



Civil Services Preliminary Examination (CSE) 2018

GS (Paper - I) Answer Key with Explanation

Ans	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	d	d	b	b	a	b	c	d	c	d
11	b	b	b	c	c	b	d	c	b	a
21	c	a	d	c	a	c	d	d	d	c
31	b	b	c	c	d	c	c	b	a	d
41	d	c	c	c	d	d	a	c	a	b
51	b	b	b	a	a	b	d	c	b	c
61	a	c	d	a	b	b	b	a	b	b
71	d	d	a	a	a	b	c	b	a	a
81	b	a	d	d	b	a	a	a	c	b
91	b	b	b	a	b	c	d	c	b	c



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1. With reference to the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), consider the following statements :

- (1) IRNSS has three satellites in geostationary and four satellites in geosynchronous orbits.
- (2) IRNSS covers entire India and about 5500 sq. km beyond its borders. %
- (3) India will have its own satellite navigation system with full global coverage by the middle of 2019.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (d)

Exp : Due to failure of atomic clock in the navigation system IRNSS will likely to be completed beyond 2019 and it is expected to cover 1500 km area from Indian main land boundaries.

2. Consider the following phenomena :

- (1) Light is affected by gravity.
- (2) The Universe is constantly expanding.
- (3) Matter warps its surrounding space-time.

Which of the above is/are the prediction/predictions of Albert Einstein's General Theory of Relativity, often discussed in media ?

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

Ans: (d)

Exp : Black hole is the intense gravitational field where even light bends. 'Big bang explosion' is a widely accepted theory that explains expansion of universe. According to Einstein, gravity bends time space fabric.

3. With reference to the Genetically Modified mustard (GM mustard) developed in India, consider the following statements :

- (1) GM mustard has the genes of a soil bacterium that give the plant the property of pest-resistance to a wide variety of pests.
- (2) GM mustard has the genes that allow the plant cross-pollination and hybridization.
- (3) GM mustard has been developed jointly by the IAEI and Punjab Agricultural University.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (b)

Exp : Mustard DMH-11, a transgenic crop developed by Centre for Genetic Manipulation of Crop Plants at Delhi University. By perusing the options one can eliminate the 3rd statement resulting in only B option being correct.

4. Consider the following pairs

Terms sometimes seen in news	Context / Topic
(1) Belle II experiment	Artificial Intelligence
(2) Blockchain technology	Digital/Cryptocurrency
(3) CRISPR - Cas9	Particle Physics

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

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

Ans: (b)

Exp : Belle II experiment is an experiment related to particle physics

Blockchain technology is used in cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoins
CRISPR- Cas9 is a gene editing technology

5. Which of the following statements best describes "carbon fertilization" ?

- (a) Increased plant growth due to increased ; concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere
- (b) Increased temperature of Earth due to increased concentration

of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere

- (c) Increased acidity of oceans as a result of increased concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere
- (d) Adaptation of all living beings on Earth to the climate change brought about by the increased concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere

Ans: (a)

6. When the alarm of your smartphone rings in the morning, you wake up and tap it to stop the alarm which causes your geysers to be switched on automatically. The smart mirror in your bathroom shows the day's weather and also indicates the level of water in your overhead tank. After you take some groceries from your refrigerator for making breakfast, it recognises the shortage of stock in it and places an order for the supply of fresh grocery items. When you step out of your house and lock the door, all lights, fans, geysers and AC machines get switched off automatically. On your way to office, your car warns you about traffic congestion ahead and suggests an alternative route, and if you are late for a meeting, it sends a message to your office accordingly.

In the context of emerging communication technologies, which one of the following term,0-best applies to the above scenario ?

- (a) Border Gateway Protocol
- (b) Internet of Things
- (c) Internet Protocol
- (d) Virtual Private Network

Ans: (b)

Exp : The interconnection via the internet of computing devices embedded in everyday objects, like TV, Fridge, Car, etc. enabling them to send and receive data.

7. With reference to solar power production in India, consider the following statements :

- (1) India is the third largest in the world in the manufacture of silicon wafers used in photovoltaic units.
- (2) The solar power tariffs are determined by the Solar Energy Corporation of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (c)

Exp : T

8. The staple commodities of export by the English East India Company from Bengal in the middle of the 18 century were

- (a) Raw cotton, oil-seeds and opium
- (b) Sugar, salt, zinc and lead
- (c) Copper, silver, gold, spices and tea
- (d) Cotton, silk, saltpetre and opium

Ans: (d)

Exp : India was biggest producer of saltpetre then which is used for making gunpowder, Malmal from Dhaka a silk cloth was famous, cotton as usawal and opium is exported china

9. Which one of the following is a very significant aspect of the Champaran Satyagraha ?

- (a) Active all-India participation of lawyers, students and women in the National Movement
- (b) Active involvement of Dalit and Tribal communities of India in the National Movement
- (c) Joining of peasant unrest to India's National Movement
- (d) Drastic decrease in the cultivation of plantation crops and commercial crops

Ans: (c)

Exp : Champarnya was local movement so all India participation by any group is out of question, commercial cropping continued only now farmer movement is led by main stream leader like Gandhi

10. Who among the following were the founders of the "Hind Mazdoor Sabha" established in 1948 ?
- B. Krishna Pillai, E.M.S. Namboodiripad and K.C. George
 - Jayaprakash Narayan, Been Dayal Upadhyay and M.N. Roy
 - C.P. Ramaswamy Iyer, K. Kamaraj and Veeresalingam Pantulu
 - Ashok Mehta, T.S. Ramanujam and G.G. Mehta

Ans: (d)

Exp : The HMS was founded in Howrah in west bengal on 29 December 1948, by socialists, Forward Bloc followers and independent unionists. Its founders included Basawon Singh (Sinha), Ashok Mehta, R.S. Ruikar, Maniben Kara, Shibnath Banerjee, R.A. Khedgikar, T.S. Ramanujam, V.S. Mathur, G.G. Mehta. R.S. Ruikar was elected president and Ashok Mehta general secretary.

11. With reference to the religious practices in India, the "Sthanakvasi" sect belongs to

- Buddhism
- Jainism
- Vaishnavism
- Shaivism

Ans: (b)

Exp : Its a part of swetambar jain Sthanakvasi - The Sthanakvasi sect does not believe in idol-worship at all. As such, they do not have temples but only sthanakas, that is, prayer halls. The monks of Sthanakvasi sect cover their mouth with strips of cloth called muhapatti, all the time . They also eat food collected from followers' houses.

12. With reference to the cultural history of India, consider the following statements :

- White marble was used in making Buland Darwaza and Khankah at Fatehpur Sikri.
- Red sandstone and marble were used in making Bara Imambara and Rumi Darwaza at Lucknow.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both land 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)

Exp : One of the most amazing thing about the architecture is that the whole support for the building is hollow and is made of sugarcane juice, jaggery () and udat daal. The roof of Imam Bara is made up from the rice husk which make this Imambargah a unique building.

13. Which one of the following foreign travellers elaborately discussed about diamonds and diamond mines of India ?

- Francois Bernier
- Jean-Baptiste Tavernier
- Jean de Thevenot
- Abbe Barthelemy Carre

Ans: (b)

Exp : Jean-Baptiste Tavernier (1605 – 1689) was a 17th-century French gem merchant and traveler. Tavernier, a private individual and merchant traveling at his own expense *Tavernier was a jewel and gem merchant, a trait that made his accounts the victim of disgruntled criticism by other travellers. He made one voyage to the Indian mainland and is considered to be an authority only on Indian diamond mines in the 17th century*

14. With reference to Indian history, who among the following is a future Buddha, yet to come to save the world ?

- Avalokiteshvara
- Lokesvara
- Maitreya
- Padmapani

Ans: (c)

Exp : According to Buddhist tradition, Maitreya is a bodhisattva who will appear on Earth in the future, achieve complete enlightenment, and teach the pure dharma. According to scriptures, Maitreya will be a successor to the present Buddha, Gautama Buddha (also known as Śākyamuni Buddha).

15. Which one of the following statements does not apply to the system of Subsidiary Alliance introduced by Lord Wellesley ?

- To maintain a large standing army at other's expense
- To keep India safe from Napoleonic danger
- To secure a fixed income for the Company
- To establish British paramountcy over the Indian States

Ans: (c)

Exp : Eating revenue is not exactly a purpose behind it. It was a strategic advantage giving policy

16. Consider the following statements :

- In the first Lok Sabha, the single largest party in the opposition was the Swatantra Party.
- In the Lok Sabha, a "Leader of the Opposition" was recognised for the first time in 1969.
- In the Lok Sabha, if a party does not have a minimum of 75 members, its leader cannot be recognised as the Leader of the Opposition.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (b)

17. Which of the following leaf modifications occur(s) in the desert areas to inhibit water loss?

- Hard and waxy leaves
- Tiny leaves
- Thorns instead of leaves

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

Ans: (d)

(1) A primary function of the leaf's waxy cuticle is to reduce water loss through the leaves, which is particularly important in arid deserts with little rainfall or Mediterranean climates with seasonal rainfall.

(2) & (3) The small size of the leaves helps limit water loss. The thorns are actually modified leaves and help to reduce water loss by restricting air flow near the cactus and providing some shade.

18. As per the NSSO 70th Round "Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households", consider the following statements :

- Rajasthan has the highest percentage share of agricultural households among its rural households.
- Out of the total agricultural households in the country, a little over 60 percent belong to OBCs.
- In Kerala, a little over 60 percent of agricultural households reported to have received maximum income from sources other than agricultural activities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Exp : During the same period about 45 percent of the rural households of the country belonged to OBC.

Rajasthan had highest percentage of agricultural households (78.4 percent) among its rural households followed by Uttar Pradesh (74.8 percent) and Madhya Pradesh (70.8 percent).

19. How is the National Green Tribunal (NGT) different from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) ?

- The NGT has been established by an Act whereas the CPCB has been created by an executive order of the Government.
- The NGT provides environmental justice and helps reduce the burden of litigation in the higher courts whereas the CPGB promotes cleanliness of streams and wells, and aims to improve the quality of air in the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (b)

Exp : The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), statutory organisation, was constituted in September, 1974 under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Further, CPCB was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

20. Consider the following statements :

- The Parliament of India can place a particular law in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
- The validity of a law placed in the Ninth Schedule cannot be examined by any court and no judgement can be made on

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (a)

21. Which one of the following best describes the term "Merchant Discount Rate" sometimes seen in news ?
- The incentive given by a bank to a merchant for accepting payments through debit cards pertaining to that bank.
 - The amount paid back by banks to their : customers when they use debit cards for financial transactions for purchasing goods or services.
 - The charge to a merchant by a bank for accepting payments from his customers through the bank's debit cards.
 - The incentive given by the Government to merchants for promoting digital payments by their customers through Point of Sale (PoS) machines and debit cards.

Ans: (c)

22. What is/are the consequence/consequences of a country becoming the member of the 'Nuclear Suppliers Group'?

- It will have access to the latest and most efficient nuclear technologies.
- It automatically becomes a member of "The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)".

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both land 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (a)

23. With reference to India's decision to levy an equalization tax of 6% on online advertisement services offered by non-resident entities, which of the following statements is/are correct ?

- It is introduced as a part of the Income Tax Act.
- Non-resident entities that offer advertisement services in India can claim a tax credit in their home country under the "Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements".

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

Ans: (d)

Exp : Equalisation Levy

Equalisation Levy has been defined as "Tax leviable on consideration received or receivable for any specified service under the provisions of this chapter".

The levy would be under a separate self- contained code and is not part of the income-tax law.

Equalization levy is a new levy and different from corporate income tax. In a scenario where the service provider is paying rightful tax on business profits, this levy will be an additional tax on same income. Presently, when a source country taxes certain income, the residence country grants credit for taxes paid at source country. Since, Equalization levy is a new type of tax, credit may not be available for this levy and will result in double taxation. Many overseas digital service providers may not accept the deduction for this levy since they will not get credit and ultimately the resident business will have to gross up their payments, which will increase the cost of services.

24. Consider the following statements :

- The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Review Committee Report has recommended a debt to GDP ratio of 60% for the general (combined) government by 2023, comprising 40% for the Central Government and 20% for the State Governments.
- The Central Government has domestic liabilities of 21% of GDP as compared to that of 49% of GDP of the State Governments.
- As per the Constitution of India, it is mandatory for a State to take the Central Government's consent for raising any loan if the former owes any outstanding liabilities to the latter.

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

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

Ans: (c)

Exp :

Statement 1 : true. Debt to GDP ratio: The Committee suggested using debt as the primary target for fiscal policy. A debt to GDP ratio of 60% should be targeted with a 40% limit for the centre and 20% limit for the states. It noted that majority of the countries that have adopted fiscal rules have targeted a debt to GDP ratio of 60%.

The targeted debt to GDP ratio should be achieved by 2023. This ratio is expected to be around 70% in 2017.

Statement 2 : False. The Singh committee recommends that the states "be allowed to maintain their debt GDP ratios at FY17 levels (i.e. 21% of GDP)" in the near future.

Statement 3 : True.

25. Consider the following statements :

- The quantity of imported edible oils is more than the domestic production of edible oils in the last five years.
- The Government does not impose any customs duty on all the imported edible oils as a special case.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both land 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (a)

Exp : India raised import tax on crude and refined palm oil to the highest level in more than a decade, as the world's biggest edible oil importer tried to support local farmers. The duty increase is supposed to lift oilseed prices and encourage domestic supply for crushing, helping cap edible oil imports in the 2017-18 marketing year that started on November 1.

The raise is 14 per cent - up from 30 per cent to 44 per cent and while the tax on refined palm oil to 54 per cent from 40 per cent. The country relies on imports for 70 per cent of its edible oil consumption.

26. He wrote biographies of Mazzirri, Garibaldi, Shivaji and Shririshna; stayed in America for some time; and was also elected to the Central Assembly. He was

- Aurobindo Ghosh
- Bipin Chandra Pal
- Lala Lajpat Rai
- Motilal Nehru

Ans: (c)

Exp : In 1896, he wrote a series of books in Urdu, which he named the 'Great Men of the World'. The first great man he chose was his Italian guru Giuseppe Mazzini, and then Garibaldi, along with Sivaji, Dayananda and Sri Krishna. His purpose in selecting Mazzini and Garibaldi was to infuse patriotic sentiment in the youth of Punjab, who had no access to books in English. He wanted his countrymen to become acquainted with the teachings of Italian leaders who had so impressed his own mind. He had seen the points of similarity between the problems of India and those the Italian leaders had to face.

27. Consider the following statements :

- Aadhaar card can be used as a proof of citizenship or domicile.
- Once issued, Aadhaar number cannot be deactivated or omitted by the Issuing Authority.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- only
- 2 only
- Both land 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)

28. Which of the following has/have shrunk immensely/dried up in the recent past due to human activities ?

- Aral Sea
- Black Sea
- Lake Baikal

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

Ans: (a)

29. "Rule of Law Index" is released by which of the following ?

- Amnesty International
- International Court of Justice
- The Office of UN Commissioner for Human Rights
- World Justice Project ;

Ans: (d)

30. Which one of the following links all the ATMs in India ?

- Indian Banks' Association
- National Securities Depository Limited
- National Payments Corporation of India
- Reserve Bank of India

Ans: (c)

Exp : National Financial Switch (NFS) is the largest network of shared automated teller machines (ATMs) in India. It was designed, developed and deployed by the Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT) in 2004, with the

goal of inter-connecting the ATMs in the country and facilitating convenience banking. It is run by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

31. Which one of the following statements correctly describes the meaning of legal tender money?
- The money which is tendered in courts of law to defray the fee of legal cases
 - The money which a creditor is under compulsion to accept in settlement of his claims
 - The bank money in the form of cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, etc.
 - The metallic money in circulation in a country

Ans: (b)

32. If a commodity is provided free to the public by the Government, then
- The opportunity cost is zero.
 - The opportunity cost is ignored.
 - The opportunity cost is transferred from the consumers of the product to the tax-paying public.
 - The opportunity cost is transferred from the consumers of the product to the Government.

Ans: (b)

33. Increase in absolute and per capita real GNP do not connote a higher level of economic development, if
- Industrial output fails to keep pace with agricultural output.
 - Agricultural output fails to keep pace with industrial output. J
 - Poverty and unemployment increase.
 - Imports grow faster than exports.

Ans: (c)

34. Consider the following statements :
Human capital formation as a concept is better explained in terms of a process which enables
- Individuals of a country to accumulate more capital.
 - Increasing the knowledge, skill levels and capacities of the people of the country.
 - Accumulation of tangible wealth.
 - Accumulation of intangible wealth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1 and 2
- 2 only
- 2 and 4
- 1,3 and 4

Ans: (c)

35. Despite being a high saving economy, capital formation may not result in significant increase in output due to
- Weak administrative machinery
 - Illiteracy
 - High population density
 - High capital-output ratio

Ans: (d)

Exp : There is a simple equation in economics that shows the relationship between investment, capital output ratio and economic growth.

$$G = S/V$$

Here, G is economic growth, S is saving as a percentage of GDP and V is capital output ratio. Since economic growth and capital output ratio are inversely related, the answer is d).

36. After the Santhal Uprising subsided, what was/were the measure/ measures taken by the colonial government ?
- The territories called 'Santhal Paraganas' were created.
 - It became illegal for a Santhal to transfer land to a non-Santhal.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below :
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (c)

Exp : After 1855 revolt by santhals santhal pargana is created and restrictions were put to transfer land to non-tribals. Not mentioned that could by transferred to only santhal

37. Economically, one of the results of the British rule in India in the 19th century was the
- Increase in the export of Indian handicrafts
 - Growth in the number of Indian owned factories
 - Commercialization of Indian agriculture
 - Rapid increase in the urban population

(d) Rapid increase in the urban population

Ans: (c)

Exp : After 1855 revolt by santhals santhal pargana is created and restrictions were put to transfer land to non-tribals. Not mentioned that could by transferred to only santhal

38. If the President of India exercises his power as provided under Article 356 of the Constitution in respect of a particular State, then
- the Assembly of the State is automatically dissolved.
 - the powers of the Legislature of that State shall be exercisable by or under the authority of the Parliament.
 - Article 19 is suspended in that State.
 - the President can make laws relating to that State.

Ans: (b)

39. Consider the following pairs :

Craft	Heritage of
(1) Puthukkuli shawls	— Tamil Nadu
(2) Sujni embroidery	— Maharashtra
(3) Uppada Jamdani saris	— Karnataka

Which of the pairs given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (a)

Exp : Sujni embroidery is from Bihar

Uppada Jamadani sarees is from Andhra Pradesh

Uppada Jamadani sarees is from Andhra Pradesh

40. In which of the following areas can GPS technology be used ?

- Mobile phone operations
- Banking operations
- Controlling the power grids

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

Ans: (d)

41. Consider the following statements :

- The Reserve Bank of India manages and services Government of India Securities but not any State Government Securities.
- Treasury bills are issued by the Government of India and there are no treasury bills issued by the State Governments.
- Treasury bills offer are issued at a discount from the par value.

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

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

Ans: (d)

Exp : Statement 2 - A Government Security (G-Sec) is a tradeable instrument issued by the Central Government or the State Governments. It acknowledges the Government's debt obligation. Such securities are short term (usually called treasury bills, with original maturities of less than one year) or long term (usually called Government bonds or dated securities with original maturity of one year or more). In India, the Central Government issues both, treasury bills and bonds or dated securities while the State Governments issue only bonds or dated securities, which are called the State Development Loans (SDLs). G-Secs carry practically no risk of default and, hence, are called risk-free gilt-edged instruments.

Statement 3 - Treasury bills or T-bills, which are money market instruments, are short term debt instruments issued by the Government of India and are presently issued in three tenors, namely, 91 day, 182 day and 364 day. Treasury bills are zero coupon securities and pay no interest. They are issued at a discount and redeemed at the face value at maturity.

42. Consider the following statements :

- The Earth's magnetic field has reversed every few hundred thousand years.
- When the Earth was created more than 4000 million years ago, there was 54% oxygen and no carbon dioxide.
- When living organisms originated, they modified the early atmosphere of the Earth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (c)

Exp : Black

43. The terms 'WannaCry, Petya and EternalBlue' sometimes mentioned in the news recently are related to
- (a) Exoplanets (b) Cryptocurrency
(c) Cyber attacks (d) Mini satellites

Ans: (c)

Exp : WannaCry is a ransomware worm that spread rapidly through across a number of computer networks in May of 2017. Petya is a family of encrypting ransomware that was first discovered in 2016. EternalBlue exploits a vulnerability in Microsoft's implementation of the Server Message Block (SMB) protocol.

44. With reference to the circumstances in Indian agriculture, the concept of "Conservation Agriculture" assumes significance. Which of the following fall under the Conservation Agriculture?
- (1) Avoiding the monoculture practices
(2) Adopting minimum tillage
(3) Avoiding the cultivation of plantation crops
(4) Using crop residues to cover soil surface
(5) Adopting spatial and temporal crop sequencing/crop rotations
- Select the correct answer using the code given below :
- (a) 1,3 and 4 (b) 2, 3, 4 and 5
(c) 2, 4 and 5 (d) 1,2, 3 and 5

Ans: (c)

Exp : Conservation Agriculture is a farming system that promotes maintenance of a permanent soil cover, minimum soil disturbance (i.e. no tillage), and diversification of plant species. It enhances biodiversity and natural biological processes above and below the ground surface, which contribute to increased water and nutrient use efficiency and to improved and sustained crop production.

Three principles of Conservation Agriculture:

Minimum mechanical soil disturbance (i.e. no tillage) through direct seed and/or fertilizer placement.

Permanent soil organic cover (at least 30 percent) with crop residues and/or cover crops.

Species diversification through varied crop sequences and associations involving at least three different crops.

45. The term "sixth mass extinction/sixth extinction" is often mentioned in the news in the context of the discussion of
- (a) 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.
(b) 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.
(c) 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.
(d) Mankind's over-exploitation/misuse of natural resources, fragmentation/loss of natural habitats, destruction of ecosystems, pollution and global climate change.

Ans: (d)

46. Which of the following led to the introduction of English Education in India ?

- (1) Charter Act of 1813
(2) General Committee of Public Instruction, 1823
(3) Orientalist and Anglicist Controversy

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (d)

Exp : 1813 charter act made provision of 1 lakh rupees for spreading of education. But it was not spend so in 1823 general committee on public instruction was formed. Under the debate began about whether to educate indians in traditional subjects with local mediums or modern subjects with english as medium. This is call anglisit vs orientalist controversy. It was settled by Macaulay by putting casting vote towards english

47. Which one of the following is an artificial lake?
- (a) Kodaikanal (Tamil Nadu)

- (b) Kolleru (Andhra Pradesh)
(c) Nainital (Uttarakhand)
(d) Renuka (Himachal Pradesh)

Ans: (a)

Exp : Kodaikanal lake is a freshwater Lake. An earthen dam was constructed to create the lake in a marshy where three streams flowed

48. With reference to Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, consider the following statements :

- (1) It is the flagship scheme of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
(2) It, among other things, will also impart training in soft skills, entrepreneurship, financial and digital literacy.
(3) It aims to align the competencies of the unregulated workforce of the country to the National Skill Qualification Framework.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (c)

Exp : It is a flagship scheme of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. It is a skill certification and monetary reward scheme. National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is the implementing agency.

The training includes soft skills, personal grooming, behavioural change et al.

The Skill training would be based on the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) and industry led standard.

49. In 1920, Which of the following changed its name to "Swarajya Sabha?"

- (a) All India Home Rule League
(b) Hindu Mahasabha
(c) South Indian Liberal Federation
(d) The Servants of India Society

Ans: (a)

Exp : Home rule under leadership of Gandhi took the form of swarajya sabha. Hindu mahasabha formed by pandit madan mohan malviya in 1915 at Allahabad is even today operation. South Indian Liberal Federation which is also called Justice Party remained away from political movements against british. Servents of India society formed by G.K.Gokhale in Pune in 1905 even today focused on social upliftment.

50. In 1920, Which of the following changed its name to "Swarajya Sabha?"

- (a) Swami Dayanand established Arya Samaj.
(b) Dinabandhu Mitra wrote Neeldarpan.
(c) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay wrote Anandmath.
(d) Satyendranath Tagore became the first Indian to succeed in the Indian Civil Services Examination.

Ans: (b)

Exp : First Arya Samaj unit was established at Mumbai in 1975, Neel Darpan became popular in 1860, Anandmath was published in 1882, Satyendranath joined civil services in 1863.

51. Which of the following is/are the possible consequence/s of heavy sand mining in riverbeds ?

- (1) Decreased salinity in the river
(2) Pollution of groundwater
(3) Lowering of the water-table

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

Ans: (b)

Exp :

- (1) Sand mining may lead to saline-water (Increased salinity) intrusion from the nearby sea.
(2) Groundwater - The sand mining transforms the riverbeds into large and deep pits; as a result, the groundwater table drops leaving the drinking water wells on the embankments of these rivers dry. Bed degradation from instream mining lowers the elevation of streamflow and the floodplain water table which in turn can eliminate water table-dependent woody vegetation in riparian areas, and decrease wetted periods in riparian wetlands. For locations close to the sea, saline water may intrude into the fresh waterbody.

- (3) Water Quality - Instream sand mining activities will have an impact upon the river's water quality. Impacts include increased short-term turbidity at the mining site due to resuspension of sediment, sedimentation due to stockpiling and dumping of excess mining materials and organic particulate matter, and oil spills or leakage from excavation machinery and transportation vehicles.

52. With reference to agricultural soils, consider the following statements :

- (1) A high content of organic matter in soil drastically reduces its water holding capacity.
- (2) Soil does not play any role in the sulphur cycle.
- (3) Irrigation over a period of time can contribute to the salinization of some agricultural lands.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (b)

Exp :

53. The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE), a UN mechanism to assist countries transition towards greener and more inclusive economies, emerged at

- (a) The Earth Summit on Sustainable Development 2002, Johannesburg
- (b) The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012, Rio de Janeiro
- (c) The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2015, Paris
- (d) The World Sustainable Development Summit 2016, New Delhi

Ans: (b)

Exp :

The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) was launched in 2013 as a response to the call at Rio+20 to support those countries wishing to embark on greener and more inclusive growth trajectories.

The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) seeks to put sustainability at the heart of economic policymaking. The Partnership supports nations and regions in reframing economic policies and practices around sustainability to foster economic growth, create income and jobs, reduce poverty and inequality, and strengthen the ecological foundations of their economies. PAGE is a direct response to the Rio+20 Declaration, The Future We Want, which called upon the United Nations System and the international community to provide assistance to interested countries in developing, adopting and implementing green economy policies and strategies.

54. "3D printing" has applications in which of the following ?

- (1) Preparation of confectionery items
- (2) Manufacture of bionic ears
- (3) Automotive industry
- (4) Reconstructive surgeries
- (5) Data processing technologies

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (b) 2, 3 and 5 only
- (c) 1 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Ans: (a)

55. Consider the following statements :

- (1) The Barren Island volcano is an active volcano located in the Indian territory.
- (2) Barren Island lies about 140 km east of Great Nicobar.
- (3) The last time the Barren Island volcano erupted was in 1991 and it has remained inactive since then.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (a)

Exp : Barren Island is 140km East of Port Blair which is in South Andaman and last volcanic eruption was in 2016.

56. Why is a plant called Prosopis juliflora often mentioned in news ?

- (a) Its extract is widely used in cosmetics.
- (b) It tends to reduce the biodiversity in the area in which it grows.
- (c) Its extract is used in the synthesis of pesticides.

- (d) None of the above

Ans: (b)

Exp :

P. Juliflora is a shrub or small tree native to Mexico, Central and northern South America. It has shown itself to be a very aggressive invader, especially in frost-free arid and semi-arid natural grasslands, both in its native range and in particular, where introduced. Prosopis as a genus is treated as one of the world's worst invasive plant species, and P. juliflora is by far the most invasive species.

57. Consider the following statements :

- (1) Most of the world's coral reefs are in tropical waters.
- (2) More than one-third of the world's coral reefs are located in the territories of Australia, Indonesia and Philippines.
- (3) Coral reefs host far more number of animal phyla than those hosted by tropical rainforests.

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

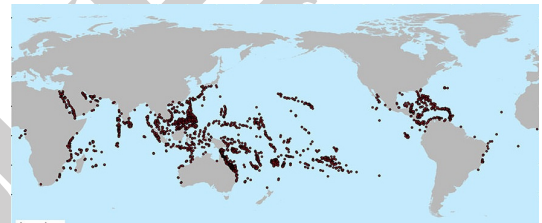
- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (d)

Exp :

- (1) Because of strict environmental restrictions, coral reefs generally are confined to tropical and semi-tropical waters. Reef-building corals cannot tolerate water temperatures below 64° Fahrenheit (18° Celsius). Many grow optimally in water temperatures between 73° and 84° Fahrenheit (23°–29°Celsius), but some can tolerate temperatures as high as 104° Fahrenheit (40° Celsius) for short periods.

(2)



- (3) 32 of the 34 recognised animal Phyla are found on coral reefs compared to 9 Phyla in tropical rainforests

58. "Momentum for Change : Climate Neutral Now" is an initiative launched by

- (a) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- (b) The UNEP Secretariat
- (c) The UNFCCC Secretariat
- (d) The World Meteorological Organization

Ans: (c)

Exp :

The United Nations Climate Change secretariat has launched this new initiative that will showcase efforts by individuals, companies and governments that are achieving real results in transitioning to climate neutrality.

The UNFCCC secretariat launched its Climate Neutral Now initiative in 2015. The following year, the secretariat launched a new pillar under its Momentum for Change initiative focused on Climate Neutral Now, as part of larger efforts to showcase successful climate action around the world. (source: UNFCCC site)

59. With reference to educational institutions during colonial rule in India, consider the following pairs :

- | Institution | Founder |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| (1) Sanskrit College at Benaras | - William Jones |
| (2) Calcutta Madarsa | - Warren Hastings |
| (3) Fort William College | - Arthur Wellesley |

Which of the pairs given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (b)

Exp : Sanskrit college at Benaras (in 1791)

- (1) was set up by Junathan Duncan the British resident at Benaras for the cultivation of laws, language and religion of Hindus.
- (2) Calcutta Madarasa was setup by Warren Hastings (in 1781). for the study and learning of Persian and Arabic.
- (3) Fort William college was set up in 1800 by Lord Wellesly for the training of civil servants of the company and Arthur

Wellesly was the brother of Lord Walesely.

60. Consider the following pairs :

Regions sometimes mentioned in news	Country
(1) Catalonia	Spain
(2) Crimea	Hungary
(3) Mindanao	Philippines
(4) Oromia	Nigeria

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched ? »

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

Ans: (c)

Exp :

Catalonia- Located in North Eastern region of Spain.

Crimea- Crimea is located in southern Ukraine.

Mindanao is an island in the Philippines.

Oromia is one of the regional states of Ethiopia

61. Consider the following statements :

- (1) Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) is the amount that banks have to maintain in the form of their own funds to offset any loss that banks incur if the account-holders fail to repay dues.
(2) CAR is decided by each individual bank.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Exp :

(1) The Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) is a measure of a bank's available capital expressed as a percentage of a bank's risk-weighted credit exposures. The Capital Adequacy Ratio, also known as capital-to-risk weighted assets ratio (CRAR), is used to protect depositors and promote the stability and efficiency of financial systems around the world.

(2) The reason minimum capital adequacy ratios (CARs) are critical is to make sure that banks have enough cushion to absorb a reasonable amount of losses before they become insolvent and consequently lose depositors' funds. The capital adequacy ratios ensure the efficiency and stability of a nation's financial system by lowering the risk of banks becoming insolvent.

(3) During the process of winding-up, funds belonging to depositors are given a higher priority than the bank's capital, so depositors can only lose their savings if a bank registers a loss exceeding the amount of capital it possesses. Thus the higher the bank's capital adequacy ratio, the higher the degree of protection of depositor's assets

(4) CAR has to be maintained by banks as per Basel norms.

62. The identity platform 'Aadhaar' provides open "Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)". What does it imply ?

- (1) It can be integrated into any electronic device.
(2) Online authentication using iris is possible.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

63. Very recently, in which of the following countries have lakhs of people either suffered from severe famine/acute malnutrition or died due to starvation caused by war/ethnic conflicts ?

- (a) Angola and Zambia
(b) Morocco and Tunisia
(c) Venezuela and Colombia
(d) Yemen and South Sudan

Ans: (d)

64. Regarding Wood's Dispatch, which of the following statements are true?

- (1) Grants-in-Aid system was introduced.
(2) Establishment of universities was recommended.
(3) English as a medium of instruction at all

levels of education was recommended. 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

Ans: (a)

Exp :

• Both 1 and 2 statements are true. but statement no 3 is incorrect. Woods dispatch declared that for higher education English language was the most perfect medium of education but it also emphasized the importance of the vernacular languages, also proposed the setting up vernacular primary seculars in the villages at the lowest stage.

• Woods Despatch also recommended a system of grants in aid to encourage and faster private enterprise in the field of education.

• Woods despatch also proposed the setting up universities on the model of London University in Calcutta, Bombay and Madras.

65. With reference to the Parliament of India, which of the following Parliamentary Committees scrutinizes and reports to the House whether the powers to make regulations, rules, sub-rules, by-laws, etc. conferred by the Constitution or delegated by the Parliament are being properly exercised by the Executive within the scope of such delegation ?

- (a) Committee on Government Assurances
(b) Committee on Subordinate Legislation
(c) Rules Committee
(d) Business Advisory Committee

Ans: (b)

Exp : T

66. Consider the following statements :

(1) As per the Right to Education (RTE) Act, to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in a State, a person would be required to possess the minimum qualification laid down by the concerned State Council of Teacher Education.

(2) As per the RTE Act, for teaching primary classes, a candidate is required to pass a Teacher Eligibility Test conducted in accordance with the National Council of Teacher Education guidelines.

(3) In India, more than 90% of teacher education institutions are directly under the State Governments.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (b)

Exp : (Statement 1 is False, Statement 2 is true, hence option b)

(1) **Statement 1** – False. Norms are set by the the National Council of Teacher Education (NCTE).

(2) **Statement 2** – true.

(3) **MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)**

(a) & (b): The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) does not prescribe any norms for the appointment of Teachers of Elementary Education. However, the National Council of Teacher Education (NCTE), as the academic authority notified by the Central Government, under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE), Act 2009, has laid down the minimum educational & professional qualifications for a person to be eligible for an appointment as a teacher for classes I-VIII, which are applicable to all schools imparting elementary education, including the schools under the State Governments and to qualify under a Teacher Eligibility Test (TET).

67. Consider the following pairs :

Tradition	State
(1) Chapchar Kut festival	- Mizoram
(2) Khongjom Parba ballad	- Manipur
(3) Thang-Ta dance	- Sikkim

Which of the pairs given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (b)

Exp :

(1) **Chapchar Kut** festival is celebrated in the Mizoram state during the February.

(2) **Khongjom Parba ballad** - Manipur. The ballad Khongjom Prabha is a narrative on the heroic deeds of Manipuri warriors who fought with British force in 1891. in safeguarding the

freedom of the then Manipuri Kingdom.

- (3) **Thang-Ta dance** - Manipur It is a martial dance from Manipur, it is basically a mock fight and attack (Folk Dance).

68. Consider the following statements :

- (1) The Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 replaced the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.
 (2) The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is under the charge of Director General of Health Services in the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (a)

Exp :

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is an autonomous body established under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. The FSSAI has been established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 which is a consolidating statute related to food safety and regulation in India. FSSAI is responsible for protecting and promoting public health through the regulation and supervision of food safety.

Before the formation of FSSAI, from 1954 onwards Prevention of Food Adulteration was part of Directorate General of Health Services. After having detached from the direct administrative control of the Health Ministry, this authority is holding independent authority and has attained special status.

69. The term "two-state solution" is sometimes mentioned in the news in the context of the affairs of

- (a) China (b) Israel
 (c) Iraq (d) Yemen

Ans: (b)

Exp :

The two-state solution refers to a solution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict which calls for "two states for two groups of people." The two-state solution envisages an independent State of Palestine alongside the State of Israel, west of the Jordan River.

70. With reference to the provisions made under the National Food Security Act, 2013, consider the following statements :

- (1) The families coming under the category of 'below poverty line (BPL)' only are eligible to receive subsidised food grains.
 (2) The eldest woman in a household, of age 18 years or above, shall be the head of the household for the purpose of issuance of a ration card.
 (3) Pregnant women and lactating mothers are entitled to a 'take-home ration' of 1600 calories per day during pregnancy and for six months thereafter.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (b)

Exp :

(1) **Statement 1** – False. The Act provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population for receiving subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), thus covering about two-thirds of the population.

(2) **Statement 3** – False.

(3) The Act also has a special focus on the nutritional support to women and children. Besides meal to pregnant women and lactating mothers during pregnancy and six months after the child birth, such women will also be entitled to receive maternity benefit of not less than Rs. 6,000.

71. India enacted The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 in order to comply with the obligations to

- (a) ILO (b) IMF
 (c) UNCTAD (d) WTO

Ans: (d)

Exp :

The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 (GI Act) is a sui generis Act of the Parliament of India for protection of geographical indications in India. India, as a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), enacted the

Act to comply with the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. The GI tag ensures that none other than those registered as authorised users (or at least those residing inside the geographic territory) are allowed to use the popular product name.

72. Consider the following statements :

- (1) In India, State Governments do not have the power to auction non-coal mines.
 (2) Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand do not have gold mines.
 (3) Rajasthan has iron ore mines.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (d)

73. With reference to digital payments, consider the following statements :

- (1) BHIM app allows the user to transfer money to anyone with a UPI-enabled bank account.
 (2) While a chip-pin debit card has four factors of authentication, BHIM app has only two factors of authentication.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Ans: (a)

Exp :

(1) **Statement 1** – True.

(2) **Statement 2** – False. Bhim app has three factors of authentication

(3) **The BHIM apps** has three levels of authentication. For one, the app binds with a device's ID and mobile number, second a user needs to sync whichever bank account (UPI or non-UPI enabled) in order to the conduct transaction. Third, when a user sets up the app they are asked to create a pin which is needed to log into the app. Further, the UPI pin, which a user creates with their bank account is needed to go through with the transaction.

74. Among the following cities, which one lies on a longitude closest to that of Delhi ?

- (a) Bengaluru (b) Hyderabad
 (c) Nagpur (d) Pune

Ans: (a)

Exp :

Country	City	Latitude	Longitude
India	Bangalore	12°58'N	77°35'E
India	Kolkata	22°30'N	88°20'E
India	Delhi	28°40'N	77°14'E
India	Nagpur	21°10'N	79°12'E
India	Hyderabad	17.3850° N	78.4867° E

75. International Labour Organization's Conventions 138 and 182 are related to

- (a) Child labour
 (b) Adaptation of agricultural practices to global climate change
 (c) Regulation of food prices and food security
 (d) Gender parity at the workplace

Ans: (a)

Exp : Ratification of core ILO Conventions No. on 138 and 182 on Child Labour

76. Consider the following events :

- (1) The first democratically elected communist party government formed in a State in India.
 (2) India's then largest bank, 'Imperial Bank of India', was renamed 'State Bank of India'.
 (3) Air India was nationalised and became the national carrier.
 (4) Goa became a part of independent India.

Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the above events?

- (a) 4 - 1 - 2 - 3 (b) 3-2-1-4
 (c) 4-2-1-3 (d) 3-1-2-4

Ans: (b)

77. Right to Privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of Right to Life and Personal Liberty. Which of the following in the Constitution of

India correctly and appropriately imply the above statement?

- Article 14 and the provisions under the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution
- Article 17 and the Directive Principles of State Policy in Part IV
- Article 21 and the freedoms guaranteed in Part III
- Article 24 and the provisions under the 44th Amendment to the Constitution

Ans: (c)

Exp : Right to Privacy is an integral part of Right to Life and Personal Liberty guaranteed in Article 21 of the Constitution," the SC's nine-judge bench ruled unanimously.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/right-to-privacy-is-a-fundamental-right-supreme-court/articleshow/60203394.cms>

78. Consider the following :

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| (1) Areca nut | (2) Barley |
| (3) Coffee | (4) Finger millet |
| (5) Groundnut | (6) Sesamum |
| (7) Turmeric | |

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has announced the Minimum Support Price for which of the above?

- 1, 2, 3 and 7 only
- 2, 4, 5 and 6 only
- 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

Ans: (b) 2, 4, 5 and 6 only

Exp :

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Kharif Crops | Rabi Crops |
| (1) Paddy | (15) Wheat |
| (2) Jowar | (16) Barley |
| (3) Bajra | (17) Gram |
| (4) Maize | (18) Masur (Lentil) |
| (5) Ragi | (19) Rapeseed/Mustard |
| (6) Arhar(Tur) | (20) Safflower |
| (7) Moong | (21) Toria |
| (8) Urad | Other Crops |
| (9) Cotton | (22) Copra |
| (10) Groundnut | (23) De-Husked Coconut |
| (11) Sunflower Seed | (24) Jute |
| (12) Soyabean Black | (25) Sugarcane |
| (13) Sesamum | |
| (14) Nigerseed | |

79. In which one of the following States is Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary located?

- Arunachal Pradesh
- Manipur
- Meghalaya
- Nagaland

Ans: (a) Arunachal Pradesh

Exp : Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary (862 km², 92°36' – 93°09'E and 26°54 – 27°16'N) lies in the foothills of the Eastern Himalaya in the East Kameng District of Arunachal Pradesh. It was declared a sanctuary in 1977, and was earlier part of the Khellong Forest Division. It has been recently declared a tiger reserve in 2002 based on a proposal in 1999.

<http://www.arunachaltourism.com/pakhui-wildlife-sanctuary.php>

80. With reference to India's satellite launch vehicles, consider the following statements :

- PSLVs launch the satellites useful for Earth resources monitoring whereas GSLVs are designed mainly to launch communication satellites.
- Satellites launched by PSLV appear to remain permanently fixed in the same position in the sky, as viewed from a particular location on Earth.
- GSLV Mk III is a four-staged launch vehicle with the first and third stages using solid rocket motors; and the second and fourth stages using liquid rocket engines.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a) 1 only

Exp :

Statement 1

GSLV's primary payloads are INSAT class of communication satellites that operate from Geostationary orbits and hence are placed in Geosynchronous Transfer Orbits by GSLV.

Statement 2

False. "Only" geostationary satellites appear fixed. But PSLV has been used for polar orbits as well as geosynchronous orbits.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Payload to SSPO: 1,750 kg

PSLV earned its title 'the Workhorse of ISRO' through consistently delivering various satellites to Low Earth Orbits, particularly the IRS series of satellites. It can take up to 1,750 kg of payload to Sun-Synchronous Polar Orbits of 600 km altitude.

Payload to Sub GTO: 1,425 kg

Due to its unmatched reliability, PSLV has also been used to launch various satellites into Geosynchronous and Geostationary orbits, like satellites from the IRNSS constellation.

Statement 3 – False.

GSLV Mk III is a three-stage heavy lift launch vehicle developed by ISRO. The vehicle has two solid strap-ons, a core liquid booster and a cryogenic upper stage.

GSLV Mk III is designed to carry 4 ton class of satellites into Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) or about 10 tons to Low Earth Orbit (LEO), which is about twice the capability of GSLV Mk II.

<https://www.isro.gov.in>

81. With reference to the governance of public sector banking in India, consider the following statements :

- Capital infusion into public sector banks by the Government of India has steadily increased in the last decade.
- To put the public sector banks in order, the merger of associate banks with the parent State Bank of India has been affected.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b) 2 only

Exp :

Budgetary support for public sector banks

Looking at the flow of capital over the past years, out of the total capital infusion of Rs1.19 trillion, State Bank of India, the largest and a "systemically important" bank, has received the most capital, Rs26,948 crore, or about 22.7% of the total infusion.

Bank	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Total
Allahabad Bank	-	-	670	-	-	400	320	973	451	2,814
Andhra Bank	-	-	1,073	-	-	200	100	378	1,100	2,591
Bank of Baroda	-	-	2,461	-	850	550	1,260	1,786	-	6,507
Bank of India	-	-	1,010	-	809	1,000	-	3,655	2,838	9,282
Bank of Maharashtra	-	-	940	470	406	800	-	394	300	3,310
Canara Bank	-	-	-	-	-	500	570	947	748	2,765
Central Bank of India	700	450	2,253	676	2,406	1,800	-	535	1,397	10,217
Corporation Bank	-	-	309	-	204	450	-	857	508	2,328
Dena Bank	-	-	539	-	-	700	140	407	1,046	2,832
Indian Overseas Bank	-	-	1,054	1,441	1,000	1,200	-	2,009	2,651	9,355
Indian Bank	-	-	-	-	-	-	280	-	-	280
Oriental Bank of Commerce	-	-	1,740	-	-	150	-	300	-	2,990
Punjab National Bank	-	-	184	655	1,348	500	870	1,732	2,112	7,331
Punjab and Sindh Bank	-	-	-	-	140	100	-	-	-	240
Syndicate Bank	-	-	633	-	-	200	460	740	776	2,809
UCO Bank	450	450	1,613	48	681	200	-	935	1,925	6,302
Union Bank of India	-	-	793	-	1,114	500	-	1,080	541	4,028
United Bank of India	250	300	558	-	100	700	-	480	1,026	3,414
Vijaya Bank	500	-	1,068	-	-	250	-	220	-	2,038
State Bank of India	-	-	-	7,900	3,004	2,000	2,970	5,393	5,681	26,948
IDBI Bank Ltd	-	-	3,119	810	555	1,800	-	2,229	1,900	10,413
Total	1,900	1,200	20,117	12,000	12,517	14,000	6,990	25,000	25,000	118,724

Source: Records of BIS

Statement 1 – False.

Statement 2 – true.

82. Consider the following items :

- Cereal grains hulled
- Chicken eggs cooked
- Fish processed and canned
- Newspapers containing advertising material

Which of the above items is/are exempted under GST (Goods and Services Tax)?

- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 4 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans: (a) 1 only

Exp :

Statement 3 – Fish not processed is exempted.

Statement 4 – Space selling for advertisement in print media will attract 18 per cent GST if an agency does so as an agent of a newspaper on a commission basis, the government said today.

GST of 5 per cent will be levied if the advertisement agency works on principal to principal basis -- buys space from the newspaper and sells such space for advertisement to clients on its own account. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/government-clarifies-on-gst-on-newspaper-ad-space-sale/articleshow/60196560.cms>

83. Consider the following statements :

- The definition of "Critical Wildlife Habitat" is incorporated in the Forest Rights Act, 2006.
- For the first time in India, Baigas have been given Habitat Rights.
- Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change officially decides and declares Habitat Rights for Primitive and Vulnerable Tribal Groups in any part of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(e) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (d) 1, 2 and 3

Exp :

Statement 1 - Critical wildlife habitats (CWH) are defined under the Forest Rights Act, 2006, as the "areas of national parks and sanctuaries where it has been specifically and clearly established, case by case, on the basis of scientific and objective criteria, that such areas are required to be kept as inviolate for the purposes of wildlife conservation..."

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/new-critical-wildlife-habitat-guidelines-may-protect-forest-dwellers-rights-better-article1991329.ece>

Statement 2 - True.

<http://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/baiga-tribals-become-india-s-first-community-to-get-habitat-rights-52452>

Statement 3 - True.

The power to notify the rules to designate a CWH rests with Ministry of Environment and Forests. The State Government are needed to initiate the process for notification of a critical wildlife habitat by submitting an application on a case by case basis, to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, which is the nodal agency under the said Act. Critical Wildlife Habitats are thus, declared by Central Government ONLY.

84. Consider the following:

- (1) Birds (2) Dust blowing
(3) Rain (4) Wind blowing

Which of the above spread plant diseases?

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

Ans: (d)

85. With reference to organic farming in India, consider the following statements :

- (1) 'The National Programme for Organic Production' (NPOP) is operated under the guidelines and directions of the Union Ministry of Rural Development.
(2) 'The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority' (APEDA) functions as the Secretariat for the implementation of NPOP.
(3) Sikkim has become India's first fully organic State.

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

Ans: (b) 2 and 3 only

Exp :

Statement 1 - False. Ministry of Commerce has implemented the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) since 2001.

Statement 3 - True. <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/Sikkim-becomes-India%E2%80%99s-first-organic-state/article13999445.ece>

<http://apeda.gov.in/apedawebpage/organic/index.htm>

86. Regarding Money Bill, which of the following statements is not correct?

- (a) A bill shall be deemed to be a Money Bill if it contains only provisions relating to imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax.
(b) A Money Bill has provisions for the '....., custody of the Consolidated Fund of India or the Contingency Fund of India.
(c) A Money Bill is concerned with the appropriation of moneys out of the Contingency Fund of India.
(d) A Money Bill deals with the regulation of borrowing of money or giving of any guarantee by the Government of India.

Ans: (a)

Exp :

Definition of money bill.

Under Article 110(1) of the Constitution, a Bill is deemed to be a Money Bill if it contains only provisions dealing with all or any of the following matters:

- (a) the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax;
(b) regulation of borrowing by the government;
(c) custody of the Consolidated Fund or Contingency Fund of India, and payments into or withdrawals from these Funds;

- (d) appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India;
(e) declaring of any expenditure to be expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India or the increasing of the amount of any such expenditure;
(f) receipt of money on account of the Consolidated Fund of India or the public account of India or the custody or issue of such money or the audit of the accounts of the Union or of a State; or
(g) any matter incidental to any of the matters specified in sub-clauses (a) to (f).

But a Bill shall not be deemed to be a Money Bill by reason only that it provides for the imposition of fines or other pecuniary penalties, or for the demand or payment of fees for licences or fees for services rendered, or by reason that it provides for the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax by any local authority or body for local purposes.

87. With reference to the election of the President of India, consider the following statements :

- (1) The value of the vote of each MLA varies from State to State.
(2) The value of the vote of MPs of the Lok Sabha is more than the value of the vote of MPs of the Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Exp :

Value of an MLA vote = total population of the state or union territory / total number of elected MLA of legislative assembly or U.T. X 100

Depending up on the population of each state the vote value of MLAs may be different.

Value of an MP vote = sum of vote value of elected members of all Legislative Assemblies/sum of elected members of both the Houses of Parliament

It becomes clear from above formula that vote value of each member of parliament is same whether he/she belong to Loksabha or Rajya Sabha.

88. In the Indian context, what is the implication of ratifying the 'Additional Protocol' with the 'International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)?

- (a) The civilian nuclear reactors come under IAEA safeguards.
(b) The military nuclear installations come under the inspection of IAEA.
(c) The country will have the privilege to buy uranium from the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).
(d) The country automatically becomes a member of the NSG.

Ans: (a) The civilian nuclear reactors come under IAEA safeguards.

Exp : The Additional Protocol is not a stand-alone agreement, but rather a protocol to a safeguards agreement that provides additional tools for verification. In particular, it significantly increases the IAEA's ability to verify the peaceful use of all nuclear material in States with comprehensive safeguards agreements.

<https://www.iaea.org/topics/additional-protocol>

89. Consider the following countries :

- (1) Australia (2) Canada
(3) China (4) India
(5) Japan (6) USA

Which of the above are among the 'free-trade partners' of ASEAN?

- (a) 1, 2, 4 and 5 (b) 3, 4, 5 and 6
(c) 1, 3, 4 and 5 (d) 2, 3, 4 and 6

Ans: (c) 1, 3, 4 and 5

Exp : ASEAN has five free trade agreements (FTAs) with six Dialogue Partners, namely China, Japan, Republic of Korea, India, and Australia and New Zealand.

90. With reference to the 'Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA)', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- (1) GACSA is an outcome of the Climate Summit held in Paris in 2015.
(2) Membership of GACSA does not create any binding obligations.
(3) India was instrumental in the creation of GACSA.

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

Ans: (b) 2 only

Exp :

Statement 3 is False. Hence, only option b) remains.
GACSA is an inclusive, voluntary and action-oriented multi-stakeholder platform on Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA).
Its vision is to improve food security, nutrition and resilience in the face of climate change. GACSA aims to catalyse and help create transformational partnerships to encourage actions that reflect an integrated approach to the three pillars of CSA.

91. Which of the following is/are the aim/aims of "Digital India" Plan of the Government of India?

- (1) Formation of India's own Internet companies like China did.
(2) Establish a policy framework to encourage overseas multinational corporations that collect Big Data to build their large data centres within our national geographical boundaries.
(3) Connect many of our villages to the Internet and bring Wi-Fi to many of our schools, public places and major tourist centres.

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

Ans: (b) 3 only

Exp : Since Statement 2 is wrong, only b) remains.

92. Consider the following pairs :

Towns sometimes mentioned in news	Country
(1) Aleppo	— Syria
(2) Kirkuk	— Yemen
(3) Mosul	— Palestine
(4) Mazar-i-sharif	— Afghanistan

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 1 and 4
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 and 4

Ans: (b)

Exp : Kirkuk and Mosul are in Iraq.

93. In the Federation established by The Government of India Act of 1935, residuary powers were given to the

- (a) Federal Legislature (b) Governor General
(c) Provincial Legislature (d) Provincial Governors

Ans: (b)

94. Consider the following statements :

- (1) The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly shall vacate his/her office if he/she ceases to be a member of the Assembly.
(2) Whenever the Legislative Assembly is dissolved, the Speaker shall vacate his/her office immediately.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Exp :

Article 179 {Vacation and resignation of, and removal from, the offices of Speaker and Deputy Speaker}

A member holding office as Speaker or Deputy Speaker of an Assembly -

- shall vacate his office if he ceases to be a member of the Assembly;
- may at any time by writing under his hand addressed, if such members is the Speaker, to the Deputy Speaker, and if such member is the Deputy Speaker, to the Speaker, resign his office; and
- may be removed from his office by a resolution of the Assembly passed by a majority of all the then members of the Assembly;
- Provided that no resolution for the purpose of clause (c) shall be moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution;
- Provided further that, whenever the Assembly is dissolved, the speaker shall not vacate his office until immediately before the first meeting of the Assembly after the dissolution.

95. Which one of the following reflects the most appropriate relationship between law and liberty?

- (a) If there are more laws, there is less liberty.

- (b) If there are no laws, there is no liberty.

- (c) If there is liberty, laws have to be made by the people.

- (d) If laws are changed too often, liberty is in danger.

Ans: (b)

Exp : law and liberty are complementary to each other. Thus, law is a condition for liberty. Both are close and intimate. Law is the protector of liberty as it punishes those persons who transgress laws.

96. Consider the following statements :

- (1) No criminal proceedings shall be instituted against the Governor of a State in any court during his term of office.

- (2) The emoluments and allowances of the Governor of a State shall not be diminished during his term of office.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Exp :

Article 158: Conditions of Governor's office

The emoluments and allowances of the Governor shall not be diminished during his term of office.

Article 361 in The Constitution Of India

No criminal proceedings whatsoever shall be instituted or continued against the President, or the Governor of a State, in any court during his term of office.

97. The well-known painting "Bani Thani" belongs to the

- (a) Bundi school (b) Jaipur school
(c) Kangra school (d) Kishangarh school

Ans: (d) Kishangarh School

Exp : Bani Thani is an Indian miniature painting painted by Nihāl Chand from the Marwar school of Kishangarh.

98. What is "Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD)", sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) An Israeli radar system
(b) India's indigenous anti-missile programme
(c) An American anti-missile system

- (d) A defence collaboration between Japan and South Korea

Ans: (c) THAAD

Exp : Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD), formerly Theater High Altitude Area Defense, is an American anti-ballistic missile defense system designed to shoot down short-, medium-, and intermediate-range ballistic missiles in their terminal phase (descent or reentry) by intercepting with a hit-to-kill approach.

THAAD is a relative recent addition to the United States' anti-ballistic missile/interceptor toolkit. It entered production in 2008 and is primarily tasked with taking out threatening ballistic missiles in what's known as their "terminal" phase (the 'T' in the acronym).

99. With reference to cultural history of India, consider the following statements :

- (1) Most of the Tyagaraja Kritis are devotional songs in praise of Lord Krishna.

- (2) Tyagaraja created several new ragas.

- (3) Annamacharya and Tyagaraja are contemporaries.

- (4) Annamacharya kirtanas are devotional songs in praise of Lord Venkateshwara.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Exp : Tyagaraja has many kirtis on Lord Rama, Annamacharya was predecessor of tyagaraja, indeed Annamacharya is first to compose in Carnatic music.

100. Which of the following are regarded as the main features of the "Rule of Law"?

- (1) Limitation of powers

- (2) Equality before law

- (3) People's responsibility to the Government

- (4) Liberty and civil rights

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

Ans: (c)

Exp :

A V Dicey stated three principles to the term 'Rule of Law'.

1. Supremacy of Law 2. Equality before Law 3. Predominance of of Legal spirit

• The Rule of Law impacted the Administrative Law of England while the Doctrine of Separation of Powers impacted the Administrative Law of the United States.

Supremacy of Law

• 'Supremacy of Law' is the central and most characteristic feature of Common Law.

• Law is the absolute supreme and predominant as opposed to influence of arbitrary power or discretionary power.

• English men are ruled by the Rule of Law and law alone.

• A man can be punished by rule of law, and by nothing else.

• Wade: Government is a subject of the Rule of Law, rather than the law being a subject of the Government.

Equality before Law

• There must be equality before law or equal subjection of all classes to the ordinary law.

• All people should be subject to one and the same law.

• There is no need for extraordinary tribunals or special courts to

deal with cases of Government and its servants (such as the one seen in Droit Administratif).

• Of course, Dicey accepted that administrative authorities are exercising 'judicial' functions though they are not 'courts'.

• Lord Denning: "Our English law does not allow a public officer to shelter behind a droit administratif.

Predominance of of Legal spirit

• Rights (such as right to personal liberty, freedom from arrest etc.) are the result of judicial decisions in England.

• The rights are a result of court judgements rather than from being enshrined in the Constitution.

• The Constitution is a consequence (and not the source) of the rights of the individuals.

• Thus, Courts are the guarantors of the liberty

• Rights would be secured more adequately if they were enforceable in courts rather than just being written in the Constitutional document.

• Mere incorporation in a written constitution is of no use in the absence of effective remedies of protection and enforcement.



Comprehensive explanations of answers will be shared on the website of The Unique Academy shortly.

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