa in 2004 and became operational in 2006.**

The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) is the Fund Manager and secretariat of the IBSA Fund.

**Third and fourth statements are correct.**

Q82. Consider the following statements.

1. Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) in India is created under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.
2. JJB is established in every district by state government with at least one woman as a member.
3. It consists of a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the First Class as its Principal Magistrate.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: b

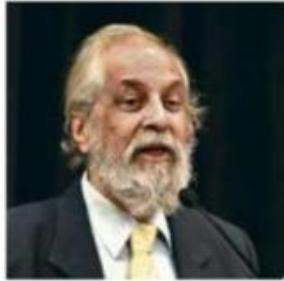
Explanation:

News:

# ‘Over 50% cases pending in Juvenile Justice Boards amid staff shortage’

**Bindu Shajan Perappadan**  
NEW DELHI

More than half (55%) of the cases before 362 Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs) across the country remained pending as of October 31, 2023, says a first-of-its-kind study by the India Justice Report (IJR) which was released on Thursday.



**“** It is worrying to find that a quarter of JJBs did not have a full Bench and evidence of a substantial number of staff vacancies in child care institutions.

**MADAN B. LOKUR**  
Former Supreme Court judge

data-sharing. Over 500 responses were received from 28 States and two Union Territories, covering 530 districts. Of these responses, 11% were rejected outright, 24% received no reply, 29% were transferred to districts, and 36% were provided by State nodal authorities, indicating a weak culture of public data

First statement is incorrect.

## Juvenile Justice Board-

Section-4 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 deals with Juvenile Justice Board. It states that, the state government shall constitute for every district, one or more Juvenile Justice Boards for exercising the powers and discharging its functions relating to children in conflict with law under this Act. A board shall consist of Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of first class not being Chief Metropolitan Magistrate or Chief Judicial Magistrate (hereinafter referred to as Principal Magistrate) with at least three years' experience and two social workers selected in such a manner as may be prescribed, of whom at least one shall be a woman, forming a Bench and every such Bench shall have the powers conferred by the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974) on a Metropolitan Magistrate or, as the case may be, a Judicial Magistrate of First class.

## Scope and Responsibilities-

The Board constituted for any district shall have the power to deal exclusively with all the proceedings under this Act, relating to children in conflict with law, in the area of jurisdiction of such board. The board responsibility is to ensure that the child's rights are protected throughout the process of apprehending the child, inquiry, aftercare and rehabilitation. It also ensures the availability of legal aid for the child through the legal services institutions. Board also conducts at least one inspection visit every month of residential facilities for children in conflict with law and recommend action for improvement in quality of services to the District Child Protection Unit and the state government.

**Q83. Consider the following statements regarding QS World Sustainability University Rankings 2026.**

1. More than 100 Indian universities have made under 2026 list.
2. The ranking evaluates universities on Environmental, Social and Governance criteria.

Select the correct code.

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

d. Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

# Over 100 Indian universities make it to QS sustainability rankings

**Abhinay Lakshman**

NEW DELHI

The London-based QS Quacquarelli Symonds on Tuesday released its QS World University Rankings for Sustainability 2026, showing that India, with 103 universities, had the fourth-highest number of institutions in the list, behind the United States, China, and the United Kingdom.



institutions were ranked. Among the top 15 Indian universities in this year's sustainability rankings, nine saw their positions drop from the previous year's. These included Jadavpur University, IIT, Kanpur, IIT, Madras, the Indian Institute of Science, and others.

Across the 103 Indian institutions ranked, 30 saw their positions decline, 32 improved, and 15 remained

## The weights in QS Sustainability 2026 rankings:

1. Environmental Impact – 45%
2. Social Impact – 45%
3. Governance – 10%

Q84. With reference to Sentinel-6B, consider the following statements:

1. It is an ocean-tracking satellite designed to measure sea-level changes.
2. It completes one revolution around the Earth in about 112 minutes.
3. It is a joint mission of NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA).

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: c

Explanation:

All are correct:

Read:

## Sentinel-6B: new satellite to observe ocean

SENTINEL-6B was launched on Monday from the Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. It is an ocean-tracking satellite with six onboard science instruments that will measure the rising sea levels and its impacts on the planet. Sentinel-6B will orbit Earth at a speed of 7.2 km per second, completing one revolution every 112 minutes.

Data of the oceans, its temperature, sea-levels are vital for weather forecasting, storm predictions, securing undersea pipeline and cable networks, and shipping services. Data from Sentinel-6B is expected to improve the accuracy of weather forecasts, including storm and flood predictions, enabling administrators to make better real-time decisions to safeguard public property and protect coastal infrastructure.

Sentinel-6B is a joint mission between the United States' NASA and NOAA, and the European Space Agency; it is the latest in a series of satellites launched since the 1990s,



An artist's impression of Sentinel-6B. NASA/JPL-CALTECH

mainly by NASA, to measure the sea-level changes from space.

### SCIENCE

With its twin, the Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich operating in space since November 2020, Sentinel-6B will provide primary sea level measurements down to approximately an inch from over 90% of all the oceans.

ANJALI MARAR

Q85. Consider the following.

1. North Sea
2. Baltic Sea
3. Atlantic Ocean
4. Black Sea

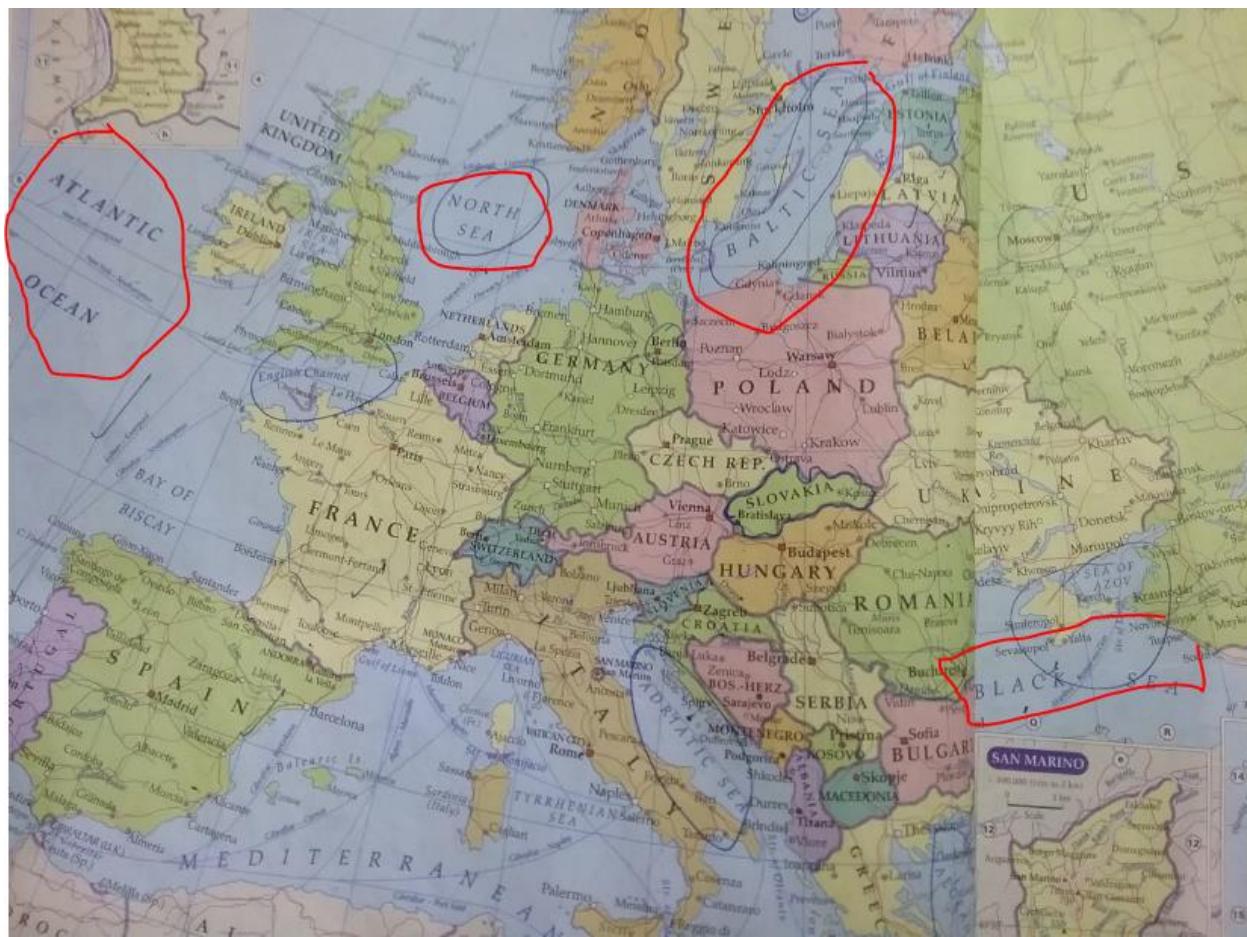
Arrange the above seas from **West to East**.

- a. 3-2-1-4
- b. 3-1-2-4
- c. 3-1-4-2
- d. 1-3-2-4

Solution: b

Explanation:

Check map:



Q86. Consider the following statements.

1. All States have to mandatorily constitute all the three tiers of Panchayats irrespective of their size and population.
2. There is provision for reservations for the OBCs in Panchayats as per the Constitution.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: D

Explanation:

First statement is incorrect as the **intermediary level body need not be constituted in smaller States (with a population less than 20 lakhs). See below.**

**243B. Constitution of Panchayats.**—(1) There shall be constituted in every State, Panchayats at the village, intermediate and district levels in accordance with the provisions of this Part.

(2) Notwithstanding anything in clause (1), Panchayats at the intermediate level may not be constituted in a State having a population not exceeding twenty lakhs.

OBC reservation in Panchayats have been a policy step from states **and not provided in the constitution as such**. This is a step taken by each state based on their requirement on the upliftment of the backward class. **The Constitution only mentions about reservation for SC and ST.**

Q87. With reference to the Election Commission, consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution has not prescribed the qualifications of its members.
2. The Constitution has not specified the term of its members.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Though the Constitution has sought to safeguard and ensure the independence and impartiality of the Election Commission, some flaws can be noted, viz.,

1. The Constitution **has not prescribed the qualifications** (legal, educational, administrative or judicial) of the members of the Election Commission. **So, statement 1 is correct.**
2. The Constitution has not specified the term of the members of the Election Commission. So, statement 2 is correct.

But sir, we have studied, his term is 6 years. Yes, it's term is 6 years but it's not in Constitution.

**Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business)] Act, 1991 provides that.**

~~4~~**Term of office.**—The Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner shall hold office for a term of six years from the date on which he assumes his office:

<sup>1</sup>[Provided that where the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner attains the age of sixty-five years before the expiry of the said term of six years, he shall vacate his office on the date on which he attains the said age:]

Provided further that the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner may, at any time, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office.

Q88. There are three main reliefs of Vishnu on the temple walls: *Sheshashayana on the south, Nara-Narayan on the east and Gajendramoksha on the west*. It is the feature of which temple:

- a. Papanath temple
- b. Lakshmana temple, Khajuraho
- c. Sun Temple, Konark
- d. Dashavatara Temple, Deogarh

Solution: d

## Explanation:

We have put many such good questions in our Test Series. Do join soon, if you haven't. You have to solve and revise, it will take time. So, join it. Level is same as you see here in Daily Quiz.



*Sheshashayana Vishnu, Dashavatara temple, Deogarh*

**Sheshashayana** is the form of Vishnu where he is shown reclining on the *sheshanaga* called Ananta. **Nara-Narayan** shows the discussion between the human soul and the eternal divine. **Gajendramoksha** is the story of achieving *moksha*, symbolically communicated by Vishnu's suppression of an *asura* who had taken the form of an elephant.

Q89. Consider the following pairs.

River	origin
1. Godavari River	Brahmagiri mountain range
2. Kosi	north of Mount Everest in Tibet
3. Damodar River	Vindhya Range

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

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

- c. 1 and 2 only
- d. 2 and 3 only

Solution: c

Explanation:

River	origin
Godavari River	Brahmagiri mountain range
Kosi	north of Mount Everest in Tibet
<b>Damodar River</b>	<b>Chotanagpur Plateau</b>

Q90. With reference to the AI initiative **BharatGen**, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is an initiative fully funded by the Government of India under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS).
- 2. It aims to support at least 22 Indian languages, dialects and cultural nuances.
- 3. Its model stack includes text, speech and document-vision modalities.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

News:

Dr. Jitendra Singh hails "BharatGen" as India's first sovereign multilingual and multimodal AI driven Large Language Model;

All statements are correct.

Go to the original link of website, and learn more. I am also covering this topic in Current Affairs magazine. (<https://bharatgen.com/>)

**Q91. Prime Minister Congratulates Indian Women's Kabaddi Team on winning the Kabaddi World Cup 2025.** We will congratulate by solving this question correct.

Consider the following statements regarding **Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025**.

- 1. Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025 was hosted by Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 2. India beat Bangladesh in final to win the World Cup 2025.
- 3. India also won the first World Cup held in Patna, Bihar, back in 2012.
- 4. Ritu Negi was the captain of Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

**Prime Minister Congratulates Indian Women's Kabaddi Team on winning the Kabaddi World Cup 2025**

Posted On: 24 NOV 2025 8:11PM by PIB Delhi

**Only second statement is incorrect.**

**India beat Chinese Taipei 35-28 in the final to claim the Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025 title in Dhaka, Bangladesh.**

This was the **Indian women's kabaddi team's second World Cup** crown on the trot, having also won the **inaugural edition hosted in Patna, Bihar, back in 2012**. India beat the Islamic Republic of Iran in the final 13 years ago.

**Ritu Negi was the captain.**

Q92. Consider the following statements on **World Boxing Cup Finals 2025**.

1. World Boxing Cup Finals 2025 took place in Noida, India.
2. Hosted by World Boxing, it was the first edition of the World Boxing Cup.
3. India ranked 1<sup>st</sup> by bagging 13 gold medals.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: B

Explanation:

**Prime Minister Congratulates Indian Athletes on extraordinary, record-breaking performance at the World Boxing Cup Finals 2025**

Posted On: 24 NOV 2025 12:06PM by PIB Delhi

**India won nine gold medals in total at the Greater Noida meet with women boxers bagging seven of them.**

## ~~World Boxing Cup Finals 2025: India medal winners~~

### **Women**

- Minakshi Hooda - gold medal in 48kg
- Nikhat Zareen - gold medal in 51kg
- Preeti Pawar - gold medal in 54kg
- Jaismine Lamboria - gold medal in 57kg
- Arundhati Choudhary - gold medal in 70kg
- Nupur Sheoran - gold medal in 80+kg
- Parveen Hooda - gold medal in 60kg

### **Men**

- Sachin Siwach - gold medal in 60kg
- Hitesh Gulia - gold medal in 70kg

**After India, the next best performing nation was Uzbekistan which finished with four gold medals from nine finals.**

Q93. Consider the following statements regarding **INS Mahe**.

1. It is first of the indigenously designed and built Mahe-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft.
2. Designed and constructed by Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

INS MAHE COMMISSIONED – INDIA'S FIRST MAHE-CLASS ANTI-SUBMARINE  
 WARFARE SHALLOW WATER CRAFT JOINS THE WESTERN NAVAL  
 COMMAND

Posted On: 24 NOV 2025 3:38PM by PIB Delhi

**Designed and constructed by Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi, INS Mahe is the lead ship of eight vessels in her class.**

Q94. Consider the following regarding **Special Drawing Right (SDR)**.

1. The value of the SDR is directly determined by supply and demand in the market.
2. The weightage of currencies in SDR is same for every country.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

The Special Drawing Right (SDR) is an interest-bearing international reserve asset created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement other reserve assets of member countries.

**The value of the SDR is not directly determined by supply and demand in the market, but is set daily by the IMF on the basis of market exchange rates between the currencies included in the SDR basket.**

It can be held and used by member countries, the IMF, and certain designated official entities called “prescribed holders”—**but it cannot be held, for example, by private entities or individuals.** Its status as a reserve asset derives from the commitments of members to hold, accept, and honor obligations denominated in SDR. The SDR also serves as the unit of account of the IMF and some other international organizations.

During the last review concluded in November 2015, the Board decided that the Chinese renminbi (RMB) met the criteria for SDR basket inclusion. Following this decision, the Chinese RMB joined the US dollar, euro, Japanese yen, and British pound sterling in the SDR basket, effective October 1, 2016 and the three-month benchmark yield for China Treasury bonds was included the SDRi basket. During the 2015 review, the Board also approved a new formula—assigning equal shares to the currency issuer's exports and a composite financial indicator—to determine the weights of currencies in the SDR basket.

Currency	Weights determined in the 2015 Review	Fixed Number of Units of Currency for a 5-year period Starting Oct 1, 2016
U.S. Dollar	41.73	0.58252
Euro	30.93	0.38671
Chinese Yuan	10.92	1.0174
Japanese Yen	8.33	11.900
Pound Sterling	8.09	0.085946

Q95. Which of the places given below is **closest to Sri Lanka?**

- a. Puducherry
- b. Chennai
- c. Vishakhapatnam
- d. Bangalore

Solution: a

Explanation:

Vishakhapatnam is in Andhra Pradesh.

Among Puducherry and Chennai, **Puducherry is near to Sri Lanka**. Bangalore is between Puducherry and Chennai.



Q96. "Solar Mamas", recently seen in news, refers to:

- Rural women trained to become solar technicians who assemble, install, repair and maintain solar home lighting systems in off-grid villages.
- A global coalition of solar-power-producing countries under the International Solar Alliance (ISA), focusing on women-led solar entrepreneurship.
- A term used by UN-Women for female researchers working in solar photovoltaic R&D labs in developing countries.
- A government scheme under the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) to provide free rooftop-solar installation training exclusively to rural mothers below the poverty line.

Solution: a

Explanation:

**"Solar Mamas"** is a term used for rural women (often older, from villages lacking grid-electricity, many with little or no formal education) who are trained to become solar technicians/engineers: they assemble, install, maintain and repair solar lighting and solar home-systems in their villages (and sometimes neighbouring areas).

The model originates in India; the Barefoot College in India, Tilonia, Rajasthan, initiated the "Solar Engineers/solar women" programme (often called Solar Mamas) and the Indian government through the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has supported training of illiterate/semi-literate rural women for solar lighting in India since 2000.

Q97. Which among the following can declare an election void if disqualified candidate is elected to the Parliament?

- a. President
- b. Election Commission of India
- c. High Court
- d. Speaker

Solution: c

Explanation:

**Very important. Please remember.**

If a disqualified person is elected to the Parliament, the Constitution lays down no procedure to declare the election void. **This matter is dealt with Representation of People Act 1951, which enables the High Court to declare an election void if a disqualified candidate is elected.** The aggrieved party can appeal to the Supreme Court against the order of the High Court in this regard.

Q98. Which of the following is/are characteristics of interstellar objects (ISOs) is *incorrect*?

- a. They are not gravitationally bound to the Sun.
- b. They follow closed elliptical orbits within the Solar System.
- c. They can move in hyperbolic trajectories.
- d. They originate from outside the Solar System.

Solution: b

Explanation:

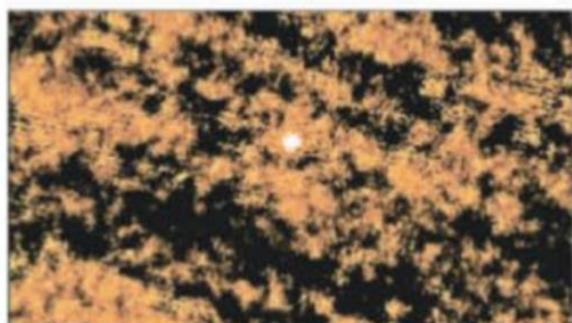
News:

## NASA releases new images of Comet 3I/Atlas: what are interstellar objects?

NASA ON Wednesday released new images of Comet 3I/Atlas, an interstellar object which was first spotted on July 1. It is the third interstellar object that scientists have discovered so far, after 1I/'Oumuamua and 2I/Borisov.

Interstellar objects are celestial bodies that originate outside the solar system, and are not gravitationally bound to a star. They can come from other solar systems and be thrown into interstellar space due to collisions or be slingshotted by another body's gravity.

To determine if a celestial body is



3I/ATLAS observed by the ESA/NASA SOHO mission. NASA

An object that follows a **closed (elliptical)** orbit around the Sun is **gravitationally bound to the Sun**.

Interstellar objects (ISOs) are bodies from outside our Solar System.

They move so fast that the Sun's gravity cannot capture them. Therefore, their orbits are open-ended, not closed.

Q99. Consider the following statements:

1. The minimum age prescribed for any person to be a member of Panchayat is 25 years.
2. 73<sup>rd</sup> Amendment has endowed the Panchayats with responsibility of preparation of plans for economic development and social justice.
3. A Panchayat reconstituted after premature dissolution continues only for the remainder period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

**First statement is incorrect:**

**243V. Disqualifications for membership.**—(1) A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of a Municipality—

(a) if he is so disqualified by or under any law for the time being in force for the purposes of elections to the Legislature of the State concerned:

Provided that no person shall be disqualified on the ground that he is less than twenty-five years of age, if he has attained the age of twenty-one years;

**Second statement is incorrect: Its State Legislature who will do this.**

**243G. Powers, authority and responsibilities of Panchayats.**—Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Legislature of a State may, by law, endow the Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government and such law may contain provisions for the devolution of powers and responsibilities upon Panchayats at the appropriate level, subject to such conditions as may be specified therein, with respect to—

(a) the preparation of plans for economic development and social justice;

Third statement is correct:

**243E. Duration of Panchayats, etc.**—(1) Every Panchayat, unless sooner dissolved under any law for the time being in force, shall continue for five years from the date appointed for its first meeting and no longer.

(2) No amendment of any law for the time being in force shall have the effect of causing dissolution of a Panchayat at any level, which is functioning immediately before such amendment, till the expiration of its duration specified in clause (1).

Q100. Consider the following statements regarding the **import of Appendix-I species under CITES:**

1. Import of Appendix-I species requires an import permit from the importing country and an export permit from the exporting country.
2. Appendix-I imports are allowed only for non-commercial purposes.

Select the correct code.

- a. 1 only

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

## CITES withdraws recommendation to suspend trade of endangered species ~~to India~~



Simrin Sirur

25 Nov 2025 India Beyond Protected Areas

Comments

Share article

Appendix I lists species that are the most endangered among CITES-listed animals and plants.

**They are threatened with extinction and CITES prohibits international trade in specimens of these species except when the purpose of the import is not commercial, for instance for scientific research.**

**In these exceptional cases, trade may take place provided it is authorized by the granting of both an import permit and an export permit (or re-export certificate).**

Q101. In reference to **Environmental Clearance Framework in India**, consider the following statements.

1. Environmental clearances operate under the EIA Notification, 2006, issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
2. Category A projects are appraised by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
3. Category B projects are appraised by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA).
4. Public hearing is mandatory only for category B projects.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

On 18 November 2025, a 2:1 majority of the Supreme Court recalled its May 2025 **Vanashakti judgment**, which had prohibited the granting of ex-post-facto environmental clearances (ECs).

Environmental clearances operate under the EIA Notification, 2006, issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

**Category A Projects:**

1. Appraised **at the national level** by the **MoEFCC**.
2. These are **large-scale or high-impact** projects.
3. Require **mandatory prior Environmental Clearance (EC)** from the **Central Government**.

**Category B Projects:**

1. Appraised **at the State level** by **SEIAA** (State Environment Impact Assessment Authority).
2. These projects are smaller in scale compared to Category A.
3. Category B is further split into:
  - a. **B1** → requires full EIA report + public hearing
  - b. **B2** → exempted from full EIA; simpler appraisal

**Public hearing is a mandatory transparency mechanism under the EIA Notification, 2006 for most Category A and Category B1 projects.**

It ensures that local communities and stakeholders can review the draft EIA and formally record their concerns before a project receives environmental clearance.

**Conducted by the State Pollution Control Board with at least 30 days' notice**, it forms an essential part of the public consultation stage, and its proceedings must be considered during appraisal. Only a limited set of projects is exempted.

**Thus, the public hearing requirement strengthens participatory environmental governance in India.**

Q102. Which bank has recently approved a landmark amendment to its founding charter to remove its lending limitation, enabling a 50% increase in annual lending?

- a. New Development Bank
- b. Asian Development Bank
- c. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- d. African Development Bank

**Solution:** b

**Explanation:**

**News:**

MANILA, PHILIPPINES (17 November 2025) – Voting by the Board of Governors of the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has reached the requirement for ratification of a landmark amendment to the Bank's founding charter that will remove the lending limitation set out in **Article 12.1**. This will enable a **50% increase** in lending to more than \$36 billion annually to support developing member countries' efforts to address critical development priorities in the region.

**This is the first amendment to the ADB Charter since the institution was created in 1966** and will enter into force three months after ADB officially notifies its members that the amendment has been adopted.

**India voted in favor of amendment.**

Q103. Consider the following statements regarding **International Film Festival of India (IFFI)**.

1. It is jointly organized each year by National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
2. The Golden Peacock Award is the top prize at the IFFI for the Best Feature Film.
3. The winner of the Golden Peacock will receive a cash prize of ₹40 lakh.
4. Golden Peacock Award is provided only to Indian films.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. Only three
- D. All four

Solution: c

Explanation:

**The International Film Festival of India (IFFI), founded in 1952**, is an annual film festival currently held in Goa, on the western coast of India.

Since 2004, **IFFI has moved to its permanent venue at Goa**, where it is jointly organized each year by **National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India and Entertainment Society of Goa (ESG), Government of Goa**.

Fourth is incorrect.

**The Golden Peacock Award is not provided only to Indian films at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI)**; it is the main prize for the Best Feature Film in the International Competition section, which is open to films from all over the world.

**The winner of the Golden Peacock will receive a cash prize of ₹40 lakh.**

Q104. As per the report, which of the following factors contributed to the slowdown of India's CO<sub>2</sub> emission growth in 2025?

1. Strong monsoon reducing cooling demand
2. Expansion of renewable energy
3. Decline in coal consumption

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

**All are correct. I have taken from the Global Carbon Project Report:**

## GLOBAL CARBON PROJECT DATA

# Growth of India's CO2 emissions expected to slow down significantly in 2025: Study

Country's fossil fuel-related emissions estimated to increase 1.4%, against 4% recorded last year

**Amitabh Sinha**  
New Delhi, November 13

INDIA'S CARBON dioxide emissions from fossil fuel sources are expected to increase by just about 1.4% in 2025, significantly lower than the 4% growth registered the previous year, new data released by Global Carbon Project (GCP) shows.

India's fossil fuel-related emissions in 2024 were 3.19 billion tonnes of CO2 equivalent and they are estimated to increase to 3.22 billion tonnes this year, according to the annual Global Carbon Budget study carried out by this project.

The relatively modest growth in India's emissions this year was lower than even the United States whose emissions are expected to increase by 1.9%,

possibly attributable to the climate-denialist policies of the Donald Trump administration.

"An early monsoon reduced cooling requirements in the hottest months (in India). Combined with strong growth in renewables, this led to very low growth in coal consumption," a statement accompanying the study said.

Fossil-related CO2 emissions cover a wide range of sectors, including electricity generation, transportation, industrial processes, buildings and heating. These account for about 90% of all CO2 emissions globally. The remaining 10% come primarily from land-use changes like deforestation and degradation of natural ecosystems.

CO2 emissions account for about 75% of global greenhouse

## • Annual growth in CO2 emissions (in percentage)

	2025 vs 2024	2024 vs 2023	2015-2024*	2005-2014*
India	1.4	4	3.6	6.4
China	0.4	0.7	2.5	6.7
United States	1.9	-0.6	-1.2	-1.4
World	1.1	1.1	0.8	2.1

\* AVERAGE GROWTH

SOURCE: GLOBAL CARBON PROJECT DATA

fect as well as continuous improvements in carbon intensity of India's economy.

A separate analysis, done by Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air for *Carbon Brief*, a UK-based climate-focused publication, a couple of months ago had revealed that for the first time, CO2 emissions from India's electricity sector in the first half of this year had shown a decline compared to the same period last year. This too was attributed to good monsoon rainfall resulting in lower demands for cooling and irrigation.

CO2 emissions from fossil fuels were expected to rise globally by about 1.1% to reach a record 38.1 billion tonnes this year, once again underscoring the fact that years of climate action had still not been able to force a decline in emissions. The GCP study said CO2 emissions from land-use changes were expected to decline this year, helping the overall CO2 emissions to remain relatively flat (about 42 billion tonnes) compared to last year.

**Q105. Which of the following is/are correct set of members of Colombo Security Conclave (CSC)?**

- a. India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, and the Maldives
- b. India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and the Maldives
- c. India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, and the Bangladesh
- d. India, Bangladesh, Mauritius, and the Nepal

**Solution:** b

**Explanation:**

**News:**

Site Admin | November 20, 2025 3:46 PM



## 7th Colombo Security Conclave NSAs Meeting Begins In New Delhi

The existing members – **India, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, and the Maldives** – warmly received **Bangladesh** into the fold, while Seychelles participated as an observer state.

**Q106. Consider the following statements regarding the comptroller and auditor general (CAG)**

1. The salary of CAG is equal to the salary of the Judge of the Supreme Court.
2. CAG audit all transactions of the Union and of the States relating to Contingency Funds and Public Accounts.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

Now, you will think all these statements are mentioned in Lakshmi Kant, so these are part of Indian Constitution. **NO, THEY ARE NOT.**

**Now, see what is written in the Constitution? If you see below two articles, it is written as per the law made by Parliament.**

✓ **149. Duties and powers of the Comptroller and Auditor-General.**—The Comptroller and Auditor-General shall perform such duties and exercise such powers in relation to the accounts of the Union and of the States and of any other authority or body as may be prescribed by or under any law made by Parliament

(3) The salary and other conditions of service of the Comptroller and Auditor-General shall be such as may be determined by Parliament by law and, until they are so determined, shall be as specified in the Second Schedule:

So, Parliament enacted: **Comptroller and Auditor General (Duties, Powers, and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971.** In this Act, all the above three statements are mentioned. NOT CONSTITUTION

Now, coming back to statements.

First Statement is correct.

✓ **Chapter-II Salary and Other Conditions of Service of the Comptroller and Auditor-General**

3. There shall be paid to the Comptroller and Auditor-General a salary which is equal to the salary of the Judge of the Supreme Court:

Second statement is correct.

#### General Provisions Relating to Audit

13. It shall be the duty of the Comptroller and Auditor-General-

- ✓ a. to audit all expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India and of each State and of each Union territory having a Legislative Assembly and to ascertain whether the moneys shown in the accounts as having been disbursed were legally available for and applicable to the service or purpose to which they have been applied or charged and whether the expenditure conforms to the authority which governs it;
- ✓ b. to audit all transactions of the Union and of the States relating to Contingency Funds and Public Accounts;
- c. to audit all trading, manufacturing, profit and loss accounts and balance-sheets and other subsidiary accounts kept in any department of the Union or of a State; and in each case to report on the expenditure, transactions or accounts so audited by him.

**Why we have asked questions from Act?? Reason is UPSC Prelims Paper 2019. Last year it was asked from Judges Inquiry Act, 1968. See below.**

Consider the following statements:

1. The motion to impeach a Judge of the Supreme Court of India cannot be rejected by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha as per the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
2. The Constitution of India defines and gives details of what constitutes incapacity and proved misbehaviour of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India.
3. The details of the process of impeachment of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India are given in the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.

Q107. Which of the following species can be seen in Ladakh region in India?

1. The black-necked crane (*Grus nigricollis*)
2. Eurasian lynx
3. Snow Leopard

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

**All three. Remember.**

Q108. Why Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) are described as “neglected”?

- a. NTDs does not contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- b. There is no treatment available to these diseases.
- c. NTDs are absent from the global health agenda and have very limited resources for its coverage.
- d. Treatments are very expensive and is out of reach of common people.

Solution: c

Explanation:

**NTDs have the greatest relevance for SDG 3** (the health goal). Interventions against NTDs directly contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal 3.3: “end the epidemics of...neglected tropical diseases”,

There are many diseases where treatments are not available and are sometimes very expensive.

**Second and fourth statements are incorrect.**

**Third statement is correct:**

**Why are they called 'neglected'?**

They are 'neglected' because they are almost absent from the global health agenda. Even today, when the focus is on Universal Health Coverage, NTDs have very limited resources and are almost ignored by global funding agencies. NTDs are diseases of neglected populations that perpetuate a cycle of poor educational outcomes and limited professional opportunities; in addition, are associated with stigma and social exclusion.

Q109. With respect to **composting**, consider the following statements.

1. Composting completely eliminates the release of any Green House Gases.
2. Composting is less expensive to construct and operate composting plants than incineration plants.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**It doesn't eliminate completely.**

<b>GHG emissions</b>	<b>CH<sub>4</sub> gas emissions from landfill sites can be reduced. The fermentation process is conducted in an aerobic state and emits significantly less CH<sub>4</sub> gas than landfilling. Composting can reduce the need for chemical fertiliser, which is associated with large GHG emissions.</b>	<b>A certain amount of CH<sub>4</sub> and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) gases are generated during the aerobic fermentation process. According to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, the emission factors of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O are 10 kg-CH<sub>4</sub>/t-waste and 0.6 kg-N<sub>2</sub>O/t-waste respectively, by dry basis.</b>
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**Composting requires simpler equipment than other treatment technologies such as incineration plants. It is less expensive to construct and operate composting plants than incineration plants.**

Q110. Consider the following statements:

Statement—I: The 37,000-year-old bamboo fossil discovered in Manipur is the earliest thorny bamboo fossil reported from Asia.

Statement—II: Bamboo fossils are rarely found in the geological record because bamboo has highly fibrous tissues that decay rapidly.

Which one of the following is correct?

- a. Both Statement—I and Statement—II are correct and Statement—II is the correct explanation of Statement—I.

- b. Both Statement—I and Statement—II are correct but Statement—II is not the correct explanation of Statement—I.
- c. Statement—I is correct but Statement—II is incorrect.
- d. Statement—I is incorrect but Statement—II is correct.

Solution: b

Explanation:

News:

37,000-year-old bamboo from Manipur ~~reveals~~ Asia's ice age secret

Posted On: 27 NOV 2025 6:12PM by PIB Delhi

Both statements are correct.

**Founded by:**

Scientists from Birbal Sahni institution of Palaeosciences (BSIP), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) during field surveys in the silt-rich deposits of the **Chirang River in Manipur's Imphal Valley**.

Bamboo fossils are extremely rare because their hollow stems and fibrous tissues decay rapidly, leaving little trace in the geological record. Scientists usually understood bamboo defences mainly by comparing modern species with their habitats.

**What it suggests?**

This is the **first fossil evidence that thorniness in bamboo**—a defense against herbivores—was already present in Asia during the Ice Age.

Its preservation is particularly significant because it comes from a period of colder and drier global climates, when bamboo was wiped out in many other regions, including Europe. **The fossil shows that while harsh Ice Age conditions restricted bamboo's global distribution, Northeast India provided a safe refuge where the plant could continue to thrive.**

Q111. Consider the following statements.

1. The 2025 Summer Deaflympics was held in Tokyo, Japan.
2. This is an international multi-sport event for deaf athletes held every four years.
3. India got first place in Asia region with 20 medals, including 9 golds, 7 silvers, and 4 bronzes.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

News:

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah congratulates Indian team at the 25th Summer Deaflympics 2025 in Tokyo on their phenomenal feat of winning 20 medals, including 9 golds, 7 silvers, and 4 bronzes

A stellar display of sporting talent by our Deaflympians

**Read:**

The meaning of Deaflympics is "Deaf + Olympics".

The Deaflympics is an international "Olympics for Deaf people."

This is an international multi-sport event for deaf athletes held every four years, organised by the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD).

The first Deaflympics were held in Paris, France in 1924.

The TOKYO 2025 DEAFLYMPICS will be the 100th anniversary commemorative Games and will be held for the first time in Japan.

**UKRAINE WON HIGHEST NUMBER OF MEDALS.**

**2025 Summer Deaflympics medal table**

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Ukraine	32	39	29	100
–	Individual Neutral Athletes	32	12	8	52
2	United States	17	7	12	36
3	Japan*	16	12	23	51
4	China	12	16	22	50
5	South Korea	11	13	19	43
6	India	9	7	4	20
7	Iran	8	10	19	37
8	Italy	8	8	5	21
9	Kazakhstan	8	4	13	25

Q112. Which of the following correctly defines “Non-intrusive Usage of Data to Guide and Enable (NUDGE)” initiative?

- A behavioural-economics programme to encourage taxpayers to voluntarily disclose foreign assets and foreign-source income.
- A digital platform developed by CBDT to automate direct tax refunds for senior citizens without requiring ITR filing.
- A government scheme to nudge small businesses to adopt cashless payments by offering tax rebates for digital transactions.

d. A CBDT initiative to replace manual scrutiny with fully AI-based automated assessments for all high-value domestic transactions.

Solution: a

Explanation:

News:

CBDT launches 2nd NUDGE initiative to strengthen voluntary compliance in respect of Foreign Assets

**The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has launched its second “NUUDGE” initiative to enhance voluntary compliance regarding foreign assets.**

Q113. Which of the following correctly defines Article 240 in the context of Union Territories?

- It empowers the Governor of a Union Territory to make regulations overriding parliamentary laws.
- It empowers Parliament to make regulations only for UTs without Legislative Assemblies.
- It empowers the President to make regulations for certain UTs, even on matters within Parliament's legislative competence.
- It applies automatically to all Union Territories after the 69th Constitutional Amendment.

Solution: c

Explanation:

*I will make more elaborate and tricky questions on Article 240 in Abhyas session. Now, you solve this basic question.*

News:

 Premium

## What will it mean for Chandigarh if it is brought under Article 240?

Currently, the city is a Union Territory (UT) and the Governor of Punjab holds additional charge as the Administrator of Chandigarh. Also, it is the shared capital of Punjab and Haryana, due to which key Acts and laws of both states extend to the city

Under Article 240, the President can directly issue regulations (which have the same force as a law made by Parliament) for some Union Territories.

This power is so broad that the President can make regulations on:

- Union List subjects
- Concurrent List subjects
- Even subjects normally handled only by Parliament

In other words: The President temporarily acts like Parliament for those UTs.

Q114. IUCN celebrate 15 years of the **Bonn Challenge**. We will solve one question on Bonn challenge.

1. The Bonn Challenge is a global goal to bring 350 million hectares of degraded and deforested landscapes into restoration by 2030.

2. India joined the voluntary Bonn Challenge pledge with the latest target to bring 26 million hectares (mha) by 2030.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

 17 NOV, 2025

Germany and IUCN celebrate ~~15~~ years of the Bonn Challenge, the world's largest restoration initiative

**The Bonn Challenge is a global goal to bring 150 million hectares of degraded and deforested landscapes into restoration by 2020 and 350 million hectares by 2030. Launched by the Government of Germany and IUCN in 2011, the Challenge surpassed the 150-million-hectare milestone for pledges in ~~2017~~.**

At the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP), 2015 in Paris, India joined the voluntary Bonn Challenge pledge to bring into restoration 13 million hectares (mha) of degraded and deforested land by the year 2020, and additional 8 mha by 2030.

This pledge to restore of 21 m.ha by 2030 **has been increased to 26 mha**, during the COP14 to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in 2019.

Q115. Consider the following pairs (regions in news: location)

- 1. Afar region: Sudan
- 2. Pokrovsk: Ukraine

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**First is incorrect. Its in Ethiopia.**



Q116. Consider the following statements.

1. Peatlands are endemic to tropical regions of the world.
2. Compared to grasslands and desert, peatland absorb more amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the same amount of land.
3. Globally, Asia region has highest area under Peatlands.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**First is incorrect.**

Regional humidity and temperatures are significant factors influencing the development of peatlands around the world. **Peatlands are found in all climatic zones:**

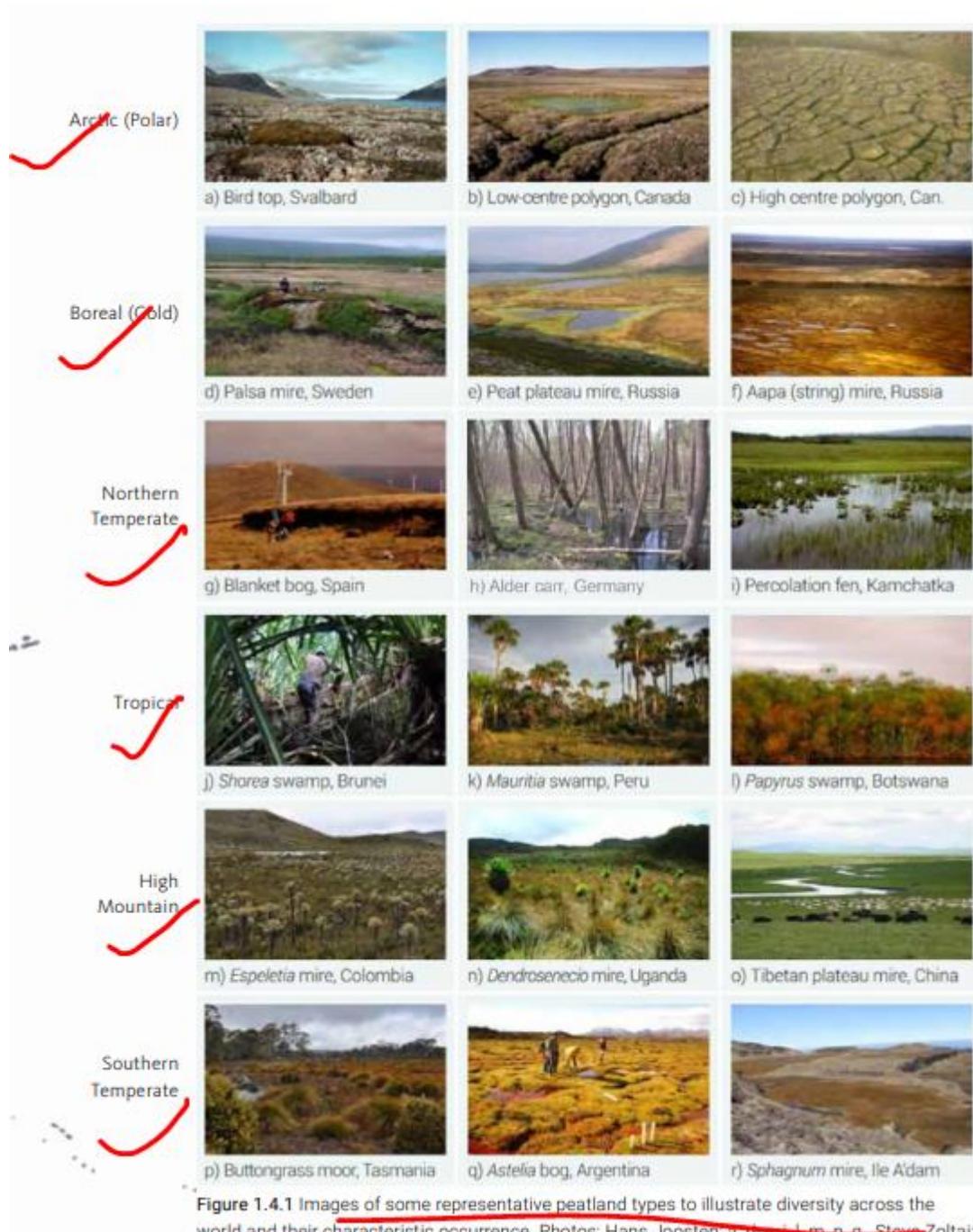
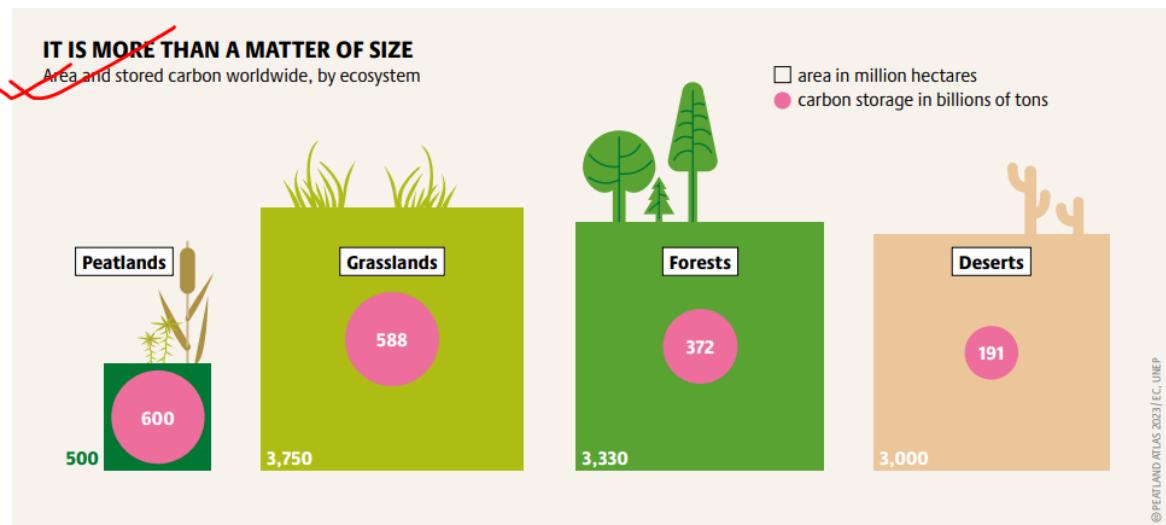


Figure 1.4.1 Images of some representative peatland types to illustrate diversity across the world and their characteristic occurrence. Photos: Hans Joosten: a, d, e, j, l, m, n, q; Steve Zolai:

Second is correct.

To put that in numbers: peatlands cover just 3 percent of the Earth's land surface, **but they harbour around twice the amount of carbon as the biomass in all of the planet's forests.** Worldwide, they store 600 billion tonnes of carbon.



**Third statement is also correct.**

subsurface drainage, promoting peatland formation even under conditions of extremely low precipitation. Flat landscapes with poor drainage have supported the development of the world's largest peatland regions, such as West Siberia (Asia), the Hudson Bay Lowland and Mackenzie River Basin (North America), Southeast Asia, the Congo Basin (Africa), and Western Amazonia (South America) [1, 22].

to increased rainfall (such as on the western side of the Cordillera Mountains in South America) and in floodplains that receive substantial water flow from mountain rivers (like the Brahmaputra, Mississippi, and Rio Paraná [1, 22]).

This results in peatlands being found in at least 177 out of the 193 UN member states (Maps below).

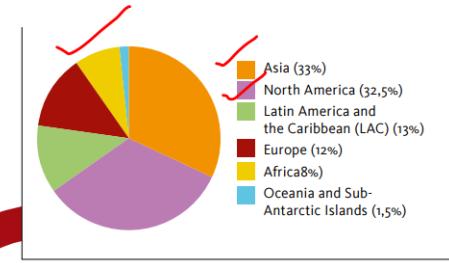


Table 1.3.1 Top 5 countries with largest peatland area per region

ASIA	NORTH AMERICA	LATIN AMERICA	EUROPE	AFRICA	AUSTRALASIA
1. Asian Russia (18,500,000 ha)	1. Canada (19,370,000 ha)	1. Brazil (26,019,489 ha)	1. European Russia (20,800,000 ha)	1. Democratic Republic of the Congo (18,157,11 ha)	1. Papua New Guinea (4,469,008 ha)
2. Indonesia (20,949,000 ha)	2. United States (38,813,000 ha)	2. Peru (7,651,400 ha)	2. Finland (8,313,381 ha)	2. Republic of the Congo (9,540,799 ha)	2. Australia (2,500,000 ha)
3. China (12,885,443 ha)	3. Greenland (8,000 ha)	3. Colombia (5,407,898 ha)	3. Sweden (6,797,032 ha)	3. Nigeria (2,155,663 ha)	3. Australian Alps (269,363 ha)
4. Mongolia (2,700,000 ha)	4. Saint Pierre and Miquelon (2,800 ha)	4. Venezuela (5,307,400 ha)	4. Norway (4,865,000 ha)	4. Zambia (1,565,696 ha)	4. New Caledonia (20,000 ha)
5. Malaysia (2,530,100 ha)	5. Bermuda (25 ha)	5. Argentina (3,031,659 ha)	5. Belarus (3,014,298 ha)	5. Angola (891,630 ha)	5. Solomon Islands (10,000 ha)

Q117. Consider the following statements.

1. The five-year term of a Lok Sabha MP begins with the session day of the first session of new House after dissolution.
2. The Constitution also specifies a financial penalty of Rs 500 if a person participates or votes in House proceedings without taking an oath.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**First statement is incorrect.**

**The five-year term of a Lok Sabha MP begins when the Election Commission of India (ECI) declares the results according to Section 73 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.**

**73. Publication of results of general elections to the House of the People and the State Legislative Assemblies and of names of persons nominated thereto.**—Where a general election is held for the purpose of constituting a new House of the People or a new State Legislative Assembly, ~~there shall be notified by~~<sup>4</sup> [the Election Commission] in the Official Gazette, as soon as may be after <sup>5</sup> [the results of the elections in all the constituencies] [other than those in which the poll could not be taken for any reason on the date originally fixed under clause (d) of section 30 or for which the time for completion of the election has been extended under the provisions of section 153] have been declared by the returning officer under the provisions of section 53 or, as the case may be, section 66, the names of the members elected for those constituencies] <sup>6\*\*\*</sup> and upon the issue of such notification that House or Assembly shall be deemed to be duly constituted:—

**To debate and vote in Lok Sabha, an MP has to take her seat in the House by making and subscribing to an oath or affirmation prescribed in the Constitution (Article 99).**

**99. Oath or affirmation by members.**—Every member of either House of Parliament shall ~~before taking his seat,~~ make and subscribe before the President, or some person appointed in that behalf by him, an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule.

The Constitution also specifies a financial penalty (the only one in the document) of Rs 500 if a person participates or votes in House proceedings without taking an oath (Article 104).

**104. Penalty for sitting and voting before making oath or affirmation under article 99 or when not qualified or when disqualified.**—If a person sits or votes as a member of either House of Parliament before he has complied with the requirements of article 99, or when he knows that he is not qualified or that he is disqualified for membership thereof, or that he is prohibited from so doing by the provisions of any law made by Parliament, he shall be liable in respect of each day on which he so sits or votes to a penalty of five hundred rupees to be recovered as a debt due to the Union.

Q118. The Director of Enforcement (ED) was appointment on the recommendation of the Committee consisting of:

1. Union Home Minister- Chairperson
2. Secretary to the Government of India in charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs
3. Prime Minister

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

**The Central Government shall appoint Director of Enforcement on the recommendation of the Committee consisting of: -**

- a. Central Vigilance Commissioner -Chairperson,
- b. Vigilance Commissioners -Members
- c. Secretary to the Government of India in charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs- Member

- d. Secretary to the Government of India in charge of the Ministry of Personnel- Member
- e. Secretary to the Government of India in charge of the D/o Revenue, M/o Finance- Member

Q119. Consider the following instruments:

- 1. Reverse Repo Rate
- 2. Marginal Standing Facility
- 3. Standing Deposit Facility

Which of the following facility is available at RBI's discretion and not banks?

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

Solution: a

Explanation:

Whenever banks want, they can deposit money with RBI at SDF and whenever banks want, they can withdraw money from RBI at MSF rate. **So, SDF and MSF are available to banks at their discretion.**

**But Reverse repo (facility) and even repo is available at RBI's discretion.** RBI from time-to-time pumps money or sucks out liquidity through repo or reverse repo respectively at its own discretion and not when banks want.

Q120. How many of the following is/are members of **Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)**?

- 1. Liberia
- 2. Nigeria
- 3. Ghana
- 4. Guinea Bissau
- 5. The Gambia

Select the correct code.

- a. Only two
- b. Only three
- c. Only four
- d. All five

Solution: d

Explanation:

**Actually, all western African countries are facing one or other issue. Recent is Guinea-Bissau.** Similar to you people. You are facing a lot of issues in preparation. Kabhi answer writing, kabhi revision, kabhi Prelims, etc.,

28 November 2025 | Peace and Security

The United Nations has strongly condemned the ~~military coup in Guinea-Bissau~~, warning that the overthrow of elected authorities just days after national elections represents a grave violation of constitutional order and democratic principles.

Read:

### ~~✓ ECOWAS Member States:~~

- [BENIN](#)
- [CABO VERDE](#)
- [CÔTE D'IVOIRE](#)
- [THE GAMBIA](#)
- [GHANA](#)
- [GUINEA](#)
- [GUINEA BISSAU](#)
- [LIBERIA](#)
- [NIGERIA](#)
- [SENEGAL](#)
- [SIERRA LEONE](#)
- [TOGO](#)



Try to draw rough map in your a4 sheet.

Q121. In reference to **Solar Energy for Agricultural Resilience (SoLAR) programme**, consider the following statements.

1. The Programme is aimed at accelerating socially inclusive and climate-resilient solar energy adoption in agriculture.
2. The programme is implemented by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI).
3. India is included as one of the South Asian partner countries under the SoLAR Phase II initiative.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

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

Solution: d

Explanation:

News:

## ~~SoLAR~~ Phase II launched to scale climate-resilient solar irrigation across South Asia and East Africa

*Expanded programme will strengthen solar energy ecosystem for agriculture through evidence-based policy, innovative financing, stronger capacities*

Read explanation from original document:

The Solar Energy for Agricultural Resilience (SoLAR) Phase II project builds on the successes and lessons of Phase I (Dec 2019– May 2025) in South Asia and expands its scope to East Africa. Supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and implemented by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) ., The program aims to strengthen the enabling environment and unlock investments for sustainable scaling of socially inclusive and climate-resilient solar agri tech solutions in South Asia (India, Bangladesh) and East Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya). Solar Phase 2 will be implemented in partnership with government and implementing agencies who have the mandate to implement policies and programs on solar energy for agriculture. The project runs from July 2025 till December 2028.

Q122. Consider the following pairs (recent developments: took place at)

1. Cyclone Ditwah: formed over the southwest Bay of Bengal near Sri Lanka.
2. Ningaloo Reefs suffered loss: located in Western Australia.

Select the correct code.

- a. 1 only

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

Solution: c

Explanation:

The longest-lasting, largest and most intense underwater heatwave ever recorded has decimated nearly **70 per cent of the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef in Western Australia**.

**Environment**

## ‘Unprecedented’ heatwave kills nearly two-thirds of corals at UNESCO-listed Ningaloo Reef

*Australia’s longest and most intense marine heatwave blamed for widespread bleaching*

**Cyclone Ditwah formed on November 27 over the southwest Bay of Bengal near Sri Lanka.**

Q123. What is the primary reason behind several streams in **Alaska’s rivers turning orange**, as recently reported?

- a. Large-scale industrial mining has released iron-rich mine waste into the rivers.
- b. Volcanic eruptions in the Arctic region have deposited sulfur compounds causing water discoloration.
- c. Agricultural runoff containing iron-based fertilizers has entered Arctic waters.
- d. Thawing permafrost is releasing metals like iron, aluminum, and cadmium, which oxidize and turn the streams orange.

Solution: d

Explanation:

News:

**ENVIRONMENT**

## Why are Alaska’s rivers turning bright orange? Scientists have a theory.

The dramatic shift is a warning sign—and scientists say the changes that aren’t yet visible to the naked eye are just as troubling.

**Permafrost** = permanently frozen ground found in Arctic regions (Alaska, Siberia, Canada). It contains frozen soil, ice, rocks, dead plants, and trapped minerals.

**Rising global temperatures due to climate change are causing this frozen ground to melt (thaw)** for the first time in thousands of years.

When permafrost thaws, **previously trapped metals, organic matter, microbes, and greenhouse gases (CO<sub>2</sub>, methane)** are suddenly released into soil, rivers, and the atmosphere.

**This release causes orange-colored streams** (due to iron oxidation), ecosystem pollution, infrastructure collapse (roads/pipelines), and accelerates global warming (because methane release acts as a feedback loop).

Q124. Consider the following statements regarding **Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC)**.

1. The Commission is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
2. It aims to develop monographs for herbal drugs, both raw drugs and extracts/formulations therefrom.
3. It aims to promote the highest standards of drugs for use in human and animals.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

Solution: c

Explanation:

News:

Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission signs 3 MoUs with Nagaland Medical Council, Nagaland State Drugs Control Administration (NSDCA) and Nagaland State Pharmacy Council

The Commission has become fully operational from 1st January, 2009 as an Autonomous Body, fully financed by the Central Government with specific budgetary allocations **under administrative control of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.

**The Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, is the Chairperson** and the Chairman-Scientific Body is the Co-Chairman of the Commission.

**Vision**

**To promote the highest standards of drugs for use in human and animals** within practical limits of the technologies available for manufacture and analysis.

#### **Objectives**

- To develop comprehensive monographs for drugs to be included in the Indian Pharmacopoeia, including active pharmaceutical ingredients, pharmaceutical aids and dosage forms as well as medical devices and to keep them updated by revision on a regular basis.
- To develop monographs for herbal drugs, both raw drugs and extracts/formulations therefrom.
- To accord priority to monographs of drugs included in the National Essential Medicines List and their dosage forms.
- To take note of the different levels of sophistication in analytical testing/ instrumentation available while framing the monographs.
- To accelerate the process of preparation, certification and distribution of IP Reference Substances, including the related substances, impurities and degradation products.

Q125. Under the **PM GatiShakti National Master Plan**, the Network Planning Group (NPG) primarily functions to:

- Approve and fund inter-state infrastructure projects directly
- Ensure unified multimodal infrastructure planning across ministries
- Regulate private investment in logistics infrastructure
- Monitor state-level procurement under centrally sponsored schemes

Solution: b

Explanation:

NPG integrates infrastructure planning across ministries, ensures multimodal network alignment, reduces duplication, and optimizes logistics efficiency.

### **13. What is the Network Planning Group?**

**Ans.** An Integrated Multimodal Network Planning Group (NPG) with heads of Network Planning Division of all connectivity infrastructure Ministries & Departments is responsible for unified planning and integration of the proposals and assist the EGOS in respect of its mandate.

NPG will facilitate regular interactions between the stakeholders. It will guide all the Departments/ Ministries responsible for creation of economic zones and connectivity infrastructure during the planning phase itself. The parameters/prescribed norms of the overall National Master Plan will be the overarching objective of the NPG for examining and sanctioning future projects thus leading to minimising of disruptions and strive for the creation of an ideal & efficient operating system for all infrastructure projects in the country. NPG's role will be to ensure:

- integration of networks;
- enhance optimization through modification/expansion/new network creation;
- avoid duplication of works for holistic development of an
- reduction logistics costs through micro-plan detailing. 425423/2022/Logistic Division 305

Q126. Consider the following statements.

1. India is the largest producer of salt in the world.
2. Agariya community in the Little Rann region of Gujarat produce 30 percent of India's inland salt.
3. In the constitution of India, regulation on manufacture and supply of salt is Central subject.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b

Explanation:

**First statement is incorrect.**

**India is third largest as per the latest data.**

**Second and third statement is correct.**

**The marginalized community of Agariyas, the salt workers in the Little Rann region of Gujarat, produce 30 percent of India's inland salt.**

Regulation of manufacture, supply and distribution of salt is a Union (Central) Subject under the Constitution of India. This is placed in the Union List (List I), Entry 58.

Q127. Consider the following statements regarding Delimitation Commission.

1. It is formed as per the procedure mentioned in the Constitution.
2. Till now, the commission has been set up 4 times.
3. SC judge is the chairman of the Commission.

Select the correct code.

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

Solution: b

**Explanation:**

**First statement is incorrect.**

Article 82 of Indian Constitution provides for delimitation and it says: Upon the completion of each census, the allocation of seats in the House of the people to the States and the division of each State into territorial constituencies shall be readjusted by such authority and **in such manner as Parliament may by law determine.**

~~82. Readjustment after each census.—Upon the completion of each census, the allocation of seats in the House of the People to the States and the division of each State into territorial constituencies shall be readjusted by such authority and in such manner as Parliament may by law determine:~~

Provided that such readjustment shall not affect representation in the House of the People until the dissolution of the then existing House:

**Delimitation Commission:**

**As per Article 82, Parliament by law enacted a Delimitation Act after every census. Once the Act comes into force, the Central Government constitutes a Delimitation Commission.**

**Second statement is correct.**

Therefore, **Delimitation Commission** have been constituted **four times since independence:**

- a. In 1952 under Delimitation Commission Act, 1952
- b. In 1963 under Delimitation Commission Act, 1962
- c. In 1973 under Delimitation Commission Act, 1972
- d. In 2002 under Delimitation Commission Act, 2002

**Third statement is correct.**

**What is the composition of the Delimitation Commission?**

**✓ 3 Constitution of Delimitation Commission.**—As soon as may be after the commencement of this Act, the Central Government shall constitute a Commission to be called the Delimitation Commission which shall consist of three members as follows:—

(a) one member, who shall be a person who is or has been a Judge of the Supreme Court, to be appointed by the Central Government who shall be the Chairperson of the Commission;

(b) the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner nominated by the Chief Election Commissioner, *ex officio*:

Provided that after the nomination of an Election Commissioner as a member under this clause, no further nomination under this clause shall be made except to fill the casual vacancy of such member under section 6; and

(c) the State Election Commissioner of concerned State, *ex officio*.

Q128. Consider the following statements regarding National Green Tribunal.

1. NGT was established during priministership of Rajiv Gandhi.
2. The Chairperson has to a Judge of the Supreme Court of India or Chief Justice of a High Court.
3. The Tribunal shall not be bound by the procedure laid down by the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 but shall be guided by the principles of natural justice.
4. Any person aggrieved by order of the Tribunal can file an appeal to the Supreme Court.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

**Explanation:**

**First statement is wrong, as you can see it was established in 2010.**

**Second statement is correct:**

**✓ 5. Qualifications for appointment of Chairperson, Judicial Member and Expert Member.**—(1) A person shall not be qualified for appointment as the Chairperson or Judicial Member of the Tribunal unless he is, or has been, a Judge of the Supreme Court of India or Chief Justice of a High Court:

Provided that a person who is or has been a Judge of the High Court shall also be qualified to be appointed as a Judicial Member.

**Third statement is correct.**

**19. Procedure and powers of Tribunal.**—(1) The Tribunal shall not be bound by the procedure laid down by the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908) but shall be guided by the principles of natural justice.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Tribunal shall have power to regulate its own procedure.

(3) The Tribunal shall also not be bound by the rules of evidence contained in the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 (1 of 1872).

**Fourth statement is correct:**

**✓ 22. Appeal to Supreme Court.**—Any person aggrieved by any award, decision or order of the Tribunal, may, file an appeal to the Supreme Court, within ninety days from the date of communication of the award, decision or order of the Tribunal, to him, on any one or more of the grounds specified in section 100 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908):

Q129. In the context of the cultural history of India, a mudra called “Katakamukha Hasta” has been a favourite of most of the classical dances. Which one of the following statements best describes it?

- a. The fingers are held in such a manner as if to ask ‘why’
- b. Three fingers are joined to symbolize ‘Om’
- c. The fingers are held straight and close together like the ‘stop sign’
- d. All the fingers are held straight and together except the thumb finger

Solution: b

Explanation:



Katakaamukha means “Opening in a Bracelet”. Its done by bringing together the index finger, middle finger and thumb. The ring finger and the little finger are raised at angles. Katakaamukha is generally used to express the following

- a. Plucking or picking flowers
- b. Holding a necklace or a garland
- c. Pulling the bow string
- d. Talking and Seeing
- e. To show preparing a paste of sandal or musk
- f. Offering Beetle leaves

**Here, it best describes Three fingers are joined to symbolize ‘Om’. So, option (b) is correct.**