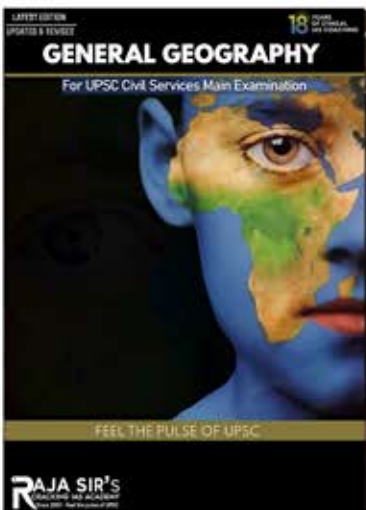
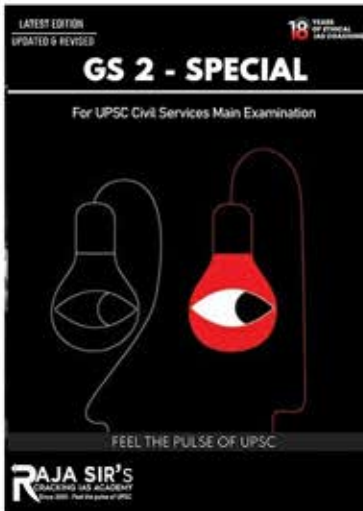


# MONTHLY GENERAL STUDIES QUIZ



Consider the following statements

1. Gazelles are those start-ups founded after the year 2000 and have the potential to become a Unicorn in the next four years.
2. Cheetahs are those start-ups founded after the year 2000 and have the potential to go Unicorn in 2 years.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Consider the following statements regarding 'Zero FIR'

1. It refers to an FIR that is registered irrespective of the area where the offence is committed.
2. It was introduced on the recommendation of the Justice Verma Committee
3. However, Investigation can be done only in actual Jurisdiction.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Only one statement is true.
- (b) Only Two statements are true.
- (c) All three statements are true.
- (d) None of the statements are true.

Consider the following statements regarding 'Cobalt'

1. It is stable in air and does not react with water.
  2. DR Congo is the world's largest producer of cobalt
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

1. Consider the following statements:

1. New Development Bank has been set up by APEC.
2. The headquarters of New Development Bank is in Shanghai.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

2. Bold Kurukshetra is a military exercise conducted between

- (a) India - U.S.A
- (b) India - U.K
- (c) India - Indonesia
- (d) India - Singapore

3. Consider the following statements:

1. The 44th Amendment to the Constitution of India introduced an Article placing the election of the Prime Minister beyond judicial review.
2. The Supreme Court of India struck down the 99th Amendment to the Constitution of India as being violative of the independence of judiciary.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4. In the cities of our country, which among the following atmospheric gases are normally considered in calculating the value of Air Quality Index?

1. Carbon dioxide
2. Carbon monoxide
3. Nitrogen dioxide
4. Sulfur dioxide
5. Methane

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

5. Consider the following statements regarding Purana Qila

1. It is located on the banks of the Ganga River.
2. It was Renovated by Humayun in 1533.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

6. Consider the following statements regarding Himalayan Brown Bear
1. They are found above the timberline
  2. They undergoes Hibernation.
  3. They are classified as Critically Endangered in IUCN Red list

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

7. Consider the following statements regarding Electronics Repair Services Outsourcing (ERSO) initiative

1. It aims to promote India as a hub for repairing electronic goods and to assess the feasibility and potential of capturing 50% of the global repair service market within five years.
2. As per ERSO initiative the repaired goods will not be permitted to be sold in the domestic market.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

8. Guarani tribe which is recently seen in news belongs to which of the following country?
- (a) Papua New Guinea
  - (b) Hawaii
  - (c) Brazil
  - (d) Mongolia

9. Consider the following statements regarding Tele-Law Programme

1. The programme connects needy and marginalised people in need of legal aid with the Panel Lawyers via video conferencing/telephonic facilities.
2. The Tele-Law was launched in 2017, under the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

10. Consider the following statements regarding Spotted Chevrotain

1. It is endemic to the Indian subcontinent.
2. It is highly nocturnal.
3. Spotted Chevrotain is the

smallest deer in India

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**11.** 'Yakshagana' is a traditional theatre form of

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

**12.** Consider the following statements:

1. In terms of short-term credit delivery to the agriculture sector, District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) deliver more credit in comparison to Scheduled Commercial Banks and Regional Rural Banks.
2. One of the most important functions of DCCBs is to provide funds to the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**13.** With reference to 'Urban Cooperative Banks' in India, consider the following statements:

1. They are supervised and regulated by local boards set up by the State Governments.
2. They can issue equity shares and preference shares.
3. They were brought under the purview of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 through an Amendment in 1966.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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

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

**15.** With reference to the Legislative Assembly of a State in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Governor makes a customary address to Members of the House at the commencement of the first session of the year.
2. When a State Legislature does not have a rule on a particular matter, it follows the Lok Sabha rule on that matter.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**16.** Consider the following statements:

1. No criminal proceedings shall be instituted against the Governor of a State in any court during his term of office.
2. The emoluments and allowances of the Governor of a State shall not be diminished during his term of office.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**17.** Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary is located in

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Manipur
- (c) Assam
- (d) Meghalaya

**18.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Adverse Possession'

1. To claim adverse possession, the occupier must prove that they have been in continuous, uninterrupted possession of the land for at least 10 years
2. The law of Adverse Possession in India is governed by the principle of The Limitation Law of 1963.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**19.** Which of the following in India is seen as the most conducive for developing salt cavern-based strategic storage facilities

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

**20.** which of the following are considered as Fixed-Dose Combination (FDC) Drugs?

1. Phensedyl
2. Corex
3. Vicks Action 500

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

**21.** 'Kalanamak' which is recently seen in n news refers to

- (a) Ancient Port in Tamil Nadu  
(b) a traditional variety of paddy  
(c) Soviet plans to attack on British India  
(d) a martial arts dance form that originated in Manipur

**22.** Community sometimes mentioned in the news

1. Kurd — Bangladesh
2. Madhesi — Nepal
3. Rohingya — Myanmar

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

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

**23.** Helmand River dispute which is recently seen in news is between

- (a) Iran and Afghanistan  
(b) Afghanistan and Pakistan

- (c) India and Bangladesh  
(d) Afghanistan and Uzbekistan

**24.** Consider the following statements

1. A sonic boom is a noise caused by an object, moving faster than the speed of sound.
2. The intensity of the sonic boom is determined only by the distance between the object irrespective of its size and shape

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**25.** Consider the following statements regarding Bakanae Disease

1. It is a deadly fungus which is seen only in the Basmati variety of paddy.
2. It is also known as Foot rot disease

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**26.** Some Buddhist rock-cut caves are called Chaityas, while the others are called Viharas. What is

the difference between the two?  
(a) Vihara is a place of worship, while Chaitya is the dwelling place of the monks  
(b) Chaitya is a place of worship, while Vihara is the dwelling place of the monks  
(c) Chaitya is the stupa at the far end of the cave, while Vihara is the hall axial to it  
(d) There is no material difference between the two

- 27.** The Radcliffe Committee was appointed to  
(a) solve the problem of minorities in India  
(b) give effect to the Independence Bill  
(c) delimit the boundaries between India and Pakistan  
(d) enquire into the riots in East Bengal

- 28.** Consider the following statements:
1. Animal Welfare Board of India is established under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
  2. National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body.
  3. National Ganga River Basin Authority is chaired by the Prime Minister.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

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

- 29.** With reference to National Legal Services Authority, consider the following statements :

1. Its objective is to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society on the basis of equal opportunity.
2. It issues guidelines for the State Legal Services Authorities to implement the legal programmes and schemes throughout the country.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

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

- 30.** India is home to lakhs of persons with disabilities. What are the benefits available to them under me law?

1. Free schooling till the age of 18 years in government-run schools.
2. Preferential allotment of land

for getting up business.

3. Ramps in public buildings.  
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**31.** Which of the following statements is/are applicable to Jain doctrine?

- 1. The surest way of annihilating Karma is to practice penance.
- 2. Every object, even the smallest particle has a soul.
- 3. Karma is the bane of the soul and must be ended.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

**32.** What was/were the object/objects of Queen Victoria's Proclamation (1858)?

- 1. To disclaim any intention to annex Indian States
- 2. To place the Indian administration under the British Crown
- 3. To regulate East India Company's trade with India

Select the correct answer using

the code given below.

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

**33.** Consider the following international agreements:

- 1. The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
- 2. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
- 3. The World Heritage Convention

Which of the above has / have a bearing on the biodiversity?

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

**34.** With reference to consumers' rights/ privileges under the provisions of law in India, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. Consumers are empowered to take samples for food testing.
- 2. When a consumer files a complaint in any consumer forum, no fee is required to be paid.
- 3. In case of death of a consumer, his/her legal heir



can file a complaint in the consumer forum on his/her behalf.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

**35.** Consider the following:

- 1. Hotels and restaurants
- 2. Motor transport undertakings
- 3. Newspaper establishments
- 4. Private medical institutions

The employees of which of the above can have the 'Social Security' coverage under Employees' State Insurance Scheme?

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

**36.** He wrote biographies of Mazzini, Garibaldi, Shivaji and Shrikrishna; stayed in America for some time; and was also elected to the Central Assembly. He was

- (a) Aurobindo Ghosh
- (b) Bipin Chandra Pal
- (c) Lala Lajpat Rai
- (d) Motilal Nehru

**37.** Consider the following statements regarding Lavendar

- 1. Lavender is a perennial plant
- 2. It is native to Mediterranean

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**38.** Ekatha is a bilateral naval exercise between

- (a) India - Indonesia
- (b) India - Singapore
- (c) India - Maldives
- (d) India - Mongolia

**39.** Which of the following articles guarantees rights and protections for manual scavengers ?

- 1. Article 14
- 2. Article 17
- 3. Article 21
- 4. Article 23

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**40.** 'Rashtriya Garima Abhiyaan' is a national campaign to

- (a) rehabilitate the homeless and destitute persons and provide

them with suitable sources of livelihood

(b) release the sex workers from their practice and provide them with alternative sources of livelihood

(c) eradicate the practice of manual scavenging and rehabilitate the manual scavengers

(d) release the bonded labourers from their bondage and rehabilitate them

**41.** Consider the following statements:

1. The Sustainable Development Goals were first proposed in 1972 by a global think tank called the 'Club of Rome'.

2. The Sustainable Development Goals have to be achieved by 2030.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**42.** Consider the following statements:

1. In the case of all cereals, pulses, and oil seeds, the procurement at Minimum Support price (MSP) is

unlimited in any State/UT of India.

2. In the case of cereals and pulses, the MSP is fixed in any State/UT at a level to which the market price will never rise.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**43.** Consider the following statements:

1. The Government of India provides Minimum Support Price for niger (*Guizotia abyssinica*) seeds.

2. Niger is cultivated as a Kharif crop.

3. Some tribal people in India use niger seed oil for cooking.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) All three

(d) None

**44.** Who among the following is associated with 'Songs from Prison', a translation of ancient Indian religious lyrics in English?

(a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

- (b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (c) Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi
- (d) Sarojini Naidu

**45.** With reference to the British colonial rule in India, consider the following statements:

1. Mahatma Gandhi was instrumental in the abolition of the system of 'indentured labour'.
2. In Lord Chelmsford's 'War Conference', Mahatma Gandhi did not support the resolution on recruiting Indians for World War.
3. Consequent upon the breaking of Salt Law by Indian people, the Indian National Congress was declared illegal by the colonial rulers.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**46.** Consider the following statements regarding *Gulabi meenakari*

1. It is craft that is practised in the by lanes of Varanasi.
2. It is an art form from China and involves colouring the surface of metals by fusing

different colours.

3. Gulabi Meenakari Craft got GI Tag under Handicraft category.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**47.** 'Betelgeuse' refers to

- (a) is a red supergiant star
- (b) an Exoplanet
- (c) an asteroid
- (d) an icy matter in oort cloud

**48.** Consider the following statements regarding *Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) method*

1. It is a water-saving method of sowing paddy.
2. Seeds are directly drilled into the fields in this method.
3. In this method farmers must sow paddy only after pre-sowing irrigation and not in dry fields.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**49.** Consider the following statements regarding TAPI Pipeline

1. It is an pipeline that aims to transport gas from Turkmenistan to Afghanistan, Pakistan and finally, India.
2. It is also called the 'Peace Pipeline'.
3. The TAPI project is being funded by the Asian Development Bank

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**50.** Amrabad Tiger Reserve is located in

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Telangana
- (c) Andhra Pradesh
- (d) Maharashtra

**51.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Dimethyl Ether'

1. It is a synthetically produced alternative to diesel
2. The DME-fuelled engine emitted extremely low particulate and soot emissions

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only.

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

**52.** Consider the following statements regarding *Protosterol Biota* which is recently seen in news

1. It belongs to the family of organisms called eukaryotes
2. These are discovered inside a rock at the bottom of the ocean in Australia.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**53.** Regarding the Indus Valley Civilization, consider the following statements:

1. It was predominantly a secular civilization and the religious element, though present, did not dominate the scene,
2. During this period, cotton was used for manufacturing textiles in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**54.** Which of the following characterizes/ characterize the people of Indus Civilization?

1. They possessed great palaces and temples.
2. They worshipped both male and female deities.
3. They employed horse-drawn chariots in warfare.

Select the correct statement/ statements using the codes given below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only
- (e) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None of the statements given above is correct

**55.** The “dharma” and “rita” depict a central idea of ancient Vedic civilization of India, In this context, consider the following statements:

1. Dharma was a conception of obligations and of the discharge of one's duties to oneself and to others.
2. Rita was the fundamental moral law governing the functioning of the universe and all it contained.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**56.** Mainpuri ki Pratigya is a poem written by

- (a) Rajendran lahiri
- (b) Ram Prasad Bismil
- (c) V D Savarkar
- (d) Sachindra Nath Sanyal

**57.** 'Norin 10' Which is often seen in news is

- (a) A biosensor used in the accurate detection of pathogens in patients
- (b) A semi-dwarf cultivator of wheat
- (c) A herbicidal substance synthesized in genetically modified crops
- (d) A Modified gene that makes plants pest-resistant

**58.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Naming of Cyclones'

1. There are 13 member countries under the WMO/Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific (ESCAP)
2. The proposed name should be neutral to politics and Political figures, Religious believes, Cultures and Gender
3. The maximum length of the name will be 10 letters

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only.

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

**59.** Which of the following are bordering countries of 'Sudan'?

- 1. Egypt
- 2. Eritrea
- 3. South Sudan
- 4. Chad

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

**60.** 1. Jet streams occur in the Northern Hemisphere only.  
2. Only some cyclones develop an eye.  
3. The temperature inside the eye of a cyclone is nearly 10°C lesser than that of the surroundings.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**61.** Which of the following are the discretionary powers given to the Governor of a State?

- 1. Sending a report to the President of India for imposing the President's rule
- 2. Appointing the Ministers

- 3. Reserving certain bills passed by the State Legislature for consideration of the President of India
- 4. Making the rules to conduct the business of the State Government

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**62.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Subansiri River'

- 1. It originates in the Tibet Plateau
- 2. It is the largest tributary of the Brahmaputra River.
- 3. Subansiri River flows through Assam.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**63.** Palkhi festival is celebrated in which of the following states?

- (a) Karnataka.
- (b) Madhya Pradesh.
- (c) Maharashtra.
- (d) Gujarat.

- 64.** Mayon Volcano is located in  
(a) Philippines  
(b) Hawaii  
(c) Indonesia  
(d) Japan
- 65.** Ekuverin is a joint military exercise between India and  
(a) Indonesia  
(b) Maldives  
(c) Philippines  
(d) Mongolia
- 66.** RCH-773 and RCH-776 are Hybrid variety of  
(a) Brinjal  
(b) Paddy  
(c) Wheat  
(d) Cotton
- 67.** In the context of India's preparation for Climate-smart Agriculture, consider the following statements:
1. The 'Climate-Smart Village' approach in India is part of a project led by the Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), an international research programme.
  2. The project of CCAFS is carried out under the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)

headquartered in France.

3. The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in India is one of the CGIAR's research centres.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

- 68.** Consider the following statements regarding Sea lettuce

1. It is a genus of green algae.
2. Sea lettuce usually found growing on Deep sea.
3. Large masses of sea lettuce are often an indicator of nutrient pollution in the water

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

- 69.** Consider the following statements regarding Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve

1. It is located in Uttar Pradesh.
2. It is a Dry Deciduous Forest.
3. It is also the natural habitat for the Indian Star tortoise.

Select the correct answer using

the code given below:

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

**70.** Consider the following statements regarding Gilgit Manuscripts

1. It is the oldest surviving manuscript collection in India.
2. It contains Jain and Buddhist works.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**71.** 'CALM2' which is recently seen in news is related to

- (a) an asteroid
- (b) a protein that is important for heart function
- (c) Hybrid variety of cotton
- (d) a modified gene that makes plants pest-resistant

**72.** Consider the following statements regarding Golden Jackal

1. Golden Jackal is classified as Least Concern in IUCN Red list.
2. It is listed in Schedule I (Wildlife Protection Act,

1972).

3. They are endemic to India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**73.** Consider the following statements regarding *Leptospirosis*

1. It is a zoonotic disease
2. The disease is caused by a bacterium called *Leptospira interrogans*, or *Leptospira*

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**74.** Consider the following statements regarding Disinflation

1. Disinflation refers to a decrease in the rate of inflation, which means that prices are still rising but at a slower pace than before.
2. Disinflation is different from deflation, which refers to a sustained decrease in the overall price level.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only.



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

**75.** With reference to Indian economy, demand-pull inflation can be caused/increased by which of the following?

1. Expansionary policies
2. Fiscal stimulus
3. Inflation-indexing of wages
4. Higher purchasing power
5. Rising interest rates

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**76.** Consider the following statements:

1. Tight monetary policy of the US Federal Reserve could lead to capital flight.
2. Capital flight may increase cost of firms with existing External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs)
3. Devaluation of domestic currency decreases the currency risk associated with ECBs

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3

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

**77.** With reference to chemical fertilizers in India, consider the following statements:

1. At present, the retail price of chemical fertilizers is market-driven and not administered by the Government.
2. Ammonia, which is an input of urea, is produced from natural gas.
3. Sulphur, which is a raw material for phosphoric acid fertilizer, is a by-product of oil refineries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**78.** Consider the following statements regarding Countervailing duty

1. It is an export tax by the exporting country on exported products.
2. World Trade Organization (WTO) permits the imposition of CVD by its member countries.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only.  
(b) 2 only.  
(c) Both 1 and 2.  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2.
- 79.** 'Prospect Theory' which is seen in news related to  
(a) Study of the psychological forces underlying human behavior, feelings, and emotions and how they might relate to early experience.  
(b) calculating the forces that govern the behavior of nuclei  
(c) is a theory of behavioral economics and behavioral finance  
(d) examines patterns of interaction between the individual and the total field, or environment.
- 80.** Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuary is located in  
(a) Madhya Pradesh  
(b) Maharashtra  
(c) Karnataka  
(d) Kerala
- 81.** The Security Council of UN consists of 5 permanent members, and the remaining 10 members are elected by the General Assembly for a term of  
(a) 1 year  
(b) 2 years  
(c) 3 years  
(d) 5 years
- 82.** Which of the following is/are the characteristic/characteristics of Indian coal?  
1. High ash content  
2. Low sulphur content  
3. Low ash fusion temperature  
Select the correct answer using the codes given below:  
(a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3
- 83.** Which of the following gives 'Global Gender Gap Index' ranking to the countries of the world?  
(a) World Economic Forum  
(b) UN Human Rights Council  
(c) UN Women  
(d) World Health Organization
- 84.** Regarding "carbon credits", which one of the following statements is not correct?  
(a) The carbon credit system was ratified in conjunction with the Kyoto Protocol  
(b) Carbon credits are awarded to countries or groups that have reduced greenhouse gases below their emission quota  
(c) The goal of the carbon credit system is to limit the increase of

carbon dioxide emission

(d) Carbon credits are traded at a price fixed from time to time by the United Nations Environment Programme.

**85.** Which one of the following is the context in which the term "qubit" is mentioned?

- (a) Cloud Services
- (b) Quantum Computing
- (c) Visible Light Communication Technologies
- (d) Wireless Communication Technologies

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

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

**87.** In the context of which of the following do some scientists suggest the use of cirrus cloud thinning technique and the injection of sulphate aerosol into stratosphere?

- (a) Creating the artificial rains in some regions
- (b) Reducing the frequency and intensity of tropical cyclones
- (c) Reducing the adverse effects of solar wind on the Earth
- (d) Reducing the global warming

**88.** Building 'Kalyana Mandapas' was a notable feature in the temple construction in the kingdom of

- (a) Chalukya
- (b) Chandela
- (c) Rashtrakuta
- (d) Vijayanagara

**89.** Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) is a standard criterion for (2017)

- (a) Measuring oxygen levels in blood
- (b) Computing oxygen levels in forest ecosystems
- (c) Pollution assay in aquatic ecosystems
- (d) Assessing oxygen levels in high altitude regions

**90.** In the context of solving pollution problems, what is/are the advantage/advantages of bioremediation technique?

1. It is a technique for cleaning up pollution by enhancing the same biodegradation process that occurs in nature.
2. Any contaminant with heavy metals such as cadmium and lead can be readily and completely treated by bioremediation using microorganisms.
3. Genetic engineering can be used to create microorganisms specifically designed for bioremediation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**91.** Consider the following statements regarding CGI

1. Green screen will require twice as much light as Blue screen
2. Blue screens are best used for low light situations (i.e night scenes)

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**92.** Laconia is an ancient country of

- (a) Greece
- (b) Russia
- (c) Sumeria
- (d) Egypt

**93.** Consider the following statements regarding Miyawaki plantation method

1. This method involves planting only indigenous trees
2. This require regular maintenance.
3. In this method the ground is covered with a thick layer of mulch.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**94.** The term 'Brumbrella' which is recently seen in news is related to which of the following sport?

- (a) Cricket
- (b) Hockey
- (c) Tennis
- (d) Squash

**95.** Indian Government Bond Yields are influenced by which of the following?

1. Actions of the United States Federal Reserve
2. Actions of the Reserve Bank of India
3. Inflation and short-term interest rates

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

**96.** Consider the following statements regarding Gandhi Peace prize

1. This award is given to individuals, associations, institutions or organizations.
2. The award is open to all citizens of India regardless of race, language, caste, creed or gender.

Select the incorrect answer using the code given below:

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

**97.** Videha dynasty that ruled over the region of

- (a) Malwa
- (b) North of the Ganges

- (c) Mewar
- (d) Kalinga

**98.** Consider the following statements regarding Dawoodi Bohra community

1. Dawoodi Bohra community is a sect within Sunni Islam
2. They are known for trading and business acumen

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**99.** With reference to the British colonial rule in India, consider the following statements:

1. Mahatma Gandhi was instrumental in the abolition of the system of 'indentured labour'.
2. In Lord Chelmsford's 'War Conference', Mahatma Gandhi did not support the resolution on recruiting Indians for World War.
3. Consequent upon the breaking of Salt Law by Indian people, the Indian National Congress was declared illegal by the colonial rulers.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**100.** The 'Fortaleza Declaration' recently in the news, is related to the affairs of:

- (a) ASEAN
- (b) BRICS
- (c) OECD
- (d) WTO

**101.** Tholpavaikoothu is a puppetry native to

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

**102.** "Rainbow diet" Which is recently seen in news refers to

- (a) involves consuming a very low amount of carbohydrates and replacing them with fat
- (b) is a pattern of eating that focuses more on vegetables, whole grains, beans, nuts, legumes
- (c) is an eating plan based on foods humans might have eaten during the Paleolithic Era.
- (d) eating fruits and vegetables of different colors every day.

**103.** Consider the following statements regarding Alligator gar fish

- 1. Alligator gar fish is Endemic to North America
- 2. It is listed as 'least concern' in IUCN Red List of threatened species

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**104.** Hindu Kush Himalayas stretch over which of the following countries?

- 1. Afghanistan.
- 2. Bangladesh.
- 3. Bhutan.
- 4. China.
- 5. India.
- 6. Myanmar
- 7. Pakistan.

- (a) 1, 3, 4, 5
- (b) 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
- (c) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
- (d) 1, 3, 4, 5, 7

**105.** The term Phonons which is recently seen in news

- (a) a structure that links your brain to your spinal cord.
- (b) are packets of energy for sound waves.
- (c) smallest possible packets of

electromagnetic energy.

(d) a protein that is found in the outer membrane of cell structures called mitochondria.

**106.** Consider the following statements regarding Red-eared sliders turtle

1. Red-eared sliders turtle is an invasive species
2. It is classified as Least Concern in IUCN Red list of threatened species.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**107.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Cumin'

1. It is grown as a Rabi crop in India.
2. India is the largest producer of cumin in the world.
3. Cumin is not an essential food

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Only one statement is true.
- (b) Only Two statements are true.
- (c) All three statements are true.
- (d) None of the statements are true.

**108.** Which of the following is not an index in Global Gender report?

- (a) Economic Participation and Opportunity
- (b) Educational Attainment
- (c) Health and Survival
- (d) Social Empowerment

**109.** 'Sakhtsazi and Naqashi' which is recently seen in news is a process in making

- (a) Persian's Zari
- (b) Paper Mache
- (c) Lab grown diamonds
- (d) Kashmiri Shawls

**110.** Consider the following statements regarding Heatwaves in India

1. Heat wave is considered if maximum temperature of a station reaches at least 40 degree Celsius or more for Plains.
2. Red Alert is given Severe heat wave conditions persists for 2 days

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**111.** Statement 1: Recently High amounts of tryptophan were detected in the Perseus Molecular Complex

Statement 2: Amino acids are commonly found in meteorites and were present during the formation of our Solar System.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Statement 1 is true but Statement 2 is false.
- (b) Statement 2 is true but Statement 1 is false.
- (c) Both the Statements are true but statement 2 is not the correct explanation of statement 1.
- (d) Both the Statements are true and statement 2 is the correct explanation of statement 1.

- 112.** Tok Pisin is a language, which is recently seen in news native to
- (a) Mexico.
  - (b) New Zealand.
  - (c) Papua New Guinea.
  - (d) South Sudan.

- 113.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Assisted Reproductive Technology'
1. ART procedures are open to married couples, live-in partners, single women, and also foreigners.
  2. ART services will apply to women above the legal age of marriage and below 55, and to men above the legal age of marriage and below 60.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

- 114.** Canary Islands is located in
- (a) Pacific Ocean
  - (b) Artic Ocean
  - (c) Atlantic Ocean
  - (d) South China Sea
- 115.** Consider the following statements regarding Ambubachi Mela
1. It is celebrated during the monsoon season
  2. It is native to varanasi
  3. Ambubachi Mela is also known as Tantric fertility festival
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) Only one statement is true.
  - (b) Only Two statements are true.
  - (c) All three statements are true.
  - (d) None of the statements are true.

- 116.** Greece is bordered by which of the following countries?
1. Macedonia
  2. Romania
  3. Turkey
  4. Bulgaria
  5. Albania
- (a) 1, 2 and 3.
  - (b) 2, 3, 4, and 5.



- (c) 1, 3, 4 and 5.
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

**117.** Which of the following Metrics are considered for Global livability Index?

1. Healthcare
2. Culture
3. Environment
4. Education
5. Stability

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

**118.** 'Blue Ocean Event' related to

- (a) low cost to open up a new market space and create new demand.
- (b) It is an internationally recognised eco-label, to clean beaches of the world.
- (c) a situation in which the Arctic Ocean becomes ice-free
- (d) using marine resources in a sustainable manner

**119.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Panzath Nag celebration'

1. It is celebrated in Kashmir
2. This involves the community coming together to clean the water bodies

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only.

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

**120.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Joha rice'

1. It is an indigenous rice of Assam.
2. It has got Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
3. It has proved to be effective in lowering blood glucose and preventing diabetes

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Only one statement is true.
- (b) Only Two statements are true.
- (c) All three statements are true.
- (d) None of the statements are true.

**121.** Consider the following statements regarding Blackbuck

1. It is the sole extant member of the genus Antelope found in India.
2. It is classified as Least concerned in IUCN red list of threatened species.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**122.** Consider the following statements

1. Carbon-fibre as high elasticity.
2. Carbon fibres once used cannot be recycled.
3. Titanium is stiffer and does not have elasticity.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Only one statement is true.
- (b) Only Two statements are true.
- (c) All three statements are true.
- (d) None of the statements are true.

**123.** Tamralipta is a ancient port city located in

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Maharashtra

**124.** Chite Lui River is located in

- (a) Manipur
- (b) Mizoram
- (c) Meghalaya
- (d) Arunachal Pradesh

**125.** Kazinag National Park is located in

- (a) Assam
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Kashmir
- (d) Meghalaya

**126.** Consider the following statements regarding Artemis Accord

1. It is set of principles designed to guide civil space exploration.
2. It is a non-binding agreement with no financial commitments.
3. India is one of the founding members of Artemis Accord.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Only one statement is true.
- (b) Only Two statements are true.
- (c) All three statements are true.
- (d) None of the statements are true.

**127.** Ratapani Wild life sanctuary is located in

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Madhya Pradesh

**128.** Positive rights

- (a) prescribe the relationship of the state in securing the freedoms of the individuals.
- (b) require the state to give up its sovereignty.
- (c) suggest that privileges of the individual shall not be encroached on by the state.
- (d) suggest the sphere where the

state is not permitted to enter.

**129.** Which one of the following statements is correct?

- (a) Absolute equality is possible only under dictatorship.
- (b) Absolute equality is possible only in advanced countries.
- (c) Absolute equality is impossible.
- (d) Absolute equality is possible only under democracy.

**130.** Consider the following statements regarding Huntington Disease

- 1. Huntington Disease is a genetic disorder which affects the brain.
- 2. It is caused by accumulation of negative mutations.
- 3. It has no cure

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Only one statement is true.
- (b) Only Two statements are true.
- (c) All three statements are true.
- (d) None of the statements are true.

**131.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Skin Donation'

- 1. Skin can be donated after Death within 24 hours from the time of Death.
- 2. Anyone can Donate Skin irrespective of sex & blood group

- 3. The minimum age of the donor should be 18 years and there is no upper age limit

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Only one statement is true.
- (b) Only Two statements are true.
- (c) All three statements are true.
- (d) None of the statements are true.

**132.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Piedmont Plains'

- 1. Piedmont Plains is an area at the base of a mountain range or a mountain.
- 2. Piedmont Plains has abundant Laterite soils.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**133.** Consider the following statements

- 1. Increase in water temperature decreases dissolved oxygen in the water.
- 2. Water having DO content below 8.0 mg/L may be considered as contaminated.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

- (c) Both 1 and 2.  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2.
- 134.** Consider the following statements  
1. Whiteflies are native to India  
2. Whiteflies are known for being a pest in cotton farming.  
Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
(a) 1 only.  
(b) 2 only.  
(c) Both 1 and 2.  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 135.** Which of the following factors are considered for 'World Competitiveness Index'  
1. Economic performance.  
2. Government efficiency.  
3. Business efficiency.  
4. Investment.  
(a) 1, 2 and 4.  
(b) 2, 3 and 4.  
(c) 1, 2 and 3.  
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- 136.** 'Kharchi Puja' is a festival celebrated in  
(a) Meghalaya  
(b) Manipur  
(c) Tripura  
(d) Assam
- 137.** Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve is located in  
(a) Maharashtra  
(b) Madhya Pradesh  
(c) Rajasthan  
(d) Andhra Pradesh
- 138.** Consider the following statements regarding Meira Paibis  
1. The Meira Paibi movement that was launched by the women in Mizoram.  
2. Its initial focus of fighting alcoholism and drug abuse.  
3. It demanded to revoke the AFSPA from the state.  
Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
(a) Only one statement is true.  
(b) Only Two statements are true.  
(c) All three statements are true.  
(d) None of the statements are true.
- 139.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Indian Nino'  
1. When westerly winds intensify along the equator, it leads to Positive Phase of Indian nino.  
2. Positive phase, results in more cyclones than usual in Arabian Sea.  
Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
(a) 1 only.

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

**140.** Consider the following statements regarding Shark Fishing in India.

1. Statement 1: Only 10 species of sharks and rays are protected under the Wild Life (Protection) Act (WLPA), 1972
2. Statement 2: Shark fishing is not considered to be illegal in India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Statement 1 is true but Statement 2 is false.
- (b) Statement 2 is true but Statement 1 is false.
- (c) Both the Statements are true but statement 2 is not the correct explanation of statement 1.
- (d) Both the Statements are true and statement 2 is the correct explanation of statement 1.

**141.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Autonomous District Councils'

1. Autonomous District Councils can make laws on lands.
2. It can also make regulations for the control of money lending and trading by non-tribals.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**142.** Consider the following statements

1. Gazelles are those start-ups founded after the year 2000 and have the potential to become a Unicorn in the next four years.
2. Cheetahs are those start-ups founded after the year 2000 and have the potential to go Unicorn in 2 years.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**143.** Consider the following statements

1. The hyoid is the bone, which is located in ear.
2. It is not connected to another bone

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

- 144.** 'Tam Pa Ling Cave' which is recently seen in news is located in
- Cambodia
  - China
  - South Korea
  - Laos

- 145.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Zero FIR'

- It refers to an FIR that is registered irrespective of the area where the offence is committed.
- It was introduced on the recommendation of the Justice Verma Committee
- However, Investigation can be done only in actual Jurisdiction.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- Only one statement is true.
- Only Two statements are true.
- All three statements are true.
- None of the statements are true.

- 146.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Cobalt'

- It is stable in air and does not react with water.
- DR Congo is the world's largest producer of cobalt

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1 only.

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

- 147.** Consider the following statements

- Controlled atmosphere storage deals with removing carbon monoxide and adding ethylene.
- Modified atmosphere storage generally refers to modifying temperature and humidity & It does not deal with the active control of gas

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

- 148.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Neutrinos'

- They are undisturbed by even the strongest magnetic field.
- Neutrinos are electrically charged particles.
- Neutrinos are the most abundant particles in the Universe.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- Only one statement is true.
- Only Two statements are true.
- All three statements are true.
- None of the statements are

true.

**149.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Santalin'

1. It is extracted from Red sanders
2. Santalins used in the cosmetic field for the treatment of hypopigmentation disorder.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**150.** Consider the following statements

1. In the NALSA v Union of India (2014) case, the Supreme Court ruled that transgender persons have a right to Horizontal reservation .
2. Karnataka is the only state to offer one per cent horizontal reservation to transgender persons.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

1.	b	
2.	d	
3.	b	
4.	b	
5.	c	Purana Qila is the <b>oldest fort in Delhi</b> , located on the banks of the Yamuna River. It is believed to have been <b>built by the Pandavas</b> for their kingdom Indraprastha. Renovated by <b>Emperor Humayun in 1533</b> , it took five years to complete.
6.	d	<p>Himalayan Brown Bear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It is a large carnivore found in the high-altitude regions of the Himalayas.</li> <li>● Scientific Name: Ursus arctos isabellinus</li> <li>● Distribution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ They are found in North-western and central Himalaya, including Pakistan, India, Nepal, the Tibetan Autonomous Region of China and Bhutan.</li> <li>○ They are found above the timberline, between 3,000 and 5,500 meters (9,800 and 18,000 feet) above sea level.</li> <li>○ In India, this species exists in small isolated populations in the fragmented alpine and subalpine habitats of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is the largest mammal in the region, males reaching up to 2.2 m (7 ft) long, while females are a little smaller.</li> <li>○ The bears are omnivorous and hibernate in dens during the winter.</li> <li>○ It has thick fur which is most often sandy or reddish-brown in colour.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Conservation Status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ IUCN Red List: Critically Endangered</li> <li>○ Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972: Schedule I</li> <li>○ CITES - Appendix I</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



7.	b	
8.	c	<p><b>Guarani tribe:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Guarani were one of the first peoples contacted after Europeans arrived in South America around 500 years ago.</li> <li>• <b>In Brazil</b>, there are today around 51,000 Guarani living in seven states, making them the country's most numerous tribes. Many others live in neighbouring <b>Paraguay, Bolivia, and Argentina</b>.</li> <li>• These people in Brazil are divided into three groups: <b>Kaiowá, Nandeva and M'byá</b>, of which the largest is the Kaiowá which means 'forest people'.</li> <li>• They are deeply spiritual people.</li> <li>• Most communities have a prayer house, and a religious leader, whose authority is based on prestige rather than formal power</li> </ul>
9.	a	<p>Tele-Law Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Tele-Law programme comes under <b>the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice</b> and was <b>launched in 2017</b>.</li> <li>• It is an <b>e-interface mechanism</b> to seek <b>legal advice and consultation</b> at a <b>pre-litigation stage</b> with the aim of '<b>Reaching the Unreached</b>'.</li> <li>• The programme <b>connects needy and marginalised</b> people in need of legal aid with <b>the Panel Lawyers</b> via <b>video conferencing/telephonic facilities</b> available at Common Service Centres (CSCs) situated at the panchayat level. In addition, the service can also be accessed through the <b>Tele-Law Mobile App</b>.</li> </ul>
10.	d	<p><b>Indian Mouse Deer or Spotted Chevrotain:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is the <b>smallest deer in India and is highly nocturnal</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Scientific Name: Moschiola indica</b></li> <li>• <b>Distribution:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is <b>endemic to the Indian subcontinent</b>.</li> <li>○ It is mainly found in <b>peninsular India with some old records from Nepal</b>.</li> <li>○ <b>Sri Lanka has a separate species</b> called spotted chevrotain (<i>Moschiola meminna</i>).</li> <li>○ Within India, it is commonly encountered in a number of</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>forest areas along the <b>Western Ghats, in the Eastern Ghats up to Orissa</b>, and in the <b>forests of central India</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Features:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is <b>small, 25-30 cm at shoulder height</b>, and <b>weighs from two to four kg</b>.</li> <li>○ A unique feature of this group is that instead of four-chambered stomach like in other ruminants, <b>they have a three-chambered stomach</b>.</li> <li>○ It <b>forages on forest floor for fruits, roots, leaves and herbs</b>.</li> <li>○ It has <b>occasionally been observed eating insects, crustaceans</b> and even small mammals.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
11.	b	<p><b>Yakshagana:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yakshagana is a <b>traditional theatre form of Karnataka</b>.</li> <li>● It is performed with <b>massive headgear, elaborate facial makeup, and vibrant costumes and ornaments</b>.</li> <li>● Usually recited <b>in Kannada, it is also performed in Malayalam as well as Tulu</b> (the dialect of south Karnataka).</li> <li>● It is performed with percussion instruments like <b>chenda, maddalam, jagatta or chengila (cymbals) and chakratala or elathalam (small cymbals)</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Features</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It was performed by a special community known as <b>Jakkula Varu in the royal courts of the Vijayanagar dynasty</b>.</li> <li>● The word Yakshagana is derived from the names <b>Aata Bayalaata, Kelike, and Dashavatara</b>.</li> <li>● The dance form of Yakshagana has been divided into two groups by intellectuals and researchers.</li> <li>● The first category is <b>Moodalopaya, which encompasses the eastern sides of Karnataka</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Paduvlopaya is the second category of Yakshagana</b>, which includes the western parts of the state of Karnataka, as well as Udupi, Kasaragod, and Uttara Kannada.</li> </ul>
12.	b	

<b>13.</b>	b	
<b>14.</b>	a	
<b>15.</b>	c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Article 176(1) of the Constitution of India enjoins that the Governor shall address both the Houses assembled together at the commencement of the first Session after each general election to the Assembly and at the commencement of the first session of each year and inform the Legislature of the causes of its Summons.</li> <li>● Article 208 deals with the Rules of Procedure in State Legislatures. It states that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (1) A House of the Legislature of a State may make rules for regulating subject to the provisions of this Constitution, its procedure and the conduct of its business.</li> <li>○ (2) Until rules are made under clause (1), the rules of procedure and standing orders in force immediately before the commencement of this Constitution with respect to the Legislature for the corresponding Province shall have effect in relation to the Legislature of the State subject to such modifications and adaptations as may be made therein by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, or the Chairman of the Legislative Council, as the case may be.</li> <li>○ So, in case, when there is no rule on a particular subject in the State Legislature, under a convention since colonial times, state legislatures follow the rules of the Lok Sabha.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>16.</b>	c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Article 361 of the Indian Constitution provides certain immunities to the President of India and the Governor of the States: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No criminal proceedings whatsoever shall be instituted or continued against the President, or the Governor of a State, in any court during his term of office.</li> <li>○ No process for the arrest or imprisonment of the President, or the Governor of a State, shall issue from any court during his term of office.</li> <li>○ No civil proceedings against the President, or the Governor, shall be instituted during his term of office in any court in respect of any act done by him in his personal capacity.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>However, after giving two months' notice, civil proceedings can be instituted against him during his term of office in respect of his personal acts done before or after entering the office.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Article 158 states that the emoluments and allowances of the Governor shall not be diminished during his term of office.</li> </ul>
17.	c	<p><i>Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is located in the <b>state of Assam</b>.</li> <li>It comprises three Reserve forests-Khanapara, Amchang, and South Amchang.</li> <li>It stretches from the <b>Brahmaputra River in the north</b> to the hilly forests of Meghalaya in the south, forming a continuous forest belt through Meghalaya's Maradakdola Reserve Forests.</li> <li><b>Flora:</b> Khasi Hill Sal Forests, <b>East Himalayan Mixed Deciduous Forest</b>, Eastern Alluvial Secondary Semi-evergreen Forests and East Himalayan Sal Forests.</li> <li><b>Fauna:</b> Flying fox, Slow loris, Assamese macaque, Rhesus macaque, Hoolock gibbon, Porcupine. White-backed Vulture, Slender-billed Vulture.</li> <li>Tree yellow butterflies (gancana harina) are found at the Amchang wildlife sanctuary which is indigenous to Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and northeast India</li> </ul>
18.	b	<p><i>Adverse Possession:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is a <b>legal concept</b> that allows a person who has unlawfully occupied someone else's land for a certain period of time to <b>claim legal ownership</b> of that land.</li> <li>The claimant, or disseisor, <b>must demonstrate that several criteria</b> have been met before the court will allow their claim.</li> <li><b>In India, adverse possession has been a part of the legal framework</b> for a long time and is rooted in the <b>idea that land must not be left vacant and instead be put to judicious use</b>.</li> <li>To claim adverse possession, the <b>occupier must prove that they have been in continuous, uninterrupted possession of the land for at least 12 years</b> and that their <b>possession was open, notorious, and hostile to the true owner</b>.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The law of Adverse Possession in India is <b>governed by the principle of The Limitation Law of 1963.</b></li> <li>• As per adverse possession under limitation act, <b>if over a due course of time or period, if an appeal is not made to revise any limitation, the current scenario of titles continues.</b></li> <li>• According to the Indian legal system, <b>if a property owner fails to make a claim towards their property for 12 years, and the same tenant continues to occupy the property for 12 years, the ownership rights to the property is transferred to the tenant.</b></li> </ul>
19.	b	<p><i>Salt Cavern:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Salt caverns are developed by the <b>process of solution mining</b>, which involves pumping water into geological formations with large salt deposits to dissolve the salt.</li> <li>• After the brine (water with dissolved salt) is pumped out of the formation, the space can be used to store crude oil.</li> <li>• The process is <b>simpler, faster, and less cost-intensive</b> than developing excavated rock caverns.</li> <li>• Salt cavern-based oil storage facilities are also <b>naturally well-sealed, and engineered</b> for rapid injection and extraction of oil.</li> <li>• The salt that lines the inside of these caverns has <b>extremely low oil absorbency</b>, which creates a <b>natural impermeable barrier against liquid and gaseous</b> hydrocarbons, making the caverns apt for storage.</li> <li>• <b>Rajasthan</b>, which has the bulk of requisite salt formations in India, is seen as the most conducive for developing salt cavern-based strategic storage facilities.</li> </ul> <p><i>India's Strategic Petroleum Reserves</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• India has three existing strategic oil storage facilities — <b>at Mangaluru and Padur</b> in Karnataka, and <b>Visakhapatnam</b> in Andhra Pradesh.</li> <li>• These are made up of excavated rock caverns.</li> </ul>
20.	d	<p><i>Fixed-Dose Combination (FDC) Drugs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A FDC drug <b>includes two or more active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) combined in a single dosage form</b>, which is</li> </ul>

		<p>manufactured and <b>distributed in fixed doses</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● They have been shown to <b>appreciably reduce the risk of medication non-adherence</b>, which is particularly important in patients with chronic diseases.</li> <li>● However, <b>their rationality for use should be based on sound medical principles</b> as there have been concerns with their irrationality and utility in several countries.</li> <li>● <b>Common examples: Cough syrups Phensedyl and Corex, Vicks Action 500.</b></li> <li>● <b>Advantages of FDCs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Burden of keeping track of several medications, understanding their various instructions, etc. is reduced</b> which improves patient compliance and therefore improves treatment outcomes.</li> <li>○ The FDCs are <b>more economic</b> than single ingredient drugs.</li> <li>○ The <b>manufacturing cost is quite low</b> as compared to the cost of producing separate products</li> <li>○ Then there is <b>Simpler logistics of distribution</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Disadvantages of FDCs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>If an adverse drug reaction occurs from using an FDC, it may be difficult to identify the active ingredient</b> responsible for causing the reaction.</li> <li>○ <b>If the drugs combination is not appropriate, then it can lead to some patients getting too much of an ingredient and others getting too little.</b> FDCs "limit clinicians' ability to customize dosing regimens."</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
21.	b	<p>Kalanamak, a traditional variety of paddy with a black husk and a strong fragrance, which is considered a gift from Lord Buddha to the people of the Sravasti when he visited the region after enlightenment, is all set to get a new look and name. Grown in 11 districts of the Terai region of northeastern Uttar Pradesh and in Nepal, the traditional variety has been prone to lodging, a reason for its low yield.</p> <p><a href="https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/agriculture/fragrant-and-nutritious-kalanamak-rice-buddhas-gift-to-people-gets-new-powers-and-name/article66069818.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/agriculture/fragrant-and-nutritious-kalanamak-rice-buddhas-gift-to-people-gets-new-powers-and-name/article66069818.ece</a></p>

22.	c	
23.	a	
24.	a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A sonic boom is a <b>thunderous noise caused by an object</b>, like an aircraft, <b>moving faster than the speed of sound</b>.</li> <li>● <b>How is it formed?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ As the <b>object zooms through the sky</b>, the <b>air molecules around it are pushed aside with tremendous force</b>, <b>generating shock waves</b> along its flight path.</li> <li>○ The <b>release of pressure, following the shock waves' buildup, is heard as the sonic boom</b>.</li> <li>○ Sonic booms <b>create huge amounts of sound energy</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The <b>intensity</b> of the sonic boom is <b>determined</b> not only by <b>the distance between the craft and the ground but also by the size and shape of the aircraft, the types of maneuvers that it makes, and the atmospheric pressure</b>, temperature, and winds.</li> <li>● Generally, a <b>larger aircraft will cause stronger shock waves</b>, and therefore, a louder sonic boom.</li> <li>● <b>If the aircraft is especially long, double sonic booms might be detected</b>, one emanating from the leading edge of the plane and one from the trailing edge.</li> <li>● <b>Sonic booms can shatter glass, but there is generally little risk for people</b> on the ground.</li> </ul>
25.	c	<p><i>Foot rot disease:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It is also known as <b>Bakanae Disease</b>.</li> <li>● It is a <b>soil and seed-borne deadly fungus</b> which is seen only in the Basmati variety of paddy.</li> <li>● It is caused by '<b>Fusarium verticillioides</b>' fungi.</li> <li>● The infected <b>saplings turn pale yellow</b> and become elongated and later, the saplings start drying and usually die.</li> <li>● Symptoms sometimes <b>appear after transplantation</b> and the <b>infected plants first grow way taller</b> than the normal plants and die after a few days.</li> </ul>
26.	b	

27.	c	
28.	b	
29.	c	
30.	d	
31.	d	
32.	a	
33.	d	
34.	c	
35.	d	
36.	c	
37.	c	
38.	c	
39.	c	<p>The <b>Constitution of India</b> guarantees several rights and protections for manual scavengers such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Article 14:</b> Equality before the law and equal protection of the laws.</li> <li>● <b>Article 17:</b> Abolition of untouchability and prohibition of its practice in any form.</li> <li>● <b>Article 21:</b> Protection of life and personal liberty.</li> <li>● <b>Article 23:</b> Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour.</li> </ul>
40.	c	
41.	b	
42.	d	
43.	c	



44.	c	
45.	b	
46.	d	<p><b>Uttar Pradesh state government has decided to gift GI-tagged Gulabi meenakari handicrafts to the visiting delegates from G20 nations.</b></p> <p><i>Gulabi meenakari handicraft</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is one of the rarest crafts in India that is practised in the by lanes of Varanasi, near Gai Ghat.</li> <li>• It is <b>an art form from Persia</b> and involves <b>colouring the surface of metals</b> by fusing different colours.</li> <li>• This art <b>was brought to the city of Varanasi</b> by Persian enamellists <b>during the Mughal</b> era around the early 17th century.</li> <li>• The word 'mina' is the feminine form of the Persian word 'Minoo' and means 'heaven'.</li> <li>• It refers to the azure colour of heaven.</li> <li>• In Varanasi, it is practised <b>on jewellery and home decor items.</b></li> <li>• Minakari work uses very <b>simple tools like salai</b> (an etching tool), kiln, metal palette, mortar and pestle, <b>kalam</b> (a tool used to apply enamel), brass dye, small scrubbing brush, forceps and <b>takala</b> (a needle-like tool to apply colours).</li> <li>• <b>This craft can be found popularly in three forms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Ek Rang Khula Meena</b> in which only gold outlines are exposed and a single transparent colour is used.</li> <li>○ <b>Panch Rang Meena</b> in which the five colours of red, white, green, light blue and dark blue are used</li> <li>○ <b>Gulabi Meena</b> in which pink is the dominant colour.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Varanasi</b> is highly popular for Gulabi Minakari.</li> </ul>
47.	a	<p><b>Earth's neighboring star Betelgeuse unexpectedly got 50% brighter —part of a weird process that will end in the dying star going supernova</b></p> <p><i>Betelgeuse</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Betelgeuse is a <b>red supergiant star</b> that forms the left shoulder of the <b>constellation of Orion.</b></li> <li>• It is <b>one of the brightest stars</b> in the night sky and <b>one of the largest stars ever discovered.</b></li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The star is approximately <b>650 light-years from Earth.</b></li> <li>• It is one of the largest known stars, measuring <b>more than 700 million miles (1.2 billion kilometres) in diameter, 764 times as large as the Sun.</b></li> <li>• It is known for its <b>periodic dimming and brightening up.</b></li> </ul>
48.	d	<p><i>Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) method</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DSR, also called the '<b>broadcasting seed technique</b>', is a <b>water-saving method of sowing paddy.</b></li> <li>• <b>Seeds are directly drilled into the fields</b> in this method.</li> <li>• This <b>saves groundwater, as opposed to the traditional</b> water-intensive method, under <b>which rice seedlings are transplanted from a nursery to waterlogged fields.</b></li> <li>• With DSR technique, <b>farmers must sow paddy only after pre-sowing (rauni) irrigation and not in dry fields.</b> Further, the <b>field should be laser levelled.</b></li> <li>• <b>Advantages:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>No significant reduction of yield</b> under optimal conditions;</li> <li>○ <b>Savings on irrigation water by 12-35%</b> under efficient water management practices;</li> <li>○ <b>Reduces labour and drudgery</b> by eliminating seedling uprooting and transplanting;</li> <li>○ <b>Reduces cultivation time, energy, and cost;</b></li> <li>○ <b>No plant stress</b> from transplanting;</li> <li>○ <b>Faster maturation</b> of crops;</li> <li>○ <b>Lower GHG emissions;</b></li> <li>○ <b>Mechanised DSR provides employment opportunities;</b></li> <li>○ <b>Increases total income</b> by reducing the cost of cultivation;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Current Constraints:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Higher seed rates;</b></li> <li>○ <b>Seeds exposed to birds and pests;</b></li> <li>○ <b>Weed management;</b></li> <li>○ <b>Higher risk of lodging;</b></li> <li>○ <b>Risk of poor or non-uniform crop establishment;</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
49.	d	<i>TAPI Pipeline</i>

- It is an **1,814 kilometre pipeline** that aims to **transport 33 billion cubic metres of gas from Turkmenistan to Afghanistan, Pakistan and finally, India.**
- It is also called the **'Peace Pipeline'**.
- **Route:**
  - It will **start from the Galkynysh gas field in Turkmenistan.**
  - It will then **pass through Afghanistan and Pakistan to finally reach the Indian town of Fazilka**(near the Indo-Pak border).
- **Capacity:** At full capacity, the pipeline will **transport 33 billion cubic meters (bcm) of natural gas** annually from TKM to **respective buyers in AFG (5%), PAK (47.5%) and IND (47.5%) during the 30-year** commercial operations period.
- The Project comprises the procurement, installation and operation of the pipeline and related facilities within Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- **Timeline:**
  - The project was **originally conceived in the 1990s**, and an **inter-governmental agreement was signed in 2010** by the heads of four member nations.
  - A Gas Pipeline **Framework Agreement was signed in December 2010**, and a **bilateral gas sale agreement was signed in May 2013.**
  - **In February 2018, a ground-breaking ceremony for Afghanistan's section of the TAPI gas pipeline was held** in the western Afghan city of Herat.
- **Financing:**
  - The TAPI project is being **funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB)**, which is **also acting as transaction adviser** for the development.
  - **Turkmenistan took a loan of \$700m** from the Islamic Development Bank for financing the project in December 2016.
  - The **remaining three countries made an initial investment of \$200m** in the TAPI project.

50.	b	<p><i>Amrabad Tiger Reserve (ATR)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Location:</b> It is located in the <b>Nagarkurnool and Nalgonda districts</b> in the southern part of <b>Telangana</b>.</li> <li>● Spread over <b>2611.4 square kilometers</b>, it is <b>one of the largest tiger reserves in India</b>.</li> <li>● It was notified as a sanctuary in 1983, and <b>after the State bifurcation, it was declared as Amarabad Tiger Reserve in 2015</b>.</li> <li>● ATR <b>covers a part of the Nallamala Forest</b> and is home to a variety of flora and fauna.</li> <li>● The <b>hilly terrain</b> of this Tiger Reserve, with <b>deep valleys and gorges</b>, forms the <b>catchment of the Krishna River</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Flora:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Dense grass occurs in 30%</b> of the area and is scattered in an additional 20%.</li> <li>○ <b>Dominant tree species include Terminalia tomentosa, Hardwickia binata, Madhuca latifolia. Diospyros melanoxyton, Gardenia latifolia etc.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Fauna:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Major wild animals found are <b>Tiger, Leopard, Wild dog, Indian Wolf, Indian fox</b>, Rusty-spotted cat, Small Indian civet, Sloth bear, Honeybadger, Wild boar etc.</li> <li>○ <b>Over 303 bird species</b> have been identified in this region. Some <b>important groups include Eagles, Pigeons, Doves, Cuckoos</b>, Woodpeckers, Drongos etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
51.	c	<p><i>Dimethyl Ether</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It is a <b>synthetically produced alternative to diesel</b> for use in specially designed compression ignition diesel engines.</li> <li>● It can be produced indigenously, and several countries, like Japan, USA, China, Sweden, Denmark, and Korea, are already using DME to power their vehicles.</li> <li>● The DME-fuelled <b>engine emitted extremely low particulate and soot emissions</b> and almost no smoke without using expensive exhaust gas after-treatment devices and advanced engine technologies.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It <b>can be a viable alternative fuel and engine technology</b> to adapt to conventional diesel engines used in India's economy's agricultural and transport sectors.</li> </ul>
52.	c	<p><b>Scientists discover 'lost world' of early anc</b> <i>Protosterol Biota</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is the <b>microscopic organism</b>, belongs to the family of organisms called <b>eukaryotes</b>.</li> <li>These are discovered inside a rock at the bottom of <b>the ocean near what is now the Northern Territory in Australia</b>.</li> <li>They have a complex structure combining mitochondria.</li> </ul>
53.	c	
54.	b	
55.	c	
56.	b	
57.	b	<p><b>The Green Revolution's seeds</b></p> <p>Traditional wheat and rice varieties were tall and slender. They grew vertically on application of fertilizers and water, while "lodging" (bending over or even falling) when their ear-heads were heavy with well-filled grains. The Green Revolution entailed breeding semi-dwarf varieties with strong stems that didn't lodge. These could "tolerate" high fertilizer application. The more the inputs (nutrients and water), the more the output (grain) produced.</p> <p>In 1949, an American biologist S.C. Salmon stationed in Japan – under US occupation after World War II – identified a wheat variety developed at an experimental station there. Called 'Norin-10', its plants grew to only 2-2.5 feet, as against the 4.5-5 feet height of traditional tall varieties. Salmon took Norin-10's seeds and gave them to Orville Vogel, a wheat breeder at the Washington State University, Pullman.</p>
58.	c	<p>'Biparjoy' was suggested by Bangladesh and the word means 'disaster' or 'calamity' in Bengali. The naming of cyclones is done by countries on a rotational basis, following certain existing guidelines.</p>

		<p>Worldwide, there are six regional specialised meteorological centres (RSMCs) and five regional Tropical Cyclone Warning Centres (TCWCs) mandated for issuing advisories and naming of tropical cyclones.</p> <p>IMD is one of the six RSMCs to provide tropical cyclone and storm surge advisories to 13 member countries under the WMO/Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific (ESCAP) Panel including Bangladesh, India, Iran, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.</p> <p>RSMC, New Delhi is also mandated to name the Tropical Cyclones developing over the north Indian Ocean (NIO), including the Bay of Bengal (BoB) and the Arabian Sea (AS).</p> <p>So, the tropical cyclones forming over different Ocean basins are named by the concerned RSMCs &amp; TCWCs.</p> <p>The WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones in 2000 agreed in principle to assign names to the tropical cyclones in these seas. After deliberations, the naming began in September 2004. This list contained names proposed by then eight member countries of WMO/ESCAP PTC, viz., Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand. It was expanded to include five more countries in 2018 — Iran, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.</p> <p>The list of 169 cyclone names released by IMD in 2020 was provided by these countries — 13 suggestions from each of the 13 countries.</p> <p>Some rules are to be followed while naming cyclones, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed name should be neutral to (a) politics and political figures (b) religious believes, (c) cultures and (d) gender</li> <li>• Name should be chosen in such a way that it does not hurt the sentiments of any group of population over the globe</li> <li>• It should not be very rude and cruel in nature</li> <li>• It should be short, easy to pronounce and should not be offensive to any member</li> <li>• The maximum length of the name will be eight letters</li> </ul> <p>After Bangladesh, the next cyclone will be named 'Tej' based on India's suggestion.</p>
59.	c	
60.	c	

<b>61.</b>	<b>b</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Article 200:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Article 200 of the Indian Constitution outlines the process for a Bill passed by the Legislative Assembly of a State to be presented to the Governor for assent, who may either <b>assent, withhold assent or reserve the Bill for consideration</b> by the President.</li><li>○ The Governor may also return the Bill with a message <b>requesting reconsideration by the House</b> or Houses.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ In the case of <i><b>Purushothaman Nambudiri v State of Kerala</b></i>, the Supreme Court ruled that a <b>bill pending the Governor's assent does not lapse upon the dissolution of the House</b>.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ The Court inferred from the <b>absence of a time limit in Articles 200 and 201 that the framers did not intend for bills awaiting the Governor's assent</b> to be at risk of lapsing.</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>○ The <b>second provision</b> of Article 200 <b>grants the Governor the discretion to refer a bill to the President</b> if they believe its passage would infringe upon the powers of the High Court. The procedure for presidential assent is outlined in Article 201.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ In the <b>Shamsher Singh case</b>, the Court held that the Governor's power to reserve bills for the President's consideration is an instance of discretionary authority.</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>● <b>Article 201:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ It states that when a <b>Bill is reserved for the consideration</b> of the President, the President may assent to or withhold assent from the Bill.</li><li>○ The President may also <b>direct the Governor to return the Bill to the House</b> or Houses of the Legislature of the State for reconsideration.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Article 361:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Under <b>Article 361 of the Constitution</b>, the <b>Governor has complete immunity from court proceedings</b> for any act done in the exercise of their powers.</li></ul></li></ul>
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62.	d	<p><b>Subansiri River:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It <b>originates in the Tibet Plateau and is the largest tributary of the Brahmaputra River.</b></li> <li>● The high topographic variation makes this river a <b>potential zone for harnessing it for the hydropower.</b></li> <li>● The Subansiri River flows through <b>Tibet's Lhünzê County, Shannan Prefecture and the Indian states of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.</b></li> </ul>
63.	c	<p><b>Palkhi festival:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Palkhi is a <b>1000 — year old tradition</b> which was <b>started by some saints of Maharashtra</b> (India) and is still <b>continued by their followers called varkaris</b> (people who follow a vari, a fundamental ritual).</li> <li>● It is an <b>annual pilgrimage (yatra) to Pandharpur</b> - the <b>seat of the Hindu god Vithoba in Maharashtra</b>, in honour of the deity.</li> <li>● <b>Journey:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ They <b>walk with palkhis (chariots) carrying paduka (sandals) of various saints</b> - most notably <b>Dnyaneshwar and Tukaram.</b></li> <li>○ <b>Dnyaneshwar's palakhi leaves from Alandi, while Tukaram's begins at Dehu, both in Pune</b> district of Maharashtra.</li> <li>○ The <b>Palkhi starts in the month of Jyeshth (June), and the whole process lasts a total of 22 days.</b></li> <li>○ <b>Every year on the eleventh day</b> of the first half of the month of Ashadh, the <b>Palkhi reaches Pandharpur.</b></li> <li>○ <b>Upon reaching Pandharpur on Ashadi Ekadashi, these devotees take a holy dip in the sacred Chandrabhaga River/Bhima River</b> before proceeding to visit the Vitthal temple.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>History:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Every saint, right from <b>Sant Dnyaneshwar to Sant Tukaram, was following the Vari tradition.</b></li> <li>○ <b>In the year 1685, Narayan Baba, the youngest son of Tukaram</b> was a man of innovative spirit and <b>decided to</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>



		<p><b>bring about a change in the dindi-wari tradition by introducing the Palkhi</b>, which is a sign of social respect.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>He put the silver padukas (footsteps) of Tukaram in the Palkhi and proceeded with his dindi to Alandi where he put the padukas of Dnyaneshwar in the same Palkhi.</b></li> <li>○ This tradition of twin Palkhis <b>went on every year, but in 1830 there were some disputes in the family</b> of Tukaram, concerned with rights and privileges.</li> <li>○ <b>Following this</b>, some thoughtful persons decided to break-up <b>the tradition of twin Palkhis and organise here after, two separate Palkhis</b> Tukaram Palkhi from Dehu (Pune) and the Dnyaneshwar Palkhi from Alandi (Pune).</li> <li>○ <b>From that time till date, both the Palkhis meet in Pune for a brief halt and then diverge at Hadapsar to meet again at Wakhri</b>, a village nearby to Pandharpur.</li> </ul> <p><b>Who are Varkaris?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● They are a <b>Hindu religious sect that workshop Vithoba (or Vitthal), an incarnation of Krishna.</b></li> </ul>
64.	a	<p><b>Mayon Volcano:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It is an active volcano in southeastern Luzon, <b>Philippines.</b></li> <li>● Its name is derived from the local word for beautiful lady, daragang Mayon.</li> <li>● It is called the world's most perfect volcanic cone because of the symmetry of its shape.</li> <li>● It lies <b>in the Pacific Ring of Fire region</b>, a major area in the basin of the Pacific Ocean where a large number of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions occur.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key facts about the Pacific Ring of Fire:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It also known as <b>the Circum-Pacific Belt</b> is a path along the Pacific Ocean characterized by active volcanoes and frequent earthquakes.</li> <li>● Its length is approximately 40,000 kilometres.</li> <li>● It traces boundaries between <b>several tectonic plates</b>—including <b>the Pacific, Juan de Fuca, Cocos, Indian-Australian, Nazca, North American, and Philippine Plates.</b></li> </ul>

		<p><b>What is a volcano?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is an opening on the surface of a planet that allows material warmer than its surroundings to escape from its interior.</li> <li>• When this material escapes, it causes an eruption which can be explosive in nature.</li> </ul>
65.	b	<p><b>Exercise Ekuverin:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is the <b>12th edition of a joint military exercise</b> between India and Maldives.</li> <li>• <b>Ekuverin meaning 'Friends'</b> is a bilateral annual exercise conducted alternatively in India and Maldives.</li> <li>• The exercise is aimed at enhancing <b>interoperability in Counter Insurgency/ Counter Terrorism Operations</b> under the UN mandate and carrying out joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief operations.</li> <li>• The focus is to share <b>best practices and enhance coordination and cooperation</b> between both the forces at tactical level.</li> <li>• The defence cooperation between the two countries extends from joint exercises to assisting the Maldives with defence training and equipment requirements.</li> <li>• Both nations have very close and friendly relations in economic, cultural and military cooperation.</li> <li>• 'Ex Ekuverin' will assist in further bolstering these ties between the two nations.</li> </ul>
66.	d	<p>Hybrids such as RCH-773 and RCH-776 having better sucking pest and leaf-curl virus tolerance, and keeping a check on his crop for any signs of infestation in Cotton</p> <p><a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/india/pest-management-punjab-cotton-farmers-conquer-whitefly-5331756/">https://indianexpress.com/article/india/pest-management-punjab-cotton-farmers-conquer-whitefly-5331756/</a></p>
67.	d	
68.	c	<p><b>Biologists discover 20 new species of sea lettuce, a potential new food source</b></p> <p><i>Sea Lettuce:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sea lettuce (<b>Ulva lactuca</b>) is <b>commonly referred to as seaweed.</b></li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It is a <b>genus of green algae</b> usually <b>found growing on rocky shores of seas and oceans</b> around the world.</li> <li>● Some species of Sea lettuce <b>also grow in brackish water rich in organic matter</b> or sewage <b>and can accumulate heavy metals</b>.</li> <li>● It <b>usually grows attached by a small discoid holdfast to rocks and shells</b>, but it <b>can also grow in a free-floating</b>, non-attached form, sometimes in prolific masses.</li> <li>● It <b>needs a lot of sunlight to flourish</b>.</li> <li>● <b>It is perennial, and grows all year</b>, although the largest blooms occur during the summer.</li> <li>● <b>Large masses of sea lettuce</b> are often an <b>indicator of nutrient pollution</b> in the water.</li> <li>● In some parts of the world, <b>people eat sea lettuce in soups and salads</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Features:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It <b>resembles leaves of green lettuce</b>. The <b>color is often bright green</b> but can <b>range from dark green to almost yellow</b>.</li> <li>○ The <b>leaves can be narrow or broad</b> and <b>single or multi-lobed</b>. They're <b>often rounded or oval with ruffled edges and riddled with holes</b> or perforations.</li> <li>○ They are <b>rich in iodine and vitamins A, B, and C</b>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
69.	b	<p><i>Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Location:</b> It lies in the southeastern part of <b>Rajasthan in Bundi district</b>.</li> <li>● It is in <b>continuation with the buffer area of Ranthambore tiger reserve</b> on the North-eastern side <b>and Mukundara Hills tiger reserve</b> on the southern side.</li> <li>● It was <b>notified as a tiger reserve on May 16, 2022</b>.</li> <li>● <b>River: Mez</b>, a <b>tributary of the Chambal River</b>, passes through the tiger reserve.</li> <li>● <b>Vegetation: Dry Deciduous Forest</b></li> <li>● <b>Topography:</b> It varies from <b>gentle slopes</b> to <b>steep rocky cliffs</b>, from the <b>flat-of hills of Vindhyas</b> to the <b>conical hillocks and sharp ridges of the Aravallis</b>.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Flora:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The habitat is <b>dominated by Dhok</b> (<i>Anogeissus pendula</i>) trees.</li> <li>○ <b>Other important flora includes Khair (Acacia catechu), Ronj (Acacia Leucophloea), Amaltas (Cassia fistula), Gurjan (Lannea coromodelica), Saler (Boswellia serrata) etc.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Fauna:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The area is <b>dominated by Leopards and Sloth bears.</b></li> <li>○ Other <b>important fauna includes Jungle cat, Golden jackal, Hyaena, Crested Porcupine, Indian Hedgehog, Rhesus macaque, hanuman langur etc.</b></li> <li>○ It is also the <b>natural habitat for the Indian Star tortoise.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
70.	c	<p>Recently, the Minister of State for Culture inaugurated an exhibition under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) titled <b>“Hamari Bhasha, Hamari Virasat”</b> and mentioned about Gilgit Manuscripts to <b>celebrate 75th International Archives Day</b> at National Archives of India, New Delhi.</p> <p><b>About</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It was written between the <b>5" -6" centuries CE</b>, which is the oldest surviving manuscript collection in India.</li> <li>● It was written <b>on the birch bark folios documents</b> written on pieces of inner layer of the bark of birch trees were found in Kashmir region.</li> <li>● It contains both canonical and non-canonical Jain and Buddhist works that throw light on the evolution of <b>many religious-philosophical literature.</b></li> </ul>
71.	b	
72.	a	<p><i>Golden Jackal</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The golden jackal, <b>also known as the common jackal</b>, is a <b>medium-sized wolf-like canid.</b></li> <li>● <b>Scientific Name: Canis aureus</b></li> <li>● They are <b>small compared to</b> their close relatives, <b>wolves, and wild dogs.</b></li> <li>● <b>Distribution:</b></li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ They are widely distributed from <b>North and East Africa to southeastern Europe and South Asia, including Burma.</b></li> <li>○ They are <b>abundant in valleys and along rivers and their tributaries, canals, lakes, and seashores, but are rare in foothills and low mountains.</b></li> <li>○ They are <b>quite widespread across India.</b> Right from the <b>Himalayan foothills, down to the Western Ghats,</b> the Golden Jackal has a wide distribution.</li> <li>● <b>Features:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It has <b>long, pointed ears and long hair.</b></li> <li>○ The <b>coat of the animal is rather coarse and not very long.</b></li> <li>○ The <b>tail is fluffy and long.</b></li> <li>○ The <b>coloration of their fur depends on the season</b> of year and region, varying <b>from yellow to pale gold with a brown tip.</b></li> <li>○ <b>They are monogamous,</b> meaning they mate for life.</li> <li>○ <b>They are opportunistic omnivores</b> that feed on both plants and meat.</li> <li>○ They are <b>territorial animals that hunt in groups.</b> Their groups are <b>known as packs.</b></li> <li>○ Golden jackals <b>stay nocturnal if they live in an area that humans inhabit.</b> They remain under rocks for shelter during the day and come out at night. However, <b>in other areas, they may be partly diurnal,</b> meaning they are active during the day.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Conservation Status:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>IUCN: Least Concern</b></li> <li>○ <b>Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule II</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
73.	c	
74.	c	<p>Disinflation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Disinflation refers to a decrease in the rate of inflation, which means that prices are still rising but at a slower pace than before. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is important to note that disinflation is <b>different from deflation, which refers to a sustained decrease in the overall price level.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>A healthy amount of disinflation is necessary since it prevents the economy from overheating.</b></li> <li>● <b>Causes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Disinflation can be <b>caused by various factors</b>, such as:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A slowdown in economic growth or demand</li> <li>■ A <b>tight monetary policy</b> or higher interest rates</li> <li>■ A fiscal consolidation or lower government spending</li> <li>■ A stronger exchange rate.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
75.	a	
76.	b	
77.	b	
78.	b	
79.	c	<a href="https://www.indiatoday.in/education-today/news/story/iit-madras-researchers-devise-a-mathematical-model-that-promises-equal-benefits-to-both-farmers-agri-firms-2393963-2023-06-17">https://www.indiatoday.in/education-today/news/story/iit-madras-researchers-devise-a-mathematical-model-that-promises-equal-benefits-to-both-farmers-agri-firms-2393963-2023-06-17</a>
80.	a	<p><i>Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuary</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Location:</b> Rani Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuary is located in <b>the Damoh district of Madhya Pradesh.</b></li> <li>● It is <b>named after Rani Durgavati, a queen of the Gond people.</b></li> <li>● The sanctuary was <b>notified by the Government of Madhya Pradesh in 1996.</b></li> <li>● The <b>Singorgarh Fort</b> is located within the sanctuary</li> <li>● <b>Vegetation:</b> The vegetation is predominantly <b>tropical mixed dry deciduous forest.</b></li> <li>● <b>Flora:</b> <b>Pterocarpus marsupium, Terminalia alata, Anogeissus latifolia</b>, Madhuca indica, Butea monosperma, and Lagerstroemia parviflora are the most common trees in the sanctuary.</li> <li>● <b>Fauna:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It hosts 18 species of mammals, including the <b>leopard, wolf, jackal, Indian fox, striped hyena, and sloth bear.</b></li> <li>○ Besides these, the sanctuary is also home to 177 species of birds, 16 species of fish and reptiles, and 10 species of</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		amphibians.
81.	b	
82.	a	
83.	a	
84.	d	
85.	b	
86.	b	
87.	d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cirrus cloud thinning is a kind of technology that involves thinning the wispy, elongated cirrus clouds of high altitudes. Cirrus clouds do not reflect a lot of solar radiation back into space, but as these are formed at high altitudes and cold temperatures, these clouds trap long-wave radiation and have a climate impact similar to greenhouse gases. <b>Thinning cirrus clouds would be achieved by injecting ice nuclei (such as dust) into regions</b> where there are cirrus clouds, making the ice crystals bigger and reducing the cirrus optical depth. Thinning the clouds would allow more heat to escape into space and thereby cool the planet.</li> <li>• <b>Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI)</b> is a technique that would involve spraying large quantities of <b>inorganic particles (e.g., Sulphur dioxide) into the stratosphere</b> to act as a reflective barrier against incoming sunlight, thus helping to reduce the global warming.</li> </ul>
88.	d	
89.	c	
90.	c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bioremediation is a treatment process that uses naturally occurring microorganisms (yeast, fungi, or bacteria) to break down, or degrade, hazardous substances into less toxic or nontoxic substances.</li> <li>• The microorganisms break down the organic contaminants into</li> </ul>

		<p>harmless products-mainly Carbon Dioxide and water. It is a cost effective, natural process applicable to many common organic wastes. Many bioremediation techniques can be conducted on-site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All contaminants cannot be easily treated by bioremediation using microorganisms. For example, heavy metals such as Cadmium and Lead are not readily absorbed or captured by microorganisms.</li> <li>• Genetic engineering can be used to create microorganisms designed for specific purposes for bioremediation. For example, Bacterium Deinococcus radiodurans (the most radioresistant organism known) has been modified to consume and digest Toluene and ionic Mercury from highly radioactive nuclear waste.</li> </ul>
91.	b	<p>Blue and green are on the opposite ends of the color spectrum. Red and orange which correspond to the skin tones, so by using blue or green you have lesser unwanted effects when keying a person on screen.</p> <p>Should you choose the blue or the green screen for chroma key compositing? This essentially depends on the lighting of scene to be shot. If it's a daytime background, then green is the ideal choice as it blends seamlessly. Blue as you'd have guessed is best for replicating nighttime. Blue is a higher frequency colour than green and thus gives a more distinct keyed image with greater contrast.</p>
92.	a	
93.	b	<p><b>Miyawaki Process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The native trees of the region are identified and divided into four layers — shrub, sub-tree, tree, and canopy.</li> <li>• The quality of soil is analysed and biomass which would help enhance the perforation capacity, water retention capacity, and nutrients in it, is mixed with it.</li> <li>• A mound is built with the soil and <b>the seeds are planted</b> at a very high density — three to five sapling per square meter.</li> <li>• The ground is covered with a thick <b>layer of mulch</b>.</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-climate/pm-modi-miyawaki-forests-mann-ki-baat-what-is-this-method-8671133/">https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-climate/pm-modi-miyawaki-forests-mann-ki-baat-what-is-this-method-8671133/</a></p>
94.	a	<p><a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/sports/cricket/whats-brumbrella-">https://indianexpress.com/article/sports/cricket/whats-brumbrella-</a></p>



		<a href="https://www.iasgogle.com/englands-latest-ashes-innovation-that-foxed-australia-8671541/">englands-latest-ashes-innovation-that-foxed-australia-8671541/</a>
95.	d	
96.	b	
97.	b	
98.	b	<p><b>Dawoodi Bohra community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dawoodi Bohra community <b>is a sect within Shia Islam known for trading and business acumen.</b></li> <li>• <b>India is known to have around 500,000 Bohras</b>, including the diasporas spread across the world.</li> <li>• A large number of the Dawoodi Bohra population <b>reside in India, Yemen, Pakistan and East Africa.</b></li> <li>• The Dawoodi Bohras <b>also regard the Quran as the word of Allah</b> as revealed to Prophet Mohammed al-Mustafa, and <b>their lives revolve around its teachings.</b></li> <li>• The Dawoodi Bohras throughout the world are <b>guided by their leader, known as the al-dai al-mutlaq (unrestricted missionary), who first operated</b> from Yemen and then, <b>for the last 450 years, from India.</b></li> </ul>
99.	b	
100.	b	
101.	b	<p>1. <b>Muthuchandra Rao</b>, a renowned <b>puppet artist</b> from the Kanniyakumari district in Tamil Nadu, has been invited to perform at the <b>**Fetna 36th Convention</b> in the United States (**Federation of Tamil Sangams of North America (FeTNA)).</p> <p>Recognized for his artistry and recipient of the Tamil Nadu government's Kalaimamani Award, Mr Muthuchandra Rao will showcase <b>“Thol Pavai Koothu,”</b> a form of puppetry.</p> <p>He will also train <b>Tamil children in making dolls and puppets</b>, as well as voice modulations. The aim is to promote traditional arts and divert children's attention from smartphones. Mr Muthuchandra Rao's troupe uses <b>goat skin for making puppets</b>, and they have prepared</p>

		<p>performances with themes relevant to modern times.</p> <p><b>Tholpavaikoothu</b> is a form of <b>Shadow puppetry</b> made of three Tamil terms, thol, meaning leather, pavai, meaning doll, and koothu, meaning the play or drama. This form of art is especially popular in the Madurai, Kanyakumar (TN), Palakkad Thrissur and Malappuram districts of Kerala</p>
102.	d	
103.	b	
104.	c	<p><b>The Hindu Kush Himalayas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These are the mountain ranges stretching over 3500 kilometres and across eight countries – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, Myanmar and Pakistan.</li> <li>• The Hindu Kush Himalaya is arguably the world's most important 'water tower', being the source of ten of Asia's largest rivers as well as the largest volume of ice and snow outside of the Arctic and Antarctica.</li> <li>• Together these rivers support the drinking water, irrigation, energy, industry and sanitation needs of 1.3 billion people living in the mountains and downstream.</li> </ul>
105.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phonons are to sound what photons are to light. Photons are tiny packets of energy for light or electromagnetic waves. Similarly, <b>phonons are packets of energy for sound waves</b>. Each phonon represents the vibration of millions of atoms within a material.</li> <li>• Both photons and phonons are of central interest to quantum computing research, which exploits the properties of these quantum particles.</li> <li>• However, phonons have proven challenging to study due to their <b>susceptibility to noise and issues with scalability and detection</b>.</li> </ul>
106.	c	<p><b>Over 6,500 Live Turtles Seized At Tamil Nadu Airport, 2 Arrested</b> <i>Red-eared sliders turtle</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is <b>native</b> to the southeastern <b>USA and Mexico</b>.</li> <li>• It is a semi-aquatic turtle from <b>fresh and brackish water ecosystems</b>.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It spends the majority of its time either in the water foraging or basking on rocks and logs.</li> <li>● The species is considered one of the world's <b>100 worst invasive non-native</b> species.</li> <li>● <b>Appearance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is known for its distinct <b>red stripes behind each ear</b>.</li> <li>○ They range in colour from dark green to brown, with yellowish ribbons all over their green bodies and along the edge of their dark olive-green shell.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● In the wild, red sliders <b>can live from 20 to 50 years</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Diet:</b> These are fed mainly on plants and small animals, such as crickets and fish etc.</li> <li>● <b>Conservation status</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>IUCN: Least Concern</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
107.	c	<p><a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-economics/why-jeera-is-getting-expensive-8678012/">https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-economics/why-jeera-is-getting-expensive-8678012/</a></p>
108.	d	<p>Global Gender Gap Index</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It <b>benchmarks countries</b> on their progress <b>towards gender parity in four Key dimensions with Sub Metrics</b>. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Economic Participation and Opportunity</li> <li>○ Educational Attainment</li> <li>○ Health and Survival</li> <li>○ Political Empowerment</li> </ul> </li> <li>● On each of the four sub-indices as well as on the overall index the GGG index provides scores between 0 and 1, where <b>1 shows full gender parity and 0 is complete imparity</b>.</li> <li>● <b>It is the longest-standing index</b>, which tracks progress towards closing these gaps over time <b>since its inception in 2006</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To serve as a compass to track progress on relative gaps between women and men on health, education, economy and politics.</li> <li>○ Through this annual yardstick, the stakeholders within each country are able to set priorities relevant in each specific economic, political and cultural context.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

109. b

- **Papier Mache or Paper Mache** is derived from French meaning '**chewed Paper**'.
- Papier Mache is a composite material consisting of **paper pulp reinforced** with some adhesive which hardens upon drying and then is **painted upon**. The products created are generally in the **form of vases, bowls boxes, trays and many other small objects**.
- **Procedure:** Making a Paper Mache product involves two procedures

<p>Sakhtsazi (Making the base product from the pulp of paper into the desired form)</p>	<p>The process begins with soaking waste paper in water for days till it disintegrates and then mixing it with cloth, paddy straw and copper sulphate to form pulp. The pulp is put into moulds and given shape and form. It is polished smooth with stone or baked clay and pasted with layers of tissue paper.</p>
<p>Naqashi (The painting)</p>	<p>After applying a base colour, the</p>

		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>process done over it)</td> <td>artisan draws a design. The object is then sandpapered or burnished and is finally painted with several coats of lacquer.</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Government initiatives for promoting it:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The craft is protected under the <b>Geographic Indication Act 1999</b>.</li> <li>○ In 2016, government introduced the craft in the Nawakadal girls' college in Srinagar.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● According to Historians, the <b>Shia community of Kashmir</b> is keeping alive the papier mache art in the Valley since the <b>14th</b> Mughal kings, were fond of this art and were its patrons.</li> </ul>	process done over it)	artisan draws a design. The object is then sandpapered or burnished and is finally painted with several coats of lacquer.
process done over it)	artisan draws a design. The object is then sandpapered or burnished and is finally painted with several coats of lacquer.			
110.	a			
111.	d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● High amounts of tryptophan were detected in the Perseus Molecular Complex, specifically in the IC348 star system, a star-forming region that lies 1000 light years away from Earth - relatively close in astronomical terms.</li> <li>● Tryptophan is one of the 20 amino acids essential for the formation of key proteins for life on Earth, and produces one of the richest pattern of spectral lines in the infrared. It was therefore an obvious candidate to be explored using the extensive spectroscopic database of the Spitzer satellite, a space-based infrared telescope.</li> <li>● Amino acids are commonly found in meteorites and were present during the formation of our Solar System. This new work could indicate that these protein-building agents - that are key to the development of life - exist naturally in the regions where stars and planetary systems form, and may contribute to the early chemistry of planetary systems around other stars.</li> </ul> <p><i>Tryptophan</i></p>		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It is an <b>amino acid needed for normal growth in infants</b> and for the <b>production and maintenance of the body's proteins</b>, muscles, enzymes, and neurotransmitters.</li> <li>● It is an <b>essential amino acid</b>. This means your <b>body cannot produce it</b>, so you must get it from your diet.</li> <li>● <b>Functions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The body <b>uses tryptophan to help make melatonin and serotonin</b>.</li> <li>○ Melatonin <b>helps regulate the sleep-wake cycle</b>, and <b>serotonin is thought to help regulate appetite, sleep, mood, and pain</b>.</li> <li>○ The <b>liver can also use tryptophan to produce niacin (vitamin B3)</b>, which is needed for energy metabolism and DNA production.</li> <li>○ Tryptophan has been <b>used in alternative medicine as a possibly effective aid in treating symptoms of premenstrual dysphoric disorder syndrome</b> (such as mood swings and irritability), and to help people quit smoking.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>112.</b></p>	<p>c</p>	<p>Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with his Papua New Guinea counterpart James Marape on May 22 released the Tamil classic 'Thirukkural' in the Tok Pisin language to bring the Indian thought and culture closer to the people of this southwestern Pacific nation.</p> <p><a href="https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/pm-modi-releases-tamil-classic-thirukkural-in-tok-pisin-language-of-papua-new-guinea/article66879651.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/pm-modi-releases-tamil-classic-thirukkural-in-tok-pisin-language-of-papua-new-guinea/article66879651.ece</a></p>
<p><b>113.</b></p>	<p>a</p>	<p>A West Delhi-based hospital that botched up an in vitro fertilisation procedure (IVF) for a Hyderabad-based couple, by using donor semen that did not belong to the husband, has been instructed by the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) to cough up a fine of ₹1.5 crore for negligence and resorting to unethical practices.</p> <p>The NCDRC has ruled that there is a need to make it mandatory for Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) centres to issue DNA profiling of babies born through ART procedures.</p> <p>The commission has conveyed this to the National Medical Council and</p>

		the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare through the order. <a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-whats-in-art-surrogacy-bills-7653374/">https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-whats-in-art-surrogacy-bills-7653374/</a>
114.	c	<p><i>Canary Island</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is an archipelago located <b>in the Atlantic Ocean</b></li> <li>• It is about 1300 km South of mainland Spain and 115 km West of the African coast (Morocco).</li> <li>• The Canaries comprise the Spanish provincias (provinces) of Las Palmas and Santa Cruz de Tenerife.</li> <li>• These Islands were <b>formed by volcanic eruptions</b> millions of years ago.</li> <li>• They have a subtropical climate. Temperatures are warm and show little seasonal variation.</li> <li>• It has rich volcanic soils and mild temperatures that support a wide variety of vegetation that generally follows a zonal arrangement based on elevation.</li> </ul>
115.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is an <b>annual Hindu fair held at the historic Kamakhya Temple.</b></li> <li>• It is celebrated <b>during the monsoon season</b> that happens to fall during the Assamese month Ahaar, <b>around the middle of June.</b></li> <li>• <b>Occasion:</b> It is the <b>celebration of the yearly menstruation course of goddess Maa Kamakhya.</b></li> <li>• <b>Other names:</b> This mela is <b>also known as Ameti or Tantric fertility festival</b> since it is closely associated with Tantric Shakti cult prevalent in eastern parts of India.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key facts about Kamakhya temple:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Location:</b> It is <b>situated on Nilachal Hill</b> and adjoining the <b>southern bank of the Brahmaputra River in Guwahati,</b></li> <li>• It is one of the <b>most revered centres of Tantric practices.</b></li> <li>• It is regarded as <b>one of the oldest of the 51 Shakti Peethas in India.</b></li> </ul>
116.	c	
117.	d	<i>Global Liveability Index 2023</i>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The index <b>quantifies the challenges presented</b> to an individual's lifestyle in 173 cities worldwide.</li> <li>• It was given considering five metrics: <b>healthcare, culture, environment, education, and stability.</b></li> <li>• This ranking offers insights into the cities that excel in providing an exceptional quality of life.</li> <li>• <b>Top cities to live:</b> Vienna (Austria), Copenhagen (Denmark), Melbourne and Sydney (Australia)</li> <li>• <b>Bottom 3 Liveable cities:</b> Algiers (Algeria), Tripoli (Libya) and Damascus (Syria)</li> <li>• From Asia, Japan's Osaka was ranked number 10 in the rankings.</li> <li>• The index rose last year to reach a 15-year high as the world recovered from the pandemic.</li> <li>• The average index score is now 76.2 out of 100, up from 73.2 a year ago.</li> <li>• Despite overall growth in the index score, <b>stability saw a marginal decline.</b></li> <li>• Those in <b>Western Europe</b>, in particular, have slipped in rankings <b>due to increased instances of workers' strikes failing</b> to "match gains" made by cities in Asia and the Middle East.</li> <li>• The cities which are plagued by ongoing civil unrest and military conflicts, amongst other issues, remained at the bottom of the list.</li> </ul>
<p><b>118.</b></p>	<p>c</p>	<p><b>Blue Ocean Event</b></p> <p>A "blue ocean event" refers to a situation in which the <b>Arctic Ocean becomes ice-free during the summer</b>, with the sea ice area dropping <b>below 1 million square kilometres</b>. It signifies the absence of sea ice at the top of the world and is considered a significant and alarming consequence of climate change.</p> <p>The event represents a <b>critical tipping point in the Arctic system</b>, as more sea ice melts, it reduces the amount of sunlight reflected into space, leading to further warming and ice loss.</p>
<p><b>119.</b></p>	<p>c</p>	<p>The historical significance of Panzath dates back centuries. Kalhana's <i>Rajatarangini</i>, a 12th-century chronicle of the reigns of Kashmiri monarchs, mentions the Panzath Nag celebration, a tradition that has survived for 900 years. This unique custom involves the community</p>



		<p>coming together to clean the water bodies, expressing their deep reverence for nature.</p> <p><a href="https://frontline.thehindu.com/environment/kashmirs-panzath-spring-crying-for-urgent-intervention/article66972292.ece">https://frontline.thehindu.com/environment/kashmirs-panzath-spring-crying-for-urgent-intervention/article66972292.ece</a></p>
120.	c	<p><i>Joha rice</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It is an <b>indigenous rice of Assam.</b></li> <li>● It is unique in aroma and grain characteristics and distinct from other aromatic rice like Basmati.</li> <li>● It is grown in <b>Sali/ Kharif season.</b></li> <li>● Major Joha varieties included in this are <b>Kola Joha, Keteki Joha, Bokul Joha and Kunkuni Joha.</b></li> <li>● This rice is also rich in several antioxidants, flavonoids, and phenolics.</li> <li>● It has got <b>Geographical Indication (GI) tag.</b></li> <li>● A recent study revealed that; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This rice variety has two <b>unsaturated fatty acids, linoleic acid (omega-6) and linolenic (omega-3) acid.</b></li> <li>○ These essential fatty acids (<b>which humans cannot produce</b>) can help maintain various physiological conditions.</li> <li>○ Omega-3 fatty acid prevents several metabolic diseases such as <b>diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and cancer.</b></li> <li>○ It has also proved to be effective in lowering blood glucose and preventing diabetes onset in diabetic rats.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
121.	cc	<p><i>Blackbuck</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It is the sole extant member of the genus <b>Antelope found in India.</b></li> <li>● It lives mainly in open <b>grasslands or dry deciduous forests.</b></li> <li>● The antelope is native to and found mainly in India (with a small population in Nepal and Pakistan).</li> <li>● It is widespread in the states of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, and other areas throughout peninsular India.</li> <li>● It has been declared as the <b>state animal</b> by the governments of <b>Punjab, Haryana and Andhra Pradesh.</b></li> <li>● <b>Conservation status:</b></li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>IUCN Red List:</b> Least concerned.</li> <li>○ <b>Wildlife Protection Act of 1972:</b> Schedule I</li> <li>○ <b>CITES:</b> Appendix III</li> </ul>
122.	d	<a href="https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/what-was-the-catastrophic-implosion-of-the-titan-submersible/article67001660.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/what-was-the-catastrophic-implosion-of-the-titan-submersible/article67001660.ece</a>
123.	a	<a href="https://frontline.thehindu.com/arts-and-culture/heritage/history-of-the-chhot-boat/article66888957.ece">https://frontline.thehindu.com/arts-and-culture/heritage/history-of-the-chhot-boat/article66888957.ece</a>
124.	b	Chite Lui River is in danger as it turns into a dumping ground in Aizawl. Citizens' efforts, lauded even by PM Modi, are making a difference but more is needed to save it from dying <a href="https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/water/mizoram-s-chite-lui-river-is-crying-for-help-89961">https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/water/mizoram-s-chite-lui-river-is-crying-for-help-89961</a>
125.	c	
126.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Artemis Accord is a <b>non-binding</b> set of principles designed to guide <b>civil space exploration</b> and use in the 21st century.</li> <li>● It is a <b>non-binding agreement</b> with <b>no financial commitments</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Objectives:-</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Enhancing the governance of civil exploration.</li> <li>○ Use of outer space with the intention of advancing the Artemis program.</li> <li>○ It ensures that space exploration is conducted in a <b>safe, sustainable and transparent manner</b> and in full compliance with international law.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Establishment: 2020.</b></li> <li>● <b>Established by: NASA</b>, in coordination with the <b>U.S. Department of State</b>, established the Artemis Accords with <b>eight founder nations</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Founding members of the Artemis Accords:</b> Australia, Canada, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and the US.</li> <li>● <b>Artemis Accords signatories as of May 2023:</b> Australia, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, France, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Poland, the</li> </ul>

Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

**Aims of Artemis Accord:-**

- **Peaceful Purposes:** Consistent with the **Outer Space Treaty**, the Artemis Accords affirm that cooperative activities should be **exclusively for peaceful purposes** and in accordance with international law.
  - **Outer Space Treaty:** it provides the basic framework of international space law.
- **Transparency:** signatories are committed to the **broad dissemination of information** regarding their respective national space policies and space exploration plans in accordance with their national rules and regulations.
- **Interoperability:** Interoperability **enhances the potential for space exploration** that is safe and robust among cooperating nations.
- **Emergency Assistance:** Accords signatories commit to taking all reasonable efforts to render **necessary assistance to personnel** in outer space who are in distress.
- **Registration of Space Objects:** The Artemis Accords reinforce the **importance of meeting the obligations** under the Registration Convention.
- **Release of Scientific Data:** Sharing scientific data with the global community in a timely and transparent manner.
- **Protecting Heritage:** Accords signatories intend to **preserve historically significant** human or robotics landing sites, artefacts, spacecraft etc.
- **Space Resources:** The utilization of space resources should be done in a manner that **complies with the Outer Space Treaty, can benefit humankind and is critical to sustainable operations.**
- **Deconfliction of Activities:** Artemis Accords signatories need to provide notification of their activities and coordinate.
  - The area covered by the notification and coordination is referred to as a **“safety zone.”**

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Orbital Debris and Spacecraft Disposal:</b> Planning to mitigate orbital debris, as well as disposing safely of spacecraft, is critical to maintaining a safe environment in space.</li> </ul>
127.	d	<p><b>Ratapani Wild life sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Located in Madhya Pradesh, it is <b>spread across an area of 907.71 sq. km</b> in <b>Vindyan hills</b>.</li> <li>● It is located near Bhopal, under the <b>Obaidullaganj forest division in Raisen district</b> of Madhya Pradesh.</li> <li>● It known for its <b>population of approximately 12 to 15 dominant tigers</b>, it was first notified in the <b>year 1976</b>.</li> <li>● It includes various <b>types of landscape</b> for instance <b>caves, cliffs, dam, ponds, boulder region</b></li> <li>● <b>Narmada River runs parallel to this sanctuary.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Important Places in the Sanctuary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● UNESCO World Heritage Site <b>Bhimbetka Rock Shelters</b></li> <li>● <b>Ginnourgarh Fort</b></li> <li>● POW camp</li> <li>● <b>Keri Mahadeo</b></li> <li>● <b>Ratapani dam</b></li> <li>● Jholiyapur dam</li> </ul> <p><b>Concerns for conservation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In 2008, Ratapani wildlife sanctuary <b>got initial approval from the National Tiger Conservation Authority</b> to be declared as Tiger reserve.</li> <li>● Also in the <b>beginning of 2022</b>, Madhya Pradesh CM <b>Shivraj Singh Chouhan approved</b> Ratapani to be notified as a tiger reserve.</li> <li>● However it is <b>far from implementation</b> and this wildlife sanctuary is <b>not yet officially declared</b> as a tiger reserve. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is mainly <b>due to population pressure</b> in this area and <b>impact on business activities</b> like mining.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Delay in granting status of tiger reserve is <b>raising concerns among environmental activists</b> and leading to half-hearted efforts of conserving tigers.</li> </ul>
128.	a	

129.	c	
130.	c	<p><b>Huntington Disease</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Huntington Disease (HD) is a <b>progressive genetic disorder</b> which affects the <b>brain</b>.</li> <li>• It causes uncontrolled movements, impaired coordination of balance and movement, a decline in cognitive abilities, difficulty in concentrating and memory lapses, mood swings and personality changes.</li> <li>• The <b>HTT genes</b> are involved in the <b>production of a protein called huntingtin</b>. They provide the instruction for making the protein. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Mutated genes provide faulty instructions leading to production of abnormal huntingtin proteins and formation of clumps.</li> <li>◦ These clumps disrupt the normal functioning of the brain cells, which eventually leads to death of neurons in the brain, resulting in Huntington disease.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>No cure exists</b>, but drugs, physiotherapy and talk therapy can help manage some symptoms.</li> </ul>
131.	b	<p><b>Delhi's First Skin Bank Opens At Safdarjung Hospital</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A skin bank is a place where <b>cadaveric skin is processed and preserved under optimal conditions</b> from where it can be used for the benefit of Burn victims.</li> <li>• Skin can be donated after Death within <b>6 hours from the time of Death</b>.</li> <li>• Anyone can Donate Skin <b>irrespective of sex &amp; blood group; the minimum age of the donor should be 18 years</b>.</li> <li>• There is no upper age limit; even a 100-year-old person can donate his skin, and it will be used for treatment.</li> <li>• The skin of persons <b>suffering from AIDS, Hepatitis B &amp; C, Sexually Transmitted Diseases</b>, Skin Cancer, Active skin Disease and Septicemia are considered <b>unfit for donation</b>.</li> <li>• At the time of skin harvesting, a blood sample from the body of the deceased is also taken, and a necessary test for HIV, Viral markers &amp; Hepatitis is carried out at the Skin Bank.</li> <li>• An old history of trauma or old history of burns does not make the</li> </ul>

		<p>donor unfit for skin donation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skin is generally preserved in 85% glycerol solution. It is stored between 4-5 degree Celsius, and it can be stored for a period of up to 5 years.</li> <li>• The country has <b>16 skin banks</b> — a facility where the skin of deceased persons can be donated — with seven in Maharashtra, four in Chennai, three in Karnataka, and one each in Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.</li> </ul>
132.	a	<p><a href="https://www.downtoearth.org.in/blog/science-technology/our-study-shows-growing-zone-of-active-tectonic-deformation-in-northern-haryana-plains-south-of-himalayas-90254">https://www.downtoearth.org.in/blog/science-technology/our-study-shows-growing-zone-of-active-tectonic-deformation-in-northern-haryana-plains-south-of-himalayas-90254</a></p>
133.	c	<p><i>Dissolved Oxygen (DO)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presence of organic and inorganic wastes in water decreases the dissolved oxygen content of the water.</li> <li>• Water having DO content below 8.0 mg/L may be considered as contaminated.</li> <li>• Water having DO content below. 4.0 mg/L is considered to be highly polluted.</li> <li>• DO content of water is important for the survival of aquatic organisms.</li> <li>• A number of factors like surface turbulence, photosynthetic activity, O consumption by organisms and decomposition of organic matter are the factors which determine the amount of DO present in water.</li> <li>• The <b>higher amounts of waste increase the rates of decomposition and O<sub>2</sub> consumption</b> thereby <b>decreases the DO content of water.</b></li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/pollution/poisoned-punjab-three-children-in-this-fazilka-village-family-are-intellectually-disabled-but-there-s-no-aid-89838">https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/pollution/poisoned-punjab-three-children-in-this-fazilka-village-family-are-intellectually-disabled-but-there-s-no-aid-89838</a></p>
134.	d	<p><b>Invasion of Whitefly takes toll on coconut trees in Pune</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These are <b>winged insects that have soft bodies</b> and are closely related to aphids.</li> <li>• These are tiny, sap-sucking insects that may become abundant in</li> </ul>

		<p>vegetable and ornamental plantings, <b>especially during warm weather.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is <b>naturally distributed</b> in Belize, Guatemala, and Mexico (Martin, 2008), and subsequently, it has spread to 22 other countries in Central and South America.</li> <li>• It mainly <b>infests coconut palms and other broad-leaved hosts</b> in its native range</li> <li>• It is an <b>invasive insect.</b></li> </ul> <p><i>How the insect attacks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The whitefly starts <b>attacking the lower leaves</b> of the coconut palm.</li> <li>• It drains the sap from the underside of the leaf, producing a significant amount of honeydew, which settles on the upper surface of the next lower leaf, leading to the growth of black, sooty mould.</li> <li>• This is the secondary infection from the whitefly infestation.</li> <li>• It has a serious <b>impact on the production of coconut.</b></li> <li>• Not only does it <b>reduce the size of the coconut, but</b> it also decreases the coconut's water content.</li> </ul>
<p><b>135.</b></p>	<p>c</p>	<p><i>World Competitiveness Index</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IMD <b>World Competitiveness Yearbook (WCY)</b>, was first published in 1989.</li> <li>• It is a comprehensive annual report and worldwide reference point on the competitiveness of countries.</li> <li>• It analyses and ranks countries according to how they manage their competencies to achieve long-term value creation.</li> <li>• It is based on 336 competitiveness criteria and four factors, namely <b>Economic performance, Government efficiency, Business efficiency, and Infrastructure.</b></li> <li>• <b>Denmark, Ireland, and Switzerland</b> have been named the top three among 64 economies measured for their global competitiveness.</li> <li>• <b>India</b> fell three rungs to <b>finish 40th</b> but is still in a better position than it was between 2019-2021 when it was placed 43rd three years in a row.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India improved in government efficiency but fared slightly poorer than other countries in business efficiency, infrastructure, and economic performance.</li> <li>Specifically, the top three measures that helped India in its score are exchange rate <b>stability</b>, <b>compensation levels</b>, and <b>improvements in pollution control</b>.</li> </ul>
136.	c	<p><b>PM conveys best wishes on Kharchi Puja</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is one of the main <b>festivals of Tripura</b>.</li> <li>It is performed <b>during the months of July-August</b> on the eighth day of the new moon.</li> <li>The meaning of Kharchi can be understood by splitting the word into two Tripuri words "Khar" or Kharta meaning sin and "Chi" or si meaning cleaning. Hence it signifies <b>the cleansing of our sins</b>.</li> <li>It occurs during the month of 'Ashad' on the 'Shukla Ashtami' day.</li> <li>The fourteen Gods are worshipped by the <b>Royal priest, 'Chantai</b>.</li> <li>It lasts for seven days, and it takes place at old Agartala in the <b>Fourteen Gods</b> temple known as the '<b>Chaturdasha Devata</b>' <b>temple premises</b>.</li> <li>The Kharchi Puja deities do not have a full body; they have only heads which are worshipped.</li> <li>On the day of the puja, the fourteen Gods are taken from the temple <b>to the river Saidra</b> by the Chantai members and given bathe with the holy river water, then carried back to the temple.</li> <li>This festival's customs are completely related to the authentic Tripuri traditions.</li> </ul>
137.	a	<p><b>DP World provides thermal drones to Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve to protect wildlife and intensify surveillance</b></p> <p><i>Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Location:</b> It is located in the <b>Chandrapur district of Maharashtra</b>.</li> <li>The origin of the <b>name "Tadoba"</b> lies with the <b>name of the God "Tadoba" or "Taru"</b>, <b>worshiped by the tribes</b> who live in the dense forests of the Tadoba and Andhari regions. While "<b>Andhari</b>" <b>refers to the Andhari River that meanders through the forest</b>.</li> <li>The <b>total area</b> of the reserve <b>is 625.4 square kilometers</b>. This</li> </ul>



		<p><b>includes Tadoba National Park</b>, covering 116.55 sq. KM, and <b>Andhari Wildlife Sanctuary</b> of 508.85 sq. KM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Corridor:</b> The reserve <b>has corridor linkages with Nagzira-Navegaon and Pench Tiger Reserves</b> within the State.</li> <li>● <b>Habitat:</b> Biogeographically, the reserve falls in the <b>Central Plateau Province of the Deccan Peninsula</b>, with <b>tropical dry deciduous forests</b> and a typical Central Indian faunal assemblage.</li> <li>● <b>Flora:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Teak is the dominant</b> tree species.</li> <li>○ Other major tree species <b>include Ain, Bamboo, Bija, Dhaoda</b>, Haldu, Salai, Semal and Tendu.</li> <li>○ <b>Along the moist areas</b>, species like <b>Mango, Jamun and Arjun</b> are found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Fauna:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The notable faunal species include <b>tiger, leopard, sloth bear, wild dog</b>, gaur, chital, and sambar.</li> <li>○ As many as <b>280 species of birds</b> are found, apart from <b>reptiles (54 species)</b>, <b>amphibians (11 species)</b> and fishes (84 species).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
138.	b	<p><a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-politics/meira-paibis-manipur-conflict-role-8688898/">https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-politics/meira-paibis-manipur-conflict-role-8688898/</a></p>
139.	b	<p><b>The Indian Nino</b></p> <p>In a normal year, the eastern side of the Pacific Ocean, near the northwestern coast of South America, is cooler than the western side near the islands of Philippines and Indonesia. This happens because the prevailing wind systems that move from east to west sweep the warmer surface waters towards the Indonesian coast. The relatively cooler waters from below come up to replace the displaced water. An El Nino event is the result of a weakening of wind systems that leads to lesser displacement of warmer waters. This results in the eastern side of the Pacific becoming warmer than usual. During La Nina, the opposite happens.</p> <p>IOD, sometimes referred to as the Indian Nino, is a similar phenomenon, playing out in the relatively smaller area of the Indian Ocean between the Indonesian and Malaysian coastline in the east and the African coastline</p>

		<p>near Somalia in the west. One side of the ocean, along the equator, gets warmer than the other. IOD is said to be positive when the western side of the Indian Ocean, near the Somalia coast, becomes warmer than the eastern Indian Ocean. It is negative when the western Indian Ocean is cooler.</p> <p><a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-climate/indian-ocean-dipole-what-is-it-how-it-can-limit-el-nino-effects-8689360/">https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-climate/indian-ocean-dipole-what-is-it-how-it-can-limit-el-nino-effects-8689360/</a></p>
140.	d	<p>As many as 10 species of sharks and rays are protected under the Wild Life (Protection) Act (WLPA), 1972, with more species added in the amendments to the Act in 2022. Thus, shark fishing per se is not illegal in India, only catching species listed in the Act.</p> <p><a href="https://frontline.thehindu.com/environment/conservation/sustainable-fishing-sorely-needed-to-save-sharks-off-coastline-of-india/article66661062.ece">https://frontline.thehindu.com/environment/conservation/sustainable-fishing-sorely-needed-to-save-sharks-off-coastline-of-india/article66661062.ece</a></p>
141.	c	<p><b>Ensure the return of displaced people, says Meghalaya tribal body</b> <i>Autonomous District Councils (ADC)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The <b>Sixth Schedule provides a list of ten tribal areas in Assam (3), Meghalaya (3), Tripura (1) and Mizoram (3).</b></li> <li>● Each of <b>these tribal areas constitutes an autonomous district. Each autonomous district has an Autonomous District Council (ADC).</b></li> <li>● <b>Membership: ADCs have up to 30 members with a term of five years, of whom four are nominated by the governor and the remaining 26 are elected on the basis of adult franchise.</b></li> <li>● <b>Tenure:</b> The term of the District Councils is for <b>five years from the date of their constitution.</b></li> <li>● <b>Functions:</b> The functions of ADCs as defined in schedule 6 of the constitution included –             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>making laws on land,</b></li> <li>○ <b>management of forests,</b> except reserved forests,</li> <li>○ <b>appointment of traditional chiefs</b> and headmen,</li> <li>○ <b>making rules regulating the inheritance of property, marriage,</b> divorce, the constitution of village courts,</li> <li>○ It can <b>establish, construct or manage primary schools, dispensaries, markets,</b> ferries, fisheries, roads and so on</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>in the district.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>It can also make regulations for the control of money lending and trading by non-tribals.</b> But such regulations require the assent of the governor.</li> <li>● <b>Revenue source:</b> The main Revenue Sources of ADCs, as specified in the Sixth Schedule, were:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>taxes on professions, trades, callings</b> and employment;</li> <li>○ <b>taxes on animals, vehicles</b> and boats;</li> <li>○ <b>taxes on the entry of goods into a market</b> and sale therein, and tolls on passenger and goods carried on ferries; and</li> <li>○ <b>taxes for the maintenance of schools,</b> dispensaries or roads.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
142.	d	<p><b>Slowdown visible in India's startup story as only three unicorns added in 2023: Report</b></p> <p><i>Unicorn Startup</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The term unicorn refers to a <b>privately held startup company with a value of over \$1 billion.</b></li> <li>● It is commonly <b>used in the venture capital industry.</b> The <b>term was first popularised by venture capitalist Aileen Lee</b> when she referred to the 39 startups that had a valuation of over \$1 billion as unicorns.</li> <li>● <b>The valuation of unicorns</b> is not expressly linked to their current financial performance but is <b>largely based on their growth potential, as perceived by investors</b> and venture capitalists who have taken part in various funding rounds.</li> <li>● There are <b>more than 1,000 unicorn companies around the world as of March 2022.</b></li> </ul> <p><i>Gazelles and Cheetahs in the Startup ecosystem</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Gazelles:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ They are those start-ups founded after the year 2000 and <b>have the potential to go Unicorn in 2 years.</b></li> <li>○ Their <b>valuation ranges from US\$500mn to US\$1bn.</b></li> <li>○ Once you exceed the \$1 bn valuation, you become a unicorn.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Cheetahs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ They are those start-ups founded after the year 2000 and <b>have the potential to become a Unicorn in the next four years.</b></li> <li>○ Their estimated <b>valuation ranges between US\$200mn to US\$500mn.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
143.	b	The only bone in the human body not connected to another is the hyoid, a U-shaped bone in the neck which supports the tongue.
144.	d	<p><b>When did humans first arrive in Southeast Asia?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It revealed that <b>humans were present</b> in the vicinity of Tam Pà Ling Cave for roughly 56,000 years.</li> <li>● It also confirmed that, far from reflecting a rapid dump of sediments, the site contains sediments that accumulated steadily over some 86,000 years.</li> <li>● The age of the lowest fossil, a fragment of a leg bone found seven metres deep, suggests modern <b>humans arrived in this region between 86,000 and 68,000 years ago.</b></li> <li>● Even researchers <b>found a toothsome 150,000 years old belonging to a Denisovan.</b></li> <li>● This suggests the site may lie on a previously used dispersal route among hominins.</li> </ul> <p><i>Tam Pà Ling Cave</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It is a sloping cave situated high in the <b>Annamite mountain range in Northern Laos.</b></li> <li>● The stratigraphy of the site indicates formation by periodic slope wash deposition from the muddy slope at the entrance of the cave.</li> </ul> <p><i>Denisovans</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● They are <b>extinct human relatives</b> otherwise known only from remains found in Siberia and Tibet.</li> <li>● They lived lakhs of years ago, <b>coexisting with Neanderthals</b> in some regions and interbreeding with early modern humans in some cases.</li> <li>● They were first identified as a separate species in 2010, following the discovery of a fragment of a finger bone and two teeth, dating back to about 40,000 years ago, in the <b>Denisovan Cave in Siberia.</b></li> </ul>

145.	c	<p><b>Tribal safety concerns lead to many 'zero FIRs' in Manipur</b></p> <p><i>Zero FIR</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It refers to an FIR that is registered <b>irrespective of the area</b> where the <b>offence is committed</b>.</li> <li>• The police, in such a case, can no longer claim that they have no jurisdiction.</li> <li>• Such an FIR is then later transferred to the police station that has the actual jurisdiction so that the investigation can begin.</li> <li>• It was introduced on the <b>recommendation of the Justice Verma Committee</b> formed at the backdrop of the brutal Nirbhaya gang rape in Delhi in 2012.</li> <li>• This puts a legal obligation on the police to begin an investigation and take quick action without the excuse of the absence of jurisdiction.</li> </ul> <p><i>First information report (FIR)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is the <b>information given</b> to a police officer in writing as per the provisions of <b>Section 154 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC)</b>.</li> <li>• From the point of view of an informant, the main purpose of an FIR is to set criminal law into motion.</li> <li>• While for the police, the main purpose of an FIR is to obtain information about alleged criminal activity and take necessary steps to produce the perpetrator(s) before a court.</li> </ul> <p><i>Objectives</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To <b>avoid delay</b> and any other kind of disruptions.</li> <li>• To make police bound to take the jurisdiction.</li> <li>• <b>Timely jurisdiction</b> is to be taken immediately after the registration of the FIR.</li> <li>• To make sure that the investigation is done properly.</li> <li>• To enable the case to proceed fast.</li> </ul>
146.	c	<p><b>DR Congo</b> produces <b>60%</b> of the <b>world's supply of cobalt</b> and is the <b>world's largest producer of the rare metal</b>, which is crucial for <b>making batteries</b> used in <b>mobile phones and electric vehicles</b>.</p> <p><b>Cobalt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The element Cobalt belongs to the group VIII of the periodic table.</li> </ul>

		<p>It is similar to iron and nickel in its physical properties. Cobalt is found in plants and animals, air, water, soil, rocks. It may also enter into another environment through wind-blown dust or by rainwater washing down cobalt containing soil and rock.</p> <p><b>Uses Of Cobalt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobalt is used in many alloys &amp; super alloys to make parts in aircraft engines, gas turbines, high-speed steels, corrosion-resistant alloys, and cemented <a href="#">carbides</a>. It is used in magnets and magnetic recording <a href="#">media</a>. It is also used as a catalyst for the petroleum and chemical industries. Used as drying agents for paints and <a href="#">inks</a>. It is blue is majorly used by artists and is used by craft workers in porcelain, stained-glass pottery, enamel jeweller, and tiles. The radioactive isotope, cobalt-60, is used in medical treatment and also to irradiate food. It is used in order to preserve the food and protect the consumer.</li> </ul> <p><b>Properties Of Cobalt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is a hard ferromagnetic, silver-white, lustrous, brittle <a href="#">element</a>. It is stable in air and does not react with water. Like other metals, it can also be magnetized. With dilute acids, it reacts slowly. The metal melts at 1495 °C and boils at 2927 °C</li> </ul>
147.	b	<p>Controlled storage can be defined as the process of constant monitoring and adjustments in the oxygen and carbon dioxide levels in air-tight containers and storage. <b>Controlled atmosphere storage</b> is a vital innovation that helps in reducing the adverse effects of storage on the shelf life of vegetables and fruits. This is done by controlling the gas composition in the storage facilities that eventually control the storage life.</p> <p><b>Controlled atmosphere storage</b> consists of reducing the oxygen and increasing the carbon dioxide levels according to the ambient atmospheric conditions. However, sometimes it also deals with removing ethylene and adding carbon monoxide.</p> <p>Controlled atmospheric storage refers to the continuous monitoring and adjustments in the gases of the storage containers accordingly. Whereas the modified atmospheric storage does not deal with the active control of gas, it only deals with the packaged atmosphere created by the</p>

		<p>respiration in the freshly produced items.</p> <p>Various processed fruits and veggies are stored in modified atmosphere packages to control aging and increase the shelf life. In the early twentieth century, Kidd and West developed the technology to control and monitor the atmospheric system.</p> <p>The world has seen the global use of this technology in the short and long term to manage and meet market demands.</p> <p><a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-economics/govt-removes-extra-import-duty-on-us-apples-impact-8692825/">https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-economics/govt-removes-extra-import-duty-on-us-apples-impact-8692825/</a></p>
<p><b>148.</b></p>	<p><b>a</b></p>	<p><b>With neutrinos, scientists observe our galaxy in a whole new way</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Scientists said, they have produced an image of the Milky Way not based on electromagnetic radiation - light - but on ghostly subatomic particles called neutrinos.</li> <li>● This view differs fundamentally from what we can see with our own eyes or with instruments that measure other electromagnetic sources like radio waves, microwaves, infrared, ultraviolet, X-rays and gamma-rays.</li> <li>● It is not stars and planets and other stuff observable thanks to their light, but rather the mysterious sources of neutrinos originating in the galaxy, perhaps remnants of explosive star deaths called supernovas.</li> <li>● The neutrinos were detected over a span of a decade at the IceCube Neutrino Observatory at a U.S. scientific research station at the South Pole, using more than 5,000 sensors covering an area the size of a small mountain.</li> <li>● Neutrinos are electrically <b>neutral</b>, undisturbed by even the <b>strongest magnetic field</b>, and rarely interact with matter, earning the nickname "ghost particle." As neutrinos travel through space, they pass unimpeded through matter - stars, planets and, for that matter, people.</li> <li>● Just as light goes without stopping through glass, neutrinos can go through everything, including the whole planet Earth.</li> <li>● The neutrino is an elementary particle, meaning they are not made up of anything smaller. They are not the building blocks of 'stuff,'</li> </ul>

		<p>like electrons and quarks are, but they are created in nuclear processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are also created when <b>protons</b> (subatomic particles) and (atomic) <b>nuclei</b> interact at very high energies</li> <li>• Neutrinos are produced by the same sources as cosmic rays, the highest-energy particles ever observed, but differ in a key respect. Cosmic rays, as electrically charged particles, cannot be traced straight back to their source because strong magnetic fields in space alter their trajectory. The direction from which neutrinos arrive points directly back to their original source.</li> </ul>
149.	a	<p>Santalin possesses anti-tyrosinase activity, which could be utilized as a safe depigmentation agent in the cosmetic field for the treatment of hyperpigmentation disorder.</p> <p><a href="https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/geographical-indication-tag-sought-for-andhra-pradesh-red-sanders/article67024326.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/geographical-indication-tag-sought-for-andhra-pradesh-red-sanders/article67024326.ece</a></p>
150.	b	<p><b>Reservation for transgender community: What the demand for 'horizontal' reservation is</b></p> <p>In response to a clarification requested by the Bombay High Court, the Maharashtra government said on June 13 that it will be difficult to provide “additional reservations” to transgender persons in education and public employment, given the reservation that exists so far for various communities in India.</p> <p><i>What have the courts said on reservation for the transgender community?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the <i>National Legal Services Authority of India (NALSA) v Union of India (2014)</i> case, the Supreme Court ruled that transgender persons have a right to reservation, owing to the fact that they “<b>are a socially and educationally backward class</b>”.</li> <li>• The <i>NALSA</i> judgment entitles trans persons to reservations on constitutional grounds. It does not, however, mention the nature of reservations – whether they are to be vertical or horizontal.</li> </ul> <p><i>What are horizontal reservations?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In India, historically oppressed and disadvantaged communities have a right to affirmative action policies. Reservation in education and employment can be divided into two broad categories, namely,</li> </ul>



vertical and horizontal.

- Vertical reservations are provisions aimed at addressing social asymmetry arising out of caste hierarchy, and in the case of OBCs, social and educational “**backwardness**”. These include reservations for Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Other Backward Classes (OBC).
- Horizontal reservation, on the other hand, cuts across all vertical groups to provide affirmative policies for disadvantaged groups within categories. For example, disabled persons are guaranteed horizontal reservation in all the aforementioned vertical categories, general and reserved (vertical) alike, by the Central government.
- States like Uttarakhand and Bihar have also rolled out policies that guarantee horizontal reservation for women. This means that a woman who belongs to the SC category should be able to avail reservation based on both caste and gender. The horizontal model ensures this. This is exactly what transgender persons are fighting for, as well.

*What has happened so far on horizontal reservations?*

- In 2015, the Tamil Nadu government decided to categorise “transgender or eunuch (thirunangai or aravani)”, that is, only transwomen under the Most Backward Classes (MBC) category. After *Sangama v State of Karnataka*, Karnataka became the first and only state to offer one per cent horizontal reservation to transgender persons in 2021. In April this year, transgender persons were included in the OBC category in Madhya Pradesh.