



INSIGHTSIAS

SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

INSTA STATIC QUIZ



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AUGUST 2022

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1. Polity

1) Consider the following statements

1. The idea of a constituent assembly for India was first put forward by Jawaharlal Nehru
2. British principally accepted the idea of constituent assembly for the first time through Cripps Proposal.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

The demand for constituent assembly was finally accepted in principle by the British Government in what is known as the 'August Offer' of 1940.

Finally, a Cabinet Mission was sent to India. While it rejected the idea of two Constituent Assemblies, it put forth a scheme for the Constituent Assembly which more or less satisfied the Muslim League

2) Which of the following provisions of the constitution provide for the secular character of the Indian State?

1. The Preamble secures to all citizens of India liberty of belief, faith and worship.
2. The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on the ground of religion
3. All persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice and propagate any religion.
4. No religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution maintained by the State.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

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The Constitution of India stands for a secular state. Hence, it does not uphold any particular religion as the official religion of the Indian State. The following provisions of the Constitution reveal the secular character of the Indian State:

- (a) The term 'secular' was added to the Preamble of the Indian Constitution by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976.
- (b) The Preamble secures to all citizens of India liberty of belief, faith and worship.
- (c) The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or equal protection of the laws (Article 14).
- (d) **The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on the ground of religion** (Article 15).
- (e) Equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters of public employment (Article 16).
- (f) **All persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice and propagate any religion** (Article 25).
- (g) Every religious denomination or any of its section shall have the right to manage its religious affairs (Article 26).
- (h) No person shall be compelled to pay any taxes for the promotion of a particular religion (Article 27).
- (i) **No religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution maintained by the State** (Article 28).
- (j) Any section of the citizens shall have the right to conserve its distinct language, script or culture (Article 29).
- (k) All minorities shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice (Article 30).
- (l) **The State shall endeavour to secure for all the citizens a Uniform Civil Code (Article 44).**

3) The "Sovereignty" of India means

1. No external power can dictate the government of India.

2. Citizens cannot be discriminated against on any grounds.
3. There is freedom of speech and expression for Indian citizens.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

Sovereignty simply implies that India is a state that takes its own decisions ultimately guided by the people. No external agency dictates terms to India.

However, the notion of sovereignty does not seep into the framework of all democratic rights. For e.g. a sovereign state might very well discriminate between its citizens.

A sovereign state may very well restrict freedom of speech, as it is not an absolute right, even though it is vital to a democracy.

- 4) What purposes does the constitution of a nation necessarily serve?
1. It may allow better coordination in the nation amongst individuals.
 2. Specify who has the power to make decisions in a society.
 3. Set some limits on what a government can impose on its citizens.
 4. It allows people to ban autocracy and adopt democracy.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

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The function of a constitution is to

1. provide a set of basic rules that allow for minimal coordination amongst members of a society.
 2. specify who has the power to make decisions in a society. It decides how the government will be constituted.
 3. set some limits on what a government can impose on its citizens. These limits are fundamental in the sense that government may never trespass them.
 4. enable the government to fulfil the aspirations of a society and create conditions for a just society.
 5. ensure that a dominant group does not use its power against other less powerful people or groups.
- Every society is prone to this tyranny of the majority. The Constitution usually contains rules that ensure that minorities are not excluded from anything that is routinely available to the majority

A constitution does not always specify for a democracy. Syrian constitution is an example.

- 5) Which of the following is/are not the federal features of the Indian Constitution?
1. The Constitution is written and not easily amendable.
 2. Equal representation of all states in Rajya Sabha
 3. State governments derive authority from the Centre.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

- The division of powers established by the Constitution as well as the supremacy of the Constitution can be maintained only if the method of its amendment is rigid. Hence, the Constitution is rigid to the extent that those provisions which are concerned with the federal structure.
- State governments derive their authority from the constitution, not the Centre.
- The states are given representation in the Rajya Sabha on the basis of population. Hence, the membership varies from 1 to 31.

6) Consider the following statements.

1. The Constitution of India guarantees freedom to carry out any occupation, trade or business with reasonable restrictions in the interests of the general public.
2. The Constitution was amended to allow reservation in private educational institutions and private sector jobs for socially and educationally backward classes and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
3. In the Indra Sawhney case in 1992, the Supreme Court capped reservations in public services at 50%, with exceptions at extraordinary situations.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

Article 19(1)(g) of the Constitution guarantees freedom to carry out any occupation, trade or business.

In 2005, the Constitution was amended to allow reservation in private educational institutions for socially and educationally backward classes and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Note that this amendment **applies to admissions in private educational institutions and not to jobs** in the private sector.

There may be reasonable restrictions “in the interests of the general public”, and in particular related to specifying any professional or technical qualifications, or to reserve a sector for government monopoly.

In the Indra Sawhney case in 1992, the Supreme Court capped reservations in public services at 50%. It however said that there may be extraordinary situations which may need a relaxation in this rule.

7) Consider the following statements.

1. Article 16 of the Constitution specifically provides for equality of opportunity for all citizens in public employment.
2. The Constitution permits State Legislature to make law that requires residence within a State for appointment to a public office.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

Article 16 of the Constitution specifically provides for equality of opportunity for all citizens in public employment. It prohibits discrimination on several grounds including place of birth and residence.

However, **it permits Parliament to make law that requires residence within a State for appointment to a public office.** Note two points here.

This enabling provision is for public employment and not for private sector jobs. And the law needs to be made by Parliament, and not by a State legislature.

[Source](#)

8) Consider the following statements regarding Fundamental Rights.

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1. They are sacrosanct and permanent.
2. They promote the idea of social and economic democracy.
3. Most of them are directly enforceable while a few of them can be enforced on the basis of a law made for giving effect to them.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

Fundamental Rights are not absolute and subject to reasonable restrictions. Further, they are not sacrosanct and can be curtailed or repealed by the Parliament through a constitutional amendment act.

They promote the idea of political democracy. **DPSP promote the idea of social and economic democracy.**

Most of them are directly enforceable (self-executory) 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).

9) Consider the following statements regarding Right to Property.

1. Forcible dispossession of a person of his private property without due process of law is a human right violation.
2. The State is permitted to perfect its title over the land by invoking the doctrine of adverse possession to acquire the property of its own citizens.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

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A citizen's right to own private property is a human right. The state cannot take possession of it without following due procedure and authority of law, the Supreme Court has held in a judgment.

The state cannot trespass into the private property of a citizen and then claim ownership of the land in the name of 'adverse possession', the court said.

The State cannot be permitted to perfect its title over the land by invoking the doctrine of adverse possession to grab the property of its own citizens.

Under "doctrine of adverse possession", a person who is not the original owner becomes the owner because of the fact that he has been in possession of the property for a minimum of 12-years, within which the real owner did not seek legal recourse against him.

10) Consider the following statements about Double Jeopardy.

1. It means that no person shall be prosecuted and punished for the same offence more than once.
2. The Constitution bars double punishment for the same offence.
3. A partial protection against double jeopardy is a Fundamental Right.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

Article 20(2) says that no person shall be prosecuted and punished for the same offence more than once. This is called Doctrine of Double Jeopardy.

The objective of this article is to avoid harassment, which must be caused for successive criminal proceedings, where the person has committed only one crime.

Constitution bars double punishment for the same offence. The conviction for such offence does not bar for subsequent trial and conviction for another offence and it does not matter even if some ingredients of these two offences are common.

A partial protection against double jeopardy is a Fundamental Right guaranteed under Article 20 (2) of the Constitution of India, which states "No person shall be prosecuted and punished for the same offence more than once".

The Supreme Court of India has ruled that the bar of double jeopardy does not arise if an accused was discharged of a criminal offence, even before the commencement of trial, on the basis of an invalid sanction for prosecution.

- 11) The Directive Principles resemble the 'Instrument of Instructions' enumerated in the
- Montague Chelmsford Act 1919
 - Nehru Report, 1928
 - Government of India Act of 1935
 - Objectives Resolution, 1946

Solution: c)

Dr B R Ambedkar had said '**the Directive Principles are like the instrument of instructions**, which were issued to the Governor-General and to the Governors of the colonies of India by the British Government **under the Government of India Act of 1935.**'

What is called Directive Principles is merely another name for the instrument of instructions.

The only difference is that they are instructions to the legislature and the executive.

- 12) Consider the following statements regarding the Enforcement of Fundamental Duties in India.
- Fundamental Duties are termed to be the moral obligations of a citizen, that are not obligatory in nature.
 - The supreme court enforces these duties and holds the central government responsible and expects it to take steps to make all Fundamental duties effective.
 - No writ can be issued in regard to the under fulfilment of the fundamental duties by the citizens.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

Enforcement of Fundamental Duties of India:

- The fundamental duties are the duties that a citizen himself has to take care of. **Court cannot enforce these duties.**
- No writ can be issued in regard to the under fulfilment or the over fulfilment of the fundamental duties.**
- However, **in regard to the environmental contribution, the supreme court holds the central government responsible and expects it to take a number of steps to make it effective.**
- The citizens need to monitor their own efforts in the case of fundamental duties.

- These are termed to be the moral obligations of a citizen, that are not obligatory in nature.

13) Which of the following were the suggestions made by Swaran Singh Committee to be included as Fundamental Duties?

1. Duty to pay taxes
2. Family Planning
3. Casting vote

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: a)

Swaran Singh Committee suggested the incorporation of eight Fundamental Duties in the Constitution.

Certain recommendations of the Committee were not accepted and hence, not incorporated in the Constitution. These include:

- 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
- 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 or on the ground of repugnancy to any other provision of the Constitution
- Duty to pay taxes should also be a Fundamental Duty of the citizens

14) Which principle among the following was added to the Directive Principles of Stat Policy by the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution?

- a) Equal pay for equal work for both men and women
- b) Participation of workers in the management of industries
- c) Right to work, education and public assistance
- d) Securing living wage and human conditions of work to workers

Solution: b)

42nd Amendment to the Constitution Added three new Directive Principles viz., equal justice and free-legal aid, participation of workers in the management of industries and protection of environment, forests and wild life.

15) The famous Minerva Mills case was related to

- a) Evolution of the basic structure doctrine of the Constitution of India
- b) Supremacy to Directive Principles of State Policy over the Fundamental Rights
- c) Expansion of the Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression
- d) Both (a) and (b)

Solution: d)

Minerva Mills Ltd. and Ors. v. Union Of India and Ors. is a landmark decision of the Supreme Court of India that applied and evolved the **basic structure doctrine** of the Constitution of India.

The 42nd Amendment Act accorded the position of legal primacy and supremacy to the Directive Principles over the Fundamental Rights conferred by Articles 14, 19 and 31. However, this extension was declared as unconstitutional and invalid by the Supreme Court in the Minerva Mills case.

16) With reference to the procedure for the amendment of the Constitution as laid down in Article 368, consider the following statements.

1. An amendment of the Constitution can be initiated in either House of Parliament or the State Legislatures.

2. The bill can be introduced only by a minister and not by a private member.

3. Prior permission of the president is required for the introduction of the bill.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

a) 1, 3

b) 2 only

c) 1, 2, 3

d) 2, 3

Solution: c)

The procedure for the amendment of the Constitution is laid down in Article 368:

1. An amendment of the Constitution can be initiated only by the introduction of a bill for the purpose in **either House of Parliament and not in the state legislatures.**

2. **The bill can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member and does not require prior permission of the president.**

3. The bill must be passed in each House by a special majority, that is, a majority (that is, more than 50 per cent) of the total membership of the House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of the House present and voting.

4. Each House must pass the bill separately. In case of a disagreement between the two Houses, there is no provision for holding a joint sitting of the two Houses for the purpose of deliberation and passage of the bill.

5. If the bill seeks to amend the federal provisions of the Constitution, it must also be ratified by the legislatures of half of the states by a simple majority, that is, a majority of the members of the House present and voting.

6. After duly passed by both the Houses of Parliament and ratified by the state legislatures, where necessary, the bill is presented to the president for assent.

7. The president must give his assent to the bill. He can neither withhold his assent to the bill nor return the bill for reconsideration of the Parliament.

8. After the president's assent, the bill becomes an Act.

17) Consider the following statements.

1. In S.R. Bommai v. Union of India case, the Supreme Court held that secularism is part of the basic structure of our constitution.

2. The Constitution of India prevent the State either identifying itself with or favouring any particular religion or religious sect or denomination.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only

b) 2 only

c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: c)

In S.R. Bommai v. Union of India (1994), the Supreme Court held that secularism is part of the basic structure of our constitution. The Court said: "The provisions in the Constitution prohibit the establishment of a theocratic State and **prevent the State either identifying itself with or favouring any particular religion or religious sect or denomination.** The State is enjoined to accord equal treatment to all religions and religious sects and denominations."

18) Consider the following statements regarding President's Rule.

1. When the President's Rule is imposed in a state, the President dismisses the state council of ministers headed by the chief minister.

2. The President either suspends or dissolves the state legislative assembly.

3. The Parliament passes the state legislative bills and the state budget.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

When the President's Rule is imposed in a state, the President dismisses the state council of ministers headed by the chief minister.

The state governor, on behalf of the President, carries on the state administration with the help of the chief secretary of the state or the advisors appointed by the President.

This is the reason why a proclamation under Article 356 is popularly known as the imposition of 'President's Rule' in a state. Further, the **President either suspends or dissolves the state legislative assembly.**

The **Parliament then passes the state legislative bills and the state budget.**

19) Consider the following statements regarding State emergency.

1. The imposition of the President's rule is approved by the president and does not require the sanction of the Parliament.
2. It can be revoked any time by the President, without the approval of Parliament.
3. President's rule was imposed on all the states in India except Telangana.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

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A proclamation imposing president's rule must be **approved by both the houses of parliament within two months from the date of its issue.**

However, if the proclamation of President's rule is issued at a time when the Lok Sabha has been dissolved or the dissolution of the Lok Sabha takes place during the period of two months without approving the proclamation, then the proclamation survives until 30 days from the first sitting of the Lok Sabha after its reconstitution, provided that the Rajya Sabha approves it in the meantime.

President's rule can be revoked at any time by the President and does not need Parliament's approval.

Chhattisgarh and Telangana are the only states where the president's rule has not been imposed so far.

20) Consider the following statements.

1. National emergency can be declared even if security of India is not in threat, but there is a case of imminent danger.
2. The operation of National Emergency always applies to the whole of Indian Territory.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

Under **Article 352**, the President can declare a national emergency when the **security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion.** It may be noted that the president can declare a

national emergency **even before the actual occurrence of war or external aggression** or armed rebellion, if he is satisfied that **there is an imminent danger**.

A proclamation of national emergency may be applicable to the entire country or only a part of it. The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 enabled the president to limit the operation of a National Emergency to a specified part of India.

21) Consider the following statements.

1. Parliament may, by law, regulate any matter relating to or connected with the election the President or Vice-President.
2. All doubts and disputes arising out of the election of a President or Vice-President shall be inquired into and decided by the Election Commission of India and whose decision shall be final.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Solution: b)

Article 71 of the Constitution provides that disputes arising out of the election of the President or Vice-President shall be decided by the Supreme Court. The same article provides that matters relating to their election shall be regulated by a parliamentary law.

22) Consider the following statements regarding the Legislative Powers of the President.

1. He can send messages to the Houses of Parliament with respect to a bill pending in the Parliament.
2. He decides on questions as to disqualifications of members of the Parliament, in consultation with the Prime Minister.
3. In the case of Puducherry, the President can legislate by making regulations but only when the assembly is suspended or dissolved.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

The President is an integral part of the Parliament of India, and enjoys the following legislative powers.

He can send messages to the Houses of Parliament, whether with respect to a bill pending in the Parliament or otherwise.

- He decides on questions as to disqualifications of members of the Parliament, **in consultation with the Election Commission.**
- He can make regulations for the peace, progress and good government of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. **In the case of Puducherry also, the President can legislate by making regulations but only when the assembly is suspended or dissolved.**

23) Consider the following statements.

1. The Constitution does not contain any procedure for the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.
2. Sometimes, the President can exercise his/her personal discretion in the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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

Solution: c)

The **Constitution does not contain any specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister**. Article 75 says only that the Prime Minister shall be appointed by the president. However, this does not imply that the president is free to appoint any one as the Prime Minister. In accordance with the **conventions of the parliamentary system** of government, the President has to appoint the leader of the majority party in the Lok Sabha as the Prime Minister. But, **when no party has a clear majority in the Lok Sabha, then the President may exercise his personal discretion** in the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister. In such a situation, the President usually appoints the leader of the largest party or coalition in the Lok Sabha as the Prime Minister and asks him to seek a vote of confidence in the House within a month.

There is also one more situation when the president may have to exercise his individual judgement in the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister, that is, when the Prime Minister in office dies suddenly and there is no obvious successor.

24) Consider the following statements regarding Speaker in India.

1. Speaker is provided with a security of tenure.
2. There is a convention that the Speaker has to resign from his party and remain politically neutral.
3. His salaries and allowances are fixed by Parliament.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

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The following provisions ensure the independence and impartiality of the office of the Speaker:

- **He is provided with a security of tenure.** He can be removed only by a resolution passed by the Lok Sabha by a special majority and not by an ordinary majority. This motion of removal can be considered and discussed only when it has the support of at least 50 members.
- **His salaries and allowances are fixed by Parliament.** They are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India and thus are not subject to the annual vote of Parliament.
- His work and conduct cannot be discussed and criticized in the Lok Sabha except on a substantive motion.
- His powers of regulating procedure or conducting business or maintaining order in the House are not subject to the jurisdiction of any Court.
- He cannot vote in the first instance. He can only exercise a casting vote in the event of a tie. This makes the position of Speaker impartial.
- He is given a very high position in the order of precedence. He is placed along with the Chief Justice of India. This means, he has a higher rank than all cabinet ministers, except the Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister.

In Britain, the Speaker is strictly a non-party man. There is a convention that the Speaker has to resign from his party and remain politically neutral.

This healthy **convention is not fully established in India where the Speaker does not resign from the membership of his party on his election** to the exalted office.

25) Consider the following statements regarding Adjournment of the house.

1. An adjournment means the termination of a session of the House by an order made by the President.
2. It does not affect the bills or any other business pending before the House.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
b) 2 only

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

Solution: b)

Adjournment:

- An adjournment suspends the work in a sitting for a specified time, which may be hours, days or weeks. In this case, the time of reassembly is specified.
- **An adjournment only terminates a sitting and not a session of the House.**
- The power of adjournment lies with the presiding officer of the House.
- **It does not affect the bills or any other business pending before the House and the same can be resumed when the House meets again.**

Prorogation

- Prorogation means the termination of a session of the House by an order made by the President under article 85(2)(a) of the Constitution. Prorogation terminates both the sitting and session of the House.

26) The Indian constitution is a written one unlike in some of the other democracies. What does it imply?

1. The form of government in India has been codified in the constitution to reduce political and administrative conflicts.
2. All the laws made by Parliament are to be written down as a part of the constitution.
3. Only because of a written constitution, citizens are able to enjoy fundamental rights.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)



Constitution specifies the structure, organisation, powers and functions of both the Central and state governments and prescribes the limits within which they must operate. Thus, it avoids the misunderstandings and disagreements between the two. All the laws made in India are codified separate from the constitution and maintained in a law book. They need not be a part of the constitution. Even in the UK where there is no written constitution, people enjoy several fundamental rights. However, only because our fundamental rights are written in the constitution, it is difficult to amend and change them as per the wishes of the political executive.

27) Consider the following statements about Speaker Pro Tem

1. The President appoints a member of the Lok Sabha as the Speaker Pro Tem.
2. The constitution mentions no oath to the office of Speaker Pro Tem.
3. The Speaker Pro Tem has limited powers to that of the Speaker.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Solution: c)

As provided by the Constitution, the Speaker of the last Lok Sabha vacates his office immediately before the first meeting of the newly-elected Lok Sabha. Therefore, the **President appoints a member of the Lok Sabha as the Speaker Pro Tem**. Usually, the senior most member is selected for this. (Statement 1)

The President himself administers oath to the Speaker Pro Tem. (Statement 2)

The Speaker Pro Tem has all the powers of the Speaker. (Statement 3)

28) Match these schedules of Constitution to what they contain.

1. First Schedule – List of names of All States and Union Territories
2. Second Schedule – Powers of President, Governor and Judges
3. Fourth Schedule – Allocation of seats in Rajya Sabha
4. Seventh Schedule – Division of powers between Legislative, Executive and Judiciary

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

First Schedule -- Names of the States and their territorial jurisdiction; Names of the Union Territories and their extent.

Second Schedule -- Provisions relating to the emoluments, allowances, privileges and so on of President, Governor, Judges etc.

Third Schedule --- Forms of Oaths or Affirmations for MPs, Ministers, Constitutional functionaries etc.

Fourth Schedule - Allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha to the states and the union territories.

Fifth Schedule - Provisions relating to the administration and control of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes.

Sixth Schedule - Provisions relating to the administration of tribal areas in the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

Seventh Schedule - Division of powers between the Union and the States in terms of List I (Union List), List II (State List) and List III (Concurrent List).

Eighth Schedule - Languages recognized by the Constitution.

Ninth schedule – Acts & regulation of states dealing with the land reforms & abolition of zamindari system and of the Parliament dealing with other matters. This schedule was added by the 1st Amendment (1951) to protect the laws included in it from judicial scrutiny on the ground of violation of fundamental rights. However, in 2007, the Supreme Court ruled that the laws included in this schedule after April 24, 1973, are now open to judicial review.

Tenth schedule – Anti-defection provisions

Eleventh schedule – powers, authority and responsibilities of Panchayat

Twelfth schedule - powers, authority and responsibilities of Municipalities

29) Consider the following statements regarding the procedure for Impeachment of President of India.

1. The President in India can be removed on grounds of treason, bribery, high crimes or misdemeanour.
2. The charges of impeachment can be initiated in either house of the Parliament.
3. Till now the impeachment proceeding has been passed only once by the parliament.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Solution: b)

The president may also be removed before the expiry of the term **through impeachment for violating the Constitution of India** by the Parliament of India. The **process may start in either of the two houses** of the parliament. The house initiates the process by levelling the charges against the president. The charges are contained in a notice that has to be signed by at least **one-quarter of the total members of that house**. The notice is sent up to the president and 14 days later, it is taken up for consideration.

A resolution to impeach the president has to be passed by a two-thirds majority of the total number of members of the originating house. It is then sent to the other house. The other house investigates the charges that have been made. During this process, the president has the right to defend oneself through an authorised counsel. If the second house also approves the charges made by special majority again, the president

stands impeached and is deemed to have vacated their office from the date when such a resolution stands passed. **No president has faced impeachment proceedings so the above provisions have never been used.**

The US Constitution states that the President can be removed on grounds of treason, bribery, high crimes or misdemeanour.

30) Consider the following statements with regard to the President of India.

1. The President does not exercise his/her discretion on the advice given by the Council of Ministers.
2. All members of the Legislative Assemblies and both the Houses of the Parliament take part in electing the President.
3. The President's ordinance making power is not a discretionary power.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

The President can send back the advice given by the Council of Ministers and ask the Council to reconsider the decision. In doing this, the President acts on his (or her) own discretion. When the President thinks that the advice has certain flaws or legal lacunae, or that it is not in the best interests of the country, the President can ask the Council to reconsider the decision. Although, the Council can still send back the same advice and the President would then be bound by that advice, such a request by the President to reconsider the decision, would naturally carry a lot of weight. So, this is one way in which the president can act in his own discretion.

Whenever the office becomes vacant, the new president is chosen by an electoral college consisting of the elected members of both houses of parliament (M.P.s), the elected members of the State Legislative Assemblies (Vidhan Sabha) of all States and the elected members of the legislative assemblies (MLAs) of union territories with legislatures, i.e., National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, and Puducherry.

31) Consider the following statements regarding legislative powers of the Governor.

1. If a bill passed by the state legislature endangers the position of the state high court, the Governor must reserve the bill for consideration of the President.
2. If a bill sent by Governor for the reconsideration of the State legislature is passed again without amendments, the Governor is under no constitutional obligation to give his assent to the bill.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Solution: b)

Article 200 provides that when a Bill passed by the State Legislature, is presented to the Governor, the Governor shall declare—

- (a) that he assents to the Bill; or
- (b) that he withholds assent therefrom; or
- (c) that he reserves the Bill for the President's consideration; or
- (d) the Governor may, as soon as possible, return the Bill (other than a Money Bill) with a message for re-consideration by the State Legislature. But, if the Bill is again passed by the Legislature with or without amendment, the Governor shall not withhold assent therefrom (First Proviso); or**
- (e) if in the opinion of the Governor, the Bill, if it became law, would so derogate from the powers of the High Court as to endanger its constitutional position, he shall not assent to **but shall reserve it for the consideration of the President (Second Proviso).**

32) Consider the following statements regarding State Legislative Council.

1. The constitution leaves the choice of having a Legislative Council to the Parliament.
2. A Council cannot have more than a third of the number of MLAs in the state, and not less than 40 members.
3. The states having Legislative Council are Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

Under Article 168, states can have either one or two Houses of legislature. **Article 169 leaves the choice of having a Vidhan Parishad to individual states.**

Under Article 171, a Council cannot have more than a third of the number of MLAs in the state, and not less than 40 members. A third of the MLCs are elected by MLAs, another third by a special electorate comprising sitting members of local government bodies such as municipalities and district boards, 1/12th by an electorate of teachers, and another 1/12th by registered graduates. The remaining members are appointed by the Governor for distinguished services in various fields.

Besides Andhra Pradesh, five other states have Vidhan Parishads — Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telangana, UP. Jammu and Kashmir had a Council until the state was bifurcated into the Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh.

33) The Governor shall ordinarily act on the aid and advice of the State Council of Ministers in

1. Summoning the Legislative Assembly
2. Prorogation of the Legislative Assembly
3. Dissolution of the Legislative Council

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: a)

There are two provisions in the Constitution that deal with a governor's power to summon, prorogue and dissolve an assembly.

Under Article 174, a governor shall **summon the House** at a time and place, as she or he thinks fit.

Article 174 (2) (a) says a governor may from "time to time" **prorogue the House** and 174 (2) (b) allows her or him to dissolve the Legislative Assembly.

Article 163 says the governor shall exercise her or his functions with the aid and advice of the council of ministers.

But it also adds that she or he would not need their advice if the Constitution requires her or him to carry out any function at her/his discretion.

The Legislative council cannot be dissolved.

34) The Constitution has laid down which of the following conditions for the Governor's office?

1. The Governor should not belong to the state where is appointed.
2. The Governor's appointment can only be made after consulting the Chief Minister of the state.
3. A serving Governor should not be a member of either House of Parliament or a House of the state legislature.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

The Constitution lays down that a serving Governor should not be a member of either House of Parliament or a House of the state legislature.

The Constitution lays down only two qualifications for the appointment of a person as a governor.

These are:

- He should be a citizen of India.
- He should have completed the age of 35 years.

Additionally, two conventions have also developed in this regard over the years.

- First, he should be an outsider, that is, he should not belong to the state where he is appointed, so that he is free from the local politics.
- Second, while appointing the governor, the president is required to consult the chief minister of the state concerned, so that the smooth functioning of the constitutional machinery in the state is ensured.

However, both the conventions have been violated in some of the cases.

35) The Constitution and Representation of People Act (1951) lays down which of the following qualifications for a person to be chosen a member of the state legislature:

1. He must be a citizen of India.
2. He must be not less than 25 years of age in the case of the legislative council and legislative assembly.
3. He must make and subscribe to an oath or affirmation before the person authorised by the Election

Commission.

4. A person to be elected to the legislative assembly must be an elector for an assembly constituency in the concerned state.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

The Constitution lays down the following qualifications for a person to be chosen a member of the state legislature.

(a) **He must be a citizen of India.**

(b) **He must make and subscribe to an oath or affirmation before the person authorised by the Election Commission for this purpose.** In his oath or affirmation, he swears

- (i) To bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India
- (ii) To uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India

(c) **He must be not less than 30 years of age in the case of the legislative council and not less than 25 years of age in the case of the legislative assembly.**

(d) He must possess other qualifications prescribed by Parliament.

Accordingly, the Parliament has laid down the following additional qualifications in the Representation of People Act (1951):

(a) A person to be elected to the legislative council must be an elector for an assembly constituency in the concerned state and to be qualified for the governor's nomination, he must be a resident in the concerned state.

(b) **A person to be elected to the legislative assembly must be an elector for an assembly constituency in the concerned state.**

(c) He must be a member of a scheduled caste or scheduled tribe if he wants to contest a seat reserved for them. However, a member of scheduled castes or scheduled tribes can also contest a seat not reserved for them.

36) Consider the following statements.

1. The Supreme Court was created under the Constitution, and is a relatively new court than some of the High Courts in India.
2. Supreme Court is superior to the High Court and a High Court judge is subordinate of a Supreme Court judge.
3. The High Courts can provide remedies in all cases arising under the constitutional law, the civil law and the criminal law.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

The High Courts and the Supreme Court form one single integrated judiciary having jurisdiction and providing remedies in all cases arising under the constitutional law, the civil law or the criminal law.

The Supreme Court was created under the Constitution, and is a relatively new court. On the other hand, some of the High Courts in our country have been in existence since the 1860s.

The Indian Constitution envisaged the equality of power of High Court judges and Supreme Court judges, with a **High Court judge not being a subordinate of a Supreme Court judge.**

The Supreme Court has, on many occasions, reiterated the position that the **Supreme Court is superior to the High Court only in the appellate sense.**

37) The Supreme Court of India has been assigned a very significant role in the Indian democratic political system.

Which of the following are the roles and functions of the Supreme Court?

1. It is a federal court
2. It is the highest court of appeal
3. It is the guarantor of the fundamental rights of the citizens
4. It is the guardian of the Constitution.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

The Supreme Court has been assigned a very significant role in the Indian democratic political system. It is a **federal court, the highest court of appeal, the guarantor of the fundamental rights of the citizens and guardian of the Constitution.**

38) Consider the following statements.

1. The parallel judicial systems of courts and tribunals can provide for direct appeals to the Supreme Court, bypassing the High Courts.
2. The Collegium has the power to transfer judges and chief justices from one High Court to another.
3. The High courts in India were created based on the provisions of Indian Independence Act, 1947.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

The Supreme Court (or rather, a section of its judges, called “the Collegium”) has the power to appoint judges and chief justices to the High Courts and the Supreme Court. This **Collegium also has the power to transfer judges and chief justices from one High Court to another**. Second, successive governments have passed laws that create **parallel judicial systems of courts and tribunals which provide for direct appeals to the Supreme Court, bypassing the High Courts**.

The Supreme Court was created under the Constitution, and is a relatively new court. On the other hand, **some of the High Courts in our country have been in existence since the 1860s** (and some existed even before that).

39) Consider the following statements regarding Writ Jurisdiction

1. The writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is exclusive.
2. The High Court can issue writs not only for the enforcement of the fundamental rights but also for other purposes.
3. An aggrieved citizen can directly go to the Supreme Court, not necessarily by way of appeal.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Solution: a)

Writ Jurisdiction

The Supreme Court is empowered to issue writs including habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, quo warranto and certiorari for the enforcement of the fundamental rights of an aggrieved citizen. **In this regard, the Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in the sense that an aggrieved citizen can directly go to the Supreme Court, not necessarily by way of appeal.** However, **the writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is not exclusive.**

There is a difference between the writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and that of the high court. **The Supreme Court can issue writs only for the enforcement of the Fundamental Rights and not for other purposes. The high court, on the other hand, can issue writs not only for the enforcement of the fundamental rights but also for other purposes.** It means that the writ jurisdiction of the high court is wider than that of the Supreme Court. But, the Parliament can confer on the Supreme Court, the power to issue writs for other purposes also.

40) Consider the following statements.

1. The Constitution of India places the appointment of district judges in the domain of the states.
2. High Courts exercise jurisdiction over the subordinate judiciary in the state.
3. District judges are selected through a process conducted by the State Public Service Commissions and the concerned High Court.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

How are district judges currently recruited?

Articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution of India deal with the **appointment of district judges, and place it in the domain of the states.**

The selection process is conducted by the State Public Service Commissions and the concerned High Court, since High Courts exercise jurisdiction over the subordinate judiciary in the state. Panels of High Court judges interview candidates after the exam and select them for appointment.

All judges of the lower judiciary up to the level of district judge are selected through the Provincial Civil Services (Judicial) exam. PCS(J) is commonly referred to as the judicial services exam.

41) Which of the following is/are the features of Federalism?

1. Different tiers of government govern the same citizens, but each tier has its own jurisdiction.
2. The existence and authority of each tier of government generally is constitutionally guaranteed.
3. Each tier of government must draw all its financial resources independent of the other tier.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

Each tier has its own jurisdiction in specific matters of legislation, taxation and administration; for e.g. in India states legislate in matters of police, and Centre legislates in areas of national security as a whole.

Existence of each tier of government is constitutionally guaranteed.

42) A federal government means a government in which

- a) there is division of powers between the Central and state governments; and also between the federal and state judiciaries
- b) all the powers are vested in the national government and the regional governments derive their authority from the national government.
- c) a large number of powers are vested in the national government and the regional governments, with some independent powers, derive their authority from the national government
- d) powers are divided between the national government and the regional governments by the Constitution and both operate in their respective jurisdictions independently

Solution: d)

A federal government is one in which powers are divided between the national government and the regional governments by the Constitution itself and both operate in their respective jurisdictions independently. In a federal model, the national government is known as the Federal government or the Central government or the Union government and the regional government is known as the state government or the provincial government.

43) The committees which examined the Centre-State Relations are:

1. Sarkaria Commission
2. L M Singhvi Committee
3. Rajamannar Committee
4. M M Punchhi Commission

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

In 1986, Rajiv Gandhi government appointed a committee to prepare a concept paper on 'Revitalisation of Panchayati Raj Institutions for Democracy and Development' under the chairmanship of L M Singhvi.

44) Consider the following statements regarding North Eastern Council (NEC).

1. NEC established by an Act of Parliament is the nodal agency for the economic and social development of the North Eastern Region.
2. Minister of Development of NER is the ex-officio Chairman of North Eastern Council.
3. Initially Sikkim was not the part of North Eastern Council and was added to the council in the year 2002.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

North Eastern Council (NEC) was constituted as a statutory advisory body under the NEC Act 1971 and came into being on the 7th November, 1972 at Shillong. The eight States of Northeast India viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim, are members of the council, with their respective Chief Ministers and Governors representing them.

Sikkim was added to the council in the year 2002.

In June 2018, the chairmanship of NEC was transferred by Union Cabinet to Home Minister from Minister of Development of NER.

45) According to Article 12 of the Constitution of India, the term 'State' denotes

1. Government and Parliament of India
2. Government and the Legislature of each of the States
3. All local or other authorities within the territory of India or under the control of the Government of India.
4. United Nations

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

The Delhi High Court has ruled that the **United Nations is not a State under Article 12 of the Constitution** of India and is not amenable to its jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution.

According to Article 12 of the Constitution of India the State includes the Government and Parliament of India and the Government and the Legislature of each of the States and all local or other authorities within the territory of India or under the control of the Government of India.

2. Geography

- 1) Continental shelf is formed due to:
1. Rise in sea level
 2. Emergence of a part of a continent above the sea level
 3. Sedimentary deposits brought down by rivers

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

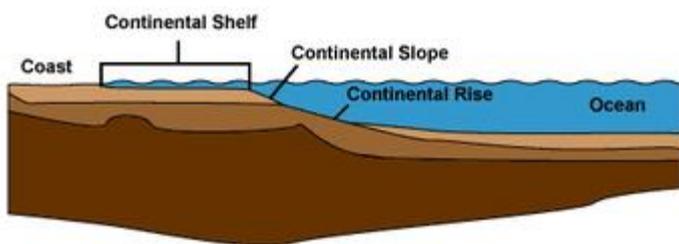
- a) 1, 2
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

Solution: c)

Continental Shelf is the submerged edge of a continent which is a gently sloping plain that extends into the Ocean. The typical gradient is less than 1° . The average width of continental shelves is about 80 km. The largest continental shelf is the Siberian Shelf in the Arctic Ocean, which stretches to 1,500 kilometres in width. Because of the gentle slope, the continental shelf is influenced by the changes in the sea level.

The shelf is formed mainly due to:

- Rise in sea level
- Submergence of a part of a continent
- Sedimentary deposits brought down by rivers



INSIGHTSIAS
SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

- 2) Consider the following statements
1. Oceanic trenches are formed due to collision of oceanic and continental crust.
 2. Deepest ocean depth is measured at Mariana Trench located east of Japan's coast.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Solution: b)

Mariana Trench is at east of Philippine coast.

Along a convergent boundary two lithospheric plates collide against each other. When one of the plates is an **oceanic plate**, it gets embedded in the softer asthenosphere of the **continental plate**, and as a result, **trenches are formed at the zone of subduction**.

- 3) Which of the following factors influences Jet streams?
1. The action of the Coriolis force.
 2. Atmospheric heating by solar radiation that produces Polar, Ferrel, and Hadley circulation cells.

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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

Solution: c)

Jet streams are the product of two factors: the **atmospheric heating by solar radiation that produces the large-scale Polar, Ferrel, and Hadley circulation cells**, and the **action of the Coriolis force** acting on those moving masses.

- 4) Earth's surface temperature is largely influenced by insolation. Which of the following factors influence the insolation?
1. Rotation of earth
 2. Length of the day
 3. Transparency of the atmosphere
 4. Angle of inclination of sun rays

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

All the above factors influence insolation.

Rotation of earth: The rotation of the earth on the inclined axis has a greater influence on the amount of insolation received at different latitudes.

Length of the day: The length of the day determines the duration of sunlight which affects the amount of solar radiation received by the earth's surface.

Transparency of the atmosphere: Atmosphere is not transparent for all the radiation coming from the sun because of different composition and layers. It is also one of the controlling factors of insolation to reach earth surface.

Angle of inclination of sun rays: Since the earth is a geoid resembling a sphere, the sun's rays strike the surface at different angles at different places. This depends on the latitude of the place. The higher the latitude, the less is the angle they make with the surface of the earth. The area covered by the vertical rays is always less than the slant rays. If more area is covered, the energy gets distributed and the net energy received per unit area decreases. Moreover, the sun's rays with small angle traverse more of the atmosphere than rays striking at a large angle.

Earth's Distance from Sun: The earth is revolving around the sun in an elliptical orbit, resulting continuous change in the distance between sun and the earth on annual basis. It leads to seasonal variation in solar energy received by the earth. During aphelion the northern hemisphere is facing the sun and therefore receives energy about 7 percent less than the perihelion (southern hemisphere).

- 5) Maximum insolation is received over
- a) Equator
 - b) Tropical Evergreen forests
 - c) Subtropical deserts
 - d) Mid-latitude oceans

Solution: c)

The insolation received at the surface varies from about 320 Watt/m² in the tropics to about 70 Watt/m² in the poles. **Maximum insolation is received over the subtropical deserts, where the cloudiness is the least.** Equator receives comparatively less insolation than the tropics. Generally, at the same latitude the insolation is more over the continent than over the oceans. In winter, the middle and higher latitudes receive less radiation than in summer.

- 6) Which of the following factors may possibly influence circulation of Ocean Currents?
1. Solar insolation affecting the temperature of Ocean currents
 2. The ocean water is little higher in level at Equator than in the middle latitudes.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

Near the equator the ocean water is about 8 cm higher in level than in the middle latitudes. This causes a very slight gradient and water tends to flow down the slope.

Solar energy makes current warm or cold and decides their circulatory patterns.

- 7) Consider the following statements regarding generation of Ocean currents.
1. Surface currents are generated largely by wind and their patterns are determined by wind direction.
 2. Ocean Currents may also be generated by density differences in water masses caused by temperature and salinity variations.
 3. Occasional events like huge storms also trigger serious currents.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

Surface currents are generated largely by wind. Their patterns are determined by wind direction, Coriolis forces from the Earth's rotation, and the position of landforms that interact with the currents.

Currents may also be generated by density differences in water masses caused by temperature and salinity variations. These currents move water masses through the deep ocean—taking nutrients, oxygen, and heat with them.

Occasional events also trigger serious currents. Huge storms move water masses. Underwater earthquakes may trigger devastating tsunamis.

- 8) Consider the following statements.
1. In ocean water, salinity variation is more in the surface water than at depth.
 2. The maximum temperature of the oceans is always below the surface, because the heat cannot escape faster from this layer.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

Salinity at the surface increases by the loss of water to ice or evaporation, or decreased by the input of fresh waters, such as from the rivers. Salinity at depth is very much fixed, because there is no way that water is 'lost', or the salt is 'added.'

It is a well-known fact that the **maximum temperature of the oceans is always at their surfaces because they directly receive the heat from the sun** and the heat is transmitted to the lower sections of the oceans through the process of convection. It results into decrease of temperature with the increasing depth, but the rate of decrease is not uniform throughout. The temperature falls very rapidly up to the depth of 200 m and thereafter, the rate of decrease of temperature is slowed down.

9) Consider the following statements regarding the vertical distribution of Salinity.

1. Salinity at the surface decreases by the loss of water to ice.
2. Salinity at depth is very much fixed, because there is no way that water is lost, or the salt is added.
3. Halocline is a distinct zone where salinity increases sharply.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

Salinity changes with depth, but the way it changes depends upon the location of the sea. **Salinity at the surface increases by the loss of water to ice or evaporation**, or decreased by the input of fresh waters, such as from the rivers. **Salinity at depth is very much fixed**, because there is no way that water is 'lost', or the salt is 'added.' There is a marked difference in the salinity between the surface zones and the deep zones of the oceans. The lower salinity water rests above the higher salinity dense water. **Salinity, generally, increases with depth and there is a distinct zone called the halocline, where salinity increases sharply.**

10) Consider the following statements about distribution of salinity in water.

1. Generally salinity is high in land locked regions compared to estuaries.
2. The salinity variation in the Pacific Ocean is mainly due to its shape and larger areal extent.
3. Highest salinity is recorded between 0 to 10-degree latitude because of high temperature and high evaporation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

All waters in nature, whether rain water or ocean water, contain dissolved mineral salts. Salinity is the term used to define the total content of dissolved salts in sea water. It is calculated as the amount of salt (in gm) dissolved in 1,000 gm (1 kg) of seawater. It is usually expressed as parts per thousand (o/oo) or ppt. Salinity is an important property of sea water. Salinity of 24.7 o/oo has been considered as the upper limit to demarcate 'brackish water'.

In the land locked Red Sea, salinity is as high as 41o/oo, while in the estuaries and the Arctic, the salinity fluctuates from 0 - 35 o/oo, seasonally.

The salinity variation in the Pacific Ocean is mainly due to its shape and larger areal extent.

The highest salinity is recorded between 15° and 20° latitudes.

11) Consider the following statements.

1. More fish come closer to the shore during the Low tide.
2. High tides help in navigation as they raise the water level close to the shores.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

High tides help in navigation. They raise the water level close to the shores. This helps the ships to arrive at the harbour more easily. **The high tides also help in fishing. Many more fish come closer to the shore during the high tide.** This enables fishermen to get a plentiful catch. The rise and fall of water due to tides is being used to generate electricity in some places.

12) Consider the following statements.

- 1. More fresh water can be found in the atmosphere than in the rivers on earth.
- 2. Ice-caps contain less fresh water than the fresh water available in the groundwater.
- 3. Rivers on earth contain less fresh water than Inland seas and salt lakes.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

Oceans	:	97.3	Saline Water
Ice-caps	:	02.0	} Fresh Water
Ground water	:	0.68	
Fresh Water lakes	:	0.009	
Inland seas & Salt lakes	:	0.009	
Atmosphere	:	0.0019	
Rivers	:	0.0001	
		<u>100.00</u>	



13) Consider the following statements.

- 1. Belarus is a landlocked country in Eastern Europe.
- 2. Belarus shares its border with Russia, Ukraine and Poland.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)



- 14) Irish Sea is located between
- Great Britain and Norway
 - Sweden and Finland
 - Great Britain and France
 - Ireland and Great Britain

Solution: d)

The **Irish Sea** separates the islands of **Ireland and Great Britain**.



INSIGHTSIAS
SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

- 15) Arrange the following from north to south.
- Selvas
 - Patagonia
 - Pampas
 - Campos

Select the correct answer code:

- 1-4-3-2
- 4-1-2-3
- 4-1-3-2
- 1-4-2-3

Solution: a)



INSIGHTSIAS
PARATION

16) Consider the following statements.

1. The ranges of the Eastern Himalayas are more continuous compared to Western Himalayas.
2. 'Duns' or 'Doons' formations are characteristic feature of Kashmir Himalayas.
3. The Himachal and Uttarakhand Himalayas lies approximately between the River Indus in the west and the River Kali in the east.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

The ranges of the Western Himalayas are more continuous compared to Eastern Himalayas.

The southernmost part of Northwest Himalayan region or Kashmir Himalayan region consists of longitudinal valleys known as 'duns'. Jammu dun and Pathankot dun are important examples.

The Himachal and Uttarakhand Himalayas lies approximately between the Ravi in the west and the Kali (a tributary of Ghaghara) in the east.

17) Sutlej River enters India through which of the following passes?

- a) Banihal Pass
- b) Nathu La Pass
- c) Bara-Lacha Pass
- d) Shipki La pass

Solution: d)

Sutlej, a tributary of Indus River enters India at **Shipki La pass**.

18) Consider the following statements regarding Delhi Ridge.

1. It is a northern extension of the Vindhya range.
2. It protects Delhi from the hot winds of the deserts of Rajasthan.
3. The ridge consists of quartzite rocks and forms a crucial "water divide" in Northern India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

The Delhi Ridge is said to be the green lungs for the city and protects Delhi from the hot winds of the deserts of Rajasthan to the west. The ridge consists of quartzite rocks covering a distance of approximately 35 km. It is a northern extension of the ancient Aravalli Range.

It is believed that the dismemberment of the Himalayan river system was probably due to the Pleistocene upheaval in the western Himalayas, including the uplift of the Potwar Plateau (**Delhi Ridge**), which acted as the water divide between the Indus and Ganga drainage systems. It continues to be a major water divide.





19) Consider the following statements regarding drainage patterns.

1. A drainage pattern is described as discordant if it does not correlate to the topology and geology of the area.
2. Antecedent Drainage cuts through the newly formed landform and maintains the same path.
3. When a river flowing over a softer rock stratum reaches the harder basal rocks but continues to follow the initial slope where it seems to have no relation with the harder rock bed, it is called Superimposed Drainage pattern.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

Discordant or Insequent drainage patterns

- A drainage pattern is described as discordant if it **does not correlate to the topology (surface relief features) and geology** of the area.
- In simple words, in a discordant drainage pattern, the river follows its initial path irrespective of the changes in topography.
- Discordant drainage patterns are classified into two main types: **antecedent** and **superimposed**.
- Usually, rivers in both these drainage types flow through a **highly sloping surface**.

Antecedent Drainage or Inconsequent Drainage

- A part of a river slope and the surrounding area gets uplifted, and the river **sticks to its original slope**, cutting through the uplifted portion like a saw (vertical erosion) and forming deep gorges. This type of drainage is called antecedent drainage.
- Example: **Indus, Sutlej, Brahmaputra and other Himalayan rivers that are older than the Himalayas themselves**. There are usually called **antecedent rivers (rivers older than the existing land itself)**.

Superimposed or Superinduced Drainage

- When a river flowing over a softer rock stratum reaches the harder basal rocks but continues to follow the initial slope, it seems to have no relation with the harder rock bed. This type of drainage is called superimposed drainage.

20) Which of the following are the tributaries of the Krishna River?

1. Koyna
2. Tungabhadra
3. Bhima
4. Sabari
5. Musi

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

Tributaries

- left **Bhima, Dindi, Musi, Paleru, Munneru**
- right **Kudali (Niranjna) Venna, Koyna, Panchganga, Dudhaganga, Ghataprabha, Malaprabha, Tungabhadra**

21) Consider the following statements regarding Climate of India.

1. The Himalayas trap the monsoon winds, forcing them to shed their moisture within the subcontinent.
2. Difference in air pressure causes reversal in the direction of monsoon winds.
3. With a long coastline, large coastal areas have extremes of climate.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

The lofty Himalayas in the north along with its extensions act as an effective climatic divide. The towering mountain chain provides an invincible shield to protect the subcontinent from the cold northern winds. These cold and chilly winds originate near the Arctic circle and blow across central and eastern Asia. The Himalayas also trap the monsoon winds, forcing them to shed their moisture within the subcontinent.

As compared to the landmass, water heats up or cools down slowly. This differential heating of land and sea creates different air pressure zones in different seasons in and around the Indian subcontinent. Difference in air pressure causes reversal in the direction of monsoon winds.

With a long coastline, large coastal areas have an equable climate. Areas in the interior of India are far away from the moderating influence of the sea. Such areas have extremes of climate.

22) To understand the differences in local climates of India, we need to understand which of the following factors

1. Distribution of air pressure and winds on the surface of the earth
2. Western disturbances

3. Tropical depressions during the south-west monsoon period

Select the correct answer code

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

Solution: d)

To understand the differences in local climates of India, we need to understand the mechanism of the following three factors:

- (i) **Distribution of air pressure and winds on the surface of the earth.**
- (ii) Upper air circulation caused by factors controlling global weather and the inflow of different air masses and jet streams.
- (iii) Inflow of western cyclones generally known as disturbances during the winter season and **tropical depressions during the south-west monsoon period** into India, creating weather conditions favourable to rainfall.

23) In which of the following states/UTs you are most likely to find Tropical evergreen forest, semi evergreen, deciduous, Pine and Temperate forests?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Andaman and Nicobar
- c) Karnataka
- d) Kerala

Solution: a)

Situated on the northeastern tip of the country, the state of Arunachal Pradesh is a part of Eastern Himalayan Ranges. The important forests types found in the state are Tropical evergreen, semi evergreen, deciduous, Pine, Temperate, Alpine and grassland.

24) Which of the following phenomenon is/are responsible for thunderstorms formation?

- 1. Orography
- 2. High temperature and humidity
- 3. Vertical wind
- 4. Condensation

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

All are responsible for thunderstorms.

A thunderstorm, is a storm characterized by the presence of lightning and its acoustic effect on the Earth's atmosphere, known as thunder.

Thunderstorms occur in a type of cloud known as a cumulonimbus. They are usually accompanied by strong winds, and often produce heavy rain and sometimes snow, sleet, or hail, but some thunderstorms produce little precipitation or no precipitation at all.

Thunderstorms result from the rapid upward movement of warm, moist air, sometimes along a front. As the warm, moist air moves upward, it cools, condenses, and forms a cumulonimbus cloud that can reach heights of over 20 kilometres. As the rising air reaches its dew point temperature, water vapor condenses into water

droplets or ice, reducing pressure locally within the thunderstorm cell. Any precipitation falls the long distance through the clouds towards the Earth's surface. As the droplets fall, they collide with other droplets and become larger. The falling droplets create a downdraft as it pulls cold air with it, and this cold air spreads out at the Earth's surface, occasionally causing strong winds that are commonly associated with thunderstorms.

25) If the elliptical orbit of earth around the Sun changes to a circular orbit, which one among the following may result in that situation?

- a) The Earth will suddenly become very cold and uninhabitable.
- b) All gases on earth will escape.
- c) It would not make any difference to earth, its atmosphere and temperature.
- d) The difference between seasons may be changed.

Solution: d)

Earth's tilted axis causes the seasons. Throughout the year, different parts of Earth receive the Sun's most direct rays. So, when the North Pole tilts toward the Sun, it's summer in the Northern Hemisphere. And when the South Pole tilts toward the Sun, it's winter in the Northern Hemisphere.

26) Consider the following statements regarding the salient features of fold Mountains?

1. They are least likely to have conical peaks as compared to block mountains.
2. They are created when large areas are broken and displaced vertically.
3. They are always associated with volcanism.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)



The Himalayan Mountains and the Alps are young fold mountains with rugged relief and high conical peaks.

Block Mountains are created when large areas are broken and displaced vertically. The uplifted blocks are termed as horsts and the lowered blocks are called graben. The Rhine valley and the Vosges mountain in Europe are examples of such mountain systems.

The Aravalli range in India is one of the oldest fold mountain systems in the world yet not associated with volcanic activity.

27) Which of the following are block mountains?

1. Cascade Range in the USA
2. Vosges mountains in France
3. Great African Rift Valley

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

Block Mountains

- Block mountains are created because of faulting on a large scale (when large areas or blocks of earth are broken and **displaced vertically or horizontally**).
- The uplifted blocks are termed as **horsts**, and the lowered blocks are called **graben**.
- The **Great African Rift Valley**, The **Rhine Valley** and the **Vosges mountain** in Europe are examples.

- Block mountains are also called **fault-block mountains** since they are formed due to faulting as a result of tensile and compressive forces.

28) Consider the following statements regarding Land Breezes

- It occurs during night.
- The pressure gradient is from the Sea to the Land.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

Land and Sea Breezes

The land and sea absorb and transfer heat differently.

During the day the land heats up faster and becomes warmer than the sea. Therefore, over the land the air rises giving rise to a low-pressure area, whereas the sea is relatively cool and the pressure over sea is relatively high. Thus, pressure gradient from sea to land is created and the wind blows from the sea to the land as the sea breeze.

In the night the reversal of condition takes place. The land loses heat faster and is cooler than the sea. The pressure gradient is from the land to the sea and hence land breeze results.

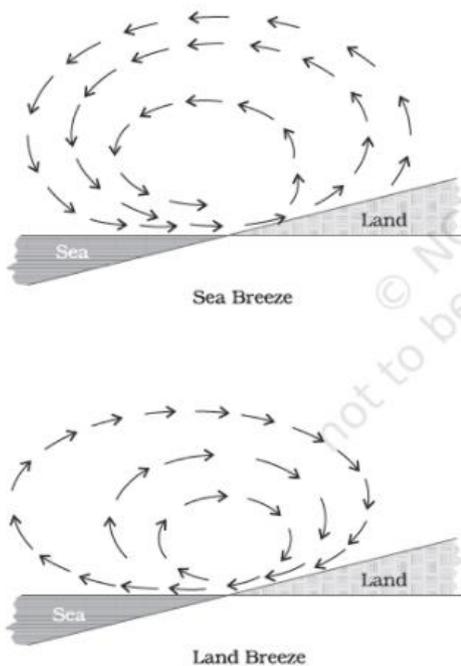


Figure 10.7 : Land and sea breezes

INSIGHTSIAS
SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

29) Consider the following statements.

- Planetary or permanent winds blow from high pressure belts to low pressure belts in the same direction throughout the year.
- Polar easterlies blow from sub-polar low-pressure regions towards polar regions.
- In southern hemisphere the trade winds diverge out of the sub-tropical high towards the equatorial low from the south-east direction.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1, 2
- 2, 3
- 1, 2, 3
- 1, 3

Solution: d)

Planetary or permanent winds blow from high pressure belts to low pressure belts in the same direction throughout the year. They blow over vast area of continents and oceans. They are easterly and westerlies and polar easterlies.

(i) The Easterlies

The winds that blow from sub-tropical high-pressure areas towards equatorial low-pressure areas called **trade or easterly winds**.

Because of the Coriolis effect the northern trade winds move away from the subtropical high in north-east direction.

In southern hemisphere the trade winds diverge out of the sub-tropical high towards the equatorial low from the southeast direction

As the trade winds tend to blow mainly from the east, they are also known as the Tropical easterlies.

(ii) The Westerlies

The winds that move poleward from the sub-tropical high pressure in the northern hemisphere are deflected to the right and thus blow from the southwest.

These in the southern hemisphere are deflected to the left and blow from the north-west. Thus, these winds are called **westerlies**

(iii) Polar Easterlies

Polar easterlies blow from polar regions towards sub-polar low-pressure regions.

Their direction in the northern hemisphere is from north-east to southwest and from south-east to north-west in the southern hemisphere.

30) Consider the following statements regarding Geyser.

1. In geyser, water at high pressure smoothly flows to the top through the vent and condense at the surface.
2. Generally, geysers are located near active volcanic areas.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

Geyser:

- **Steam or water at high pressure, along its path, gets accumulated in small reservoirs, fissures and fractures. Once the pressure exceeds the threshold limit, the steam bursts out to the surface disrupting the water at the mouth. Hence the name geyser.**
- Silicate deposits at mouth give them their distinct colours.
- **Generally, geysers are located near active volcanic areas. Iceland is famous for its geysers.**

Hot water spring:

- **Steam or water at high pressure smoothly flows to the top through the vent and condense at the surface giving rise to a spring.**
- Some springs are very colourful because of the presence of **cyanobacteria** of different colours.
- Found all across the world

31) The characteristic red colour of Laterite soils comes from

- a) The phyllosilicate group of minerals found in it
- b) Their high calcium component

- c) The iron oxide present in the soil
- d) The poor content of phosphoric acid

Solution: c)

Laterite soils are formed from chemical decomposition of rocks. **These soils mainly contain iron oxide which gives them characteristic pink or red colour.**

These soils are found in Central, Eastern and South India. These are residual soils formed from basalt and have high specific gravity.

32) Consider the following statements.

1. Alluvial soil is also known as 'self-ploughing' soil.
2. Saline soils are found in arid and semi-arid regions, and in waterlogged and swampy areas.
3. Black soil is important for growing of plantation crops.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

The **black soils** are generally clayey, deep and impermeable. They swell and become sticky when wet and shrink when dried. So, during the dry season, these soil develop wide cracks. Thus, there occurs a kind of **self ploughing'**.

Black soil is important for growing of crops like cotton and sugarcane. **Laterite soil is more suited to grow plantation crop.**

Saline soils are also known as Usara soils. Saline soils contain a larger proportion of sodium, potassium and magnesium, and thus, they are infertile, and do not support any vegetative growth. They have more salts, largely because of dry climate and poor drainage. **They occur in arid and semi-arid regions, and in waterlogged and swampy areas.**

33) Consider the following statements.

1. The laterite soils develop in areas with high temperature and high rainfall.
2. Red soil develops on crystalline igneous rocks in areas of low rainfall in the eastern and southern part of the Deccan Plateau.
3. The black soil retains the moisture for a very long time.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

The laterite soils develop in areas with high temperature and high rainfall. These are the result of intense leaching due to tropical rains. With rain, lime and silica are leached away, and soils rich in iron oxide and aluminum compound are left behind.

Red soil develops on crystalline igneous rocks in areas of low rainfall in the eastern and southern part of the Deccan Plateau. Along the piedmont zone of the Western Ghats, long stretch of area is occupied by red loamy soil. Yellow and red soils are also found in parts of Odisha and Chattisgarh and in the southern parts of the middle Ganga plain. The soil develops a reddish colour due to a wide diffusion of iron in crystalline and metamorphic rocks. It looks yellow when it occurs in a hydrated form.

The black soils are generally clayey, deep and impermeable. They swell and become sticky when wet and shrink when dried. So, during the dry season, these soil develop wide cracks. Thus, there occurs a kind of 'self ploughing'. Because of this character of slow absorption and loss of moisture, **the black soil retains the moisture for a very long time**, which helps the crops, especially, the rain fed ones, to sustain even during the dry season.

34) Which of the following vegetation is/are found in Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

1. Moist deciduous forest
2. Tropical evergreen forest
3. Sub-montane forest
4. Littoral forest

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands have a tropical rainforest canopy, made of a mixed flora with elements from Indian, Myanmar, Malaysian and endemic floral strains.

The South Andaman forests have a profuse growth of epiphytic vegetation, mostly ferns, and orchids. The Middle Andamans harbours mostly **moist deciduous** forests. North Andamans is characterized by the wet **evergreen type**, with plenty of woody climbers. The North Nicobar Islands are marked by the complete absence of evergreen forests, while such forests form the dominant vegetation in the central and southern islands of the Nicobar group. Grasslands occur only in the Nicobars, and while deciduous forests are common in the Andamans, they are almost absent in the Nicobars.

SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

This atypical forest coverage is made up of different types, namely:

- Evergreen forest
- Tropical evergreen forest
- Semi-evergreen forest
- Moist deciduous forest
- Littoral forest
- Mangrove forest
- Brackish water mixed forest
- Submontane forest

35) Consider the following statements.

1. 'Shadow zone' of an earthquake refers to the zone where the tendency of experiencing an earthquake is the maximum.
2. S-waves produced by an earthquake can travel only through solid materials.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Solution: a)

Earthquake waves get recorded in seismographs located at far off locations. However, **there exist some specific areas where the waves are not reported. Such a zone is called the 'shadow zone'**.

An important fact about **S-waves** is that they can travel only through solid materials. This characteristic of the S-waves is quite important as it has helped scientists to understand the structure of the interior of the earth.

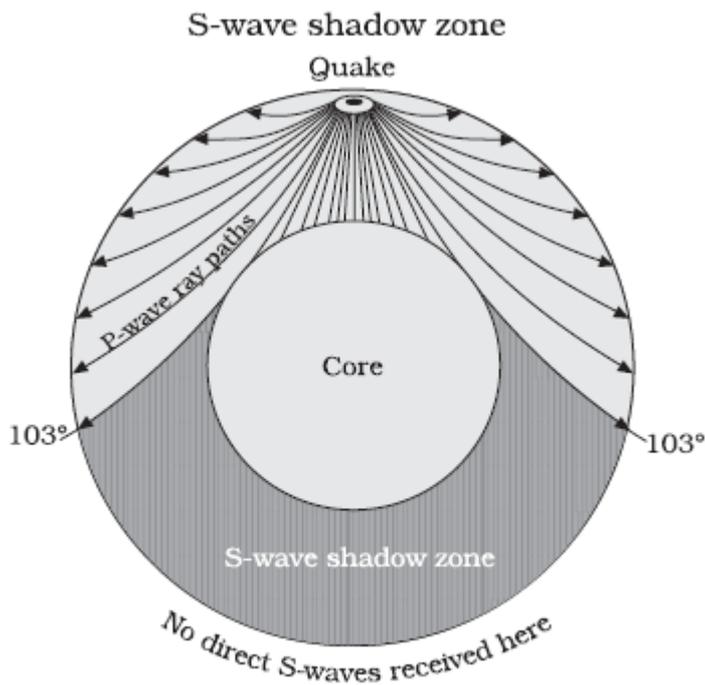


Figure 3.2 (a) and (b) : Earthquake Shadow Zones

36) Arrange the following kharif crops in the decreasing order in terms of area under cultivation.

1. Oilseeds
2. Rice
3. Pulses
4. Sugarcane

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: a)

Sowing Area Coverage of Kharif Crops : as on 31.07.2020, the total Kharif crops has been sown on 882.18 lakh ha area against 774.38 lakh ha area during the corresponding period of last year.

Rice: About 266.60 lakh ha area coverage

Oilseeds: About 175.34 lakh ha area coverage

Pulses: About 111.91 lakh ha area coverage

Sugarcane: About 51.78 lakh ha area coverage

37) Which of the following are the winter crops grown in India?

1. Peas
2. Mustard
3. Barley
4. Wheat

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2, 3
- b) 1, 3, 4

- c) 1, 2, 3, 4
- d) 2, 3, 4

Solution: c)

The crops that are sown in the winter season are called Rabi crops. (also known as the "winter crop") in India. The Rabi means, when the crop is harvested. Crops that are grown in the winter season, from November to April are called Rabi Crops. Some of the important rabi crops are **wheat, barley, peas, gram and mustard**.

38) Consider the following agriculture practices.

1. Vertical farming is the practice of producing food in vertically stacked layers in structures like skyscrapers and warehouse.
2. Vertical farming is possible only in the regions that have fertile soil.
3. Zero-Tillage helps in carbon sequestration and requires minimum labour compare to traditional farming method.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

Zero tillage is the process where the crop seed will be sown through drillers without prior land preparation and disturbing the soil where previous crop stubbles are present.

Zero tillage not only reduce the cost of cultivation it also reduces the soil erosion, crop duration and irrigation requirement and weed effect which is better than tillage. **Zero Tillage (ZT) also called No Tillage or Nil Tillage. Adopting no-tillage in agro-ecosystems has been widely recommended as a means of enhancing carbon (C) sequestration in soils.**

Vertical farming is the practice of growing produce in vertically stacked layers. The practice can use soil, hydroponic or aeroponic growing methods. Vertical farms attempt to produce food in challenging environments, like where arable land is rare or unavailable.

39) Consider the following statements regarding Wheat Cultivation in India.

1. Wheat can be grown in the tropical and sub-tropical zones and it cannot tolerate severe cold and snow.
2. Soils with a clay loam or loam texture and moderate water holding capacity are ideal for wheat cultivation.
3. Punjab is the largest Wheat producing state of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

Wheat is the main cereal crop in India.

Wheat crop has wide adaptability. It can be grown not only in the tropical and sub-tropical zones, but also in the **temperate zone and the cold tracts of the far north**, beyond even the 60-degree north altitude. **Wheat can tolerate severe cold and snow** and resume growth with the setting in of warm weather in spring. It can be cultivated from sea level to as high as 3300 meters.

The best wheat are produced in areas favoured with cool, moist weather during the major portion of the growing period followed by dry, warm weather to enable the grain to ripen properly.

Wheat is grown in a variety of soils of India. **Soils with a clay loam or loam texture, good structure and moderate water holding capacity are ideal for wheat cultivation.**

Uttar Pradesh is the largest Wheat producing state of India.

40) Which of the following mineral deposits/rocks are present in India?

1. Osmium
2. Iridium
3. Palladium
4. Ruthenium
5. Nepheline Syenite

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

The high concentration of **iridium in the geological section at Anjar, Kutch district**, provides evidence for a massive meteoritic impact that caused the extinction of dinosaurs about 65 million years ago.

A national geological monument exhibiting a unique rock called **Nepheline Syenite in Ajmer district of Rajasthan.**

Baula-Nausahi, a 3-km-long belt, 170 km north east of Bhubaneswar, is the proven **platinum group of elements (PGE) deposit in India.** PGE comprises six greyish to silver white metals including platinum, palladium, iridium, rhodium, osmium and ruthenium.

41) Consider the following pairs:

Industry	State
1. Rourkela Steel Plant	Maharashtra
2. Durgapur Steel Plant	West Bengal
3. Korba Aluminum Plant	Chhattisgarh

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Solution: c)

Rourkela Steel Plant, in Rourkela, Odisha is the **first integrated steel plant in the public sector** in India. It was set up **with West German collaboration** with an installed capacity of 1 million tonnes in the 1960s. It is operated by Steel Authority of India.

Durgapur Steel Plant is one of the integrated steel plants of Steel Authority of India Limited, located in **Durgapur, in the eastern Indian state of West Bengal.** It was set up with the **help of United Kingdom.**

BALCO has its operations at Korba in the state of Chhattisgarh with a smelter capacity of 570 ktpa with capabilities to produce ingots, Alloy ingots, wire-rods, busbars and rolled products.

42) Consider the following statements regarding foot loose industries.

1. Foot loose industries can be located in a wide variety of places.
2. They largely depend on component parts which can be obtained anywhere.
3. These industries are generally non-polluting industries.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

Foot loose industries can be located in a wide variety of places. They are not dependent on any specific raw material, weight losing or otherwise. **They largely depend on component parts which can be obtained anywhere.**

They produce in small quantity and also employ a small labour force. **These are generally not polluting industries.** The important factor in their location is accessibility by road network.

Diamonds, computer chips, and mobile manufacturing are some examples of footloose industries.

Non-footloose industries generally require raw material availability within a time limit to make products. Sugar industry, jute industry and tea industry are the examples of non-footloose industries.

43) Consider the following statements regarding Distribution of Minerals in India.

1. Most of the metallic minerals in India occur in the peninsular plateau region in the old crystalline rocks.
2. Most of the major mineral resources occur to the west of a line linking Mangaluru and Kanpur.
3. Over 95 per cent of coal reserves occur in the valleys of Damodar, Sone, Mahanadi and Godavari.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

Most of the metallic minerals in India occur in the peninsular plateau region in the old crystalline rocks. Over 97 per cent of coal reserves occur in the valleys of Damodar, Sone, Mahanadi and Godavari. Petroleum reserves are located in the sedimentary basins of Assam, Gujarat and Mumbai High i.e. off-shore region in the Arabian Sea. New reserves have been located in the Krishna-Godavari and Kaveri basins.

Most of the major mineral resources occur to the east of a line linking Mangaluru and Kanpur.

44) Which of the following is/are the drawbacks of coal found in India?

1. High ash content
2. Low calorific value
3. Majority of the reserves are lignite type

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

Majority of the coal found in India are of bituminous type. A small amount of Lignite found in Nyveli region of Tamil Nadu.

45) Which of the following activities belong to the Quaternary activities in an Economy?

1. Research and development
2. Production and dissemination of information
3. Medical Tourism

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

Quaternary activities involve some of the following: the collection, **production and dissemination of information** or even the production of information. Quaternary activities centre around **research, development** and may be seen as an advanced form of services involving specialised knowledge and technical skills.

Medical tourism is classified into tertiary sector of the economy.

46) One can infer which of the following information from a population pyramid?

1. Distribution of various age groups in a population
2. Reproductive capabilities and likelihood of the continuation of a species
3. Density of population
4. Gender composition based on age groups

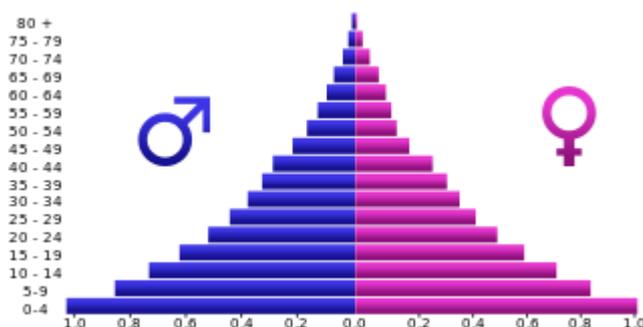
Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)



A population pyramid, also called an "**age-gender-pyramid**", is a graphical illustration that shows the **distribution of various age groups in a population** (typically that of a country or region of the world), which forms the shape of a pyramid when the population is growing. It is also used in ecology to determine the **overall age distribution of a population**; an indication of the **reproductive capabilities and likelihood of the continuation of a species**.



47) Consider the following statements.

1. The fertility rate refers to the number of live births per 1000 women in the child-bearing age group, usually taken to be 15 to 49 years.
2. Reaping demographic dividend due to a higher population of working-age citizens is usually the last stage in the demographic transition of any society.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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

Solution: b)

The fertility rate refers to the number of live births per 1000 women in the child-bearing age group, usually taken to be 15 to 49 years.

In the fourth stage, low birth rate and low death rate lead to Population stabilisation. In this stage, because of rapid economic development, standard of living of the people becomes very high.

The first stage has high fertility and high mortality because people reproduce more to compensate for the deaths due to epidemics and variable food supply.

In the second stage, birth-rate is high but death rate is low. It results in **high growth rate of population.**

In the third stage, a declining birth rate and low death rate lead to low population growth.

- 48) The term demographic trap is used by demographers to describe the combination of
1. Increasing Mortality
 2. High Fertility rate
 3. Declining mortality
 4. Sub-replacement level fertility rates

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

INSIGHTSIAS
SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

The term demographic trap is used by demographers "to describe the **combination of high fertility (birth rates) and declining mortality (death rates)** in developing countries, resulting in a period of high population growth rate (PGR)."

Sub-replacement fertility in demography refers to any fertility rate below the replacement rate that would cause the population of a certain group of people to decrease over time.

- 49) If men and women have equal population for all major age groups in a country, the population pyramid will tend to show
- a) Skewed base with narrow top
 - b) Narrow base with thick top
 - c) Vertical symmetry
 - d) Horizontal symmetry

Solution: c)

The base of the pyramid represents the population of the children. If it is thick or wide, it represents that children constitute a significant part of national population. The opposite if it is narrow. So, B and D deal with the population proportions of the children and aged and therefore and incorrect in this context.

Vertical symmetry reflects the fact that all age groups contain equal numbers of males and females.

- 50) Malthusian trap is a situation in which
- a) Fertility rates have declined heavily such that population starts declining

- b) Poverty alleviation programmes keep people persistently poor
- c) Unemployment allowances discourage the unemployed to go to work
- d) Population growth is greater than economic growth

Solution: d)

Malthusian catastrophe (also known as a **Malthusian trap, population trap**) occurs when **population growth outpaces economic growth**, causing famine or war, resulting in poverty and depopulation. Such a catastrophe inevitably has the effect of forcing the population to "correct" back to a lower, more easily sustainable level.

51) Consider the following statements regarding State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

1. SDRF was constituted based on the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission.
2. The Central Government contributes 50% to SDRF and the remaining 50% is provided from the State Government.
3. A State Government may use the funds available under the SDRF for providing immediate relief to the victims of natural disasters that they consider to be 'disasters' within the local context in the State.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

SDRF has been constituted by each state under the provisions of Disaster Management act 2005.

It was constituted based on the recommendations of the 13th Finance Commission.

Funding: The Central Government contributes 75% of SDRF allocation for general category States/UTs and 90% for special category States/UTs.

Heads: The state executive committee headed by the Chief Secretary is authorized to decide on all matters relating to the financing of the relief expenditure from the SDRF.

Disaster (s) covered under SDRF: Cyclone, drought, earthquake, fire, flood, tsunami, hailstorm, landslide, avalanche, cloudburst, pest attack, frost and cold waves.

Local Disaster: **A State Government may use up to 10 percent of the funds available under the SDRF for providing immediate relief to the victims of natural disasters that they consider to be 'disasters' within the local context in the State** and which are not included in the notified list of disasters of the Ministry of Home Affairs subject to the condition that the State Government has listed the State specific natural disasters and notified clear and transparent norms and guidelines for such disasters with the approval of the State Authority, i.e., the State Executive Authority (SEC).

52) Consider the following statements.

1. The National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) was established through an act of Parliament.
2. The Disaster Management (DM) Act of 2005, provides to collect and use the donations at the local level, with mandatory audit provisions.
3. The NDRF is not answerable under the RTI Act.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

A statutorily constituted National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), was established under the Disaster Management (DM) Act of 2005. The NDRF is mandated to be accountable, and answerable under the RTI Act, being a public authority, and auditable by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. The DM Act provided for a Disaster Response Fund — state and district level funds (besides the national level and also to **collect and use the donations at the local level, with mandatory transparency and audit provisions.**

53) Consider the following statements regarding National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF).

1. NDRF is located in the "Public Accounts" of Government of India under "Reserve Funds not bearing interest".
2. NDRF amount can be spent only towards meeting the expenses for emergency response, relief and rehabilitation.
3. The relief activities for all the calamities are monitored by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

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.

NDRF amount can be spent only towards meeting the expenses for emergency response, relief and rehabilitation. For projects exclusively for the purpose of mitigation, i.e, measures aimed at reducing the risk, impact or effect of a disaster or threatening disaster situation a separate fund called **National Disaster Mitigation Fund** has to be constituted.

The NDRF is financed through the levy of a cess on certain items, chargeable to excise and customs duty, and approved annually through the Finance Bill. The requirement for funds beyond what is available under the NDRF is met through general budgetary resources.

NDRF is located in the "Public Accounts" of Government of India under "Reserve Funds not bearing interest".

Department of Agriculture and Cooperation under Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) monitors relief activities for calamities associated with drought, hailstorms, pest attacks and cold wave /frost while rest of the natural calamities are monitored by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

54) Consider the following matches of specific disasters and related nodal agencies for early warning in the Government of India.

1. Floods: Central Water Commission
2. Tsunami: Indian National Centre for Oceanic Information Services
3. Landslides: Geological Survey of India
4. Cyclone: Indian Meteorological Department

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

Guidelines issued by the Home Ministry, on disaster warning:

- **Indian Meteorological Department has been designated as nodal agency for early warning for cyclone, Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre and Indian National Centre for Oceanic Information Services for Tsunami and Central Water Commission for floods.**
- The **Geological Survey of India has been marked as nodal agency for issuing early warning for landslides, Snow and Avalanche Study Establishment for avalanches and Indian Meteorological Department for heat and cold waves.**

55) Consider the following statements regarding Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).

1. It was launched by the World Bank in association with the Green Climate Fund (GCF).
2. It aims to achieve substantial changes in member countries' policy frameworks and future infrastructure investments.
3. It will create a mechanism to assist countries to upgrade their capacities and practices with respect to disaster risk prevention.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) is an international coalition of countries, United Nations (UN) agencies, multilateral development banks, the private sector, and academic institutions, that aims to promote disaster-resilient infrastructure.

Its objective is to promote research and knowledge sharing in the fields of infrastructure risk management, standards, financing, and recovery mechanisms. **It was launched by the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit in September 2019.**

CDRI's initial focus is on developing disaster-resilience in ecological, social, and economic infrastructure. **It aims to achieve substantial changes in member countries' policy frameworks and future infrastructure investments,** along with a major decrease in the economic losses suffered due to disasters.

It will create a mechanism to assist countries to upgrade their capacities and practices, with regard to infrastructure development in accordance with their risk context and economic needs.

The partnership will be working in the areas of governance and policy, emerging technology, risk identification and estimation, recovery and reconstruction, resilience standards and certification, finance, and capacity development.

56) The Himalayan Mountains are an example of

- a) Extra-terrestrial impact.
- b) A subduction zone.
- c) Continent-continent convergence.
- d) None of the above

Solution: c)

The Himalayan mountain range and Tibetan plateau have formed as a result of the **collision between the Indian Plate and Eurasian Plate** which began 50 million years ago and continues today.

The Himalayas are still rising by more than 1 cm per year as India continues to move northwards into Asia, which explains the occurrence of shallow focus earthquakes in the region today.

57) Consider the following pairs:

Peak	Hills/ Range
1. Mt. Abu :	Aravalli
2. Kangchenjunga :	Western Himalayas
3. Anamudi :	Nilgiris

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

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

Solution: a)

Anamudi peak is located in Annamalai hills and Kangchenjunga is located in Eastern Himalayas.

58) Which of the following statements describes the Radial drainage pattern.

- a) When the rivers discharge their waters from all directions in a lake or depression
- b) When the primary tributaries of rivers flow parallel to each other and secondary tributaries join them at right angles
- c) The drainage pattern resembling the branches of a tree
- d) When the rivers originate from a hill and flow in all directions

Solution: d)

Important Drainage Patterns

- (i) The drainage pattern resembling the branches of a tree is known as “dendritic” the examples of which are the rivers of northern plain.
- (ii) **When the rivers originate from a hill and flow in all directions, the drainage pattern is known as ‘radial’. The rivers originating from the Amarkantak range present a good example of it.**
- (iii) When the primary tributaries of rivers flow parallel to each other and secondary tributaries join them at right angles, the pattern is known as ‘trellis’.
- (iv) When the rivers discharge their waters from all directions in a lake or depression, the pattern is known as ‘centripetal’.

59) In which of these regions, you are most likely to find a plant with breathing roots?

- a) Coastal areas
- b) Deserts
- c) Savannahs
- d) Tundra

Solution: a)

Compared to other plants **mangroves** differ visually especially by their famous and typical aerial roots and biologically through the ability to grow in saline areas.

Aerial roots are roots with abilities such as enabling primary gas exchange in oxygen-poor soils.

60) What reasons can explain more number of debris avalanche in the Himalayas as compared to the Western Ghats?

- 1. The Himalayas are tectonically active.
- 2. The slopes are very steep in Himalayas as compared to Western Ghats.
- 3. Himalayas are mostly made up of metamorphic and igneous rocks which are not stable.

Select the correct answer code:

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

d) 1, 2, 3

Solution: a)

In our country, debris avalanche and landslides occur very frequently in the Himalayas. There are many reasons for this. One, **the Himalayas are tectonically active**. They are mostly **made up of sedimentary rocks and unconsolidated and semi-consolidated deposits**. **The slopes are very steep**.

Compared to the Himalayas, the Nilgiris bordering Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and the Western Ghats along the west coast are relatively tectonically stable and are mostly made up of very hard rocks; but, still, debris avalanches and landslides occur though not as frequently as in the Himalayas, in these hills due to very heavy rainfall.

61) Consider the following statements regarding Rossby waves.

1. They are a type of inertial wave naturally occurring in rotating fluids.
2. In planetary atmospheres, they are due to the variation in the Coriolis effect with latitude.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

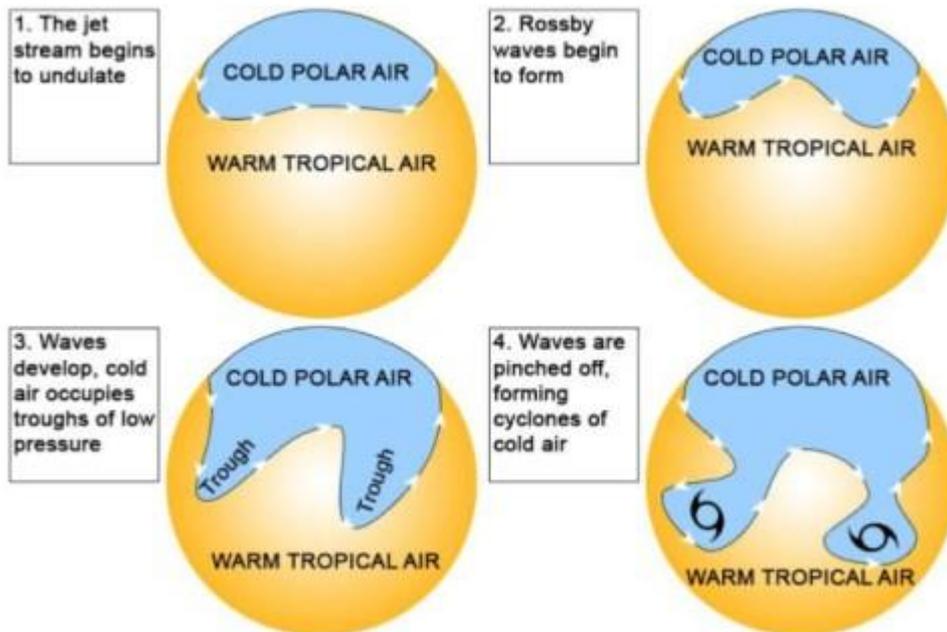
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: c)

Rossby waves, also known as **planetary waves, are a type of inertial wave naturally occurring in rotating fluids**. They were first identified by Carl-Gustaf Arvid Rossby. They are observed in the atmospheres and oceans of planets owing to the rotation of the planet.

Rossby Waves

- The meandering jet streams are called Rossby Waves.
- Rossby waves are natural phenomenon in the atmosphere and oceans due to rotation of earth.
- **In planetary atmospheres, they are due to the variation in the Coriolis effect** (When temperature contrast is low, speed of jet stream is low, and Coriolis force is weak leading to meandering) with latitude.
- Rossby waves are formed when polar air moves toward the Equator while tropical air is moving poleward.
- The existence of these waves explains the low-pressure cells (cyclones) and high-pressure cells (anticyclones).



62) Consider the following statements.

1. Frost forms on cold surfaces when condensation takes place below freezing point
2. The difference between the mist and fog is that fog contains more moisture than mist.
3. Mists are frequent over mountains as the rising warm air up the slopes meets a cold surface.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

Frost:

- **Frost forms on cold surfaces when condensation takes place below freezing point**, i.e. the dew point is at or below the freezing point.
- The excess moisture is deposited in the form of minute ice crystals instead of water droplets. The ideal conditions for the formation of white frost are the same as those for the formation of dew, except that the air temperature must be at or below the freezing point.

Fog and Mist:

When the temperature of an air mass containing a large quantity of water vapour falls all of a sudden, condensation takes place within itself on fine dust particles. So, the fog is a cloud with its base at or very near to the ground. Because of the fog and mist, the visibility becomes poor to zero. In urban and industrial centres smoke provides plenty of nuclei which help the formation of fog and mist. Such a condition when fog is mixed with smoke, is described as smog.

The only difference between the mist and fog is that mist contains more moisture than the fog. In mist each nuclei contains a thicker layer of moisture.

Mists are frequent over mountains as the rising warm air up the slopes meets a cold surface.

Fogs are drier than mist and they are prevalent where warm currents of air come in contact with cold currents.

63) Consider the following statements regarding Damodar River

1. Damodar occupies the eastern margins of the Chotanagpur Plateau.
2. It flows through a rift valley

3. Barakar and Sharda are its main tributaries.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

Damodar occupies the eastern margins of the Chotanagpur Plateau where it flows through a rift valley and finally joins the Hugli. Barakar is its main tributary.

The Sharda River or Mahakali River is also called Kali Gad or Kali Ganga in Uttarakhand where the river demarcates Nepal's western border with India.

64) Which of the following pairs given below is/are correctly matched?

Mountain	State
1. Abor Hills	Sikkim
2. Mikir Hills	Assam
3. Garhjat Hills	Odisha

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

The Abor Hills is in Arunachal Pradesh.



65) Consider the following statements regarding Dew point.

- 1. Dew point is the temperature at which the atmosphere is saturated with water vapour.
- 2. The dew point gives an indication of the humidity.
- 3. A higher dew point means there will be less moisture in the air.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

Dew point, the temperature at which the atmosphere is saturated with water vapour, when it is cooled without changing its pressure or vapour content. A given volume of air containing much water vapour has a higher dew point than the same volume of drier air; thus **the dew point gives an indication of the humidity**. In meteorology the dew point is applied, for example, in predicting the height of the base of certain types of clouds. **A higher dew point means there will be more moisture in the air.**

3. Economy

- 1) Interest rate differential between two countries in the short-run can result in
1. Change of investment flows across these two nations
 2. Change in exchange rate of these two countries
 3. Change in trade flows across these nations

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: a)

In the short run, another factor that is important in determining exchange rate movements is the interest rate differential i.e. the difference between interest rates between countries. There are huge funds owned by banks, multinational corporations and wealthy individuals which move around the world in search of the highest interest rates.

If we assume that government bonds in country A pay 8 per cent rate of interest whereas equally safe bonds in country B yield 10 per cent, the interest rate differential is 2 per cent.

Investors from country A will be attracted by the high interest rates in country B and will buy the currency of country B selling their own currency. At the same time investors in country B will also find investing in their own country more attractive and will therefore demand less of country A's currency. This means that the demand curve for country A's currency will shift to the left and the supply curve will shift to the right causing a depreciation of country A's currency and an appreciation of country B's currency. Thus, a rise in the interest rates at home often leads to an **appreciation of the domestic currency**. Here, the implicit assumption is that no restrictions exist in buying bonds issued by foreign governments.

But **Change in trade flows are associated with relatively long-term changes.**

- 2) Which of the following characterizes a managed exchange rate?
1. Determined by the IMF based on market movements
 2. Value is affected by the Balance of Payments of a nation
 3. Central Bank intervenes to manage the value of the currency

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

Exchange rates – They link national currencies for purposes of international trade. There are broadly two kinds of exchange rates: fixed exchange rate and floating exchange rate

Fixed exchange rates – When exchange rates are fixed and governments intervene to prevent movements in them

Flexible or floating exchange rates – These rates fluctuate depending on demand and supply of currencies in foreign exchange markets, in principle without interference by governments.

Statement 1: IMF does not peg a currency's level. Pegging of currencies by a central authority was done earlier in the Gold system where currencies were fixed in value.

Statement 2: In this system, currencies freely float apart from some occasional interventions. The more a nation's currency is in demand, the higher will be its value in forex market.

If a nation follows managed floating system, all its external transactions are based on this system. It cannot fix its currency level in opposition to the market.

3) Which of the following pairs are correctly matched?

1. Cyclical Slowdown: It is a period of lean economic activity that occurs at regular intervals.
2. Structural Slowdown: It is a more deep-rooted phenomenon that last over a long-term.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

What is a cyclical slowdown?

A cyclical slowdown is a period of lean economic activity that occurs at regular intervals. Such slowdowns last over the short-to-medium term, and are based on the changes in the business cycle.

Generally, interim fiscal and monetary measures, temporary recapitalisation of credit markets, and need-based regulatory changes are required to revive the economy.

What is a structural slowdown?

A structural slowdown, on the other hand, is a more deep-rooted phenomenon that occurs due to a one-off shift from an existing paradigm. The changes, which last over a long-term, are driven by disruptive technologies, changing demographics, and/or change in consumer behaviour.

4) Which of the following factors are considered for determining Minimum Support Prices?

1. Cost of production
2. Inter-crop price parity
3. Effect on cost of living
4. International price situation

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

In formulating the recommendations in respect of the level of minimum support prices and other non-price measures, the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices takes into account, apart from a comprehensive view of the entire structure of the economy of a particular commodity or group of commodities, the following factors:-

- Cost of production
- Changes in input prices
- Input-output price parity
- Trends in market prices
- Demand and supply
- Inter-crop price parity
- Effect on industrial cost structure
- Effect on cost of living
- Effect on general price level
- International price situation
- Parity between prices paid and prices received by the farmers.
- Effect on issue prices and implications for subsidy

- 5) Which of the following best describes the term Middle Income Trap
- Countries that are in the Middle-Income level since the formation of WTO and not moving up to the higher income category
 - Rapidly growing economies stagnating at middle-income levels and failing to graduate into the ranks of high-income countries.
 - Countries deliberately in middle-income levels so as to receive the benefits from WTO.
 - None of the above

Solution: b)

An irony about middle income countries is that many of them are not moving up to the higher income category. This situation of falling at the middle-income level is called the middle-income trap by economists. The “middle-income trap” is the phenomenon of hitherto rapidly growing economies stagnating at middle-income levels (of per capita income) and failing to graduate into the ranks of high-income countries. At the same time, many other countries have made significant progress through industrialization. They were able to expand the national income and thus the per capita income.



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4. Art and Culture

1) Consider the following statements.

1. Arahat Mahinda was a Buddhist monk depicted in Buddhist sources as bringing Buddhism to Sri Lanka.
2. Saṅghamittā was the eldest daughter of Emperor Ashoka.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

One of the murals depicts at Kushinagar International Airport in Uttar Pradesh '**Arahat Bhikkhu' Mahinda, son of Emperor Ashoka** delivering the message of the Buddha to King Devanampiyatissa of Sri Lanka. The other shows the arrival of '**Theri Bhikkhuni' Sanghamitta, the daughter of the Emperor**, in Sri Lanka, bearing a sapling of the 'sacred Bodhi tree' under which Siddhārtha Gautama is believed to have obtained enlightenment.

Arahat Mahinda was a Buddhist monk depicted in Buddhist sources as bringing Buddhism to Sri Lanka.

Saṅghamittā was the eldest daughter of Emperor Ashoka.

2) Consider the following statements.

1. Kushinagar is the place where the Buddha attained Mahaparinirvana, and is therefore, an international Buddhist pilgrimage centre.
2. Kushinagar has the highest population of Buddhists in India.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Solution: b)

Kushinagar is the place where The Buddha attained Mahaparinirvana in 483 BC, and is therefore, an international Buddhist pilgrimage centre. However, it has a negligible population of Buddhists.

Ten other districts of UP — Kheri, Maharajganj, Siddharthnagar, Sultanpur, Basti, Mainpuri, Jaunpur, Pratapgarh, Hardoi, and Azamgarh — have larger Buddhist populations than Kushinagar.

3) Consider the following statements

1. According to this philosophy, Vedas are eternal and possess all knowledge.
2. Religion means the fulfilment of duties prescribed by the Vedas.
3. This philosophy encompasses the Nyaya-Vaisheshika systems and emphasizes the concept of valid knowledge.

The above statements are related to?

- a) Mimamsa School
- b) Vedanta School
- c) Yoga School
- d) Samkhya School

Solution: a)

Mimamsa philosophy is basically the analysis of interpretation, application and the use of the text of the Samhita and Brahmana portions of the Veda.

According to Mimamsa philosophy, Vedas are eternal and possess all knowledge, and religion means the fulfilment of duties prescribed by the Vedas.

This philosophy encompasses the Nyaya-Vaisheshika systems and emphasizes the concept of valid knowledge.

4) Consider the following pairs

Vedangas	Description
1. Nirukta	Metrics in Sanskrit Grammar
2. Chhanda	Etymology or the origin of the words
3. Jyotisyā	Astronomy
4. Vyakarana	Grammar

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Solution: b)

To understand the Vedas better, it is necessary to study the Vedangas or the branches/limbs of the Veda. They are like a supplement to the original Veda and concentrate on topics like siksha (education), **nirukta (etymology or the origin of words)**, **Chhanda (metrics in Sanskrit grammar)**, **jyotisha (astronomy) and vyakarana (grammar)**.

5) The term Bodhisattvas have been subject to multiple interpretations in Buddhism. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding various interpretations?

- Bodhisattva was primarily used to refer to Gautama Buddha in his former life.
- Bodhisattva was someone who became enlightened by the good karma of the Sangha.
- Bodhisattva meant someone on the path to liberation.

Select the correct answer code:

- 1, 2
- 1, 3
- 2, 3
- 1, 2, 3

Solution: b)

- In early Indian Buddhism, the **term bodhisattva was primarily used to refer specifically to Gautama Buddha in his former life.**
- From this Jataka tales, Bodhisattva originally meant the Buddhism practitioner of austerities.
- In later Theravada literature, the term “bodhisattva” is used fairly frequently in the sense of **someone on the path to liberation.**
- According to some Mahayana sources a bodhisattva is someone on the path to full Buddhahood. Others speak of bodhisattvas renouncing Buddhahood.
- However, under the new tradition most accepted definition is the one who aspires to become buddha as soon as possible and then help sentient beings.

5. History

- 1) With reference to medieval kingdoms of North-eastern India what was the position of paiks?
- They held large amount of land and gold and donated it for public welfare.
 - They were mercenaries recruited from other kingdoms.
 - They were the patrons of literature and arts.
 - They were forced to work for the state.

Solution: d)

- The Ahoms migrated to the Brahmaputra valley from present-day Myanmar in the thirteenth century. They created a new state by suppressing the older political system of the bhuiyans (landlords).
- The Ahom state depended upon forced labour. **Those forced to work for the state were called paiks.**
- A census of the population was taken. Each village had to send a number of paiks by rotation. People from heavily populated areas were shifted to less populated ones.

- 2) Kornish in medieval history refers to:
- A kind of salutation.
 - A title given to the courtier
 - A kind of revenue system.
 - A kind of crop brought to India by the British.

Solution: a)

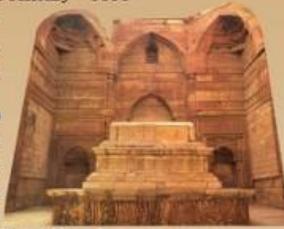
Kornish was a form of ceremonial salutation in which the courtier placed the palm of his right hand against his forehead and bent his head. It suggested that the subject placed his head – the seat of the senses and the mind – into the hand of humility, presenting it to the royal assembly.

- 3) Consider the following dynasties of Medieval India.
- Rajput
 - Lodi
 - Tughluq
 - Sayyid

The correct chronological order in which they appeared in India is?

- 3, 1, 2, 4
- 3, 1, 4, 2
- 1, 3, 4, 2
- 1, 3, 2, 4

Solution: c)

RAJPUT DYNASTIES		
Tomaras	early twelfth century - 1165	
Ananga Pala	1130 - 1145	
Chauhans	1165 - 1192	
Prithviraj Chauhan	1175 - 1192	
EARLY TURKISH RULERS 1206-1290		
Qutbuddin Aybak	1206 - 1210	
Shamsuddin Iltutmish	1210 - 1236	
Raziyya	1236 - 1240	
Ghiyasuddin Balban	1266 - 1287	
	KHALJI DYNASTY 1290 - 1320	
	Jalaluddin Khalji 1290 - 1296	
	Alauddin Khalji 1296 - 1316	
	TUGHLUQ DYNASTY 1320 - 1414	
	Ghiyasuddin Tughluq 1320 - 1324	
	Muhammad Tughluq 1324 - 1351	
	Firuz Shah Tughluq 1351 - 1388	
SAYYID DYNASTY 1414 - 1451		
Khizr Khan 1414 - 1421		
LODI DYNASTY 1451 - 1526		
Bahlul Lodi 1451 - 1489		

4) Consider the following statements regarding Tanaji Malusare.

1. Tanaji Malusare is known for his role in the Battle of Sinhadag, which he fought under the Maratha flag against the Mughals.
2. Treaty of Purandar was signed between the Rajput ruler Jai Singh I and Chhatrapati Shivaji.
3. According to Treaty of Purandar, Shivaji had to hand over important forts including Purandar and Sinhadag to the Mughals.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

Tanaji Malusare is known for his role in the Battle of Sinhadag (1670), which he fought under the Maratha flag against the Mughals, losing his life in the campaign.

In 1665, as Mughal forces led by the Rajput commander Jai Singh I besieged Shivaji at the Purandar fort in Deccan, the latter was forced to sign the **Treaty of Purandar. Under the agreement, Shivaji had to hand over important forts to the Mughals,** including Purandar, Lohagad, Tung, Tikona, and Sinhadag (then called Kondhana).

5) The Bhitari pillar inscription is related to

- a) Samudragupta
- b) Skandagupta
- c) Vikramaditya
- d) Chandragupta I

Solution: b)

The Bhitari pillar inscription of Skandagupta, was discovered in Bhitari, Saidpur, Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, and dates to the reign of Gupta Empire ruler Skandagupta.

Among other things, the inscription is extremely important in understanding the chronology of the various Gupta rulers. It also mentions the conflict between Skandagupta and the Pushyamitras as well as the Hunas.

6) Which of the following organizations/newspapers is/are associated with Mahatma Gandhi's struggle in South Africa?

1. Indian Opinion
2. Indian Mirror
3. Indian Natal Organization
4. Passive Resistance Organization

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: a)

Indian Mirror was an English paper founded by Devendranath Tagore, at Calcutta in 1862.

7) Consider the following statements regarding the proposals under the Delhi Proposals, 1927

1. Joint electorates with reserved seats for Muslims
2. Muslims must have one-third representation in Central Legislature
3. It demanded to make Sindh a separate province.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

Earlier, in December 1927, a large number of Muslim leaders had met at Delhi at the Muslim League session and evolved four proposals for their demands to be incorporated into the draft constitution. These proposals, which were accepted by the Madras session of the Congress (December 1927), came to be known as the 'Delhi Proposals'. These were:

- **joint electorates in place of separate electorates with reserved seats for Muslims;**
- **one-third representation to Muslims in Central Legislative Assembly;**
- representation to Muslims in Punjab and Bengal in proportion to their population;
- formation of three new **Muslim majority provinces— Sindh, Baluchistan and North-West Frontier Province.**

8) Gandhiji decided to launch a nationwide Satyagraha against the Rowlatt act because the Act provided for

1. Unreasonable detention of political prisoners without trial
2. Ban on political activities
3. Ban on all the local language newspapers and radio

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

Gandhiji in 1919 decided to launch a nationwide satyagraha against the proposed Rowlatt Act (1919). This Act had been hurriedly passed through the Imperial Legislative Council despite the united opposition of the Indian members. It gave the government enormous powers to **repress political activities**, and allowed **detention of**

political prisoners without trial for two years. Mahatma Gandhi wanted non-violent civil disobedience against such unjust laws.

- 9) The Karachi session, 1931, of the Congress was important because
- The goal of complete independence, Swaraj, was declared here.
 - Congress launched the second phase of Civil Disobedience movement in the session.
 - Congress decided to participate in the Second Round Table Conference.
 - Congress spelt the true meaning of Swaraj in this session.

Solution: d)

A special session was held in Karachi to endorse the Gandhi-Irwin Pact. Karachi session became famous because of the two resolutions that were adopted—one on Fundamental rights and other on National Economic program, both drafted by Dr. Rajendra Prasad. The goal of Purna Swaraj was reiterated. This was the **first time the congress spelt out what swaraj would mean for the masses.**

- 10) Consider the following statements regarding Bandung Conference, 1955.
- The conference was an important step towards the creation of the Non-Aligned Movement.
 - It was organized to promote Afro-Asian economic and cultural cooperation.
 - The first Africa-India Summit was organized on the side-lines of the conference.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

The first large-scale **Afro-Asian Conference**—also known as the **Bandung Conference** was a meeting of Asian and African states, most of which were newly independent, which took place on 18–24 April 1955 in Bandung, West Java, Indonesia.

The conference's stated aims were to promote Afro-Asian economic and cultural cooperation and to oppose colonialism or neocolonialism by any nation. The conference was an important step towards the eventual creation of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The first Africa-India Summit was held in 2008 in New Delhi.

- 11) Consider the following statements
- Pabna agrarian leagues was established in East Bengal to resist against Zamindar's efforts to charge high rents and evict tenants.
 - Indigo rebellion was caused due to acquisition of cultivable Indigo land by British industrial projects.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

The Indigo rebellion in 1859 was caused due to harsh agri-economic conditions under which Indigo cultivators were put by the British planters.

- 12) Which of the following are correctly matched?

Movement

People Associated

1. Young Bengal Movement
2. Dharma Sabha
3. Indian Reform Association
4. Theosophical Society

- Tarachand Chuckervati
Keshub Chandra Sen
Radhakant Deb
H.P. Blavatsky

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

Young Bengal Movement (1826-1831); - Henry Louis Vivian Derozio (founder), Rasikkrishna Mullick, **Tarachand Chuckervati**, Krishanmohan Banerjee

Dharma Sabha; Calcutta (1830); - Radhakant Deb (founder).

Indian Reform Association; Calcutta (1870); - Keshub Chandra Sen.

The **Theosophical Society**— founded in New York but headquarters shifted to Adyar, near Madras (1875). Madam **H.P. Blavatsky** (1831- 91), a Russian, and Col. H.S. Olcott (1832-1907), an American (founders); Annie Besant (one of its presidents).

13) Consider the following statements regarding Swadeshi Movement.

1. The chief forerunners of Swadeshi Movement were Lala Lajpat Rai, Bipin Chandra Pal and Aurobindo Ghose.
2. Swadeshi, as a strategy, was a key focus of Mahatma Gandhi, who described it as the soul of Swaraj.
3. During the time of Swadeshi Movement, similar movement was going on in Southern part of the country as Vandemataram movement.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

The main policies of the Swadeshi Movement included boycotting all types of British products and the restoration of all domestic products. **The chief forerunners of Swadeshi Movement were Bala Gangadhara Tilak, Lala Lajpat Rai, Bipin Chandra Pal, Aurobindo Ghose** and Veer Savarkar.

Swadeshi, as a strategy, was a key focus of Mahatma Gandhi, who described it as the soul of Swaraj (self rule).

It was strongest in Bengal and was also called the Vandemataram movement.

14) During Salt Disobedience, after Gandhi's arrest, the Congress Working Committee sanctioned:

1. Non-payment of revenue in ryotwari areas.
2. No-chowkidara-tax campaign in zamindari areas
3. Violation of forest laws in the Central Provinces

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

Gandhi's arrest came on May 4, 1930 when he had announced that he would lead a raid on Dharasana Salt Works on the west coast. Gandhi's arrest was followed by massive protests in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and in Sholapur, where the response was the most fierce. After Gandhi's arrest, the CWC sanctioned:

- non-payment of revenue in ryotwari areas;
- no-chowkidara-tax campaign in zamindari areas; and
- violation of forest laws in the Central Provinces.

15) The Home Rule Movement of 1916 did not emphasize

1. Revival of Swadeshi
2. Participation of Indians in self-governing institutions for India
3. Complete erosion of British sovereignty over India
4. Separate electorates for all communities of India

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

Home rule Movement aimed to **get self-government for India within the British Empire and not complete erosion of British sovereignty**. Home rule movement believed that the freedom was the natural right of all nations. **They didn't emphasize on separate electorates.**

INSIGHTSIAS
SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION