

## **INSIGHTS IAS REVISION QUESTIONS FOR UPSC PRELIMS – 2019**

This document is the compilation of **100 questions** that are part of **InsightsIAS'** famous REVISION initiative for **UPSC Civil Services Examination – 2019** (which has become most anticipated annual affair by lakhs of IAS aspirants across the country). These questions are carefully framed so as to give aspirants tough challenge to test their knowledge and at the same time improve skills such as intelligent guessing, elimination, reasoning, deduction etc – which are much needed to sail through tough Civil Services Preliminary Examination conducted by UPSC.

These questions are based on this **Revision Timetable** which is posted on our website ([www.insightsonindia.com](http://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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**Wish you all the best!**

**Team InsightsIAS**



## Solutions – (Day 49)

1. Consider the following statements regarding certification marks in India

1. Silk Mark is a mandatory certification mark managed by the Silk Mark Organization of India.
2. FPO mark got a mandatory status only after the Food Safety and Standards Act of 2006.
3. India organic is the certification Mark issued by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers welfare.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

### Solution: C

**Silk Mark** is a certification mark in India for **silk textiles**. The mark certifies that the piece of textile which bears the mark is made of **pure natural silk**. The certification is managed by the '**Silk Mark Organisation of India**', a society set up by the state-controlled Central Silk Board of India. The mark is only **advisory in nature** and is not legally endorsed.

The **FPO mark** is a certification mark mandatory on all **processed fruit products** sold in India such as packaged fruit beverages, fruit-jams, crushes and squashes, pickles, dehydrated fruit products, and fruit extracts, following the **Food Safety and Standards Act of 2006**.

- The standards have been in force since 1955 by the law of Fruit Products Order, after which the mark is named, but the mark itself got a mandatory status only after the Food Safety and Standards Act of 2006.

**India Organic certification** is issued by testing centers accredited by the **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)** under the **National Program for Organic Production** of the Government of India.



2. With reference to Banking Codes and Standards Board of India (BCSBI), consider the following statements

1. It was set up on the recommendation of Raghuram Rajan committee.
2. It was registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
3. Membership of BCSBI is compulsory to scheduled banks.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: B**

In November **2003**, Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) constituted the **Committee on Procedures and Performance Audit of Public Services** under the Chairmanship of **Shri S.S.Tarapore** (former Deputy Governor) to address the issues relating to availability of adequate banking services to the common person.

Membership of BCSBI is **not compulsory** to scheduled banks

[http://www.bcsbi.org.in/Abt\\_Background.html](http://www.bcsbi.org.in/Abt_Background.html)

3. Consider the following statements regarding agriculture inputs in India.

1. Neem coated urea releases neem oil in the soil which increases nitrogen fixation by the soil microorganisms.
2. Certification of seeds is mandatory in India.
3. Zero budget farming practice believes in no addition of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides into the soil.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: A**



**Neem coated Urea** slows down the rate of dissolution of urea in the soil. However neem oil released by neem coated doesn't help in increasing nitrogen fixation by the soil microorganisms.

**Seed certification** is a process designed to maintain and make available to the general public continuous supply of high quality seeds and propagating materials of notified kinds and varieties of crops, so grown and distributed to ensure the physical identity and genetic purity.

- Seed certification is a **legally sanctioned system** for quality control of seed multiplication and production and it is **not mandatory**.

4. Consider the following statements:

1. India do not have any indigenous production of Mono-Ammonium Phosphate (MAP) and Triple Super Phosphate (TSP).
2. N: P: K ratio in the Indian soil is nearly ideal due to the scientific usage of synthetic fertilizers.
3. In India, fertilizers can only be manufactured by public enterprises.

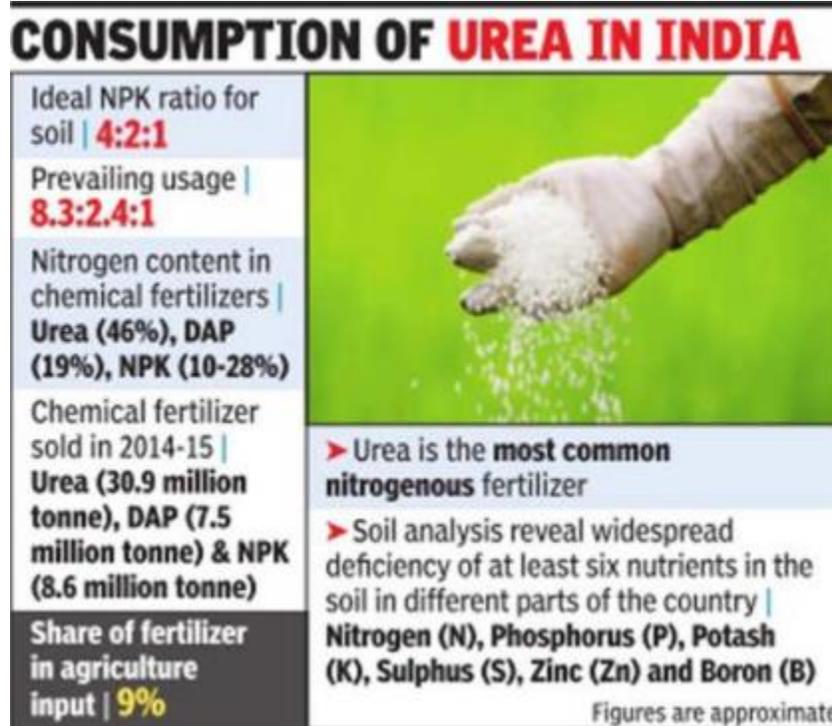
Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: D**

Domestic production of **Mono-Ammonium Phosphate (MAP)** and **Triple Super Phosphate (TSP)** exist in India.

In India, fertilizers can be produced by private enterprises also. Ex: Mangalore chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. (MCF) ,Mangalore.



5. Sowa Rigpa, commonly known as ‘Amchi’ is one of the oldest surviving system of medicine in the world is popularly practiced in

- (a) Andaman and Nicobar islands
- (b) Central India
- (c) Himalayan Region
- (d) Peninsular India

**Solution: C**

<http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php?title=AYUSH>

6. Consider the following statements with reference to Minimum Support Price (MSP):

1. MSP are announced by the Government of India for all crops grown during all the three seasons.
2. MSP for food grains is kept necessarily higher than market price of the grains.

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**

**MSP** is announced for only **selected crops** (22 mandated crops: **14 crops of the kharif** season viz. paddy, jowar, bajra, maize, ragi, arhar, moong, urad, groundnut-in-shell, soyabean, sunflower, sesamum, nigerseed and cotton ; **6 rabi crops** viz. wheat, barley, gram, masur(lentil), rapeseed/mustard and safflower ; and **two other commercial crops** viz. jute and copra ; MSPs of toria and de-husked coconut are fixed on the basis of the MSPs of rapeseed/mustard and copra, respectively)

**Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP)** is announced for **sugarcane**

MSP price is kept relatively **lower than market price**.

7. With reference to the Price Stabilization Fund Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. Fund is primarily constituted to for the purpose of containing extreme volatility in prices of selected commodities in the market.
2. Price stabilization fund was setup and managed by NABARD

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**

- PSFS is created and managed by government of India

8. Consider the following statements regarding the Buffer Stock Management in India?

1. At present, buffer stock is maintained for rice and wheat only.
2. Ministry of Agriculture fixes the minimum buffer norms every year.

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**

**Buffer stock** is maintained for **pulses also**. Cabinet committee on economic affairs (CCEA) fixes buffer norms in every year.

[http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php?title=Foodgrain Management in India](http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php?title=Foodgrain_Management_in_India)

9. With reference to the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC), consider the following statements:

1. It was incorporated as a fully owned Government Company under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013
2. Its objective is to provide financial assistance to persons belonging to scheduled castes living below Double the Poverty Line limit.
3. It works under the Ministry of Social justice and Empowerment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: C**

10. Which of the following is correct regarding the Market Intervention Scheme of Government of India ?

- (a) It is a price support mechanism for procurement of perishable and horticultural commodities in the even of a fall in market prices.
- (b) It is a protectionist tariff that the government imposes on foreign imports to protect domestic sector.
- (c) It is a protectionist mechanism of the government to prevent monopoly of MNCs in India.



- (d) It is a mechanism to avoid sudden crashing of domestic stock market

**Solution: A**

**11.** Consumer price index for Agricultural and Rural labourers is released by

- (a) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's welfare
- (b) Labour Bureau
- (c) Central Statistics office
- (d) Ministry of Rural Development

**Solution: B**

**12.** With reference to Soil Health Card Scheme, consider the following statements

- 1. It is field-specific detailed report of soil fertility status.
- 2. It aims to provide farm insurance based on soil health.
- 3. Every soil health card will be renewed every year.

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: A**

**Soil Health Card is renewed in 3 years and doesn't provide soil health insurance**

**13.** Consider the following statements regarding 'National Highways' (NH) in India:

- 1. NH's constitute 2% of total road ways but carry 80% of total traffic in India.
- 2. East-west corridor connects Silchar in the east to Porbandar in the west.
- 3. National Highways Development Programme (NHDP) is implemented by Central Public Works Department, Ministry of Highways and Road Transport



Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

**Solution: D**

NH carries 40% of traffic and NHDP is implemented by National Highway Authority of India.

**14.** The first Union Territory to run entirely on solar power is

- (a) Diu
- (b) Chandigarh
- (c) Mahe (Puducherry)
- (d) Lakshadweep

**Solution: A**

The harnessing of solar energy has made Diu the country's first energy surplus Union territory and a model for an effective way for people to harness this renewable energy source.

**15.** *Ashtapadiyattam* is a traditional dance drama based on

- (a) Vedas
- (b) Gita Govinda
- (c) Natya Shastra
- (d) Abhinaya Darpana

**Solution: B**

The dance-drama *Ashtapadiyattam* celebrating the mythological Radha-Krishna love is based on *Gita Govinda* of Jayadev.



16. Consider the following statements

1. The President has pardoning powers with respect to central laws while the governor's powers are with respect to state laws.
2. The president is the only authority to pardon a death sentence. Governor can suspend, remit or commute a death sentence but not pardon.
3. Article 72 empowers the State Governor to grant pardons, suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: D**

**Article 161**, is the parallel provision of **Article 72**, empowers the **State Governor** to grant pardons, suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases.

17. Consider the following statements regarding DigiLocker

1. DigiLocker is an application for issuance and verification of documents and certificates in a digital format.
2. It is launched by the Centre government under the Digital India programme.
3. 100 GB of storage space is offered to users to store identification card issued by government agencies, education certificates, PAN cards, driving license etc.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: B**

**1 GB of storage space** is offered to users to store identification card issued by government agencies, education certificates, PAN cards, driving license, vehicle ownership documents and some other documents.



**18.** Consider the following statements regarding SECTION 497 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC)

1. Section 497 punishes a married man for the offence of adultery if he had sexual relations with a married woman without the consent or connivance of her husband.
2. Recently, five-judge Constitution bench of the Supreme Court unanimously ruled to scrap 158-year-old Section 497.

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**

**19.** Consider the following statements

1. National Disaster Response Fund is defined in Section 46 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 as fund managed by the Central Government for meeting the expenses for emergency response, relief and rehabilitation.
2. Disaster Management Act, 2005 doesn't define disaster in the act.
3. NDRF is placed in the Contingency Fund of India under Government of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: A**

**National Disaster Response Fund** is defined in Section 46 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 (DM Act) as a fund managed by the **Central Government** for meeting the expenses for emergency response, relief and rehabilitation due to any threatening disaster situation or disaster.

**NDRF** is constituted to supplement the funds of the State Disaster Response Funds (**SDRF**) of the states to facilitate immediate relief in case of calamities of a severe nature.



The DM Act defines “**disaster**” to mean ‘a catastrophe, mishap, calamity or grave occurrence in any area, arising from natural or man-made causes, or by accident or negligence which results in substantial loss of life or human suffering or damage to, and destruction of, property, or damage to, or degradation of, environment, and is of such a nature or magnitude as to be beyond the coping capacity of the community of the affected area.

NDRF is located in the “**Public Accounts**” of Government of India under “**Reserve Funds not bearing interest**”

[http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php?title=National Disaster Response Fund \(NDRF\)](http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php?title=National_Disaster_Response_Fund_(NDRF))

**20.** Union Cabinet recently approved New Telecom Policy. In this context, consider the following statements.

1. It aims to create four million jobs.
2. It aims to ensure universal broadband connectivity at 50 Mbps to every citizen.
3. The policy states that spectrum is a key natural resource which is to be used for public benefit.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: D**

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/new-telecom-policy-aims-to-provide-broadband-access-to-all-citizens-by-2022/article25051024.ece>

**21.** Global Environment Facility, funds which of the following International Environment Conventions

1. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
2. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
3. United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)
4. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)



Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

**Solution: D**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global\\_Environment\\_Facility](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_Environment_Facility)

**22.** Consider the following statements regarding Interpol

1. Interpol is world's largest international police organization.
2. Intelligence Bureau is the agency associating with Interpol in India.
3. Blue Notice seeks to locate and arrest of wanted persons with a view to extradition or similar lawful action

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: A**

**CBI** is the agency associating with Interpol in India.

**Red Notice** seeks to locate and arrest of wanted persons with a view to extradition or similar lawful action.

**23.** Consider the following statements

1. BSE is Asia's first stock exchange, established in 1875.
2. Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) is an indicator of the economic health of the manufacturing sector and service sectors.

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**

24. Operation Samudra Maitri, recently seen in news, is related to

- (a) Bilateral military exercise between India and Maldives
- (b) Multilateral military exercise between Indian Ocean littoral exercises.
- (c) Joint development of islands in Indian ocean by littoral states.
- (d) Humanitarian assistance mission of India to help tsunami-hit Indonesia.

**Solution: D**

Three Indian Navy ships **INS Tir**, **INS Sujatha** and **INS Shardul** have been mobilised to carry out Humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

25. The first Indian law to mandate social audit as a statutory requirement was the

- (a) Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act
- (b) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
- (c) Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- (d) National Food Security Act

**Solution: B**

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (**MGNREGA**) was the **first law to mandate social audit** as a **statutory requirement**.



## (Day 50)

26. Consider the following statements regarding Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana (VKY)

1. VKY aims at creating enabling environment for need based and outcome oriented holistic development of the tribal people.
2. It is implemented at schedule areas present in different states.
3. It is implemented by Ministry for Social Justice and Empowerment.

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: C

The Government of India, **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** has launched **Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana (VKY)** for **welfare of Tribals**.

- VKY aims at creating enabling environment for need based and outcome oriented holistic development of the tribal people. This process envisages to ensure that all the intended benefits of goods and services under various programmes/schemes of Central as well as State Governments actually reach the target groups by convergence of resources through appropriate institutional mechanism.
- It **covers all tribal people** and **all areas with tribal population** across the country.

27. Consider the following statements regarding Van Dhan Scheme

1. The Van Dhan Scheme is an initiative of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and TRIFED.
2. Scheme is implemented by constituting 10 Self Help Groups of 30 Tribal gatherers.
3. It aims at build upon the traditional knowledge and skill sets of tribals by adding technology and IT for value addition.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- (a) 2 only



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

**Solution: D**

<http://vikaspedia.in/social-welfare/scheduled-tribes-welfare/van-dhan-scheme?content=small>

**28.** Consider the following statements regarding Jal Kranti Abhiyan

1. It is being celebrated to consolidate water conservation and management restricted to Indo-Gangetic plain through a holistic and integrated approach involving all stakeholders, making it a mass movement.
2. No separate fund have been allotted and various expenditure will be met from existing schemes of central and state governments

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**

**Jal Kranti Abhiyan** is being celebrated to consolidate water conservation and management **in the country** through a holistic and integrated approach involving all stakeholders, making it a mass movement.

**29.** Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana is concerned with which of the following ?

- (a) Providing LED bulbs at subsidized rate
- (b) Providing rural women with smokeless chulhas.
- (c) Scheme for Prevention of Trafficking, Rescue and Rehabilitation of Victims of Sexual Exploitation.
- (d) Providing free LPG connections to women from BPL Households.

**Solution: D**



**Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)** aims to safeguard the health of women & children by providing them with a **clean cooking fuel – LPG**, so that they don't have to compromise their health in smoky kitchens or wander in unsafe areas collecting firewood.

**30.** Consider the following statements regarding Cyber Gram Project ?

1. Ministry of Minority Affairs has launched Cyber Gram Project.
2. Under this initiative, students of minority communities are provided hands on training in computers to enable them to acquire basic Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills to become digitally literate
3. The project is being implemented through Common Service Center (CSC) e-governance India Ltd

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: C**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=177408>

**31.** Which of the following became first State to implement biofuel policy ?

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Haryana
- (d) Gujarat

**Solution: A**

Recently, **Rajasthan** became **first state** in the country to implement **National Policy on Biofuels** unveiled by Union Government in May 2018



**32.** Consider the following statements regarding Transformation of Aspirational Districts.

1. It aims to quickly and effectively transform some of India's most underdeveloped districts.
2. It aims to develop around 500 districts under developed districts by 2022.
3. Officers at the level of Joint Secretary / Additional Secretary have been nominated to become the 'Central Prabhari Officers' of each district.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: C**

The 112 districts were identified from 27 states, at least one from each state, in a transparent manner by a committee of Senior Officers to the Government of India, in consultation with State Officials using a composite index of key data sets that included deprivation enumerated under the Socio-Economic Caste Census, key health and education sector performance and state of basic infrastructure.

<http://vikaspedia.in/social-welfare/rural-poverty-alleviation-1/transformation-of-aspirational-districts>

**33.** Mission XI Million, often seen in news, is a

- (a) outreach programme launched by the Union Government to promote football among school children.
- (b) outreach programme launched by the Union Government to promote vaccination across the country.
- (c) outreach programme launched by the Union Government to promote micro-nutrition intake by the young children of the age group 1-14.
- (d) outreach programme launched by the Union Government to create awareness about financial and digital literacy.

**Solution: A**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169352>



34. Consider the following statements

1. Swadhar is a central sector scheme for integrated services to women in difficult circumstances like destitute widows, women prisoners released from jail and without family support, women survivors of natural disasters etc.
2. Sakhi is a one-stop centre for providing medical, legal and rehabilitation facilities for women subjected to any kind of 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: C**

35. Consider the following pairs

State	Scheme
1. Telangana	- Rythu Bandhu Scheme
2. Andhra Pradesh	- Mission Bhagiratha
3. Rajasthan	- Suryashakti Kisan Yojana

Which of the pairs given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: D**

**Mission Bhagiratha** is a scheme devised by the **Government of Telangana** to ensure safe and sustainable piped drinking water supply from surface water sources.

**Suryashakti Kisan Yojana** is a **solar power scheme for farmers** recently launched by the government of **Gujarat**.



36. Consider the following statements regarding Baal Aadhar

1. It is a blue coloured Aadhaar card for children aged below 18 years.
2. It does not include child's biometric information.
3. Photo ID cards issued by child's school, child's birth certificate can be used for
4. Aadhaar enrolment of a child.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: B**

It is a **blue coloured Aadhaar** card for **children** aged **below 5 years**.

37. Consider the following statements regarding PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance And Timely Implementation).

1. It is a three-tier system including PMO, Union Government Secretaries, and Chief Secretaries of the States.
2. It is a multi-purpose and multi-modal platform that is aimed at addressing common man's grievances.
3. It simultaneously monitoring and reviewing important programmes and projects of the Government of India as well as projects flagged by State Governments.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: D**

<http://vikaspedia.in/e-governance/digital-india/pragati-platform>



38. Which of the statements regarding Surya Mitra Scheme is/are correct ?

1. Scheme aims to create 50,000 trained solar photovoltaic technicians by March 2020.
2. The objective is to provide employability and entrepreneurship to rural and urban youth & women.
3. The programme is 100% funded by GOI and implemented by NITI Ayog

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

**Solution: C**

The programme is 100% funded by GOI and implemented by **National Institute for Solar Energy (NISE)**

39. Consider the following statements regarding PM Urja Ganga Project.

1. It is an ambitious gas pipeline project which aims to provide piped cooking (PNG) gas to residents of the eastern region of the country.
2. The project is being implemented by state-run gas utility GAIL.

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. Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary, recently seen in news, is situated in

- (a) Meghalaya
- (b) Telangana
- (c) Andhra Pradesh
- (d) Tripura



**Solution: D**

**Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary** is a Wildlife Sanctuary in **Tripura**, India. It covers an area of about 163.08 square kilometres. This sanctuary is situated in South Tripura District.

The state-owned ONGC Tripura Asset would soon start extracting natural gas from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary in Belonia subdivision of Gomati district following National Wildlife Board's clearance of its proposal.

**41.** Which of the following countries became the first Country in the world to adopt a crypto currency as its official currency ?

- (a) Marshall Islands
- (b) Kiribati Islands
- (c) Palau Islands
- (d) Nauru Islands

**Solution: A**

The Pacific island nation "**Marshall Islands**" became the **first Country** in the world to adopt a **Cryptocurrency** as its **Official Currency**.

**42.** Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration, recently seen in news, is related to ?

- (a) Combating Terrorism.
- (b) Welfare of Migrant workers in West Asian Countries
- (c) Marine Environment Conservation from Oil spill.
- (d) Biodiversity

**Solution: D**

Recently, Conference of the Parties (**COP 14**) to the **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** was held, adopting **Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration**.

**43.** In which of the following crops C4 Photosynthesis takes place naturally

- 1. Sugarcane
- 2. Corn



### 3. Pineapple

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

#### Solution: C

A **C4 plant** carries out **C4 photosynthesis** is a plant that cycles carbon dioxide into four-carbon sugar compounds to enter into the **Calvin cycle**. These plants are **very efficient in hot, dry climates and make a lot of energy**. Many foods we eat are C4 plants, like **corn, pineapple, and sugar cane**.

44. Consider the following statements regarding Beej Bachao Andolan

- 1. It was launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare
- 2. It aims to conserve traditional and local seeds varieties
- 3. It promotes organic farming practices.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

#### Solution: C

The **Beej Bachao Andolan**, or **Save the Seeds movement** began in the late **1980s** as a group of activists from the **Henwal River Valley** in Tehri district (**Uttarakhand**, India), led by **Vijay Jardhari**, drew links between the **erosion of agricultural biodiversity and rural livelihoods**, and sought to preserve the people's cultural and scientific patrimony, as well as fight back against agrarian policies that favor corporate agribusiness at the expense of small farmers.



**45.** With reference to ‘NITI Forum for North East’, consider the following statements

1. It is tasked to identify various constraints on the way of accelerated, inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the North East Region of the country and to recommend suitable interventions.
2. The Forum may examine and address any other issues which are of importance but not specifically spelt out in its Terms of Reference.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: C**

**46.** Consider the following pairs

Lake/Sea	Location
1. MarkerMeer Lake	: Netherland
2. Ross Sea	: Antarctica
3. Tijuana	: Mexico

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

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

**Solution: C**

**47.** Consider the following statements

1. Panch Theerth are sites related to Ambedkar’s life being developed by Union Government.
2. Recently, Havelock island of Andaman and Nicobar Island has been renamed as Netaji Subash Chandra Bose Island.



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**

**Havelock island of Andaman and Nicobar Island has been renamed as Swaraj Island.**

**48.** Consider the following statements

1. Hongyun is Chinese satellite communication satellite to provide broadband internet services worldwide.
2. Hayabusa2 is an asteroid sample-return mission operated by the Japanese space agency, JAXA.

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**

**49.** Which of the following statements regarding Triclosan is/are true ?

1. Triclosan is an ingredient added to many consumer products intended to reduce or prevent bacterial contamination.
2. It is added to some antibacterial soaps and body washes, toothpastes, and some cosmetics.

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**

**Triclosan** is an ingredient added to many consumer products intended to **reduce or prevent bacterial contamination**. It is added to some antibacterial soaps and body washes, toothpastes, and some cosmetics.

Some short-term animal studies have shown that exposure to **high doses of triclosan** is associated with a **decrease in the levels of some thyroid hormones**.

<https://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm205999.htm>

**50.** With reference to 'Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana', consider the following statements

1. It is a Scholarship Scheme launched by the Department of Posts.
2. It is proposed to award annual scholarships to those students who have good academic record and also pursue Philately as a hobby.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are **not** correct ?

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

**Solution: D**

**Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana : Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude & Research in Stamps as a Hobby ;** Reinforcing the efforts aimed towards increasing the reach of Philately, the Department of Posts is launching a Scholarship Scheme called Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana to **award children** in the class category of **Standard VI to IX**.

Under the Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude & Research in Stamps as a Hobby or Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana it is proposed to award annual scholarships to those students who have good academic record and also pursue Philately as a hobby.



The objective of the scholarship is to “**Promote Philately among children** at a young age in a sustainable manner that can reinforce and supplement the academic curriculum in addition to providing a hobby that can help them relax and de-stress”.

<https://www.indiapost.gov.in/Philately/Pages/Content/Deen-Dayal-SPARSHYojana.aspx>

## (Day 51)

51. With reference to the Nirbhaya Fund, consider the following statements:

1. The fund is created by Ministry of Women and Child Development
2. It is a non-lapsable corpus fund.

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 fund is created by **Ministry of Finance** in 2013. It dedicated for implementation of initiatives aimed at enhancing the safety and security for women in the country.

It is a non-lapsable corpus fund. **Ministry of Women and Child Development** is the **nodal Ministry** to **appraise schemes under Nirbhaya Fund** and also to review and monitor the progress of sanctioned Schemes in conjunction with the line Ministries/Departments.

52. Which of the following countries are members of Eurasian Economic Union ?

1. Armenia
2. Belarus
3. Tajikistan
4. Russia

Select the correct answer using the code given below



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

**Solution: D**

Tajikistan is **not** a member of Eurasian Economic Union.

**53.** Consider the following statements regarding South Asian Sub-Regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC)

1. It was established in 2001 as a project-based partnership to promote regional prosperity by improving cross-border connectivity
2. SASEC comprises India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal 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**

The seven-member **SASEC** comprises India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Myanmar.

**54.** Consider the following statements regarding ASEAN.

1. ASEAN was preceded by an organization formed in 31 July 1961 called the Association of Southeast Asia (ASA), a group consisting of the Philippines, the Federation of Malaya, and Thailand.
2. Vietnam is not a member of ASEAN.
3. ASEAN established Asian Development Bank for the socio-economic development of Asia and Pacific.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- (a) 1 and 3 only



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

**Solution: C**

**Vietnam** is a member of **ASEAN**.

The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** is a regional development bank established on 19 December 1966. It is not established by ASEAN.

**55.** Consider the following statements regarding Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

1. It is an intergovernmental economic organisation, founded to stimulate economic progress and world trade.
2. Most OECD members are high-income economies with a very high Human Development Index (HDI) and are regarded as developed countries.
3. Russia is a founding member of OECD.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: D**

Russia is not a member of OECD.

**56.** Consider the following statements regarding International Organization for Migration (IOM)

1. It was established in 1951 as the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM) to help resettle people displaced by World War II.
2. IOM is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and nongovernmental partners.



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**

**IOM** was established in **1951** as the **Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM)** to help resettle people displaced by World War II.

It was granted **Permanent Observer status** to **UN General Assembly** in **1992**. As of September 2016, it became a related organization of the United Nations.

Its headquarters is in **Geneva**, Switzerland.

IOM is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and nongovernmental partners.

**57.** Consider the following statements regarding Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)

1. It is a statutory body.
2. It develops industries relating to the scheduled products for export by way of providing financial assistance.
3. It fixes standards and specifications for the scheduled products for the purpose of exports.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: C**

[http://apeda.gov.in/apedawebsite/about\\_apeda/About\\_apeda.htm](http://apeda.gov.in/apedawebsite/about_apeda/About_apeda.htm)



58. Consider the following statements

1. National Institute of Solar Energy is an autonomous institution of Ministry of New and Renewable energy
2. India's present solar energy installed capacity is around 50 GW

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: A**

Solar power in India is a fast developing industry. The country's solar installed capacity reached **28.18 GW** as of 31 March 2019.

59. Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF) sometimes seen in news come under the domain of ?

- (a) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- (b) Ministry of Finance
- (c) Ministry of Tourism
- (d) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

**Solution: B**

The administrative control of **Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF)** has been transferred to the **Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Finance Ministry**. So far, it was under the domain of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

60. Consider the following statements

1. E-pashuhaat portal was launched to connect farmers and breeders of bovine animals.
2. Under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) farmers have to pay uniform premium of 2% for all the crops.
3. Long Term Irrigation Fund had been constituted to rejuvenate local ponds and effective management of local watershed system.



Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: C**

**E – Pashu Haat** is a web portal launched by the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**, Government of India, under the **Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF)** to boost dairy productivity in India by organizing the livestock market.

- The portal allows farmers and entrepreneurs find information about **bovine animals**, buy or sell livestock, frozen semen and embryos. It also helps them to check information on feed and fodder and manage the transportation of animals once a purchase is made.

In **PMFBY**, there will be a **uniform premium of only 2%** to be **paid by farmers** for all **Kharif crops** and **1.5% for all Rabi crops**. In case of annual **commercial and horticultural crops**, the premium to be paid by farmers will be **only 5%**. There is **no upper limit** on Government subsidy. Even if balance premium is 90%, it will be borne by the Government.

**Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF)** was created in **2016** with an initial corpus of **Rs. 20,000 crore** for funding and fast tracking the implementation of incomplete major and medium irrigation projects. It aims to bridge the resource gap and facilitate completion of these projects during 2016-2020. LTIF has been instituted in **NABARD** under **PMKSY** (Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana).

**61.** Madrid International Plan of Action, which is often seen in the news, is related to which of the following ?

- (a) Building a society for old age population.
- (b) Addressing the challenge of Climate Change
- (c) Building safe and favourable workplace for Women
- (d) Recognizing the rights of LGBT community

**Solution: A**



The **Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the Political Declaration** adopted at the **Second World Assembly on Ageing** in April **2002** mark a turning point in how the world addresses the key challenge of “**building a society for all ages**”.

**62.** With reference to ‘National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM), consider the following statements

1. It was established in February 2003, by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture.
2. It is a National level comprehensive initiative which caters to the need of conserving manuscripts and disseminating knowledge contained therein

Which of the statement(s) 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.namami.gov.in/about-us-0>

**63.** With reference to Mahila Shakti Kendra Schemes, consider the following statements

1. It aims to empower rural women through community participation and to create an environment in which they realize their full potential.
2. It is fully funded by Central Government.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: A**



Government of India has approved a new scheme namely, **Pradhan Mantri Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK)** for 2017-18 upto 2019-20 to empower rural women through community participation and to create an environment in which they realize their full potential.

MSK will be implemented with a cost sharing pattern between the Central Government and the States as **60:40**, except in respect of North Eastern and Special Category States where the cost sharing ratio shall be 90:10. In the UTs the scheme will be implemented with 100% central funds. All payments made under the scheme must be through PFMS under DBT mode.

<http://vikaspedia.in/social-welfare/women-and-child-development/womendevlopment-1/pradhan-mantri-mahila-shakti-kendra>

**64.** Consider the following statements regarding International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)

1. ITLOS is an independent judicial body established by the UNCLOS to adjudicate disputes arising out of the interpretation and application of the UNCLOS Convention.
2. The Tribunal is open only to the states parties to the convention.

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**

**International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea** is an independent judicial body established by the **UNCLOS** to adjudicate disputes arising out of the interpretation and application of the UNCLOS Convention.

HQ – **Hamburg**, Germany.

The Tribunal is open to States Parties to the Convention.

It is also open to entities other than States Parties, i.e., States or intergovernmental organisations which are not parties to the Convention and to state enterprises and private entities.



Recently, **Dr. Neeru Chadha** has become the **first Indian woman** to be **elected** as a judge at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Seas (ITLOS).

**65.** Consider the following statements regarding Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

1. It is the first multilateral legally-binding instrument for complete nuclear disarmament.
2. This treaty prohibits a full range of nuclear-weapon related activities, such as undertaking to develop, test, produce, manufacture, acquire, possess or stockpile nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.
3. India played instrumental role in bringing Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: C**

The eight nuclear weapon states i.e US, Russia, Britain, China, France, India, Pakistan and North Korea along with Israel had not participated in the negotiations.

**66.** Consider the following statements regarding Future Earth

1. Future Earth is a 10-year international research program which aims to build knowledge about the environmental and human aspects of Global change, and to find solutions for sustainable development.
2. It will engage closely with the World Climate Research Programme and attract new research and stakeholder communities.

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**

67. Consider the following statements regarding Mission Innovation

1. It is a global initiative of 23 countries and the European Commission.
2. India is founding member of Mission Innovation.
3. It works to accelerate global clean energy innovation with the objective to make clean energy widely affordable.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: D**

68. Which of the countries is/are parties to Ashgabat Agreement ?

1. Oman
2. Iran
3. Turkmenistan
4. Pakistan

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

**Solution: D**

The **Ashgabat agreement** is a multimodal transport agreement between the governments of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Iran, Pakistan, India and Oman for creating an international transport and transit corridor facilitating transportation of goods between Central Asia and the Persian Gulf.



69. Consider the following statements

1. Association of Southeast Asian Nations is a regional organisation comprising 10 Southeast Asian states which promotes intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic integration amongst its members.
2. ASEAN plus Three was created to improve existing ties with the People's Republic of China, Japan, and South Korea.

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**

70. Consider the following statements regarding India–Africa Forum Summit (IAFS)

1. India–Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) is the informal and non-official platform for the African-Indian relations.
2. IAFS is usually held once in every three years.
3. 3.Third and last summit of India-Africa Forum Summit was held in New Delhi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: B**

The **India–Africa Forum Summit (IAFS)** is the official platform for the African-Indian relations.



71. Consider the following statements regarding Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership.

1. It is a free trade agreement between Canada and countries in the Asia-Pacific region.
2. It replaced Trans Pacific Partnership agreement.
3. Japan and Singapore are parties to this agreement.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: D**

72. Consider the following pairs

Place in News	Region/Country
1. Hodeidah	: Syria
2. Migingo Island	: Lake Victoria
3. Port of Duqm	: Oman

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: A**

**Hodeidah** is located in **Yemen**.

73. Consider the following statements about e-commerce sector in India

1. Marketplace model is where goods sold on the portal is owned or controlled by the e-commerce company.



2. Inventory-based model is where the e-commerce firm simply acts as a platform that connects buyers and sellers.
3. FDI is allowed in e-commerce companies in marketplace model.

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: B**

**E-commerce companies** can operate under two different models in India.

The first is the **marketplace model** where the e-commerce firm simply acts as a platform that connects buyers and sellers. **FDI is allowed** in e-commerce companies in this model.

The second model is **inventory-based** where the inventory of goods sold on the portal is owned or controlled by the e-commerce company. **FDI is not allowed** under this model.

**74.** Consider the following statements regarding Global Soil Biodiversity Atlas.

1. It is prepared by United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).
2. India is among countries whose soil biodiversity faces the highest level of risk.
3. Soil biodiversity encompasses the presence of micro-organisms, micro-fauna and macro-fauna.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**Solution: B**

India's soil biodiversity is in grave peril, according to the **Global Soil Biodiversity Atlas** prepared by the **World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)**.



75. Consider the following statements about Elum Valley which was recently in news:

1. Elum Valley is located near Arunachal Pradesh.
2. It has been a site of divinity and pilgrimage for both the Hindu and the Buddhist communities.

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 **Khyber Pakthunkhwa** province in **Pakistan** is planning to construct a heritage park in Elum Valley, which carries a historical significance to both the Hindus and the Buddhists.

**Elum Valley** is located between the Swat and Buner districts in Pakistan.

**(Day 52)**

76. The world's largest religious and cultural human congregation, 'Kumbh 2019' was celebrated at Prayagraj (Uttar Pradesh), consider the following statements,

1. Recently in January 2019, The Kumbh Mela has been included in the list of "Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity" by UNESCO.
2. Kumbh Mela is celebrated four times over a course of 16 years.

Which of the statements given above is/are **incorrect** ?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) both 1 and 2
- d) none of the above

## Solution: C

### Learning:

#### About Kumbh Mela:

- The Kumbh Mela (the festival of the sacred pitcher) is anchored in Hindu mythology. It is the **largest public gathering** and collective act of faith, anywhere in the world.
- Crowds gather at the sacred confluence of the Ganga, the Yamuna, and the mystical Saraswati.
- The Mela was included in the list of “Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity” by UNESCO in 2017.
- Kumbh Mela is celebrated four times over a course of 12 years.
- The geographical location of Kumbh Mela spans over four locations in India, Haridwar on the Ganges in Uttarakhand; Ujjain on the Shipra in Madhya Pradesh; Nashik on the Godavari in Maharashtra and Prayagraj.

77. Recently Web- Wonder Women campaign was in news, consider the following statements,

1. The Ministry of Women and Child Development and The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Ministry of I&B) together launched this online campaign.
2. Campaign aimed at discovering and celebrating the exceptional achievements of women, who have been driving positive agenda of social change via social media.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

## Solution: B

- The Campaign has been launched by the **Ministry of Women and Child Development**, Government of India in association with the NGO Breakthrough and Twitter India.
- Through the campaign, the Ministry aims to recognize the fortitude of Indian women stalwarts from across the globe who have used the power of social media to run positive & niche campaigns to steer a change in society. The Campaign is



aimed at encouraging, recognizing and acknowledging the efforts of these meritorious Women.

78. The SAATHI initiative will promote the use of energy-efficient equipment in

- a) The textile industry
- b) Irrigation
- c) Banking sector
- d) Petroleum refining sector

**Solution : A**

**Ministry of Textiles** and **Ministry of Power** have joined hands under the initiative **SAATHI** (Sustainable and Accelerated Adoption of efficient Textile technologies to Help Small Industries) in order to sustain and accelerate the adoption of energy efficient textile technologies in the powerloom sector and cost savings due to use of such technology.

79. The Parliament recently passed the 123<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Bill. Till now, the National Commission for Backward Classes could only,

- 1. Recommend inclusion and exclusion of castes from the OBC list.
- 2. Recommend the level of income that cuts off the “creamy layer” from the benefits of reservation for the OBCs.
- 3. Investigate all matters relating to the constitutional and other legal safeguards of OBCs.

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

**Solution: A.**

The present **NCBC (a statutory body)** can only recommend inclusion and exclusion of castes from the OBC list and the level of income that cuts off the “creamy layer” among these castes from the benefits of reservation.



Till now, it was the National Commission of Scheduled Castes that addressed the grievances of the OBCs.

**80.** The dominant and most spoken language in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is

- a) Burmese
- b) Nicobarese
- c) Bengali
- d) Tamil

**Solution: C**

- **Hindi and English** are the official languages of the islands. Bengali is the dominant and most spoken language, with 26% of the population speaking Bengali. The other major languages spoken in the islands are Hindi (18.23%), Tamil (17.68%), Telugu (12.81%), Malayalam (8.11%) and Nicobarese (8.05%) according to 2001 Census of India. Other minor spoken languages are Kurukh/Oraon, Munda and Kharia. Andaman Creole Hindi is widely used as a trade language in the Andamans.

**81.** The National Crisis Management Committee is chaired by

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Minister of Home Affairs
- c) Cabinet Secretary
- d) Vice-chairman, NITI Aayog

**Solution: C**

- As per the **National Policy on Disaster Management, 2009**, the **National Crisis Management Committee** headed by the Cabinet Secretary deals with major crises that have serious or national ramifications.

**82.** Which one of the following cities is regarded as the birthplace of the Syrian uprising?

- a) Aleppo
- b) Deraa
- c) Ghouta



d) Homs

**Solution: B**

- The Syrian government forces recently retook control of the rebel-held part of **Deraa**, the birthplace of the revolt against President Bashar al-Assad.

**83.** Which nations from the following list – comprising of members of SAARC – are also members of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) ?

1. Bangladesh
2. Bhutan
3. Nepal
4. Sri Lanka
5. Maldives

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Solution: D**

The **Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)** is a regional organization comprising seven Member States lying in the littoral and adjacent areas of the Bay of Bengal constituting a contiguous regional unity. This sub-regional organization came into being on 6 June **1997** through the **Bangkok Declaration**. It constitutes seven Member States: five deriving from South Asia, including Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and two from Southeast Asia, including Myanmar and Thailand. The regional group constitutes a bridge between South and South East Asia and represents a reinforcement of relations among these countries. BIMSTEC has also established a platform for intra-regional cooperation between SAARC and ASEAN members.

**84.** 'ISROSENE', recently in the news, refers to

- a) A handheld (portable device) for the detection of adulteration in PDS kerosene.



- b) The latest innovation in road construction technology involving the utilisation of dry solid waste.
- c) Rocket-grade kerosene.
- d) None of the above.

**Solution: C**

- **ISRO** has successfully developed **ISROSENE**, which is a rocket grade version of kerosene as an alternative to conventional hydrazine rocket fuel.

**85.** Which of the following demonstrations/technologies associated with the proposed Gaganyaan programme ?

1. Space Capsule Recovery Experiment
2. Crew module Atmospheric Reentry Experiment
3. Pad Abort Test
4. GSLV MkIII

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Solution: D**

**86.** Which among the following statements regarding Anti-defection law is/are correct ?

1. It is mentioned in the tenth schedule of the constitution of India.
2. The Tenth Schedule was inserted in the Constitution in 1985 by the 62nd Amendment Act.
3. It lays down the process by which legislators may be disqualified on grounds of defection by the Presiding Officer of a legislature based on a petition by any other member of the House.
4. The decision on question as to disqualification on ground of defection is referred to the Chairman or the Speaker of such House, and his decision is final.



Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

### Solution- C

- **Anti-Defection** was added under **52<sup>nd</sup> constitutional amendment act 1985**

87. India recently celebrated 70<sup>th</sup> Republic Day, consider the following statements:

1. Theme of this year was a 'life of Gandhi' which is a tribute to the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi on his 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary.
2. Chief Guest was Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa. This is the second time a South African leader is Chief Guest at Republic Day — Nelson Mandela was the chief guest in 1995.
3. This is the first time in the history of Indian Army that a woman led the Army services corps.
4. Four former Indian National Army (INA) soldiers participated in the parade.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

### Solution- D

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=187793>

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/india-celebrates-70th-republic-day-all-you-need-to-know/articleshow/67698234.cms>



88. Calligraphy, the art of handwriting, was considered a skill of great importance in Mughal India. It was practised using different styles. Akbar's favourite script was the

- a) Shikaste
- b) Nastaliq
- c) Brahmi
- d) Devanagari

**Solution: B**

- Akbar's favourite was the *nastaliq*, a fluid style with long horizontal strokes. It is written using a piece of trimmed reed with a tip of five to 10 mm called *qalam*, dipped in carbon ink (*siyahi*). The nib of the qalam is usually split in the middle to facilitate the absorption of ink.

89. With reference to art and archaeological history of India, which one among the following was made earliest ?

- a) Rani kivav, Patan
- b) Brihadeshwara temple, Thanjavur
- c) Kailash temple, Ellora
- d) Qutb Minar, Mehrauli

**Solution: C**

- Kailash temple – around 8<sup>th</sup> century
- Rani kivav, Patan and Brihadeshwara temple, Thanjavur – 11<sup>th</sup> century
- Qutb Minar – 13<sup>th</sup> century

90. The National Anti-profiteering Authority (NAA) is the institutional mechanism under

- a) Income tax Act, 1961
- b) Companies Act, 2013
- c) GST Act, 2017
- d) Competition Act, 2002

**Solution- C**



- The **National Anti-profiteering Authority (NAA)** is the institutional mechanism under GST law to check the unfair profit-making activities by the trading community.
- The Authority's core function is to ensure that the benefits of the reduction in GST rates on goods and services made by GST Council and proportional change in the Input tax credit passed on to the ultimate consumers and recipient respectively by way of reduction in the prices by the suppliers.

**91.** Compensatory Afforestation Funds have been established under the

- a) Public Account of each state only
- b) Public Account of India and of each state
- c) Consolidated Fund of each state
- d) Consolidated Fund of India and of each state

**Solution: B**

- The **Compensatory afforestation Fund Act, 2016** is an Act to provide for the establishment of funds under the public accounts of India and the public accounts of each State and crediting thereto the monies received from the user agencies towards compensatory afforestation, additional compensatory afforestation, penal compensatory afforestation, net present value and all other amounts recovered from such agencies under the **Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980**.

**92.** The island of Île aux Cochons, recently in the news, is located between

- a) Africa and Antarctica
- b) Falkland Islands and mainland South America
- c) Australia and New Zealand
- d) Norway and the Arctic polar ice cap

**Solution: A**

- The **world's largest king penguin colony** has shrunk nearly 90% since the 1980s, research suggests. Aerial and satellite images show breeding pair numbers have fallen 88% in the last three decades, an article in the journal Antarctic Science says. The colony lies on the France's uninhabited Île aux Cochons between Africa and Antarctica in the Indian Ocean. Researchers say there is no clear reason for the decline.



93. Which one of the following countries *doesn't* open out to the Caspian Sea ?

- a) Azerbaijan
- b) Kazakhstan
- c) Turkmenistan
- d) Georgia

**Solution: D**

94. 'D-Voters', recently in the news, belong to a category of voters:

- a) Who are declared a foreigner by special tribunals under the Foreigners' Act.
- b) Whose names have not been included in the National Register of Citizens.
- c) Who lack proper citizenship documents and have been disenfranchised by the government.
- d) None of the above

**Solution: C**

<https://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/07/31/insights-daily-current-affairs-31-july-2018/>

95. Which of the following places of the world is known for 'Guano', a uniquely-produced natural fertilizer which has a high concentration of nitrates ?

- a) Tierra del Feugo
- b) Atacama desert
- c) Minas Gerais of Brazil
- d) Coastal headlands and Islands of Peru

**Solution: D**

- The word "**guano**" originates from the Quichua language of the Andes and means "the droppings of sea birds". Andean peoples collected guano from the coast of Peru for use as soil enricher.

96. Which of the following are 'erosional landforms' ?

1. Inselbergs
2. Loess
3. Zeugen
4. Buttes

- [a] 1 and 2  
[b] 2 and 3  
[c] 1, 3 and 4  
[d] All of them

**Solution: C**

- **Loess** is a **depositional landform** (aeolian sediment formed by accumulation of wind-blown silt) whereas the others namely, **Inselbergs, Zeugen** and **Buttes** are erosional landforms.

97. Which of the following islands is divided into Brunei, Indonesia and Malaysia ?

- (a) Sebatik Island
- (b) Island of Borneo
- (c) Madura Island
- (d) Island of Siberut

**Solution: B**





**98.** That ‘the Indian Constitution is founded on the bedrock of the balance between the Fundamental rights and the Directive Principles’ was held by the Supreme Court in

- (a) Golaknath case (1967)
- (b) Kesavananda Bharati case (1973)
- (c) Maneka Gandhi case (1978)
- (d) Minerva Mills case (1980)

**Solution: D**

In the **Minerva Mills case (1980)**, the Supreme Court held that ‘the Indian Constitution is founded on the **bedrock of the balance between the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles**. They together constitute the core of commitment to social revolution. They are like two wheels of a chariot, one no less than the other.

**99.** The oldest form of composition of Hindustani vocal music is –

- a) Ghazal
- b) Thumri
- c) Dhruwad
- d) None of these

**Solution: C**

**100.** The Global Peace Index, the twelfth edition of which was released recently, is published by

- a) International Stockholm Peace Research Institute
- b) Institute for Economics and Peace
- c) International Peace and Development Initiative
- d) UNESCO

**Solution: B**

About **Institute for Economics and Peace**: It is the world’s leading think tank dedicated to developing metrics to analyse peace and to quantify its economic value. It



does this by developing global and national indices, calculating the economic cost of violence, analysing country level risk and understanding positive peace.

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