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**MONTHLY QUIZ**

March 2023

# IAS GOOGLE

 **IAS GOOGLE**  
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1. 'MISTHI' which is recently in news refers to
- (a) Scheme for mangrove cultivation along India's coastline.
  - (b) Scheme to regulate deep ocean fishing.
  - (c) Recently unveiled LCA by DRDO
  - (d) A targeted investment to boost the seafood industry
2. 'Primakov Triangle' refers to
- (a) India, Russia, China partnership triangle
  - (b) Borders of Thailand, Myanmar and Laos which is considered as center of a thriving opium economy and a crucial source of narcotics for the world.
  - (c) High pressure region in the south china sea.
  - (d) An Instrument whose reflections produce changing patterns when it is rotated.
3. Meghalaya plateau has a highly eroded surface and some places are devoid of vegetation. which of these can be a probable

reason?

- (a) Frequent tectonic movements beneath them.
- (b) Thin air flow in the region
- (c) It receives maximum rainfall in monsoon
- (d) This region contains higher amount of radioactive minerals

4.

Which of the following provisions of the Constitution does India have a bearing on Education?

- 1. Directive Principles of State Policy
- 2. Rural and Urban Local Bodies
- 3. Fifth Schedule
- 4. Sixth Schedule
- 5. Seventh Schedule

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

5.

Consider the following statements:

- 1. According to the Indian Patents Act, a biological

- process to create a seed can be patented in India.
2. In India, there is no Intellectual Property Appellate Board.
  3. Plant varieties are not eligible to be patented in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
  - (b) 2 and 3 only
  - (c) 3 only
  - (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 6.** Consider the following statements
1. Municipal bonds are exempted from tax provided the buyer adheres to the rules laid by the municipal corporations & the interest is also exempted from taxes.
  2. Municipal bonds was first issued by Bangalore local body in 1997.

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.

**7.**

Consider the following statements regarding Deep Ocean Mission

1. India will be the sixth country to have it.
2. Asserting exclusive rights to exploit polymetallic nodules from seabed in international waters.

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.**

Tungabhadra River flows through which of the following states?

- (a) Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telengana.
- (b) Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala.
- (c) Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Telengana.
- (d) Kerala, Karnataka and Telengana

9. "Rapid Financing Instrument" and "Rapid Credit Facility" are related to the provisions of lending by which one of the following?

- (a) Asian Development Bank
- (b) International Monetary Fund
- (c) United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative
- (d) World Bank

10. 'Global Financial Stability Report' is published by

- (a) European Central Bank
- (b) International Monetary Fund
- (c) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- (d) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

11. Why are dew drops not formed on a cloudy nights

- (a) The earth surface
- (b) Clouds reflect back the earth radiation
- (c) The earth surface would have low temperature on cloudy nights
- (d) Clouds deflect the blowing

wind to the ground level

12.

Consider the following statements:

1. The International Solar Alliance was launched at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2015.
2. The Alliance includes all the member countries of the United Nations.

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.

Trishakti Prahar which is recently seen in news refers to

- (a) A joint training exercise in North Bengal
- (b) Is a central government project, aimed to revolutionise infrastructure in India
- (c) An objective to ensure better targeting of cash incentives, subsidy delivery to LPG consumer
- (d) A scheme to facilitate and speed up installation of grid

connected solar power projects

**14.**

We adopted parliamentary democracy based on the British model, but how does our model differ from that model?

1. As regards legislation, the British Parliament is supreme or sovereign but in India, the power of the Parliament to legislate is limited.
2. In India, matters related to the constitutionality of Amendment of an Act of the Parliament are referred to the Constitution Bench by the Supreme Court.

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

**15.**

Consider the following statements:

1. The Election Commission of India is a five-member body.
2. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs decides the election schedule for the conduct of both general

elections and bye-elections.

3. Election Commission resolves the disputes relating to splits/mergers of recognised political parties.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**16.**

Consider the following statements

1. Heat waves begin when high pressure in the atmosphere moves in and pushes warm air toward the ground.
2. A hot spell is labelled as a 'Heat Wave' only when temperatures are above the historical average in an area for more than one week.
3. When heat waves occur, the wind and cloud cover are minimised, which makes the air hotter.

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.

**17.**

Consider the following statements

1. Relative humidity is greater over the continents and least over the oceans.
2. The temperature at which saturation occurs in a given sample of air is known as dew point.
3. High relative humidity of the air occurs when the air temperature approaches the dew point value.

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.

**18.**

Consider the following statements regarding PM-KUSUM

1. It was launched by Ministry of Environment.
2. It aims to endow installation of off-grid solar pumps in urban

areas

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.**

With reference to the Indian judiciary, consider the following statements:

1. Any retired judge of the Supreme Court of India can be called back to sit and act as a Supreme Court judge by the Chief Justice of India with the prior permission of the President of India.
2. A High Court in India has the power to review its own judgement as the Supreme Court does.

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

- 20.** Pate island is located in
- (a) South china sea
  - (b) Kenya
  - (c) Japan
  - (d) None of the above

- 21.** In India, if a religious sect/community is given the status of a national minority, what special advantages it is entitled to?

- 1. It can establish and administer exclusive educational institutions.
- 2. The President of India automatically nominates a representative of the community to Lok Sabha.
- 3. It can derive benefits from the Prime Minister's 15-Point Programme.

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
- 22.** In India, which of the following review the independent regulators in sectors like

telecommunications, insurance, electricity, etc.?

- 1. Ad Hoc Committees set up by the Parliament
- 2. Parliamentary Department Related Standing Committees
- 3. Finance Commission
- 4. Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission
- 5. NITI Aayog

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

- 23.** With reference to the Parliament of India, which of the following Parliamentary Committees scrutinises and reports to the House whether the powers to make regulations, rules, sub-rules, by-laws, etc., conferred by the Constitution or delegated by the Parliament are being properly exercised by the Executive within the scope of such delegation?
- (a) Committee on Government Assurances
  - (b) Committee on Subordinate Legislation

- (c) Rules Committee
- (d) Business Advisory Committee
- 24.** Keoladeo National Park is located in
- (a) Rajasthan.
- (b) Andaman & Nicobar island.
- (c) Uttarakhand.
- (d) Ladakh.
- 25.** Consider the following countries:
1. Azerbaijan
  2. Kyrgyzstan
  3. Tajikistan
  4. Turkmenistan
  5. Uzbekistan
- Which of the above have borders with Afghanistan?
- (a) 1, 2 and 5 only
- (b) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 3, 4 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
- 26.** Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana is aimed at
- (a) bringing the small

- entrepreneurs into formal financial system
- (b) providing loans to poor farmers for cultivating particular crops
- (c) providing pensions to old and destitute persons
- (d) funding the voluntary organizations involved in the promotion of skill development and employment generation

**27.**

Under which Schedule of the Constitution of India can the transfer of tribal land to private parties for mining be declared null and void?

- (a) Third Schedule
- (b) Fifth Schedule
- (c) Ninth Schedule
- (d) Twelfth Schedule

**28.**

“Climate is extreme, rainfall is scanty and the people used to be nomadic herders.” The above statement best describes which of the following regions?

- (a) African Savannah
- (b) Central Asian Steppe
- (c) North American Prairie



(d) Siberian Tundra

**29.**

Which one of the following is not a site for in-situ method of conservation of flora?

- (a.) Biosphere Reserve
- (b.) Botanical Garden
- (c.) National Park
- (d.) Wildlife Sanctuary

**30.**

Consider the following statements:

1. Biodiversity is normally greater in the lower latitudes as compared to the higher latitudes.
2. Along the mountain gradients, biodiversity is normally greater in the lower altitudes as compared to the higher altitudes.

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

**31.**

Consider the following

statements regarding National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

1. The Chairperson has been given the rank of Union Cabinet Minister.
2. At least one member should be a woman.
3. The members are not eligible for re-appointment.

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

**32.**

Consider the following statements

1. The Constitution of India does not define the criteria for recognition of STs.
2. The President with respect to any State/UT may specify the tribes as a Scheduled Tribe in that State/UT.

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.

**33.**

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

**34.**

The Himalayan Range is Very rich in species diversity. Which one among the following is the most appropriate reason for this phenomenon?

- (a.) It has a high rainfall that supports luxuriant vegetative growth
- (b.) It is a confluence of different bio-geographical zones
- (c.) Exotic and invasive species have not been introduced in this

region

- (d.) It has less human interference

**35.**

In the context of ecosystem productivity, marine upwelling zones are important as they increase the marine productivity by bringing the:

1. Decomposer microorganisms to the surface.
2. Nutrients to the surface.
3. Bottom-dwelling organisms to- the surface.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**36.**

Which of the following are members of Paris club

1. France.
2. Germany.
3. Israel.
4. Russia.
5. United Kingdom.
6. United States.

Select the correct answer using

the code given below:

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

**37.**

Consider the following pairs:

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

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

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

**38.**

If a particular area is brought

under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India, which one of the following statements best reflects the consequence of it?

- (a) This would prevent the transfer of land of tribal people to non-tribal people.
- (b) This would create a local self-governing body in that area.
- (c) This would convert that area into a Union Territory.
- (d) The State having such areas would be declared a Special Category State.

**39.**

Consider the following statements:

1. 36% of India's districts are classified as "overexploited" or "critical" by the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA).
2. CGWA was formed under the Environment (Protection) Act.
3. India has the largest area under groundwater irrigation in the world.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct.

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

(d) 1 and 3 only

**40.**

"Rapid Financing Instrument" and "Rapid Credit Facility" are related to the provisions of lending by which one of the following?

- (a) Asian Development Bank
- (b) International Monetary Fund
- (c) United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative
- (d) World Bank

**41.**

Consider the following statements regarding *Lal Qila*

1. It is a large 16th-century fortress of red sandstone located on the Yamuna River.
2. It is tagged as world heritage site by UNESCO.
3. It was built under the commission of Emperor Akbar.

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.

**42.**

Which of the following is/are a supercomputer?

1. PARAM 8000.
2. PARAM 10000.
3. PARAM 6000.
4. PARAM Porul.
5. PARAM Kanchenjunga.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**43.**

Consider the following statements

1. It is the fifth largest site of the Indus Valley Civilization.
2. It lies between two seasonal streams, the Mansar and Manhar.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Dholavira.
- (b) Rangpur.
- (c) Suktagendor.
- (d) Banavali.

**44.**

'Shakti' is a bilateral exercise

between

- (a) India - UK
- (b) India - USA
- (c) India - France
- (d) India - Indonesia

**45.**

The principle of air space sovereignty is established through

- (a) Stockholm Convention.
- (b) Vienna Convention.
- (c) Paris Convention.
- (d) Geneva Convention.

**46.**

Consider the following statements

1. In North India it is common for an entire temple to be built on a stone platform with steps leading up to it.
2. It does usually have elaborate boundary walls or gateways.
3. The garbhagriha is always located directly under the tallest tower.

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.

**47.**

The Tamil "Tirukkural" written by Thiruvalluvar mainly deals with

- (a) Politics and administration
- (b) Genealogy of major Tamil Kingdoms
- (c) Ethics and way of life
- (d) Astronomy and Astrology

**48.**

In the context of governance, consider the following:

1. Encouraging Foreign Direct Investment inflows
2. Privatization of higher educational Institutions
3. Down-sizing of bureaucracy
4. Selling/offloading the shares of Public Sector Undertakings

Which of the above can be used as measures to control the fiscal deficit in India?

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

(d) 3 and 4 only

**49.**

Which one of the following is likely to be the most inflationary in its effect?

- (a) Repayment of public debt
- (b) Borrowing from the public to finance a budget deficit
- (c) Borrowing from the banks to finance a budget deficit
- (d) Creation of new money to finance a budget deficit

**50.**

Chicago convention refers to

- (a) Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques (ENMOD)
- (b) Permit aircraft registered in the other contracting states and engaged in commercial non-scheduled flights to fly into their territory without prior diplomatic permission.
- (c) To develop and maintain an international network of wetlands.
- (d) Provides a complete framework for the establishment, maintenance and termination of diplomatic relations

**51.**

Consider the following statements regarding Tiwa tribes

1. The Tiwa tribes mainly inhabitant in states of Assam & Meghalaya.
2. The Tiwas are recognized as Scheduled tribes within Meghalaya.
3. They practice 'Gobhiya thaka' a form of Martial arts

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**52.**

Consider the following statements

1. Embryonic stem cells come from embryos that are 3 to 5 months old.
2. It can be used to regenerate or repair diseased tissue and organs.

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.**

Consider the following statements regarding citizenship

1. When a male person renounces his citizenship, every minor child of him ceases to be an Indian citizen.
2. Such a child may, however, resume Indian citizenship if he makes a declaration to that effect within a year of his attaining full age (18 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.

**54.**

Consider the following statements regarding Kilonova

1. It is a cosmic event that occurs when a neutron star smashes into another neutron star.
2. It releases heavy metals

like gold, silver, and selenium into outer space at tremendous velocities, as well as radiation.

3. A kilonova radiation also accompanies a gamma-ray burst

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.

**55.**

Consider the following statements regarding Quality Council of India.

1. Chairman of QCI is appointed by the Prime Minister
2. It is registered as a non-profit organization under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860.

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

**56.**

Consider the following statements regarding 'free float'

1. It refers to the shares of a company that can be publicly traded and are not restricted.
2. It generally excludes promoters' holding, government / strategic holding and other locked-in shares.

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.

**57.**

Consider the following statements regarding Reang Community

1. These people living mostly in Tripura, Mizoram, and Assam.
2. In Assam, they are recognised as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group.
3. Their language is known as "Kaubru"

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 3.

- (b) 2 and 3.

- (c) 1 only.

- (d) 1, 2 and 3.

**58.**

Similipal tiger reserve is located in

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh.
- (b) Odisha.
- (c) Assam.
- (d) Mizoram.

**59.**

Consider the following statements regarding Saptakoteshwar Temple

1. It is located in Gujarat
2. It was built around the twelfth century by the Kadamba dynasty.
3. It was desecrated by Bahamani rulers, later desecrated by British conquest.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 2 only.

- (b) 2 and 3.

- (c) 1 and 3.

- (d) 1, 2 and 3.



**60.**

Which of the following countries have Major Global Lithium Reserves.

- (a) Argentina.
- (b) Bolivia.
- (c) Australia.
- (d) Namibia.

**61.**

Tansa bird Sanctuary is located in

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

**62.**

Consider the following statements regarding Pangong Lake

1. Pangong Tso is a long narrow, endorheic lake.
2. It is the world's second highest saltwater lake after Gurudongmar.

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.

**63.**

Dukoral which is recently seen in news refers to

- (a) Area occupied by Russia in Ukraine.
- (b) Cholera vaccines.
- (c) Cough syrup that recently banned by WHO.
- (d) new species of black corals

**64.**

Which one of the following can be cultivated for ethanol?

- (a) Jatropha.
- (b) Maize.
- (c) Pongamia.
- (d) Sunflower.

**65.**

Nomadic Elephant is a bilateral exercise between

- (a) India - Indonesia.
- (b) India - Mongolia.
- (c) India - South Africa.
- (d) India - Sri Lanka.

**66.**

Consider the following statements

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

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.

**67.**

Consider the following statements regarding Sarojini Naidu

1. She joined the Round Table Conference in London under the Gandhi-Irwin Pact.
2. She opposed the

Lucknow Pact.

The correct statement(s) is/are

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

**68.**

Filariasis is a

- (a) Viral disease
- (b) Bacterial disease
- (c) Parasitic disease
- (d) Fungal disease

**69.**

Consider the following statements about 'Kamala Sohonie'

1. She was the first Indian woman to receive a PhD in scientific discipline.
2. She discovered the enzyme 'cytochrome c' which helps in energy

synthesis.

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.

**70.**

Consider the following statements regarding Directorate of Enforcement(ED)

1. The Directorate of Enforcement can take action suo motu.
2. It functions under the Department of Revenue of the Ministry of Finance.
3. Cases under FEMA & PMLA cases will lie in criminal courts.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2.

(b) 2 only.

(c) 1 and 3.

(d) 1, 2 and 3.

**71.**

Consider the following statements regarding 'Sickle Cell Anaemia'

1. These are dysfunctional leukocytes..
2. It is inherited when a child receives two genes—one from each parent.

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.

**72.**

Under the Indian constitution concentration of wealth violates

73. Mavalankar Rule refers to
- (a) Fundamental Rights
  - (b) Directive Principles
  - (c) Both (a) and (b)
  - (d) Neither (a) Nor (b)
- (a) Appointment of Speaker of Lok Sabha
- (b) Appointment of Chairman of Rajya Sabha
- (c) Appointment of Leader of Opposition
- (d) Appointment of Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha
74. Diyodar which is recently seen in news refers to
- (a) A Meteorite
  - (b) Deciduous tree
  - (c) An instrument used to measure the energy distribution

of gamma rays.

(d) Indigenously developed web app for Coal Mine Surveillance.

**75.**

Consider the following statements

1. Saturated fats come in the form of liquid oils, not solid fats.
2. Natural forms of trans fats are not harmful.

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.

**76.**

Consider the following statements.

1. While there is a specific provision for Speaker in the constitution, there is no specific mention about Deputy Speaker in the

- Constitution and is conventional only.
2. The Deputy Speaker is not directly responsible to the House.
  3. The Deputy Speaker must be from the Opposition party.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Only 1 statement is true.
- (b) Only two statements are true
- (c) All the three statements are true.
- (d) None of the statements is true.

**77.**

Consider the following statements regarding World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

1. It released the provisional State of the Global Climate report, 2022.
2. India is a member of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

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.

**78.**

A corporate may raise capital in the primary market through

1. Initial public offer
2. Rights issue
3. Private placement

Select the correct answer code:

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

**79.**

Consider the following statements w.r.t. Nominated members of the Rajya Sabha.

1. They have the right to vote in the election of the President.
2. The Nominated members of the Rajya Sabha are subjected to disqualification, if they join a political party within six months of being nominated to the House.

Select the incorrect statement(s) using the code given below:

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

(d) Neither 1 nor 2.

**80.**

Consider the following statements regarding the Rig Vedic period.

1. Ghosha was a female philosopher of this period.
2. Widow remarriage was not allowed in the Rig Vedic society.
3. Women were not given equal opportunities as men for their spiritual and intellectual development.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**81.**

Consider the following statements regarding Marburg virus

1. Marburg virus is a RNA virus.
2. Marburg and Ebola viruses are both members of the Filoviridae family.

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.

**82.**

Saman Bird Sanctuary is located in

- (a) Manipur
- (b) Assam.
- (c) Uttar pradesh.
- (d) Karnataka

**83.**

Consider the following statements regarding Apatanis

1. The Apatani are a tribal group of people living in the Ziro valley of Nagaland.
2. They speak a local language called Tani.
3. They have been practicing integrated rice-fish farming.

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.

**84.**

Consider the following statements regarding Countervailing duty.

1. It is imposed to prevent low-priced foreign goods from damaging the local market.
2. Its amount depends on the margin of dumping

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.

**85.**

Other than the Fundamental Rights, which of the following parts of the Constitution of India reflect/ reflect the principles and provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)?

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

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

**86.**

Lavani Folk dance is performed in

(a) Rajasthan.

(b) Odisha.

(c) Gujarat.

(d) Maharashtra.

**87.**

Which of the following can be considered as effects of Geomagnetic storms

1. Sub-ionospheric reflection gets affected.
2. Increase satellite drag and make their orbits difficult to control.
3. Satellite electronics can be damaged
4. It can disrupt global navigation systems.
5. It can create harmful geomagnetic-induced currents in the power grid

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2, 3 and 4.

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

**88.**

Which of the following criteria that a planet must meet in order to be so classified.

1. The object must be in orbit around the sun,
2. The object must be big enough to be rounded by its own gravity, and
3. The object must have cleared the neighborhood around its orbit.

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.

**89.**

Which of the following is highest Contributor to Sea Level Rise

- (a) Ice loss from glaciers.
- (b) Thermal Expansion of water.
- (c) Changes in land water storage.
- (d) Loss of ice sheets.

**90.**

Consider the following statements about Pangolins.

1. Chinese Pangolin is found in the Indian sub-continent.
2. Chinese Pangolin has larger scales than the Indian Pangolin.
3. Pangolins are listed in Schedule I of India's Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Which of these is/are incorrect?.

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

**91.**

Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

1. Basel Convention : Protection of Ozone layer.
2. Rotterdam Convention : Regulation of persistent Organic pollutants
3. Stockholm Convention : Trans-boundary movement of hazardous wastes.

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



(c) 1, 2 and 3

(d) None

**92.**

Consider the following missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change.

1. Green India Mission.
2. National Mission on Sustainable Habitat.
3. National Water Mission

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only.

(b) 1 and 3.

(c) 1, 2 and 3.

(d) None.

**93.**

'Yakshagana' is a traditional folk dance form popular in

(a) Kerala

(b) Karnataka

(c) Odisha

(d) Maharashtra

**94.**

'Bass Rock' which is recently seen in news is located in

(a) Ireland

(b) Scotland

(c) New Zealand

(d) Denmark

**95.**

Which two biomes are not similar with regard to rainfall?

(a) Tundra and taiga

(b) Tundra and desert

(c) Rainforest and savanna

(d) Temperate forest and steppe

**96.**

Consider the following statements

1. The writ jurisdiction of the high court is wider than that of the Supreme Court.
2. The writ jurisdiction of the high court is exclusive in the state.

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.**

Consider the following

statements

1. Chief Justice of India (CJI) appoints a duly qualified person as an acting judge of a high court.
2. An acting judge holds office until the permanent judge resumes his office.

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.

**98.**

Consider the following statements

1. Recusal of Judges implies that, when there is a conflict of interest, a judge can withdraw from hearing a case.
2. There are no formal rules governing Recusal of Judges.
3. The practice comes from the principle that nobody can be a judge in her own case

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only.

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

**99.**

Debrigarh Tiger Reserve is located in

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Assam

**100.**

'ADT 52' which is recently seen in news refers to

- (a) An Asteroid.
- (b) A long-duration paddy variety.
- (c) Icy body from interstellar space.
- (d) A Cryptocurrency.

**101.**

Consider the following statements regarding 10th Schedule

1. A 'defection' by one-third of the elected members of a political party was considered a 'merger'
2. The decision on questions as to

disqualification on ground of defection are referred to the Chairman or the Speaker of such House, which is subject to 'Judicial review'.

3. It does not provide a timeframe within which the presiding officer has to decide a defection case.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**102.**

Which of the following is the chief characteristic of 'mixed farming'?

- (a) Cultivation of both cash crops and food crops
- (b) Cultivation of two or more crops in the same field
- (c) Rearing of animals and cultivation of crops together
- (d) None of the above

**103.**

Consider the following

statements

- 1. Competition Commission of India works as a quasi-judicial body.
- 2. Competition Commission of India functions under the Ministry of finance

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.

**104.**

Dustlik is a military exercise between

- (a) India - UAE
- (b) India - Iran
- (c) India - Uzbekistan
- (d) India - Mongolia

**105.**

The term 'Nixtamalisation' which is recently seen in news refers to

- (a) Rice fortification.
- (b) Practice of turning the clock ahead as warmer weather approaches and back as it

becomes colder again

(c) The net change in the total amount of inorganic N in soil

(d) changing liquid medicine into fine droplets

**106.**

Consider the following statements regarding Bhimbetka cave

1. It is located in Madhya Pradesh.
2. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
3. It is popular for its prehistoric cave paintings done in red and white. red, blue and black

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.

**107.**

Consider the following statements regarding Visva-Bharati University

1. Its first vice-chancellor was Rabindranath Tagore.

2. Rabindranath Tagore introduced open-air education system at the university.

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.

**108.**

'Muziris' is a place which is recently seen in news located in

- (a) Kerala
- (a) Maharashtra
- (c) Mizoram
- (d) Meghalaya

**109.**

Democracy's superior virtue lies in the fact that it calls into activity

- (a) the intelligence and character of ordinary men and women.
- (b) the methods for strengthening executive leadership.
- (c) a superior individual with

dynamism and vision.

(d) a band of dedicated party workers.

**110.**

Which of the following are Zaid crops?

1. Watermelon
2. vegetables
3. soybean
4. fodder crops
5. mustard

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 5.

(b) 1, 3, 4 and 5.

(c) 1, 2 and 3.

(d) 1, 2 and 4.

**111.**

Consider the following statements regarding the Vostro account.

1. It is meant for Tobin Tax transactions.
2. It increases the need for holding foreign exchange reserves.

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.

**112.**

Cross Dependency Initiative is specialized in

(a) Climate Risk Analysis

(b) Sovereign credit rating

(c) Development initiative to bridge N-S Divide in World Politics

(d) Conservation initiative to protect coral reefs

**113.**

'Yuelu Proclamation' deals with

(a) Wetland Conservation

(b) International Civil Aviation

(c) Linguistic resources and diversity.

(d) Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides

**114.**

Consider the following statements regarding 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. It set up an Indian council of 15 members to assist secretary of state for 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

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

**115.**

Consider the following pairs

	Place	British Officials who suppressed the revolt
1	Delhi	William

		Taylor
2	Lucknow	Henry Lawrence
3	Kanpur	Colonel O'Neill
4	Jhansi & Gwalior	General Hugh Rose

Which of the above pairs are correct ?

- (a) Only one pair is correct.
- (b) Two pairs are correct.
- (c) Three pairs are correct.
- (d) All the pairs are correct.

**116.**

Consider the following statements regarding Law Commission of India

1. It is a statutory body constituted by the Government of India.
2. It functions to the Ministry of Home affairs as an advisory body.
3. The first Law Commission was chaired by Lord Macaulay.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 2 and 3

(c) 1 and 3

(d) 3 only

**117.**

Consider the following statements

1. PhosphoGypsum is formed as a by-product of the production of Portland cement.
2. Gypsum is magnesium sulfate.

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.

**118.**

Consider the following statements regarding Jute

1. It thrives in a humid climate.
2. The Jute Packaging Material Act, 1987 mandates 100% production of foodgrains and 20% sugar production must be packaged in jute bags.

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.

**119.**

Consider the following statements regarding National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

1. It was created through the 89th Constitution Amendment Act, 2003.
2. Its members are not eligible for appointment for more than two terms.
3. It has powers of a civil court.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 3.

(b) 2 and 3.

(c) 1 and 3.

(d) 1, 2 and 3.

**120.**

Consider the following statements.

1. Oxygen is less soluble in warmer water.
2. The areas of Sea water that is depleted of dissolved oxygen is called Anoxic waters.

3. Ocean deoxygenation is the maximum reduction of oxygen minimum zones in the world's oceans as a consequence of anthropogenic emissions of carbon dioxide.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

**121.**

'Borthekera' which is recently seen in news refers to

- (a) An Evergreen Tree.  
(b) A Medieval Shaivite sect of the Deccan Plateau.  
(c) A Reptile  
(d) A Bill of exchange during Post-Harsha Period.

**122.**

Consider the following statements regarding Sansad Ratna Awards

1. It is instituted in 2010, inspired by the teachings of APJ Abdul Kalam
2. They seek to recognise and felicitate the top-

performing Bureaucrats

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.

**123.**

Jaipur Declaration which is recently seen in news related to

- (a) Protection of monuments  
(b) Railway Security  
(c) Improved classification and codification of artisanal products.  
(d) Human Genome and Human Rights

**124.**

Consider the following statements regarding Neutrinos

1. They are the second most abundant particle in the universe after Photons
2. They are electrically neutral.

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

**125.**

Consider the following statements w.r.t. Induced pluripotent stem cells:

1. They have properties similar to those of adult stem cells.
2. They are self-renewing.
3. They are regulated under Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**126.**

Consider the following statements regarding Kol tribes

1. Kol tribes belonged to the Proto-Australoid ethnic stratum.
2. They are concentrated in the northern districts of Assam
3. They celebrate the Jawara festival.

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.

**127.**

If a country is Blacklisted by FATF, Financial aid would be stopped from

1. International Monetary Fund (IMF).
2. The World Bank.
3. The Asian Development Bank (ADB).
4. European Union (EU).

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

**128.**

Consider the following statements

1. National Disaster Management Authority is a statutory body.
2. The Prime Minister is the chairperson of National Disaster Management Authority.
3. The primary responsibility for the

management of disaster rests with the State Government concerned.

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.

**129.**

Spraying large amounts of sulfate particles into the Earth's lower stratosphere would result in

- (a) Shield the Earth from sunlight.
- (b) Helps in reducing carbon dioxide.
- (c) Makes rain clouds more effective at dispensing their water.
- (d) Lowers the effect caused by Volcanic eruption.

**130.**

Military exercise 'Desert Flag' is between

- (a) India - Iran.
- (b) India - UAE.
- (c) India - Kazakhstan.

(d) India - Oman.

**131.**

Consider the following statements

1. Positron is the anti-particle of electron.
2. When a particle and anti-particle interact double beta decay will happen.

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.

**132.**

Consider the following statements

1. Bisphenol A is a chemical compound primarily used in the manufacturing of various plastics
2. Bisphenol A can significantly shorten the breeding time of mosquitoes

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.**

Gross capital formation will necessarily increase if:

1. Gross domestic savings increases
2. Gross domestic consumption increases
3. GDP increases

Select the correct answer code:

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

**134.**

Consider the following events:

1. First Anglo-Mysore war
2. First Anglo Burmese war
3. First Anglo Sikh war
4. First Anglo Maratha war

Arrange the above events in the chronological order of their occurrence

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

**135.**

Consider the following statements regarding White-rumped vulture

1. White-rumped vulture is found in Western Ghats.
2. They are classified as Near Threatened in IUCN Red list.

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.

**136.**

Consider the following statements

1. Earth's inner core rotates slightly faster relative to the rotation of the surface.
2. The boundary between the inner and outer core is called as Gutenberg Discontinuity

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.

**137.**

National commission for women was created by

(a) an Act Passed by the Parliament.

(b) an Order of the President of India.

(c) amending the constitution.

(d) a decision of the Union Cabinet.

**138.**

Consider the following statements

1. Seagrass are marine macroalgae.

2. Seagrass doesn't photosynthesize like terrestrial plants.

Which of the above statements

are true ?

(a) 1 only.

(b) 2 only.

(c) Both 1 and 2.

(d) Neither 1 nor 2.

**139.**

Environment Problems and issues received special attention of the government of India from the

(a) 6th Five year plan.

(b) 7th Five year plan.

(c) 8th Five year plan.

(d) 10th Five year plan.

**140.**

Which one of the following shall not be considered an adequate ground for the issue of a proclamation of national emergency?

(a) War.

(b) External aggression.

- (c) Armed rebellion.
- (d) Internal disturbance.

**Answer Keys:**

1.	a	<p>In the Union Budget 2023-24 presented on Wednesday (February 1), Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a new MISHTI scheme.</p> <p><b>MISHTI scheme</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building on India's success in afforestation, '<b>Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats &amp; Tangible Incomes</b>', MISHTI, will be taken up for <b>mangrove plantation along the coastline and on salt pan lands</b>, wherever feasible, through convergence between MGNREGS, CAMPA Fund and other sources.</li> </ul> <p><b>Why mangroves?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mangrove forests</b> — consisting of trees and shrub that live in intertidal water in coastal areas — host <b>diverse marine life</b>.</li> <li>• They also support a <b>rich food web</b>, with molluscs and algae-filled substrate acting as a breeding ground for small fish, mud crabs and shrimps, thus providing a <b>livelihood</b> to local artisanal fishers.</li> <li>• They act as effective <b>carbon stores</b>, holding up to <b>four times the amount of carbon as other forested ecosystems</b></li> <li>• Mangrove forests capture vast amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and their preservation can both aid in removal of carbon from the atmosphere and prevent the release of the same upon their destruction.</li> </ul>
2.	a	<p>RIC is a <b>strategic grouping</b> that first took shape in the late 1990s under the leadership of Yevgeny Primakov, a Russian politician as "<i>a counterbalance to the Western alliance.</i>"</p> <p>The group was founded on the basis of ending its subservient foreign policy guided by the USA and renewing old ties with India and fostering the newly discovered friendship with China.</p> <p>Together, the <b>RIC countries occupy over 19% of the global landmass and contribute to over 33% of global GDP.</b></p> <p>The RIC is a <b>significant multilateral grouping</b>, because it brings together the three largest Eurasian countries which are also incidentally geographically contiguous.</p> <p>RIC, hence provides a worthwhile platform to discuss issues like West Asia, Afghanistan, climate change, terrorism, regional connectivity, tensions on Korean Peninsula, etc.</p>

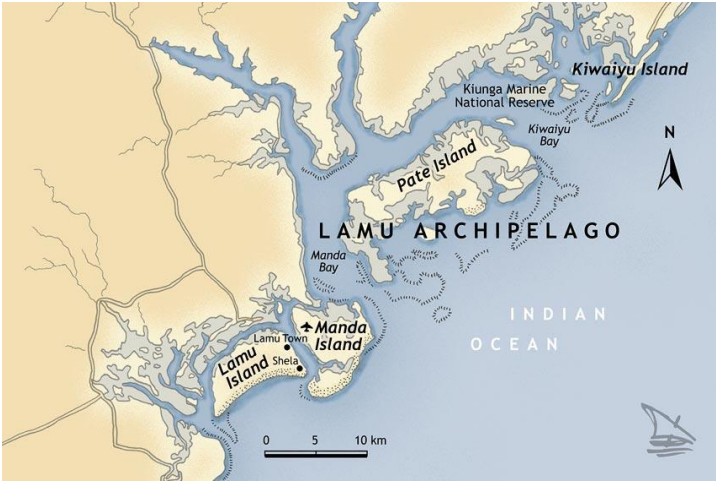
3.	c	
4.	d	
5.	c	
6.	c	
7.	c	
8.	a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tungabhadra dam also <b>known as Pampa Sagar</b> is a multipurpose dam built across <b>Tungabhadra River</b> in Hosapete, Ballari district of Karnataka. It was built by Dr. Thirumalai Iyengar in 1953. Tungabhadra reservoir has a storage capacity of 101 TMC (Thousand Million Cubic feet) with <b>catchment area spreading to 28000 square kms.</b> It is about <b>49.5 meters in height.</b></li> <li>• <b>Importance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is the <b>life-line of 6 chronically drought prone districts</b> of Bellary, Koppal and Raichur in <b>Karnataka</b> (popularly known as the <b>rice bowl of Karnataka</b>) and Anantapur, Cuddapah and Kurnool in neighbouring <b>Andhra Pradesh.</b></li> <li>○ Besides irrigating vast patches of land in the two states, it also <b>generates hydel power and helps prevent floods.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tungabhadra River</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is a sacred river in southern India that <b>flows through the state of Karnataka to Andhra Pradesh.</b> The ancient name of the river was <b>Pampa.</b> The river is approximately 710 km long, and it drains an area of 72,200 sq km.</li> <li>• It is <b>formed by the confluence of two rivers, the Tunga River and the Bhadra River.</b> Both Tunga &amp; Bhadra Rivers originate on the eastern slopes of the <b>Western Ghats.</b></li> <li>• The greater part of the Tungabhadra's course <b>lies in the southern part of the Deccan plateau.</b> The river is fed mainly by rain, and it has a monsoonal regimen with summer high water.</li> <li>• It's <b>Major tributaries</b> are the <b>Bhadra,</b> the <b>Haridra,</b> the <b>Vedavati,</b> the <b>Tunga,</b> the <b>Varda</b> and the <b>Kumdavathi.</b></li> <li>• It <b>flows in a more or less northwest direction</b> before joining the eastern <b>**river [Krishna]</b>The Krishna River finally ends into the Bay of Bengal.</li> </ul>
9.	b	

10.	b	
11.	b	
12.	a	
13.	a	The Indian Defense Forces conducted firepower exercises called the “TRISHAKTI PRAHAR” to synergize the firepower assets and to orchestrate a battle. The exercise is important to keep the forces ready for battle. The exercise was conducted by the Indian Air Force, CAPF, and the Indian Army. It was a firepower exercise.
14.	c	<p>Parliamentary sovereignty means that parliament is superior to the executive and judicial branches of government, and can therefore enact or repeal any law it chooses. It is a cornerstone of the UK constitutional system. Parliament of India is neither sovereign nor supreme. The authority and jurisdiction of Parliament are limited by the Powers of the other organs, the distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the States, fundamental rights (Article 32), Judicial review and an independent judiciary. Parliament cannot alter the basic features of the Constitution.</p> <p>Matters related to the constitutionality of an amendment act can be referred by the SC to its constitutional bench. However it is not mandatory for the SC to refer the matter to constitution bench. In case of amendment of an ordinary act in many cases the matters related to its constitutionality are dealt by divisional benches.</p>
15.	d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Election Commission of India (ECI)</b> is an autonomous constitutional authority responsible for administering Union and State election processes in India. It was <b>established in accordance with the Constitution on 25th January 1950</b> (celebrated as <b>national voters' day</b>). The secretariat of the commission is in New Delhi. The body administers elections to the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, and State Legislative Assemblies in India, and the offices of the President and Vice President in the country. It is not concerned with the elections to panchayats and municipalities in the states. For this, the Constitution of India provides for a separate <b>State Election Commission</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Constitutional Provisions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Part XV (Article 324-329) of the Indian Constitution:</b> It deals with elections and establishes a commission for these matters.</li> <li>○ <b>Article 324:</b> Superintendence, direction and control of elections to be vested in an Election Commission.</li> <li>○ <b>Article 325:</b> No person to be ineligible for inclusion in, or to claim to be included in a special, electoral roll on grounds of religion, race, caste or</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



		<p>sex.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Article 326:</b> Elections to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assemblies of States to be based on adult suffrage.</li> <li>○ <b>Article 327:</b> Power of Parliament to make provision with respect to elections to Legislatures.</li> <li>○ <b>Article 328:</b> Power of Legislature of a State to make provision with respect to elections to such Legislature.</li> <li>○ <b>Article 329:</b> Bar to interference by courts in electoral matters.</li> <li>● <b>Structure of ECI:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Originally the <b>commission had only one election commissioner</b> but after the Election Commissioner Amendment Act 1989, it was made a multi-member body.</li> <li>○ The <b>Election Commission shall consist of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)</b> and such number of other election commissioners, if any, as the President may from time-to-time fix.</li> <li>○ Presently, it consists of the CEC and two Election Commissioners. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ At the state level, the election commission is helped by the Chief Electoral Officer who is an IAS rank Officer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Appointment &amp; Tenure of Commissioners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The <b>President appoints CEC and Election Commissioners.</b></li> <li>○ They have a <b>fixed tenure of six years</b>, or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.</li> <li>○ They enjoy the same status and receive salary and perks as available to Judges of the <b>Supreme Court (SC)</b> of India.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Removal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ They can <b>resign anytime or can also be removed</b> before the expiry of their term.</li> <li>○ The CEC can be removed from office only through a process of removal similar to that of a SC judge by Parliament.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Limitations:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Constitution has <b>not prescribed the qualifications</b> (legal, educational, administrative or judicial) of the members of the Election Commission.</li> <li>○ The <b>Constitution has not specified the term of the members of the Election Commission.</b></li> <li>○ The <b>Constitution has not debarred the retiring election commissioners</b> from any further appointment by the government.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
16.	c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>A heatwave is a period of abnormally high temperatures</b>, a common phenomenon in India during the months of <b>May-June and in some rare cases even extends till July.</b></li> <li>● <b>India Meteorological Department (IMD)</b> classifies heat waves according to regions and their temperature ranges. As per <b>IMD</b>, the number of heatwave days in India has increased from 413 over 1981-1990 to 600 over 2011-2020.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This <b>sharp rise in the number of heatwave days</b> has resulted <b>due to the increasing impact of climate change</b>.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>What is the Criteria for Declaring a Heatwave?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Heatwave is considered when the maximum temperature of a station reaches at least <b>40°C for Plains</b> and at least <b>30°C for Hilly regions</b>.</li> <li>● If the <b>normal maximum temperature of a station is less than or equal to 40°C</b>, then an <b>increase of 5°C to 6°C</b> from the normal temperature is <b>considered to be heat wave condition</b>.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Further, an <b>increase of 7°C or more from the normal temperature</b> is considered a <b>severe heat wave condition</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● If the <b>normal maximum temperature of a station is more than 40°C</b>, then an <b>increase of 4°C to 5°C</b> from the normal temperature is considered to be heat wave condition. Further, an increase of 6°C or more is <b>considered a severe heat wave condition</b>.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Additionally, if the <b>actual maximum temperature remains 45°C</b> or more <b>irrespective of normal maximum temperature, a heat wave is declared</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>In 2016, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)</b> issued comprehensive guidelines to prepare national level key strategies for mitigating the impact of heatwaves.</li> </ul>
17.	b	
18.	d	
19.	c	

20.	b	
21.	c	
22.	a	
23.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A Parliamentary Committee is a panel of MPs that is <b>**appointed or elected by the House or nominated by the Speaker/Chairman.**</b>The committee works under the <b>direction of the Speaker/chairman</b> and it presents its report to the House or to the Speaker/chairman.Parliamentary Committees have their origins in the British Parliament.They draw their authority from <b>**Article 105 and Article 118.**</b>Article 105 deals with the privileges of MPs.Article 118 gives Parliament authority to make rules to regulate its procedure and conduct of business.</li> <li>● <b>Need:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A Bill is introduced in either House of Parliament to begin legislative business but the process of lawmaking is often complex, and Parliament has limited time for detailed discussions.</li> <li>○ Also, the <b>political polarisation and shrinking middle ground</b> has been leading to increasingly rancorous and inconclusive debates in Parliament. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Due to these issues, a great deal of legislative business ends up taking place in the Parliamentary Committees instead.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>What are the Various Committees of Parliament?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● India's Parliament has multiple types of committees. They can be differentiated on the basis of their work, their membership and the length of their tenure.</li> <li>● However, broadly there are <b>two types of Parliamentary Committees</b>– Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Committees. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Standing Committees are permanent (constituted every year or</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

periodically) and work on a continuous basis.


- Standing Committees can be classified into the following six categories:
  - Financial Committees
  - Departmental Standing Committees
  - Committees to Enquire
  - Committees to Scrutinise and Control
  - Committees Relating to the Day-to-Day Business of the House
  - House-Keeping Committees or Service Committees
- While the Ad Hoc Committees are temporary and cease to exist on completion of the task assigned to them.
  - They are further subdivided into Inquiry Committees and Advisory Committees.
  - The principal Ad hoc Committees are the Select and Joint Committees on Bills.

### **What is the Significance of Parliamentary Committees?**

- **Provides Legislative Expertise:**
  - Most MPs are not subject matter experts on the topics being discussed — they are generalists who understand the pulse of the people but rely on advice from experts and stakeholders before making decisions.
    - **Parliamentary committees are meant to help MPs seek expertise** and give them time to think about issues in detail.
- **Acting as a Mini-Parliament:**
  - These committees act as a mini-parliament, as they have **MPs representing different parties are elected into them** through a system of the single transferable vote, in roughly the same proportion as their strength in Parliament.
- **Instrument for Detailed Scrutiny:**
  - When bills are referred to these committees, **they are examined closely and inputs are sought from various external stakeholders**, including the public.
- **Provides a Check on the Government:**
  - Although committee recommendations are **not binding on the government, their reports create a public record of the consultations** that took place and put pressure on the government to reconsider its stand on debatable provisions.
  - By virtue of being closed-door and away from the public eye, discussions in committee meetings are also more collaborative, with MPs feeling less pressured to posture for media galleries.

24.

a

<p>25.</p>	<p>c</p>	
<p>26.</p>	<p>a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>About Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Launch and Aim:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ It was <b>launched by the government in 2015</b> for providing <b>loans up to Rs. 10 lakh</b> to the <b>non-corporate, non-farm small/micro-enterprises.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Funding Provision:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>MUDRA</b>, which stands for <b>Micro Units Development &amp; Refinance Agency Ltd.</b>, is a financial institution set up by the Government.</li> <li>■ It <b>provides funding</b> to the non-corporate small business sector <b>through various last-mile financial institutions</b> like Banks, <b>Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)</b> and <b>Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs).</b></li> <li>■ <b>MUDRA does not lend directly to micro-entrepreneurs/individuals.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Three Products:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ MUDRA has created three products i.e. '<b>Shishu</b>', '<b>Kishore</b>' and '<b>Tarun</b>' as per the stage of growth and funding needs of the beneficiary micro unit.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Shishu:</b> Covering loans up to Rs. 50,000.</li> <li>■ <b>Kishore:</b> Covering loans above Rs. 50,000 and up to Rs. 5 lakh.</li> <li>■ <b>Tarun:</b> Covering loans above Rs. 5 lakh and up to Rs. 10</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>lakh.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Loans under this scheme are <b>collateral-free loans</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Achievements:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Loans</b> have been given to <b>disadvantaged sections of society such as women entrepreneurs, SC/ST/OBC borrowers, Minority community borrowers, etc.</b> The focus has also been on <b>new entrepreneurs</b>.</li> <li>○ As per a survey conducted by Ministry of Labour and Employment, PMMY helped in <b>generation of 1.12 crore net additional employment from 2015 to 2018</b>. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Out of the <b>1.12 crore</b> of estimated increase in employment, <b>women accounted for 69 lakh (62%)</b>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
27.	b	
28.	b	
29.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● When we conserve and protect the whole ecosystem, its biodiversity at all levels is protected. E.g. we save the entire forest to save the tiger. This approach is called in <b>in-situ (on site)</b> conservation.</li> <li>● However, when there are situations where an animal or plant is endangered or threatened and needs urgent measures to save it from extinction, <b>ex-situ (off-site)</b> conservation is the desirable approach.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Benefits of Biodiversity conservation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conservation of biological diversity leads to conservation of essential ecological diversity to preserve the continuity of food chains.</li> <li>● The genetic diversity of plants and animals is preserved.</li> <li>● It ensures the sustainable utilisation of life support systems on earth.</li> <li>● It provides a vast knowledge of potential use to the community.</li> <li>● A reservoir of wild animals and plants is preserved, thus enabling them to be introduced, if need be, in the surrounding areas.</li> <li>● Biodiversity conservation assures sustainable utilization of potential resources.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>In situ conservation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In-situ conservation is the on-site conservation of genetic resources in natural populations of plant or animal species.</li> <li>● In India, ecologically unique and biodiversity-rich regions are legally protected as <b>biosphere reserves, national parks, sanctuaries, reserved forests, protected forests and nature reserves</b>.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India now has <b>18 biosphere reserves, 104 national parks and 500 wildlife sanctuaries.</b></li> <li><b>Plantation, cultivation, grazing, felling trees, hunting and poaching are prohibited in biosphere reserves, national parks and sanctuaries.</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Protected Area Network in India</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)</b>, chaired by the <b>Prime Minister of India</b> provides for policy framework for wildlife conservation in the country.</li> <li>The <b>National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016)</b> was adopted in 2002, emphasizing the people's participation and their support for wildlife conservation.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Reserved &amp; Protected Forests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As of present, reserved forests and protected forests differ in one important way:</li> <li>Rights to all activities like hunting, grazing, etc. in <b>reserved forests</b> are <b>banned</b> unless specific orders are issued otherwise.</li> <li>In <b>protected areas</b>, rights to activities like hunting and grazing are <b>sometimes given</b> to communities living on the fringes of the forest, who sustain their livelihood from forest resources or products.</li> <li>The first reserve forest in India was <b>Satpura National Park</b> in Madhya Pradesh.</li> <li>Typically, reserved forests are often <b>upgraded to the status of wildlife sanctuaries</b>, which in turn may be <b>upgraded to the status of national parks</b>, with each category receiving a higher degree of protection and government funding.</li> </ul>
30.	c	
31.	d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NCST was set up with effect from 19 February, 2004 by amending Article 338 and by inserting a new article <b>338A</b> in the Constitution through the 89th Constitution Amendment Act, 2003. Hence, it is a <b>constitutional body.</b></li> <li><b>Objective:</b> Article 338A inter-alia gives powers to the to NCST <b>oversee the implementation of various safeguards provided to STs under the Constitution or under any other law for time being in force or under any other order to the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards.</b></li> <li><b>Composition :</b> It consists of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and 3 other Members who are appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least one member should be a woman.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the other Members hold office for a term of <b>3 years</b>.</li> <li>○ The members are <b>not eligible for appointment for more than two terms</b>.</li> <li>● The Chairperson has been given the rank of Union Cabinet Ministers, the Vice Chairperson has the rank of a Minister of State and other Members have the rank of a Secretary to the Government of India.</li> </ul>
32.	c	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Schedule Tribes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As per Census-1931, Schedule tribes are termed as "backward tribes" living in the "Excluded" and "Partially Excluded" areas. The Government of India Act of 1935 called for the first time for representatives of "backward tribes" in provincial assemblies.</li> <li>● The Constitution does <b>not define</b> the criteria for recognition of Scheduled Tribes and hence the definition contained in 1931 Census was used in initial years after independence.</li> <li>● However, <b>Article 366(25)</b> of the Constitution only provides process to define Scheduled Tribes: "Scheduled Tribes means such tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under Article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this Constitution."             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>342(1)</b>: The President may with respect to any State or Union Territory, and where it is a State, after consultation with the Governor, by a public notification, specify the tribes or tribal communities or part of or groups within tribes or tribal communities as Scheduled Tribe in relation to that State or Union Territory.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● There are over <b>700 tribes</b> which have been notified.</li> <li>● The <b>largest number</b> of tribal communities (62) are found in <b>Odisha</b>.</li> <li>● <b>No Tribe</b> was identified in <b>Haryana, Punjab, Chandigarh, Delhi, and Pondicherry</b>.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Few Related Committees</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The <b>Lokur Committee (1965)</b> was set up to look into criteria for defining Schedule Tribes. The Committee recommended 5 criteria for identification, namely, <b>primitive traits, distinct culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the community at large, and backwardness</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Bhuria Commission (2002-2004)</b> focused on a wide range of issues from the <b>5th Schedule</b> to tribal land and forests, health and education, the working of Panchayats and the status of tribal women.</li> <li>● A High-Level Committee (HLC) in 2013, under chairmanship of Prof. Virginius Xaxa was constituted to study the 5 critical issues related to tribal communities : (1) livelihood and employment, (2) education, (3) health, (4)</li> </ul>



		involuntary displacement and migration, (5) and legal and constitutional matters.
33.	b	
34.	b	
35.	b	
36.	d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The <b>Paris Club</b> is a group of <b>mostly western creditor countries</b> that grew from a <b>1956</b> meeting in which <b>**Argentina</b> agreed to meet its public creditors in Paris. <b>**It</b> describes itself as a forum where official creditors meet <b>**to solve</b> payment difficulties faced by debtor countries. <b>**Their</b> objective is to <b>find sustainable debt-relief solutions</b> for countries that are <b>unable to repay their bilateral loans</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Members:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>The members are:</b> Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Russia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.</li> <li>○ All 22 are members of the group called <b>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)</b>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
37.	b	
38.	a	
39.	b	
40.	b	
41.	c	The Red Fort Complex was built as the palace fort of Shahjahanabad – the new capital of the fifth Mughal Emperor of India, Shah Jahan. Named for its massive enclosing walls of red sandstone, it is adjacent to an older fort, the Salimgarh, built by Islam Shah Suri in 1546, with which it forms the Red Fort Complex. The private apartments consist of a row of pavilions connected by a continuous water channel, known as the Nahr-i-Behisht (Stream of Paradise). The Red Fort is considered to represent the zenith of Mughal creativity which, under the Shah Jahan, was brought

		to a new level of refinement. The planning of the palace is based on Islamic prototypes, but each pavilion reveals architectural elements typical of Mughal building, reflecting a fusion of Persian, Timurid and Hindu traditions The Red Fort's innovative planning and architectural style, including the garden design, strongly influenced later buildings and gardens in Rajasthan, Delhi, Agra and further afield.
42.	d	
43.	a	
44.	c	
45.	c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Air Sovereignty:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is the fundamental right of a sovereign state <b>to regulate the use of its air space and enforce its own aviation law.</b></li> <li>○ State controls the <b>entry of foreign aircraft into its territory</b> and that persons within its territory are subject to its laws.</li> <li>○ The principle of air space sovereignty is <b>established through the Paris Convention on the Regulation of Aerial Navigation (1919)</b> and subsequently by other multilateral treaties.</li> <li>○ Under the <b>1944 Chicago Convention</b>, contracting states <b>agree to permit aircraft registered in the other contracting states and engaged in commercial non-scheduled flights</b> to fly into their territory without prior <b>diplomatic permission</b> and, moreover, to pick up and discharge passengers, cargo, and mail. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This provisions, in practice, has become a dead letter.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
46.	c	
47.	c	
48.	d	
49.	d	
50.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Air Sovereignty:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is the fundamental right of a sovereign state <b>to regulate the use of its air space and enforce its own aviation law.</b></li> <li>○ State controls the <b>entry of foreign aircraft into its territory</b> and that</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>persons within its territory are subject to its laws.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The principle of air space sovereignty is <b>established through the Paris Convention on the Regulation of Aerial Navigation (1919)</b> and subsequently by other multilateral treaties.</li> <li>○ Under the <b>1944 Chicago Convention</b>, contracting states <b>agree to permit aircraft registered in the other contracting states and engaged in commercial non-scheduled flights</b> to fly into their territory without prior <b>diplomatic permission</b> and, moreover, to pick up and discharge passengers, cargo, and mail.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This provisions, in practice, has become a dead letter.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
51.	a	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tiwa tribe:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tiwa also known as Lalung is indigenous community inhabiting the states of Assam and Meghalaya and are also found in some parts of Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur.</li> <li>● They are recognized as a Scheduled tribe within the state of Assam. But they still do not benefit the ST status in the state of Meghalaya.</li> <li>● They are divided into 2 sub-groups- <b>Hill Tiwa</b> and <b>Plains Tiwa</b> which have contrasting cultural features:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Hill Tiwa:</b> They live in the westernmost areas of Karbi Anglong district. They speak a Tibeto-Burman language. In most cases, the husband goes to live in her wife's family settlement (matrilocal), and their children are included in their mother's clan. One-half of them follow their traditional religion. It is based on the worship of local deities. The other half has been converted to Christianity since the 1950s.</li> <li>○ <b>Plains Tiwa:</b> They live on the flatlands of the Southern bank of the Brahmaputra valley. The vast majority speak Assamese as their mother tongue. Their descent system is patrilineal. Their religion shares many elements with Assamese Hinduism but remains specific.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● They practice Jhum or shifting cultivation, where the land is first cleared of any vegetation that is later set on fire (slash-and-burn). The result is a more fertile soil that is freshly enriched with potash, all the more useful for a bountiful crop.</li> <li>● The main festivals of the Tiwa tribes are: Three Pisu (Bihu), Borot utsav, Sogra phuja, Wanchuwa, Jonbeel Mela, Kabla, Langkhon Phuja and Yangli Phuja.</li> <li>● Pig is a staple part of their diet and their culture.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wanchuwa festival:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This festival is celebrated by Tiwa tribesmen to mark their good harvest.</li> <li>● It comes with songs, dances, a bunch of rituals and people clad in their native attires.</li> <li>● The people of Tiwa tribe associate the bountiful harvest with the higher power from nature. This takes the form of pigs' skulls and bones which act as deities</li> </ul>

		<p>and are preserved through many generations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People do plenty of make up in the form of paste made of rice powder. They participate in dance with this make up.</li> <li>• With bamboo sticks in hand, the people proceed to rhythmically beat the rice powder, and occasionally pause to move around the circle.</li> <li>• Tiwas pray for a bountiful harvest as well as protection from pests and natural calamities.</li> </ul>
52.	b	Embryonic stem cells come from embryos that are 3 to 5 days old.
53.	c	
54.	d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GRBs are <b>massive but extremely bright, high-energy short gamma radiations</b> which get released <b>**when massive stars collapse or die in the Universe.**</b>They are the <b>most powerful events</b> in the universe, detectable across billions of <b>**light-years.**</b>A light-year is the <b>distance a beam of light travels in a single Earth year</b>, or 9.5 trillion kilometers.Astronomers classify them as <b>long or short based on whether the event lasts for more or less than two seconds.</b></li> <li>• <b>Long GRBs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ They observe long bursts <b>in association with the demise of massive stars.</b></li> <li>○ When a star much more massive than the Sun <b>runs out of fuel, its core suddenly collapses and forms a black hole.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Black hole refers to a <b>point in space where matter is so compressed</b> as to create a gravity field from which even light cannot escape.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ As matter swirls toward the black hole, some of that <b>escapes in the form of two powerful jets</b> that rush outward at almost the speed of light in opposite directions.</li> <li>○ Astronomers only detect a GRB <b>when one of these jets happens to point almost directly toward Earth.</b></li> <li>○ Each jet drills through the star, producing a pulse of gamma rays – the highest-energy form of light – that can last up to minutes. <b>Following the burst, the disrupted star then rapidly expands as a supernova.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A supernova is the name given to an <b>exploding star that has reached the end of its life.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Short GRB:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Short GRB, on the other hand, forms when pairs of compact objects – such as <b>neutron stars, which also form during stellar collapse – spiral inward over billions of years and collide.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A neutron star comprises one of the <b>possible evolutionary end-</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<b>points of high mass stars.</b>
55.	c	
56.	c	
57.	a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Bru or Reang</b> is a community <b>indigenous to Northeast India</b>, living mostly in <b>Tripura</b>, Mizoram and Assam. In Tripura, they are recognised as a <b>Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group</b>.</li> <li>● In Mizoram, they have been targeted by groups that do not consider them indigenous to the state. In <b>1997</b>, following <b>ethnic clashes</b>, nearly <b>37,000 Brus fled</b> Mamit, Kolasib and Lunglei districts of <b>Mizoram</b> and were <b>accommodated</b> in relief camps in <b>Tripura</b>.</li> <li>● Since then, 5,000 have returned to Mizoram in eight phases of repatriation, while 32,000 still live in six relief camps in North Tripura. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In <b>June 2018</b>, <b>community leaders from the Bru camps signed an agreement with the Centre</b> and the two state governments, providing for repatriation in Mizoram. But <b>most camp residents rejected the terms of the agreement</b>.</li> <li>○ The camp residents say that the <b>agreement doesn't guarantee their safety in Mizoram</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● In October 2019, the supply of ration to relief camps was stopped on instructions of the Home Ministry in a bid to hastily complete the repatriation of refugees to Mizoram. Civil society outfits had alleged that at least six refugees died due to starvation.</li> </ul>
58.	b	
59.	a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Saptakoteshwar is <b>a temple dedicated to Lord Shiva located in Narve village of Goa. It was built in 12th century by Kadamba dynasty ruler Shivchitta Paramardidev</b>.</li> <li>● The temple has a small entrance marked by bells, while the five-pillared main hall is decorated with arches. The wall of <b>its sanctorum is made of plain wood</b>.</li> <li>● The mandapa of the temple is built in a typical European style and Brahminical laterite and stone caves surround the temple.</li> <li>● This temple was <b>destroyed after the conquest of Goa by the Portuguese</b>, although the temple was <b>rebuilt by Shivaji after the victory over the</b></li> </ul>

		<b>Portuguese in 1668 AD.</b>
60.	c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chile &gt; Australia &gt; Argentina are top countries with Li reserves.</li> <li><b>Lithium Triangle: Chile, Argentina, Bolivia.</b></li> </ul>
61.	a	
62.	a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pangong Tso literally translates into a <b>“conclave lake”</b>. <b>Pangong</b> means <b>conclave</b> in Ladakhi and <b>Tso</b> means <b>lake</b> in Tibetan language.</li> <li><b>Situated at over 14,000 feet</b>, the Lake is about 135 km long.</li> <li>It is formed from <b>Tethys geosyncline</b>.</li> <li>The <b>Karakoram Mountain range</b>, which crosses Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, China and India, with heights of over 6,000 meters including K2, the world’s second highest peak, ends at the north bank of Pangong Tso.</li> <li>Its southern bank too has high broken mountains sloping towards <b>Spangur Lake</b> in the south.</li> <li>The lake’s water, while crystal clear, is <b>brackish</b>, making it undrinkable.</li> <li>It is the world's highest saltwater lake</li> </ul>
63.	b	
64.	b	
65.	b	
66.	a	<p>Explanation:</p> <p>The rhythmic rise and fall of water twice in a day is called a tide.</p> <p>High Tide: This occurs when water covers much of the shore by rising to its highest level.</p> <p>Low Tide: There is a low tide when water falls to its lowest level and recedes from the</p>

		<p>shore.</p> <p>Tides are caused by the strong gravitational pull exerted by the sun and the moon on the earth's surface. The rise and fall of water due to tides is used for generating electricity at some places. The water of the earth closer to the moon gets pulled under the moon's gravitational force and causes a high tide.</p> <p>Advantages of High Tide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They help in navigation. They raise the water level close to the shores and help the ships to arrive at the harbor more easily.</li><li>• They help in fishing. More fish come closer to the shore during high tides. This helps the fishermen to have a good catch and earn more.</li></ul>
67.	a	<p>Explanation:</p> <p>Naidu was born in Hyderabad on the 13th of February 1879 to eminent linguist Aghornath Chattopadhyay and his wife Barada Sundari Devi, a Bengali poetess. Her father was also one of the first members of the Indian National Congress in Hyderabad.</p> <p>Sarojini Naidu was an intelligent student who showed fluency in Urdu, Telugu, English, Bengali, and Persian.</p> <p>At the age of 12, she received fame by topping the matriculation exams of Madras University. This leads her to receive a scholarship from the Nizam of Hyderabad to study abroad.</p> <p>Naidu was interested in writing poetry, while her father wanted her to be a mathematician.</p> <p>Sarojini went to study in England where she met famous literary laureates such as Edmond Gosse and Arthur Symonds. Gosse suggested that Naidu should use Indian themes in her poetry work.</p> <p>Naidu expressed the life and events of modern India through her poetry. Her works-</p>

'The Golden Threshold' (1905), 'The Bird of Time' (1912), and 'The Broken Wing' (1917) found readership in both India and England.

Sarojini Naidu had an intercaste marriage with Dr. Muthyala Govindarajulu Naidu, a South Indian doctor under the Brahma Marriage Act (1872)

### **Contribution in the Indian Independence Struggle**

Naidu became part of the independence movement by showcasing her oratory skills. She advocated for women's rights and their empowerment.

As the partition of Bengal began in 1905, she connected with eminent leaders of the Indian National Congress.

Between 1915-1918, she excelled in delivering her oratory skills about the social welfare of women. She encouraged women to step out of their homes and fight for the independence of the country.

In 1917, Naidu accompanied Annie Beasant, the president of the Home Rule to advocate for women's suffrage in front of the Joint Select Committee in London. She also showed support for the Lucknow Pact, a joint Hindu-Muslim demand for British better political reform.

The same year, Naidu joined Gandhi's satyagraha and non-violent movement.

In 1919, Naidu also joined the non-cooperation movement as a part of her advocacy against British rule.

Naidu also became the first Indian female president of the Indian National Congress in 1925.

She was also responsible for persuading Gandhi to let women join the Salt March in 1930.

In 1931, Sarojini Naidu joined the Round Table Conference in London under the



		<p>Gandhi-Irwin Pact. She was, however, jailed in 1932.</p> <p>For her involvement in the Quit India Movement, Naidu faced imprisonment in 1941.</p> <p>After India's independence in 1947, Naidu became the first governor of Uttar Pradesh. She retained office till her death in 1949.</p> <p>Sarojini Naidu has been memorialized at the University of Hyderabad's Golden Threshold.</p> <p>In 1990, the Asteroid 5647 Sarojini Naidu, discovered by Eleanor Helin at Palomar Observatory and was named in her memory.</p> <p>Sarojini Naidu has been one of the most prominent female literary laureates and freedom fighters who encouraged women to participate in politics in India.</p>
68.	c	<p>Explanation:</p> <p><a href="https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/lymphatic-filariasis">https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/lymphatic-filariasis</a></p>
69.	c	<p>Explanation:</p> <p><a href="https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=Today-is-birth-anniversary-of-Professor-Kamala-Sohonie&amp;id=419902">https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=Today-is-birth-anniversary-of-Professor-Kamala-Sohonie&amp;id=419902</a></p>
70.	b	
71.	b	<p>Explanation</p> <p><b>In Budget 2023-24, Centre's hard push to eliminate sickle cell anemia by 2047.</b></p> <p><b>Sickle cell disease (SCD)</b></p>

- **About:**

- It is a group of inherited **red blood cell disorders**. Red blood carries oxygen to all parts of the body.
- **Healthy red blood cells are round**, and they move through **small blood vessels to carry oxygen to all parts of the body**.
- In someone who has **SCD, the hemoglobin is abnormal**, which causes the red **blood cells to become hard and sticky** and look like a **C-shaped farm tool called a “sickle.”**
- The sickle cells die early, which causes a constant shortage of red blood cells.

- **Types:**

- There are **several types of SCD**. The specific type of SCD a person has depends on the genes they inherited from their parents. People with SCD inherit genes that contain instructions, or code, for abnormal hemoglobin.

- **Cause:**

- SCD is a genetic condition that is present at birth. It is **inherited when a child receives two genes**—one from each parent—that code for abnormal hemoglobin.

- **Prevention:**

- Management of SCD is focused on preventing and treating pain episodes and other complications. Prevention strategies include lifestyle behaviors as well as medical screening and interventions to prevent SCD complications.

- **Recent Initiatives:**

- The **Unmukt Project** is being implemented by the Central Government to strengthen screening and timely management of **Sickle Cell Anemia**.
- The **Tribal Affairs Ministry** established the **National Council on Sickle Cell Disease and Tribal Health Cell**, which would coordinate with the Ministry of Health and State Governments.
- The Tribal Affairs Ministry, through development of Sickle Cell Support

		Corner, has instituted a mechanism for creating a Central Repository of data.
72.	b	<p>Explanation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the Indian Constitution, the concentration of wealth violates the <b>Directive Principles of State Policy</b>.</li> <li>• Article 39(c) of the DPSP states that “the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment”.</li> <li>• The concentration of wealth in the hands of the richest has aggravated the rich-poor gap and inequality in India.</li> </ul>
73.	c	<p>Explanation</p> <p>The Leader Of the Opposition is the leader of the largest opposition party in the parliament.</p> <p>G V Mavalankar was the first Speaker of Lok Sabha. Under the rules formulated by him, the single largest opposition party must have a strength of at least 10% of the total strength of the House in order to designate its leader as the Leader of the opposition.</p> <p>It is a statutory position that is defined in the 1977 Salaries and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act.</p>
74.	a	Explanation

		<p><b>Diyodar Meteorite That Struck Gujarat Could Be a Rare 'Aubrite' from Mercury!</b></p> <p>Scientists from <b>Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad</b>, are claiming that the meteorite that crashed in two villages in Banaskantha, Gujarat on August 17, 2022, has been identified as an <b>aubrite</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>PRL group used a gamma-ray spectrometer</b> to determine the mineral composition of aubrite. The group also classified the meteorite as a <b>monomict breccia</b>.</li> </ul>
75.	c	<p>Explanation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saturated Fats are mainly found in foods that come from animals (such as meat and dairy), but they can also be found in most fried foods and some prepackaged foods. Saturated fats are unhealthy because they increase LDL (“bad” cholesterol) levels in your body and increase your risk for heart disease. Many saturated fats are “solid” fats that you can see, such as the fat in meat. Other sources of saturated fats include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ High-fat cheeses</li> <li>○ High-fat cuts of meat</li> <li>○ Whole-fat milk and cream</li> <li>○ Butter</li> <li>○ Ice cream and ice cream products</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Palm and coconut oils Trans fat is simply liquid oils turned into solid fats during food processing. There is also a small amount of trans fat that occurs naturally in some meat and dairy products, but those found in processed foods tend to be the most harmful to your health. Trans fats serve up a double whammy to your cholesterol, by increasing LDL (“bad” cholesterol) and decreasing HDL (“healthy” cholesterol). In order to avoid trans fat, look on nutrition labels for ingredients such as “partially hydrogenated” oils or</li> </ul>

		<p>shortening. In addition, look for trans fat in the nutritional information in products, such as commercially baked cookies, crackers, and pies, and fried foods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural forms of trans fats are not harmful.</li> </ul>
76.	D	<p><b>Supreme Court sought response from Centre on a Public Interest Litigation (PIL)</b> that contends that not electing a <b>Deputy Speaker</b> to the 17th (present) Lok Sabha, since 2019, is <b>“against the letter and spirit of the Constitution”</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The post has also been lying vacant in the five state Assemblies including Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Jharkhand.</li> </ul> <p><b>What are the Constitutional Provisions?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Article 93 says</b> that the <b>House of the People (Lok Sabha) shall, as soon as may be</b>, choose two members to be <b>Speaker and Deputy Speaker</b> so often as the offices become vacant. However, it <b>does not provide a specific time frame</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Article 178</b> contains the corresponding position for Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the <b>Legislative Assembly of a state</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>What are the Different Viewpoints on the Matter?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Experts:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Experts point out that both Articles 93 and 178 use the word “shall”, indicating that the <b>election of Speaker and Deputy Speaker is mandatory</b> under the Constitution.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Union Government:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Government argues that there is <b>no “immediate requirement”</b> for a Deputy Speaker as “bills are being passed and discussions are being held” as normal in the House.</li> <li>○ Further, <b>there is a panel of nine members selected from different parties</b> who can act as chairpersons to assist the Speaker to run the House.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Can the Judiciary Intervene in the Matter?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Article 122 says</b>, “The validity of any proceedings in Parliament shall not be called in question on the ground of any alleged irregularity of procedure.”</li> <li>• <b>Courts usually don’t intervene in the procedural conduct of Parliament</b>. However, Experts argue that the courts do have jurisdiction to at least inquire into why there has been no election to the post of Deputy Speaker since the</li> </ul>

Constitution does envisage an election "as soon as may be".

#### What are the Provisions Regarding Deputy Speaker?

- **Election:**
  - In Lok Sabha, the election of Deputy Speaker is **governed by Rule 8 of The Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.**
  - The Deputy Speaker is **elected by the Lok Sabha** from amongst its members **right after the election of the Speaker.** The **date of election** of the Deputy Speaker is **fixed by the Speaker.**
- **Time Frame:**
  - The election of the Deputy Speaker **usually takes place in the second session** and is **generally not delayed** further in the absence of genuine and unavoidable constraints.
- **Term of Office and Removal:**
  - Like the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker remains in office usually for the **entire duration of the House (5 years).**
  - The Deputy Speaker may vacate his/her office earlier in any of the following three cases:
    - If he **ceases to be a member of the Lok Sabha.**
    - If he **resigns** by writing to the Speaker.
    - If he is **removed by a resolution** passed by a **majority of all the then members** of the Lok Sabha. Such a resolution can be moved only after giving **14 days' advance notice.**
- **Position of the Deputy Speaker:**
  - **Under article 95** The Deputy Speaker **performs the duties of the Speaker's office when it is vacant** and **acts as the Speaker when the latter is absent** from the sitting of the House. In both cases, he assumes all the powers of the Speaker.
  - Deputy Speaker is **not subordinate to the Speaker.** He is directly responsible to the House. Consequently, if either of them wishes to resign, they must submit their **resignation to the House which implies that Speaker gives resignation to deputy Speaker.**

#### What is the Need of Deputy Speaker?

- **Maintains Continuity:** Deputy Speaker maintains continuity of the office whenever speaker is absent or the office becomes vacant.
- **Represents The House:** If Speaker resigns, he/she tenders resignation to Deputy Speaker.
  - **If the post of Deputy Speaker is vacant** the Secretary-General receives the letter of resignation and informs the House about it. The resignation is **notified in the Gazette and the Bulletin, as per the Rules for Presiding Officers of Lok Sabha.**
- **Strengthens the Opposition:** Since 2011, **convention has been to offer the position of deputy Speaker to the Opposition party.**
  - Though **Constitutionally, Deputy speaker can be from Opposition or**

		<b>Majority party.</b>
77.	c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is an <b>intergovernmental organization</b> with a membership of 192 Member States and Territories. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ India is a member of WMO.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● It <b>originated from the International Meteorological Organization (IMO)</b>, which was established after the 1873 Vienna International Meteorological Congress.</li> <li>● Established by the ratification of the WMO Convention on <b>23rd March 1950</b>, WMO <b>became the specialized agency of the United Nations</b> for meteorology (weather and climate), operational hydrology and related geophysical sciences.'</li> <li>● WMO is <b>headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.</b></li> </ul>
78.	c	<p>A corporate may raise capital in the primary market by way of an <b>initial public offer, rights issue or private placement.</b></p> <p><b>An Initial Public Offer (IPO) is the selling of securities to the public in the primary market.</b></p> <p><b>A rights issue is an invitation to existing shareholders to purchase additional new shares in the company.</b> This type of issue gives existing shareholders securities called rights.</p> <p>A private placement is <b>a sale of stock shares or bonds to pre-selected investors and institutions</b> rather than on the open market. It is an alternative to an initial public offering (IPO) for a company seeking to raise capital for expansion.</p>
79.	c	<p><b>Nominated Members in Rajya Sabha</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Constitutional backing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Article 80</b> of the Constitution ("Composition of the Council of States") says <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ "The Council of States shall consist of (a) twelve members to be nominated by the President in accordance with the provisions of clause (3); and (b) not more than two hundred and thirty-eight representatives of the States and of the Union territories.</li> <li>■ Clause 3 of the article lays down the qualifications for the</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>appointment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Role of nominated members:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Powers and privileges:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Nominated members of Rajya Sabha enjoy all the powers and privileges to which the elected MPs are entitled.</li> <li>■ They can take part in the proceedings of the House in a normal manner.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Election of President and Vice-President:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Nominated members are not allowed to vote in the election of the President.</li> <li>■ However, they do have the right to vote in the election of the Vice-President.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Significance of nomination:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The rationale behind this principle of nomination is to provide eminent persons a place in the Rajya Sabha without going through the process of election.</li> <li>○ It gives an opportunity to those who might be willing to participate in the debate with an amount of learning and importance which we do not ordinarily associate with the House of the People (Lok Sabha)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Criticisms:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Poor attendance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ There has been criticism that several nominated members have poor attendance and do not appear to show much interest in legislative work.</li> <li>■ In this context, cricketer Sachin Tendulkar, actor Rekha, and businesswoman Anu Aga have faced criticism in recent years.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Politicisation of the nominated category:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Over time, the high ideal of the nomination came to be eroded.</li> <li>■ Ruling dispensations have repeatedly used the nominated category to shore up their numbers in the House, to dispense favours, and to get their preferred individuals into Parliament.</li> <li>■ While a nominated member <b>can join a political party within six months of taking his/ her seat in the House</b>, even those who remain technically independent are assumed to be aligned with the ruling regime.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
80.	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The family was patriarchal and was regarded as the social and the political unit. The father was the head of the family and he was known as “grihapati”.</li> <li>● Monogamy was generally practiced while polygamy was prevalent among the royal and noble families. There are few indications of polyandry. There are also indications of matrilineal traces. The wife took care of the household and participated in all the major ceremonies.</li> <li>● Women were given equal opportunities as men for their spiritual and intellectual development. There were women poets like Apala, Viswavara,</li> </ul>



		<p>Ghosa, Lopamudra and Gargi during the Rig Vedic period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women could even attend the popular assemblies. There was no child marriage and the practice of sati was absent. The marriageable age seems to have been 16 to 17.</li> <li>• Women could offer sacrifices along with their husbands.</li> <li>• Widow remarriage and the practice of levirate was present in the Rig Vedic society.</li> <li>• Lopamudra was a Brahmavadini who composed some hymns of the Vedas. Many hymns of Rigveda were composed by women and they were called Brahmavadini. The prominents in them were Lopamudra, Vishwawara, Sikta, Nivavari, Ghosa, etc.</li> </ul>
81.	c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MVD, earlier known as <b>Marburg hemorrhagic fever</b>, is a rare but <b>severe hemorrhagic</b> fever that <b>affects both people and non-human primates</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Causative agent:</b> MVD is caused by the <b>Marburg virus</b>, a genetically unique <b>zoonotic (animal-borne) RNA virus</b>. <b>Marburg and Ebola viruses</b> are both members of the Filoviridae family (filovirus).</li> <li>• Marburg virus was <b>first recognized in 1967</b>, when outbreaks of hemorrhagic fever occurred simultaneously in laboratories in Marburg and Frankfurt, <b>Germany</b> and in Belgrade, <b>Yugoslavia (now Serbia)</b>.</li> <li>• The <b>reservoir host</b> of the Marburg virus is the <b>African fruit bat, Rousettus aegyptiacus</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Transmission:</b> The Marburg virus is transmitted to people <b>from fruit bats</b> and <b>spreads among humans through human-to-human transmission</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Fatality:</b> The average MVD case <b>fatality rate is around 50%</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Treatment:</b></li> <li>• There is <b>no specific treatment</b> for Marburg virus disease.</li> <li>• <b>Supportive therapy</b>, such as intravenous fluids, electrolyte replacement, supplemental oxygen, as well as blood and blood products replacement, <b>improves survival</b>.</li> </ul> <p>Viral hemorrhagic fevers (VHFs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VHFs are a group of diseases that are <b>caused by several distinct families of viruses</b>.</li> <li>• The term “viral hemorrhagic fever” refers to a <b>condition that affects many organ systems of the body, damages the overall cardiovascular system</b>, and reduces the body’s ability to function on its own.</li> <li>• <b>Some VHFs cause mild illnesses</b>, while others can cause severe, <b>life-threatening diseases</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Most VHFs have no known cure</b> or vaccine.</li> </ul>

82.	c	<p><b>Decline in migratory bird species this year at Saman Bird sanctuary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Saman Bird Sanctuary in the Mainpuri district of <b>Uttar Pradesh</b> is a seasonal <b>oxbow lake on the Ganges floodplain</b>.</li> <li>• It is designated as <b>Ramasar wetland</b> in 2019.</li> <li>• It is heavily reliant on the arrival of the south-westerly monsoon in July and August, which provides the vast majority of annual rainfall.</li> <li>• The Sanctuary regularly provides refuge to over 50,000 waterbirds</li> <li>• It is an important wintering site for many migrating birds including the greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), with over 1% of the South Asian population present during winter.</li> <li>• Vulnerable species including the sarus crane and greater spotted eagle are also found in this wetland.</li> </ul>
83.	b	<p><b>Towards sustainability: Arunachal's Apatanis use a unique, integrated cultivation method; it needs encouragement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Apatani are a tribal group of people living in the <b>Ziro valley in Arunachal Pradesh</b>.</li> <li>• They speak a local language called <b>Tani and worship the sun and the moon</b>.</li> <li>• They have major festivals like <b>Dree, Myoko, Yapung and Murung</b>.</li> <li>• Dree is celebrated with prayers for a <b>bumper harvest</b> and prosperity of all humankind and Myoka celebrates friendship similar to modern friendship day.</li> <li>• They have been practising integrated rice-fish farming in their mountain terraces of Arunachal Pradesh.</li> <li>• Apatanis principally use three rice varieties: Emeo, Pyape and Mypia.</li> </ul>
84.	d	<p><b>Countervailing duty v/s Anti-dumping duty;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AD is imposed to prevent low-priced foreign goods from damaging the local market</b>. On the other hand, <b>CVD will apply to foreign products that have enjoyed government subsidies</b>, which eventually leads to very low prices.</li> <li>• While the <b>AD duty amount depends on the margin of dumping</b>, the <b>CVD amount will completely depend upon the subsidy value</b> of the foreign goods.</li> </ul>

85.	d	
86.	d	<p>Recently, Several Senior performers of Lavani have <b>called for ban on vulgar performances, in the name of Lavani.</b></p> <p>Lavani is a <b>traditional folk-art</b> form of Maharashtra in which <b>women dancers wearing nine-yard-long sarees in bright colours, make-up, and ghunghroos perform on dholak beats</b> on a stage before a live audience. The word Lavani comes from <b>'lavanya' or beauty.</b></p> <p>It attained <b>popularity in the Peshwa era</b> in the 18th century. Traditionally, performances were <b>held in front of kings or lords</b>, and for the <b>entertainment of tired soldiers</b> resting during breaks in fighting.</p>
87.	d	<p><b>Geomagnetic storm hits Earth! Solar wind sparks red auroras in US</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A geomagnetic storm is a <b>major disturbance of Earth's magnetosphere.</b></li> <li>● These storms <b>result from variations in the solar wind</b> that produces <b>significant changes in the currents, plasmas, and fields in Earth's magnetosphere.</b></li> <li>● The solar wind <b>conditions</b> that are effective for creating geomagnetic storms <b>are sustained</b> (for several hours) <b>periods of the high-speed solar wind</b> and a <b>southward-directed solar wind magnetic field</b> (opposite the direction of Earth's field) <b>at the dayside of the magnetosphere.</b></li> <li>● The <b>largest such storms are associated with solar coronal mass ejections (CMEs)</b>, where a billion tons or so of plasma from the sun, with its embedded magnetic field, arrives at Earth.</li> <li>● <b>Effects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ These storms can <b>heat the ionosphere, causing beautiful auroras</b> on Earth.</li> <li>○ Because the ionosphere is heated and distorted during storms, <b>long-range radio communication</b> that relies on sub-ionospheric reflection <b>gets affected.</b></li> <li>○ Ionospheric expansion due to these storms can <b>increase satellite drag and make their orbits difficult to control.</b></li> <li>○ <b>Satellite electronics can be damaged</b> through the build-up and discharge of static-electric charges.</li> <li>○ It can <b>disrupt global navigation systems.</b></li> <li>○ It can <b>create harmful geomagnetic-induced currents (GICs) in the power grid</b> and pipelines.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

88.	d	<p>In 2006, the IAU came with a resolution that created an official definition of a “planet”. The resolution outlined three criteria that a planet must meet in order to be so classified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The object must be in orbit around the sun,</li> <li>● The object must be big enough to be rounded by its own gravity, and</li> <li>● The object must have cleared the neighbourhood around its orbit.</li> </ul> <p>Pluto failed to meet the third criterion. Pluto is not gravitationally dominant – its mass is substantially less than the combined mass of the other objects in its orbit (0.07 times, in contrast to Earth, which is 1.7 million times the remaining mass in its orbit, excluding the moon). For celestial objects that satisfy the first two criteria but not the third, the IAU came with the classification of “dwarf planet”.</p>
89.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Contributors to Sea Level Rise:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Thermal expansion contributed to <b>50% of sea level rise during 1971-2018</b>, while ice loss from glaciers contributed to <b>22%</b>, <b>ice-sheet loss to 20% and changes in land-water storage 8%</b>.</li> <li>○ The rate of ice-sheet loss increased by a factor of four between 1992-1999 and 2010-2019. Together, icesheet and <b>glacier mass loss were the dominant contributors</b> to global mean sea level rise during 2006-2018.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Impacts:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ At sustained warming levels between 2-3 degree Celcius, the Greenland and West <b>Antarctic ice sheets will be almost completely and irreversibly lost</b> over multiple millennia causing potentially multimeter sea-level rise.</li> <li>○ Sea-level rise will bring cascading and compounding impacts resulting in losses of <b>coastal ecosystems and ecosystem services</b>, groundwater salinization, flooding and damage to coastal infrastructure that cascade into risks to livelihoods, settlements, health, well-being, food, displacement and water security, and cultural values in the near to long-term.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
90.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● India is home to two species: the Indian Pangolin, found across the subcontinent; and the Chinese Pangolin, found across a larger area in south Asia. Bihar, West Bengal, and Assam see the presence of both.</li> <li>● Both species are included under India’s Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are also in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)</li> <li>• The Indian Pangolin has been classified as 'Endangered' and the Chinese Pangolin as 'Critically Endangered' by the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species.</li> </ul> <p>Source: <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/over-1000-pangolins-trafficked-in-india-in-5-years/article66520621.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/over-1000-pangolins-trafficked-in-india-in-5-years/article66520621.ece</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.snmcpn.org/pangolin">https://www.snmcpn.org/pangolin</a></p>
91.	d	<p>The Basel Convention directs a "Prior Consent Approval" method to control the transboundary movements of harmful and other wastes to reduce their adverse effects on the environment</p> <p>Rotterdam Convention is a name for the Convention that was adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries (COP) in 1998 in Rotterdam (Netherlands) that aims to promote shared responsibilities in relation to the international trade of hazardous chemicals. The secretariat of the convention is in Geneva, Switzerland.</p> <p>Stockholm Convention is a global treaty that was made in 2001 to protect human health as well as the environment from Persistent Organic Pollutants, also known as POPs</p>
92.	b	<p>There are eight (08) National Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) namely –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. National Solar Mission</li> <li>2. National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency</li> <li>3. National Mission on Sustainable Habitat</li> <li>4. National Water Mission</li> <li>5. National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system</li> <li>6. National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change</li> <li>7. National Mission for a Green India</li> <li>8. National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture</li> </ol>
93.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yakshagana is a <b>traditional theater</b> form of <b>Karnataka</b>.</li> <li>• It is a <b>temple art</b> form that depicts <b>mythological stories</b> and <b>Puranas</b>.</li> <li>• It is performed with massive headgears, elaborate facial make-up and vibrant costumes and ornaments.</li> <li>• Usually recited in <b>Kannada</b>, it is also performed in Malayalam as well as Tulu (the dialect of south Karnataka).</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is performed with <b>percussion instruments</b> like chenda, maddalam, jagatta or chengila (cymbals) and chakratala or elathalam (small cymbals).</li> </ul>		
94.	b	<p><b>Avian flu has been confirmed on Bass Rock, the world's largest colony of northern gannets.</b></p> <p>The Department for Environment Food &amp; Rural Affairs tested a small number of birds which were among hundreds found dead along the East Lothian coast.</p> <p>Bass Rock, in the Firth of Forth, is normally home to 150,000 gannets, one of Britain's largest sea birds.</p> <p>The Scottish Seabird Centre said it felt "powerless" watching the disease spread across the colony.</p>		
95.	c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tundra is a type of biome where the tree growth is hindered by low temperatures and short growing seasons. It refers to the areas where the subsoil is permafrost. In terms of precipitation, it is desert-like, with only about 15–25 cm per year, evaporation is also relatively minimal.</li> <li>Taiga is boreal forest or snow forest, characterized by coniferous forests consisting mostly of pines, spruces. The taiga too experiences relatively low precipitation, however in the range of 30 to 70 cm.</li> <li>In tropical rainforest, average annual rainfall exceeds 200 cm. The savanna receives a total of around 200 cm of rain most of which occurs in wet season i.e from from May to November.</li> <li>Temperate forests have precipitation in the range of 75-150 cm and distributed evenly throughout the year. In steppe grasslands, rainfall ranges from 75 to 100cm.</li> </ul>		
96.	b	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>Supreme court</b></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>High court</b></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Supreme court</b>	<b>High court</b>
<b>Supreme court</b>	<b>High court</b>			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Supreme Court, which is led by the Chief Justice of India, is the country's highest court of justice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The High Court is the highest level of judicial authority in a state's administration. The Chief Justice of the State is in charge of it.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All of the country's legal courts and tribunals are supervised by the Supreme Court.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The High Court is in supervision of all courts that fall under its jurisdiction.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Article 124 to 147 in part five of the constitution deal with the organisation, independence, jurisdiction, powers, procedures and so on.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Article 214 to 231 of part six of the constitution deals with the organization, independence, jurisdiction, powers, procedures and so on.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>According to the Indian Constitution, every Supreme Court Judge must be appointed by the President through a warrant signed by him and sealed after consultation with the Supreme Court and High Court as he deems necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The President, in consultation with the Chief Justice of India and the Governor of the state, appoints the judges of the High Court.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Supreme Court judge retires at the age of 65</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A high Court judge retires at the age of 62</li> </ul>

	<p>Qualifications of supreme court judge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He should be a citizen of India.</li> <li>• He should have been a judge of a high court for 5 years, he should be an advocate of a high court for 10 years, he should be a distinguished jurist in the opinion of the president</li> </ul>	<p>Qualifications of a high court judge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He should be a citizen of India.</li> <li>• He should have held a judicial office in the territory of India for ten years or he should have been an advocate of high court for 10 years</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Supreme Court judges are not able to be promoted or transferred.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Judges from the High Courts can be transferred to other high courts. They can advance to the position of Supreme Court Judge.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After retirement, Supreme Court judges are unable to practise. During their tenure, they are also restricted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A High Court judge cannot practise during his or her tenure, but they can do so after the tenure in any High Court or Supreme Court.</li> <li>• He is unable to practise law in courts lower than the High Court.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Supreme Court of India is now made up of 31 judges ( Including the Chief Justice and 30 other judges).</li> <li>• The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) has made provisions for the appointment of four more judges.</li> <li>• It grew from 31 to 34 members, including the Chief Justice of India.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a Chief Justice and numerous other judges on each High Court.</li> <li>• The President of India determines the number of judges to be appointed.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Article 32 is the writ jurisdiction of the supreme court</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Article 226 of the constitution empowers a high court to issue writs.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The supreme court is empowered to issues writs including habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, quo warranto and certiorari for the enforcement of the fundamental rights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The high court is empowered to issue writs including habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, quo warranto and certiorari for the enforcement of the fundamental rights and for any ordinary legal rights.</li> <li>• The writ jurisdiction of high court is wider than supreme court</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Judicial review is the power of the supreme court to examine the constitutionality of legislative enactments and executive orders of both central and state governments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 42th amendment act 1978 curtailed the judicial review power of the high court.</li> <li>It debarred the high court from considering the constitutional validity of any central law.</li> <li>The 43rd amendment act of 1977 restored the original position of judicial review.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Supreme Court is not bound to follow the High Courts' or any other court's decisions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Supreme Court's decision is binding on the High Courts.</li> </ul>
97.	b	<p>The president can also appoint a duly qualified person as an acting judge of a high court when a judge of that high court is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unable to perform the duties of his office due to absence or any other reasons</li> <li>Appointed to act temporarily as chief justice of that high court</li> </ol> <p>Acting judge cannot hold office beyond 62 year of age</p>	
98.	d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When there is a conflict of interest, a judge can withdraw from hearing a case to prevent creating a perception that she carried a bias while deciding the case.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For example, if the case pertains to a company in which the judge holds stakes, the apprehension would seem reasonable.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Similarly, if the judge has, in the past, appeared for one of the parties involved</li> </ul>	

in a case, the call for recusal may seem right.

- Another instance for recusal is when an appeal is filed in the Supreme Court against a judgement of a High Court that may have been delivered by the Supreme Court judge when she was in the High Court.
- This practice stems from the cardinal principle of due process of law that nobody can be a judge in her case.
  - Any interest or conflict of interest would be a ground to withdraw from a case since a judge must act fair.
- There have also been several cases where judges have refused to withdraw from a case.
  - For instance, in 2019, **Justice Arun Mishra** had controversially refused to recuse himself from a Constitution Bench set up to re-examine a judgement he had delivered previously, despite several requests from the parties.
  - In the Ayodhya-Ramjanmabhoomi case, Justice U U Lalit recused himself from the Constitution Bench after parties brought to his attention that he had appeared as a lawyer in a criminal case relating to the case.

#### **Process For Recusal**

- Once a request is made for recusal, the decision to recuse or not rests with the judge.
- While there are some instances where judges have recused even if they do not see a conflict but only because such apprehension was cast.

#### **Causes of Recusal**

- The decision to recuse generally comes from the judge themselves as it rests on the conscience and discretion of the judge to disclose any potential conflict of interest.
- Conflict of interest could be:
  - Judge's Interest in the subject matter, or relationship with someone who is interested in it;
  - Judge's Background or experience, such as the judge's prior work as a lawyer;
  - Judge's Personal knowledge about the parties or the facts of the case;
  - Judge's Ex parte communications with lawyers or non-lawyers;
  - Judge's Rulings, comments or conduct;
- In some circumstances, lawyers or parties in the case bring it up before the judge.
  - If a judge recuses, the case is listed before the Chief Justice for allotment to a fresh Bench.

#### **Legal Provisions for Recusal**

- There are no formal rules governing recusals, although several Supreme Court

		<p>judgments have dealt with the issue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In <i>Ranjit Thakur v Union of India</i> (1987), the Supreme Court held that the tests of the likelihood of bias are the reasonableness of the apprehension in the mind of the party.</li> <li>○ A Judge shall not hear and decide a matter in a company in which he holds shares unless he has disclosed his interest and no objection to his hearing and deciding the matter is raised,” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ States the 1999 charter ‘Restatement of Values in Judicial Life’, a code of ethics adopted by the Supreme Court.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
99.	c	<p><b>Debrigarh Tiger Reserve:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Located near the <b>Hirakud dam</b> at Sambalpur, spread over an area of 347 sq km Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the famous tourist destinations of western <b>Odisha</b>.</li> <li>● It will become the <b>third tiger reserve in Odisha</b> after Similipal and Satkosia.</li> <li>● It was declared as a wildlife sanctuary in <b>1985</b> and situated in the <b>Bargarh district of Odisha</b> near Hirakud dam (Mahanadi River).</li> <li>● It finds a special mention because of noted <b>freedom fighter veer Surendra sai. During his rebellion against the British Veer SurendraSaimade his base at ‘Barapathara” located within the sanctuary.</b></li> <li>● <b>Fauna:</b> A wide varieties of animals including leopard, wild boar, bison, sambar, chital and Four-horned antelope are sighted in the sanctuary.</li> </ul>
100.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ADT 52, which stands for ‘<b>Aduthurai 52</b>’, is a <b>long-duration paddy variety</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Plant type: Medium tall and non-lodging.</b></li> <li>● <b>Grain Yield: 4902 Kg/ha.</b></li> <li>● <b>Duration:</b> It takes at least <b>150 days to grow.</b></li> <li>● <b>Grain type: Medium slender, translucent rice with high milling (67.1%)</b></li> <li>● It gives a <b>high yield</b> and can <b>withstand the impact of unseasonal rains.</b></li> <li>● It is <b>resistant to gall midge</b> and <b>moderately resistant to leaf blast</b>, neck blast, grain discoloration, and <b>bacterial leaf blight.</b></li> <li>● The <b>Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute (TRRI)</b> in Aduthuurai launched the <b>ADT 52 variety in 2018.</b></li> </ul>
101.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The anti-defection law <b>punishes individual Members of Parliament (MPs)/MLAs for leaving one party for another.</b></li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Parliament added it to the Constitution as the <b>Tenth Schedule in 1985</b>. Its purpose was to bring stability to governments by <b>discouraging legislators from changing parties</b>.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>The Tenth Schedule</b> - popularly known as the Anti-Defection Act - was included in the Constitution via the <b>52nd Amendment Act, 1985</b>.</li> <li>○ It sets the provisions for disqualification of elected members on the grounds of defection to another political party.</li> <li>○ It was a <b>response to the toppling of multiple state governments</b> by party-hopping MLAs <b>after the general elections of 1967</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● However, it <b>allows a group of MP/MLAs to join (i.e., merge with) another political party</b> without inviting the penalty for defection. And it does not penalize political parties for encouraging or accepting defecting legislators.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ As per the <b>1985 Act</b>, a <b>'defection' by one-third of the elected members</b> of a political party was considered a 'merger'.</li> <li>○ But the <b>91st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003</b>, changed this and now at <b>least two-thirds of the members of a party must be in Favour of a "merger"</b> for it to have validity in the eyes of the law.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The <b>members disqualified under the law can stand for elections</b> from any political party for a seat in the same House.</li> <li>● The <b>decision on questions as to disqualification on ground of defection</b> are referred to the Chairman or the Speaker of such House, which is subject to <b>'Judicial review'</b>.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ However, the <b>law does not provide a timeframe</b> within which the presiding officer has to decide a defection case.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>What are the Grounds of Disqualification?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● If an <b>elected member voluntarily gives up</b> his membership of a political party.</li> <li>● If <b>he votes or abstains from voting in such House contrary</b> to any direction issued by his political party or anyone authorized to do so, without obtaining prior permission.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ As a <b>pre-condition for his disqualification</b>, his abstention from voting should not be condoned by his party or the <b>authorized person within 15 days of such incident</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● If any <b>independently elected member joins any political party</b>.</li> <li>● If any <b>nominated member joins any political party</b> after the expiry of six months.</li> </ul>
102.	c	<p><b>Mixed Farming</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Optimum diversity may be obtained by integrating <b>both crops and livestock</b> in the same farming operation.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mixed crop along with livestock operations have several advantages.</li> <li>• Growing crops only on more level land and pastures or forages on steeper slopes will reduce soil erosion.</li> <li>• Pasture and leguminous forage crops in rotation enhance soil quality and reduce erosion; livestock manure, in turn, contributes to soil fertility.</li> <li>• Livestock can buffer the negative impacts of low rainfall periods by consuming crop residue which in “plant only” systems would have been considered crop failure.</li> <li>• Feeding and marketing are flexible in animal production systems. This can help cushion farmers against price fluctuations and, make more efficient use of farm labour.</li> </ul>
103.	b	<p><b>Competition Commission of India:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Competition Commission of India has been established to enforce the competition law under the Competition Act of 2002.</li> <li>• The Commission consists of a Chairperson and not more than 6 Members <b>appointed by the Central Government.</b></li> <li>• It works as a quasi-judicial body.</li> <li>• <b>Nodal Ministry:</b> The Ministry of Corporate Affairs</li> </ul>
104.	c	<p><b>Exercise Dustlik 2023:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is a <b>military-to-military exchange program</b> between the <b>Indian Army and Uzbekistan</b></li> <li>• It is the fourth edition of the <b>biennial training Exercise.</b></li> <li>• The Indian contingent will be represented by the 14th Battalion, The GARHWAL RIFLES, part of Western Command in this bilateral exercise.</li> <li>• The Uzbekistan Army will be represented by troops of the North Western Military District of Uzbekistan Army.</li> <li>• This joint exercise is aimed at <b>enhancing military capability</b> to undertake multi-domain operations in a Sub Conventional scenario under United Nations Mandate.</li> </ul>
105.	a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nixtamalisation is a method by which the ancient peoples of Mesoamerica like the Maya <b>used to soak and cook their maize in an alkaline solution</b> and</li> </ul>

		<p>make it more palatable, nutritious and non-toxic. Nixtamal is derived from the Nahuatl word nextamalli, meaning 'nixtamalised maize dough'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maize is the primary crop of the Americas and has been cultivated in the region for millennia. <b>Maize, beans and squash</b> are called the '<b>Three Sisters</b>' and formed the basis of diets throughout pre-Columbian North and Mesoamerica.</li> <li>• The researchers noted that the key <b>reason for the spread of maize</b> in the <b>Americas</b> was nixtamalisation.</li> <li>• The process ensures that the maize contains amino acids, calcium and <b>Vitamin B2</b>, which can be utilised by the human body. It also eliminates certain mycotoxins (<b>toxins produced by certain moulds (fungi) and can be found in food</b>) present in maize.</li> <li>• Without this treatment, maize-dependent populations were at elevated risk of <b>pellagra</b> (Vitamin B2 deficiency), calcium deficiency and mycotoxin poisoning.</li> <li>• <b>Nejayote</b>, wastewater from nixtamalisation, may have been <b>used to lime the chultunes</b> while they were used as latrines. This was done to <b>control odours and inhibit insect</b> and microorganism growth like it is done today.</li> </ul>
106.	c	<p><b>Bhimbetka cave</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bhimbetka rock shelters are an archaeological site in MP that spans the prehistoric Paleolithic and Mesolithic periods.</li> <li>• It exhibits the earliest traces of human life in India and evidence of Stone Age starting at the site in Acheulian times.</li> <li>• It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.</li> <li>• <b>Discovery:</b> The Bhimbetka rock shelters were found by V S Wakankar in 1957.</li> <li>• It is popular for its prehistoric cave paintings done in red and white.</li> </ul>
107.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visva-Bharati University Founded by Rabindranath Tagore in 1921, Visva-Bharati University will soon get the 'heritage' tag from UNESCO to take the distinction of world's first living heritage university.</li> <li>• Until Independence, it was a college and the institution was given the status of Central University in 1951 through a central Act. Its first vice-chancellor was Rathindranath Tagore, the son of Rabindranath Tagore, and the second vice-chancellor was grandfather of another Nobel Laureate economist Amartya Sen.</li> <li>• Rabindranath believed in open-air education and introduced that system at the university, which prevails to date.</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/kolkata/unesco-to-soon-declare-visva-">https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/kolkata/unesco-to-soon-declare-visva-</a></p>

		<a href="https://www.bharati-worlds-first-living-heritage-university-8424445/">bharati-worlds-first-living-heritage-university-8424445/</a>
108.	a	<p><b>Muziris: The 'first emporium of India' lost for 700 years</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Muziris was a major ancient port city for the spice trade. It was also known as <b>Murachipattanam</b>.</li> <li>• When Kerala established itself as a <b>major centre for spice</b>, it was the ancient port <b>of Muziris that emerged as its hub</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mentioned in literature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sangam literature</b> describes Roman ships coming to <b>Muziris laden with gold to be exchanged for pepper</b>.</li> <li>• According to the first-century annals of <b>Pliny, the Elder, and the author of Periplus</b> of the <b>Erythrean Sea</b>, Muziris could be reached in <b>14 days' time from the Red Sea ports in the Egyptian coast purely depending on the monsoon winds</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Decline of Muziris Port:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Around 1341</b>, when the profile of the water bodies in the <b>Periyar River basin</b> underwent a major transformation – and <b>Muziris dropped off the map due to flood and earthquake</b>.</li> </ul>
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110.	d	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">Rabi</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Kharif</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Zaid.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>(i) Winter cropping season is known as Rabi.</td> <td>(i) Wet summer cropping season is known as Kharif.</td> <td>(i) Dry summer cropping season is known as Zaid.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(ii) Rabi crops are sown in winter from October to December.</td> <td>(ii) Kharif crops are grown with the onset of monsoon in June.</td> <td>(ii) Zaid is a short intervening cropping season in between rabi and kharif season</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(iii)The crops are harvested in summer from April to June.</td> <td>(iii)The crops are harvested in September-October.</td> <td>(iii)The crops are grown in summer months (March to May).</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(iv)Availability of precipitation during winter months due to western disturbances helps in the success of these crops.</td> <td>(iv)These crops have high water requirement either from monsoon rain or by irrigation.</td> <td>(iv)They are irrigated crops.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(v) Wheat, barley, peas, gram and mustard are examples of crops growing in Rabi season.</td> <td>(v) Paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, tur (arhar) moong, urad, cotton, jute, groundnut and soyabean are examples.</td> <td>(v) Watermelon, muskmelon, cucumber, vegetables and fodder crops are examples of crops growing in Zaid season.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Rabi	Kharif	Zaid.	(i) Winter cropping season is known as Rabi.	(i) Wet summer cropping season is known as Kharif.	(i) Dry summer cropping season is known as Zaid.	(ii) Rabi crops are sown in winter from October to December.	(ii) Kharif crops are grown with the onset of monsoon in June.	(ii) Zaid is a short intervening cropping season in between rabi and kharif season	(iii)The crops are harvested in summer from April to June.	(iii)The crops are harvested in September-October.	(iii)The crops are grown in summer months (March to May).	(iv)Availability of precipitation during winter months due to western disturbances helps in the success of these crops.	(iv)These crops have high water requirement either from monsoon rain or by irrigation.	(iv)They are irrigated crops.	(v) Wheat, barley, peas, gram and mustard are examples of crops growing in Rabi season.	(v) Paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, tur (arhar) moong, urad, cotton, jute, groundnut and soyabean are examples.	(v) Watermelon, muskmelon, cucumber, vegetables and fodder crops are examples of crops growing in Zaid season.
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111.	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A vostro account is an <b>account that domestic banks hold for foreign banks in the former's domestic currency</b>, in this case, the rupee. Domestic banks use it to provide international banking services to their clients who have global banking needs. The SRVA is an <b>additional arrangement to the existing system that uses Freely convertible currencies</b> and works as a complimentary system. The <b>existing systems</b> require maintaining balances and position in such currencies like US dollar and pound to facilitate trade.</li> <li>● <b>Framework:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Three important components</b> namely invoicing, exchange rate and settlement are there.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Invoicing</b> entails that all exports and imports must be denominated and invoiced in Indian National Rupee (INR).</li> <li>■ <b>The Exchange Rate</b> between the currencies of the trading partner countries would be market-determined.</li> <li>■ <b>The Final Settlement</b> also takes place in INR.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Functioning:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The <b>authorized domestic dealer banks</b> are required to <b>open SRVA accounts for correspondent banks</b> of the partner trading country.</li> <li>○ <b>Domestic importers</b> are required to <b>make payment (in INR) into the SRVA account</b> of the correspondent bank against the invoices for supply of goods or services from the overseas seller/supplier.</li> <li>○ Similarly, <b>Domestic exporters</b> are <b>to be paid the export proceeds (in INR)</b> from the balances in the designated account of the correspondent bank of the partner country.</li> <li>○ Indian <b>exporters may receive advance payment</b> against exports from</li> </ul> </li> </ul>																		

		<p>overseas importers in Indian rupees through the above Rupee Payment Mechanism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ But, it would be <b>foremost priority</b> of the domestic bank to <b>ensure that the available funds are used to meet existing payment obligations</b> i.e., already executed export orders or export payments in the pipeline.</li> <li>○ All reporting of cross-border transactions is to be done in accordance with the extant guidelines under the <b>Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Benefits</b></p> <p>The system could reduce the “net demand for foreign exchange, the U.S. dollar in particular, for the settlement of trade flows”</p> <p>Reduce the need for holding foreign exchange reserves</p> <p>Reduce the dependence on foreign currencies</p> <p>Making the country less vulnerable to external shocks</p> <p>Timely payments: Indian exporters could get advance payments in INR from overseas clients and in the long term.</p> <p>It would promote Indian Rupee as an international currency once the rupee settlement mechanism gains traction: Currently, the U.S. dollar was the most dominant vehicle currency accounting for 88% of all trades. The INR accounted for 1.6%</p> <p><b>Concerns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Despite Vostro’s account, Indian Banks having large exposure to the EU and US financial system are not willing to verify trade as they fear violating the sanctions on Russia A similar Vostro account set up for the purpose of trade with Iran had run dry as India was stopped from sourcing oil from Iran amid US sanctions</li> <li>● Western countries have put pressure on India to not allow any such mechanism</li> </ul>
112.	a	<p>According to <b>Gross Domestic Climate Risk ranking by Cross Dependency Initiative (XDI), India has nine states in the 50 high risk states</b> including Punjab, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Kerala and Assam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● XDI is a global organisation <b>specialising in climate risk analysis</b> for regions, banks and companies.</li> </ul> <p><b>What is this Report About?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The index calculated the <b>‘Physical climate risk’ to built environments</b> such as buildings and properties across 2,600 States and provinces globally in</li> </ul>

2050.

- The index assigned an **Aggregated Damage Ratio (ADR)** to each region, which signifies the **total amount of damage a region's built environment would sustain in 2050. A high ADR signifies more peril.**

### What are the Findings?

- **Vulnerabilities:**
  - Risk **originates from 8 climate change Hazards:** Riverine and surface flooding, coastal inundation (coastal flooding), extreme heat, forest fire, soil movement (drought-related), extreme wind and freeze thaw.
  - Most damage posed to built infrastructure globally is caused by **“riverine and surface flooding or flooding combined with coastal inundation.**
- **Global Findings:**
  - According to report the vast majority **(80%) of 50 provinces** facing the highest climate risk to their physical infrastructure by 2050 are **in China, the US, and India.**
  - Two of China's largest sub-national economies – Jiangsu and Shandong – top the global ranking; followed by the U.S. which has 18 regions in the top 100 list.
  - **Asia dominates the list** with 114 of the top 200 regions falling in the continent, including **Pakistan, Indonesia and most South East Asian countries.**
    - **Devastating flooding in 2022 affected 30% of the area of Pakistan** and has partially or fully damaged more than 9 lac houses in Sindh province.
- **India Specific Findings:**
  - Under high emissions scenarios such as the **Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 8.5**, high risk provinces will witness an average of **110% increase in damage risk by 2050.**
    - **Currently, with 0.8 degrees rise in temperature, India's 27 states and more than three-quarters of its districts are extreme event hotspots accounting for a 5% loss in GDP.**
  - If global warming is not limited to 2-degree thresholds, **climate-vulnerable states in India will lose more than 10% of their gross state domestic product (GSDP).**
  - **Bihar, Assam, and Tamil Nadu had the highest ADR among other Indian States.** Assam, in particular, would witness the maximum increase of climate risk: rising up to 330% by 2050.
    - **Assam has witnessed an experienced exponential increase in flood events since 2011, and it had 15 of India's 25 districts most vulnerable to climate change.**
  - **11 of the 36 districts in Maharashtra** were found to be **“highly vulnerable” to extreme weather events, droughts and dwindling water security.**

		<p><b>What is the Significance of the Report?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ranking data can also be <b>significant for investors</b>, as extensive built-up areas overlap with high levels of economic activity and property wealth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It can inform <b>climate resilient investment</b>, in conjunction with <b>adaptation measures and infrastructure planning undertaken by state</b> and provincial governments</li> </ul> </li> <li>The finance industry can <b>directly compare global industrial hubs</b> like Mumbai, New York and Berlin using a like-for-like methodology <b>to check vulnerability of global supply chains</b>.</li> </ul>																																
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116.	d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Law Commission of India is a <b>non-statutory body constituted by the Government of India from time to time.</b></li> <li>• It <b>functions to the Ministry of Law and Justice as an advisory body.</b></li> <li>• <b>History:</b></li> <li>• The <b>first Law Commission</b> was <b>established during the British Raj era in 1834</b> by the <b>Charter Act of 1833</b> and was <b>chaired by Lord Macaulay.</b></li> <li>• <b>In 1955, the first independent Law Commission</b> was created.</li> <li>• <b>Objective:</b> To <b>carry out research in the field of law</b> and <b>make recommendations</b> to the Government (in the form of Reports) as per its terms of reference.</li> <li>• The commission's <b>recommendations are not binding</b> on the Government.</li> <li>• The Law Commission has <b>so far submitted 277 Reports.</b></li> <li>• The commission <b>consists of legal experts and is headed by a retired judge.</b></li> <li>• The Commission is <b>constituted for a fixed tenure.</b></li> </ul>
117.	d	<p><b>NHAI To Explore Use Of Phosphor-Gypsum In National Highway Construction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phosphorus is a mineral critical to all life on Earth. As a requirement of all biological beings, it is a cornerstone of nutrition for plants, animals, and people.</li> <li>• Phosphogypsum is a waste by-product from the processing of phosphate rock in plants producing phosphoric acid and phosphate fertilizers, such as superphosphate.</li> <li>• It is used in <b>agriculture for soil amendment or as fertilizer</b>, as well as in the brick and cement industry, and road construction.</li> </ul> <p><b>Gypsum</b></p> <p>Gypsum mineral is non-toxic. It is a very common sulfate. Represented as <b>CaSO<sub>4</sub>.2H<sub>2</sub>O</b> and chemically known as <b>calcium sulfate dihydrate</b>. On heating gypsum stone a white coloured powder is obtained. This white powder is smooth and is called gypsum powder. Gypsum is first crushed, heat-dried and then powdered.</p> <p><u>1. Fertilizer</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gypsum is used as fertilizer.</li> <li>2. Gypsum prevents soil erosion, improves soil composition, helps the movement of</li> </ol>

water and air, and facilitates root growth.

3. Gypsum balances micronutrients like zinc, iron etc.
4. Gypsum powder is also used in making drywalls.
5. Also, different types of tofu are prepared with gypsum powder.

### 2. Uses of Gypsum in Agriculture

Gypsum gives nutrients to plants by providing sulphur and calcium where calcium helps in the absorption of nutrients in the roots. and sulphur improves crop yield.

2. It has the ability to improve acid soils.
3. It helps in treating aluminium toxicity.
4. Adding lime or gypsum to dispersive soils decreases the sodium exchange percentage, reduces dispersion, and increases stable soil structure.

### 3. Uses of Gypsum Board

Gypsum board is also known as plasterboard, drywall or wall board. It consists of the paper surface and non-combustible core. These boards are easy to install. It has excellent fire resistance. Helps in sound isolation by preventing the transfer of unnecessary sound. It is less expensive and has great durability.

### 4. Other Uses of Gypsum

Gypsum can be added to still water to separate the impurities. For example, adding gypsum to ponds so the dirt particles settle down without harming the aquatic life.

2. It helps in treating orthopaedic and surgical casts.
3. It can be consumed by humans and so it is present in food as additive ice cream, flour, blue cheese, white bread etc.

118.	C	<p><b>Reservation norms for Jute Packaging Materials for Jute Year 2022-23 under JPM Act, 1987</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The reservation norms under JPM Act provide for direct employment to 3.70 lakh workers and protect the interest of approximately 40 lakh farm families in the jute sector.</li> <li>• It <b>protects the interest of Jute farmers, workers and persons</b> engaged in jute goods' production</li> <li>• The Mandatory norms for full reservation for packaging of food grains and 20% reservation for packaging of sugar in jute bags will be a big boost for West Bengal.</li> </ul> <p>Jute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jute is one of the most important natural fibres after cotton in terms of cultivation and usage</li> <li>• <b>Climatic conditions required for its growth</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Temperature:</b> Between 25-35°C</li> <li>○ <b>Rainfall:</b> Around 150-250 cm</li> <li>○ <b>Soil Type:</b> Well-drained alluvial soil.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• India is the largest producer of jute followed by Bangladesh and China.</li> <li>• It is mainly grown in eastern India because of the rich alluvial soil of the Ganga-Brahmaputra delta.</li> <li>• In India, major jute-producing states include <b>West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Meghalaya and Tripura.</b></li> </ul>
119.	d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NCST was set up with effect from 19 February, 2004 by amending Article 338 and by inserting a new article <b>338A</b> in the Constitution through the 89th Constitution Amendment Act, 2003. Hence, it is a <b>constitutional body</b>.</li> </ul> <p>th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Objective:</b> Article 338A inter-alia gives powers to the to NCST <b>oversee the implementation of various safeguards provided to STs under the Constitution or under any other law for time being in force or under any other order to the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards.</b></li> <li>• <b>Composition :</b> It consists of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and 3 other Members who are appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ At least one member should be a woman.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the other Members hold office for a term of <b>3 years</b>.</li> <li>○ The members are <b>not eligible for appointment for more than two terms</b>.</li> <li>● The Chairperson has been given the rank of Union Cabinet Ministers, the Vice Chairperson has the rank of a Minister of State and other Members have the rank of a Secretary to the Government of India.</li> </ul> <p><b>Duties and Functions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To <b>investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the STs</b> under the Constitution or under any other law for the time being in force or under any order of the Government.</li> <li>● To <b>inquire into specific complaints</b> with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the STs.</li> <li>● To <b>participate and advise</b> in the planning process of socio-economic development of the STs and to evaluate the progress of their development.</li> <li>● To present to the <b>President</b>, annually and at such other times as the Commission may deem fit, <b>reports upon the working of those safeguards</b>.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To make in such reports, recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or any State for effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● To discharge such other functions in relation to the protection, welfare and development and advancement of the Scheduled Tribes as the President may subject to the provisions of any law made by Parliament by rule specify.</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/ncst-issues-warrant-of-arrest-for-ceo-of-bank-of-maharashtra/article66545130.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/ncst-issues-warrant-of-arrest-for-ceo-of-bank-of-maharashtra/article66545130.ece</a></p>
120.	d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ocean deoxygenation is the <b>expansion of oxygen minimum zones</b> in the world's oceans as a consequence of anthropogenic emissions of carbon dioxide. The change has been fairly rapid and poses a threat to fish and other types of marine life, as well as to people who depend on marine life for nutrition or livelihood.</li> <li>● Ocean deoxygenation poses implications for ocean productivity, nutrient cycling, carbon cycling, and marine habitats.</li> <li>● Most of the excess heat from CO and other greenhouse gas emissions is absorbed by the oceans. Warmer oceans cause deoxygenation both because <b>oxygen is less soluble in warmer water</b>, and through temperature driven stratification of the ocean which inhibits the production of oxygen from photosynthesis.</li> <li>● <b>Anoxic waters are areas of sea water, fresh water, or groundwater that are</b></li> </ul>










		<b>depleted of dissolved oxygen</b> and are a more severe condition of hypoxia.
121.	a	<p><b>Medicinal plant commonly called Borthekera in Assamese found to have cardioprotective potential</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Garcinia pedunculata</i>, popularly known as Bor Thekera in <b>Assamese</b>, is an evergreen tree related to the more familiar purple mangosteen (<i>Garcinia mangostana</i>).</li> <li>● The tree is <b>endemic to the south-eastern regions of Asia</b> such as parts of Bangladesh and north-eastern parts of India.</li> <li>● The sun-dried slices of the ripe fruit are used for culinary and medicinal purposes and are known to have therapeutic properties like <b>anti-inflammatory, anthelmintic, antibacterial</b>, antifungal, antidiabetic, hypolipidemic, nephroprotective, and even neuroprotective activity.</li> <li>● With scientific interventions seeking proof of these claims, multiple studies have reported that <i>G. pedunculata</i> is a rich source of antioxidants.</li> <li>● <b>Uses:</b> The ripe fruit is eaten cooked or raw. Sun-dried slices are much valued and used for preparing delicacies like "tenga diya masor jol" meaning Assamese sour fish curry.</li> </ul>
122.	a	<p>The PM of India congratulated fellow Members of Parliament (MPs) who will be conferred the Sansad Ratna Awards 2023.</p> <p><b>The Sansad Ratna Awards:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● They were instituted in <b>2010</b>, inspired by the teachings of former <b>President APJ Abdul Kalam</b>, who launched the first edition of the Award function in Chennai.</li> <li>● They seek <b>to recognise and felicitate the top-performing MPs</b> on the basis of their work in the apex legislative body.</li> <li>● <b>Its jury committee comprises</b> eminent Parliamentarians and members of civil society and was chaired by the MoS, Parliamentary Affairs and co-chaired by T S Krishnamurthy (Former Chief Election Commissioner of India).</li> <li>● The Awards are <b>not given by the Government of India</b>. It is the <b>Prime Point</b></li> </ul>

		<b>Foundation</b> which runs the awards show.
123.	b	<p>The 18th UIC World Security Congress, jointly organized by the <b>Railway Protection Force(RPF)</b> and the <b>International Union of Railways (UIC)</b>, concluded today with the adoption of the Jaipur Declaration by the attendees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Jaipur declaration”</b> outlines an <b>actionable agenda to help</b> Railway organizations achieve their <b>long-term goal of safety and security</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Unique work done by Railway Protection Force</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Operation Nanhe Farishte</b> for the rescue of children</li> <li>• <b>Operation AAHT</b> for rescuing women and children from the clutches of traffickers</li> <li>• The <b>Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA)</b> has rescued <b>over 1,600 children</b> from trafficking and facilitated the arrest of 337 alleged traffickers in collaboration with the Railway Protection Force (RPF) in Rajasthan during the last two years.</li> <li>• <b>People at all major railway stations</b> were being sensitised about the issue of child trafficking.</li> </ul>
124.	c	<p>Detected for the first time in 1959, neutrinos are <b>the second most abundant particles in the world</b>, after photons, or the light particle.</p> <p>Neutrinos are <b>mysterious particles, produced copiously in nuclear reactions in the Sun, stars, and elsewhere.</b></p> <p>They also <b>“oscillate”</b>– meaning that different types of neutrinos change into one another.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Probing of oscillations of neutrinos and their relations with mass are crucial in studying the origin of the universe.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sources:</b></p> <p>Neutrinos are created by various radioactive decays; during a supernova, by cosmic rays striking atoms etc.</p> <p><b>Features of neutrinos:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Neutrinos <b>interact very weakly with everything else</b> – trillions of them pass</li> </ol>

		<p>through every human being every second without anyone noticing.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. A <b>neutrino's spin always points in the opposite direction of its motion.</b></li> <li>3. It is now generally believed that the phenomenon of neutrino oscillations require <b>neutrinos to have tiny masses.</b></li> </ol>
125.	d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Stem cells have the ability to develop into different specialized cells. There are 3 types under this classification             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Totipotent stem cells - These Stem Cells can transform into all kinds of cells in the human body.</li> <li>○ Pluripotent stem cells -These Stem Cells can transform themselves into any type of cell in the human body except those kinds that are required to support and develop a fetus in the womb. ESC's and iPSC's are pluripotent stem cells.</li> <li>○ Multipotent stem cells - These can give rise to only a few distinct types of cells.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC's) - These cells are not found in the body but made in the laboratory from cells of the body. The iPSC cells have properties similar to those of embryonic stem cells. Human iPSC's were generated in 2007.</li> <li>● Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) can self-renew indefinitely in culture and differentiate into all specialized cell types including gametes. iPSCs do not exist naturally and are instead generated ("induced" or "reprogrammed") in culture from somatic cells through ectopic co-expression of defined pluripotency factors. Since they can be generated from any healthy person or patient, iPSCs are considered as a valuable resource for regenerative medicine to replace diseased or damaged tissues.</li> <li>● There is no law to regulate the use of stem cells in India. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has issued guidelines that recognize stem cell therapies only for certain treatments and observes that other types of treatments are unproven and should not be offered as therapy. The Health Ministry had sought to change the rules by amending the law. The law that regulates the use and approval of drugs in India is the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. At present stem cells are not classified as drugs in India. If the Drugs and Cosmetics Act is amended by the Government then stem cells will be classified as Drugs and it will come under the jurisdiction of 'Drugs Controller General of India.' However in the proposed amendment stem cells that are 'minimally manipulated' are excluded from the definition of a new drug.</li> </ul>

126.	a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Kol tribes belonged to the <b>Proto-Australoid</b> ethnic stratum.</li> <li>• They consider themselves to be the descendants of Sahara Mata, a member of the Savaras of epic fame; she is known as the "mother of the Kol."</li> <li>• They are concentrated in the northern districts of <b>Madhya Pradesh</b> and Small Kol populations are also found in Orissa and Maharashtra.</li> <li>• The Kol speak local dialects of Hindi and use the <b>Devanagari script</b> for writing.</li> <li>• They celebrate the <b>Jawara festival</b> which appears to be an ancient Kol agricultural festival that later acquired some Hindu characteristics.</li> <li>• The name is derived from the juari plant, a type of millet. Jawara is held twice a year, in the fall just before the sowing of the winter crop, and in the spring after it has been harvested.</li> </ul> <p><b>What is Kol Revolt/uprising?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Kols, tribal people from the Chhota Nagpur area, rose in revolt against the British in 1831.</li> <li>• The rebel kols were under the leadership of Buddhu Bhagat, Joa Bhagat, Jhindrai Manki, Madara Mahato fought against British rules.</li> </ul>
127.	d	<p><b>Financial crime watchdog FATF suspends Russia over Ukraine war</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FATF is an <b>inter-governmental policy-making</b> and <b>standard-setting body</b> dedicated to <b>combating money laundering and terrorist financing</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Objective:</b> To <b>establish international standards</b>, and to develop and promote policies, both at national and international levels, <b>to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism</b>.</li> <li>• It was <b>established in 1989 during the G7 Summit</b> in Paris to develop policies against money laundering.</li> <li>• In 2001 its mandate expanded to include terrorism financing.</li> <li>• <b>Headquarters: Paris, France.</b></li> <li>• <b>FATF members include 39 countries</b>, including the United States, India, China, Saudi Arabia, Britain, Germany, France, and the EU as such.</li> <li>• <b>India became a member of FATF in 2010.</b></li> <li>• <b>What are FATF 'grey list' and 'blacklist'?</b> FATF has 2 types of lists:</li> <li>• <b>**Black List:**</b> Countries known as <b>Non-Cooperative Countries</b> or Territories (NCCTs) are <b>put on the blacklist</b>. These <b>countries support terror funding and money laundering activities</b>. The FATF <b>revises the blacklist regularly</b>, adding or deleting entries.</li> <li>• <b>Grey List: Countries</b> that are <b>considered a safe haven for supporting terror funding and money laundering</b> are put on the FATF grey list. This inclusion serves as a warning to the country that it may enter the blacklist.</li> <li>• <b>Three countries North Korea, Iran, and Myanmar are currently in FATF's</b></li> </ul>

		<p><b>blacklist.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Consequences of being on the FATF blacklist:</b></li> <li>● <b>No financial aid is given to them</b> by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the European Union (EU).</li> <li>● They also face a number of <b>international economic and financial restrictions and sanctions.</b></li> </ul>
128.	d	<p><b>NDMA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● NDMA is India's <b>apex statutory body for disaster management.</b></li> <li>● The NDMA was formally constituted on <b>27th September 2006, by the Disaster Management Act, 2005. The Prime Minister is its chairperson,</b> and it has nine other members. One of the nine members is designated as Vice-Chairperson.</li> <li>● The primary responsibility for the management of disaster rests with the State Government concerned. However, the National Policy on Disaster Management puts in place an enabling environment for all i.e., the Centre, state and district.</li> </ul>
129.	a	<p>The research by scientists at Harvard and Yale universities, published in the journal Environmental Research Letters, proposed using a technique known as <b>stratospheric aerosol injection</b>, which could cut the rate of global warming in half.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The technique would involve <b>spraying large amounts of sulfate particles</b> into the Earth's lower stratosphere at altitudes as high as 12 mile (around 20 kilometre). The sulfates will be delivered with specially designed high-altitude aircraft, balloons or large naval-style guns.</li> <li>● The idea is to <b>help shield the Earth from just enough sunlight</b> to help keep temperatures low, i.e. <b>increasing the planet's albedo</b>, or reflective power. This method would <b>mimic what large volcanoes do.</b> E.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In 1991, <b>Mount Pinatubo erupted in the Philippines.</b> It was the second largest eruption of the 20th century. In total, the eruption injected 20 million tons of sulfur dioxide aerosols into the stratosphere which <b>lowered atmospheric temperature by approximately 1-degree Fahrenheit.</b> However, it's effect only lasted a couple of years because the sulfates eventually fell to Earth. Moreover, it <b>affected precipitation</b> in many parts of the world.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The report does, however, acknowledge that the technique is <b>purely hypothetical</b> and would involve developing a new, purpose built tanker with</li> </ul>

		substantial payload capabilities that may take around 15 years' of time.
130.	b	<p><b>Exercise Desert Flag VIII:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is an annual <b>multinational large-force employment warfare</b> exercise hosted by the UAE Air Force.</li> <li>The IAF would be participating with five Light Combat Aircraft, LCA Tejas and two C-17 Globemaster III aircraft.</li> <li><b>Participants:</b> Air Forces from UAE, France, Kuwait, Australia, the UK, Bahrain, Morocco, Spain, the Republic of Korea, and the USA would also be participating.</li> <li>The exercise is scheduled from the 27th of February to the 17th of March.</li> </ul> <p><b>India's Joint Military Exercises with the UAE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With the UAE, India has In-UAE BILAT (bilateral naval exercise) as well as Desert Eagle-II (bilateral air force exercise).</li> </ul>
131.	a	<p><b><i>What happens when matter and antimatter meet?</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When antimatter and matter meet, they annihilate, and the result is light and nothing else. Given equal amounts of matter and antimatter, nothing would remain once the reaction was completed. As long as we don't know why more matter exists, we can't know why the building blocks of anything else exist, either.</li> <li>This is one of the biggest unsolved problems in physics. Researchers call this the "baryon asymmetry" problem. Baryons are subatomic particles, including protons and neutrons. All baryons have a corresponding antibaryon, which is mysteriously rare. The standard model of physics explains several aspects of the forces of nature. It explains how atoms become molecules, and it explains the particles that make up atoms.</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Particle</b></p> <p>Electron </p> <p>Proton </p> <p>Neutrino  Spin</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Antiparticle</b></p> <p>Positron (antielectron) </p> <p>Antiproton </p> <p>Antineutrino </p> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>revisionworld</b> </p>

132.

c

Bisphenol A (BPA) can significantly \*\*shorten the breeding time of southern house mosquitoes (\*\**Culex quinquefasciatus*) and thereby aid in its quick multiplication

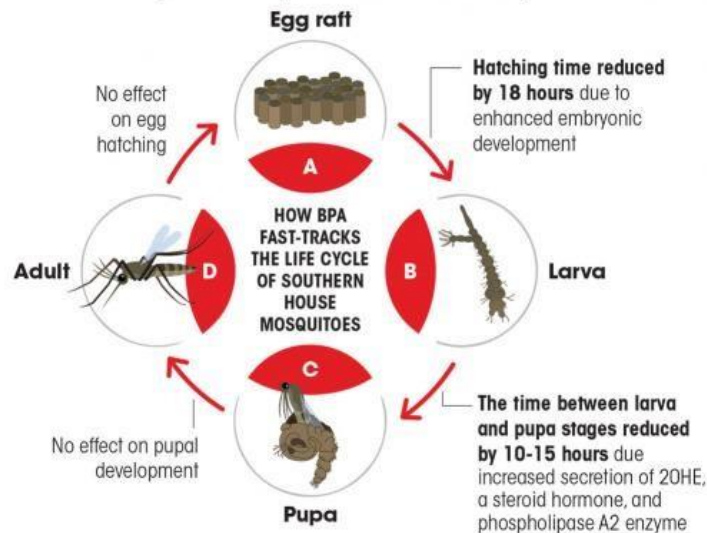
- **Culex quinquefasciatus** is a major carrier of the West Nile virus, Rift Valley fever virus and avian pox in tropical and subtropical countries,

**What is BPA?**

**Bisphenol A** is a **chemical compound primarily** used in the manufacturing of various plastics, (softening plastics), paints and other products

**Plastics quicken mosquito life cycle**

A bisphenol A (BPA) concentration of 1 mg/L in wastewater can shorten the life cycle of mosquitoes from 13 to 10 days



Source: Based on "Bisphenol A acts as developmental agonist in *Culex quinquefasciatus* Say" published in *Environmental Science and Pollution Research* on May 31

133.

d

**Gross Fixed Capital Formation**

- Gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) refers to the **net increase in physical assets** (investment minus disposals). It does not account for the consumption (depreciation) of fixed capital.
- It is a component of expenditure approach to calculating Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
- GFCF is not a measure of total investment, because only the value of net additions to fixed assets is measured, and all kinds of financial assets, as well as stocks of inventories and other operating costs are excluded.

134.	b	
135.	b	<p><b>Once nearly extinct species spotted in Dudhwa &amp; Banbasa, seen nesting in Terai (white-rumped vulture)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It is an Old World vulture in the family Accipitridae. It is one of the two largest Old World vultures and true raptors.</li> <li>● <b>**Distribution:**</b>This species is found along <b>the Himalayas and the adjoining Tibetan</b></li> <li>● <b>Threat:</b> Himalayan vultures are also susceptible to toxicity induced by diclofenac, a drug whose residues are in domestic animal carcasses.</li> <li>● But their population have however not shown signs of rapid decline as witnessed in populations of other Gyps vultures across Asia.</li> <li>● <b>Conservation status</b></li> <li>● <b>IUCN: Near Threatened</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">Other Vulture species found in India</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● India is home to 9 species of Vulture namely the Oriental white-backed, Long-billed, Slender-billed, Himalayan, Red-headed, Egyptian, Bearded, Cinereous and Eurasian Griffon.</li> </ul>
136.	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The inner core extends from the centre of the earth to 5100 km below the earth's surface.</li> <li>● The inner core is generally believed to be composed primarily of <b>iron (80%) and some nickel (nife)</b>.</li> <li>● Since this layer can transmit shear waves (transverse seismic waves), it is solid. (When P-waves strike the outer core – inner core boundary, they give rise to S-waves)</li> <li>● Earth's inner <b>core rotates slightly faster</b> relative to the rotation of the surface.</li> <li>● The solid inner core is too hot to hold a permanent magnetic field.</li> <li>● The density of the inner core ranges from <b>12.6 g/cm<sup>3</sup> to 13 g/cm<sup>3</sup></b>.</li> <li>● The core (inner core and the outer core) accounts for just about <b>16 per cent of the earth's volume but 33% of earth's mass</b>.</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientists have determined the temperature near the Earth's centre to be 6000° C, 1000° C hotter than previously thought.</li> <li>• At 6000°C, this iron core is as hot as the Sun's surface, but the <b>crushing pressure caused by gravity prevents it from becoming liquid.</b></li> <li>• The inner core has an average radius of 1220 km.</li> <li>• The boundary between the inner and outer cores is located at approximately 5150 km below the surface of the Earth.</li> <li>• This boundary is called the <b>Lehman Seismic Discontinuity.</b></li> </ul>
137.	a	<p><b><u>In news</u></b></p> <p>Actress Khushbu has been appointed as a member of the National Commission for Women.</p> <p><b><u>Genesis</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Committee on the Status of Women in India advocated the establishment of a National Commission for Women</b> about two decades ago.</li> <li>• <b>Objective:</b> To fulfil surveillance functions in order to promote grievance resolution and expedite women's socioeconomic growth.</li> <li>• In 1990, the central government held consultations with NGOs, social workers, and academics about the proposed Commission's organization, functions, and powers.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Timeline</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In May 1990, the Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha.</li> <li>• The <b>HRD Ministry</b> held a National Level Conference in July 1990 to get feedback on the Bill. The government adopted many revisions and new rules in August 1990 to give the commission the competence of a civil court.</li> <li>• On August 30, 1990, the <b>bill was passed and signed by the President.</b></li> </ul>

- The **First Commission** was constituted on **31st January 1992** Mrs. **Jayanti Patnaik** as the Chairperson.

### **National Commission for Women: Statutory Provisions**

- **National Commission for Women is a statutory body constituted under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 on 31st January 1992.**
- The **Commission provides financial assistance to non-governmental organizations (NGOs)** and educational institutions that conduct legal awareness programs to help women become more aware of their rights.
- In order to carry out its duties, the Commission has been given the authority to constitute special committees. Furthermore, the **Commission shall have the authority to nominate outsiders as members of any such group.**
- **Consult with NCW:** According to the National Commission for Women Act of 1990, the Central Government must consult the Commission on all policy decisions affecting women.
- **Related to Procedure regulated by the Commission:**
  - The commission or a committee of the commission will convene as needed and at the time and location determined by the Chairperson.
  - The Commission's and the Committee's procedures will be **regulated by the Commission.**

### **Constitutional Provision of National Commission for Women**

- **Fundamental rights:** There are **no provisions in the Indian Constitution that specifically mention the National Commission for Women**, although there are several safeguards for women's safety that are mentioned in Article 15 (3), Article 14, and other places.
- **Fundamental Duties:** It makes sure that Article 51(A) prohibits actions that are offensive to women's dignity.

Composition

### **National Commission for Women - Composition**

- **Chairperson:** The **Central Government will designate a Chairperson** who is committed to the cause of women.
- **Members:** The **Central Government nominated five members** from among people of ability, integrity, and standing who have worked in law, legislation, trade unionism, management of a female-oriented industry, women's voluntary organisations (including women activists), administration, economic development, health, education, or social welfare;
- **At least one Member from each of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes** shall be nominated by the Central Government;
- **Member-Secretary:** A Member-Secretary shall be nominated by the Central Government and shall be from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively:
  - An expert in management, organisational structure, or sociological movement, or
  - A member of the Union's civil service or an all-India service, or an officer holding a civil post under the Union with appropriate experience.

### **Tenure of National Commission for Women**

The Chairperson and every Member shall hold office for such a period, **not exceeding three years**, as may be specified by the Central Government on this behalf.

### **Removal of National Commission for Women**

- If a person becomes an undischarged insolvent, the **Central Government may remove him or her from the position of Chairperson or member**. Or,
- Gets convicted and sentenced to prison for an offence that the central government considers to be morally reprehensible.
- Becomes mentally ill and is declared as such by a full-court.
- Refuses to act or loses the ability to act.
- Is absent from three consecutive commission meetings without receiving leave

of absence from the panel.

- The central government believes that the Chairperson or members have abused their positions to the point where their continued service is detrimental to the public interest.
- No individual shall be removed under this provision unless and until he or she has been given a reasonable opportunity to be heard in the issue.

### **Powers of the National Commission for Women**

The Commission must have all of the powers of a civil court trying a case when examining any topic, including, in particular, the following:

- summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him on oath,
- requires any document to be discovered and produced,
- obtaining evidence through affidavits
- obtaining a copy of any public record from any court or office,
- issuing commissions for witness and document examinations, and
- any other matter which may be prescribed.

### **Functions of the National Commission for Women**

- Inquire into and evaluate all issues connected to the Constitution's and other laws' protections for women.
- **Annual Report:** Report on the operation of those safeguards to the Central Government on an annual basis and at other times as the Commission sees suitable.
  - Make suggestions in such reports for the Union's or any state's effective implementation of those protections for enhancing women's conditions.
  - Submit periodic reports to the government on any issue concerning women, including the different difficulties that women face.
- **Review:** Review existing provisions of the Constitution and other laws affecting women on a regular basis and recommend revisions, as well as proposing

remedial legislative actions to address any gaps, deficiencies, or flaws in such laws.

- Bring cases of violations of the Constitution and other laws affecting women to the attention of the appropriate authorities.
- **Look into complaints and take suo moto notice of matters relating to:**
  - Deprivation of women's rights.
  - Non-implementation of legislation designed to protect women as well as fulfil the goals of equality and development.
  - Non-compliance with policy choices, guidelines, or instructions aimed at alleviating hardships, safeguarding women's welfare, and giving assistance, and bringing such issues to the attention of competent authorities.
- Participate in and provide suggestions on the planning process for women's socio-economic development.
- Evaluate the Union's and any State's progress in the development of women.
- The commission addressing the issue of child marriage, supported legal education initiatives, Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalats, and reviewing laws including
  - the Indian Penal Code of 1860,
  - the Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961,
  - the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act of 1994.

#### **Reports to be laid before the Houses**

- The Central Government shall cause all the reports to be laid before each House of Parliament along with a memorandum explaining the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations relating to the Union and the reasons for the non-acceptance, if any, of any such recommendations.
- When a report or portion of a report relates to an issue that is of concern to a State Government, the Commission shall submit a copy of the report or part to that State Government, which shall cause it to be brought before the State Legislature.

### **Issue related to National Commission for Women**

- The Commission receives very little financial assistance to meet its needs.
- The National Commission for Women's members are appointed by the government; thus, the commission has no authority to choose its members.
- There is no legislative authority conferred on the National Commission for Women.
- It's only authority is to make suggestions for changes and provide reports.
- The NCW reported in 2021 that there had been a 46% increase in reports of crimes against women in the first eight months of that year compared to the same time the year before.
- Domestic abuse, dowry harassment, sexual harassment at work, attempted rape, and cybercrimes are just a few of the crimes that affect women.

### **Recent Context**

- The **Atma Nirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India)** campaign has demonstrated the relationship between women's potential and national growth.
  - This shift is evident since women make up approximately 70% of **Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana** recipients.
  - In the past six to seven years, the number of women's self-help groups has tripled across the nation.
  - In a similar vein, 45% of the more than 60 000 businesses that have appeared since 2016 have at least one woman director.
- The **National Commission for Women (NCW)** has established a state-wide training and capacity-building initiative for women who work in the dairy industry.
- NCW is collaborating with agricultural institutions in India to create the training programme, which will identify and train women working in the dairy farming and adjacent industries in areas such as value addition, quality enhancement, and dairy product packaging and marketing.
- The first session under this project was held for women self-help groups at Lala

Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences in Hisar on “Value Added Dairy Products.” The Haryana State Rural Livelihood Mission helped to organise the event.

- Moving from the '**Raksha Kavach**' strategy to the '**Samagra Sashaktikaran**' approach: 6 years from women's development to women-led development.
- **Encouraging Women Entrepreneurship:** Women entrepreneurs are vital to any country's economic success, which can only be fulfilled through fostering equality and expanding opportunities for women in all aspects of life.

**Other Initiatives**

- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme
- One Stop Centre Scheme
- UJJAWALA
- SWADHAR Greh (A Scheme for Women in Difficult Circumstances)
- NARI SHAKTI PURASKAR
- Mahila police Volunteers
- Mahila Shakti Kendras (MSK)
- NIRBHAYA

**List of the Chairman for Women**

Commission	Chairman	Year
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	1st National Commission for Women	Mrs. Jayanti Patnaik	1992
	2nd National Commission for Women	(Mrs.) Mohini Giri	1995
	3rd National Commission for Women	Mrs. Vibha Parthasarathy	1999
	4th National Commission for Women	Dr. Poornima Advani	2002
	5th National Commission for Women	Dr. Girija Vyas	2005
	6th National Commission for Women	Mrs. Mamta Sharma	2011



		7th National Commission for Women	Ms. Lalitha Kumaramanglam	2014
		8th National Commission for Women	Ms. Rekha Sharma	2017
<p>There is a need to raise awareness and educate ignorant women, particularly in rural regions, about the existence of such a commission to address their rights. The Commission should be able to select its own members. In India, the National Commission for Women is effective since there is still room for improvement.</p>				
138.	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Seagrasses are <b>flowering plants</b> that <b>grow submerged in shallow marine waters like bays and lagoons.</b></li> <li>● They are <b>so-named</b> because <b>most species have long green, grass-like leaves.</b></li> <li>● Seagrasses <b>have roots, stems, and leaves</b> and <b>produce flowers and seeds.</b></li> <li>● Like terrestrial plants, <b>seagrass also photosynthesizes</b> and <b>manufactures their own food</b> and <b>releases oxygen.</b></li> <li>● They <b>evolved around 100 million years ago</b>, and there are approximately <b>72 different seagrass species</b> that belong to four major groups.</li> <li>● Some of the <b>important seagrasses</b> are <b>Sea Cow Grass</b> (Cymodocea serrulata), <b>Thready Seagrass</b> (Cymodocea rotundata), <b>Needle Seagrass</b> (Syringodium isoetifolium), <b>Flat-tipped Seagrass</b> (Halodule uninervis), Spoon Seagrass (Halophila ovalis) and Ribbon Grass (Enhalus acoroides).</li> <li>● <b>Distribution:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ They are found on <b>all continents except Antarctica.</b></li> <li>○ The <b>tropical waters of the Indo-Pacific</b> hold the <b>highest diversity</b> of</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

		<p>seagrasses in the world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Seagrass distribution in India:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ They occur <b>all along the coastal areas of India.</b></li> <li>○ They are <b>abundant in the Palk Strait and Gulf of Mannar</b> in Tamil Nadu.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Ecosystem services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ They are <b>considered to be 'Ecosystem Engineers'.</b></li> <li>○ Seagrasses <b>help maintain water quality.</b> They <b>trap fine sediments and suspended particles</b> in the water column and <b>increase water clarity.</b></li> <li>○ <b>They filter nutrients</b> released from land-based industries before they reach sensitive habitats like coral reefs.</li> <li>○ The extensive <b>vertical and horizontal root systems of seagrasses stabilise the sea bottom.</b></li> <li>○ They are one of the <b>most productive ecosystems in the world.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
139.	a	<p>The Sixth Five-Year Plan was the onset of the economic liberation of India. It was the first step of India towards a Model State. The fundamental objective of the Sixth Year Plan was to put India's economy on the right path. It was implemented to fulfill all the objectives such as reducing the poverty rate, higher income of all the states of India, Putting down social, regional, and economical inequalities with the help of effective plans for the upliftment of backward classes, and trampled sections. In this study, the overview, significance, objectives, and facts of the Sixth Year Plan will be discussed.</p> <p><b>Sixth Five Year Plan (1980 – 1985)</b></p> <p>This Sixth-Five Year Plan of India was the commencement of economic liberalisation (the reduction of rules, restrictions, and regulations for economic exchange). Control of price was removed and rations shops closed. This ultimately resulted in increasing</p>

the price of foods and living costs. Although the Sixth Five Year Plan was a major success for the Indian economy as it accelerated in different ways. The Growth rate of the Indian economy was earlier targeted at 5.2% but the appropriate growth rate of the economy was 5.7%. Other different objectives were to elevate the downtrodden sections and backward classes of India. It was aimed to eliminate illiteracy between the age group of 15-35. Its objective was to educate everyone between the age group of 6-14 years. Improvement of the standard of living of people, sanitation, and environment was alluded to in this planning.

### **Overview of Sixth Five Year Plan (1980 – 1985)**

The Sixth Five Year Plan was a great success for the Indian economy. This was capable of attaining most of its objectives that were planned before the implementation of the Five-year plan. The average growth rate of the Indian economy was around 5%. The production of food increased to 151.5 MT. The overall growth of the individual sectors was favourable. This Five-year plan bestowed extraordinary attention towards the elimination of poverty with the help of programs such as NREP (National Rural Employment Programme), IRDP (Integrated Rural Development Programme), and RLEGP (Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme). According to the data of the planning commission, 37% of the population was under the poverty line at the end of this Five-year planning.

### **Significance of Sixth Five Year Plan (1980 – 1985)**

This Sixth Five Year Plan was of great significance. Its implementation in India had somewhat reduced the poverty rate of India. It helped in the upliftment of the standard of living of rural people. Along with that, it also helped to raise the education level, sanitation, nutrition, working conditions, and maintenance and cleaning of the environment. The basic objectives of this plan were to lift scheduled castes, trampled sections, and other backward classes. Besides these, the increase of income of every state and the development of education, and the elimination of illiteracy of the Indian people were some of the main targets of this annual plan.

		<p><b>Objectives of Sixth Five Year Plan (1980 – 1985)</b></p> <p>This Sixth Five Year Plan was implemented to fulfil its targets so that the overall development of India gets accomplished. It had different various objectives such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The acceleration of the Indian economy up to the annual growth rate of about 5%.</li> <li>• The elimination of poverty in the rural areas of India. For the elimination of poverty, different programs were put in place such as NREP, IRDP, and RLEGP.</li> <li>• Elimination of social, regional, and economical inequalities was one of the major objectives of this plan.</li> <li>• Education for all and the elimination of illiteracy of the people were targeted through this five-year plan.</li> <li>• Elimination of unemployment in India.</li> <li>• Reduction of the urban and rural dispersal was one of its objectives.</li> <li>• In this plan, different measures were taken for the development of standard of life. Improvement of quality of life has obtained significant emphasis. The most significant procedure was the proper supply of water and maintenance of sewerage projects in 9 big cities of India.</li> <li>• Sub-plans for the integrated area were one of this plan's objectives. Three areas such as the border area, the bet area (riverine), and the Kandi area (submontane) were abandoned for development. For the development of these integrated areas, certain sub-plans were implemented to level up the rest of the state.</li> </ul>
140.	d	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NATIONAL EMERGENCY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National emergency can be declared on the basis of war, external aggression or armed rebellion. The Constitution employs the expression 'proclamation of emergency' to denote an emergency of this type.</li> <li>• <b>Grounds of declaration:</b></li> </ul>

- Under Article 352, the president can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion.
- The President can declare a national emergency even before the actual occurrence of war or armed rebellion or external aggression
- When a national emergency is declared on the grounds of **'war' or 'external aggression'**, it is known as **'External Emergency'**. On the other hand, when it is declared on the grounds of **'armed rebellion'**, it is known as **'Internal Emergency'**.
  - This term 'armed rebellion' is inserted from the **44th amendment**. Before this term it was known as internal disturbance.