"The significant problems we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them." - Albert Einstein

ANALYSIS / APPROACH / SOURCE / STRATEGY: GENERAL STUDIES PRE 2018 PAPER
- TEAM VISION IAS

Observations on CSP 2018

- The Paper portrayed a departure from the trend of CSAT era and appears to be on the tougher side.
- While it is a well-known fact that UPSC has shifted its focus to current affairs, yet this year, the questions were asked in an unconventional manner.
- It has been observed that some of the questions like those of Post Independence history (chronological sequence of events) have been inspired directly by the articles in THE HINDU (India @70 Midnight to millennium) or Culture (Buland Darwaza and Rumi Darwaza - covered in the ‘The Hindu’ article)
- Questions ranged from both conventional sources like those in economics e.g. CAR, Legal Tender Money to unconventional sources like those in History e.g. Swarajya Sabha, Hind Mazdoor Sabha, etc
- It is observed that UPSC has raised the bar and it is now expected of aspirants to even read the fine print. Questions like that on GST, Application Programming Interfaces, Digital India Programme require thorough reading and understanding of on-going projects of the Government.
- Environment questions largely focused on International climate initiatives and bodies. This year there was no focus on animal biodiversity and protected areas unlike previous years.
- Polity section saw a mix of conceptual as well as factual understanding of basic concepts like in questions on Money Bill, Presidential election, Rule of law etc.
- Map reading and Atlas continue to play an important role in one’s preparation in Geography section. However, locations which have been asked were directly linked with current news (Allepo, etc) and there was less focus on conventional geography.
- S&T questions were more on technological aspect than on basic science such as biology. Direct relation with news was seen like Wanna Cry, IRNSS, etc. Thus, it saw a mix of both fundamental and current affairs based question.
- The Current Affairs and schemes questions required deeper insights and understanding and was not restricted to only one year news.
- Admittedly, it was also realized that a few questions in this paper were very difficult and unconventional. Eliminating options were difficult this year.
**Recommendations**

- Read Basic/standard books, follow one Good News Paper religiously and use the internet as extensively as possible.
- Have keen perception about things going around you and assume less and less. After reading newspaper always clarify key terms from internet. Try to refer to the official websites as much as possible.
- Read one good book on each traditional subject this will help in prelims, mains and interview i.e. all stages of examination. This will also help in making some unapproachable question approachable.
- Do not ignore your strong areas to do research in weak areas. You should be able to answer most of the questions from your strong areas.
- An appropriate strategy should be to avoid negative marking in tough questions and maximize your score by first finding the easy ones and completing them.
- Read questions carefully and use elimination technique wherever possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Nature of Question</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>F: <strong>Fundamental</strong>, Conventional and conceptual question which is easily available in commonly recommended books. If a current affairs source is mentioned then it indicates that you had one more reason to prepare this.</td>
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<td>FA: <strong>Fundamental Applied</strong> question is an analytical question which requires information + application of mind. Answer to these question are from commonly recommended books but not so obvious to find.</td>
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<td>CA: <strong>Current Affair</strong> question which can be answered almost completely using given source alone.</td>
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<td>CAA: <strong>Current Affair Applied</strong> question needs information from more than one source to answer AND/OR application of mind (common sense and overall understanding) of aspirant. This is why source for these questions may not be answering the question completely.</td>
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<td>FCA: <strong>Fundamental + Current affair</strong>. This is a F or FA question supplemented with current affairs or a current affairs question that needs background information for complete answer. Source to these questions might not answer the questions in entirety.</td>
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<td>U (Unconventional Question): Unconventional Question means the question that is distantly related to syllabus provided by UPSC. It is neither present in even reference sources(in addition to recommended books) nor prominently in news.</td>
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EM = Essential material like basic books etc.
RM = Reference material
EN = Essential News/Current Affairs
RR = Random Read like random website etc.
E : Easy , M : Medium , D : Difficult
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QN</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Nature</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Source Type</th>
<th>Motivation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Polity</td>
<td>Consider the following statements: 1. In the first Lok Sabha, the single largest party in the opposition was the Swatantra Party 2. In the Lok Sabha, a &quot;Leader of the Opposition&quot; was recognised for the first time in 1969. 3. In the Lok Sabha, if a party does not have a minimum of 75 members, its leader cannot be recognised as the Leader of the Opposition. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Statement 1 is not correct: The Congress party won 364 of the 489 seats in the first Lok Sabha and finished way ahead of any other challenger. The Communist Party of India that came next in terms of seats won only 16 seats. Statement 2 is correct: In 1969, an official leader of opposition was recognised for the first time. However, it was given statutory recognition in 1977. Statement 3 is not correct: The leader of the largest Opposition party having not less than one-tenth seats of the total strength of the House is recognised as the leader of Opposition in that House.</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Indian polity by M Laxmikanth, Chapter-Parliament NCERT 12th - Politics in India since independence Chapter-2</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Which of the following leaf modifications occur(s) in the desert areas to inhibit water loss? 1. Hard and waxy leaves 2. Tiny leaves 3. Thorns instead of leaves Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 2 and 3 only (b) 2 only (c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>These are plants growing in extreme dry conditions throughout the year. For example, plants growing in deserts (psammophytes), on rock (lithophytes) or alpine plants growing above 14000 feet altitude. Xerophytes Adaptations 1. Conservation of Water Modifications a. Leaves few or absent or represented by spines only b. Petiole modified into leaf like structure</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>FA</td>
<td><a href="http://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/elm212.pdf">http://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/elm212.pdf</a> Class 6 ncert chapter 9-Page 83 and 84 <a href="http://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/esc109.pdf">http://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/esc109.pdf</a></td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>Previous year question</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Current Affairs/General awareness</td>
<td>As per the NSSO 70th Round “Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households”, consider the following statements: 1. Rajasthan has the highest percentage share of</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Statement 1 is correct: Among the major States, Rajasthan had highest percentage of agricultural households (78.4 percent) among its rural households followed by Uttar Pradesh (74.8 percent) and Madhya Pradesh (70.8 percent).</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>CAA</td>
<td><a href="http://mospi.nic.in/sites/default/files/publication_reports/ki_70_33_19dec14.pdf">http://mospi.nic.in/sites/default/files/publication_reports/ki_70_33_19dec14.pdf</a></td>
<td>EN</td>
<td>This NSSO Round was recently seen in news wrt to doubling of farmers's income.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>How is the National Green Tribunal (NGT) different from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)?</td>
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<td>1. The NGT has been established by an Act whereas the CPCB has been created by an executive order of the Government.</td>
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<td>2. The NGT provides a statutory body that was established in 2010 by the National Green Tribunal Act. It was set up to handle cases and speed up the cases related to environmental issues. The Tribunal shall not be bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but</td>
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<td>3. The NGT has a unique position in the judicial hierarchy. The decisions of the NGT are final and binding. The Union government modified the process of appointments to the National Green Tribunal. The new rules do away with a condition that the NGT can only be headed by a former All India Test Series - Test (2447) -</td>
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<td>Consider the following statements regarding National Green Tribunal: 1. It has been established under Biodiversity Act, 2002. 2. It deals with enforcement of any</td>
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environmental justice and helps reduce the burden of litigation in the higher courts whereas the CPCB promotes cleanliness of streams and wells, and aims to improve the quality of air in the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

shall be guided by principles of natural justice.

The Tribunal's dedicated jurisdiction in environmental matters shall provide speedy environmental justice and help reduce the burden of litigation in the higher courts. The Tribunal is mandated to make and endeavour for disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of filing of the same. Initially, the NGT is proposed to be set up at five places of sittings and will follow circuit procedure for making itself more accessible. New Delhi is the Principal Place of Sitting of the Tribunal and Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai shall be the other 4 place of sitting of the Tribunal.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), statutory organisation, was constituted in September, 1974 under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Further, CPCB was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. It serves as a field formation and also provides technical services to the Ministry of Environment and Forests of the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Principal Functions of the CPCB, as spelt out in the Water (Prevention and Control of

Supreme Court judge or the chief justice of a high court, and takes away the judiciary’s control on the process to appoint the tribunal’s members. Constitutional experts say such a move chips away at the independence of these institutions and weaken the country’s environmental watchdog.

In an order issued on February 9, 2018, the Supreme Court has stayed the Central Tribunal, Appellate Tribunal and other Authorities (Qualifications, Experience and other Conditions of Service of Members) Rules, 2017 (i.e., the Tribunal Rules) which gives the central government complete control over appointment of tribunal members, including the National Green Tribunal (NGT). Henceforth, the terms and conditions for appointment and legal right related to environment and giving relief and compensation. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanations:

Statement 1 is not correct: The National Green Tribunal has been established on 18.10.2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010. Statement 2 is correct: It has been set up for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources including enforcement of any legal right relating to environment and giving relief and compensation for damages to persons and property and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

2447- With reference to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), consider the following statements:
### Prison Act, 1974, and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
1. It was constituted under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.
2. It is executing the National Air Quality Monitoring Programme.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

### Consider the following statements:
1. The Parliament of India can place a particular law in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
2. The validity of a law placed in the Ninth Schedule cannot be examined by any court and no judgement can be made on it.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only  (b) 2 only  (c) Both 1 and 2

### The Ninth Schedule was added to the Constitution by the first amendment in 1951 along with Article 31-B with a view to provide a “protective umbrella” to land reforms laws to save them from being challenged in courts on the ground of violation of fundamental rights. The SC upheld the validity of Article 31-B and Parliament’s power to place a particular law in the Ninth Schedule. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

### Indian polity by M Laxmikanth, Chapter-Fundamental Rights

### The Ninth Schedule was added to the Constitution by the first amendment in 1951 along with Article 31-B with a view to provide a “protective umbrella” to land reforms laws to save them from being challenged in courts on the ground of violation of fundamental rights. The SC upheld the validity of Article 31-B and Parliament’s power to place a particular law in the Ninth Schedule. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

### The National Green Tribunal slams the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) over inspection of paper units in Uttar Pradesh, saying its conduct made it difficult to trust the pollution monitoring body.

### Consider the following statements:
1. The Parliament of India can place a particular law in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
2. The validity of a law placed in the Ninth Schedule cannot be examined by any court and no judgement can be made on it.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only  (b) 2 only  (c) Both 1 and 2  (d) Neither 1 nor 2

### The Supreme Court has said that laws placed in the Ninth Schedule

### termination of NGT members will be governed by the National Green Tribunal Act 2010.

### With reference to the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:
It was added by the first Amendment to the Constitution of India. Any law included in this schedule is not open to judicial review. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
| 6 | Current Affairs | Which one of the following best describes the term "Merchant Discount Rate" sometimes seen in news? | C | Merchant Discount Rate is a fee charged from a merchant by a bank for accepting payments from customers through credit and debit cards in their establishments. It compensates the card issuing bank, the lender which puts the PoS terminal and payment gateways such as Mastercard or Visa for their services. MDR charges are usually shared in pre-agreed proportion between the bank and a merchant and is expressed in percentage of transaction amount. |
| 7 | Current Affairs/General awareness | What is/are the consequence/consequences of a country becoming the member of the 'Nuclear Suppliers Group'? | A | Membership of the NSG means: 1. Access to technology for a range of uses from medicine to building nuclear power plants for India from the NSG which is |
1. It will have access to the latest and most efficient nuclear technologies.
2. It automatically becomes a member of "The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)".

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

essentially a traders’ cartel. India has its own indigenously developed technology but to get its hands on state of the art technology that countries within the NSG possess, it has to become part of the group. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

2. With India committed to reducing dependence on fossil fuels and ensuring that 40% of its energy is sourced from renewable and clean sources, there is a pressing need to scale up nuclear power production. This can only happen if India gains access to the NSG. Even if India today can buy power plants from the global market thanks to the one time NSG waiver in 2008, there are still many types of technologies India can be denied as it is outside the NSG.
3. India could sign the Nuclear non proliferation treaty and gain access to all this know how but that would mean giving up its entire nuclear arsenal. Given that it is situated in an unstable and unpredictable neighbourhood India is unlikely to sign the NPT or accede to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) that puts curbs on any further nuclear tests.
4. With access to latest technology, India can commercialize the production of nuclear power equipment. This, in turn will boost innovation and high tech manufacturing in India

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and can be leveraged for economic and strategic benefits.

**Statement 2 is not correct:**
Adherence to one or more of the NPT, the Treaties of Pelindaba, Rarotonga, Tlatelolco, Bangkok, Semipalatinsk or an equivalent international nuclear non-proliferation agreement, and full compliance with the obligations of such agreement(s); Hence, it does not automatically become a member of NPT.

Support of international efforts towards non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and of their delivery vehicles.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Question Number</th>
<th>Current Affairs</th>
<th>Question Text</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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</table>
| 8 | With reference to India’s decision to levy an equalization tax of 6% on online advertisement services offered by non-resident entities, which of the following statements is/are correct?  
1. It is introduced as a part of the Income Tax Act.  
2. Non-resident entities that offer advertisement services in India can claim a tax credit in their home country under the "Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements". | **D** Statements 1 and 2 are not correct: Equalization Levy was introduced in India in 2016, with the intention of taxing the digital transactions i.e. the income accruing to foreign e-commerce companies from India. It is aimed at taxing business to business transactions. As the levy was not introduced as part of the Income Tax Act but as a separate legislation under the Finance Bill, global firms that offer such services in India cannot claim a tax credit in their home country under the double taxation avoidance agreements. | **C** 1. The FRBM Review Committee (Chairperson: Mr. N.K. Singh) submitted its report in January 2017. The Report was made public in April 2017. The Committee suggested using debt as the primary target for fiscal policy. A debt to GDP ratio of 60% should be targeted with a 40% limit for the Centre and 20% limit for the States. The targeted debt to GDP ratio should be achieved by 2023. Hence, statement 1 is correct.  
2. The Central Government has domestic liabilities of 46.1% of GDP (2016-17) and as a per cent of GDP, States’ liabilities increased to 23.2 per cent at end-March | **EN** Government has decided to no longer target revenue deficit which brought he NK Singh Panel recommendations in to focus. [https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/revenue-deficit-no-longer-a-target-of-the-govt/article22650963.ece](https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/revenue-deficit-no-longer-a-target-of-the-govt/article22650963.ece) |
| 9 | Consider the following statements:  
1. The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Review Committee Report has recommended a debt to GDP ratio of 60% for the general (combined) government by 2023, comprising 40% for the Central Government and 20% for the State Governments.  
2. The Central Government has domestic liabilities of 21% of GDP as compared to that of 49% of GDP of the State Governments. | **C** 1. The FRBM Review Committee (Chairperson: Mr. N.K. Singh) submitted its report in January 2017. The Report was made public in April 2017. The Committee suggested using debt as the primary target for fiscal policy. A debt to GDP ratio of 60% should be targeted with a 40% limit for the centre and 20% limit for the states. The targeted debt to GDP ratio should be achieved by 2023. Hence, statement 1 is correct.  
2. The Central Government has domestic liabilities of 46.1% of GDP (2016-17) and as a per cent of GDP, States’ liabilities increased to 23.2 per cent at end-March | **D** [https://econmictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/internet/google-and-other-digital-service-providers-generate-over-rs-560-cr-in-equalisation-levy/articleshow/63933584.cms](https://econmictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/internet/google-and-other-digital-service-providers-generate-over-rs-560-cr-in-equalisation-levy/articleshow/63933584.cms) [https://www.financialexpress.com/opinion/equalisation-levy-not-so-equal/257045/](https://www.financialexpress.com/opinion/equalisation-levy-not-so-equal/257045/) | **EN** Has been in news since it was introduced in 2016. Also it was recently reported that the Centre’s revenue from equalisation levy in 2017-18 was over Rs 700 crore, much higher than the Rs 315 crore it garnered from the tax in the previous 10-month period |
3. As per the Constitution of India, it is mandatory for a State to take the Central Government's consent for raising any loan if the former owes any outstanding liabilities to the latter. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3  

2016. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.  
3. The Constitution of India empowers State Governments to borrow only from domestic sources (Article 293(1)). Further, as long as a State has outstanding borrowings from the Central Government, it is required to obtain Central Government's prior approval before incurring debt (Article 293 (3)). Hence, statement 3 is correct.

| 10 | Economy | Consider the following statements:  
1. The quantity of imported edible oils is more than the domestic production of edible oils in the last five years.  
2. The Government does not impose any customs duty on all the imported edible oils as a special case. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?  
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2  |
|---|---|---|
| A | Statement 1 is correct. India occupies a prominent position in the world oilseeds industry with contribution of around 10% in worldwide production. But the demand of edible oils (extracted from oilseeds in addition to palm oil) is significantly higher than the domestic production, leading to dependence on imports (60% of requirement).  
Statement 2 is not correct. Government imposes customs duty on edible oils to safeguard the interests of domestic oil crushing industry. The duty on two major edible oils, namely crude sunflower seed oil and crude canola/rapeseed/mustard is 25 per cent, while crude soyabean oil attracts 30 per cent duty.  |
| EN | ICAR Report and Import duty on edible oils is seen in news frequently  |
Lala Lajpat Rai was gifted with a perceptive mind, he was a prolific writer and authored several works like – “Unhappy India”, “Young India: An Interpretation”, “History of Arya Samaj”, “England’s Debt to India” and a series of popular biographies His biographies of Mazzini, Garibaldi and. Shivaji were published in 1896 and those of Dayanand and. Shrikrishna in 1898. His purpose in selecting Mazzini and Garibladi was to infuse patriotic sentiment in the youth of Punjab, who had no access to books in English. He wanted his countrymen to become acquainted with the teachings of Italian leaders who had so impressed his own mind. He had seen the points of similarity between the problems of India and those the Italian leaders had to face.

Lala Lajpat Rai travelled to the US in 1907. He toured Sikh communities along the West Coast in the USA and noted sociological similarities between the notion of 'color-caste' there and within castes in India. He joined Swaraj Party in 1926 and was elected its Deputy Leader in the Central Legislative Assembly. He later resigned from the Swaraj Party in August 1926.

Consider the following statements:
1. Aadhaar card can be used as a proof of citizenship or

Statement 1 is not correct: The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Bill, 2016

Has frequently been in news.

All India Test Series - Test (2438)- Consider the following statements regarding
domicile. 
2. Once issued, Aadhaar number cannot be deactivated or omitted by the Issuing Authority. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? 
(a) 1 only 
(b) 2 only 
(c) Both 1 and 2 
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Statement 2 is not correct: The Aadhaar Act regulations, state that an individual’s Aadhaar number may be “omitted” permanently or deactivated temporarily by the Unique Identification Authority of India, the agency responsible for issuing the numbers and managing the database. The regulations give the Authority the power to deactivate Aadhaar numbers even in the absence of an effective grievance redressal procedure for those whose numbers have been suspended.

Aadhar Card: 
1. It is a proof of nationality in India.
2. It is a compulsory service every citizen should avail in order to receive benefits of government subsidies. 
3. There is no exit option to get out of the Aadhar database.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct? 
(a) 2 and 3 only 
(b) 1 only 
(c) 1, 2 and 3 
(d) 3 only

| 13 | Geography | Which of the following has/have shrunk immensely/dried up the recent past due to human activities? 
1. Aral Sea 
2. Black Sea 
3. Lake Baikal 
Select the correct answer using the code given below: 
(a) 1 only 
(b) 2 and 3 
(c) 2 only 
(d) 1 and 3 |
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<td>A</td>
<td>As per NASA, over the last 50 years, Aral Sea has shrunk by about 75% of its original size mainly because of water diversion for agricultural usages in surrounding areas. Also from a depth of 68 meters in the 1960s, today it stands at less than 10 meters. In Lake Baikal, water level has gone below the critical mark of 456m eleven times since 1962. Thus, while Aral Sea has dried up immensely, Lake Baikal shows more of a fluctuating regime and shrinkage is not comparable to that of Aral Sea.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>CAA</td>
<td>EN</td>
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| 14 | Current Affairs | "Rule of Law Index" is released by which of the following?  
(a) Amnesty International  
(b) International Court of Justice  
(c) The Office of UN Commissioner for Human Rights  
(d) World Justice Report | D | The World Justice Project Rule of Law Index measures how the rule of law is experienced and perceived by the general public across the globe. It is the world’s leading source for original, independent data on the rule of law. | M | CA | EN | Has been in news |

All India Test Series - Test (2460) -  
The Rule of Law Index is brought out by  
(a) OECD  
(b) Transparency International  
(c) World Justice Project  
(d) UNDP

15 | Current Affairs | Which one of the following links all the ATMs in India  
(a) Indian Banks' Association  
(b) National Financial Switch (NFS)  
ATM network having 37 members and connecting about 50,000 members | C | National Financial Switch (NFS) ATM network having 37 members and connecting about 50,000 | M | CA | EN | NPCI and its functions have been in news frequently. |
| 16 | **Economy** | Consider the following statements:  
1. Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) is the amount that banks have to maintain in the form of their own funds to offset any loss that banks incur if the account-holders fail to repay dues.  
2. CAR is decided by each individual bank.  
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?  
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2 | A | Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) is the ratio of a bank's capital in relation to its risk weighted assets and current liabilities. It is decided by central banks and bank regulators to prevent commercial banks from taking excess leverage and becoming insolvent in the process. | E | CAR is a basic concept in economics and was recently seen in news in the context of the alleged fraud in PNB. | EM | https://www.investopedia.com/terms/c/capitaladequacyratio.asp  
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/definition/capital-adequacy-ratio  
https://www.livemint.com/Companies/9gftzb7edvMTRS/KJGcAfl/Govt-may-not-  
https://www.visionias.in/overview/national-financial-switch-product-overview
https://www.investor.com/Money/Gg9z4hQ8xSGKJjnYqgRP7N/Everything-to-know-about-your-ATM.html |
The identity platform 'Aadhaar' provides open "Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)". What does it imply?
1. It can be integrated into any electronic device.
2. Online authentication using iris is possible.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Aadhaar Authentication is the process wherein Aadhaar number, along with other attributes, including biometrics, are submitted online to the Central Identities Data Repository for its verification and such repository verifies the correctness, or the lack thereof, on the basis of the information available with it. An authentication request is entertained by the UIDAI only upon a request sent by a requesting entity electronically in accordance with its regulations. The modes of authentication include: Demographic Authentication, one-time pin based authentication, Biometric-based authentication, Multi-factor authentication.

To support strong end to end security and avoid request tampering and man-in-the-middle attacks, it is essential that encryption of data happens at the time of capture on the capture device. Authentication related APIs are enabled only for valid ASAs and only for their registered static IP addresses coming through a secure private network.

Recently, UIDAI proposed that Adhaar validation can be done using face recognition from July 1, 2018 onwards.

| 18 | Current Affairs | Very recently, in which of the following countries have lakhs of people either suffered from severe famine/acute malnutrition or died due to starvation caused by war/ethnic conflicts? (a) Angola and Zambia (b) Morocco and Tunisia (c) Venezuela and Colombia (d) Yemen and South Sudan | D | Yemen is now on the brink of “the world’s largest famine”, according to the United Nations. Already, 17 million people are dependent on external aid for food and medicine, while the country is fighting a massive cholera outbreak. The breakdown of government services, lack of drinking water and a crumbling health sector, besides the miseries of civil war and aerial bombardment, are fast turning Yemen into a failed state, and a breeding ground for extremist groups such as al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula. One year after South Sudan briefly declared a famine, more than half of the people in the world’s youngest nation face extreme hunger amid civil war. A new report by the United Nations and South Sudan’s government says more than six million people are at threat without aid, up about 40% from a year ago. | E | CA | http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/in-yemen-saudi-blockade-ratchets-up-fears-of-famine/article20461062.ece | http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-international/why-20-million-people-are-on-brink-of-famine/article17357258.ece | EN | has frequently been in news. |

<p>| 19 | Modern History | Regarding Wood’s Dispatch, which of the following statements are true? 1. Grants-in-Aid system was introduced. 2. Establishment of universities was recommended. | A | In 1854, Charles Wood prepared a despatch on an educational system for India. Considered the &quot;Magna Carta of English Education in India&quot;, this document was the first comprehensive plan for the spread of education in India. | M | F | SPECTRUM - Development of Education (Chapter) <a href="http://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/hess202.pdf">http://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/hess202.pdf</a> NCERT Class 8 | EM | All India Test Series - Test (2458)- The Wood’s Despatch of 1854 is regarded as the 'Magna Carta of English Education in India’. Which of the following were favoured by it? |</p>
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<td>1. It asked the Government of India to assume responsibility for education of the masses, thus repudiating the 'downward filtration theory', at least on paper.</td>
<td>2. It systematised the hierarchy from vernacular primary schools in villages at bottom, followed by Anglo-Vernacular High Schools and an affiliated college at the district level, and affiliating universities in the presidency towns of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras.</td>
<td>3. It recommended English as the medium of instruction for higher studies and vernaculars at school level.</td>
<td>4. It laid stress on female and vocational education, and on teachers' training.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statement 3 is not correct.</td>
<td>The universities were to be modeled after the London University and these were to have</td>
<td>History Social Science Civilising the &quot;Native&quot;, Educating the Nation.</td>
<td>1. Downward filtration theory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Explanation** -
In 1854, Charles Wood prepared a despatch on an educational system for India. Considered the "Magna Carta of English Education in India", this document was the first comprehensive plan for the spread of education in India.
- It asked the Government of India to assume responsibility for education of the masses, thus repudiating the 'downward filtration theory', at least on paper. Hence, option 1 is not correct.
- It systematised the hierarchy from vernacular primary schools in villages at bottom, followed by Anglo-Vernacular High Schools and an affiliated college at the district level, and affiliating universities in the presidency towns of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras. The universities were to be modeled after the London University and these were to have
A senate comprising of a Chancellor, a Vice-Chancellor, and fellows who were nominated by the Government. The Universities would confer degrees to the successful candidates after passing the examinations, (of Science or Arts Streams) conducted by the Senate. The universities were to organize departments not only of English but also of Arabic, Sanskrit and Persian, as well as law and civil engineering.

It recommended English as the medium of instruction for higher studies and vernaculars at school level.
- It laid stress on female and vocational, education, and on teachers’ training. Hence, option 2 is correct.
- It laid down that the education imparted in government institutions should be secular. Hence, option 3 is correct.
- It recommended a system of grants-in-aid to encourage private enterprise. Hence, option 4 is correct.

| 20 | Polity | With reference to the Parliament of India, which of the following Parliamentary Committees scrutinizes and reports to the House whether the powers to make regulations, rules, sub-rules, by-laws, etc. conferred by the Constitution or delegated by the Parliament are being properly exercised by the Executive within the scope of such delegation?
(a) Committee on Government Assurances
(b) Committee on Subordinate Legislation |
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<td>B</td>
<td>The Committee on Subordinate Legislation examines and reports to the House whether the powers to make rules, regulations, by-laws, schemes or other statutory instruments conferred by the Constitution or delegated by Parliament are being properly exercised. In both the Houses, the committee consists of 15 members. It was constituted in 1953. Hence, the answer is (b).</td>
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<td>M</td>
<td>Indian polity by M Laxmikanth, Chapter-Parliament</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>EM</td>
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</table>
Consider the following statements:
1. As per the Right to Education (RTE) Act, to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in a State, a person would be required to possess the minimum qualification laid down by the concerned State Council of Teacher Education.
2. As per the RTE Act, for teaching primary classes, a candidate is required to pass a Teacher Eligibility Test conducted in accordance with the National Council of Teacher Education guidelines.
3. In India, more than 90% of teacher education institutions are directly under the State Governments.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 only (c) 1 and 3 (d) 3 only

Statement 1 is not correct: In accordance with the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 23 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has laid down the minimum qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in class I to VIII, vide its Notification dated August 23, 2010.

Statement 2 is correct: One of the essential qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in any of the primary schools is that he/she should pass the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) which will be conducted by the appropriate Government.

Statement 3 is not correct: From the mid-1960s to 1993, the number of TEIs in India went up from about 1,200 to about 1,500. After the NCTE was set up, the number of TEIs exploded, to about 16,000 (over 90% private) by 2011.

Consider the following pairs:
Traditions State
1. ChapcharKut festival - Mizoram
2. KhongjomParba ballad - Manipur
3. Thang-Ta dance - Sikkim

Pair 1 is correct. Chapchar Kut is the biggest festival of the Mizos and is celebrated in March after completion of jhum operation. It is a spring festival. Pair 2 is correct. Khongjom Parba is a style of ballad singing from Manipur.
Which of the pairs given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 3 only
(d) 2 and 3

using Dholak (drum) which depicts stories of heroic battle fought by Manipuris against the mighty British Empire in 1891. It is one of the most popular musical art forms of Manipur inciting the spirit of patriotism and nationalism among the people at one time. Pair 3 is not correct. Manipur dance has a large repertoire, however, the most popular forms are the Ras, the Sankirtana and the Thang-Ta. Thang-ta dance of Manipur was an evolved from the martial arts drills promoted by the kings of Manipur.

2. http://www.nios.ac.in/media/documents/To
erism_337_courseE/Tourism_Book-02.pdf

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Consider the following statements:
2. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is under the charge of Director General of Health Services in the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2


Statement 2 is not correct: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India is the Administrative Ministry for the implementation of FSSAI. The Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) have already been appointed by Government of India. Before the formation of FSSAI, from 1954 onwards Prevention of Food Adulteration was part of Directorate General of Health Services. After having detached from the direct administrative control of the Health Ministry, this authority is holding independent authority and has attained special status.

The term "two-state solution" is sometimes mentioned in the news in the context of the affairs of (a) China (b) Israel (c) Iraq (d) Yemen

Two-State Solution of Israel Palestine Issue: It envisages an independent State of Palestine alongside the State of Israel west of Jordan river. The UNSC Resolution 1397 agreed in 2000 with support from USA and becoming first UNSC resolution to agree on two state solution

has frequently been in news.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>25</th>
<th>Current Affairs/ Schemes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With reference to the provisions made under the National Food Security Act, 2013, consider the following statements:</td>
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<td>1. The families coming under the category of 'below poverty line (BPL)' only are eligible to receive subsidies food grains.</td>
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<td>2. The eldest woman in a household, of age 18 years or above, shall be the head of the household for the purpose of issuance of a ration card.</td>
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<td>3. Pregnant women and lactating mothers are entitled to a 'take-home ration' of 1600 calories per day during pregnancy and for six months thereafter. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</td>
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<td>(a) 1 and 2</td>
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<td>(b) 2 only</td>
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<td>(c) 1 and 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>(d) 3 only</td>
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**B** 
Statement 1 is not correct: The Act provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population for receiving subsidized food grains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), thus covering about two-thirds of the population. 
Statement 2 is correct: It provides that eldest woman of the household of age 18 years or above is to be the head of the household for the purpose of issuing of ration cards. 
Statement 3 is not correct: Besides meal to pregnant women and lactating mothers during pregnancy and six months after the child birth, such women will also be entitled to receive maternity benefit of not less than Rs. 6,000.

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<th>26</th>
<th>Economy</th>
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<tr>
<td>India enacted the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 in order to comply with the obligations to</td>
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<td>(a) ILO</td>
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<td>(b) IMF</td>
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<td>(c) UNCTAD</td>
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<td>(d) WTO</td>
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**D** 
Geographical Indications of Goods are defined as that aspect of industrial property which refer to the geographical indication referring to a country or to a place situated therein as being the country or place of origin of that product. Typically, such a name conveys an assurance of quality and distinctiveness which is essentially attributable to the fact of its origin in that defined geographical locality, region or country. Under Articles 1 (2) and

**E** 
Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 is frequently seen in news.
10 of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, geographical indications are covered as an element of IPRs. They are also covered under Articles 22 to 24 of the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement, which was part of the Agreements concluding the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations. India, as a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), enacted the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999 has come into force with effect from 15th September 2003.

**Consider the following statements:**
1. In India, State Governments do not have the power to auction non-coal mines.
2. Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand do no have gold mines.
3. Rajasthan has iron ore mines.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2  
(b) 2 only  
(c) 1 and 3  
(d) 3 only

**Unlike coal, the auction of mining licences of non-coal minerals is conducted by the respective state governments.**
Iron ore mines are located in Bhilwara in Rajasthan. India has gold deposits spread across several states including Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan. Governments of both Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh have auctioned several gold mines in recent years.
### Current Affairs

With reference to digital payments, consider the following statements:
1. BHIM app allows the user to transfer money to anyone with a UPI-enabled bank account.
2. While a chip-pin debit card has four factors of authentication, BHIM app has only two factors of authentication.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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| **A** | **Statement 1 is correct:** Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) is a payment app that lets you make simple, easy and quick transactions using Unified Payments Interface (UPI). You can make direct bank payments to anyone on UPI using their UPI ID or scanning their QR with the BHIM app. You can also request money through the app from a UPI ID.  
**Statement 2 is not correct:** From a consumer point of view, there are three levels of authentication that are required in this app. One is the device ID and mobile number, then the bank account which you are linking to this app, and finally the UPI Pin which is needed to complete the transaction. There are three factors of authentication versus a normal net banking app or a chip-pin debit card which will only have two factors of authentication | **M** | **http://indianeexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/bhim-app-narendra-modi-upi-online-transaction-safety-4453599/https://www.bhimupi.org.in/who-we-are** | **EN** | Has frequently been in news. |
Among the following cities, which one lies on a longitude closest to that of Delhi?
(a) Bengaluru
(b) Hyderabad
(c) Nagpur
(d) Pune

A Delhi and Bengaluru are located almost on the same longitude. Longitude of Delhi - 77.1025° E
Longitude of Bengaluru - 77.5946° E
Longitude of Hyderabad - 78.4867° E
Longitude of Nagpur - 79.0882° E
Longitude of Pune - 73.8567° E

International Labour Organization’s Convention 138 and 182 are related to
(a) Child labour
(b) Adaptation of agricultural practices to global climate change
(c) Regulation of food prices

A India recently ratified the two Core Conventions of International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions 138 regarding admission of age to employment and Convention 182 regarding worst forms of Child Labour

E http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.asp?relid=165604
EN Has frequently been in news.

PT 365 Social Issues
Page 12
VISION IAS OPEN TEST - 1-2517
With reference to child labour, consider the following statements:
1. Globally, the
and food security
(d) Gender parity at the workplace

2. Sustainable Development Goals aim to eradicate child labour in all its forms by 2025.
3. India has not ratified any convention of International Labour Organization on Child Labour.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

All India Test Series - Test (2437)
India is party to which of the following conventions of International Labour Organisation?
1. The Minimum Age Convention
2. The Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention
3. Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

Mentioned in the explanations for these questions: In July 2017,
India ratified the two Core Conventions of International Labour Organization (ILO)- Convention 138 regarding admission of age to employment and Convention 182 regarding worst forms of Child Labour.

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<td>31</td>
<td>Regarding Money Bill, which of the following statements is not correct?</td>
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<td>(a) A bill shall be deemed to be a Money Bill if it contains only provisions relating to imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax.</td>
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<td>(b) A Money Bill has provisions for the custody of the Consolidated Fund of India or the Contingency Fund of India.</td>
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<td>(c) A Money Bill is concerned with the appropriation of moneys out of the Contingency Fund of India.</td>
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<td>(d) A Money Bill deals with the regulation of borrowing of money or giving of any guarantee by the Government of India.</td>
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|   | Article 110 of the Constitution deals with the definition of money bills. It states that a bill is deemed to be a money bill if it contains ‘only’ provisions dealing with all or any of the following matters: 1. The imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax; 2. The regulation of the borrowing of money or the giving of any guarantee by the Government of India; 3. The custody of the Consolidated Fund of India or the contingency Fund of India, the payment of moneys into or the withdrawal of money from any such fund; 4. The appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Fund of India; 5. Declaration of any expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India or increasing the amount of any such expenditure; 6. The receipt of money on account of the Consolidated Fund of India or the public account of India or the custody or issue of | M |   |

|   | Indian polity by M Laxmikanth, Chapter - Parliament | F |   |
|   |   |   | EM |   |
| 32 | Polity | With reference to the election of the President of India, consider the following statements:  
1. The value of the vote of each MLA varies from State to State.  
2. The value of the vote of MPs of the Lok Sabha is more than the value of the vote of MPs of the Rajya Sabha.  
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?  
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2 | A | The President is elected not directly by the people but by members of electoral college consisting of:  
1. the elected members of both the Houses of Parliament;  
2. the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the states; and  
3. the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry.  
Value of the vote is determined in the following manner:  
1. Every elected member of the legislative assembly of a state shall have as many votes as there are multiples of one thousand in the quotient obtained by dividing the population of the state by the total number of the elected members of the assembly.  
(Hence, it varies according to population of state.)  
2. Every elected member of either House of Parliament shall have such number of votes as may be obtained by dividing the total number of votes assigned to members of the legislative assemblies of the states by the total number of the elected members of both the Houses of Parliament.  
Hence, the correct answer is (a). | M | Indian polity by M. Laxmikanth, Chapter- President | EM | [Link](http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/presidential-election-how-are-the-votes-calculated/article19108121.ece) |
<p>| 33 | Current Affairs | In the Indian context, what is the implication of ratifying the 'Additional Protocol' with the 'International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)'? (a) The civilian nuclear reactors come under IAEA safeguards. (b) The military nuclear installations come under the inspection of IAEA. (c) The country will have the privilege to buy uranium from the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG). (d) The country automatically becomes a member of the NSG. | A | India has ratified the Additional Protocol, a commitment given under India-U.S. nuclear deal by the previous dispensation to grant greater ease to International Atomic Energy Agency to monitor India’s civilian atomic programme. The IAEA had in March 2009 approved an additional protocol to India's safeguards agreement consequent to a pact reached with the agency the previous year to place its civilian nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards. That agreement had paved the way for the 45-member Nuclear Suppliers Group to grant India-specific waiver for it to have commercial relations with other countries in the civilian atomic field. | D | CA | <a href="http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-opinion/India-and-the-Additional-Protocol/article16631586.ece">http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-opinion/India-and-the-Additional-Protocol/article16631586.ece</a> | EN | Is seen context of India US nuclear deal and India's bid for NSG membership |
| 34 | Current Affairs | Consider the following countries: 1. Australia 2. Canada 3. China 4. India 5. Japan 6. USA Which of the above are among the 'free-trade partners' of ASEAN? (a) 1, 2, 4 and 5 (b) 3, 4, 5 and 6 (c) 1, 3, 4 and 5 (d) 2, 3, 4 and 6 | C | The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration) by the Founding Fathers of ASEAN, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. ASEAN has existing free trade agreements with Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea and New Zealand. | M | CA | <a href="http://asean.org/asean-economic-community/free-trade-agreements-with-dialogue-partners/">http://asean.org/asean-economic-community/free-trade-agreements-with-dialogue-partners/</a> | EN | Has frequently been in news as Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) between the ten member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the six states with which ASEAN has existing free trade agreements. |
| 35 | Environment | With reference to the 'Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA)', which of the following statements | B | The term Climate-Smart Agriculture was first coined by FAO in 2010 as a means to attract climate finance to its agricultural programmes in | D | FCA | <a href="http://sdg.iisd.org/news/gacsa-annual-forum">http://sdg.iisd.org/news/gacsa-annual-forum</a> | RR | GACSA Annual Forum Focuses on Collective Action for Climate-Smart Agriculture- 21 |</p>
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<td>is/are correct?</td>
<td>Africa. GACSA is an inclusive, voluntary and action-oriented multi-stakeholder platform on Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA). GACSA was launched in September 2014 in the margins of the UN Climate Summit. The Alliance held its inaugural Annual Forum in December 2014, during which the 2015 Inception Year Work Plan was endorsed. The concept of Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) was originally developed by FAO and officially presented and at the Hague Conference on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change in 2010, through the paper “Climate-Smart Agriculture: Policies, Practices and Financing for Food Security, Adaptation and Mitigation”. They have been established based on bottom-up, inclusive, independent and voluntary processes, with specific objectives, functioning and institutional setting. The emergence of CSA alliances and platforms worldwide is a positive and strong signal to the international community on the willingness of all stakeholders, at various levels of action, to tackle the climate challenges in the agricultural sectors, based on joint efforts and context-specific approaches. The GACSA alliance is made up of a diverse set of members that includes governments, NGOs, intergovernmental organizations (including UN and the African Union) focuses-on-collective-action-for-climate-smart-agriculture/ <a href="http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/gacsa/docs/Open_Letter_to_CSOs_from_CoChais__1_.pdf">http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/gacsa/docs/Open_Letter_to_CSOs_from_CoChais__1_.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.fao.org/gacsa/members/members-list/en/">http://www.fao.org/gacsa/members/members-list/en/</a></td>
<td>December 2017: Participants at the Second Annual Forum of the Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA) discussed how multi-stakeholder efforts can promote the implementation of climate-smart agriculture (CSA) practices and systems that address the implications of climate change in diverse agro-ecological regions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. GACSA is an outcome of the Climate Summit held in Paris in 2015.</td>
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<td>2. Membership of GACSA does not create any binding obligations.</td>
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<td>3. India was instrumental in the creation of GACSA.</td>
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<td>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</td>
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<tr>
<td>(a) 1 and 3 only</td>
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<td>(b) 2 only</td>
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<td>(c) 2 and 3 only</td>
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<tr>
<td>(d) 1, 2 and 3</td>
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Commission), research/extension/education organizations, farmer organizations, financing institutions and the private sector. Key donor organisations engaging with GACSA include the governments of Canada, France, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Though some of the Indian NGOs are its member but there are not enough evidences of India being instrumental in creation of GACSA.

36 Current Affairs/Schemes

Which of the following is/are the aim/aims of “Digital India” Plan of the Government of India?
1. Formation of India's own Internet companies like China did.
2. Establish a policy framework to encourage overseas multinational corporations that collect Big Data to build their large data centers within our national geographical boundaries.
3. Connect many of our villages to the Internet and bring Wi-Fi to many of our schools, public places and major tourist centers.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

37 Geography

Consider the following pairs:
Towns sometimes mentioned in news -

- Aleppo is in Syria, Kirkuk and Mosul are in Iraq while Majar-i-Sharif is in Afghanistan.
**Country**
1. Aleppo - Syria
2. Kirkuk - Yemen
3. Mosul - Palestine
4. Mazar-i-sharif - Afghanistan

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
(a) 1 and 2  
(b) 1 and 4  
(c) 2 and 3  
(d) 3 and 4

These cities have been in recent news due to war and violence.

In the Federation established by The Government of India Act of 1935, residuary powers were given to the 
(a) Federal Legislature 
(b) Governor General 
(c) Provincial Legislature 
(d) Provincial Governors

The Government of India Act of 1935 envisaged an all-India federation consisting of eleven Governor’s provinces, six Chief Commissioner’s provinces, and such Indian States as would agree to join the federation. The governmental subjects were divided into three Lists i.e. Federal, Provincial and Concurrent. The provincial legislatures were given exclusive power to legislate with respect to matters in the Provincial list. The federal legislature had the exclusive power to make law on matters in the Federal List. The federal and the provincial legislatures had concurrent jurisdiction with respect to matters in the Concurrent List. In case of conflict between a provincial law and a federal law on a matter enumerated in the Concurrent List, the latter was to prevail, and the former would, to the extent of the repugnancy be void. Residuary powers were vested in the Governor-General, who could, in his discretion, assign any such power by a public notification to the federal legislature or the provincial legislature.

With reference to ‘Government of India Act 1935’ which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. It provided for the adoption of dyarchy at the Centre.
2. It provided for bicameral legislature in all the provinces of British India.
3. It introduced provincial autonomy in the states.
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation - Features of the Government of India 1935 Act
1. It provided for the establishment of an All-India Federation consisting of provinces and princely states as units. The Act divided the powers between the Centre and units in terms of three lists—Federal List (for Centre, with 59 items), Provincial List (for
provinces, with 54 items) and the Concurrent List (for both, with 36 items). 
Residuary powers were given to the Viceroy. However, the federation never came into being as the princely states did not join it.

2. It abolished dyarchy in the provinces and introduced ‘provincial autonomy’ in its place. Moreover, the Act introduced responsible governments in provinces, that is, the governor was required to act with the advice of ministers responsible to the provincial legislature. This came into effect in 1937 and was discontinued in 1939. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

3. It provided for the adoption of dyarchy at the Centre. However, this provision of the Act did not come into operation at all. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

4. It introduced bicameralism in six out of eleven provinces. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

5. It further extended
the principle of communal representation by providing separate electorates for depressed classes (scheduled castes), women and labour (workers).
6. It provided for the establishment of a Reserve Bank of India to control the currency and credit of the country.
7. It provided for the establishment of not only a Federal Public Service Commission but also a Provincial Public Service Commission and Joint Public Service Commission for two or provinces.
8. It provided for the establishment of a Federal Court, which was set up in 1937

Consider the following statements:
1. The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly shall vacate his/her office if he/she ceases to be a member of the assembly.
2. Whenever the Legislative Assembly is dissolved, the Speaker shall vacate his/her office immediately.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A. Usually, the Speaker remains in office during the life of the assembly. However, he vacates his office earlier in any of the following three cases:
   1. if he ceases to be a member of the assembly;
   2. if he resigns by writing to the deputy speaker; and
   3. if he is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the assembly. Such a resolution can be moved only after giving 14 days advance notice.

M. Indian polity by M Laxmikanth, Chapter- State Legislature

EM
### Question 40
**Polity**
Which one of the following reflects the most appropriate relationship between law and liberty?

1. If there are more laws, there is less liberty.
2. If there are no laws, there is no liberty.
3. If there is liberty, laws have to be made by the people.
4. If laws are changed too often, liberty is in danger.

**Options:**
- (a) If there are more laws, there is less liberty.
- (b) If there are no laws, there is no liberty.
- (c) If there is liberty, laws have to be made by the people.
- (d) If laws are changed too often, liberty is in danger.

**Answer:**
- **B** The term 'liberty' means absence of restraints on the activities of individuals, and at the same time, providing opportunities for the development of individuals. However, liberty does not mean 'license' to do what one likes, and has to be enjoyed within the limitations mentioned in the Constitution and various laws. The concept of liberty is not absolute. Absence of laws does not ensure liberty.

**Indian polity by M Laxmikanth, Chapter-Preamble NCERT 11, Indian Constitution at work, chapter 2**

### Question 41
**Polity**
Consider the following statements:
1. No criminal proceedings shall be instituted against the Governor of a State in any court during his term of office.
2. The emoluments and allowances of the Governor of a State shall not be diminished during his term of office.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

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

**Answer:**
- **C** Like the President, the governor is also entitled to a number of privileges and immunities. During his term of office, he is immune from any criminal proceedings, even in respect of his personal acts. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- **E** The Governor is entitled to such emoluments, allowances and privileges as may be determined by Parliament. His emoluments and allowances cannot be diminished during his term of office. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

**Indian polity by M Laxmikanth, Chapter-Governor NCERT 11, Indian Constitution at work, chapter 2**

**Partial coverage:**
- Partially covered in 2457
<p>| 42 | Art and Culture | The well-known painting &quot;Bani Thani&quot; belongs to the (a) Bundi school (b) Jaipur school (c) Kangra school (d) Kishangarh school | D | Bani Thani is an Indian painting in the Kishangarh school of paintings. Bani Thani was painted by an artist by the name of Nihâl Chand. The painting's subject, Bani Thani, was a singer and poet in Kishangarh in the time of king Savant Singh. | M | F | <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/jaipur/bani-thani-paintings-to-welcome-passengers-at-kishangarh-airport/articleshow/58451262.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/jaipur/bani-thani-paintings-to-welcome-passengers-at-kishangarh-airport/articleshow/58451262.cms</a> | RR | To check basic factual knowledge about Indian Culture and heritage. There will be a display of famous Bani-Thani paintings of Kishangarh style in the galleries and halls of the newly built Kishangarh airport. |
| 43 | Current Affairs | What is &quot;Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD)&quot;, sometimes seen in the news? (a) An Israeli radar system (b) India's indigenous anti-missile programme (c) An American anti-missile system (d) A defence collaboration between Japan and South Korea | C | The Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or simply abbreviated as THAAD, is an American missile defence system that is designed to intercept and destroy short and medium-range ballistic missiles in their final flight phase. First proposed in 1987 and then finally deployed in 2008, the THAAD cannot be used as a form of attack against an enemy. | M | CA | <a href="http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/pentagon-evaluating-us-west-coast-missile-defense-sites-officials/article21253983.ece">http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/pentagon-evaluating-us-west-coast-missile-defense-sites-officials/article21253983.ece</a> <a href="http://indianexpress.com/article/what-is/what-is-thaad-everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-us-anti-missle-system-4630087/">http://indianexpress.com/article/what-is/what-is-thaad-everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-us-anti-missle-system-4630087/</a> | EN | Has frequently been in news. |
| 44 | Art and Culture | With reference to cultural history of India, consider the following statements: 1. Most of the Tyagaraja Kritis are devotional songs in praise of Lord Krishna. 2. Statement 1 is not correct. Most of Tyagaraja’s songs were in praise of Rama, who, like Krishna, is believed to be an incarnation of the god Vishnu. Statement 2 is correct. Tyagaraja is | B | Statement 1 is not correct. Most of Tyagaraja’s songs were in praise of Rama, who, like Krishna, is believed to be an incarnation of the god Vishnu. Statement 2 is correct. Tyagaraja is | D | FCA | 1. <a href="http://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/music/the-saint/">http://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/music/the-saint/</a> | EN | To check the knowledge of religious philosophy schools. 250TH Birth Anniversary of |</p>
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<td>2. Tyagaraja created several new ragas.</td>
<td>credited with various musical innovations, including the use of a structured variation of musical lines within the performance, a practice that may have been derived from improvisatory techniques.</td>
<td>Statement 3 is not correct. Tyagaraja belonged to the 18th century and Annamacharya to the 15th century. Statement 4 is correct. Annamācārya was a 15th-century Hindu saint and is the earliest known Indian musician to compose songs called sankirtanas in praise of the god Venkateswara, a form of Vishnu.</td>
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<td>3. Annamacharya and Tyagaraja are contemporaries.</td>
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<td>4. Annamacharyakirtanas are devotional songs in praise of Lord Venkateshvara. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 and 4 only (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) 2, 3 and 4</td>
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Annamacharya was a 15th-century Hindu saint and is the earliest known Indian musician to compose songs called sankirtanas in praise of the god Venkateswara, a form of Vishnu.
| 45 | Polity | Which of the following are regarded as the main features of the "Rule of Law"?  
1. Limitation of Powers  
2. Equality before law  
3. People's responsibility to the Government  
4. Liberty and civil rights  
Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
(a) 1 and 3 only  
(b) 2 and 4 only  
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only  
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4 | C | Fundamental rights enshrined in part III of the constitution is a restriction on the law making power of the Indian Parliament. The state has got no power to deprive a person of his life and liberty without the authority of law.  
The secondary meaning of rule of law is that the government should be conducted within a framework of recognized rules and principles which restrict discretionary powers. Dicey’s Concept of Rule of Law-In his book, the law and the constitution, published in the year 1885, Dicey attributed three meanings to the doctrine of rule of law:  
1. Supremacy Of Law  
2. Equality Before The Law  
3. Predominance Of Legal Spirit | D | FA | Indian polity by M Laxmikanth, Chapter- Fundamental Rights | EM | All India Test Series – Test (2436)  
Which among the following is/are elements of concept of rule of law in India?  
1. Absence of arbitrary power.  
2. Equality before law.  
3. Constitution as source of individual rights.  
Select the correct answer using the code given below.  
(a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3 |

| 46 | Economy | Which one of the following statements correctly describes the meaning of legal tender money?  
(a) The money which is tendered in courts of law to defray the fee of legal cases  
(b) The money which a creditor is under compulsion to accept in settlement of his claims  
(c) The bank money in the form of cheques, drafts, bills of exchange etc.  
(d) The metallic money in circulation in a country | B | Legal tender is any official medium of payment recognized by law that can be used to extinguish a public or private debt, or meet a financial obligation.  
A creditor is obligated to accept legal tender toward repayment of a debt. Legal tender can only be issued by the national body that is authorized to do so | E | F | XII: Introductory Macroeconomics, Chapter - 3, Page: 38 | EM | Recently RBI has banned entities regulated by it from dealing with or providing services to any individual or business entities dealing with or settling virtual currencies (VCs). It does not consider the legal tender money. It is also a fundamental concept in economics.  
All India Test Series-Test (2542)  
Which of the following are considered as ‘Legal Tender’ in India?  
1. Cheques  
2. Coins  
3. Paper Currency  
Select the correct answer using the code given below.  
(a)1 and 2 only  
(b)2 and 3 only  
(c)1 and 3 only  
(d)1, 2 and 3  
**Explanation**- Legal tender’ is the money that is recognized by the law of the land, as valid for payment of debt. The RBI Act of 1934,
which gives the central bank the sole right to issue bank notes, states that “Every bank note shall be legal tender at any place in India in payment for the amount expressed therein”. Legal tender can be limited or unlimited in character. In India, coins function as limited legal tender. Therefore, 50 paise coins can be offered as legal tender for dues up to ₹10 and smaller coins for dues up to ₹1. Currency notes are unlimited legal tender and can be offered as payment for dues of any size. Cheques are not considered as legal tender.

| 47 | Economy | If a commodity is provided free to the public by the Government, then (a) the opportunity cost is zero. (b) the opportunity cost is ignored. (c) the opportunity costs is transferred from the consumers of the product to the tax-paying public. (d) the opportunity cost is transferred from the consumers of the product to the Government. | C | Opportunity cost is the cost of choosing one alternative over another and missing the benefit offered by the forgone opportunity, investing or otherwise. Opportunity cost refers to a benefit that a person could have received, but gave up, to take another course of action. Stated differently, an opportunity cost represents an alternative given up when a decision is made. Opportunity cost is also called the economic cost. | D | U | NCERT, Introductory Microeconomics, Chapter-1, Page 4 [https://www.investopedia.com/terms/o/opportunitycost.asp](https://www.investopedia.com/terms/o/opportunitycost.asp) | RR | Fundamental Concept in Economics. |
| 48 | Economy | Increase is absolute and per capital real GNP do not connote a higher level of economic development, if (a) industrial output fails to keep pace with agricultural output. (b) agricultural output fails to keep pace with industrial output. (c) poverty and unemployment increase. (d) imports grow faster than exports. | C | An essential aspect of development is to enable the maximum number to experience the fruits of development. Concepts of per capita income (per capita GDP or per capita NSDP) are not able to capture this aspect of development. There may be a case wherein increase in absolute and per capita GNP is reflective of growth in income of a small section of society and that majority of the population is poverty stricken and unemployed. Multi-dimensional non-monetary social indicators are better reflectors of overall economic development in the society. | M | FA | Introductory Macroeconomics, Chapter-2: National Income Accounting | EM | Fundamental Concept in Economics. |
| 49 | Economy | Consider the following statements: Human capital formation as a concept is better explained in terms of a process which enables 1. individuals of a country to accumulate more capital. 2. increasing the knowledge, skill levels and capacities of the people of the country. 3. accumulation of tangible wealth. 4. accumulation of intangible wealth. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 only (c) 2 and 4 (d) 1, 3 and 4 | C | Human capital formation indicates, “the process of acquiring and increasing the number of persons who have the skills, education and experience which are critical for the economic and the political development of the country. Human capital formation is thus associated with investment in man and his development as a creative and productive resource.” Hence, statement 1 is correct. Intangible wealth consists of factors such as the trust among people in a society, an efficient judicial system, clear property rights, effective government, and good education system etc. Human capital formation enables accumulation of intangible wealth. Hence, statement 4 is correct. | D | FA | http://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/keec105.pdf | EM | Basic Concept in Economics; Government recently launched Sustainable Action for Transforming Human capital Programme |
### Economy

Despite being a high saving economy, capital formation may not result in significant increase in output due to:
(a) weak administrative machinery
(b) illiteracy
(c) high population density
(d) high capital-output ratio

Capital formation means increasing the stock of real capital in a country. In other words, capital formation involves making of more capital goods such as machines, tools, factories, transport equipment, materials, electricity, etc., which are all used for future production of goods. For making additions to the stock of Capital, saving and investment are essential.

Capital output ratio is the amount of capital needed to produce one unit of output. For example, suppose that investment in an economy, investment is 32% (of GDP), and the economic growth corresponding to this level of investment is 8%. Here, a Rs 32 investment produces an output of Rs 8. Capital output ratio is 32/8 or 4. In other words, to produce one unit of output, 4 unit of capital is needed. Hence, if the capital-output ratio is high, there will not be significant increase in output despite high savings and investment.

### Modern History

After the Santhal Uprising subsided, what was/were the measure/measures taken by the colonial government?

1. The territories called 'Santhal Paraganas' were created.
2. It became illegal for a Santhal to transfer land to a non-Santhal.

**Statement 1 is correct.** It was after the Santhal Revolt (1855-56) that the Santhai Pargana was created, carving out 5,500 square miles from the districts of Bhagalpur and Birbhum. The colonial state hoped that by creating a new territory for the Santhals and imposing some special laws within it, the Santhals

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For the NCERT, Business Studies, Page 396:

**E**

NCERT, Business Studies, Page 396

**F**

Basic Concept in Economics

**EM**

All India Test Series – Test (2457)

With reference to Incremental Capital Output Ratio (ICOR), consider the following statements:
1. It assesses the marginal amount of investment capital necessary for an entity to generate the next unit of production
2. High ICOR value indicates efficient production of an entity.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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For Shekhar Bandopadhyay’s "Plassey To Partition" - Ch- Reform & Rebellion pg 165:

**EM**

https://books.google.co.in/books?id=DORXV
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

could be conciliated. **Statement 2 is correct.** To protect economic basis of Santhal society, special regulations governed transfer of land. It became illegal for a Santhal to transfer land to a non-Santhal.

Modern History

Economically, one of the results of the British rule in India in the 19th century was the
(a) increase in the export of Indian handicrafts
(b) growth in the number of Indian owned factories
(c) commercialization of Indian agriculture
(d) rapid increase in the urban population

Economic Impact of British rule- 1. Deindustrialisation - Ruin of artisans and handicraftsmen: cheap and machine made goods imports flooded the Indian market after the Charter Act of 1813 allowing one-way free trade for British citizens. On the other hand, Indian products found it more and more difficult to penetrate the European markets. After 1820, European markets were virtually closed to Indian exports. Even the newly
introduced rail network helped the European products to reach the remotest corners of the country. Hence, option (a) is not correct. Another feature of deindustrialisation was the decline of many cities and a process of ruralisation of India. Many artisans, faced with diminishing returns and repressive policies of the Company abandoned their professions and moved to villages and took to agriculture. This resulted in increased pressure on land. An overburdened agriculture sector was a major cause of poverty and a major cause of poverty during British rule and this upset the village economic set-up. Hence, option (d) is not correct.

2. Impoverishment of Peasantry
- The Govt. was only interested in maximisation of rents and in securing its share of revenue, had enforced the Permanent Settlement in large parts. Transferability of land was one feature of the new settlement which caused great insecurity to the tenants who lost all their traditional rights in land.

3. Development of Modern Industries
- It was only in the second half of 19th Century that modern machine based industries started coming up in India. The first cotton textile mill was started

Explaination: Following were the economic impact of the British rule in India:

Deindustrialisation - India was a major player in the world export market for textiles in the early 18th century, but by the middle of the 19th century it had lost all of its export market and much of its domestic market. Other local industries also suffered some decline, and India underwent de-industrialization as a consequence. While India produced about 25 percent of world industrial output in 1750, this figure fell to only 2 percent by 1900.

Ruralisation - Loss of peasantry during early years of British rule, along with the loss of handicrafts Industry in India led to formation of new urban centres and ruralisation of many ancient and medieval towns in India.

Deterioration of Agriculture - Faulty Land
in 1853 in Bombay by Cowasjee Nanabhoy and the first jute mill came up in 1855 in Rishra (Bengal). But most of the industries were foreign owned and controlled by British managing agencies. Hence, option (b) is not correct.

4. Commercialisation of Indian Agriculture - In the latter half of the 19th century, another significant trend was the emergence of the commercialisation of agriculture. Agriculture began to be influenced by commercial considerations. Certain specialised crops began to be grown not for consumption in the village but for sale in the national and even international markets. Commercial crops like cotton, jute, groundnut, oilseeds, sugarcane, tobacco, etc. were more remunerative than foodgrains. Hence, option (c) is correct.

53  Polity  If the President of India exercises his power as provided under Article 356 of the Constitution of a particular State, then B The President acquires the following extraordinary powers when the President’s Rule is imposed in a state:
1. He can take up the functions of M F Indian polity by M Laxmikanth, Chapter - Emergency provisions EM Covered in Open test 1 (2459)

Revenue collection practices, plantation Crops cultivation with little or no revenue for the farmers, transferability of land, little spending by Government on improvement of land productivity made farmer miserable. The peasant turned out to be the ultimate sufferer under the triple burden of the Government, zamindar and moneylender. His hardship increased at the time of famine and scarcity.

Rise of bourgeoisie class in India - There emerged the new class of Indian traders, moneylenders and bankers. But, the colonial situation retarded the development of a healthy and independent industrial bourgeoisie, and its development was different from other independent countries like Germany and Japan.
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<td>(a) the Assembly of the State is automatically dissolved.</td>
<td>(b) the powers of the Legislature of that State shall be exercisable by or under the authority of the Parliament.</td>
<td>(c) Article 19 is suspended in that State.</td>
<td>(d) the President can make laws relating to that State.</td>
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<td>the state government and powers vested in the governor or any other executive authority in the state.</td>
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<td>2. He can declare that the powers of the state legislature are to be exercised by the Parliament.</td>
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<td>3. He can take all other necessary steps including the suspension of the constitutional provisions relating to any body or authority in the state.</td>
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<td>The state governor, on behalf of the President, carries on the state administration with the help of the chief secretary of the state or the advisors appointed by the President. Further, the President either suspends or dissolves the state legislative assembly. <strong>The Parliament passes the state legislative bills and the state budget.</strong> Hence, the correct answer is (b).</td>
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<td>the following conditions?</td>
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<td>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</td>
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<td>(a)1 only</td>
<td>(b)1 and 2 only</td>
<td>(c)2 and 3 only</td>
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<td>(d)1, 2 and 3</td>
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<td>Consider the following statements with respect to President's Rule:</td>
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<td>1. A proclamation imposing President's rule must be approved by both Houses of Parliament within one month from date of its issue.</td>
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<td>2. The proclamation has to be approved by a majority of two-third of the members present and voting.</td>
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<td>3. The state assembly is dissolved immediately as the proclamation takes effect.</td>
<td>Which of the statements given above are not correct?</td>
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<td>(a) 1 and 2 only</td>
<td>(b) 2 and 3 only</td>
<td>(c) 1 and 3 only</td>
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<td>(d) 1, 2 and 3</td>
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Consider the following pairs:

1. Puthukkuli shawls - Tamil Nadu
2. Sujini embroidery - Maharashtra
3. Uppada Jamdani saris - Karnataka

Which of the pairs given above is/are correct?

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

**A**

**Pair 1 is correctly matched.** Toda tribe of Tamil Nadu do intricate Pithukuli work on cream coloured shawls. The colours are always red and black, and the shawl can be used both sides.

**Pair 2 is not correctly matched.** Sujini (also known as Sujini) is a form of embroidery originating from the Bhusura village of Bihar in India.

**Pair 3 is not correctly matched.** Uppada jamdani saris are diaphanous silk saree that trace its origin to Uppada in Andhra Pradesh. Jamdani itself is a hand woven fabric that is also known as muslin.

**CA**

| **EN** | Gi Tag given to commodities |

**Open Test 4 (2520)**

Consider the following pairs:

Embroidery/Weaving

Pattern State

1. Kashidakari Himachal Pradesh
2. Sujani Bihar
3. Kantha Karnataka

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

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

**Explanation**

Sujani (also known as Sujini) is a form of embroidery originating from the Bhusura village of Bihar in India. In ancient times, it was considered as a form of quilting where in old sarees and dhotis were used as the creative canvas, the cloth was folded twice or thrice and then simple stitches were done on these used clothing to add newness to them. Today, Sujani embroidery is also practiced in the southern part of Rajasthan for making patterns on Sarees, dupattas and other clothing and home furnishing.
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<th>55</th>
<th>General science and Science &amp; Technology</th>
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<td>In which of the following areas can GPS technology be used?</td>
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<td>1. Mobile phone operations</td>
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<td>2. Banking operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3. Controlling the power grids</td>
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<td>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) 1 only</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(b) 2 and 3 only</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(c) 1 and 3 only</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(d) 1, 2 and 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Global positioning system applications generally fall into 5 major categories:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Location - determining a position</td>
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<td>2. Navigation - getting from one location to another</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3. Tracking - monitoring object or personal movement</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. Mapping - creating maps of the world</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5. Timing - bringing precise timing to the world</td>
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<td>GPS’s accurate time facilitates everyday activities such as banking, mobile phone operations and even the control power grids by allowing well synchronized hand-off switching.</td>
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<td><a href="https://www.novatel.com/focus-pages/what-are-gps-systems-used-for/">https://www.novatel.com/focus-pages/what-are-gps-systems-used-for/</a></td>
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<td>56</td>
<td>Economy</td>
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<td>57</td>
<td>Geography</td>
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</table>
2. When the Earth was created more than 4000 million years ago, there was 54% oxygen and no carbon dioxide.
3. When living organisms originated, they modified the early atmosphere of the Earth.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

has settled in the last 20 million years into a pattern of a magnetic pole reversal about every 200,000 to 300,000 years.

Statement 2 is not correct. When Earth formed 4.6 billion years ago, it had almost no atmosphere. As Earth cooled, an atmosphere formed mainly from gases spewed from volcanoes. It included hydrogen sulfide, methane, and 10 to 200 times as much carbon dioxide as today’s atmosphere.

Statement 3 is correct. Living organisms includes plants and microbes. Life started to have a major impact on the environment once photosynthetic organisms evolved. While photosynthetic life reduced the carbon dioxide content of the atmosphere, it also started to produce oxygen. So, when living beings originated, they did modify the atmosphere.

There are three stages in the evolution of the present atmosphere. The first stage is marked by the loss of primordial atmosphere. In the second stage, the hot interior of the earth contributed to the evolution of the atmosphere. Finally, the composition of the atmosphere was modified by the living world through the process of photosynthesis. Oceans began to have the contribution of oxygen through the process of photosynthesis. Eventually, oceans were saturated with oxygen, and 2,000 million years ago, oxygen began to flood the atmosphere. Hence, option b is correct.

58 Current Affairs
The terms 'WannaCry, Petya and EternalBlue' sometimes mentioned in the news recently are related to
(a) Exoplanets
(b) Cryptocurrency
(c) Cyber attacks
(d) Mini satellites

The WannaCry ransomware attack was a May 2017 worldwide cyberattack by the WannaCry ransomware cryptoworm, which targeted computers running the Microsoft Windows operating system by encrypting data and demanding ransom payments in

E
CA
EN
Has frequently been in news.

WannaCry, recently seen in news, is a (a) nerve gas used in chemical warfare.
the Bitcoin cryptocurrency. It propagated through EternalBlue, an exploit in older Windows systems released by The Shadow Brokers a few months prior to the attack.

Petya is a family of encrypting ransomware that was first discovered in 2016. The malware targets Microsoft Windows-based systems, infecting the master boot record to execute a payload that encrypts a hard drive's file system table and prevents Windows from booting. It subsequently demands that the user make a payment in Bitcoin in order to regain access to the system.

| 59 | Environment | With reference to the circumstances in Indian agriculture, the concept of "Conservation Agriculture" assumes significance. Which of the following fall under the Conservation Agriculture?
|    |             | 1. Avoiding the monoculture practices
|    |             | 2. Adopting minimum tillage
|    |             | 3. Avoiding the cultivation of plantation crops
|    |             | 4. Using crop residues to cover soil surface
|    |             | 5. Adopting spatial and temporal crop sequencing/crop rotations
|    | 59 | Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1, 3 and 4 |
| 59 | Environment | Conservation Agriculture is a set of soil management practices that minimize the disruption of the soil's structure, composition and natural biodiversity. Despite high variability in the types of crops grown and specific management regimes, all forms of conservation agriculture share three core principles. These include:
|    |             | maintenance of permanent or semi-permanent soil cover (using either a previous crop residue or specifically growing a cover crop for this purpose);
|    |             | minimum soil disturbance through tillage (just enough to get the seed into the ground);
|    |             | regular crop rotations to help combat the various biotic constraints;
|    |             | CA also uses or promotes where

| le20542868.ece | http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/technology/petrwrap-ransomware-attack-what-we-know-so-far/article19159142.ece | (b) malicious software that locks a device and then demands a ransom to unlock it.
|              | http://conservationagriculture.mannlib.cornell.edu/pages/aboutca/whatisca.html | (c) digital asset designed to work as a medium of exchange using cryptography.
|              | RR | (d) virtual game which has led to several suicidal deaths. |
The term "sixth mass extinction/sixth extinction" is often mentioned in the news in the context of the discussion of:

(a) Widespread monoculture practices in agriculture and large-scale commercial farming with indiscriminate use of chemicals in many parts of the world that may result in the loss of good native ecosystems.

(b) Fears of a possible collision of a meteorite with the Earth in the near future in the manner it happened 65 million years ago that caused the mass extinction of many species including those of dinosaurs.

(c) Large scale cultivation of

Scientists have warned that the sixth mass extinction of life on Earth is unfolding more quickly than feared. Wildlife is dying out due to habitat destruction, overhunting, toxic pollution, invasion by alien species and climate change. The ultimate cause of all of these factors is human overpopulation and continued population growth, and overconsumption.
genetically modified crops in many parts of the world and promoting their cultivation in other parts of the world which may cause the disappearance of good native crop plants and the loss of food biodiversity. (d) Mankind's over-exploitation/misuse of natural resources, fragmentation/loss of natural habitats, destruction of ecosystems, pollution and global climate change.

Current Affairs

With reference to the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite Statement 1 is correct: The space segment consists of the IRNSS

www.visionias.in  ©Vision IAS
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<tr>
<td>1. IRNSS has three satellites in geostationary and four satellites in geosynchronous orbits.</td>
<td>constellation of Seven satellites, NaviC. Three satellites are located in suitable orbital slots in the geostationary orbit and the remaining four are located in geosynchronous orbits with the required inclination and equatorial crossings in two different planes.</td>
<td>Statement 2 is not correct: IRNSS is an independent regional navigation satellite system being developed by India. It is designed to provide accurate position information service to users in India as well as the region extending up to 1500 km from its boundary, which is its primary service area. An Extended Service Area lies between primary service area and area enclosed by the rectangle from Latitude 30 deg South to 50 deg North, Longitude 30 deg East to 130 deg East.</td>
<td>Statement 3 is not correct: India will not have its own satellite navigation system with full global coverage by the middle of 2019.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) None</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. IRNSS covers entire India and about 5500 sq. km beyond its borders.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. India will have its own satellite navigation system with full global coverage by the middle of 2019.</td>
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</table>

Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to India’s regional navigation satellite system NaviC?  
1. It is a constellation of five satellites.  
2. All the satellites are located in the geostationary orbit.  
3. It can provide accurate position information to users in the region extending up to 1500 km from India’s boundary.  
Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a)1 and 2 only (b)3 only (c)2 and 3 only (d)1 only

---

| 62 | General science and Science & Technology | Consider the following statements:  
1. Light is affected by gravity.  
2. The Universe is constantly expanding.  
3. Matter warps its surrounding space-time.  
Which of the above is/are the prediction/predictions of Albert Einstein’s General Theory of Relativity, often discussed in media? | General relativity predicted radical things, such as that light is deflected by gravity. It also predicted black holes. It showed that space and time are malleable or flexible, and ever expanding. Which basically predicted that our universe was ever expanding. |
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<td>FCA</td>
<td><a href="http://indianexpress.com/article/explained/a-theory-is-validated-revelations-are-promised-indian-ligo-rolls-4873162/">http://indianexpress.com/article/explained/a-theory-is-validated-revelations-are-promised-indian-ligo-rolls-4873162/</a></td>
<td>E</td>
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<tr>
<td>2517: Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to India’s regional navigation satellite system NaviC?</td>
<td>Ligo detector, Stephen Hawking</td>
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### Current Affairs

**With reference to the Genetically Modified mustard (GM mustard) developed in India, consider the following statements:**

1. GM mustard has the genes of a soil bacterium that give the plant the property of pest-resistance to a wide variety of pests.
2. GM mustard has the genes that allow the plant cross-pollination and hybridization.
3. GM mustard has been developed jointly by the IARI and Punjab Agricultural University.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Statement 1 is not correct and statement 2 is correct:** According to the developers, the GM mustard uses a system of genes from soil bacterium that makes the plant better suited to hybridisation than current methods.

**Statement 3 is not correct:** The GM mustard was developed by Delhi University-based Centre for Genetic Manipulation of Crop Plants (CGMCP) under the leadership of Deepak Pental, a former vice-chancellor of the university.

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### Current Affairs

Consider the following pairs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terms sometimes seen in news</th>
<th>Context/Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Belle II experiment</td>
<td>Artificial Intelligence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Blockchain technology</td>
<td>Digital/Cryptocurrency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. CRISPR - Cas9</td>
<td>Particle Physics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

**The Belle II experiment is a particle physics experiment designed to study the properties of B mesons (heavy particles containing a bottom quark). Belle II is the successor to the Belle experiment, and is currently being commissioned at the SuperKEKB accelerator complex at KEK in Tsukuba, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan.**

**Blockchain technology can be integrated into multiple areas. The primary use of blockchains today is as a distributed ledger for cryptocurrencies, most notably**

---

**Has frequently been in news as cleared for commercial cultivation by the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee.**

---

**These terms have been seen frequently in news.**

**All India Test Series Test (2454)-**

With regard to Blockchain technology, consider the following statements:

1. It is a digital public ledger that records every transaction.
2. It eliminates the need for a third party for conducting transactions.
3. Bitcoin is one of the popular applications of this technology.

Which of the statements...
While a few central banks, in countries and regions such as India, China, Hong Kong, United States, Sweden, Singapore, South Africa and the United Kingdom are studying issuance of a Central Bank Issued Cryptocurrency (CICC), CRISPR-Cas9 is a genome editing tool. It is short for clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats and CRISPR-associated protein 9.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environment</th>
<th>Which of the following statements best describes</th>
<th>A: The carbon fertilization effect (CFE) is in principle simple: the</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>FCA</th>
<th><a href="http://environmentalresearch">http://environmentalresearch</a></th>
<th>RR</th>
<th>Seen in news</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>A: The carbon fertilization effect (CFE) is in principle simple: the</td>
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<td>RR</td>
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<td>58</td>
<td><a href="http://www.visionias.in">www.visionias.in</a></td>
<td>©Vision IAS</td>
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<td>&quot;carbon fertilization&quot;?</td>
<td>larger amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that has resulted from rising anthropogenic emissions should help the growth of plants, which use carbon dioxide during photosynthesis. The effect ought to increase crop yields.</td>
<td>hweb.org/cws/article/news/54347 <a href="http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/tropical-forests-absorb-far-more-co2-than-thought-nasa/article6748208.ece">http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/tropical-forests-absorb-far-more-co2-than-thought-nasa/article6748208.ece</a></td>
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<td>66</td>
<td>General science and Science &amp; Technology</td>
<td>When the alarm of your smartphone rings in the morning, you wake up and tap it to stop the alarm which causes your geyser to be switched on automatically. The smart mirror in your bathroom shows the day’s weather and also indicates the level of water in your overhead tank. After you take some groceries from your refrigerator for making breakfast, it recognises the shortage of stock in it and places an order for the supply of fresh grocery items. When you step out of your house and lock the</td>
<td>What Is The Internet Of Things? The Internet of Things, or IoT, refers to billions of physical devices around the world that are now connected to the internet, collecting and sharing data. This can be anything from cellphones, coffee makers, washing machines, headphones, lamps, wearable devices and almost anything else you can think of. How Does This Impact You? There are many examples for what this might look like or what the potential value might be. Say for example you are on your way to a meeting; your car could have access to your calendar and already know the best route to</td>
<td><a href="https://www.forbes.com/sites/jacobmorgan/2014/05/13/simple-explanation-internet-things-that-anyone-can-understand/#62b751471d09">https://www.forbes.com/sites/jacobmorgan/2014/05/13/simple-explanation-internet-things-that-anyone-can-understand/#62b751471d09</a> <a href="https://www.zdnet.com/article/what-is-the-internet-of-things-everything-you-need-to-know-about/">https://www.zdnet.com/article/what-is-the-internet-of-things-everything-you-need-to-know-about/</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>All India Test Series-Test (2458) With reference to 'Internet of Things', sometimes seen in news, consider the following statements: 1. It is a network of physical devices connected via internet. 2. It can enable connected devices to communicate with each other with limited human intervention. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a)1 only (b)2 only</td>
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</table>
door, all lights, fans, geysers and AC machines get switched off automatically. On your way to office, your car warns you about traffic congestion ahead and suggests an alternative route, and if you are late for a meeting, it sends a message to your office accordingly.

In the context of emerging communication technologies, which one of the following terms best applies to the above scenario?
(a) Border Gateway Protocol
(b) Internet of Things
(c) Internet Protocol
(d) Virtual Private Network

What is an example of an Internet of Things device?
A lightbulb that can be switched on using a smartphone app is an IoT device, as is a motion sensor or a smart thermostat in your office or a connected streetlight. An IoT device could be as fluffy as a child’s toy or as serious as a driverless truck. At an even bigger scale, smart cities projects are filling entire regions with sensors to help us understand and control the environment.

With reference to solar power production in India, consider the following statements:
1. India is the third largest in the world in the manufacture of silicon wafers used in photovoltaic units.
2. The solar power tariffs are determined by the Solar Energy Corporation of India.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Statement 1 is not correct. Manufacture of solar panels (also called modules) start with polysilicon, which is made from silicon. Polysilicon is made into ingots, which are cut into wafers. Cells are made with wafers and a string of cells is a module. Today, only modules and cells are made in India, with imported material. At present, the only incentives available for manufacturing these is the Modified-Special Incentive Package Scheme, which is available to all electronic goods manufacturers and implemented by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, but there have been few takers for the

[Links to relevant articles and sources]
68 Modern History

The staple commodities of export by the English East Indian Company from Bengal in the middle of the 18th century were
(a) Raw cotton, oil-seeds and opium
(b) Sugar, salt, zinc and lead
(c) Copper, silver, gold, spices and tea
(d) Cotton, silk, saltpetre and opium

69 Modern History

Which one of the following is a very significant aspect of the Champaran Satyagraha?
(a) Active all-India participation of lawyers, students and women in the
(b) Champaran Satyagraha of 1917 opened a new phase in the national movement by joining it to the great struggle of the Indian peasantry for bread and land. It was the first peasant movement
(c) Champaran Satyagraha completed 100 years in 2017.
(d) Champaran Satyagraha opened a new phase in the national movement by joining it to the great struggle of the Indian peasantry for bread and land. It was the first peasant movement
| National Movement (b) Active involvement of Dalit and Tribal communities of India in the National Movement (c) Joining of peasant unrest to India’s National Movement (d) Drastic decrease in the cultivation of plantation crops and commercial crops to have garnered nationwide attention. The Champaran Satyagraha yoked the peasant unrest to the freedom struggle. Subsequently, Gandhi’s localised movements in Ahmedabad (for mill workers) and Kheda (where he supported distressed peasants) were, in a sense, the training grounds for the massive nationwide protests after the landmark year of 1919 all of which eventually contributed to the liberation of India from the inglorious British rule. | ating-champaran-satyagraha-of-1917-british-rule-indian-freedom-movement-4628343/http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/champaran-satyagraha-was-a-new-phase-in-freedom-fight/article18192945.ece | disobedience in India? (a) Rowlatt Satyagraha (b) Champaran Satyagraha (c) Kheda Satyagraha (d) Bardoli Satyagraha 2433- With reference to the Champaran Satyagraha, which of the following statements are correct? 1. Its aim was to abolish tinkathiya system. 2. Raj Kumar Shukla persuaded Mahatma Gandhi to visit Champaran. 3. Rajendra Prasad and J.B. Kriplani were associated with this movement. Select the answer using the code given below. (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 Explanation: Champaran Satyagraha was Gandhi ji’s first act of Civil Disobedience in India. Gandhi ji was requested by Rajkumar Shukla to look into the problems of indigo cultivators of Champaran in Bihar. The European planters had been forcing the peasants to grow indigo |
The European planters demanded high rents and illegal dues from the peasants in order to maximise their profits before the peasants could shift to other crops. Besides, the peasants were forced to sell the produce at prices fixed by the Europeans.

Government appointed a committee to look into the matter and Gandhiji was nominated as a member. Gandhiji had won the first battle of civil disobedience in India.

Who among the following were the founders of the "Hind Mazdoor Sabha" established in 1948? (a) B. Krishna Pillai, E.M.S. Namboodiripad and K.C. George (b) Jayaprakash Narayan, DeenDayal Upadhyay and M.N. Roy (c) C.P. Ramaswamy Iyer, K. Kamaraj and VeeresalingamPantulu (d) Ashok Mehta, T.S. Ramanujan and G.G. Mehta

| Post-Independence | The Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS) is a National Trade Union Centre in India. It was founded in Hawrah on 24.12.1948 by Socialist, Forward Bloc follower and independent unionists. Its founders included Basawan Singh (Sinha), Ashok Mehta, R.S. Ruikar, Mani Benkara, ShibnathBenerajee, R.K. Khedgikar, T.S. Ramanujam, VS. Mathur, G.G. Mehta. Mr. R.S. Ruikar was elected president and Ashok Mehta as its General Secretary. The HMS absorbed the Royists Indian Federation of Labour and the Socialist Hind Mazdoor Panchayat. The Hind | FCA | Labour unions up in arms against proposed amendments to Industrial Disputes Act |
Mazdoor Sabha was intended to be a third force in Indian trade unionism, balancing between INTUC on one side and AITUC on the other. INTUC was discarded because it was believed to be under the control of the government and AITUC was rejected because it was controlled by the Communist Party. The independence of trade unions from the Government, the employers and political parties is the basic feature of HMS.

### Question

| Art and Culture | Which reference to the religious practices in India, the "Sthanakvasi" sect belongs to
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art and Culture</td>
<td>(a) Buddhism (b) Jainism (c) Vaishnavism (d) Shaivism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**B**

Sthānakavāsī is a sect of Śvētāmbara Jainism founded by a merchant named Lavaji in 1653 AD. It believes that idol worship is not essential in the path of soul purification and attainment of Nirvana/Moksha. The sect is essentially a reformation of the one founded on teachings of Lōnka, a fifteenth-century Jain reformer. Sthānakavāsins accept thirty-two of the Jain Agamas, the Śvētāmbara canon.

**M**


**EN**

Nearly 5000 Jains had assembled at a place in Ranigunj and chanted "NavkarManthra" for 36 lakh times for world peace on July 16, 2017 under the aegis of Shri Vardhaman Sthanakvasi Jain Shravak Sangh Secunderabad. NavkarManthra is to Jains what Gayatri Manthra is to Hindus - a highly revered and the most significant mantra in Jainism.

### Question

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Art and Culture</th>
<th>With reference to the cultural history of India, Buland Darwaza at Fatehpur Sikri is the most iconic architectural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**A**

**D**

http://www.thehindu.com/

**EN**

To check basic factual knowledge about
consider the following statements:
1. White marble was used in making Buland Darwaza and Khankah at Fatehpur Sikri.
2. Red sandstone and marble were used in making Bara Imambara and Rumi Darwaza at Lucknow.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

accomplishment of Akbar’s reign. It incorporates almost all the essential features of Akbar’s architectural traditions: red sandstone, stone carvings, relief by inserting white marble, etc. This monumental gate, however, was probably less intended to commemorate a military victory than to underscore Akbar’s links with the Chishti order. Its surface is covered by marble slabs inscribed with Quranic verses promising paradise to true believers, appropriate for the entrance into a khanqah, a complex intended for meditation and devotion.

Asaf Imambara, or Bara Imambara, of Lucknow was built to give employment and revenue to the public. Resources were strained, a peak had been reached in architectural style, and a certain decadence had crept in. To overcome these, the Nawabs used a more economical style in architecture, which also gave a touch of lightness to the buildings.

Instead of stones and marble, brick and lime were used. Stucco ornamentation (gajkari) was used to decorate the monuments, giving it a deep relief effect even on flat walls. Mother of pearl and shells deposited in lake beds were used in the stucco ornamentation to give a shine finer than marble.

The local masons cleverly used the brick, with its small size and thickness, to form remarkably fine details on the wall and column surfaces. It’s a testimony to their skill that they could adapt lowly material to such wonderful effect: balusters were imitated in clay supported on

opinion/columns/buland-darwaza-and-rumi-darwaza-gateways-to-heaven/article-19700177.ece

Indian Culture and heritage.
iron rods. Similarly, pottery was used for roof finials and ornaments. This skill can be seen in the delicately built Rumi Darwaza that was the main gateway to the Bara Imambara. It was called so because the design of the structure bears resemblance to an ancient gateway at Constantinople. It’s also called the “Turkish Gateway”. The word Rumi means Roman, and the name was probably given due to the gateway’s design having traces of Roman architecture.

---

### Medieval India

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B</th>
<th>The Hope Diamond, said to be mined in the Kollur mines in Andhra Pradesh, and acquired by French gem merchant, Jean-Baptiste Tavernier, in 1666. It is</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
### Art and Culture

Which reference to Indian history, who among the following is a future Buddha, yet to come to save the world?

(a) Avalokiteshvara  
(b) Lokesvara  
(c) Maityera  
(d) Padmapani

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
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</thead>
</table>
| 74 | Art and Culture | Which reference to Indian history, who among the following is a future Buddha, yet to come to save the world? | (a) Avalokiteshvara  
(b) Lokesvara  
(c) Maityera  
(d) Padmapani |

The universe of the Great Vehicle contains numerous Bodhisattvas, chief of whom, from the earthly point of view, is **Avalokiteshwar (“The Lord who Looks Down”), also called Padmapani (“The Lotus-Bearer”) also called Lokesvara in Sanskrit (The Lord of the World).** His special attribute is compassion, and his helping hand reaches even to Avici, the deepest and most unpleasant of the Buddhist purgatories. Another important Bodhisattva is **Manjusti, whose special activity is to stimulate the understanding, and who is depicted with a naked sword in one hand, to destroy error and falsehood,** and a book in the other, describing the ten paramilas, or great spiritual perfections, which are the cardinal virtues developed by Bodhisattvas. **Vajrapani, a sterner**

---

Note: The text references to various historical figures and diamond transactions, as well as cultural and religious significance in Indian history.
Bodhisattva, is the foe of sin and evil, and, like the god Indra, bears a thunderbolt in his hand. The gentle Maitreya, the future Buddha, is worshipped as a Bodhisattva. Also worthy of mention is Ksitigarbha, the guardian of the purgatories, who is thought of not as a fierce torturer, but rather as the governor of a model prison, doing his best to make life tolerable for his charges, and helping them to earn remission of sentence.

| 75 | Modern History | Which one of the following statements does not apply to the system of Subsidiary Alliance introduced by Lord Wellesley? | C | The Company forced the states into a “subsidiary alliance”. According to the terms of this alliance, Indian rulers were not allowed to have their independent armed forces. They were to be protected by the Company, but had to pay for the “subsidiary forces” that the Company was supposed to maintain for the purpose of this protection. If the Indian rulers failed to make the payment, then part of their territory was taken away as penalty. During this phase, from 1813 to 1857, the British made almost all the Indian States subordinate to their power, by compelling them to enter into subsidiary alliances with them. The Indian Princes were put under obligation to accept the British Paramountcy. Napoleonic invasion of Egypt in the summer of 1798 offered Wellesley a useful tool to soften | M F | BL GROVER - Ch 10 - Lord BL GROVER - Ch 10 - Lord Wellesley Shekhar Bandopadhya ya'Plassey to Partition' - Page 51 | EM | All India Test Series-Test (2442)- With reference to the Policy of Subsidiary Alliance, consider the following statements: 1. Indian rulers were not allowed to employ any European without approval of the British. 2. The rulers of Indian states were compelled to accept permanent stationing of British troops. 3. British promised not to interfere in the internal affairs of the State. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 |
London's resistance to expansion, although he never believed for a moment that there was any danger of a French invasion of British India either over land from Egypt or a naval attack round the Cape of Good Hope. However, to assuage London's concerns he evolved the policy of 'Subsidiary Alliance', which would only establish control over the internal affairs of an Indian state, without incurring any direct imperial liability. There was no component of fixed income under this system.

**Explanation:**
Policy of Subsidiary Alliance introduced with the chief aim to expand the British empire in India. While the practice of helping an Indian ruler with a paid British force was quite old, it was given definite shape by Wellesley who used it to sub-ordinate the Indian states to the paramount authority of the company.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>76</th>
<th>Modern History</th>
<th>Which of the following led to the introduction of English Education in India?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|    | 1. Charter Act of 1813  
2. General Committee of Public Instruction, 1823  
3. Orientalist and Anglicist Controversy. |
|    | Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
(a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3 |
| **D** | CHARTER ACT OF 1813: The Act incorporated the principle of encouraging learned Indians and promoting knowledge of modern sciences in the country. The Act directed the Company to sanction one lakh rupees annually for this purpose. However, even this petty amount was not made available till 1823, mainly because of the controversy raged on the question of the direction that this expenditure should take. In 1823, the Governor-General in Council appointed a “General Committee of Public Instruction”, which had the responsibility to grant the one lakh of rupees for education. That committee consisted of 10(ten) European members belonging to 2 groups Anglicists and Orientalists. Hence, it promoted both Indian and english education. ORIENTALIST-ANGLICIST | **E** | Spectrum - 291-292 |
| **F** | | **EM** |
CONTROVERSY: Within the General Committee on Public Instruction, the Anglicists argued that the government spending on education should be exclusively for modern studies. The Orientalists said while western sciences and literature should be taught to prepare students to take up jobs, emphasis should be placed on expansion of traditional Indian learning. Even the Anglicists were divided over the question of medium of instruction—one faction was for English language as the medium, while the other faction was for Indian languages (vernaculars) for the purpose. Lord Macaulay's Minute (1835), This famous minute settled the row in favour of Anglicists—the limited government resources were to be devoted to teaching of western sciences and literature through the medium of English language alone.

| 77 | Geography | Which one of the following is an artificial lake? | A | Kodaikanal Lake, also known as Kodai Lake is a manmade lake located in the Kodaikanal city in Dindigul district in Tamilnadu, India. Sir Vere Henry Levinge, the then Collector of Madurai, was instrumental in creating the lake in 1863, amidst the Kodaikanal town which was developed by the British and early missionaries from USA. | M | CAA | ATLAS | http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/private-firm-to-maintain-kodaikanal-lake-road/article21246412.ece | EN | Kodaikanal lake was in news |
| 78 | Current Affairs/ | With reference to Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, | C | Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKGY) is the flagship | M | CA | ATLAS | http://pmkvyofficial.org/faq, | EN | Frequently seen in news | PT-365 Government Schemes p.g. 93 |
Schemes consider the following statements:
1. It is the flagship scheme of the Ministry of Labor and Employment.
2. It, among other things, will also impart training in soft skills, entrepreneurship, financial and digital literacy.
3. It aims to align the competencies of the unregulated workforce of the country to the National Skill Qualification Framework. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

In 1920, which of the following changed its name to "Swarajya Sabha"?
(a) All India Home Rule League
(b) Hindu Mahasabha
(c) South Indian Liberal Federation
(d) The Servants of India Society

Modern History

Gandhi had become the president of the All India Home Rule League in 1920. Its name was changed to 'Swaraj Sabha'

All India Test Series Test (2449)-
Consider the following statements with respect to Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY):
1. It intends to recognize the knowledge acquired and skills equipped by the participants through certification.
2. Persons from both organized and unorganized sectors can join the scheme.
3. It is being implemented by National Skill Development Corporation. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
Gandhi had become the president of the All India Home Rule League in 1920. Its name was changed to 'Swaraj Sabha'.
**Modern History**

Which among the following events happened earliest?

(a) Swami Dayanand established Arya Samaj.
(b) Dinabandhu Mitra wrote Neeldarpan.
(c) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay wrote Anandmath.
(d) Satyendranath Tagore became the first Indian to succeed in the Indian Civil Services Examination.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Swami Dayanand established Arya Samaj</td>
<td>1875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinabandhu Mitra wrote Neeldarpan</td>
<td>1858-59</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay wrote Anandmath</td>
<td>1882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satyendranath Tagore became the first Indian to succeed in the Indian Civil Services Examination</td>
<td>1863</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Environment**

Which of the following is/are the possible consequence/s of heavy sand mining in river beds?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consequence</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excessive instream sand-and-gravel mining causes the degradation of rivers. Instream mining lowers the stream bottom,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Decreased salinity in the river
2. Pollution of groundwater
3. Lowering of the water-table
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

which may lead to bank erosion. Depletion of sand in the streambed and along coastal areas causes the deepening of rivers and estuaries, and the enlargement of river mouths and coastal inlets. It may also lead to saline-water intrusion from the nearby sea. The effect of mining is compounded by the effect of sea level rise. Any volume of sand exported from streambeds and coastal areas is a loss to the system. Excessive instream sand mining is a threat to bridges, river banks and nearby structures. Sand mining also affects the adjoining groundwater system and the uses that local people make of the river. Sand aquifer helps in recharging the water table and sand mining causes sinking of water tables in the nearby areas, drops leaving the drinking water wells on the embankments of these rivers dry. Turbidity increases at the mining site.

A 'Sand Mining Framework' was also launched by the Shri Tomar. This Framework has been prepared by the Ministry of Mines from the study conducted on sand mining in various States and intensive consultations with institutions like National Council for Cement and Building Materials (NCCBM), Cement Manufacture Association (CMA), Public and other stakeholders while preparing the sand mining framework. The suggestions in the Framework will provide a roadmap to the States helping them to frame their policies and act as a check on illegal mining of sand.

http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=177717
http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/government-launches-sand-mining-framework/article23302652.ece
The news appeared on PIB and Hindu
With reference to agricultural soils, consider the following statements:
1. A high content of organic matter in soil drastically reduces its water holding capacity.
2. Soil does not play any role in the sulphur cycle.
3. Irrigation over a period of time can contribute to the salinization of some agricultural lands.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Organic matter affects both the chemical and physical properties of the soil and its overall health. Properties influenced by organic matter include: soil structure; moisture holding capacity; diversity and activity of soil organisms, both those that are beneficial and harmful to crop production; and nutrient availability. Increased levels of organic matter and associated soil fauna lead to greater pore space with the immediate result that water infiltrates more readily and can be held in the soil. The improved pore space is a consequence of the bioturbing activities of earthworms and other macro-organisms and channels left in the soil by decayed plant roots.

Sulfur is one of three nutrients that are cycled between the soil, plant matter and the atmosphere. The sulfur cycle describes the movement of sulfur through the atmosphere, mineral and organic forms, and through living things. Although sulfur is primarily found in sedimentary rocks, it is particularly important to living things because it is a component of many proteins. Sulfur is released by weathering of rocks and minerals. Water, temperature and chemical reactions break down minerals releasing their component elements. Once sulfur is exposed...
to the air, it combines with oxygen, and becomes sulfate (SO₄). Plants and microbes take up sulfate and convert it into organic compounds. As animals consume plants, the sulfur is moved through the food chain and released when organisms and plants die and decompose.

Primary salinization occurs naturally where the soil parent material is rich in soluble salts, or in the presence of a shallow saline groundwater table. In arid and semiarid regions, where rainfall is insufficient to leach soluble salts from the soil, or where drainage is restricted, soils with high concentrations of salts ("salt-affected soils") may be formed. Several geochemical processes can also result in salt-affected soil formation. When an excess of sodium is involved in the salinization process this is referred to as sodification. Secondary salinization occurs when significant amounts of water are provided by irrigation, with no adequate provision of drainage for the leaching and removal of salts, resulting in the soils becoming salty and unproductive. Salt-affected soils reduce both the ability of crops to take up water and the availability of micronutrients. They also concentrate ions toxic to plants and may degrade the soil structure.
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) was launched in 2013 as a response to the call at Rio+20 to support those countries wishing to embark on greener and more inclusive growth trajectories. PAGE seeks to put sustainability at the heart of economic policies and practices to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and supports nations and regions in reframing economic policies and practices around sustainability to foster economic growth, create income and jobs, reduce poverty and inequality, and strengthen the ecological foundations of their economies. PAGE brings together five UN agencies – UN Environment, International Labour Organization, UN Development Programme, UN Industrial Development Organization, and UN Institute for Training and Research – whose mandates, expertises and networks combined can offer integrated and holistic support to countries on inclusive green economy, ensuring coherence and avoiding duplication.</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>FCA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.un-page.org/about/who-are-we">http://www.un-page.org/about/who-are-we</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>General science and Science &amp; Technology</td>
<td>“3D printing” has applications in which of the following? 1. Preparation of confectionery items 2. Manufacture of bionic ears</td>
<td>D</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>3D printing or additive manufacturing is a process of making three dimensional solid objects from a digital file. The creation of a 3D printed object is achieved by laying down successive layers of material until</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>FA</td>
<td><a href="https://3dprinting.com/what-is-3d-printing/">https://3dprinting.com/what-is-3d-printing/</a></td>
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<td>84</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>EN</td>
<td>Constantly in news</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BIO INK was mentioned in PT 365 Science and Tech 1.5. Page 6-7 (related)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Automotive industry
4. Reconstructive surgeries
5. Data processing technologies

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 3 and 4 only
(b) 2, 3 and 5 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Recently 3-D printed food restaurant has come up in Netherlands.
In America, 3D printed bionic ear was generated via 3D printing of a cell-seeded hydrogel matrix in the anatomic geometry of a human ear.

Industrial 3D printers have opened new paths at each stage of production of motor vehicles; from the functional prototyping phases, design, and tooling to parts manufacturing, the automotive industry is one of the pioneers in the use and integration of 3D printing in its processes.

3D printing has been used in reconstructive surgery to help repair damaged tissue for example in cases of birth defects or traumatic injuries to severe burns or disease.
3D printing is used to produce computer parts (such as circuit boards) which are used in data processing.

Consider the following statements:
1. The Barren Island volcano is an active volcano located in the Indian territory.
2. Barren Island lies about 140 km east of Great Nicobar.

A. Barren Island is India’s only active volcano. It is located 140 kms to the east of Port Blair (lies in South Andaman) while Great Nicobar is southernmost region of Andaman & Nicobar and lies further south of Port Blair.


Barren island volcano erupted in January 2017

- The only active volcano under Indian territory was in news recently. Where is that volcano situated?
### Environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. The last time the Barren Island volcano erupted was in 1991 and it has remained inactive since then. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</td>
<td>(c) 3 only(d) 1 and 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7369862.ece</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>86</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>86 Environment</td>
<td>Why is a plant called Prosopis juliflora often mentioned in news? (a) Its extract is widely used in cosmetics. (b) It tends to reduce the biodiversity in the area in which it grows. (c) Its extract is used in the synthesis of pesticides. (d) None of these</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Prosopis juliflora (P. juliflora), an exotic tree, is one of the top invaders in India. A native of South and Central America, it was introduced in India to meet the fuel and wood requirement of the rural poor and to restore degraded lands. A recent study has shown that apart from threatening local plants, with whom it competes for resources, this tree is also affecting the nesting success of birds.</td>
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<tr>
<td>86</td>
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<tr>
<td>86</td>
<td>Often in news due to their impact on habitat loss</td>
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</table>

### Geography

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>87 Geography</td>
<td>Consider the following statements: 1. Most of the world's coral reefs are in tropical waters. 2. More than one-third of the world's coral reefs are located in the territories of Australia, Indonesia and Philippines. 3. Coral reefs host far more number of animal phyla than those hosted by tropical rainforests. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only(b) 3 only(c) 1 and 3 only(d) 1, 2 and 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Most coral reefs are located in tropical shallow waters less than 50 meters deep, in the western regions of the Indian ocean, Pacific Ocean and Greater Caribbean. Global distribution of corals-Australia-17% Indonesia-16% Philippines-9% So, Australia, Indonesia and Philippines together host more than one-third of world’s corals. 32 of the 34 recognised animal Phyla are found on coral reefs compared to only 9 Phyla in tropical rainforests.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Page</td>
<td>Environment</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>Modern History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89</td>
<td>Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Independence</td>
<td>Consider the following events: 1. The first democratically elected communist party government formed in a State in India. 2. India's then largest bank, 'Imperial Bank of India', was renamed 'State Bank of India'. 3. Air India was nationalised and became the national carrier. 4. Goa became a part of independent India. Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the above events? (a) 4 - 1 - 2 - 3 (b) 3 - 2 - 1 - 4 (c) 4 - 2 - 1 - 3 (d) 3 - 1 - 2 - 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>Polity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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www.visionias.in ©Vision IAS
imply the above statement?
(a) Article 14 and the provisions under the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution
(b) Article 17 and the Directive Principles of State Policy in Part IV
(c) Article 21 and the freedoms guaranteed in Part III
(d) Article 24 and the provisions under the 44th Amendment to the Constitution

Constitution.
It added that the right to privacy is intrinsic to the entire fundamental rights chapter of the Constitution. Hence, the correct answer is (c).

3. Right to Property
4. Right to Constitutional Remedies
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3 only

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- Comprehensive, relevant & updated HARD Copy study material for prelims syllabus. (for online students, it will be dispatched through post)
Consider the following:
1. Areca nut
2. Barley
3. Coffee
4. Finger millet
5. Sesame
6. Turmeric

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has announced the Minimum Support Price for which of the above?
(a) 1, 2, 3 and 7 only
(b) 2, 4, 5 and 6 only
(c) 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

The MSP is fixed on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). The CACP is a statutory body and submits separate reports recommending prices for Kharif and Rabi seasons. Initially, MSP covered paddy, rice, wheat, jowar, bajra, maize, ragi (Finger Millet), barley, gram, tur, moong, urad, sugarcane, groundnut, soybean, sunflower seed, rapeseed and mustard, cotton, jute and tobacco. From 1994-95 onwards, Nigerseed and Sesame were included under MSP Scheme of CACP, in addition to the edible oilseeds already covered by the Commission. Similarly, during 2001-2002, the government enhanced the terms of reference of the Commission by including lentil (masur).

In which one of the following States is Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary located?
(a) Arunachal Pradesh
(b) Manipur
(c) Meghalaya
(d) Nagaland

Pakhui is a Wildlife Sanctuary and a dedicated Tiger Reserve (also known as the Pakke Tiger Reserve) in the district of East Kameng in Arunachal Pradesh, India. It has an area of over 860 square kilometres and is bordered by the Kameng River and Pakke River, which are important sources of water for the animals and the irrigation of the vegetation. The Pakhui reserve is neighbour to the Nameri Tiger reserve in Assam, making this area a true treasure trove in terms of these spectacular animals. This area was first declared the Pakke Reserve Forest in July of

Pakhui is mainly important from two aspects one is tiger reserve as it is a part of ‘Project Tiger’ and another hornbills. The great hornbill is the state bird of Arunachal Pradesh and is the most valued and hunted by tribal groups, followed by the Rufous-necked hornbill. There has been campaigns to save hornbills. Hornbills are
1966. Eleven years later, it was named the Camo Sanctuary. Then, in 2002, it was formally christened Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary and Pakke Tiger Reserve.

especially vulnerable in North-east India due to the traditional value of these birds for their feathers, casques, medicinal value of their fat and flesh among many tribal groups. Many areas especially in eastern and central Arunachal have such high hunting pressure that the great hornbill has become extremely rare or locally extinct. This Tiger Reserve has won India Biodiversity Award 2016 in the category of 'Conservation of threatened species' for its Hornbill Nest Adoption Programme. Prime Minister’s frequent visit to North-East India and his inauguration of Hornbill festival has kept the region in news. Orang Tiger Reserve in Assam and Kamlang Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh were notified 49th and 50th tiger reserves in the country. (IYB page 202)

wildlife-sanctuary.htm
With reference to India’s satellite launch vehicles, consider the following statements:

1. PSLVs launch the satellite useful for Earth resources monitoring whereas GSLVs are designed mainly to launch communication satellites.
2. Satellites launched by PSLV appear to remain permanently fixed in the same position in the sky, as viewed from a particular location in Earth.
3. GSLV Mk III is a four-staged launch vehicle with the first and third stages using solid rocket motors; and the second and fourth stages using liquid rocket engines.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3
(c) 1 and 2
(d) 3 only

Both PSLV (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle) and GSLV (Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle) are the satellite-launch vehicles (rockets) developed by ISRO. PSLV is designed mainly to deliver the “earth-observation” or “remote-sensing” satellites with lift-off mass of up to about 1750 Kg to Sun-Synchronous circular polar orbits of 600-900 Km altitude. Apart from launching the remote sensing satellites to Sun-synchronous polar orbits, the PSLV is also used to launch the satellites of lower lift-off mass of up to about 1400 Kg to the elliptical Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).

The GSLV is designed mainly to deliver the communication-satellites to the highly elliptical (typically 250 x 36000 Km) Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).

So, statement 1 is true. PSLV (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle) is an indigenously-developed expendable launch system of the ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization). It comes in the category of medium-lift launchers with a reach up to various orbits, including the Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit, Lower Earth Orbit, and Polar Sun Synchronous Orbit. So, the second statement that satellites launched by PSLV appear to be fixed

1. It can be used to carry heavier communication satellites into the Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit.
2. It can save foreign exchange reserves of the government.
3. It will carry people/astronauts into space.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Also covered in PT 365, page-14
(geostationary satellite) is not true.

GSLV Mk III is a three-stage heavy lift launch vehicle developed by ISRO. The vehicle has two solid strap-ons, a core liquid booster and a cryogenic upper stage.

**Economy**

With reference to the governance of public sector banking in India, consider the following statements:
1. Capital infusion into public sector banks by the Government of India has steadily increased in the last decade.
2. To put the public sector banks in order, the merger of associate banks with the parent State Bank of India has been affected.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**B**

Statement 1 is not correct as Capital infusion into public sector banks by the Government of India has not steadily increased in the last decade.

Statement 2 is correct. The merger of SBI associated banks under Section 35 of the State Bank of India Act, 1955 will result in the creation of a stronger merged entity. This will minimize vulnerability to any geographic concentration risks faced by subsidiary banks. It will create improved operational efficiency and economies of scale. It will also result in improved risk management and unified treasury operations.

**M**

http://plb.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=158491
https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/centre-has-pumped-rs-2-6-lakh-crore-into-govt-run-banks-over-11-years/articleshow/62974836.cms
https://thewire.in/banking/sbi-associate-merger-loss-npas

**EN**

Frequently observed in News
### 97 Current Affairs

| Consider the following items: | A | The Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India was implemented on July 1, 2017. While cereals, eggs, fish etc. are exempted from GST, the question mentions 'cooked' and 'processed' which in all likelihood will be available at restaurants and factories. These are therefore not exempted from the purview of GST. With reference to newspapers containing advertisements, government has recently published a clarification that these will be taxed under GST. The newspaper would have to pay 5 per cent GST on the revenue earned from space selling but can avail of input tax credit for the tax paid by the advertisement agency on commission received. | M | [https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/gst-faqs/list-of-items-exempted-under-gst/articleshow/60191945.cms](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/gst-faqs/list-of-items-exempted-under-gst/articleshow/60191945.cms) | EN | GST has been often been in news. Also, government gave a clarification [https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/govt-clarifies-on-gst-on-newspaper-ad-space-sale/articleshow/60195706.cms](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/govt-clarifies-on-gst-on-newspaper-ad-space-sale/articleshow/60195706.cms) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Cereals grains hulled | 2. Chicken eggs cooked | 3. Fish processed and canned | 4. Newspapers containing advertising material | Which of the above items is/are exempted under GST (Goods and Services Tax)? | (a) 1 only | (b) 2 and 3 only | (c) 1, 2 and 4 only | (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4 |

### 98 Current Affairs/General awareness

| Consider the following statements: | A | Statement 1 is correct: The phrase 'critical wildlife habitat' is defined only in the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. Statement 2 is correct: In a bid to undo historical injustice meted out to primitive tribal communities living in central India, the government of Madhya Pradesh, for the first time, recognised the habitat rights of seven villages in Dindori district, mostly inhabited by the Baigas. Statement 3 is not correct: Under the act the District Level Committee shall ensure that all Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups receive habitat rights, in consultation with the concerned | M | [https://pib.nic.in/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=69806](https://pib.nic.in/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=69806) | EN | Critical Wildlife Habitat guidelines were issued [http://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/critical-wildlife-habitat-guidelines-issued-ntca-order-superseded-59934](http://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/critical-wildlife-habitat-guidelines-issued-ntca-order-superseded-59934) |
| 1. The definition of "Critical Wildlife Habitat" is incorporated in the Forest Rights Act, 2006. | 2. For the first time in India, Baigas have been given Habitat Rights. | 3. Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change officially decides and declares Habitat Rights for Primitive and Vulnerable Tribal Groups in any part of India. | Which of the statements given above is/are correct? | (a) 1 and 2 only | (b) 2 and 3 only | (c) 3 only | (d) 1, 2 and 3 | All India Test Series Test (2447)- With reference to Critical Wildlife Habitats (CWLHs), consider the following statements. 1. They are declared by the central Government under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. 2. These areas are required to be kept as undamaged for the purpose of wildlife conservation. 3. They are notified with the consent of the Gram Sabhas and affected stakeholders. Which of the statements given above are correct? |
traditional institutions of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups and their claims for habitat rights are filed before the concerned Gram Sabhas.

Consider the following
1. Birds  
2. Dust blowing  
3. Rain  
4. Wind blowing  
Which of the above spread plant diseases?
(a) 1 and 3 only  
(b) 3 and 4 only  
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only  
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Agencies like wind, water, animals, insects, mites, nematodes, birds etc. are the different methods of indirect transmissions of pathogens causing plant disease.

https://www.indiaagronet.com/indiaagronet/Disease_management/content/transmission_of_plant_diseases.htm

(a)1 and 2 only  
(b)2 and 3 only  
(c)1 and 3 only  
(d)1, 2 and 3
With reference to organic farming in India, consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Ministry of Commerce has implemented the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) since 2001. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) functions as the Secretariat for the implementation of NPOP. Sikkim has become India’s first fully organic state, in 2016, by implementing organic practices on around 75,000 hectares of agricultural land.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Number of questions</th>
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<td>Medieval India</td>
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<td>Art and Culture</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Current Affairs</td>
<td>21</td>
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<td>Current Affairs/Schemes</td>
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<td>Environment</td>
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<td>General Science and Science</td>
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<td>and Technology</td>
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<td>Post-Independence</td>
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<td>Polity</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Difficulty</td>
<td>Number of Questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
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<td>D—Difficult</td>
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<tr>
<td>M - Medium</td>
<td>55</td>
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<tr>
<td>E—Easy</td>
<td>17</td>
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### Number of questions by Nature

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<td>CA – Current Affair</td>
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<td>CAA – Current Affair Applied</td>
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<td>FA – Fundamental Applied</td>
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<td>U - Unconventional</td>
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**Diagram:**
- **FCA:** 14.0%
- **F:** 14.0%
- **CA:** 34.0%
- **CAA:** 27.0%
- **FA:** 10.0%
- **U:** 1.0%
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<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
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Number of questions by source type

- EN: 51 (51.0%)
- RR: 15 (15.0%)
- RM: 2 (2.0%)
- EM: 32 (32.0%)
### SECTIONWISE DIFFICULTY

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<th>Topic</th>
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<th>Easy</th>
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<td>Polity</td>
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### Sectionwise Difficulty

- **Easy**
- **Medium**
- **Difficult**

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