

Q.NO	QUESTIONS	ANS	EXPLANATIONS
1.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Minimum Public Shareholding (MPS)”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Every listed company, should maintain a public shareholding of at least 49%.</li> <li>Securities and Exchange Board of India has prescribed MPS.</li> <li>There is an exception to public sector companies for maintaining MPS.</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above countries is/are bordering Red Sea?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>	B	SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) has prescribed Minimum Public Shareholding (MPS) norms for listed companies. Rule 19A of the Securities Contract Regulation Rules states that every listed company, except public sector companies, should maintain a public shareholding of at least 25%.
2.	<p><b>“Kempegowda International Airport” is sometimes talked about in news for receiving an honour from UNESCO’s 2023 Prix Versailles. Where is the Kempegowda International Airport?</b></p> <p>(a) Madhya Pradesh (b) New Delhi</p>	C	Terminal 2 (T2) of Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru has been recognised as one of the world’s most beautiful airports and awarded the special prize for interiors at the UNESCO’s 2023 Prix Versailles.

	(c) Karnataka (d) Telangana <hr/>		
3.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Peninsular Rivers”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All the Peninsular rivers run from west to east.</li> <li>2. Both the Narmada and the Tapi rivers considered as a “Transboundary rivers” in India.</li> <li>3. Peninsular rivers are defined by their meanders, and Perennial water flow.</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the Incorrect answer using the code given below:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>(b) 2 and 3 only.</li> <li>(c) 1 and 3 only.</li> <li>(d) 1, 2 and 3</li> </ol> <hr/>	C	Except for the Narmada and Tapi, most of the Peninsular rivers run from west to east. Both the Narmada and the Tapi rivers run westward and form estuaries. Peninsular rivers are defined by their straight course, lack of meanders, and non-perennial water flow.
4.		A	Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS)

	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Carbon Credits Trading Scheme (CCTS)”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It’s a scheme for the reduction or removal of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.</li> <li>2. The Ministry of Renewable energy in India has introduced CCTS.</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>		<p>The ‘CCTS’ stands for the Carbon Credits Trading Scheme, and it is a scheme for the reduction or removal of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The central government notifies and governs this scheme. The Ministry of Power in India has introduced amendments to the Carbon Credits Trading Scheme (CCTS).</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sloth bears are found in all parts of the country.</li> <li>2. They are nocturnal animals.</li> <li>3. Sloth bears do not hibernate.</li> </ol>	<p>B</p>	<p>Sloth bears are found in all parts of the country except Jammu and Kashmir and northeastern States.</p> <p><u>Characteristics:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. They are nocturnal animals.</li> <li>2. It feeds on fruits, ants and termites.</li> <li>3. Sloth bears do not hibernate.</li> </ol> <p><u>Protection Status</u></p>

	<p>4. Sloth bears are listed under Schedule II of Wildlife Protection Act.</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 3 and 4 only (d) 1 and 4 only</p> <hr/>		<p>1. IUCN red list: listed as 'vulnerable'</p> <p>2. Wildlife Protection Act of India, 1972: listed under Schedule I</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>Anti-retroviral Therapy is a medication used for which one of the following diseases?</b></p> <p>(a) Malaria (b) Dengue (c) HIV/AIDS (d) Covid-19</p> <hr/>	<p>C</p>	<p>April 1 commemorates the 20th anniversary of the launch of Free Anti-retroviral Therapy (ART) for Persons living with HIV (PLHIV) by the Indian government, a pivotal step in the nation's HIV/AIDS response.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>"95-95-95 target" is a strategy used for which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) For Anemia Mukht Bharath strategy (b) For exploring space debris cleaning</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>The first of the United Nations' 95-95-95 targets to end the HIV epidemic is for 95% of people living with HIV to know their HIV status by 2025. HIV testing is therefore essential to achieving "the first 95". In 2020,</p>

	<p>(c) It's targets to end the HIV epidemic (d) For setting up covid-19 immunisation</p> <hr/>		<p>around 16% of people living with HIV were unaware of their infection.</p>
8.	<p><b>Consider the following pairs :</b></p> <p><b>Wetlands : Confluence of rivers</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Harike Wetlands : Confluence of Beas and Satluj/Sutlej</li> <li>2. Keoladeo Ghana National Park :Confluence of Banas and Chambal</li> <li>3. Kolleru Lake :Confluence of Musi and Krishna</li> </ol> <p><b>Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (e) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p> <hr/>	A	
9.		C	

	<p><b>With reference to the cultural history of India, the term 'Panchayatan' refers to</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) an assembly of village elders</li><li>(b) a religious sect</li><li>(c) a style of temple construction</li><li>(d) an administrative functionary</li></ul> <hr/>		
10.	<p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The International Solar Alliance was launched at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2015.</li><li>2. The Alliance includes all the member countries of the United Nations.</li></ul> <p><b>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) 1 only</li><li>(b) 2 only</li><li>(c) Both 1 and 2</li><li>(d) Neither 1 nor 2</li></ul> <hr/>	A	

11.	<p><b>In the recent years Chad, Guinea, Mali and Sudan caught the international attention for which one of the following reasons common to all of them?</b></p> <p>(a) Discovery of rich deposits of rare earth elements</p> <p>(b) Establishment of Chinese military bases</p> <p>(c) Southward expansion of Sahara Desert</p> <p>(d) Successful coups</p>	D	
12.	<p><b>In which of the following regions of India are you most likely to come across the 'Great Indian Hornbill' in its natural habitat?</b></p> <p>(a) Sand deserts of northwest India</p> <p>(b) Higher Himalayas of Jammu and Kashmir</p> <p>(c) Salt marshes of western Gujarat</p> <p>(d) Western Ghats</p>	D	
13.		D	

	<p><b>In addition to fingerprint scanning, which of the following can be used in the biometric identification of a person?</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Iris scanning</li><li>2. Retinal scanning</li><li>3. Voice recognition</li></ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>		
14.	<p><b>Which one of the following statement is correct with reference to Biological Oxygen Demand(BOD) and Dissolved Oxygen(DO)?</b></p> <p>(a) The quality of water increases with an increase in DO levels. (b) Lower BOD, the lower the amount of dissolved oxygen. (c) The quality of water decreases with an increase in DO levels. (d) Greater BOD, the higher the amount of dissolved oxygen.</p>	A	<p>Greater BOD, the lower the amount of dissolved oxygen available for higher animals such as fishes. It is the amount of dissolved oxygen present in the water which is needed for aquatic life to survive. The quality of water increases with an increase in DO levels.</p>

15.	<p><b>Bletchley Declaration, is sometimes talked about with reference to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) Russia-Ukraine conflict (b) Ceasefire between Israel and Palestine (c) Artificial Intelligence Regulation (d) Protecting countries from Economic meltdown</p>	C	<p>Bletchley Park in Buckinghamshire near London was once the top-secret base of the codebreakers who cracked the German 'Enigma Code' that hastened the end of World War II. This symbolism was evidently a reason why it was chosen to host the world's first ever Artificial Intelligence (AI) Safety Summit.</p>
16.	<p><b>With reference to "Price-to-Earnings (P/E) ratio" consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It's a valuation metric used to assess the relative value of a company's stock price compared to its total earnings</li> <li>2. It is one of the most widely used tools by investors and analysts to gauge the attractiveness of a stock</li> <li>3. A high P/E ratio suggests that investors are willing to pay a premium for the company's stock relative to its earnings</li> </ol>	B	<p>The Price-to-Earnings (P/E) ratio is a valuation metric used to assess the relative value of a company's stock price compared to its earnings per share (EPS).</p>

	<p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>		
<p>17.</p>	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “World Bank’s World Governance Index”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It’s designed to help researchers and analysts assess broad patterns in perceptions of governance across countries</li> <li>2. “Rule of Law” is one of the indicators in this index</li> <li>3. It is released by the World Bank</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>	<p>C</p>	<p><u>World Bank’s World Governance Index</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is released by the World Bank.</li> <li>▪ It is based on six dimensions of governance:</li> <li>▪ Voice and Accountability</li> <li>▪ Political Stability and Absence of Violence</li> <li>▪ Government Effectiveness</li> <li>▪ Regulatory Quality</li> <li>▪ Rule of Law</li> <li>▪ Control of Corruption</li> </ul> <p>These indicators are designed to help researchers and analysts assess broad patterns in perceptions of governance across countries and over time</p>

18.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “kallakadal”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. It’s essentially coastal flooding during the post-monsoon season</li><li>2. This term was formally approved by the UNESCO</li></ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	B	Kallakkadal is essentially coastal flooding during the pre-monsoon (April-May) season by swell waves on the southwest coast of India.
19.	<p><b>In India, cluster bean (Guar) is traditionally used as a vegetable or animal feed, but recently the cultivation of this has assumed significance. Which one of the following statements is correct in this context?</b></p> <p>(a) The oil extracted from seeds is used in the manufacture of biodegradable plastics</p>	B	

	<p>(b) The gum made from its seeds is used in the extraction of shale gas</p> <p>(c) The leaf extract of this plant has the properties of anti-histamines</p> <p>(d) It is a source of high-quality biodiesel</p> <hr/>		
20.	<hr/> <p><b>Which of the following have coral reefs?</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands</li><li>2. Gulf of Kachchh</li><li>3. Gulf of Mannar</li><li>4. Sunderbans</li></ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</b></p> <p>(a) 1, 2 and 3 only</p> <p>(b) 2 and 4 only</p> <p>(c) 1 and 3 only</p> <p>(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4</p> <hr/>	A	
21.	<hr/> <p><b>Which one of the following articles under Constitution of India has given</b></p>	B	According to Article 131, the SC has exclusive and original jurisdiction over legal

	<p><b>the 'Original and Exclusive' powers to the Supreme Court to deal cases between States or between States and the Union?</b></p> <p>(a) Art 130 (b) Art 131 (c) Art 142 (d) Art 143</p>		<p>issues originating between States or between States and the Union.</p>
<p>22.</p>	<p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Ring of Fire is a string of hundreds of volcanoes and earthquake-sites</li> <li>2. The Ring of Fire witnesses so many earthquakes due to constant sliding past</li> <li>3. The recent Taiwan earthquakes happened due to the interactions of the Philippine Sea Plate and the Eurasian Plate</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Taiwan experiences earthquakes due to the interactions of two tectonic plates — the Philippine Sea Plate and the Eurasian Plate. The Ring of Fire is essentially a string of hundreds of volcanoes and earthquake-sites. The Ring of Fire witnesses so many earthquakes due to constant sliding past, colliding into, or moving above or below each other of the tectonic plates.</p>

	(d) None		
23.	<p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All volcanoes have been formed through a process known as subduction</li> <li>All subduction zones on the planet are located in the Ring of Fire</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the <u>Incorrect</u> answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	C	Many of the volcanoes have been formed through a process known as subduction. It takes place when two plates collide with each other and the heavier plate is shoved under another, creating a deep trench. Most of the subduction zones on the planet are located in the Ring of Fire and that's why it hosts a large number of volcanoes.
24.	<p><b>With reference to "Per-capita GDP" consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It's a measure of the average economic output per person in a country</li> <li>It is calculated by dividing the country's total population by its GDP</li> </ol>	B	Per capita GDP, or Gross Domestic Product per capita, is a measure of the average economic output per person in a country. It is calculated by dividing the country's total GDP by its population.

	<p>3. It reflects the average standard of living in a country</p> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p> <hr/>		
25.	<p><b>Consider the following:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Zimbabwe</li> <li>2. Central African Republic</li> <li>3. Burkina Faso</li> <li>4. Ethiopia</li> <li>5. Rwanda</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above countries is/are land-locked countries in Africa?</b></p> <p>(a) Only two (b) Only three (c) Only four (d) All five</p>	D	<p>There are 16 landlocked countries in Africa: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia, Eswatini (former Swaziland), Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.</p>
26.	<hr/>	C	<p>The Army has started the induction of control and reporting systems under</p>

	<p><b>“Project Akashdeep”, is sometimes seen in news with reference to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) Producing electricity from the cropwaste.</p> <p>(b) Employing computers to aid farm management.</p> <p>(c) To bolster air defense capabilities</p> <p>(d) Providing free electricity to the green projects</p> <hr/>		<p>‘Project Akashdeep’ to bolster its air defense capabilities.</p>
<p>27.</p>	<p><b>With reference to “National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM)” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NLEM is a list released by the Department of Pharmaceuticals</li> <li>2. The medicines listed in the NLEM are sold below a price ceiling</li> <li>3. Changes in medicine prices are based on wholesale price index-based inflation only</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><u>National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) is a list released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.</li> <li>▪ The medicines listed in the NLEM are sold below a price ceiling fixed by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA).</li> <li>▪ NPPA caps medicine prices and changes only based on wholesale price index-based inflation.</li> </ul>

	(b) Only two (c) All three (d) None		
28.	<p><b><u>Wadge bank, is seen in news recently related to what?</u></b></p> (a) A bank which lend to green projects only (b) One of the rich fishing grounds in the world (c) A place selected for ecological bank (d) It's an international research center for studying flora	B	The Wadge Bank is a resource-rich area south of Kanyakumari, noted for deep-sea fishing grounds and other resources. Its size is estimated at 3,000 to 4,000 square miles, contrasting significantly with the 285-acre Katchatheevu Island.
29.	<p><b><u>With reference to “Exchange Traded Derivative” consider the following statements:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It's a standardized financial contract traded on stock exchanges</li> <li>2. Futures contracts and options contracts are example of ETD</li> </ol>	C	<p><u>Exchange Traded Derivative:</u></p> <p>An Exchange Traded Derivative is a standardized financial contract traded on stock exchanges in a regulated manner. These derivatives are subject to rules drafted by market regulators such as the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).</p>

	<p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>		
30.	<p><b>In the context of the developments in Bioinformatics, the term ‘transcriptome’, sometimes seen in the news, refers to</b></p> <p>(a) a range of enzymes used in genome editing (b) the full range of mRNA molecules expressed by an organism (c) the description of the mechanism of gene expression (d) a mechanism of genetic mutations taking place in cells</p>	B	
31.	<p><b>With reference to “Monetary Policy Committee” consider the following statements:</b></p>	B	An RBI-appointed committee led by the then deputy governor Urjit Patel in 2014 recommended the establishment of the Monetary Policy Committee.

	<p>1. The Governor of RBI is ex-officio Chairman of this committee</p> <p>2. It's a statutory framework under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934</p> <p>3. Raghuram Rajan in 2014 recommended the establishment of this Committee</p> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>		
32.	<p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p> <p>1. Repo rate is an interest rate that the RBI charges when commercial banks borrow money from RBI</p> <p>2. Reverse repo rate, that the RBI pays commercial banks when they park their excess money into RBI</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p>	C	<p><u>Repo Rate</u>: The interest rate that the RBI charges when commercial banks borrow money from it is called the repo rate.</p> <p><u>Reverse Repo</u>: The interest rate that the RBI pays commercial banks when they park their excess cash with the central bank is called the reverse repo rate.</p>

	<p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>		
33.	<p><b>Which of the below options is/are correct with respect to “<u>Securities Appellate Tribunal</u>”?</b></p> <p>(a) It’s a statutory and autonomous body (b) It has the same powers as vested in a civil court (c) It can hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by the Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India (d) All the above</p>	D	<p>SAT is a statutory body established under the provisions of Section 15K of the SEBI Act, 1992. To hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by the Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India (IRDAI) and Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).</p>
34.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “<u>Special Drawing Rights</u>”:</b></p> <p>1. Indian rupee is one of the currencies in Special Drawing Rights</p>	B	<p>SDR basket of currencies includes the U.S. dollar, Euro, Japanese yen, pound sterling and the Chinese renminbi (included in 2016).</p>

	<p>2. The SDR currency value is calculated on daily basis</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>		
35.	<p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p> <p>1. Mizoram is the only state in India bordering both the Myanmar and Bangladesh.</p> <p>2. Arunachal Pradesh borders China and Myanmar only.</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>	A	<p>Four Northeast Indian states share the border with Myanmar: Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, and Manipur. Arunachal Pradesh borders China Bhutan and Myanmar.</p>

36.	<p><b>With reference to “Green Credit Programme” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. It was first announced by the Union Finance Minister in the 2024-25 budget</li><li>2. It’s an incentive program that will be able to earn for environment-positive actions</li><li>3. It will encourage private sector industries and companies</li><li>4. The green credits will be tradable</li></ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four</p>	C	It was first announced by the Union Finance Minister in the 2023-24 budget to leverage a competitive market-based approach and incentivise voluntary environmental actions of various stakeholders.
37.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana”:</b></p>	C	It is a grid connected rooftop solar PV system, where the DC power generated from a solar panel converted to AC power using a power conditioning unit/Inverter and is fed to the grid.

	<p>1. It aims to light up households by providing up to 300 units of free electricity every month</p> <p>2. It aims to incentivise the adoption of solar energy</p> <p>3. All stakeholders will be integrated into a National Online Portal</p> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one</p> <p>(b) Only two</p> <p>(c) All three</p> <p>(d) None</p> <hr/>		
38.	<p><b>With reference to “National Bat Monitoring Programme” consider the following statements:</b></p> <p>1. The National Bat Monitoring Programme has been running since 2021</p> <p>2. It gives us, and the government, the information needed to help inform bat conservation</p>	B	<p>The National Bat Monitoring Programme has been running since 1996.</p>

	<p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>		
39.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about "Citizenship":</b></p> <p>1. Indian constitution allows dual citizenship to some peoples</p> <p>2. "Overseas Citizen of India cardholders" are Indian citizens living in abroad</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	D	The OCI is not dual citizenship as the Indian Constitution under Article 9 forbids dual citizenship or dual nationality.
40.	<hr/> <p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p>	B	First woman President of INC was Annie Besant. First male President was W.C. Banerjee. First Muslim male President was Badruddin Tyabji.

	<p>1. The first woman President of the Indian National Congress was Sarojini Naidu.</p> <p>2. The first Muslim President of the Indian National Congress was Badruddin Tyabji</p> <p><b>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>		
41.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “State Human Rights Commission”:</b></p> <p>1. It is a statutory body</p> <p>2. Only a person who has been Chief Justice of a High Court can be a chairperson</p> <p>3. The Chairperson can be removed by the procedure mentioned in the Judges enquiry act</p>	A	<p>SHRC in India serves as a watchdog to ensure the protection and promotion of human rights within each state. It was established as per the provisions of the Protection of Human Rights Act (PHRA), 1993. Chairperson who has been Chief Justice or Judge of a High Court. Removal: The Chairperson or any other Member of the Commission shall be removed from his office by order of the President on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity after the inquiry of the Supreme Court.</p>

	<p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>		
42.	<p><b>The statutory functions of the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) includes:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Prevention of Money Laundering Act</li> <li>2. The Foreign Exchange Management Act</li> <li>3. The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p> <hr/>	C	<p>The Directorate of Enforcement is a multi-disciplinary organization mandated with investigation of offenses of money laundering and violations of foreign exchange laws.</p>
43.	<hr/>	C	<p>since the ED is not a police agency, statements made by an accused to the ED</p>

	<p><b>With reference to “Enforcement Directorate” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The ED is not considered as ‘police’</li> <li>2. Statements made by an accused to the ED are admissible in court</li> <li>3. ED is kept outside the purview of the Code of Criminal Procedure</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p> <hr/>		<p>are admissible in court. The judgment in Vijay Madanlal Choudhary &amp;Ors vs Union of India upheld these sweeping powers of the ED.</p>
<p>44.</p>	<p><b><u>Maulana Barkatullah</u> an Indian revolutionary from Bhopal is seen in news with reference to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) He is associated with Gadhar party (b) Longest serving head of Indian National Congress (c) He went to Germany accompanied bySubash Chandra Bose</p>	<p>A</p>	<p>Maulana Barkatullah was one of the founders of the Ghadar Party in 1913 at San Francisco. Later he became the first prime minister of the Provisional Government of India established on 1 December 1915 in Kabul with Raja Mahendra Pratap as its president.</p>

	(d) Associated with Kakori train conspiracy		
45.	<p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GPS Spoofing is an attempt to alter the initial location of a GPS-enabled device</li> <li>Spoofing is harder to detect compared to jamming</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	C	<p>GPS Spoofing: An attempt to alter the initial location of a GPS-enabled device. Detection Difficulty: Spoofing is harder to detect compared to jamming.</p>
46.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) slips”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When we cast our vote, the VVPAT simultaneously prints a paper slip displaying our choice</li> </ol>	B	<p>VVPAT -fitted EVMs were used in entire Goa assembly elections of 2017 which was also the first time that VVPAT with EVM was used in the entire state.</p>

	<p>2. These paper slips are stored securely and can be accessed for verification purposes</p> <p>3. Tamil Nadu assembly elections of 2016 which was the first time that VVPAT with EVM was used in an entire state</p> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p> <hr/>		
47.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) slips”:</b></p> <p>1. When we cast our vote, the VVPAT simultaneously prints a paper slip displaying our choice</p> <p>2. These paper slips are stored securely and can be accessed for verification purposes</p>	B	<p>NCCF (National Calamity Contingency Fund) was renamed as NDRF with the enactment of the Disaster Management Act, 2005. SDRF was constituted based on the recommendations of the 13th Finance Commission.</p>

	<p>3. Tamil Nadu assembly elections of 2016 which was the first time that VVPAT with EVM was used in an entire state</p> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p> <hr/>		
48.	<p><b>Consider the following pairs:</b></p> <p><b>Vitamin Deficiency: Disease</b></p> <p>1. Vitamin C Scurvy 2. Vitamin D Rickets 3. Vitamin E Night blindness</p> <p><b>Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?</b></p> <p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) None</p>	A	<p>Night blindness is one of the first signs of vitamin A deficiency. Vitamin E is a fat-soluble vitamin with several forms, but alpha-tocopherol is the only one used by the human body. Its main role is to act as an antioxidant, scavenging loose electrons—so-called “free radicals”—that can damage cells.</p>
49.	<hr/> <p><b>Ibadat Khana at Fatehpur Sikri was</b></p>	C	<p>The Ibadat Khana or House of Worship was a prayer or a meeting room built by Akbar</p>

	<p>(a) the mosque for the use of Royal Family</p> <p>(b) Akbar's private chamber prayer</p> <p>(c) the hall in which Akbar held discussions with scholars of various religions.</p> <p>(d) the room in which the nobles belonging to different religions gathered to discuss religious affairs</p>		<p>at his palace in Fatehpur Sikri. It was built to gather spiritual leaders of different religious grounds so as to conduct a discussion on the teachings of the respective religious leaders.</p>
50.	<p><b>Which one of the following is the correct sequence of a food chain?</b></p> <p>(a) Diatoms-Crustaceans-Herrings</p> <p>(b) Crustaceans-Diatoms-Herrings</p> <p>(c) Diatoms-Herrings-Crustaceans</p> <p>(d) Crustaceans-Herrings-Diatoms</p>	A	<p>The food chain starts with a producer. Crustaceans form a very large group of arthropods which include crabs, lobsters, crayfish, shrimp, krill, and barnacles. Herrings are fish, and they eat crustaceans.</p>
51.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about "Higgs boson":</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bosons are thought to be particles which are responsible for all physical forces</li> <li>2. Higgs' theory relates to how subatomic particles that are the building blocks of matter get their mass</li> </ol>	C	

	<p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>		
52.	<p><b>With reference to “Electoral Bond scheme” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Any party that is registered under the Representation of the Peoples Act is eligible to receive electoral bonds</li> <li>2. No foreign company could donate to any political party</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	D	<p>Any party that is registered under section 29A of the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951 (43 of 1951) and has secured at least one per cent of the votes polled in the most recent General elections or Assembly elections is eligible to receive electoral bonds. Earlier, no foreign company could donate to any political party under the Companies Act.</p>
53.	<p><b>Consider the following:</b></p>	C	<p>A landlocked country in the centre of Southern Africa, Botswana is bordered by</p>

	<p>1. Namibia</p> <p>2. Zambia</p> <p>3. Tanzania</p> <p>4. South Africa</p> <p><b>How many of the above countries is/are bordering Botswana?</b></p> <p>(a) only one</p> <p>(b) Only two</p> <p>(c) only three</p> <p>(d) All four</p> <hr/>		<p>Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. Although most of the country is covered by deep Kalahari sand, there are rocky hills to the south-east.</p>
<p>54.</p>	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Thamirabarani River”:</b></p> <p>1. It’s the only perennial river in south India</p> <p>2. It originates in Karnataka and ends in Tamil Nadu</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only</p> <p>(b) 2 only</p> <p>(c) Both 1 and 2</p> <p>(d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>A</p>	<p>Thamirabarani is the only perennial river in south India that flows through the districts of Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi in Tamil Nadu. It originates and ends in the same state (Tamil Nadu).</p>

55.	<p><b>LVM-3, is sometimes seen in news with reference to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) Producing biodegradable plastics</p> <p>(b) Using air-borne devices to collect blood samples from moving animals</p> <p>(c) Studying the evolutionary relationships among various species of fauna</p> <p>(d) Three-stage medium-lift launch vehicle</p>	D	<p>The Launch Vehicle Mark-3 or LVM3 is a three-stage medium-lift launch vehicle developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).</p>
56.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR)”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. It’s the apex national authority responsible for administering all trade remedial measures</li><li>2. Imposing anti-dumping duties and countervailing duties are one of the functions of DGTR</li><li>3. It functions under the Ministry of Finance</li></ol>	B	<p>The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) is the apex national authority under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry responsible for administering all trade remedial measures. These measures include anti-dumping duties, countervailing duties, and safeguard measures.</p>

	<p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>		
<p>57.</p>	<p><b>With reference to “National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF)” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It was established in 2015 as India’s sovereign wealth fund</li> <li>2. It can invest only in greenfield infrastructure projects</li> <li>3. All NIIF funds are registered as Alternative Investment Funds</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>Optimizing Economic Impact: The primary goal is to optimize the economic impact through investments in: Greenfield (new), brownfield (existing), and stalled infrastructure projects. Strategic investments to support India’s vision of robust infrastructure for economic growth. All NIIF funds are registered as Alternative Investment Funds (AIF) with SEBI. This ensures compliance with investment norms and provides transparency and oversight.</p>

<p>58.</p>	<p><b>With reference to “Curative Petition” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If there was a significant miscarriage of justice due to a final decision of the Supreme Court, the President will correct it</li> <li>2. It’s an extraordinary power of President under Article 129 and 142 of the Constitution of India</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>Curative, an extraordinary special jurisdiction carved out by the Supreme Court under its inherent power vide Article 129 and 142 of the Constitution of India. A curative writ petition as a layer of appeal against a Supreme Court decision is not prescribed in the Constitution. It is a judicial innovation, designed for correcting “grave injustices” in a ruling of the country’s top court.</p>
<p>59.</p>	<p><b>Kalamkari painting refers to</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a hand-painted cotton textile in South India</li> <li>(b) a handmade drawing on bamboo handicrafts in North-East India</li> <li>(c) a block-painted woollen cloth in Western Himalayan region of India</li> </ol>	<p>A</p>	<p>Kalamkari is a type of hand-painted cotton textile produced in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. Only natural dyes are used in Kalamkari, which involves twenty-three steps.</p>

	(d) a hand-painted decorative silk cloth in North-Western India		
60.	<p><b>There has been a persistent deficit budget year after year. Which of the following actions can be taken by the government to reduce the deficit?</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reducing revenue expenditure</li> <li>2. Introducing new welfare schemes</li> <li>3. Rationalizing subsidies</li> <li>4. Expanding industries</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</b></p> <p>(a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 only (d) 1,2,3 and 4</p>	A	
61.		C	The “grandfathering rule” is a provision often included in tax laws or treaties to protect existing investments or arrangements from the impact of new tax

	<p><b>Grandfathering rule, is sometimes seen in news with reference to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) It's a conventional rule to protect the stem cells and bone marrow for future purposes</p> <p>(b) A space treaty to avoid collision of satellites</p> <p>(c) It's used to protect existing investments or arrangements from the impact of new tax laws</p> <p>(d) It's helpful for scientist to cure genetic disorder</p> <hr/>		<p>laws or changes in tax treaties. It allows certain investments or transactions that were made before the new rules came into effect to continue enjoying the benefits of the old rules. It provides continuity of benefits, stability, and predictability for investors and businesses, ensuring that they are not unduly affected by sudden changes in tax regimes.</p>
<p>62.</p>	<p><b>With reference to “Principal Purpose Test (PPT)” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is designed to prevent treaty abuse</li> <li>2. The main objective is to counteract tax avoidance strategies</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only</p> <p>(b) 2 only</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>The Principal Purpose Test (PPT) is a provision commonly found in modern tax treaties, including Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAAs). It is designed to prevent treaty abuse and ensure that the benefits of a tax treaty are not granted inappropriately to those who do not have a legitimate claim to them.</p>

	<p>(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>		
63.	<p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Majuli in India is the second largest river island in the world</li> <li>2. Majuli is in the state of Orissa</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>	D	<p>Majuli, the largest river island in the world and the seat of Assam's neo-Vaishnavite tradition, has been home to the art of mask-making since the 16th century.</p>
64.	<p><b>With reference to "Enforcement Directorate" consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. PML act provides for the attachment of any property that is</li> </ol>	B	<p>Section 5 of the PMLA provides for the attachment of any property that is suspected to have been acquired with the proceeds of crime in a case of any offense that is listed in the schedule of the law. This provisional attachment order is valid for a period of 180 days. As the initial attachment is provisional, the accused can</p>

	<p>suspected to have been acquired with the proceeds of crime</p> <p>2. The accused can continue to enjoy the property and no need to vacate the property after the attachment</p> <p>3. The accused has the right to challenge the Adjudicating Authority's confirmation order at the PMLA's Appellate Tribunal only</p> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p> <hr/>		<p>continue to enjoy the property until the Adjudicating Authority confirms the attachment — after which the ED has the power to claim possession. The accused has the right to challenge the Adjudicating Authority's confirmation order at the PMLA's Appellate Tribunal within 45 days. If the Appellate Tribunal too confirms the order, the accused can file a plea in the High Court, and so on. Unless the property is released along the way, it shall remain out of bounds for the owner until the trial is completed. Following final confirmation, in case of a residential property, the ED will ask the owner to vacate the premises along with his belongings, and will take over possession.</p>
<p>65.</p>	<p><b>'Project NETRA' of ISRO, is sometimes seen in news with reference to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) To achieve zero space debris by 2030 (b) Promoting space tourism to generate Forex</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>Project NETRA' of ISRO is also an early warning system in space to detect debris and other hazards to Indian satellites.</p>

	<p>(c) To control the destruction and accidental explosions of satellite</p> <p>(d) It's an early warning system in space to detect debris</p> <hr/>		
66.	<p><b><u>Hydrogel, is sometimes seen in news with reference to which one of the following?</u></b></p> <p>(a) Producing Bio-degradable plastics</p> <p>(b) Disaster management related</p> <p>(c) Cyber Crime computer designed by Indian cyber team</p> <p>(d) designed to remove microplastics from water</p> <hr/>	D	<p>Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have developed a sustainable hydrogel specifically designed to remove microplastics from water</p>
67.	<p><b><u>With reference to “Black Softshell Turtles” consider the following statements:</u></b></p> <p>1. It's a freshwater turtle found in Indian sub-continent</p>	C	

	<p>2. It does not enjoy legal protection under the Indian Wildlife (Protection) act</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>		
68.	<p><b>The Fair and Remunerative Price of Sugarcane is approved by the</b></p> <p>(a) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (b) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (c) Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Ministry of Agriculture (d) Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee</p> <hr/>	A	
69.		C	

	<p><b>When the Reserve Bank of India reduces the Statutory Liquidity by 50 basis points, which of the following is likely to happen?</b></p> <p>(a) India's GDP growth rate increases drastically</p> <p>(b) Foreign Institutional Investors may bring more capital into our country</p> <p>(c) Scheduled Commercial Banks may cut their lending rates</p> <p>(d) It may drastically reduce the liquidity to the banking system.</p> <hr/>		
70.	<p><b>In the context of finance, the term 'beta' refers to</b></p> <p>(a) the process of simultaneous buying and selling of an asset from different platforms</p> <p>(b) an investment strategy of a portfolio manager to balance risk versus reward</p> <p>(c) a type of systemic risk that arises where perfect hedging is not possible</p> <p>(d) a numeric value that measures the fluctuations of a stock to changes in the overall stock market.</p>	D	

71.	<p><b>Geroscience, is a field in medical science related which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) Neuroscience (b) Orthopedic (c) Aging-related studies (d) Diabetes prevention</p>	C	'Geroscience' describes a field focused on aging-related studies. He has developed a blood test that can measure the rate of ageing by analyzing DNA methylation through an enzyme called 'gerozyme.'
72.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about "Arrow-3 Missile":</b></p> <p>1. It was jointly developed by USA and UK</p> <p>2. It is designed to take out ballistic missiles while they are outside the atmosphere</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	B	The missile was jointly developed by Israel Aerospace Industries and the Missile Defence Agency in the US

73.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about "Panama Canal":</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Panama Canal is a natural waterway, that connects the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific Ocean.</li> <li>2. Isthmus of Panama is a narrow strip of land that lies between the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean.</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	D	<p>The Panama Canal is an artificial 82 km waterway in Panama that connects the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific Ocean, The Isthmus of Panama is the narrow strip of land that lies between the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean</p>
74.	<p><b>The Anatolian Plate is a continental tectonic plate comprising most of the Anatolia peninsula, is sometimes</b></p>	C	<p>Turkey is located on the Anatolian tectonic plate, which is wedged between the Eurasian and African plates.</p>

	<p><b>talked about with reference to which one of the following region?</b></p> <p>(a) Azerbaijan and Armenia. (b) Israel and Palestine. (c) Turkey (d) Central Asia.</p> <hr/>		
75.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Council for Energy Environment and Water (CEEW)”:</b></p> <p>1. It provides independent research-based insights to policymakers for building a sustainable India.</p> <p>2. It functions under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India.</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>	A	<p>The Council on Energy, Environment and Water, commonly known as CEEW, is a Not-For profit Think Tank and policy institution based in New Delhi, India. CEEW was formed to provide independent research-based insights to policymakers for building a sustainable India.</p>

<p>76.</p>	<p><b><u>Doxxing</u>, is sometimes seen in news with reference to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) Cyber-crime complaining ombudsman (b) Trial version of stock-market manipulation (c) Complete elimination of asteroids approaching earth (d) Publicly releasing someone's private information without consent</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>Doxxing involves publicly releasing someone's private information without consent. This can include sensitive personal details like home addresses, phone numbers, and even medical records, often sourced through illicit means like hacking.</p>												
<p>77.</p>	<p><b>. Consider the following:</b></p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Sl. No</b></th> <th><b>Rivers</b></th> <th><b>Places</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>Tigris River -</td> <td>Egypt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td>Euphrates River -</td> <td>Indonesia</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td>Dead sea -</td> <td>Jordon</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>How many of the above is/are correctly matched?</b></p> <p>(a) only one</p>	<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Rivers</b>	<b>Places</b>	1.	Tigris River -	Egypt	2.	Euphrates River -	Indonesia	3.	Dead sea -	Jordon	<p>B</p>	<p>The Euphrates is the longest and one of the most historically important rivers of Western Asia. Together with the Tigris, it is one of the two defining rivers of Mesopotamia.</p>
<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Rivers</b>	<b>Places</b>													
1.	Tigris River -	Egypt													
2.	Euphrates River -	Indonesia													
3.	Dead sea -	Jordon													

	(b) Only two (c) All three (d) None		
78.	<p><b>Regarding the taxation system of Krishna Deva, the ruler of Vijayanagar, consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The tax rate on land was fixed depending on the quality of the land.</li><li>2. Private owners of workshops paid an industries tax.</li></ol> <p><b>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	C	
79.	<p><b>Consider the following statements :</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Carbon fibres are used in the manufacture of components used in automobiles and aircraftes.</li></ol>	A	

	<p>2. Carbon fibres once used cannot be recycled.</p> <p><b>Which of the statements give above is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>		
80.	<hr/> <p><b>Consider the following:</b></p> <p><b>The arrival of Babur into India led to the</b></p> <p>1. introduction of gunpowder 2. introduction of the arch and dome in the region's architecture 3. establishment of Timurid dynasty</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1,2 and 3</p>	B	

<p>81.</p>	<p><b>With reference to “Andaman and Nicobar Islands” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The islands are located 700 kilometers southeast of the Indian mainland</li> <li>2. The islands share four of India’s international maritime zone delimitations with Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, and Bangladesh</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>The islands are located 700 nautical miles (1,300 km) southeast of the Indian mainland. The islands share four of India’s international maritime zone delimitations with Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, and Bangladesh.</p>
<p>82.</p>	<p><b>In a landmark judgment case — T N Godavarman Thirumulpad vs. Union of India case is seen in news sometimes recently related to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) Regarding lowering BC reservation (b) Reviewing I.R. Coelho. judgement which upheld some provisions in the 9th schedule</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>In a landmark judgment case — T N Godavarman Thirumulpad v. Union of India (December 12, 1996) — the court ruled that ‘forest’ has to be understood in terms of its dictionary meaning, irrespective of ownership. Godavarman Thirumulpad v. Union of India &amp; Ors.,(1997) 2 SCC 267 and the action of the Uttar Pradesh Government in cutting down a veritable forest without the prior permission of the Central Government and this Court, was in gross</p>

	<p>(c) Tussle between Governor and Government with respect to legislative bills</p> <p>(d) Cutting down a veritable forest without the prior permission of the Central Government was in gross violation of Forest (Conservation) Act</p> <hr/>		<p>violation of section 2(ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.</p>
<p>83.</p>	<p><b>“Operation Meghdoot” was conducted by India, is often seen in news with reference to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) It was conducted to rescue Indians stranded in West Asia</p> <p>(b) Surrounding and destroying enemy enclaves situated in abroad</p> <p>(c) Strategic military operation conducted by Indian Navy to protect Indian ships from piracy in Arabian sea</p> <p>(d) Occupying a strategically important glacier in the northern frontier</p> <hr/>	<p>D</p>	<p>On April 13, 2024, it has been forty years since the Indian Army gained a strategic position by occupying the glacier before Pakistan could act.</p>

<p>84.</p>	<p><b>With reference to “Meningitis” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It’s an inflammation in the protective membranes</li> <li>2. It’s caused by bacterial infections only</li> <li>3. It is potentially fatal, which requires urgent medical attention within 12hours</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>	<p>A</p>	<p>Meningitis is a medical emergency. It is potentially fatal within 24 hours and requires urgent medical attention. The most common causes of meningitis are viral and bacterial infections. Other causes may include: cancer; fungi; drug-induced reactions.</p>
<p>85.</p>	<p><b>Consider the following:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increased Import Bill</li> <li>2. Increased Inflationary Pressures</li> <li>3. Increased Fiscal Deficit</li> <li>4. Appreciation of Indian Currency</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above is/are the impacts of Israel-Hamas Conflict on India?</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p><u>How can the Israel-Hamas war impact the Indian economy?</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. High import bill, wider current account deficit</li> <li>2. Weaker Indian Rupee</li> <li>3. Refining Margins of OMCs</li> <li>4. Inflation</li> <li>5. High fiscal deficit</li> </ol>

	<p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four</p>		
86.	<p><b>With reference to “Electronic Voting Machines” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In the 2009 general elections to the Lok Sabha, EVMs were used in all 543 constituencies</li> <li>2. The 2014 elections had EVMs backed with 100% VVPAT in all constituencies</li> <li>3. In France, the Supreme Court of the country declared the use of EVMs in elections as unconstitutional</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>	D	<p>The EVM was introduced on a trial basis in 1982 in the Assembly constituency of Paravur in Kerala. They were deployed in all booths during the Assembly elections of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Puducherry and West Bengal in 2001. The Supreme Court in various judgments has upheld the validity of using EVMs in elections. In the 2004 general elections to the Lok Sabha, EVMs were used in all 543 constituencies. In Subramanian Swamy versus Election Commission of India (2013), the Supreme Court ruled that a paper trail is an indispensable requirement for free and fair elections. The 2019 elections had EVMs backed with 100% VVPAT in all constituencies. Many western democracies continue to have paper ballots for their elections. Countries like England, France, The Netherlands and the U.S. have discontinued the use of EVMs, for national or federal elections, after trials in the last two decades. In Germany, the Supreme Court of the country declared the use of</p>

			EVMs in elections as unconstitutional in 2009.
87.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Space Tourism”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It seeks to provide tourists with the opportunity to become astronauts</li> <li>2. While Orbital spacecraft takes passengers just beyond the Karman line whereas Sub-orbital spacecraft takes passengers much further than the Karman line</li> <li>3. In Sun-orbital spacecraft passengers spend a few minutes in outer space and then come back to Earth</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>	B	Space tourism is essentially a section of the aviation sector which seeks to provide tourists with the opportunity to become astronauts and experience space travel for recreational, leisure, or business purposes. There are two main types of space tourism, sub-orbital and orbital. The sub-orbital spacecraft takes passengers just beyond the Kármán line — it lies nearly 100 kilometers above our heads and is considered to be the boundary between Earth’s atmosphere and outer space. The passengers get to spend a few minutes in outer space and then come back to Earth.
88.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Yamuna River”:</b></p>	B	Near Dehradun, the capital city of Uttarakhand, the Yamuna is joined by its biggest tributary, the Tons River. The

	<p>1. Near Dehradun, the Yamuna is joined by its biggest tributary, the Chambal River</p> <p>2. Near Prayagraj (Allahabad) the Yamuna joins the Ganges (Ganga) River</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>		<p>Chambal River is Yamuna's biggest tributary on the right. Near Prayagraj (Allahabad), after a course of about 855 miles (1,376 km), the Yamuna joins the Ganges (Ganga) River. The confluence of the two rivers is an especially sacred place to Hindus and is the site of annual festivals as well as the Kumbh Mela, which is held every 12 years.</p>
<p>89.</p>	<p><b>With reference to “About the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)” consider the following statements:</b></p> <p>1. It's one of the objectives is 'Encourage the adoption of best practices in the sustainable management of coral reefs'</p> <p>2. India is one of the founding members of this initiative</p>	<p>A</p>	<p>India is also a member country of this initiative. It is a global partnership between Nations and organizations which strives to preserve coral reefs and related ecosystems around the world. Its decisions are not binding on its members.</p> <p><u>Objectives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage the adoption of best practices in the sustainable management of coral reefs and associated ecosystems</li> </ul>

	<p>3. Its decisions are binding on its members states</p> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Build capacity</li> <li>▪ Raise awareness at all levels on the plight of coral reefs around the world.</li> </ul>
90.	<p><b>Consider the following:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fall in the Rupee (Currency Depreciation)</li> <li>2. Rise in Import Costs</li> <li>3. Cost-Push Inflation</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are the Factors Affecting Imported Inflation?</b></p> <p>(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>	C	
91.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG)”:</b></p>	A	<p>The National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) was set up in 2014 by the Government of India as an apex-level autonomous institution under the Ministry</p>

	<p>1. It's one of the objectives is to engage in provision of consultancy services in and outside the country</p> <p>2. It's an apex-level autonomous institution under the Ministry of Home Affairs</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>		<p>of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. The Centre traces its origin to the National Institute of Administrative Research (NIAR), which was set up in 1995 by the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), the Government of India's topmost training institute for civil services. NIAR was subsequently rechristened and subsumed into NCGG.</p>
92.	<hr/> <p><b>Which butterfly species was recently named the official butterfly of Jammu and Kashmir?</b></p> <p>(a) Noble's Helen (b) Kaiser-i-Hind (c) Blue duke (d) Blue Pancy</p> <hr/>	D	

93.	<p><b>Which one of the following statements is correct with respect to Shvetambara Sect of Jainism is <u>not</u> correct?</b></p> <p>(a) It refers to monks, who wear white clothes</p> <p>(b) It refers to monks, who migrated to the south of Vindhyas in 4th century BCE</p> <p>(c) They recognized the existence of canonical texts including the 12 Angas</p> <p>(d) They believed that women can also attain salvation</p>	B	<p>The Digambara and Shvetambara sects primarily differ in their views on ascetic practices, particularly the wearing of clothes. The Shvetambaras regard canonical literature as true and sacred, such as the 12 Angas and Sutras. The Shvetambara Sect of Jainism does not have a historical connection with migration to the south of the Vindhyas. The migration to the south of the Vindhyas is not a distinguishing factor between these sects.</p>
94.	<p><b>Which one of the following statements is <u>not</u> correct with respect to “Indian Independence Act 1947”:</b></p> <p>(a) The Bill for the Indian Independence Act was introduced in Parliament on July 4 and received the Royal Assent on July 18, 1947</p> <p>(b) Act of 1947 laid down the basic framework of the Indian Constitution</p> <p>(c) The Act provided for the establishment of two independent Dominions to be known as India and Pakistan</p>	B	

	(d) The Act empowered the Constituent Assembly of each Dominion to have unlimited power to frame and adopt any constitution.		
95.	<p><b>Levallois technique, is sometimes seen in news with reference to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) Making prehistoric Flake tools (b) Used for making Harappan pottery (c) Archeologist used this method to find the age of fossils (d) Geo-Scientist used this method to find the potential site for archeological excavations</p>	A	This technique was more sophisticated than earlier methods of lithic reduction, which involved removing lithic flakes from prepared lithic cores. A striking platform is created at one end and the edges of the core are then cut by slicing around the outline of the desired lithic layer
96.	<p><b>The Sahajiya cult is closely associated with the which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) Bhakti movement (b) Sufi movement (c) Sangam culture (d) Ahmadiyya's tradition</p>	A	The Sahajiya cult is closely associated with the Bhakti movement, which emphasized devotion (bhakti) to a personal god or goddess, often in a more emotional and personalized manner. Bhakti saints like Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and his followers played a significant role in popularizing the Sahajiya philosophy.

<p>97.</p>	<p><b>Which fundamental rights under constitution cannot be suspended even though the <u>National Emergency Proclaimed?</u></b></p> <p>(a) Articles 14, 15 and 16 (b) Articles 29 and 30 (c) Articles 20 and 21 (d) None</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>The 44 Amendment Act mandates that the President cannot suspend the right to move the court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights guaranteed by Article 20 and 21</p>
<p>98.</p>	<p><b>Any questions which are related to the disqualification of members under Representation of Peoples Act comes under which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) High Court (b) Speaker (c) Cabinet (d) President</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>President has the final power with respect to disqualification under RoPA.</p>
<p>99.</p>		<p>D</p>	<p>Vote of credit is the financial grant given to the Executive from the resources of India to meet urgent financial requirements whose</p>

	<p><b>With reference to “<u>Budget in Parliament</u>” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Vote on account is the financial grant given to the Executive to meet urgent financial requirements whose details cannot be shared in a budget</li> <li>2. Vote of credit deals with the short-term expenditure needs of the Central Government from the Consolidated Fund of India</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>		<p>details cannot be shared ordinarily in a budget. Vote on account deals with the short-term expenditure needs of the Central Government from the Consolidated Fund of India.</p>
100.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “<u>Appropriation Bill</u>”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Article 114 of the Constitution says the government can withdraw money from the</li> </ol>	A	<p><u>Power of Rajya Sabha:</u> It has the power to recommend any amendments in this Bill. However, it is the prerogative of the Lok Sabha to either accept or reject the recommendations made by the Rajya Sabha.</p>

	<p>Consolidated Fund only after parliament approval</p> <p>2. Rajya Sabha has the power to reject the bill</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>		
101.	<hr/> <p><b>Consider the following statements about “World Crafts Council”:</b></p> <p>1. It’s a non-profit, non-governmental organization</p> <p>2. It aims at fostering economic development through income generating craft related activities</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	C	<p><u>WCCI:</u></p> <p>The World Crafts Council (WCC AISBL) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that was founded in 1964.</p> <p>The WCCI aims at fostering economic development through income generating craft related activities, exchange programs, workshops, conferences, seminars, and exhibitions across the globe.</p>

102.	<p><b>With reference to “Gross Fixed Capital Formation” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It measures the increase in fixed capital in an economy, including assets like buildings and machinery</li> <li>2. Private GFCF has been raising steadily in last decade</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	A	<p>Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) measures the increase in fixed capital in an economy, including assets like buildings and machinery that are necessary for production. The Indian economy has faced significant challenges due to a decline in private investment, as indicated by the decreasing Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) relative to GDP since 2011-12.</p>
103.	<p><b>Murban, is sometimes seen in news with reference to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) A plant which is capable of absorbing carbon in the atmosphere</p>	C	<p>Murban Crude Oil means onshore liquid hydrocarbons extracted from the hydrocarbon reservoirs from those fields known as the BuHasa, Sahil, Shah, Asab, Bab, Huwaila, Rumaitha, Shanayel, Al-Dabb"iya Qusahwira, Bida El Qemzan and</p>

	<p>(b) An invasive species which helps in marine environment</p> <p>(c) It's an onshore liquid hydrocarbon reservoir</p> <p>(d) A space craft used to de-orbit the potential asteroid incoming earth</p>		<p>Mender Fields, and such other fields as notified by Seller from time to time.</p>
<p>104.</p>	<p align="center"><b>Consider the following statements about “Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It's an autonomous body to regulate and develop the insurance industry</li> <li>2. It's objective is to protect the interests of policyholders, regulate, promote, and ensure the orderly growth of the insurance industry</li> <li>3. IRDAI operates under the Ministry of Social Justice</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one</p> <p>(b) Only two</p> <p>(c) All three</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>Establishment: IRDAI (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India) is an autonomous and statutory body established under the IRDA Act 1999. Nodal Ministry: IRDAI operates under the Ministry of Finance of the Government of India. Objective: The primary objective of IRDAI is to protect the interests of policyholders, regulate, promote, and ensure the orderly growth of the insurance industry in India.</p>

	(d) None		
105.	<p><b>Consider the following:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mali</li> <li>2. Niger</li> <li>3. Burkina Faso</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above-mentioned countries is/are part of Alliance of Sahel States?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>	C	The junta leaders of Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger signed a charter to establish a defence alliance known as the Alliance of Sahel States.
106.	<p><b>Which of the following countries is/are part of Group of Four (G-4) Countries?</b></p> <p>(a) India, Bangladesh, Australia and Brazil (b) India South Korea, Japan and Australia (c) Brazil, Argentina, Spain and Ukraine (d) Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan</p>	D	Composition: The G-4 comprises Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan, all of whom aspire to attain permanent membership status in the UNSC.

<p>107.</p>	<p><b>. Consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dovish monetary policy stance favors high-interest rates to control inflation</li> <li>2. Hawkish monetary policy stance involves low interest rates to stimulate economic activity</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>D</p>	<p><u>Hawkish Monetary Policy Stance:</u> Meaning: Favors high-interest rates to control inflation. High interest rates discourage borrowing, leading to reduced consumer spending and credit uptake. Reduced demand for goods and services stabilizes prices and prevents inflation. Increased interest rates may strengthen the country's currency.</p> <p><u>Dovish Monetary Policy Stance:</u> Meaning: Involves low interest rates to stimulate economic activity. Low-interest rates encourage borrowing, boosting consumer spending and demand for goods and services. Increased demand may lead to inflation, which balances economic growth. Advocates believe lower rates can increase employment and economic growth, potentially weakening the country's currency.</p>
<p>108.</p>	<p><b>Consider the following statements about "De Minimis Level of Support":</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It's a minimal amount of domestic support that are allowed even though they distort trade</li> </ol>	<p>C</p>	<p>Minimal amounts of domestic support that are allowed even though they distort trade — up to 5% of the value of production for developed countries, 10% for developing. Amber box are those subsidies that can distort international trade by making</p>

	<p>2. Giving free electricity and subsidized seeds and fertilizers are one of the examples of this support</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>		<p>products of a particular country cheaper in comparison to other countries products. Examples of amber subsidies include, electricity, seeds, fertilizers, irrigation, minimum support prices etc.</p>
109.	<p><b>With reference to “Shompen Tribe” consider the following statements:</b></p> <p>1. It’s one of the most isolated tribes on Earth</p> <p>2. They reside in the dense tropical rainforest of the Brazilian Amazon Forest</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	A	<p>They reside in the dense tropical rainforest of the Great Nicobar Island of Andaman and Nicobar group of Islands. For the first time, members of the Shompen took part in the election process by casting their votes in the Andaman and Nicobar Lok Sabha constituency.</p>

110.	<p><b>“External Benchmark Lending Rate” aims to facilitate faster and effective transmission of monetary policy changes. Which one of the following committees recommended it?</b></p> <p>(a) Rangarajan Committee (b) Dinesh-Goswami Committee (c) Janak Raj Committee (d) Gunalan Committee</p>	C	RBI set up a committee which is known as Janak Raj Committee.
111.	<p><b>Which one of the following is <u>Incorrect</u> with respect to “Payment Banks”?</b></p> <p>(a) Payments Bank is a bank that does not offer loans or credit cards. (b) It can take deposits up to Rs 5 Lakh (c) It can offer services like ATM/debit cards and other banking services (d) The money received as deposits can be invested in secure government securities only in the form of SLR</p>	B	It can take deposits up to Rs. 2,00,000. It can accept demand deposits in the form of savings and current accounts.

112.	<p><b>Which one of the following acts grants the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the authority to issue directions to banking companies?</b></p> <p>(a) Reserve Bank of India Act, 1935 (b) Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (c) Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961 (d) SARFAESI ACT -2002</p>	B	<p>Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, grants the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the authority to issue directions to banking companies in order to prevent their affairs from being conducted in a manner detrimental to the interests of depositors or prejudicial to the interests of the banking company itself.</p>
113.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Annual Financial Statement”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interim Budget mentions income and expenses of the previous year, with details for a few months until the next government takes charge</li> <li>Both the Interim Budget and Union Budget are passed only after complete discussions in Lok Sabha</li> </ol>	A	<p><u>Approval Process:</u> <u>Interim Budget:</u> Vote on account passed without discussion in Lok Sabha. <u>Union Budget:</u> Passed after complete discussions in Lok Sabha. Content – Income and Expenses: <u>Interim Budget:</u> Mentions income and expenses of the previous year, with details for a few months until the next government takes charge. Sources of income are not detailed.</p>

	<p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>		<p><u>Union Budget:</u> Includes details of income and expenses for the previous year and outlines the government's plan to raise and utilize funds for the nation's development.</p>
114.	<p><b>Which one of the following is correct with respect to Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)?</b></p> <p>(a) It's a statutory body (b) It's Implementing measures to enhance pension coverage and efficiency. (c) It's the regulatory body overseeing the pension sector in India (d) All the above</p>	D	
115.	<p><b>Lakhpati Didi, a government scheme, it was announced by the Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech, the objective of this scheme is to?</b></p>	C	<p><u>Lakhpati Didi Scheme:</u> It was announced by the Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech on August 15, 2023. <u>Objective:</u> To encourage women to start micro-enterprises within their villages.</p>

	<p>(a) Upskilling program to enhance women’s teaching ability</p> <p>(b) Promoting the use of Sanitary napkin</p> <p>(c) Encourage women to start micro-enterprises within their villages</p> <p>(d) Encouraging women to join the armed forces and Police services</p>		
<p>116.</p>	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “National Start-up Advisory Council”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It’s aimed at building a robust ecosystem for nurturing innovation and startups.</li> <li>2. It was constituted under Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only</p> <p>(b) 2 only</p> <p>(c) Both 1 and 2</p> <p>(d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>C</p>	<p><u>National Startup Advisory Council (NSAC):</u></p> <p>The NSAC was constituted by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry.</p> <p>The primary objective of NSAC is to advise the Government on measures aimed at building a robust ecosystem for nurturing innovation and startups. The ultimate goal is to drive sustainable economic growth and generate significant employment opportunities.</p>

117.	<p><b>Which of the following have officially adopted the “living lands charter”?</b></p> <p>(a) SAARC countries. (b) Common Wealth Countries. (c) Coton 4 countries. (d) Nordic countries.</p>	B	<p>At the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Kigali, all 54 Commonwealth members officially adopted the Living Lands Charter: A Commonwealth Call to action on Living Lands (CALL).</p>
118.	<p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p> <p>1. Demand Pull inflation occurs when an increase in the production costs.</p> <p>2. A booming economy with high consumer spending can create excess demand.</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	B	<p>Demand Pull inflation occurs when the demand for goods and services exceeds their supply. When the overall demand in the economy is high, consumers are willing to pay more for the available goods and services, leading to a general rise in prices. A booming economy with high consumer spending can create excess demand, putting upward pressure on prices.</p>

119.	<p><b>What is Monetary Inflation?</b></p> <p>(a) Increase in the money supply in an economy.</p> <p>(b) This type of inflation is often described as a feedback loop between wages and prices.</p> <p>(c) Sudden and unexpected disruption to the supply of goods and services.</p> <p>(d) Increase in the production costs for goods and services.</p>	A	<p><u>Monetary Inflation:</u></p> <p>Monetary inflation is often linked to an increase in the money supply in an economy. When there is more money in circulation, consumers have more purchasing power, which can drive up demand and prices. Central banks printing more money or implementing policies that increase the money supply can contribute to monetary inflation.</p>
120.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP)”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India has an ambitious target of 20% ethanol blending in petrol by year 2030.</li> <li>Ethanol can also be produced from cane juice without the extraction of sugar.</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p>	B	<p>The ‘National Policy on Biofuels’ notified by the Government in 2018 envisaged an indicative target of 20% ethanol blending in petrol by year 2030. However, considering the encouraging performance, due to various interventions made by the Government since 2014, the target of 20% ethanol blending was advanced from 2030 to 2025-26.</p>

	<p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>		
121.	<p><b>With reference to “Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It was adopted on 14th April 1961 by the United Nations Security Council</li> <li>2. It provides a complete framework for the establishment, maintenance and termination of diplomatic relations</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the <u>Incorrect</u> answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>	A	<p>It was adopted on 14th April 1961 by the United Nations Conference on Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities and entered into force on April 24, 1964. Currently, 193 countries are parties to this convention. It is nearly universally ratified, with Palau and South Sudan being the exceptions. India has ratified the convention. Framework: Vienna Convention provides a complete framework for the establishment, maintenance and termination of diplomatic relations on the basis of consent between independent sovereign States.</p>

122.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “English Channel”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. It’s an arm of the Atlantic Ocean that separates Southern England from northern Germany</li><li>2. Arati Saha was the first Indian to successfully swim the English Channel</li><li>3. Arati Saha was the first and only Indian women who successfully crossed the English Channel</li></ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>	A	<p>The English Channel, also known as the Channel, is an arm of the Atlantic Ocean that separates Southern England from northern France. Mihir Sen was the first Indian to swim the English Channel. Arati Saha was the first Indian woman and first Asian woman to swim the English Channel. After Mihir Sen and Arati Saha no Indian successfully crossed the English Channel.</p>
123.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Ethylene oxide”:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. It’s a pesticide that is classified as a Group 1 carcinogen</li></ol>	C	<p><u>What is ethylene oxide?</u></p> <p>Ethylene oxide is a pesticide that has been classified as a Group 1 carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer, meaning there is sufficient evidence from human studies that it can</p>

	<p>2. It is used as a fumigant to reduce microbial contamination</p> <p>3. It is a colorless, highly flammable and very reactive gas</p> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p> <hr/>		<p>cause cancer. It is used by the spice industry as a fumigant to reduce microbial contamination, such as E. coli and Salmonella. It is a colorless, highly flammable and very reactive gas that kills bacteria, viruses and fungi. It is an industrial chemical.</p>
<p>124.</p>	<p><b><u>NOTTO</u>, is sometimes seen in news with reference to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) National level organization for Organ Donation (b) Controlling or removing quantum decoherence. (c) Regulating the functions of Non-Banking Financial Companies. (d) Transplanting organs from one species to another.</p> <hr/>	<p>A</p>	<p>The Centre has directed the states to ensure that a NOTTO (National Organ and Tissue Transplantation Organisation) ID is generated for the donor and recipient for living-donor as well as deceased-donor transplants.</p>

<p>125.</p>	<p><b>With reference to “Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is a statutory autonomous organization</li> <li>2. It functions under the Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>3. It’s responsible for the promotion and development of export of various agricultural and processed food products from India</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>APEDA stands for the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority. It is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. APEDA is responsible for the promotion and development of export of various agricultural and processed food products from India. It aids exporters in improving the quality of their products, enhancing their packaging and marketing strategies, and facilitating their access to international markets. APEDA also undertakes market research, organizes trade fairs and exhibitions, and implements various export promotion schemes to boost India’s agricultural exports.</p>
<p>126.</p>	<p><b>With reference to “Law for Nomination” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each candidate must submit four nomination papers to safeguard</li> </ol>	<p>D</p>	<p>Each candidate may submit up to four nomination papers with different sets of proposers to safeguard against the potential disqualification of one set. Article 329(b) of the Constitution and the Representation of the People Act (RP Act), elections can only be</p>

	<p>against the potential disqualification of one set</p> <p>2. Returning Officer decisions regarding approval/disapproval is final and no appeal lies further any court.</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>		<p>challenged through an election petition in the High Court.</p>
<p>127.</p>	<hr/> <p><b>Kalesar Wildlife Sanctuary, is sometimes seen in news with reference to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) Potential site for translocating wild animals (b) Lithium abundantly available in the surface (c) An archeological site converted to wildlife sanctuary (d) Construction large scale dam taking place</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>The Supreme Court has halted the construction of four dams planned within the Kalesar Wildlife Sanctuary in Haryana's Yamunanagar district.</p>

128.	<p><b>Three-finger toxins is related to which one of the following?</b></p> <p>(a) Bat virus (b) Snake venom (c) Anti-dote to rat poison (d) Mosquito borne vector</p>	B	<p>Three-finger toxins (abbreviated 3FTx) are a protein superfamily of small toxin proteins found in the venom of snakes.</p>
129.	<p><b>Article 244(A) of the Indian Constitution is seen in news which one of the following describes the most?</b></p> <p>(a) Creation of state from the union territory (b) Creating autonomous state within a normal state (c) Bifurcation of a state and change them as union territory (d) Special powers were given to all states to enact legislation on concurrent list for emergency use</p>	B	<p>Article 244(A) was inserted by The Constitution (Twenty-second Amendment) Act, 1969, which enabled Parliament to pass an Act to form within the State of Assam an autonomous State comprising (whether wholly or in part) all or any of tribal areas, including Karbi Anglong.</p>

130.	<p><b>With reference to “Inheritance tax” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An inheritance tax is a tax paid by a person who inherits money or property of a person who has died</li> <li>2. It was known as estate duty, was introduced by British, and was abolished in 1991 by the government of Narasimma Rao</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	A	<p><b>History of Inheritance tax:</b></p> <p>India did have an inheritance (or death) tax once. The tax, which was known as estate duty, was introduced in 1953, and was abolished in 1985 by the government of Rajiv Gandhi.</p>
131.	<p><b>Consider the following:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Variation in seawater temperatures</li> <li>2. Variation in water salinity</li> <li>3. Rotation of Earth</li> </ol>	C	<p><b>Causes of ocean currents:</b></p> <p>Planetary Winds, Variation in seawater temperatures, Variation in water salinity, Rotation of Earth, Configuration of the coastline.</p>

	<p><b>How many of the above is/are Factors influence the ocean currents?</b></p> <p>(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p> <hr/>		
132.	<p><b>Consider the following statements about “Ocean currents”:</b></p> <p>1. They are continuous, non-predictable and directional movement of seawater</p> <p>2. They are moving counterclockwise in the northern hemisphere and clockwise in the southern hemisphere</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <hr/>	D	<p>Ocean currents are the continuous, predictable, directional movement of seawater, similar to river flows but in oceans. Commonly found on the west coasts of continents in the low and middle latitudes, moving clockwise in the northern hemisphere and counterclockwise in the southern hemisphere.</p>

<p>133.</p>	<p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Article 31C of the Indian Constitution was inserted by the 24th Amendment Act</li> <li>2. It contained provisions related to the saving of laws giving effect to certain directive principles</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>Article 31C was inserted by the 25th Amendment Act of 1971. It contained provisions related to the saving of laws giving effect to certain directive principles. It contains the following provisions: No law that seeks to implement all or any of the directive principles specified in Part IV shall be void on the ground of contravention of the fundamental rights conferred by Article 14 (equality before law and equal protection of laws) or Article 19 (protection of six rights in respect of speech, assembly, movement, etc.)</p>
<p>134.</p>	<p><b>With reference to “Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) method” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It’s also known as the ‘broadcasting seed technique’</li> <li>2. Faster maturation of crops is one of the advantages of this kind of cultivation</li> </ol>	<p>C</p>	<p><u>Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) method:</u> DSR, also called the ‘broadcasting seed technique’, is a water-saving method of sowing paddy. Seeds are directly drilled into the fields in this method. This saves groundwater, as opposed to the traditional water-intensive method, under which rice seedlings are transplanted from a nursery to waterlogged fields. With the DSR technique, farmers must sow paddy only after pre-sowing (rauni) irrigation and not</p>

	<p>3. With the method, farmers must sow paddy only after pre-sowing irrigation</p> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p> <hr/>		<p>in dry fields. Further, the field should be laser levelled.</p>
<p>135.</p>	<p><b>With reference to “Mercury” consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It’s a highly toxic heavy metal which is used in fairness and anti-ageing creams</li> <li>2. The higher the levels of mercury in face creams means better the whitening effect</li> <li>3. The Minamata Convention on Mercury, to which India is a signatory</li> </ol> <p><b>How many of the above statements is/are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) Only one</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Mercury is a highly toxic heavy metal which is used in fairness/anti-ageing creams as in its inorganic form (mercury salts) it can inhibit the formation of melanin, resulting in a lighter skin tone. The higher the levels of mercury in face creams, the better the whitening effect.</p>

	<p>(b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p> <hr/>		
<p>136.</p>	<p><b>Which of the following is the major contributor for Sea level Rise</b></p> <p>(a) Thermal Expansion of water (b) Melting of Glaciers (c) Loss of Ice sheets (d) Changes in land water storage</p> <hr/>	<p>A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Sea Level Rise (SLR):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SLR is an <b>increase in the level</b> of the <b>world's oceans</b> due to the effects of climate change, especially <b>global warming</b>, induced by <b>three primary factors:</b> Thermal Expansion, Melting Glaciers and Loss of Greenland and Antarctica's ice sheets.</li> <li>▪ Sea level is primarily measured using tide stations and satellite laser altimeters.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <b>SLR is Linked to Three Primary Factors:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Thermal Expansion:</b> When water heats up, it expands. About half of the sea-level rise over the past 25 years is attributable to warmer</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

			<p>oceans simply occupying more space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Melting Glaciers: Higher temperatures</b> caused by global warming have led to <b>greater-than-average summer melting of large ice formations</b> like mountain glaciers as well as <b>diminished snowfall</b> due to later winters and earlier springs.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ That creates <b>an imbalance between runoff and ocean evaporation</b>, causing sea levels to rise.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <b>Loss of Greenland and Antarctic Ice Sheets:</b> As with mountain glaciers, increased heat is causing the massive ice sheets that cover <b>Greenland and Antarctica</b> to melt more quickly, and also move more quickly into the sea.</li> </ul>
137.	<p align="center"><b>Consider the following statements</b></p>	C	<i>Cham dance</i>

	<p>1. The Yogachara School of Buddhism incorporated the Cham dance.</p> <p>2. Cham dance is used in all four schools of Tibetan Buddhism</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only. (b) 2 only. (c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ An enigmatic and energetic mask dance.</li> <li>▪ The Yogachara School of Buddhism was founded in Kashmir in the 4th century by Asanga and Vasubandhu. This developed into the sophisticated Vajrayana form of Buddhism, which incorporated the Cham dance. From Ladakh till Mongolia, the Cham is the deepest form of meditation of the Lamas.</li> <li>▪ Cham dance is used in all four schools of Tibetan Buddhism—Nyingma, Sakya, Kagyu and Gelug—in their rituals as a sacred dance that is reflective of the Buddhist tantric practices.</li> </ul>
138.	<p><b>Consider the following statements</b></p> <p>1. The Drukpa Lineage is a branch of the Kagyu school of Chinese <i>Buddhism</i>.</p> <p>2. It is known for its efforts to empower women</p>	B	<p><i>Drukpa Lineage Buddhism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It was founded in the 12th century by <b>Gyalwa Gotsangpa</b>, a disciple of the famous Tibetan master Phagmo Drupa.</li> <li>▪ It is particularly prominent in Bhutan.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only. (b) 2 only. (c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2.</p> <hr/>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This is known for its efforts to <b>empower women</b>, and their nuns are allowed to receive the same level of training and education as their male counterparts.</li> </ul>
139.	<p><b>Consider the following statements regarding Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats (PRET) Initiative</b></p> <p>1. It is integrated planning for responding to any respiratory pathogen such as influenza or coronaviruses.</p> <p>2. It is launched by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only. (b) 2 only. (c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2.</p> <hr/>	A	<p><b>WHO launches initiative to make world better prepared for future pandemics</b></p> <p>The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched a new initiative to be better prepared for future outbreaks of a similar scale and devastation as the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p><i>PRET</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats (PRET) Initiative is aimed at providing “guidance on integrated planning for <b>responding to any respiratory pathogen such as influenza or coronaviruses</b>”.</li> <li>▪ It was announced at the Global Meeting for Future Respiratory Pathogen Pandemics held on 24-26 April 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland.</li> </ul>

- The **first module** focuses on respiratory pathogens, including influenza, coronaviruses, and respiratory syncytial virus.
- It involves **three-pronged approach** which includes
  - **Update preparedness plans that affirm priority actions** and that have considered learnings from past events.
  - **Increase connectivity among stakeholders in pandemic preparedness planning** through systematic coordination and cooperation. This includes building equitable systems; conducting joint exercises; and sharing information on good practices, challenges, and opportunities.
  - **Dedicate sustained investments, financing and monitoring of pandemic preparedness** with a particular focus on addressing the gaps

			identified during past pandemics and epidemics.
140.	<p><b>In which one among the following categories of protected areas in India are local people not allowed to collect and use the biomass?</b></p> <p>(a) Biosphere Reserves (b) National Parks (c) Wetlands declared under Ramsar Convention (d) Wildlife Sanctuaries</p>	B	
141.	<p><b>Consider the following statements regarding recent trends in the fiscal position of the union government</b></p> <p>1. Fiscal deficit as a percentage of GDP has increased during the last two years.</p> <p>2. In FY 2022, India's primary deficit surpassed its fiscal deficit.</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p>	D	

	(a) 1 only. (b) 2 only. (c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2.		
142.	<p><b>Arrange the following in decreasing order of their share in the Union government's tax profile for the FY 2023.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Goods and services tax</li><li>2. Union excise duty</li><li>3. Corporate income tax</li><li>4. Customs</li></ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) 3-1-2-4</li><li>b) 1-3-4-2</li><li>c) 1-3-2-4</li><li>d) 4-2-3-1</li></ol>	C	
143.		D	

	<p><b>Consider the following statements regarding the Debt profile of Union government in FY 2022;</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The total liabilities of the union government increased to over 70 of GDP.</li><li>2. External liability accounts for more than 10 percent of public debt.</li><li>3. Public debt in India is primarily contracted at floating interest rates.</li></ol> <p><b>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</b></p> <p>a) 1 only b) 2 and 3 only c) 3 only d) None</p> <hr/>		
144.	<hr/> <p><b>Which one of the following statements is correct?</b></p> <p>(a) In India, the same person cannot be appointed as Governor for two or more States at the same time</p>	C	

	<p>(b) The Judges of the High Court of the States in India are appointed by the Governor of the State just as the Judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President</p> <p>(c) No procedure has been laid down in the Constitution of India for the removal of a Governor from his/her post</p> <p>(d) In the case of a Union Territory having a legislative setup, the Chief Minister is appointed by the Lt. Governor on the basis of majority support</p> <hr/>		
145.	<p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. No criminal proceedings shall be instituted against the Governor of a State in any court during his term of office.</li><li>2. The emoluments and allowances of the Governor of a State shall not be diminished during his term of office.</li></ol> <p><b>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</b></p>	C	

	(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2		
146.	<p><b>Which of the following could lead to an increase in non-debt receipts of the government?</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Expansion of tax base</li><li>2. Reduction of excise duty on fuel</li><li>3. Increase in corporate tax rates</li></ol> <p><b>Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) 1 and 2 only</li><li>b) 2 and 3 only</li><li>c) 1 and 3 only</li><li>d) 1, 2 and 3</li></ol>	C	
147.	<p><b>The Preamble to the Constitution of India is</b></p>	D	

	<p>(a) a part of the Constitution but has no legal effect</p> <p>(b) not a part of the Constitution and has no legal effect either</p> <p>(c) part of the Constitution and has the same legal effect as any other part</p> <p>(d) a part of the Constitution but has no legal effect independently of other parts</p> <hr/>		
<p>148.</p>	<p><b>Achanakmar Tiger Reserve is located in</b></p> <p>(a) Bihar</p> <p>(b) Kerala</p> <p>(c) Chhattisgarh</p> <p>(d) Madhya Pradesh</p> <hr/>	<p>B</p>	<p><b>Achanakmar Tiger Reserve:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Location:</b> It is located in the <b>Bilaspur district of Chhattisgarh.</b></li> <li>▪ It was declared a <b>tiger reserve in 2009.</b></li> <li>▪ It is a <b>part of the huge Achanakmar-Amarkantak Biosphere Reserve.</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Maniyari River flows</b> right from the centre of this reserve, which is the forest's lifeline.</li> <li>▪ <b>It has a corridor connecting to Kanha and Bandhavgarh Tiger reserves</b> and plays a critical role in the dispersal of tigers among these reserves.</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Vegetation: Tropical deciduous forest.</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Flora: Sal, bija, saja, haldu, teak, tinsa, dhawara, lendia,</b> khamar and bamboo bloom here along with over 600 species of medicinal plants.</li> <li>▪ <b>Fauna:</b> Wild fauna includes the <b>tiger, leopard, bison, flying squirrel, Indian giant squirrel,</b> chinkara, wild dog, hyena, sambar, chital and over 150 species of birds.</li> </ul>
149.	<p><b>Consider the following statements regarding International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It was established in 1947 by the Chicago Convention.</li> <li>2. ICAO is an intergovernmental agency associated with the United Nations (UN).</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only. (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2.</p>	C	<p><b>International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ICAO is an <b>intergovernmental specialized agency associated with the United Nations (UN).</b></li> <li>▪ It was <b>established in 1947</b> by the Convention on International Civil Aviation (1944) known as <b>Chicago Convention.</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Headquarters: Montreal, Canada</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Functions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ICAO is dedicated to <b>developing safe and efficient international air transport</b> for peaceful purposes and ensuring a</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>(d) Neither 1 nor 2.</p>		<p>reasonable opportunity for every state to operate international airlines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ It <b>sets standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security</b> and facilitation, efficiency, and <b>economic development of air transport</b> as well as to improve the environmental performance of aviation.</li><li>▪ It also <b>serves as a clearinghouse for cooperation and discussion on civil aviation issues</b> among its 193 member states.</li><li>▪ It also <b>promotes regional and international agreements</b> aimed at liberalizing aviation markets.</li><li>▪ It helps to <b>establish legal standards to ensure that the growth of aviation does not compromise safety</b>, and encourages the development of other aspects of international aviation law.</li></ul>
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<p>150.</p>	<p><b>Consider the following statements regarding</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ED can not take an action suo motu.</li> <li>2. Cases under FEMA and PMLA will lie in criminal courts.</li> </ol> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only. (b) 2 only. (c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2.</p>	<p>A</p>	<p><i>Directorate of Enforcement (ED)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The <b>Directorate of Enforcement (ED)</b> is a multi-disciplinary organization mandated with investigation of offences of <b>money laundering</b> and violations of <b>foreign exchange laws</b>.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It functions under the <b>Department of Revenue of the Ministry of Finance</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ As a <b>premier financial investigation agency of the Government of India</b>, the Enforcement Directorate functions in strict compliance with the Constitution and Laws of India.</li> </ul> <p><i>Genesis of ED</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The origin of this Directorate goes back to 1 May, 1956, when an <b>'Enforcement Unit'</b> was <b>formed in the Department of Economic Affairs</b> for handling Exchange Control Laws violations under <b>Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA), 1947</b>.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It was headquartered in Delhi, headed by a <b>Legal</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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		<p><b>Service Officer as the Director of Enforcement.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ It had two branches – at Bombay and Calcutta.</li><li>▪ In the year 1957, this Unit was <b>renamed as ‘Enforcement Directorate’</b>, and another branch was opened at Madras (now Chennai).</li><li>▪ In 1960, the <b>administrative control of the Directorate was transferred</b> from the Department of Economic Affairs <b>to the Department of Revenue.</b></li><li>▪ With the passage of time, FERA 1947 was repealed and replaced by FERA, 1973.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ With the onset of the process of economic liberalisation, FERA, 1973, which was a regulatory law, was repealed and in its place, a new law viz. the <b>Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA)</b> came into operation w.e.f. 1 June 2000.</li></ul></li></ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Further, in tune with the <b>International Anti Money Laundering regime</b>, the <b>Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA)</b> was enacted and ED was entrusted with its enforcement w.e.f. 1 July 2005.</li></ul> <p>Structure of ED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Hierarchy:</b> The Directorate of Enforcement, with its headquarters at New Delhi, is <b>headed by the Director of Enforcement.</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ There are <b>five regional offices at Mumbai, Chennai, Chandigarh, Kolkata and Delhi</b> headed by Special Directors of Enforcement.</li><li>▪ The Directorate has <b>10 Zonal offices</b> each of which is <b>headed by a Deputy Director</b> and <b>11 sub Zonal Offices</b> each of which is headed by an <b>Assistant Director.</b></li></ul></li><li>▪ <b>Recruitment: Recruitment of the officers is done directly</b> and by drawing officers from other investigation agencies.</li></ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ It comprises officers of <b>IRS</b> (Indian Revenue Services), <b>IPS</b> (Indian Police Services) and <b>IAS</b> (Indian Administrative Services) such as <b>Income Tax officer, Excise officer, Customs officer, and police.</b></li><li>▪ <b>Tenure:</b> In November 2021, the President of India promulgated two ordinances allowing the <b>Centre to extend the tenures of the directors of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)</b> and the Enforcement Directorate <b>from two years to up to five years.</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The <b>Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946</b> (for ED) and the <b>Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) Act, 2003</b> (for CV Commissioners) have been amended to give the government the power to keep the two chiefs in their posts for <b>one year after they have completed their two-year terms.</b></li></ul></li></ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The chiefs of the Central agencies <b>currently have a fixed two-year tenure</b>, but <b>can now be given three annual extensions</b>.</li><li>▪ However, no further extension can be granted after the completion of a period of five years in total including the period mentioned in the initial appointment.</li></ul> <p><i>Statutory Functions of ED</i></p> <p>The statutory functions of the Directorate include <b>enforcement of following Acts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>COFEPOSA:</b> Under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 (COFEPOSA), this Directorate is <b>empowered to sponsor cases of preventive detention</b> with regard to contraventions of FEMA.</li><li>▪ <b>Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA):</b> It is a civil law enacted to consolidate and amend the laws relating to facilitate</li></ul>
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		<p>external trade and payments and to promote the orderly development and maintenance of foreign exchange market in India.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>ED has been given the responsibility to conduct investigation</b> into suspected contraventions of foreign exchange laws and regulations, to <b>adjudicate and impose penalties</b> on those adjudged to have contravened the law.</li><li>▪ <b>Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA):</b> Following the recommendations of the <b>Financial Action Task Force (FATF)</b> India enacted PMLA.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The ED has been entrusted with the responsibility of <b>executing the provisions of PMLA by conducting investigation</b> to trace the assets derived from proceeds of crime, to provisionally attach the property and to <b>ensure prosecution of the offenders and confiscation</b></li></ul></li></ul>
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		<p><b>of the property</b> by the Special court.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 (FEOA):</b> Lately, with the increase in the number of cases relating to <b>economic offenders taking shelter in foreign countries</b>, the Government of India introduced the <b>Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 (FEOA)</b> and <b>ED is entrusted with its enforcement.</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ This law was enacted to <b>deter economic offenders from evading the process of Indian law</b> by remaining outside the jurisdiction of Indian courts.</li><li>▪ Under this law, the ED is mandated to <b>attach the properties of the fugitive economic offenders</b> who have escaped from India warranting arrest and provide for the <b>confiscation of their properties</b> to the Central Government.</li></ul></li></ul>
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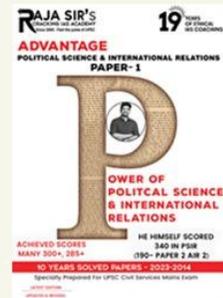
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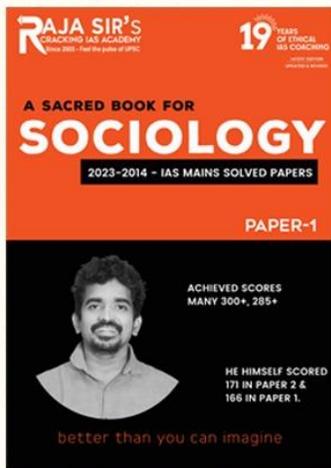


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