

INSIGHTS IAS REVISION QUESTIONS FOR UPSC PRELIMS – 2019

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These questions are based on this **Revision Timetable** which is posted on our website (www.insightsonindia.com). Every year thousands of candidates follow our revision timetable – which is made for SERIOUS aspirants who would like to intensively revise everything that's important before the exam.

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Team InsightsIAS



Solutions – (Day 45)

1. Which of the following are the features of Parliamentary Government ?

1. Majority Party Rule
2. Separation of powers.
3. Collective Responsibility
4. Rigid Constitution

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Solution: A

- Separation of powers and Rigid Constitution are the features of Presidential system of government.

2. Consider the following statements

1. The Parliament can make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India.
2. The Parliament and State Legislature can make 'extra-territorial legislation'.
3. The laws made by a state legislature are not applicable outside the state, except when there is a sufficient nexus between the state and the object.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: D

- The Parliament alone can make 'extra-territorial legislation'.



3. State legislatures can make laws to enforce

1. Fundamental Rights
2. Directive Principles of State Policy
3. Fundamental Duties

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: B

- Most of them are directly enforceable (self-executed) while a few of them can be enforced on the basis of a law made for giving effect to them. Such a law can be made only by the Parliament and not by state legislatures so that uniformity throughout the country is maintained (**Article 35**).

4. Consider the following statements.

1. The Governor may, with the consent of the Central government, entrust to that government any of the executive functions of the state.
2. A law made by the Parliament on a subject of the Union List can confer powers and impose duties on a state, or authorise the conferring of powers and imposition of duties by the Centre upon a state.

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

Solution: C



5. The executive power of every state is to be exercised in such a way

1. As to ensure compliance with the laws made by the Parliament and any existing law which apply in the state.
2. As not to impede or prejudice the exercise of executive power of the Centre in the state.

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

Solution: C

6. Who establishes the Inter-State Council to investigate and discuss subject of common interest between the Centre and the states ?

- (a) The President
- (b) Parliament
- (c) Prime Minister
- (d) State Legislative Assemblies concerned

Solution: A

- The **Inter-State Council** is a **non-permanent constitutional body** set up by a presidential order on the basis of provisions in **Article 263** of the Constitution of India.

7. Which of the following signify the difference between Martial law and National Emergency ?

1. Martial law can be imposed in a specific part of the country whereas National Emergency must be applicable throughout the country.
2. Martial law suspends the concerned civilian government and ordinary law courts whereas they are continued in the case of a National Emergency.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.



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

Solution: B

Table 7.3 *Martial Law Vs National Emergency*

<i>Martial Law</i>	<i>National Emergency</i>
1. It affects only Fundamental Rights.	1. It affects not only Fundamental Rights but also Centre–state relations, distribution of revenues and legislative powers between centre and states and may extend the tenure of the Parliament.
2. It suspends the government and ordinary law courts.	2. It continues the government and ordinary law courts.
3. It is imposed to restore the breakdown of law and order due to any reason.	3. It can be imposed only on three grounds—war, external aggression or armed rebellion.
4. It is imposed in some specific area of the country.	4. It is imposed either in the whole country or in any part of it.
5. It has no specific provision in the Constitution. It is implicit.	5. It has specific and detailed provision in the Constitution. It is explicit.

8. Consider the following statements

- 1. The Constitution does not contain any specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.
- 2. Constitution requires that a person must prove his majority in the Lok Sabha before he is appointed as the Prime Minister.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: A

- Constitution does not require that a person must prove his majority in the Lok Sabha before he is appointed as the Prime Minister.



9. Which of the following recommendations **not** accepted by the government regarding Swaran Singh Committee recommendation on Fundamental duties ?

1. The Parliament may provide for the imposition of such penalty or punishment as may be considered appropriate for any non-compliance with or refusal to observe any of the duties.
2. No law imposing such penalty or punishment shall be called in question in any court on the ground of infringement of any of Fundamental Rights

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

Solution: C

(Clarification for the revision test-44 10th question)

(The statements in last test were generalized statements on Fundamental duties and not specific to Swaran Singh Committee recommendations.)

- Parliament may provide for the imposition of such penalty or punishment as may be considered appropriate for any non-compliance with or refusal to observe any of the duties.
- Like the Directive Principles, the fundamental duties are also non-justiciable. The Constitution does not provide for their direct enforcement by the courts. Moreover, there is not legal sanction against their violation. However, the Parliament is free to enforce them by suitable legislation.
- The **Verma Committee on Fundamental Duties of the Citizens (1999)** identified the existence of legal provisions for the implementation of some of the Fundamental Duties.
- In 1992, the Supreme Court ruled that in determining the constitutionality of any law, if a court finds that the law in question seeks to give effect to a fundamental duty, it may consider such law to be 'reasonable' in relation to Article 14 (equality before law) or Article 19 (six freedoms) and thus save such law from unconstitutionality.



10. Consider the following statements regarding Prime Minister

1. He allocates and reshuffles various portfolios among the ministers.
2. He guides, directs, controls, and coordinates the activities of all the ministers.
3. He has to communicate to the President all decisions of the council of ministers relating to the administration of the affairs of the Union and proposals for legislation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: D

11. Consider the following statements regarding Parliamentary Forums

1. Members of the forums are nominated by the Speaker/Chairman from amongst the MPs of various political parties.
2. The duration of the office of members of the forum is co-terminus with their membership in the respective Houses.
3. Constitution of Parliamentary forums is mandated by constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: C

- Constitution of Parliamentary forums is not mandated by constitution.



12. Consider the following statements

1. The President can appoint duly qualified persons as additional judges of a high court for a temporary period not exceeding five years.
2. The Governor can appoint a duly qualified person as an acting judge of a high court when a judge of that high court (other than the chief justice) is unable to perform the duties of his office due to absence or any other reason.

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

Solution: D

The President can appoint duly qualified persons as additional judges of a high court for a temporary period not exceeding two years when:

- (i) there is a temporary increase in the business of the high court; or
- (ii) there are arrears of work in the high court.

The President can appoint a duly qualified person as an acting judge of a high court when a judge of that high court (other than the chief justice) is:

- (i) unable to perform the duties of his office due to absence or any other reason; or
- (ii) appointed to act temporarily as chief justice of that high court. An acting judge holds office until the permanent judge resumes his office.

13. Which of the following authorities adjourns the Lok Sabha House or suspends the meeting in absence of a quorum ?

- (a) President of India
- (b) Speaker, Lok Sabha
- (c) Leader of the House
- (d) Secretary, Lok Sabha

Solution: B



The speaker has the following powers and duties:

- He maintains order and decorum in the House for conducting its business and regulating its proceedings. This is his primary responsibility and he has final power in this regard.
- He is the final interpreter of the provisions of (a) the Constitution of India, (b) the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha, and (c) the parliamentary precedents, within the House.
- He adjourns the House or suspends the meeting in absence of a quorum. The quorum to constitute a meeting of the House is one-tenth of the total strength of the House.

14. The governor has constitutional discretion in which of the following cases

1. Reservation of a bill for the consideration of the President.
2. Recommendation for the imposition of the President's Rule in the state.
3. Allocation of resources under annual financial statement presented in State Legislature.

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Solution: A

- Allocation of resources under annual financial statement presented in State Legislature is not a constitutional discretion.

15. With reference to the Centre- State relations, consider the following statements:

1. The Parliament can make laws on any matter in the State List for implementing the international treaties, agreements or conventions.
2. The Chairman and members of a state public service commission, though appointed by the governor of the state, can be removed only by the President.

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

Solution: C

- The Parliament can make laws on any matter in the State List for implementing the international treaties, agreements or conventions.
- This provision enables the Central government to fulfil its international obligations and commitments. Some examples of laws enacted under the above provision are **United Nations (Privileges and Immunities) Act, 1947; Geneva Convention Act, 1960; Anti-Hijacking Act, 1982** etc.
- The Chairman and members of a state public service commission, though appointed by the governor of the state, can be removed only by the President.

16. Consider the following statements

1. SFIO is a multi-disciplinary organization under Ministry of Finance, consisting of experts in the field of accountancy, forensic auditing, law etc.
2. It was constituted on the recommendation of Naresh Chandra Committee on corporate governance.

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

Solution: B

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serious_Fraud_Investigation_Office



17. Freedom of Expression Report, often seen in news, is published

- (a) Amnesty International
- (b) PEN International
- (c) Conservational International
- (d) Reporter without border

Solution: B

- PEN International released its annual “Freedom of Expression Report” at the end of its 84th Congress held in Pune, says the climate for free expression has severely deteriorated in India in the last few years.

18. Consider the following pairs

<i>Index</i>	<i>Released by</i>
1. Human Capital Index	: World Bank
2. Global Hunger Index	: FAO
3. Global Competitiveness Index	: OECD

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

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

Solution: B

- Global Hunger Index - IFPRI
- Global Competitiveness Index - World Economic Forum

19. Consider the following statements

- 1. DigiYatra is an industry-led initiative coordinated by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to create awareness about the benefits of digital infrastructure in rural areas.
- 2. Vayoshreshtha Samman is a Scheme of National Awards instituted by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for institutions involved in rendering



distinguished service for the cause of elderly persons especially indigent senior citizens.

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

Solution: B

- **DigiYatra** is an industry-led initiative co-ordinated by the **Ministry of Civil Aviation** that provide airline travellers ‘digitally unified flying experience’ across all stages of their journey.

20. Consider the following statements regarding Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)

1. The Indian Ocean Rim Association is an inter-governmental organisation which was established in 1997.
2. IORA’s apex body is the Council of Foreign Ministers (COM) which meets annually
3. Recently, Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) adopted Delhi Declaration on renewable Energy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: D

- The **Indian Ocean Rim Association** is an **inter-governmental** organisation which was established in **1997**. It consists of **coastal states bordering** the Indian Ocean.
- IORA’s apex body is the Council of Foreign Ministers (COM) which meets annually. The Coordinating Secretariat of IORA is located at **Ebene, Mauritius**.



21. AG600, world's largest amphibious aircraft indigenously designed and built

- (a) Japan
- (b) Russia
- (c) China
- (d) USA

Solution: C

- **AG600, world's largest amphibious aircraft** was indigenously designed and built by **China**. It carried out its first take-off and landing tests.

22. Which of the following surveys is/are conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)

1. Service Sector Enterprises
2. Employment – Unemployment
3. Consumer Expenditure
4. Land and Livestock Holding
5. Debt and Investment

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Solution: D

- NSSO is one of the national organization which is responsible for conduct of large scale sample surveys in diverse fields on all-India basis. It comes under Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- NSSO conducts the surveys (once in 5 years) on
 1. Consumer Expenditure,
 2. Employment – Unemployment,
 3. Social Consumption (Health, Education etc.),
 4. Manufacturing Enterprises,
 5. Service Sector Enterprises



- It conducts survey of Land and Livestock Holding and Debt and Investment (once in 10 years).

23. Consider the following statements

1. National Foundation for Communal Harmony is an autonomous organization under the administrative control of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.
2. The main objective of the Foundation is to provide assistance to the children / youth rendered orphan/ destitute in communal, caste, ethnic or terrorist violence.

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

Solution: B

- The **NFCH** is an **autonomous** organization under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Home Affairs**.
- The main objective of the Foundation is to provide assistance to the children / youth rendered orphan / destitute in communal, caste, ethnic or terrorist violence for their rehabilitation besides promoting communal harmony and national integration through various activities.
- The NFCH sponsors/conducts different activities for the promotion of communal harmony and strengthening of national integration.

24. Consider the following statements regarding Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA)

1. It is a statutory body established under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.
2. It is designated as the Central Authority to deal with inter-country adoptions in accordance with the provisions of the Hague Conventions on Inter-Country Adoptions, 1993
3. It functions as a nodal body for adoption of Indian children and is mandated to monitor and regulate in-country and inter-country adoption.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solution: D

- **Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA)** is a statutory body of **Ministry of Women & Child Development** established under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015. CARA functions as a nodal body for adoption of Indian children and is mandated to monitor and regulate in-country and inter-country adoption.
- It is designated as the Central Authority to deal with inter-country adoptions in accordance with the provisions of the Hague Conventions on Inter-Country Adoptions, 1993, ratified by Government of India in 2003.
- CARA primarily deals with adoption of orphan, abandoned and surrendered children through its associated /recognised adoption agencies

25. Consider the following statements regarding International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)

1. It is a government organisation dedicated for promoting the application of theory, methodology and scientific techniques for conservation of architectural and archaeological heritage across the world.
2. It is headquartered in Paris.

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

Solution: B



About ICOMOS

- It is a non-government organization dedicated for promoting the application of theory, methodology and scientific techniques for conservation of architectural and archaeological heritage across the world.
- HQ: Paris.
- ICOMOS is also an advisory body to the UNESCO for cultural heritage, in particular for implementation of the World Heritage Convention

(Day 46)

26. Consider the following statements regarding Electronic Voting machine (EVM)

1. EVMs were first used in Parur Assembly Constituency of Kerala in the year 1982.
2. An EVM being used by ECI can record a maximum of 20,000 votes.
3. It completely eliminates the possibility of casting Invalid Votes, which during the paper ballot regime was noticed in large numbers during each election.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: A

- An EVM being used by ECI can record a **maximum of 2,000 votes**.

27. Consider the following statements

1. VVPATs with EVMs were used for first time in a bye-election from Noksen (ST) Assembly Constituency of Nagaland.
2. Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) is an independent system attached with the Electronic Voting Machines that allows the voters to verify that their votes are cast as intended.
3. Totalizers machines are presently used in elections to aggregate votes without revealing the candidate-wise count of individual EVM used at a particular polling station.



Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: B

With ballot boxes counting is done after mixing the ballot papers. Is it possible to adopt this system when EVMs are used?

- Yes, through the use of a device called ‘Totalizer’ which can accommodate upto 14 Control Units at a time to aggregate votes without revealing the candidate-wise count of individual EVM used at a particular polling station.
- However, totalizers are not in use at present as its technical aspects and other related issues are under examination and it is also the subject of a court case

28. Consider the following statements

1. The VVPATs are stored along with the EVMs in a secure strong room till the completion of the tenure of Elected Loka Sabha or State Legislative Assembly
2. The microchip used in EVMs is a one-time programmable/ masked chip, which can neither be read nor overwritten.
3. A voter is likely to get an electric shock while pressing the blue button while casting a vote in EVM

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: A

- The VVPATs are stored along with the EVMs in a secure strong room till the completion of the Election Petition period.



Is it true that sometimes because of short-circuitry or other reason, a voter is likely to get an electric shock while pressing the blue button?

- No. **EVMs work on a battery** and there is absolutely no chance of any voter getting an electric shock at the time of pressing the 'blue button' or at any time of handling the EVM.

29. Consider the following statements

1. A person who is not a citizen of India can physically involve in electoral process of India by providing financial aid and other necessary logistic support to the candidates.
2. Postal ballots, in which a voter exercises his/her franchise through post is available only for people on election duty, armed forces personnel, and electors subject to preventive detention.
3. The option of proxy voting is available only for armed forces, police, and government officials posted outside India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: A

- A person who is **not a citizen** of India **cannot** involve in electoral process of India by providing financial aid and other necessary logistic support to the candidates.

<https://www.thehindu.com/elections/lok-sabha-2019/fact-check-can-nris-vote-in-this-general-elections/article26520133.ece>

30. Consider the following statements

1. A service voter may appoint any person as his / her proxy to give vote on his / her behalf and in his / her name at the polling station.
2. The facility of service voter is available only to the wife of a male service voter and is not available to the husband of a female service voter.



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

Solution: B

Who is a 'proxy'?

- A service voter may appoint (by applying to Returning Officer in Form 13 F of Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961 – Form available at the website of Election Commission) any person as his / her proxy to give vote on his / her behalf and in his / her name at the polling station. The proxy shall have to be ordinary resident of that constituency. He need not be a registered voter, but he / she must not be disqualified to be registered as a voter.
- Under the existing law, this facility is available only to the wife of a male service voter and is not available to the husband of a female service voter.

<https://eci.gov.in/faqs/voter-electors/service-voter/faqs-service-electors-r13/>

31. Consider the following statements regarding conduction of Elections

1. Election Commission of India conducts elections to Corporations, Municipalities and other Local Bodies.
2. The Election Commission of India nominates or designates an Officer of the State Government as the District Election Officer in consultation with the State Government.
3. The Presiding Officer with the assistance of polling officers conducts the poll at a polling station.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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



Solution: A

- State Election Commissions (SECs) conducts elections to Corporations, Municipalities and other Local Bodies.

32. Consider the following statements

1. It is not necessary for every association to get registered by the Election Commission for contesting elections.
2. The candidates set up by a political party registered with the Election Commission of India will get preference in the matter of allotment of free symbols vis-à-vis purely independent candidates.

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

Solution: C

33. Consider the following statements regarding contesting an election in India

1. If a person is not registered as a voter in any of the constituency in India can also contest in election.
2. If a person is registered voter in Delhi, he/she contest an election to Lok Sabha from any constituency in the country.
3. A person confined in jail can also vote in an election.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: D

All the above statements are ***incorrect***.



If I am not registered as a voter in any Constituency, can I contest election?

Ans. No

- For contesting an election as a candidate a person must be registered as a voter. Sec 4 (d) of Representation People Act, 1951 precludes a person from contesting unless he is an elector in any parliamentary constituency. Section 5 (c) of R. P. Act, 1951 has a similar provision for Assembly Constituencies.
- If you are a registered voter in Delhi, you can contest an election to Lok Sabha from any constituency in the country except Assam, Lakshadweep and Sikkim, as per Section 4 (c), 4 (cc) and 4 (ccc) of the R. P. Act, 1951.

Can a person confined in jail vote in an election?

Ans. No

- According to section 62(5) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, no person shall vote at any election if he is confined in a prison, whether under a sentence of imprisonment or transportation or otherwise, or is in the lawful custody of the police.

<https://eci.gov.in/faqs/elections/contesting-for-elections/faqs-contesting-for-elections-r4/>

34. Consider the following statements

1. After the declaration of results in all constituencies President will constitute the new Lok Sabha.
2. The Returning Officer is responsible for the counting of votes and declaration of result of an election.

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

Solution: B



After the declaration of results in all constituencies, which authority will constitute the new Lok Sabha – President or the Election Commission?

Ans. Election Commission of India (ECI)

- According to Sec. 73 of the R. P. Act, 1951, after the results of all Parliamentary constituencies are declared, the Election Commission will constitute the new Lok Sabha by notifying in the official gazette, the names of the elected members.

35. Consider the following statements

1. Ministers and other authorities shall not sanction grants/payments out of discretionary funds from the time elections are announced.
2. Fresh release of funds under MPs/MLAs/MLCs Local Area Development Fund of any scheme shall not be made in any area where election is in progress, till the completion of the election process.

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

Solution: C

36. Section 8 of the Representation of the People (RP) Act, 1951 that is frequently in news concerns

- (a) Disqualification on conviction for long sentences
- (b) Division of seats in the Upper house
- (c) Horse trading in Council elections
- (d) Paid advertisements for election campaign

Solution: A

- Section 8 disqualifies a person convicted with a sentence of two years or more from contesting elections. But those under trial continued to be eligible to contest elections. The Lily Thomas case (2013), however, ended this unfair advantage.



- Currently, under the Representation of Peoples (RP) Act, lawmakers cannot contest elections only after their conviction in a criminal case.

37. The Central Vigilance Commissioner and the Vigilance Commissioners are appointed by the President after obtaining the recommendation of a Committee consisting of

- (a) Prime Minister of India, Minister of Home Affairs and Leader of Opposition Lok Sabha
- (b) Prime Minister of India, Speaker of Lok Sabha and Senior judges of Supreme Court
- (c) Chief Justice of India, Minister of Home Affairs, Leader of Opposition Lok Sabha
- (d) Prime Minister of India, Minister of Home Affairs, Speaker and Chairman of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and Senior judges of Supreme Court

Solution: A

- The Commission consists of a Central Vigilance Commissioner (Chairperson) and not more than two Vigilance Commissioners (members).
- The Central Vigilance Commissioner and the Vigilance Commissioners shall be appointed by the President on recommendation of a Committee consisting of the Prime Minister (Chairperson), the Minister of Home Affairs (Member) and the Leader of the Opposition in the House of the People (Member).
- The term of office of the Central Vigilance Commissioner and the Vigilance Commissioners would be four years from the date on which they enter their office or till they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

38. Which among the following can authorize the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to both the Centre and states ?

- (a) President of India
- (b) Speaker, Lok Sabha
- (c) Rajya Sabha
- (d) Inter-State Council

Solution: C

- Due to its federal character, the Rajya Sabha has been given two exclusive or special powers that are not enjoyed by the Lok Sabha:



- It can authorise the Parliament to make a law on a subject enumerated in the State List (Article 249).
- It can authorise the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to both the Centre and states (Article 312).

39. The President can remove the chairman or any other member of UPSC from the office under the following circumstances ?

1. If he engages, during his term of office, in any paid employment outside the duties of his office
2. If he is guilty of misbehaviour in the opinion of the President, and as probed by the Supreme Court

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

Solution: C

40. Consider the following statements

1. The President is elected by an Electoral College, which consists of the elected members of both Houses of Parliament and the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of all the States except union territories.
2. The authority to conduct elections to the Office of President is vested in the Election Commission 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

Solution: B



- The President is elected by an Electoral College, which consists of the elected members of both Houses of Parliament and the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of all the States and Union Territories – Delhi and Pondicherry.

<https://eci.gov.in/faqs/elections/presidential-election/faqs-presidential-election-r9/>

41. Consider the following statements regarding Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT)

1. It is a developmental effort that would benefit both vehicle-users as well as farmers and entrepreneurs.
2. Under the initiative, compressed Bio-gas plants are proposed to be set up mainly through independent entrepreneurs.
3. It is implemented by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: C

- It is implemented by **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas**

42. Consider the following pairs:

Species	Natural Habitat
1. Grizzled Giant Squirrel	: Chinnar Wildlife sanctuary
2. Gharial	: National Chambal sanctuary
3. Olive Ridley Turtles	: Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary

Which of the pairs given above is/are **not** matched correctly ?

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



Solution: D

43. Consider the following statements regarding Changpa community ?

1. Changpa are a semi-nomadic Tibetan people found mainly in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim.
2. Changpa are classified as a scheduled tribe.
3. They are herders of the highly pedigreed and prized Changra goats that yield the rare pashmina fibre.

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

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

Solution: B

- **Changpa** are a semi-nomadic Tibetan people found mainly in the Changtang in **Ladakh** and in Jammu and Kashmir.

44. Consider the following statements regarding International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)

1. It is an informal partnership between Nations and organizations which strives to preserve coral reefs and related ecosystems around the world.
2. The Initiative was founded in 1994 by eight governments including 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

Solution: A



- The **International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)** is an **informal partnership** between Nations and organizations which strives to preserve coral reefs and related ecosystems around the world.
- Its decisions are **not binding** on its members.
- The Initiative was founded in **1994** by eight governments: Australia, France, Japan, Jamaica, the Philippines, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.
- ICRI currently has more than 60 members including **MoEFCCC, India**.

45. Consider the following statements regarding Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRT's)

1. It facilitates the debt recovery involving banks and other financial institutions with their customers.
2. DRTs are established under Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993.
3. It can hear claims of damages or deficiency of services or breach of contract or criminal negligence on the part of the lenders.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: B

- **Debt Recovery Tribunals** facilitates the debt recovery involving banks and other financial institutions with their customers. DRTs are established under **Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act (RDBBFI), 1993**.
- It enforces provisions of the recovery of **Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions (RDDDBFI) Act, 1993** and also Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interests (**SARFAESI) Act, 2002**.



- A Debts Recovery Tribunal (DRT) can hear cross suits, counter claims and allow set offs. It cannot hear claims of damages or deficiency of services or breach of contract or criminal negligence on the part of the lenders.
- However, it cannot hear claims of damages or deficiency of services or breach of contract or criminal negligence on the part of the lenders.

46. Consider the following statements regarding National Anti-Profiteering Authority

1. National Anti-profiteering Authority (NAA) is the institutional mechanism under GST law to check the unfair profit-making activities by the trading community.
2. Core function of NAA is to ensure that the benefits of the reduction in GST rates on goods and services made by GST Council ultimately passed to consumers.

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

Solution: C

The **National Anti-Profiteering Authority (NAA)** has been constituted under Section 171 of the **Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017** to ensure that the reduction in rate of tax or the benefit of input tax credit is passed on to the recipient by way of commensurate reduction in prices. Further, the following steps have been taken by the NAA to ensure that customers get the full benefit of tax cuts:

1. Holding regular meetings with the Zonal Screening Committees and the Chief Commissioners of Central Tax to stress upon consumer awareness programmes;
2. Launching a helpline to resolve the queries of citizens regarding registration of complaints against profiteering.
3. Receiving complaints through email and NAA portal.
4. Working with consumer welfare organizations in order to facilitate outreach activities.



47. Consider the following statements regarding National Commission for Woman

1. National Commission for Women is a statutory body constituted under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990.
2. It doesn't have suo-moto powers for investigating the matter related to women concern.

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

Solution: A

The **National Commission for Women** was set up as **statutory** body in January **1992** under the **National Commission for Women Act, 1990**, to

1. Review the Constitutional and Legal safeguards for women
2. Recommend remedial legislative measures
3. Facilitate redressal of grievances
4. Advise the Government on all policy matters affecting women
5. It has suo-moto powers for investigating the matter related to women concern.

48. Ocean Seven, recently in the news, refers to

- (a) A swimming marathon challenge
- (b) The world's first all-woman crew to circumnavigate the globe on a sail boat
- (c) An underwater rover that is the world's first to reach the seven deepest known points of the Earth's oceans
- (d) The seven-most critically endangered keystone species in the oceans

Solution: A

- '**Ocean Seven**' is a swimming marathon consisting of seven channel swims and is considered to be on par with the Seven Summits (mountaineering challenge). The arduous task challenges a swimmer to swim across world's most difficult seas.



49. Consider the following statements

1. Saponi People are largely found in the riverine islands of Brahmaputra.
2. The famous Banihal Pass is situated on Karakoram Range

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

Solution: A

- The famous **Banihal Pass** is situated on **Pirpanjal range**.

50. 'Repeal the 8th' and 'Save the 8th', phrases that recently appeared in the news, are related to

- (a) Conflict minerals in DR Congo
- (b) Presidential powers in Turkey
- (c) Women's rights in Ireland
- (d) Gun control in the USA

Solution: C

- In a historic referendum, the Irish people have voted by a landslide to repeal the 8th amendment to the country's constitution, allowing the government to legislate for abortion.
- The vote illustrates the monumental shift in attitudes towards women's rights in Ireland. It's also testament to the power of a grassroots mobilized campaign which enabled women to share 35 years' worth of experiences of pregnancy under the 8th amendment.

(Day 47)



51. Which of the following were the goals of the planning system in India between 1950-1990 ?

1. Export promotion
2. Industrialization
3. Self reliance
4. Equity

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

Solution: A

- All the above are the goals of the planning system in India between 1950-1990.

52. Consider the following statements regarding Five Year Plan in India

1. The duration of plan holiday was from 1966 to 1969.
2. “Garibi Hatao” slogan was given during Fourth Five Year Plan.
3. Third Five Year Plan was based on the P.C. Mahalanobis Model.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: A

- **Third Five Year Plan** was based on **Gadgil Yojna**.



53. Consider the following statements:

1. Stagflation is a situation in which the inflation rate is high and at the same time economic growth rate remains steadily high.
2. Deflation refers to the decrease in the general price level of goods and services but inflation rate remains above zero.

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

Solution: D

- **Stagflation** is a condition of slow economic growth and relatively high unemployment, or economic stagnation, accompanied by rising prices, or inflation.
- **Deflation** is the general decline in prices for goods and services occurring when the inflation rate falls below 0%.

54. Consider the statements regarding Systemically Important Financial Institutions (SIFIs)

1. The idea of SIFI has emerged from the Pittsburgh summit of World Bank.
2. Systemically Important Financial Institutions (SIFIs) are perceived as institutions that are Too Big to Fail (TBTF).

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

Solution: B



- **Systemically Important Financial Institutions (SIFIs)** as institutions “whose distress or disorderly failure, because of their size, complexity and systemic interconnectedness, would cause significant disruption to the wider financial system and economic activity”.
- At global level, based on the suggestion of **G-20 Leaders** in **Pittsburgh summit** in **2009**, FSB spearheads the efforts of formulating a framework for assessing and regulating SIFIs.
- Systemically Important Financial Institutions (SIFIs) are perceived as institutions that are **Too Big to Fail (TBTF)**

55. Consider the statements regarding International Financial Service Centre (IFSC)

1. An IFSC caters to customers outside the jurisdiction of the domestic economy.
2. IFSC exclusively deals asset management and global portfolio diversification only

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

Solution: A

An IFSC is thus a jurisdiction that provides world class financial services to non-residents and residents, to the extent permissible under the current regulations, in a currency other than the domestic currency (Indian rupee) of the location where the IFSC is located.

Products and Services at IFSCs:

- Fund Raising for individuals, corporations and governments (sovereign and sub-sovereign)
- Asset Management and Global Portfolio Diversification
- Personal Wealth Management (PWM) for high-net worth individuals (HNWIs).
- Global Tax Management and Cross- border Tax Liability Optimisation



56. Disinvestment in a PSU is approved by

- (a) Ministry of Finance
- (b) Parliament
- (c) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
- (d) NITI Ayog

Solution: C

- **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** approves **disinvestment** in **public sector**.

57. The Global Education Monitoring Report published by

- (a) United Nations
- (b) World Bank
- (c) World Economic Forum
- (d) UNESCO

Solution: D

<https://en.unesco.org/gem-report/taxonomy/term/210>

58. Which of the following statement best describes 'transfer pricing' ?

- (a) The tax that both resident and non-resident Indians need to pay while transferring the shares of a company they own in some other nation to that in India.
- (b) It is a tax that is levied on retrospective deals made in the transfer of a company from one nation to the other.
- (c) Transfer pricing is the setting of the price for goods and services sold between controlled legal entities within an enterprise.
- (d) None of the statements (a), (b), (c) are correct.

Solution: C



59. Government takes several measures to increase Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In this context, which of the following best describes the GDP ?

- (a) All the final goods and services produced in an economy.
- (b) Monetary value of goods and services produced in a given period of time.
- (c) Monetary value of all the final goods and services produced in a given period of time in an economy.
- (d) Monetary value of all imports and exports of a country in given period of time.

Solution: C

- **GDP** is measured on the basis of monetary value of all the final goods and services produced in a given period of time in an economy.

60. Which of the following statements best describes the 'Seed Capital' ?

- (a) Essential capital required to procure seeds for cultivation in monsoon season.
- (b) It is a capital required to make initial investments in stock market.
- (c) Bail out capital given by the government for public sector enterprises.
- (d) It is an early capital required to start a new business.

Solution: D

61. Consider the following statements:

1. Import substitution is an inward looking trade strategy aimed at replacing imports with domestic production.
2. Import cover is the number of months of imports that could be paid for by a country's Forex reserves.

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

Solution: C



62. With reference to Indian economy, which of the following best describes Exit policy

- (a) Right or ability of an industrial unit or a firm to withdraw from or to close down.
- (b) Policy of repatriation of income by multi-national companies
- (c) Disinvestment policy of Public sector enterprises
- (d) Export policy that guides direction of exports from India

Solution: A

63. Which of the following statements best describes Unemployment ?

- (a) A situation in which individuals are working, but not able to generate any income.
- (b) A situation in which individuals are willing to work at the prevailing rate of wages but could not get the job.
- (c) A situation in which government is largely failed to create good jobs in the market.
- (d) None of the statements (a), (b) and (c) are correct

Solution: B

64. 'State Start Up Ranking', recently seen in news, is released by

- (a) Ministry of Finance
- (b) Ministry of Skill Development
- (c) Ministry of Commerce and Industries
- (d) NITI Ayog

Solution: C

- The **Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP)** announced results of the first ever States' **Start-up Ranking 2018** at an event in New Delhi today. DIPP began this exercise from January, 2016.

65. What would be the possible implications of developing Chabahar Port for India.

1. It may increase strategic presence of India in Indian ocean.
2. It reduces dependence on Pakistan for transportation of goods to Afghanistan.



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

66. Consider the following pairs

Place in News	Country/Continent
1. Mogadishu	: Somalia
2. Darfur	: South Sudan
3. Lake Chad	: West Asia

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

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

Solution: A

- **Darfur** is located in **Sudan**.
- **Lake Chad** is located in **Africa**.

67. Consider the following statements regarding Araku Valley

- 1. Araku valley is largely known for its Arabica coffee.
- 2. Bonda and Gonds largely inhabit Araku Valley.
- 3. Araku Valley is located in Western Ghats of Karnataka.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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



- (c) 3 only
- (d) 2 and 3 only

Solution: B

- Araku Valley is a hill station in Visakhapatnam district in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Kodhus and Valmiki tribe are largely found in Araku Valley.
- The Anantagiri and Sunkarimetta Reserve Forest are part of the Araku Valley which are rich in biodiversity. The area is mined for bauxite. Galikonda hill is amongst the highest peaks.

68. Consider the following pairs

Fruit	Leading Producer of Fruit
1. Pineapple	: West Bengal
2. Cocoa	: Andhra Pradesh
3. Grapes	: Maharashtra

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: B

- **Assam** is the leading producer of **Pineapple**.
- **Kerala** is the leading producer of **Cocoa**.

69. Consider the following statements

1. Golan Heights shares border between Israel and Syria.
2. Dead Sea shares border between Jordan and Israel.
3. Syria shares border with Mediterranean Sea.

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



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

Solution: D

70. Which of the following places sun temples is/are found ?

1. Modhera Temple in Gujarat
2. Konark Temple in Odisha
3. Durga Temple in Karnataka

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Solution: B

- **Durga Temple in Karnataka** is not a Sun Temple.

71. Consider the following statements regarding Nuclear Command Authority (NCA)

1. It is an authority responsible for command, control and operational decisions regarding India's nuclear weapons programme.
2. Strategic Forces Command (SFC) forms part of India's Nuclear Command Authority is responsible for the management and administration of the country's tactical and strategic nuclear weapons stockpile.
3. The Political Council of NCA is chaired by Ministry of Defence

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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



Solution: D

- The **Political Council of NCA** is chaired by **Prime Minister**.

72. Consider the following pairs

Monastery	State
1. Phuktal Monastery	: Sikkim
2. Tawang Monastery	: Arunachal Pradesh
3. Tsuglagkhang Monastery	: Himachal Pradesh

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

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

Solution: D

- **Phuktal Monastery** is located in **Jammu and Kashmir**.

73. Which of the following tribes are present in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

- 1. Oraons
- 2. Jarawa
- 3. Shompen

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Solution: D

- **Oraon**, aboriginal people of the **Chota Nāgpur region** in the state of **Bihār**.



74. Consider the following statements regarding Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA)

1. Central government or state Governor can declare an area as disturbed area by using AFSPA provisions.
2. Presently, AFSPA is in force in all the states of North eastern India except Sikkim

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

Solution: A

- **AFSPA** is presently in force in all the states of North eastern India except Sikkim, Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram.

75. The 'MiniBooNE', 'IceCube' and 'Minos' experiments/detectors, sometimes seen in the news, are related to which of the following ?

- (a) Exoplanets
- (b) Climate Change experiments
- (c) Interstellar asteroids
- (d) Neutrino Particle observations.

Solution: D

- It is related to **Neutrino particle observations**.

(Day 48)

76. Which one of the following items is **not** included in the 'invisibles' on current account of the balance of payment of India ?

- (a) Foreign Travel
- (b) Transportation
- (c) Insurance



(d) Loans from foreign banks

Solution: D

- **Loans** from the **foreign banks** constitute **capital account** of Balance of Payment.

77. International capital flows have been uncertain and volatile, causing exchange rate and balance of payment crises. Among the various sources of external capital available to India which source is most preferable one ?

- (a) Foreign Institutional Investment
- (b) Portfolio Investment
- (c) External Commercial Borrowing
- (d) Foreign Direct Investment

Solution: D

- **FDI** is one of the **reliable** type of investment. FDI investment setup business in an economy, provide jobs and increase economic activities.

78. Special Economic Zones (SEZ) have been setup by the government to improve export prospects of India. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. It is a geographical region that has economic laws different than country's typical economic laws.
2. Only service sector companies are allowed to invest in SEZ's.

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

Solution: A

- Manufacturing industries can also run business in SEZ's



79. Who among the following falls under the ambit of the Foreign Contribution Regulations Act (FCRA) ?

1. Citizens of India outside India.
2. Overseas branches of companies registered or incorporated in India.
3. Companies and their branches registered and working in India

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Solution: D

- All of them are fall in the ambit of Foreign Contribution Regulation Act

80. Who among the following brings out the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) in India?

- (a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (b) The Department of Economic Affairs
- (c) Central Statistical Office
- (d) Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion

Solution: C

- IIP is published by Central Statistics office (CSO).

81. Infrastructure development in India requires huge capital infusion into the sector. In this context, government has decided to introduce hybrid annuity model (HAM), which of the following are the features of it ?

1. Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) is an investment model which revives PPP.
2. In HAM, private investor funds 80% of project cost.
3. Private player has no role in the ownership of an asset and toll collection.



Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Solution: C

- Private investor funds 60% of project cost.

82. Participatory Notes commonly known as P-Notes are one of the instruments of foreign investment. In this context, consider the following statements ?

1. These are financial instruments used by investors that are not registered with the SEBI to invest in Indian securities.
2. The investors enjoy the voting rights in relation to shares invested.

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

Solution: A

- Investors of P-Notes doesn't enjoy voting rights unlike shareholders of the company.

83. In the context of which of the following do you sometimes find the terms 'amber box, blue box and green box' in the news ?

- (a) WTO affairs
- (b) SAARC affairs
- (c) UNFCCC affairs
- (d) India-EU negotiations on FTA



Solution: A

84. With reference to the New Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20, consider the following statements:

1. It has launched Merchandise Export from India Scheme to incentivize exports by giving duty concessions.
2. It aims to increase India's exports to US\$900 billion by 2019-20.

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

Solution: C

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=117917>

85. Which of the following are part of World Bank Group of which India is also a member?

1. Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency.
2. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.
3. International Development Association.
4. International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Solution: C

- India is not a part of ICSID



86. Regarding the International Monetary Fund, which one of the following statements is correct ?

- (a) It can grant loans to any country
- (b) It can grant loans to only developed countries
- (c) It grants loans to only member countries
- (d) It can grant loans to the central bank of a country

Solution: C

87. With reference to the currency market, the term “Convertibility” is used to denote

1. Freedom to exchange currencies like commodities across the counter.
2. Freedom to invest globally.
3. Freedom to residents to remit outside the country.

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Solution: A

- **Convertibility** is the quality that allows money or other financial instruments to be converted into other liquid stores of value.
- Convertibility is an important factor in international trade, where instruments valued in different currencies must be exchanged.

83. ‘SWISS Challenge Model’, often in news, is

- (a) International air traffic management model implemented in UDAAN mission.
- (b) Operation to uncover black money from Switzerland.
- (c) Challenge to clean corrupt practices in taxation system in India
- (d) One of the method of awarding government contracts to private players.

Solution: D



- **Swiss Challenge method** is one of the ways of awarding government contracts to private players. Without an invitation from government, a private player can submit a proposal to government for development of an infrastructure project with exclusive intellectual property rights.

89. Recently, Indian and Chinese armies confronted along the Pangong lake. Which of the following statements are correct regarding Pangong Lake ?

- (a) A brackish water lake present in Ladakh region
- (b) A brackish water lake present in Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) A fresh water lake present in Himachal Pradesh
- (d) A fresh water lake present in Sikkim

Solution: A

- **Pangong Lake in Kashmir** is the **world's highest brackish lake** at 14,256 feet **above sea level**. In winter the lake freezes completely, despite being **saline** water.

90. Which one of the following statements regarding India's Strategic Crude Oil Reserve Programme is **not** correct ?

- (a) The reserves will be developed along the coastal areas.
- (b) The crude oil storages are kept in underground rock caverns instead of conventional tanks.
- (c) Domestically produced oil will be the main source of the reserve.
- (d) It aims to take advantage of the slump in global crude oil prices.

Solution: C

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=184239>

91. Consider the following statements

1. The process of naming cyclones is done under the aegis of World Meteorological Organisation.



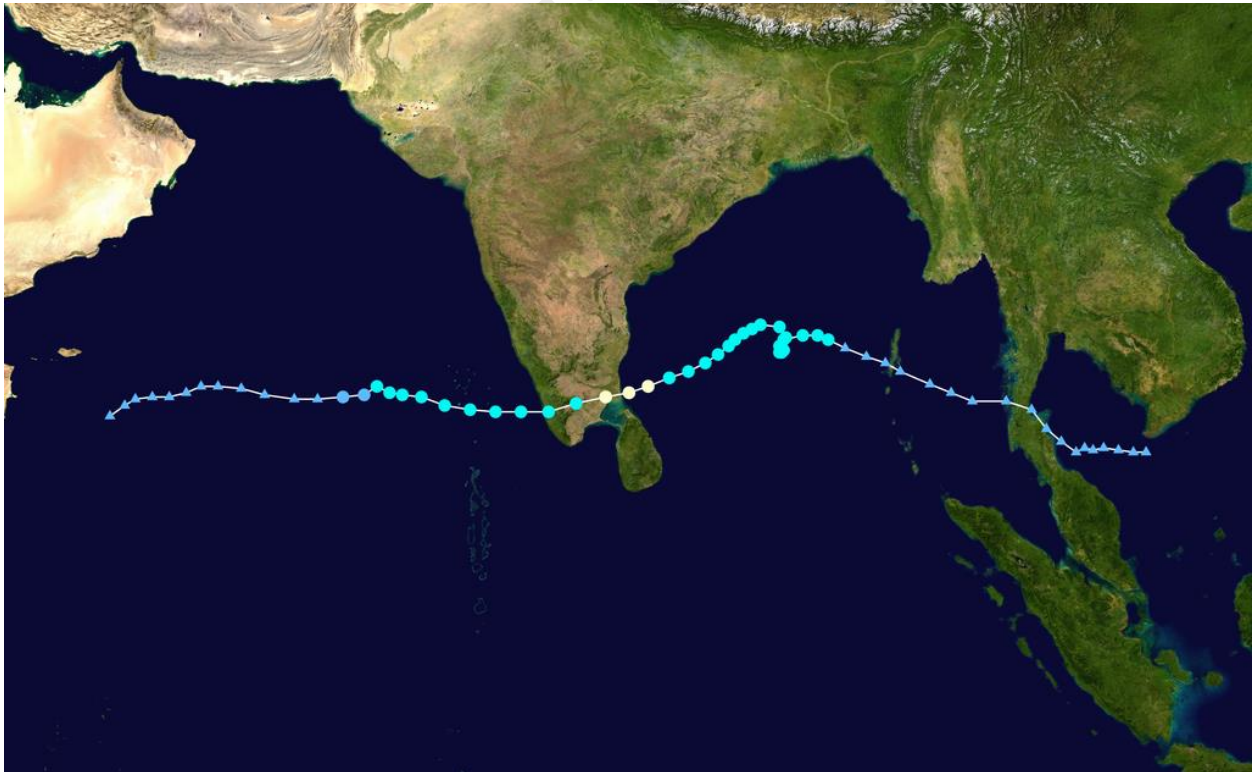
2. Severe Cyclonic Storm Gaja was the fifth named cyclone of the 2018 North Indian Ocean cyclone season, after Cyclones Sagar, Mekunu, Luban and Titli.

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

Solution: C

- Severe Cyclonic Storm Gaja was the fifth named cyclone of the 2018 North Indian Ocean cyclone season, after Cyclones Sagar, Mekunu, Luban and Titli.
- Forming on November 5 as a low pressure system over the Gulf of Thailand, the system crossed through Southern Thailand and the Malay Peninsula and eventually crossed into the Andaman Sea.





92. Which of the following species is/are naturally found in India ?

1. Mountain Gorilla
2. Giraffe
3. Spectacled Monkey
4. Striped Hyenas

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 4 only
- (c) 3 and 4 only
- (d) None

Solution: C

- **Spectacled Monkey** and **Striped Hyenas** are naturally found in India.

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/an-initiative-to-save-the-striped-hyenas-of-india/article26446129.ece>

93. Consider the following statements regarding The High-Biodiversity Wilderness Areas (HBWA)

1. HBWA approach has been developed by IUCN.
2. Wilderness areas are classified as areas $\geq 10,000$ km² that are based on the world's terrestrial ecoregions, with a human population density outside urban areas of ≤ 5 people per km²
3. India has no High-Biodiversity Wilderness Areas

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: C

- HBWA approach has been developed by Conservation International



<http://www.biodiversitya-z.org/content/high-biodiversity-wilderness-areas-hbwa>

94. Vetiver grass is becoming a popular crop in the recent past. In this context consider the following statements

1. It is ideal for the long coastline, as it is suited for sandy soil
2. It has capability to combat soil erosion and fix carbon dioxide.
3. It has considerable global demand in Aromatic Industry.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: D

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/agri-business/making-farmers-do-wonders-with-this-grass/article25592143.ece>

95. Consider the following statements

1. The Global Invasive Species Database is a free, online searchable source of information about alien and invasive species that negatively impact biodiversity.
2. It is managed by the Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) of the IUCN.

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

Solution: C

<http://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/about.php>



96. Consider the following statements regarding Global Platform for Sustainable Cities

1. It is a knowledge sharing program that will provide access to cutting-edge tools and promote an integrated approach to sustainable urban planning and financing.
2. It is funded by the Global Environment Facility

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

Solution: C

<https://www.thegpsc.org/about>

97. Consider the following statements C40

1. C40 is a network of the world's megacities committed to addressing climate change.
2. C40 supports cities to collaborate effectively, share knowledge and drive meaningful, measurable and sustainable action on climate change.

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

Solution: C

<https://www.c40.org/about>

98. Consider the following statements

1. Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA) is a national rating system for green buildings in India.



2. It was conceived by Bureau of Indian Standard and developed with Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
3. It is mandatory to get GRIHA for all the commercial establishments in metropolitan cities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: C

- It was conceived by **TERI** and developed with **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy**.
- It is **not mandatory** to get GRIHA rating for any of the establishments in India.

<http://www.grihaindia.org/griha-rating>

99. Consider the following statements

1. Peer to peer (P2P) lending is a form of crowd funding used to raise unsecured loans which are re-paid with interest.
2. P2P lending platforms in India are prohibited from permitting any international flow of funds.
3. P2P entities are registered under provisions of second schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Solution: D



- RBI vide a Notification on 24th August, 2017, enabled **P2P entities** as Non-Banking Financial Company (**NBFC**). However, an existing NBFC will not be able to operate as an NBFC-P2P.

[http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php?title=Peer to peer \(P2P\) lending](http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php?title=Peer_to_peer_(P2P)_lending)

100. Consider the following statements

1. Priority Sector Lending Certificates (PSLCs) are tradable certificates issued against priority sector loans of banks so as to enable banks to achieve their specified target and sub-targets for priority sector lending.
2. All Scheduled Commercial Banks except Regional Rural Banks and Urban Co-operative Banks are eligible to participate in the trading.

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

Solution: A

- All Scheduled Commercial Banks (including Regional Rural Banks), Urban Co-operative Banks, Small Finance Banks (when they become operational) and Local Area Banks are eligible to participate in the trading.

[http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php?title=Priority Sector Lending Certificates \(PSLC\)](http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php?title=Priority_Sector_Lending_Certificates_(PSLC))