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Test Booklet Series

TEST BOOKLET

C

GENERAL STUDIES (P) 2019 – Test–2676

Time Allowed: Two Hours

Maximum Marks: 200

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS BOOKLET DOES **NOT** HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TURN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS, ETC. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.
2. ENCODE CLEARLY THE TEST BOOKLET SERIES **A, B, C** OR **D** AS THE CASE MAY BE IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACE IN THE ANSWER SHEET.
3. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside. **Do NOT** write anything else on the Test Booklet.
4. This Test Booklet contains **100** items (Questions). Each item is printed in English. Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response with you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.
5. You have to mark all your responses **ONLY** on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See direction in the answers sheet.
6. All items carry equal marks. Attempt all items. Your total marks will depend only on the number of **correct responses** marked by you in the answer sheet. For **every incorrect** response **1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the allotted marks** will be deducted.
7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer sheet the response to various items in the Test booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the answer sheets as per instruction sent to you with your Admission Certificate.
8. After you have completed filling in all responses on the answer sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to Invigilator only the answer sheet. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.
9. Sheet for rough work are appended in the Test Booklet at the end.

**DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO**

1. With reference to the development of railways in British India, consider the following statements:

1. In order to create confidence among English capitalists, the Government of India offered a guaranteed interest of at least 5% on their investment.
2. The railways followed a system of preferential freight charges.
3. The increased requirement of coal as a fuel in railways led to the development of coal mining in India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

2. Which of the following best describes the equation between rights and obligations?

- (a) Citizens can only have rights, while state can have both rights and obligations.
- (b) To not violate any right of a citizen is solely the obligation of his/her fellow citizens.
- (c) Rights not only place obligations on the state, but also on every citizen.
- (d) Only those rights of the citizens which have environmental aspects place obligations on them.

3. *"This temple was built over a period of centuries. While inscriptions suggest that the earliest shrine dated to the ninth-tenth centuries, it was substantially enlarged with the establishment of the Vijayanagara Empire. The hall in front of the main shrine was built by Krishnadeva Raya to mark his accession to the throne. The marriage of the local mother goddess, Pampadevi, is celebrated annually in this temple."*

Which temple is being referred to in the paragraph given above?

- (a) Brihadiswara temple
- (b) Virupaksha temple
- (c) Lingaraja temple
- (d) Guruvayur temple

4. Which of the following cannot be subjected to judicial review?

1. The satisfaction of the President in declaring Financial Emergency.
2. The legal protection by the Parliament to any person in the Union services for his acts to restore order in a martial law enforced area.
3. Any parliamentary law made under Article 33 to abrogate the fundamental rights of the members of the police forces.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

5. Consider the following pairs:

**Philosophy**      **Founder**

1. Nyaya           : Maharishi Kapil
2. Mimansa       : Gautama
3. Vaisheshika   : Kanada Kashyapa

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

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

6. With reference to the Right to Information Act, 2005, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It provides for the appointment of a public information officer in each department.
2. The Official Secrets Act, 1923 overrides the RTI Act.
3. No court can entertain any suit, application or other proceedings in respect of any order made under the Act.

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

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7. The conditions favourable for the formation and intensification of tropical cyclones are:
1. Large sea surface with a temperature higher than 27° C
  2. Presence of the Coriolis force
  3. Minimum variations in the vertical wind speed
  4. Low-level-cyclonic circulation

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

8. When dry ice is exposed to air at room temperature it begins to change to vapor.

This phenomenon is known as:

- (a) Oxidation
- (b) Sublimation
- (c) Evaporation
- (d) Distillation

9. In the context of ancient history of India, the terms "Bhagadugha" and "Rajjughaka" refer to:

- (a) Officials associated with the agriculture during Janapada period.
- (b) Military officials during the Gupta period.
- (c) Classification of priests during Shunga period.
- (d) Departments to deal with outbreak of epidemics during Ashoka.

10. Which of the following are provided by Model Act on Agricultural Marketing (2017)?

1. Permission to growers and local authorities to apply for the establishment of new markets for agricultural produce in any area.
2. Compulsion on the growers to sell their produce through existing markets administered by the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC).
3. Publicizing data on arrivals and rates of agricultural produce brought into the market area for sale.

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

11. Consider the following statements regarding the appointment of the Governor:

1. Governor holds office at the pleasure of the Prime Minister.
2. The minimum age for being appointed as a Governor is 35 years.
3. If a Member of Legislative Assembly is appointed as a Governor, he has to resign from the Assembly within 6 months

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

12. With reference to Swadeshi and Boycott movement, consider the following statements:

1. Indian National Congress adopted the resolution of supporting Swadeshi and Boycott movement at its Calcutta Session (1906).
2. It led to decline in the import of foreign goods.
3. Movement came to an end with the unification of Bengal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

13. *Cirque, Arete and Bergschrund* are

- (a) landforms of karst topography
- (b) landforms of glacial origin
- (c) fluvial landforms
- (d) arid landforms

14. Consider the following statements with respect to *Hind Swaraj*, a seminal work of Mahatma Gandhi:

1. *Hind Swaraj* was written based on his experiences during the Non-Cooperation movement.
2. In *Hind Swaraj*, he condemned the claims of superiority of modern civilization.
3. It was written in the Gujarati language.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

15. With reference to the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), consider the following statements

1. It is a tripartite organization bringing together representatives of government, business and academia.
2. Its priority areas include regional maritime security and women economic empowerment among others.
3. Recently, Maldives became a member state of IORA.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

16. Consider the following statements regarding National Commission for Protection of Children Rights:

1. It is a statutory body established under the Right to Education Act, 2009.
2. It can not take suo motu notice of matters/issues related to children.
3. It is entrusted with the responsibility of monitoring the implementation of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

17. With reference to farm loan waivers in India, consider the following statements:

1. Only the state governments can declare farm loan waivers and not the Union Government.
2. Farm loan waivers can help improve bank balance sheets.

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

18. Which of the following are possible consequences of Financial Emergency proclaimed under Article 360 of the Constitution?

1. State money bills are reserved for the consideration of the President.
2. The President may issue directions for the reduction of the salaries of any person serving the Union.
3. The allowances of a judge of the higher judiciary may be reduced.

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

19. Which of the following committees are related to Banking reforms?

1. Narasimham committee
2. P J Nayak committee
3. Sunil Mehta committee
4. Nachiket Mor committee

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

20. Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index is released by which of the following?

- (a) International Food Policy Research Institute
- (b) UNDP
- (c) World Bank
- (d) Oxfam International

21. With reference to Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. TTZ is the environmental pollution protected area declared by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
2. The zone includes three World Heritage Sites the Taj Mahal, Agra Fort and Fatehpur Sikri.
3. Geographical limits of the Zone lies only in two states of India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

22. With reference to the President's Rule, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The term President's Rule is mentioned in the Indian Constitution.
2. It results in the takeover of the state government by the Union government.
3. President's rule can be extended till three years.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

23. Consider the following statements regarding Parliamentary Forums:

1. Parliamentary forums are held to discuss specific issues of national concern.
2. They are constituted every two years.
3. The President of India informs the House about the theme of the forum.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

24. Consider the following statements regarding Family Courts in India:

1. Family Courts in India were established under the Domestic Violence Act, 2005.
2. It is mandatory for every district in India to have a family court.
3. No appeal shall lie to any court against the award of a family court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2 only
- (d) None

25. Which of the following may be the immediate hazardous effects of earthquake?

1. Differential ground settlement
2. Soil liquefaction
3. Ground lurching

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

26. The Home charges constituted a significant portion of Drain of Wealth from India during British rule. In this context which of the following were a part of Home charges?

1. Debt services
2. The expenses of the India office in London
3. Pensions to British India employees

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

27. Recently, World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA) 2018 was held in New Delhi, consider the following statements about it:

1. The summit is held every two years.
2. It provides platform to stakeholders to share their knowledge and information on accreditation.
3. It is organised by National Board of Accreditation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

28. Saline soils contain a larger proportion of which of the following?

1. Sodium
2. Potassium
3. Magnesium
4. Nitrogen

Select the correct answer from the code given below.

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

29. Which among the following happened during the term of Lord Irwin?

1. Assassination of Saunders
2. Eleven-point ultimatum for viceroy by Mahatma Gandhi
3. Deepavali Declaration

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

30. Consider the following statements with respect to Ashoka's policy of Dhamma:
1. Ashoka appointed *dharma-mahamattas* for propagating Dhamma among various social groups including women.
  2. Dhamma became a separate sectarian faith during Ashoka's rule.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

31. Consider the following statements in respect of National River Linking Project:

1. Its aims to transfer of water from water surplus basins to water deficit basins.
2. National Water Development Agency is the implementing agency of the project.
3. Ken-Betwa river inter-linking project has been declared as a national project by the government.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

32. Which of the following is/are **not** associated with the reduction of Greenhouse gases?

1. Kigali Amendment to Montreal Protocol
2. Stockholm Convention
3. Kyoto Protocol

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

33. Consider the following statements regarding High Court judges:

1. They are appointed by the President in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court only.
2. They are prescribed oath by the Governor of the state.

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

34. Consider the following statements with reference to coins issued during the Gupta Empire:

1. These coins provide details about the titles and sacrifices performed by the Gupta monarchs.
2. Samudragupta issued gold and silver coins with the legend 'restorer of the asvamedha'.
3. Rulers of the Gupta Empire issued gold, silver and copper coins.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

35. Which of the following bodies was/were established under a legislation enacted by the Parliament?

1. National Human Rights Commission
2. Central Bureau of Investigation
3. Central Information Commission

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

36. With reference to classic Hindu temple architecture, the terms *gavaksha*, *kalpalata*, *amalaka* represent:
- various elements of ornamentation.
  - deities placed inside garbagriha.
  - sub divisions of Dravida style of temple architecture.
  - sub divisions of Nagara style of temple architecture.

37. Consider the following statements regarding the polar vortex:
- It is a large area of high pressure and cold air surrounding the Earth's North and South poles.
  - The weakening of polar vortex in Northern Hemisphere leads to a flow of cold Arctic air southwards.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
  - 2 only
  - Both 1 and 2
  - Neither 1 nor 2
38. Consider the following statements with reference to Theosophical society:
- It was founded by Madame H. P. Blavatsky and Col. H. S. Olcott.
  - It accepted the Hindu beliefs of reincarnation and karma.
  - The society sought to investigate the unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in man.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

39. After the ODF (Open defecation free) protocol, the government recently launched ODF+. Which of the following conditions must be satisfied for a city/ward to be ODF+?

- Not a single person is found defecating in open at any time of day.
- All community and public toilets are functional and well-maintained.
- Sewage is safely managed and treated.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

40. Recently the Asian Development Bank released its long-term corporate strategy i.e. Strategy 2030. In this context consider the following statements regarding Asian Development Bank:

- Its membership includes countries from Asia-Pacific region only.
- China has the largest shareholding in the ADB.
- The Bank focuses on fighting poverty in Asia-Pacific region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 3 only
- 2 and 3 only

41. Which of the following statements is/are correct about Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya?

- It provides residential educational facilities.
- It provides elementary educational facilities only at the upper primary level.
- It provides education to girls belonging to only Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

42. How is the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) different from National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)?

1. NBWL has been established by the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 whereas NTCA has been established by Environment Protection Act, 1986.
2. NBWL is headed by the Prime Minister whereas NTCA is headed by the Minister of Environment, Forests & Climate Change.

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

43. Which of the following is a striking difference between folding and faulting?

- (a) Folding shortens the earth's crust, while faulting always lengthens the earth's crust.
- (b) Folding is a result of compressional force only, while faulting can occur due to both compressional and tensional forces.
- (c) Folding always occurs due to converging plates, while faulting always occurs due to diverging plates.
- (d) Folded edges are very steep with almost level summit, while this is not the case in faulting.

44. Consider the following statements with respect to the association of Indians in British administration.

1. The Charter Act, 1813 for the first time allowed Indians to occupy higher posts in British Indian administration.
2. Satyendranath Tagore, was the first Indian to succeed in the Indian Civil Service exam (I.C.S).

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

45. In the context of Maratha rule in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century, consider the following statements regarding the office of the Peshwa:

1. The Peshwa was the de-facto ruler of the state.
2. The office of Peshwa was hereditary in nature.
3. The Peshwa's powers as the head of administration were stripped off after the death King Shahu.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

46. Which of the following best describes V-Dem (Varieties of Democracies)?

- (a) It is an approach (or project) that deals with measuring and conceptualising democracy.
- (b) It is an annual meeting of all the democracies to discuss different models of governance and policy-making.
- (c) It refers to only the cultural and linguistic diversities that democracies in the world have.
- (d) It is a customisable voting machine which can be used by all the democratic nations to suit their individual needs.

47. With reference to "Anglicists" in 19th century, consider the following statements:

1. Anglicists advocated 'filtration' theory in which modern education would filter down from the elites to the masses.
2. Warren Hastings and Jonathan Duncan were well known Anglicists.

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

48. Consider the following statements:
1. A joint session of the Parliament can be called to pass Money Bill.
  2. No bill has been passed at a joint session since the Liberalisation-Privatisation-Globalisation reforms.

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

49. Which among the following statements is/are correct about the mural paintings of the Ajanta caves?

1. The paintings are based on themes from both Buddhism and Jainism.
2. The arrangement of figures in some paintings is delineated in the circular form to create three dimensionality.
3. Tempera technique is used in the paintings.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) None

50. With reference to the minimum wage, consider the following statements:

1. It is the minimum allowance paid to an individual for a particular work either in cash or kind.
2. Currently, there is no law to provide for minimum wage in India.
3. Recently Satpathy committee recommended a national minimum wage for India at INR 375 per day.

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

51. With reference to Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) recently seen in news in the context of India - US relations, consider the following statements:

1. GSP is the reciprocal preferential tariff system which provides exemption from the WTO's Most Favoured Nation.
2. The objective of the GSP is to provide preferential tariff to developing countries through trade.
3. Only the United States extend GSP to developing nations.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

52. Consider the following statements regarding the season of Retreating Monsoon in India:

1. Unlike the sudden burst of monsoon, the retreat of the monsoon is gradual.
2. The diurnal range of temperature is quite pronounced.
3. This is the season of most severe tropical cyclones.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

53. Consider the following statements with reference to G-20:

1. It is the premier forum for international economic cooperation and decision-making.
2. It does not have a permanent secretariat.
3. The W-20 is an initiative of G-20 to enable women to reach their full potential.

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

54. Consider the following statements regarding the recently approved Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF):

1. It will mobilize funds through market borrowings and budgetary support from Center and States.
2. All Scheduled Commercial banks are designated as Nodal Loaning Entities.
3. It will provide concessional finance to cooperatives, individuals and entrepreneurs for fisheries development.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

55. With reference to the economy of Harappan civilization, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Harappan economy was characterized as a closed economy.
2. The barter system was the medium of exchange.
3. Lothal was one of the significant centers of the bead making industry of Harappan civilisation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

56. Consider the following statements about the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), that is currently in place, in the Indian context:

1. The Code was enacted before India gained independence.
2. It applies to all the states.
3. It can be amended both by the Centre as well as the states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

57. Consider the following statements about 'Priority Sector lending':

1. All banks operating in India are required to lend 40 per cent of adjusted net bank credit to the priority sector in each financial year.
2. Within the priority sector lending of the eligible domestic banks, 18 per cent of net bank credit is prescribed for agriculture.

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

58. What could be the possible reasons for a coast located in the polar region to remain ice-free throughout the year?

1. Presence of warm ocean currents along the coast
2. Offshore winds across the coast
3. Enclosed nature of the water body

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

59. With reference to *peatlands*, consider the following statements:

1. They are a type of wetland covering 3% of the global land surface.
2. They are the largest natural terrestrial carbon store.
3. Biological oxidation of peat is a characteristic of healthy peatlands.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

60. *"This National Park is the largest protected area in the Eastern Himalaya biodiversity hotspot. It is recognized as one of the richest areas in biodiversity in India. The park harbors the northernmost lowland evergreen rainforests in the world. The area is also known for extensive Dipterocarp forests."*

The above paragraph describes which of the following national park?

- (a) Kaziranga National Park
- (b) Keibul Lamjao National Park
- (c) Nokrek National Park
- (d) Namdapha National Park

61. Consider the following statements:

1. India has recently banned petcoke import for all purposes.
2. India is the world's largest consumer of petcoke.
3. The calorific value of petcoke is higher than that of coal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

62. With reference to plasma, the 'fourth state of matter', consider the following statements:

1. It is a hot ionized gas consisting of positively charged ions only.
2. It is influenced by both electric and magnetic fields.
3. It does not occur naturally in the universe.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

63. *This is a Jain site located in the Sahyadri range famous for the tallest monolithic Jain statue in the world. The area is also called 'Siddha Kshetra'.*

Which of the following region/place is being described in the above passage?

- (a) Mount Abu
- (b) Gommateswar
- (c) Kumbhojgiri
- (d) Mangi Tungi

64. With reference to the Demographic structure of India, consider the following statements:

1. Age pyramid of India is almost inverted triangle with tapering bottom and broad top.
2. Median age of the population of India has continuously declined since independence.
3. Sex ratio of India has constantly declined in the last five decades.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) none

65. With regards to the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty recently in news, consider the following statements:

1. It is an arms control agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union.
2. It was put in place in the aftermath of the Cuban Missile Crisis.
3. It eliminates land-based ballistic and cruise missiles with short and intermediate range.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

66. With reference to additive manufacturing, consider the following statements:

1. It is used to manufacture 3D objects by adding layer upon layer.
2. It can be used only for metallic materials.
3. In comparison with traditional manufacturing, it increases the carbon footprint.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

67. Which of the following security bodies are headed by National Security Advisor?

1. National Security Council
2. Cabinet Committee on Security
3. Defense Planning Committee

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

68. Which of the following functions can be performed by 'Payment Banks'?

1. Acceptance of demand deposits
2. Act as Banking correspondents of other banks
3. Issuance of credit cards
4. Payments and remittance services

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

69. Consider the following statements regarding 'Exim Bank' :

1. It is the apex financial institution for financing and promoting India's international trade.
2. It is regulated by the Reserve Bank of India.
3. It sets up export promotion councils to promote and develop exports of the country.

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

70. The final decision on the question of disqualification of the Speaker of the House under the Tenth Schedule of Constitution is vested in:

- (a) Deputy Speaker
- (b) President
- (c) Prime Minister
- (d) A member elected by the House on their behalf

71. With reference to the World Trade Organization (WTO), consider the following statements:

1. The Ministerial Conference of the WTO includes all members and meets once in two years.
2. The General Council of the WTO acts as a Dispute Settlement Body.

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

72. With reference to sea tides, consider the following statements:

1. Neap tides are formed when the sun, the moon, and the earth are in a straight line.
2. When the moon is at perigee, the tidal range is greater than normal.

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

73. Which among the following statements is/are correct with respect to the protection of individual being tried for offences?

1. No person can be given a punishment greater than what is provided in law on the date of commission of a criminal offence.
2. No person can be prosecuted and punished for the same criminal offence more than once.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

74. With reference to International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), consider the following statements:

1. International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) is a United Nation designated body.
2. The primary aim of the organization is to promote Sustainable agriculture water management through sustainable rural development.

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

75. With reference to "Achintya Bheda Abheda" philosophy, consider the following statements.

1. It propounds that the soul is distinct and non-distinct from God.
2. It lays emphasis on the eternality and infallibility of Vedas.
3. It is a sub-school of Vedanta philosophy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

76. Kaveri river is known to have less fluctuations than other peninsular rivers in context of water flow. Which of the following is the most appropriate reason for it?

- (a) Presence of less number of dams.
- (b) The gain of water from aquifers due to higher levels of groundwater.
- (c) Rocky terrain limiting water seepage.
- (d) Catchment area receiving rainfall during the southwest monsoon as well as northeast monsoon season.

77. With reference to Simon Commission, consider the following statements:

1. While Indian National Congress boycotted the Commission, Muslim League supported it.
2. It recommended complete Indianisation of police and bureaucracy.
3. The commission did not have any representation from India.

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

78. The objective of the Richard Strachey Commission of 1878 was to
- define the jurisdiction of the Central and Provincial Governments.
  - formulate general principles of famine policy.
  - impose censorship on national press.
  - define the powers of the Secretary of State for India.

79. With reference to Bannerghatta National Park, consider the following statements:

- Suvarnamukhi stream runs through the park.
- The park is part of a wildlife corridor for elephants which connects the Biligiri Rangana Hills and the Sathyamangalam Forest.
- The first butterfly park of India is located in Bannerghatta National Park.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

80. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (second amendment) Bill, 2017 passed recently in Lok Sabha aims to

- extend the right to free education to senior secondary level.
- abolish the no-detention policy in classes fifth and eighth.
- make mid-day meal an enforceable right.
- make biometric attendance of school teachers mandatory.

81. Arrange the following sectors in decreasing order of budgetary expenditure, as per the Interim Budget 2019-20:

- Central Sector Schemes
- Defence expenditures
- Payments of interests
- Subsidies

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

82. With reference to HIV/AIDS Act, 2017, consider the following statements:

- The act prohibits any individual from publishing information or advocating feelings of hatred against HIV positive persons.
- The act provides that every HIV infected or affected person below the age of 18 years has the right to reside in a shared household.
- The act requires HIV testing of HIV infected person before obtaining employment or accessing health care.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

83. Consider the following pairs:

*Marine National Park/ State*  
*Wildlife Sanctuary*

- Mahatma Gandhi : Gujarat  
Marine National Park
- Gahirmatha Marine : Odisha  
Wildlife Sanctuary
- Malvan Marine : Maharashtra  
Wildlife Sanctuary

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

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

84. Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013?

1. It covers both organized and unorganized sectors.
2. An internal complaints committee is mandatory in every private organisation with more than 10 employees.
3. It provides safeguards against false or malicious charges.

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

85. Zearalenone, sometimes seen in the news, is

- (a) an organochlorine pesticide that is effective against mites.

- (b) an acutely toxic phosphatic insecticide.
- (c) a fungal toxin that infests cereals.
- (d) a persistent organic pollutant that is very toxic to aquatic invertebrates.

86. Consider the following statements regarding Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act (RERA), 2016 :

1. It makes it mandatory for each state and union territory to form its own regulator.
2. It provides compensation to the buyer in case of delays in the project.
3. It would ensure the timely completion of projects.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

87. In the context of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), 'General Consent', recently in news, implies

- (a) that case-specific permission to investigate cases within a state is not required.
- (b) that the appointment of CBI Director is done by consensus rather than by majority vote.
- (c) that the investigation is carried out under the monitoring of the Supreme Court or a High Court.
- (d) consent by the accused to cooperate in the investigation.

88. Consider the following statements regarding 'Call money market' :

1. It is the market where loans can be availed by banks for a period more than one year to meet their reserve requirements.
2. Only Reserve bank of India and Scheduled commercial banks are permitted to participate in the call money market.

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

89. "It is a Sanskrit play which depicts a story about a young man named *Charudatta* of Pataliputra (Patna), and his love for *Vasantasena*, a rich courtesan or *nagarvadhu*. It presents a remarkable social drama with touches of grim reality. An interesting account of a burglary is given in which stealing is treated as a regular art. The interlinking of a political revolution with the private affairs of the two lovers adds new charm to the play. "

Which of the following texts of ancient India is described in the above passage?

- (a) Mricchakatika
- (b) Kumarasambhava
- (c) Vikramorvasiya
- (d) Meghaduta

90. In the context of Global Commission on the Economy and Climate, consider the following statements:

1. It is an international initiative of G-7 countries.
2. It comprises of former heads of government and finance ministers and leaders in the fields of economics and business.
3. The New Climate Economy (NCE) is the Commission's flagship project.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

91. Which of the following is/are correct with reference to the Ganges River dolphin?

1. It inhabits the Ganga and Brahmaputra river systems.
2. It is the National Aquatic animal of India.
3. It is protected under the Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act (1972).

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

92. Consider the following pairs:

Embroidery/Weaving Pattern	State
----------------------------	-------

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. Kasuti     | : Kerala        |
| 2. Phulkari   | : Punjab        |
| 3. Chikankari | : Uttar Pradesh |

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

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

93. Consider the following pairs:

Peasant struggle	Region
------------------	--------

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Eka movement     | : United Provinces |
| 2. Tebhaga movement | : Orissa           |
| 3. Mappila Revolt   | : Malabar          |

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

94. Which among the following issues is/are *not* taken up for redressal under the CPGRAMS (Centralized Public Grievance Redress And Monitoring System)?

1. Personal and Family disputes
2. Right to Information matters
3. Subjudice cases

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

95. Which of the following is/are examples of colloids?

1. Milk
2. Apple juice
3. Tincture of iodine

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

96. What is Interstellar Mapping and Acceleration Probe (IMAP)?
- First-ever satellite to test possible solutions in cleaning up space junk developed by Britain.
  - NASA's mission to track ice loss around the world and improve forecasts of sea level rise as the climate warms.
  - World's first experiment to test elevator movement in space by Japan.
  - NASA's mission to learn the generation of cosmic rays in the heliosphere.
97. Which of the following statements correctly describes the concept of cloud seeding?
- It is an artificial way to induce moisture in the clouds so as to cause rainfall.
  - It is a way to store sensitive information on the cloud servers using cryptography.
  - It is a method to ensure uninterrupted satellite communication in cloudy weather conditions.
  - It is a process to increase the efficiency of solar energy generation in cloudy weather conditions.
98. Consider the following statements about Periyar E.V. Ramasamy:
- He opposed Brahmanical domination.
  - He participated in the non-cooperation movement, offered satyagraha and defended khadi.
  - He gave full support to the scheme for Pakistan after Lahore resolution of Muslim League.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- 1 and 2 only
  - 2 and 3 only
  - 1 and 3 only
  - 1, 2 and 3

99. With reference to the administration during the Sher Shah Suri, consider the following pairs:

Department	Headed
1. Foreign Affairs	: Diwan-i-Insha
2. Army	: Diwan-i-Ariz
3. Revenue and Finance	: Diwan-i-Wizarat

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

- 3 only
  - 2 only
  - 1, 2 and 3
  - 2 and 3 only
100. Consider the following statements regarding 'Sovereign Gold Bonds' (SGB):
- These are government securities denominated in grams of gold as substitutes for holding physical gold.
  - They are issued by Reserve Bank India on behalf of the Government of India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
  - 2 only
  - Both 1 and 2
  - Neither 1 nor 2



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## ANSWERS & EXPLANATION

### GENERAL STUDIES (P) TEST – 2676 (2019)

#### Q 1.A

- The introduction of railways in India inaugurated a new economic era. There were three major reasons for the British to take interest in its quick development - commercial, administrative and defence.
- The railway companies were setup as joint stock companies. English capitalists bought shares in these companies in the stock market in London. In order to encourage them to buy shares in business remote from England and to create confidence in them, the Government of India offered a **guarantee of at least 5% interest on their investments. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The objective of introduction of railways in India was to enable imported English manufactured goods to reach the interior of the country and facilitate the collection and export of raw materials and agricultural goods from the interior. To achieve these objectives, it was convenient to **have a preferential freight charge** which would allow cheap transport of manufactured goods from port cities to the interior and of agricultural goods from interior to port cities. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The English railway companies imported into India, the engines, the rails, the machinery and even the coal for engines. Hence, **India was denied the benefit of such auxiliary industrial development** due to the policy of the railway companies **to import almost all that was needed by them. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

#### Q 2.C

- **Rights not only place obligations upon the state to act in a certain way — for instance, to ensure sustainable development — but they also place obligations upon each of us. Hence, option a is not correct and option c is correct.**
- Firstly, they compel us to think not just of our own personal needs and interests but to defend some things as being good for all of us. Protecting the ozone layer, minimizing air and water pollution, maintaining the green cover by planting new trees and preventing cutting down of forests, maintaining the ecological balance, are things that are essential for all of us. They represent the ‘common-good’ that we must act to protect for ourselves as well as for the future generations who are entitled to inherit a safe and clean world without which they cannot lead a reasonably good life.
- Secondly, they require that I respect the rights of others. If I say that I must be given the right to express my views I must also grant the same right to others. If I do not want others to interfere in the choices I make — the dress I wear or the music I listen to — I must refrain from interfering in the choices that others make. I must leave them free to choose their music and clothes. I cannot use the right to free speech to incite a crowd to kill my neighbor. In exercising my rights, I cannot deprive others of their rights. My rights are, in other words, limited by the principle of equal and same rights for all.
- Thirdly, we must balance our rights when they come into conflict. For instance, my right to freedom of expression allows me to take pictures; **however, if I take pictures of a person bathing in his house without his consent and post them on the internet, that would be a violation of his right to privacy. Hence options (b) and (d) are not correct.**

**Q 3.B**

- **Vijayanagara** or “city of victory” was the name of both a city and an empire. The empire was founded in the fourteenth century. In its heyday it stretched from the river Krishna in the north to the extreme south of the Deccan peninsula. In 1565 the city was sacked and subsequently deserted.
- Although it fell into ruin in the seventeenth-eighteenth centuries, it lived on in the memories of people living in the Krishna-Tungabhadra doab. They remembered it as Hampi, a name derived from that of the **local mother goddess, Pampadevi**.
- It is likely that the very choice of the site of Vijayanagara was inspired by the existence of the shrines of Virupaksha and the goddess Pampadevi. Local mythology identifies this goddess with the Tungabhadra River. In fact the Vijayanagara kings claimed to rule on behalf of the god Virupaksha. All royal orders were signed “Shri Virupaksha”, usually in the Kannada script.
- **The Virupaksha temple was built over centuries. While inscriptions suggest that the earliest shrine dated to the ninth-tenth centuries, it was substantially enlarged with the establishment of the Vijayanagara Empire.**
  - **The hall in front of the main shrine was built by Krishnadeva Raya to mark his accession.** This was decorated with delicately carved pillars. A slab set up in front of the main shrine records Krishnadeva Raya’s benefactions on the occasion of his coronation in 1510.
  - He is also credited with the construction of the eastern gopuram.
  - These additions meant that the central shrine came to occupy a relatively small part of the complex.
  - The halls in the temple were used for a variety of purposes. Some were spaces in which the images of gods were placed to witness special programmes of music, dance, drama, etc.
  - Others were used to celebrate the marriages of deities, and yet others were meant for the deities to swing in. Special images, distinct from those kept in the small central shrine, were used on these occasions.
- **Some local traditions from Vijayanagara suggest that Pampadevi, the local mother goddess, did penance to marry Virupaksha, the guardian deity of the kingdom, also recognised as a form of Shiva. To this day this marriage is celebrated annually in the Virupaksha temple.**

**Q 4.B**

- Article 360 empowers the president to proclaim a Financial Emergency if he is satisfied that a situation has arisen due to which the financial stability or credit of India or any part of its territory is threatened. The 38th Amendment Act of 1975 made the satisfaction of the president in declaring a Financial Emergency final and conclusive and not questionable in any court on any ground. But, this provision was subsequently deleted by the 44th Amendment Act of 1978 implying that the satisfaction of the president is not beyond judicial review. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Article 34 provides for the restrictions on fundamental rights while martial law is in force** in any area within the territory of India. It empowers the Parliament to indemnify any government servant or any other person for any act done by him in connection with the maintenance or restoration of order in any area where martial law was in force. The Parliament can also validate any sentence passed, punishment inflicted, forfeiture ordered or other act done under martial law in such area. **The Act of Indemnity made by the Parliament cannot be challenged in any court on the ground of contravention of any of the fundamental rights. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Article 33 empowers the Parliament to restrict or abrogate the fundamental rights of the members of armed forces, para-military forces, police forces, intelligence agencies and analogous forces.** The objective of this provision is to ensure the proper discharge of their duties and the maintenance of discipline among them. The power to make laws under Article 33 is conferred only on Parliament and not on state legislatures. Any such law made by Parliament cannot be challenged in any court on the ground of contravention of any of the fundamental rights. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

**Q 5.C**

- Vaisheshika is one of the six systems (darshans) of Indian philosophy, significant for its naturalism, a feature that is not characteristic of most Indian thought. The Sanskrit philosopher Kanada Kashyapa (2nd–

3rd century CE) expounded its theories and is credited with founding the school. **Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.**

- Mimamsa is one of the six systems (darshans) of Indian philosophy. Mimamsa, probably the earliest of the six, is fundamental to Vedanta, another of the six systems, and has deeply influenced the formulation of Hindu law. The earliest work of the system is the Mimamsa-sutra of Jaimini (c. 4th-century BCE). A major commentary was written by Shabarasvamin (1st century BCE), who was followed by a long line of interpreters and teachers, most notably Kumarila and Prabhakara (7th–8th century CE). **Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- Like the other systems, Nyaya is both philosophical and religious. Its ultimate concern is to bring an end to human suffering, which results from ignorance of reality. Liberation is brought about through right knowledge. Nyaya is thus concerned with the means of right knowledge. In its metaphysics, Nyaya is allied to the Vaisheshika system, and the two schools were often combined from about the 10th century. Its principal text is the Nyaya-sutras, ascribed to Gautama (c. 2nd century BCE). **Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched.**

#### Q 6.C

- Recognizing the need for setting out a practical regime for securing of information by citizens from the public authorities, and to promote transparency and accountability in the working of all public authorities, the Parliament enacted the Right to Information Act in 2005.
- The Act confers on all citizens the right of access to the information and, correspondingly, makes the dissemination of such information an obligation on all public authorities.
- **It provides for the appointment of a public information officer in each department** to provide information to the public on request. It fixes a 30-day deadline for providing information; deadline is 48 hours if information concerns life or liberty of a person. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **The Act overrides the Official Secrets Act, 1923. The information commissions can allow access to the information if public interest outweighs harm to protected persons. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Act provides for a system of two appeals in case the information is denied: first appeal to the senior of the concerned public information officer within 30 days and second appeal to the Information Commission within 90 days. The decision of the Information Commission is binding.
- The appeals at both stages must be disposed of within 30 days which is extendable by 15 days if necessary. But, in any case the decision must be given within 45 days.
- There is a bar on jurisdiction of courts. Hence, **no court can entertain any suit, application or other proceeding in respect of any order made under the Act. Hence statement 3 is correct.**

#### Q 7.D

- The conditions favorable for the formation and intensification of tropical cyclones are:
  - **Large sea surface with the temperature higher than 27° C**
  - **Presence of the Coriolis force**
  - **Small variations in the vertical wind speed**
  - **A pre-existing weak low- pressure area or low-level-cyclonic circulation**
  - Upper divergence above the sea level system.

#### Q 8.B

- **The process in which a solid transforms into a gas phase without first melting to form a liquid phase is known as sublimation.**
- The most common example of sublimation is that of **dry ice**, which is another name of frozen carbon dioxide. **When dry ice is exposed to the air it begins to sublimate, or change to vapor.**
- This happens to dry ice because at **room temperature** the molecules in the ice begin to move so rapidly that they escape the solid and become gases.
- Sublimation also occurs as a comet approaches the sun; the comet comes to a region of space where it is warm enough that the ices inside the nucleus become gases. That is when the tails and coma of the comet form.

- It frequently happens with substances having a high vapor pressure at room temperature. Some familiar substances that sublime readily include iodine, menthol, and camphor.
- Sublimation is occasionally used in the laboratory as a method for purification of solids, for example with caffeine.

#### Q 9.A

- **Both the category of officials "Bhagadugha" and "Rajjughaka" emerged during the later Vedic age (with the emergence of Janapadas) and continued till the early medieval period.**
- An official called **Bhagadugha** collected bhaga i.e. a share of the agricultural produce. When the popular assemblies of later Vedic age lost their significance, the ratnins, or "jewel bearers", the relatives, courtiers and palace officials of the king, assumed significance. The list of ratnins includes the purohita, or chief priest of the palace, the general, the Chamberlain, the king's charioteer, and various other influential palace servants. Two of the ratnins, the samgrahitr and bhagadugha, have been dubiously explained as treasurer and revenue-(Agriculture produce) collector respectively.
- Survey of the agricultural land was done by an official called **Rajjugahaka**. The Jataka stories refer to local officers as "holders of the [surveyor's cord" (rajjugahaka), and the officers called in the Asokan inscriptions rajjuka may have been the same; Megasthenes records that the land was thoroughly surveyed.

#### Q 10.C

- Salient features of the Model Act on Agricultural Marketing (2017) are :
  - Legal persons, growers and local authorities are permitted to apply for the establishment of new markets for agricultural produce in any area. Under the existing law, markets are set up at the initiative of State Governments alone. Consequently, in a market area, more than one market can be established by private persons, farmers and consumers. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - There will be no compulsion on the growers to sell their produce through existing markets administered by the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC). However, an agriculturist who does not bring his produce to the market area for sale will not be eligible for election to the APMC. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
  - Providing market-led extension services to farmers; ensuring payment for agricultural products sold by farmers on the same day.
  - Promoting agricultural processing including activities for value addition in agricultural produce.
  - Publicizing data on arrivals and rates of agricultural produce brought into the market area for sale. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
  - Setup and promote public-private partnership in the management of agricultural markets.

#### Q 11.A

- The Governor of a state is not elected but is **appointed by the President and holds office at the pleasure of the President**. Constitution lays down only two qualifications for appointment of the Governor:
  - He should be a citizen of India
  - He should have completed the age of 35 years.
- Constitution lays down the following conditions for the Governors' office:
  - **He should not be a member of either House of Parliament or a House of state legislature. If any such person is appointed as a Governor, his seat becomes vacant with immediate effect.**
  - He should not hold any office of profit
  - He is entitled without payment of rent to the use of his official residence.
  - He is entitled to such allowance and entitlements as determined by the Parliament
  - His emoluments and allowances cannot be diminished during his term of office.**Hence, statements 1 and 3 are not correct and 2 is correct.**

#### Q 12.B

- The Swadeshi Movement had its genesis in the anti-partition movement which was started to oppose the British decision to partition Bengal. The resolution of Swadeshi was adopted in 1906 Calcutta session of

the Indian National Congress. This session was presided by Dadabhai Naoroji. Prior to this, in Banaras 1905 session, a resolution of boycott of British goods was put forward. However, it was 1906 session at Calcutta in which four resolutions on self-government, boycott movement, Swadeshi and national education were passed by the Congress, the Extremists gave a call for passive resistance in addition to swadeshi and boycott which would include a boycott of government schools and colleges, government service, courts, legislative councils, municipalities, government titles, etc. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

- Steps included the boycott of British goods like Liverpool salt, Manchester cloth etc. The protest against British goods led to the dropping of British textile **five to fifteen times**, refusal by priests to ritualize marriages involving the exchange of foreign goods, refusal by washermen to wash foreign clothes. This form of protest met with great success at the practical and popular level. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- However, the most important aspect of the movement was a focus on self-reliance or Atma-shakti which led to the development of indigenous industries and nationalistic institutes like Bengal National College founded by Aurobindo Ghosh, Bengal Technical Institute, National Council of Education. Funds were also raised to send students Japan for advanced learning.
- It was decided to annul the partition of Bengal in 1911 mainly to curb the menace of revolutionary terrorism. **Hence statement 3 is not correct**

#### Q 13.B

- **The downslope movement of a glacier from its snow-covered valley-head and the intensive shattering of the upland slopes tend to produce depression.** The process of plucking operates on the back-walls, steepening it and the movement of the ice abrades the floor, deepening the depression into a steep, horse-shoe shaped basin called a **Cirque**. It is known as Corrie in Scotland.
- When two cirques cut back on the opposite side of a mountain, knife-shaped ridges are formed called **Aretes**.
- At the head of a glacier, where it begins to leave the snowfield of a corrie, a deep vertical crack opens up called a **Bergschrund**.

#### Q 14.B

- **Mahatma Gandhi** put forward his political ideas in several of his speeches and writings, the most notable of which is the booklet, '**Hind Swaraj**', which he **wrote in Gujarati on board S.S. Kildonan Castle** during his return voyage from London to South Africa in 1909. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- It was first published in two parts in Indian Opinion, a weekly edited and published by Gandhi and it refers to Indian anarchists living in London. The Indian anarchists stood for using terrorist methods against the foreign rulers of India. Once freed from foreign rule, India, according to the anarchists, was to pursue the same Western model of modernity. Gandhi's objective in writing Hind Swaraj was to **condemn both the cult of violence and the claims of superiority of modern civilization.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct**
- Hind Swaraj was **written in 1909** whereas the Non-cooperation movement started in 1920. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

#### Q 15.A

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The IORA is an international organization consisting of coastal states bordering the Indian Ocean. The IORA is a regional forum, tripartite in nature, bringing together representatives of Government, Business and Academia, for promoting co-operation and closer interaction among them.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** IORA has identified the following priority areas. These are - Maritime Safety and Security; Trade and Investment Facilitation; Fisheries Management; Disaster Risk Management; Tourism and Cultural Exchange; Academic, Science and Technology; Blue Economy; and Women's Economic Empowerment.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Maldives has recently(2018) become its 22nd member. Its members include - Commonwealth of Australia, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Union of Comoros, Republic of India, Republic of Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kenya, Republic of Madagascar, Malaysia, Republic of Mauritius, Republic of Mozambique, Sultanate of Oman, Republic of Seychelles, Republic of

Singapore, Federal Republic of Somalia , Republic of South Africa, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, United Republic of Tanzania, Kingdom of Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Republic of Yemen.

#### Q 16.C

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has been constituted by the government under the **Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005**.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** The Commission has the power to inquire into complaints and **take suo motu notice** of matter relating to:
  - Deprivation and violation of child rights
  - Non implementation of laws providing for protection and development of children
  - Non compliance of policy decisions, guidelines or instructions aimed at mitigating hardships to and ensuring welfare of the children and provide relief to such children
  - Or take up the issues rising out of such matters with appropriate authorities
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Commission has been entrusted with the responsibility of monitoring the implementation of -:
  - **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012**
  - Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009
  - National Policy for Children, 2013

#### Q 17.B

- Although the declaration of farm loan waivers by the state governments is quite common, the Union Government had also announced farm loan waivers in the past. In 2008, an all India one-time-write-off of loans was announced by the Centre. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Bank balance sheets will improve to the extent that non-performing farm loans are taken off their books. So they might be able to provide additional financial resources to the private sector, leading to greater spending. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

#### Q 18.D

- Provisions related to Financial Emergency are stated in Article 360 of the constitution. Art 360 states that during the operation of Financial Emergency, the Union government has the authority to direct the state governments to observe canons of financial propriety. The Union government can also reduce salaries of persons serving under the state.
- The Union government can also direct a state government to reserve all money bills or other financial bills for the consideration of the President. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Art 360 states that the President can issue directions to reduce the salaries of any class of persons serving in connection of affairs of the Union, including judges of High Court and Supreme Court. **Hence statements 2 and 3 are correct.**

#### Q 19.D

- Various committees have been formed to bring in the reforms in the banking industry. Some of them are:
- **Narasimham committee, 1991:** Among others, it recommended a restructuring of Indian banks with 3-4 large banks that could be positioned as global banks and 8-10 smaller ones with a national footprint.
- **P J Nayak committee, 2014:** It suggested that the government should privatize or merge some PSBs.
- **Sunil Mehta committee, 2018:** It was formed to look into the faster resolution of stressed assets. It has suggested a five-pronged strategy to resolve stressed assets called Project Sashakt.
- **Nachiket Mor Committee, 2013:** It highlighted the gaps in the availability of basic payment services for small business and low-income households. To lug this gap, it recommended Payment Banks and Small Finance Banks.
- Watal committee (2016) recommended constituting a Payment Regulatory Board (independent of RBI) to promote competition and innovation in the payment ecosystem in India.
- Inter-Ministerial Committee headed by Subhash Chandra Garg submitted draft Payment and Settlement System Bill, 2018, which seeks to setup independent Payments Regulatory Board (PRB).
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

**Q 20.D**

- **UK-based charity Oxfam International's 'Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index'** ranks India 147th among 157 countries analysed, describing the country's commitment to reducing inequality as "a very worrying situation" given that it is home to 1.3 billion people, many of whom live in extreme poverty.
- In 2017, Development Finance International (DFI) and Oxfam produced the first index to measure the commitment of governments to reduce the gap between the rich and the poor. The index is based on a new database of indicators, now covering 157 countries, which measures government action on social spending, tax and labour rights – three areas found to be critical to reducing the gap. Index finds that countries such as South Korea, Namibia and Uruguay are taking strong steps to reduce inequality. Sadly, countries such as India and Nigeria do very badly overall, as does the USA among rich countries, showing a lack of commitment to closing the inequality gap.
- In 2015, the leaders of 193 governments promised to reduce inequality under Goal 10 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Without reducing inequality, meeting SDG 1 to eliminate poverty will be impossible.

**Q 21.C**

- **Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India declared Agra-Mathura region as air pollution protected area, namely the Taj Trapezium Zone in the year 1983 which is in the form of trapezium and prohibited establishment/expansion of polluting industries.** The Supreme Court of India delivered a ruling on December 30, 1996 regarding industries covered under the TTZ, in response to a PIL seeking to protect the Taj Mahal from environmental pollution. It banned the use of coal/ coke in industries located in the TTZ with a mandate for switching over from coal/ coke to natural gas, and relocating them outside the TTZ or shutting down.
- **The TTZ comprises monuments including three World Heritage Sites the Taj Mahal, Agra Fort and Fatehpur Sikri.** TTZ is so named since it is located around the Taj Mahal and is shaped like a trapezoid. Further, MoEF, GOI in the year 1999 notified Taj Trapezium Zone Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority, Agra for protection and improvement of the environment in the TTZ area.
- The projects of Electric Power Supply Improvement, Solid Waste Management, Sewerage, Forestation etc. are being implemented under Taj Protection Mission.
- The geographical limits of the Taj Trapezium Zone is defined in the shape of trapezoid between 26° 45N & 77° 15E to 27° 45N & 77° 15E in the West of the Taj Mahal and in the East of Taj Mahal between 27° 00N & 78° 30E to 27° 30E, **lying in the Agra Division of the State of Uttar Pradesh and in the Bharatpur Division of the State of Rajasthan.** There are various factors that have led to the discoloration of the Taj Mahal. Firstly, the polluting industries and the vehicular emissions in the Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ) area are a major source of pollution. The second reason is that the Yamuna river, which flows behind the Taj, has become highly polluted. There is no aquatic life in it, and has caused insect and algae infestation on the Taj Mahal and other monuments situated on its banks.

**Q 22.B**

- An Emergency due to the failure of the constitutional machinery in the states (Article 356) is popularly known as 'President's Rule'. It is also known by two other names—'State Emergency' or 'constitutional Emergency'. However, the Constitution does not use the word 'emergency' for this situation. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Article 356 is dubbed as one of the most controversial articles in the Indian Constitution, which provides for President's rule in any State. This provision is to be applied when 'a situation has arisen in which the Government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.' It results in the takeover of the State government by the Union government. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

**According to Article 356,**

- **If the President, on receipt of the report from the Governor of the State or otherwise, is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution, the President may by Proclamation.**

- assume to himself all or any of the functions of the Government of the State and all or any of the powers vested in or exercisable by the Governor or any body or authority in the State other than the Legislature of the State;
- declare that the powers of the Legislature of the State shall be exercisable by or under the authority of Parliament;
- make such incidental and consequential provisions as appear to the president to be necessary or desirable for giving effect to the objects of the Proclamation, including provisions for suspending in whole or in part the operation of any provisions of this Constitution relating to any body or authority in the State Provided that nothing in this clause shall authorize the President to assume to himself any of the powers vested in or exercisable by a High Court, or to suspend in whole or in part the operation of any provision of this Constitution relating to High Courts
- The President's proclamation has to be ratified by Parliament. President's rule can be extended till three years. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

#### Q 23.A

- The first Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management was constituted in the year 2005. Subsequently, seven more Parliamentary forums were constituted. At present, there are eight Parliamentary forums.
  - Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management (2005)
  - Parliamentary Forum on Youth (2006)
  - Parliamentary Forum on Children (2006)
  - Parliamentary Forum on Population and Public Health (2006)
  - Parliamentary Forum on Global Warming and Climate Change (2008)
  - Parliamentary Forum on Disaster Management (2011)
  - Parliamentary Forum on Artisans and Crafts-people (2013)
  - Parliamentary Forum on Millennium Development Goals (2013)
- **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- And as can be seen, the forums have not taken place biennially. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- On 12th May 2005, the then Speaker of Lok Sabha, Somnath Chatterjee informed the House of his decision to constitute a Parliamentary forum on water conservation and management so that the members of Parliament may discuss the critical issue of water in a structured manner and also raise the issue more effectively on the floor of the House. Accordingly, the forum was constituted on 12th August 2005. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

#### Q 24.D

- The Family Courts Act, 1984 was enacted to provide for the establishment of Family Courts with a view to promote conciliation and secure speedy settlement of disputes relating to marriage and family affairs. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It makes it obligatory on the State Governments to set up a Family Court in every city or town with a population exceeding one million. It enables the State Governments to set up Family Courts in other areas also if they deem it necessary. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The salient features of the Family Courts Act, 1984 are as follows:
  - It provides for the establishment of Family Courts by the State Governments in consultation with the High Courts.
- It exclusively provides within the jurisdiction of the Family Courts the matters relating to:
  - matrimonial relief, including nullity of marriage, judicial separation, divorce, restitution of conjugal rights, or declaration as to the validity of marriage or as to the matrimonial status of any person;
  - the property of the spouses or of either of them;
  - declaration as to the legitimacy of any person;
  - guardianship of a person or the custody of any minor; and
  - maintenance of wife, children and parents.

- It makes it obligatory on the part of the Family Court to endeavour, in the first instance to effect a reconciliation or a settlement between the parties to a family dispute. During this stage, the proceedings will be informal and rigid rules of procedure shall not apply.
- It provides for the association of social welfare agencies, counsellors, etc., during the conciliation stage and also to secure the service of medical and welfare experts.
- It provides that the parties to a dispute before a Family Court shall not be entitled, as of right, to be represented by a legal practitioner. However, the Court may, in the interest of justice, seek the assistance of a legal expert as amicus curiae.
- It simplifies the rules of evidence and procedure so as to enable a Family Court to deal effectively with a dispute.
- **It provides for only one right of appeal which shall lie to the High Court. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

#### Q 25.C

- **Differential ground settlement-** Lowering of the ground surface, known as subsidence or settling often occurs during an earthquake. Common causes of ground subsidence during an earthquake include consolidation or failure of the ground under a foundation, densification of sand and gravel layers due to the ground shaking and liquefaction. **Hence, option 1 is correct.**
- **Soil liquefaction-** Liquefaction can occur when seismic shaking agitates saturated ground material of certain types. Soil liquefaction describes a phenomenon whereby a saturated or partially saturated soil substantially loses strength and stiffness in response to an applied stress, usually earthquake shaking or other sudden change in stress condition, causing it to behave like a liquid. **Hence, option 2 is correct.**
- **Ground lurching-** Buildings can also be damaged by strong surface waves making the ground heave and lurch. Any buildings in the path of these surface waves can lean or tip over from all the movement. The ground shaking may also cause landslides, mudslides, and avalanches on steeper hills or mountains, all of which can damage buildings and hurt people. **Hence option 3 is correct.**

#### Q 26.D

- The concept of **Drain of Wealth** evolved in the writings of **Dadabhai Naoroji and R C Dutt**. To them it meant the transfer of wealth from the late 18th century in the form of plunder and loot and illicit gains by servants of the East India Company and in the form of **Home charges**, i.e. the expenses incurred by the Government of India in England out of its income derived mainly from the taxation of the Indian people and finally, in the form of interests and profits and capital transfer from India to England on private account.
- Home Charges mainly represented **debt service, pensions, India Office expenses in the UK, purchases of military items and railway equipment. Government procurement of civilian goods, armaments and shipping was carried out almost exclusively in the UK.** By the 1930s these home charges were in the range of £40 to £50 million a year.

#### Q 27.A

- 4th World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA-2018) was held in New Delhi with theme “Challenges and Opportunities in Outcome Based Accreditation” World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA) is a **biennial (every two years) Summit organised by National Board of Accreditation (NBA), which provides platform to stakeholders to share their knowledge and information on accreditation.** NBA has already organised three Summits in 2012, 2014 and 2016 with the themes “Achieving Excellence through Accreditation”, “International Recognition of Education Qualifications” and “Quality Assurance through Outcome Based Accreditation” respectively.
- The National Board of Accreditation (NBA) is an autonomous organisation under Ministry of Human Resource Development engaged in quality assurance of the programs offered by the professional and technical institutions in India through accreditation. NBA has been accorded Permanent Signatory Status

of Washington Accord since June, 2014. It has adopted internationally implemented outcome based assessment and accreditation, to ensure that the graduates of the NBA accredited programs are globally competent and relevant.

#### Q 28.C

- **Saline soils** are also known as *Usara (sterile)* soils. They **contain a larger proportion of sodium, potassium, and magnesium**, and thus, they are infertile and do not support any vegetative growth. They have more salts, largely because of the dry climate and poor drainage. They occur in arid and semi-arid regions, and in waterlogged and swampy areas. Their structure ranges from sandy to loamy. **They lack in nitrogen and calcium.**

#### Q 29.D

- **Lord Irwin : 1926-1931**
- Major Events:
  - **Visit of Simon Commission** to India (1928) and the boycott of the commission by the Indians.
  - An All-Parties Conference held at Lucknow (1928) for suggestions for the (future) Constitution of India, the report of which was called the Nehru Report or the Nehru Constitution.
  - Appointment of the Harcourt Butler Indian States Commission (1927).
  - **Murder of Saunders**, the assistant superintendent of police of Lahore by Bhagat Singh, Azad and Rajguru assassinated, at Lahore;
  - Bomb blast in the Assembly Hall of Delhi (1929); the Lahore Conspiracy Case.
  - Lahore session of the Congress (1929); Purna Swaraj Resolution.
  - Dandi March (March 12, 1930) by Gandhi to launch the Civil Disobedience Movement.
  - **'Deepavali Declaration'** by Lord Irwin (1929), was a token statement given by him to give Dominion Status to Indians in due course of time.
  - On 31 January 1930 Gandhi announced an **eleven point ultimatum** for Lord Irwin; if these demands were met by 11 March, he declared, there would be no civil disobedience and the Congress would participate in any conference. Irwin was in no mood to compromise, and hence on 12 March began Gandhi's historic Dandi March to the Gujarat seashore where on 6 April he publicly violated the salt law.
  - **Hence, all the options are correct.**

#### Q 30.A

- The Kalinga war brought to the Brahmins and Buddhists monks great suffering which caused Ashoka much grief and remorse. So, he abandoned the policy of physical occupation **in favor of the policy of cultural conquest**. Influenced by Buddhism, Ashoka propounded certain ideals for people which came to be known as **Ashoka's policy of Dhamma**.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** Ashoka appointed **dharma-mahamattas for propagating dharma** among various social groups including women. He also appointed **rajukas for the administration of justice**.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** Ashoka's dhamma was not narrow dharma and cannot be regarded as a sectarian faith. His Kandahar Greek inscription preaches amity between the sects. Ashoka's inscriptions are called dhammalipi, which cover not only religion and morality but also embrace social and administrative matters. They can be compared to the Dharmashastras or law-books written in Sanskrit under Brahmanical influence. Though the dhammalipis were written in Prakrit under Buddhist influence, they try to regulate the social order like the Dharmashastras.

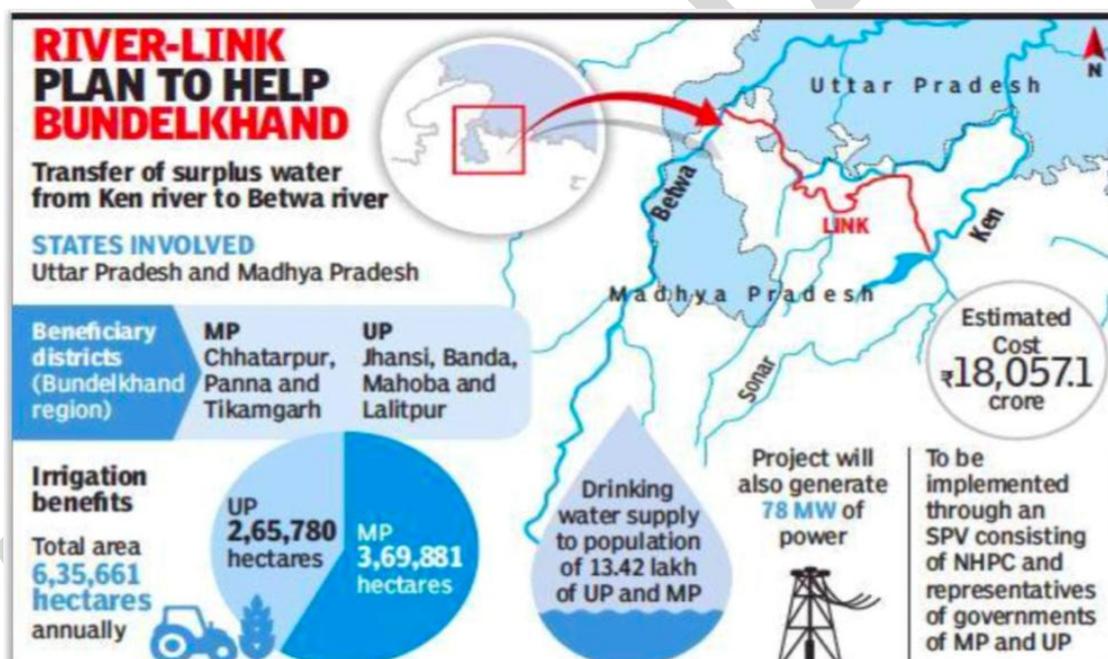
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#### Q 31.C

- **The National River Linking Project (NRLP) formally known as the National Perspective Plan, envisages the transfer of water from water 'surplus' basins where there is flooding to water 'deficit' basins where there is drought/scarcity, through inter-basin water transfer projects.**
- **National Water Development Agency is implementing agency of the project.** The National Water Development Agency (NWDA), was set up in July 1982 as an autonomous society under the Societies Registration act 1860. In 2016 the functions of NWDA were further modified to undertake

implementation of ILR projects and completion of water resources projects under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) and to act as a repository of borrowed fund or loan from Banks / other institutions for the execution of projects.

- **Ken-Betwa (K-B) link project was declared as a National Project by Government of India in February 2008, as per the then existing norms for consideration of any project as National Project. No other Inter-linking of Rivers (ILR) project has so far been declared as National project.**
- National projects are those projects that are provided financial assistance by the Government of India in the form of Central grant which will be 90% of the estimated cost of such projects for their completion in a time bound manner.
- The criteria for selection of National Project will be as under:
  - International projects where usage of water in India is required by a treaty or where planning and early completion of the project is necessary in the interest of the country.
  - Inter-State projects which are dragging on due to non- resolution of Inter-State issues relating to sharing of costs, rehabilitation, aspects of power production etc., including river interlinking projects.
  - Intra-State projects with the additional potential of more than 2,00,000 hectare (ha) and with no dispute regarding sharing of water and where hydrology is established.
- Sixteen (16) Projects have been declared as National Projects. Some of them are Upper Siang Project (Arunachal Pradesh), Renuka Dam Project(Himachal Pradesh), Ujh Multipurpose project (Jammu & Kashmir), Shahpurkandi Dam Project (Punjab) etc.



Q 32.A

- The Kigali Amendment to phase down Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) under the Montreal Protocol entered into force in 2019. Under the amendment, countries commit to cut the production and consumption of HFCs by more than 80% over the next 30 years to avoid more than 70 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions by 2050, and up to 0.5° C warming by the end of the century. Many HFCs are very powerful greenhouse gases and a substantial number are short-lived climate pollutants with a lifetime of between 15 and 29 years in the atmosphere. **Hence option 1 is correct.**
- The Kyoto Protocol is an international agreement linked to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which commits its Parties by setting internationally binding emission reduction targets. Recognizing that developed countries are principally responsible for the current high levels of GHG emissions in the atmosphere as a result of more than 150 years of industrial activity, the Protocol places a heavier burden on developed nations under the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities." The Kyoto Protocol was adopted in Kyoto, Japan, on 11 December 1997 and entered into force on 16 February 2005. **Hence option 3 is correct.**

- The Stockholm Convention is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants (POPs). The Stockholm Convention focuses on eliminating or reducing releases of POPs. It sets up a system for tackling additional chemicals identified as unacceptably hazardous. Ultimately, the Convention points the way to a future free of dangerous POPs and promises to reshape our economy's reliance on toxic chemicals. Over 152 countries ratified the Convention and it entered into force, on 17 May 2004. **Hence option 2 is not correct.**

**Q 33.B**

- Article 217 of the Constitution provides for the appointment and conditions of the office of a Judge of a High Court- Every Judge of a High Court shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal after consultation with the Chief Justice of India, **the Governor of the State**, and, in the case of appointment of a Judge other than the Chief Justice, **the Chief Justice of the High court**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- A person appointed as a judge of a high court, before entering upon his office, has to make and subscribe an oath or affirmation before the Governor of the state or some person appointed by him for this purpose.
- **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

**Q 34.D**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The coins issued by Gupta kings contain legends and figures. These coins provide interesting details about the **titles and sacrifices** performed by the Gupta monarchs. The legends on the coins throw much light on the achievements of the kings.
- **Statement 2 is correct: Samudragupta** after the military victories performed the asvamedha sacrifice. He issued gold and silver coins with the legend '**Restorer of the Ashvamedha**'. Samudragupta's image depicting him with Veena is found in the coins issued by him. It is proof of his proficiency and interest in music.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The figures inscribed on the coins are illustrative of the skill and greatness of Gupta numismatic art. Gupta rulers issued **gold, silver and copper coins** of different varieties.

**Q 35.B**

- The National Human Rights Commission is a statutory (and not a constitutional) body. It was established in 1993 under a legislation enacted by the Parliament, namely, the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. This Act was amended in 2006. **Hence, option 1 is correct.**
- The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was set up in 1963 by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Later, it was transferred to the Ministry of Personnel and now it enjoys the status of an attached office. The Special Police Establishment (which looked into vigilance cases) setup in 1941 was also merged with the CBI. The establishment of the CBI was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption (1962-1964). The CBI is not a statutory body. It derives its powers from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946. **Hence, option 2 is not correct.**
- The Central Information Commission has been constituted with effect from 12-10-2005 under the Right to Information Act, 2005. The jurisdiction of the Commission extends over all Central Public Authorities. **Hence, option 3 is correct.**

**Q 36.A**

- Various elements of ornamentation such as **gavaksha, vyala/yali, kalpalata, amalaka, kalasha**, etc. are used in distinct ways and places in a temple.
- **Gavaksha:** Its a horse shoe shaped arch, literally means cow eye.
- **Kalpalata:** The meaning of kalpalata originated from the concept of the ever-growing creeper of prosperity, twining around on its perennial growth route, teeming with treasures which human beings yearn to obtain all their lives. In Hindu temples, kalpalata is found on the doorways, walls, plinth and the perforated windows and on Islamic monuments, they run all around the facade, the mihrabs and the archways.

- **Amalaka:** Ribbed, lenticular or globoid part resembling the amalaka (Indian gooseberry fruit) crowning the top of the North Indian style shikhara.
- The style of temple architecture that became popular in northern India is known as **nagara**. There are many subdivisions of nagara temples depending on the **shape of the shikhara**. They are **Rekha Prasad / Latina, Phamsana, Valabhi**.

#### Q 37.B

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** The polar vortex is a large area of low pressure and cold air surrounding the Earth's North and South poles. The term vortex refers to the counter-clockwise flow of air that helps keep the colder air close to the poles.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Often during winter in the Northern Hemisphere, the polar vortex will become less stable and expand, sending cold Arctic air southward over the United States with the jet stream. The breaking off of part of the vortex is what defines a polar vortex event. But it actually occurs when the vortex is weaker, not stronger. Normally, when the vortex is strong and healthy, it helps to keep a current of air known as the jet stream traveling around the globe in a pretty circular path. This current keeps the cold air up north and the warm air down south. But without that strong low-pressure system, the jet stream doesn't have much to keep it in line. It becomes wavy and rambling. Recent extreme cold in the US is the result of breaking off of part of the polar vortex.

#### Q 38.D

- **Statement 1 is correct:** A group of westerners led by **Madame H.P. Blavatsky and Colonel M.S. Olcott**, who were inspired by Indian thought and culture, founded the Theosophical Society in **New York City, United States** in 1875. In 1882, they **shifted** their headquarters to **Adyar**, on the outskirts of Madras in India.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The society believed that a special relationship could be established between a person's soul and God by contemplation, prayer, revelation, etc. It accepted the Hindu beliefs in **reincarnation and karma**, and drew inspiration from the philosophy of the **Upanishads and samkhya, yoga and Vedanta schools of thought**.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The society aimed to work for **universal brotherhood of humanity** without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour. The society also sought to investigate the **unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in man**. The Theosophical Movement came to be allied with the Hindu renaissance. It opposed child marriage and advocated the abolition of caste discrimination, uplift of outcastes, improvement in the condition of widows.

#### Q 39.A

- The original ODF protocol, issued in March 2016, said, "A city/ward is notified as ODF city/ward if, at any point of the day, not a single person is found defecating in the open. With 18 states / UTs and 3,223 cities declared ODF, the ODF+ and ODF++ protocols are the next step for the SBM-U and aim to ensure sustainability in sanitation outcomes.
- The **ODF+** protocol says that a city, ward or work circle could be declared ODF+ if, "**at any point of the day, not a single person is found defecating and/or urinating in the open, and all community and public toilets are functional and well-maintained.**"
- The **ODF++** protocol adds the condition that "**faecal sludge/septage and sewage is safely managed and treated, with no discharging and/or dumping of untreated faecal sludge/septage and sewage in drains, water bodies or open areas.**"

#### Q 40.C

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a regional development bank conceived in the early 1960s as a financial institution that would be Asian in character and foster economic growth and cooperation in one of the poorest regions in the world. The headquarters of ADB is in Manila, Philippines.

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** ADB has 67 members which comprises of both regional and non-regional members. Regional members include countries from the Asia-Pacific region while non-regional members include countries in Europe, North America, etc.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** Japan has the largest shareholding in the bank at 15.677%. China comes at the third place with 6.473% followed by India at 6.359%.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The bank envisions a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty in the region.

#### Q 41.C

- **Statement 1 and 2 are correct:** Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) is a scheme under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) launched in July 2004, for setting up **residential schools at upper primary level** for girls.
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** It provides education to girls belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, minority communities and families below the poverty line in Educationally Backward Blocks.
- The scheme is being implemented in educationally backward blocks of the country where the female rural literacy is below the national average and gender gap in literacy is above the national average.
- The scheme provides for a minimum reservation of 75% of the seats for girls belonging to SC, ST, OBC or minority communities and priority for the remaining 25%, is accorded to girls from families below poverty line.

#### Q 42.B

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) is a statutory Board constituted on 22nd September 2003 under Section 5 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The board is supposed to oversee the implementation of the wildlife policy. The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is a statutory body setup under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The NBWL is chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. The NBWL has 47 members including the Chairman. The Minister in charge of the Ministry of Environment & Forests in the Central Government is the Vice-Chairperson. National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is chaired by Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

#### Q 43.B

- **Folding:** It is generally caused by large scale earth movements when stresses are set up in the earth's crust. When such stresses are initiated, the rocks are subject to **compressive forces that produce wrinkling or folding along the line of weakness**. Folding effectively shortens the earth's crust, creating from the original level a series of waves. The upfolded waves are called anticlines and the troughs or downfolded waves are called synclines.
- **Faulting:** When the earth's crust bends folding occurs, but when it cracks, faulting takes place. **Faulting may be caused by tension or compression**, forces which lengthen or shorten the earth's crust, causing a section of it to subside or to rise above the surrounding level. The faulted edges are very steep, with scarp/steep slopes and the summit is almost level.

#### Q 44.B

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** **The Charter Act of 1833 for the first time** laid down that **no Indian citizen was to be denied** employment under the Company on the basis of religion, colour, birth, descent, etc. Although the reality was different, this declaration formed the sheet-anchor of political agitation in India.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Initially, the examinations for the Indian Civil Service were conducted only in London. Maximum age was 23 years and the minimum age was 18 years. The syllabus was designed such that European Classics had a predominant share of marks. All this made it difficult for Indian candidates. Nevertheless, in 1864, the first Indian, **Shri Satyendranath Tagore**, brother of Shri Rabindranath Tagore succeeded. Three years later 4 other Indians succeeded.

## Q 45.C

- **Statement 1 is correct:** By the time King Shahu died in 1749, the **office of Peshwa came to be known as the de-facto ruler of the state.**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The **office of the Peshwa was hereditary.** All the occupants of the office were in the office merely by the virtue of their birth.
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** The powers of the Peshwa as the head of the administration was a **newly acquired power after the death of King Shahu.**

## Q 46.A

- **Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) is a new approach (project) to conceptualizing and measuring democracy.** This approach(project) is being carried out by the V-Dem Institute, which is an independent research institute and the Headquarters of the project based at the Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. The Institute was founded by Professor Staffan I. Lindberg in 2014.
- The V-Dem institute provides a multidimensional and disaggregated dataset that reflects the complexity of the concept of democracy as a system of rule that goes beyond the simple presence of elections. The V-Dem project distinguishes between five high-level principles of democracy: electoral, liberal, participatory, deliberative, and egalitarian, and collects data to measure these principles. **Hence, option (a) is correct.**

## Q 47.A

- The controversy around Indian education in the 1820s-1830s provides fascinating insight into colonial policy-making, shifts in the ideology of imperialism, and the relationship between imperial government and its subjects. In the initial stage the company officials patronized oriental learning. Orientalists wanted to teach the British officials the local language and culture so that they would be better at their job. This was the prime objective behind the foundation of the **Fort William College at Calcutta** in 1800.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** Anglicists believed that Indians were in a backward stage and Western education given through **English language alone** was the remedy. But education was expensive. Therefore it was better to educate a group of people who would gradually educate the rest of the society. Education would filter down from the elites to the masses. In this way it would help to develop new cultural values and knowledge in India. This was later called **the 'filtration' theory.**
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** Some of the Englishmen had a genuine desire to acquire and promote oriental learning. In this context notable institutes are '**Calcutta Madrasa**' by **Warren Hastings (1781)**, '**Benares Sanskrit College**' by **Jonathan Duncan (1791)** and the '**Asiatic Society of Bengal**' by **William Jones (1784).**

## Q 48.D

- As per Article 108 of Constitution, a Joint session of Parliament can be summoned in the following situations.
- If after a Bill has been passed by one House and transmitted to the other House—
  - the Bill is rejected by the other House or
  - the Houses have finally disagreed as to the amendments to be made in the Bill or
  - more than six months elapse from the date of the reception of the Bill by the other House without the Bill being passed by it, the President may, unless the Bill has elapsed by reason of a dissolution of the House of the People, notify to the Houses by message if they are sitting or by public notification if they are not sitting, his intention to summon them to meet in a joint sitting for the purpose of deliberating and voting on the Bill.
- However, in calculating period of six months, those days are not considered when the house is prorogued or adjourned for more than 4 consecutive days. If the above conditions are satisfied, the President of India may summon joint sitting of both the houses of parliament.
- **Not all bills can be referred to a joint sitting of Parliament. There are two exceptions.**
  - **Money Bill**
  - Constitution Amendment Bill

- Joint session of Indian parliament has been called for only three bills i.e. Dowry Prohibition Bill, 1961, Banking Service Commission (repeal) Bill and also the Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2002 was passed at a joint session. And the Liberalisation-Privatisation-Globalisation reforms took place in the year 1991. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

#### Q 49.A

- **Mural painting** is the class of painting done on the walls and ceilings in rock-cut architecture and structural temples.
- **Ajanta** near Aurangabad is excellent for the study of Indian classical art of paintings, sculptures and architecture.
- The paintings and sculptures were crafted by Buddhist monks and artists between the second century BC and sixth century AD.
- The site has 29 caves (including the unfinished ones) of which four are finished *chaitya* halls (prayer halls) and one unfinished whereas rest are *viharas* (monasteries) as well as *chaitya-vihara* combine.
- **The subject matter of these paintings is almost exclusively Buddhist, excepting decorative patterns on the ceilings and the pillars. They are mostly associated with the Jatakas, collection of stories, recording the previous births of the Lord Buddha.**
- For example, the chaitya Cave Nos. 19 and 26 are elaborately carved. Their facade is decorated with Buddha and, Bodhisattva images. Cave No. 26 is very big and the entire interior hall is carved with a variety of Buddha images, the biggest one being the *Mahaparinibbana* image.
- The **paintings of Cave Nos. 1 and 2** are very orderly and naturalistic, well integrated with the sculptures in the caves. Architectural setting is simple and **the arrangement of figures is delineated in the circular form to create three-dimensionality** and special effects. Half-closed, elongated eyes are employed.
- **The Ajanta painters used a tempera technique**, applying their colours onto a thin layer of dry plaster rather than directly on to the walls themselves. The plaster was composed of organic material, including vegetable fibers and rice husks, mixed with fine sand. The paints themselves, in vivid chromatic colors, were derived from locally available minerals, though the blue is believed to have come from lapis lazuli imported from Central Asia.

#### Q 50.B

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Minimum wage corresponds to the minimum cash payment to be paid to an individual working in certain notified jobs (mostly in the informal/unorganized sector), at a rate fixed by the central or state Governments. The minimum wage is generally exclusive of other allowances in kind, accommodation facilities, perks etc. However, the Minimum Wages Act 1948. provides that if it has been the custom to pay wages wholly or partly in kind, the appropriate government may authorize the payment of minimum wages either wholly or partly in kind and the provision of a supply of essential commodities at concessional rates. In such cases, the appropriate Government may prescribe the manner of determining the cash value of wages in kind and of concessions for supplies of essential commodities at concessional rates.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** The Act contains a list of all these employments for which minimum wages are to be fixed by the appropriate Governments. This Schedule has both agricultural and non-agricultural employment. The jobs are mostly in the mining, sanitation, agriculture, construction and infrastructure sectors.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Ministry of Labour and Employment had constituted an expert committee on 17th January 2017, under the Chairmanship Dr. Anoop Satpathy to review and recommend a methodology for fixation of National Minimum Wage (NMW). The Expert Committee has submitted its report on “Determining the Methodology for Fixation of the National Minimum Wage” to the Government of India the report has recommended to fix the need based national minimum wage for India at INR 375 per day (or INR 9,750 per month) as of July 2018, irrespective of sectors, skills, occupations and rural-urban locations for a family comprising of 3.6 consumption unit. It has also recommended to introduce an additional house rent allowance (city compensatory allowance), averaging up to INR 55 per day i.e., INR 1,430 per month for urban workers over and above the NMW. Apart from proposing the level of a single

national minimum wage at an all-India level, the report has also estimated and recommended different national minimum wages for different geographical regions of the country to suit the local realities and as per socio-economic and labour market contexts

#### Q 51.B

- **Statement 1 is not correct and statement 2 is correct:** Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) is a preferential tariff system extended by developed countries (also known as preference giving countries or donor countries) to developing countries (also known as preference receiving countries or beneficiary countries). **It involves reduced MFN Tariffs** or duty-free entry of eligible products exported by beneficiary countries to the markets of donor countries. The preferences offered are, however, unilateral and non – discriminatory. The objective is to offer the developing countries a more preferential tariff compared to that given to developed countries in order to enable a more favorable access to the developed market for their exports. The preferences are not negotiated with them: the preferential treatment is non-reciprocal. The GSP schemes offered by the various donor countries and their rules of origin differ fundamentally. Goods complying with the conditions of the GSP of the USA, for example, will not necessarily comply with the EU GSP.
- Benefits of GSP for India:
  - Indian exporters benefit indirectly - through the benefit that accrues to the importer by way of reduced tariff or duty free entry of eligible Indian products.
  - Reduction or removal of import duty on an Indian product makes it more competitive to the importer - other things (e.g. quality) being equal.
  - This tariff preference helps new exporters to penetrate a market and established exporters to increase their market share and to improve upon the profit margins, in the donor country.
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** The generalized schemes of preferences were first put into operation in the year 1971, with the application of the basic principles defined in the generalized system of preferences elaborated within the UNCTAD. It is also based on the WTO's enabling clause, which permits developed countries to create trading preferences for developing countries. While European Economic Community (now the European Union) was first to grant tariff preferences under GSP, Turkey is the latest entrant to have introduced tariff preferences for goods originating in developing countries w.e.f 1st January 2002. **Now, 36 developed countries are offering preferential tariff treatment to the eligible Indian goods through 12 schemes like EU countries, United States of America, Australia, Japan, New Zealand, etc**

#### Q 52.D

- **Season of Retreating monsoon:** The months of October and November are known for retreating monsoons. Unlike sudden burst of monsoon, the retreat of the monsoon is gradual and takes about 2-3 months.
- The retreating southwest monsoon season is marked by clear skies and rise in temperature. The land is still moist. Owing to the conditions of high temperature and humidity, the weather becomes rather oppressive. This is commonly known as the 'October heat'. However, nights are cool and therefore the diurnal range of temperature is quite pronounced.
- This is the season of most severe tropical cyclones originating in the Indian seas especially in the Bay of Bengal.

#### Q 53.D

- **About G20:** The Group of Twenty (G20) is the premier forum for its members' international economic cooperation and decision-making. Its membership comprises 19 countries plus the European Union. Each G20 president invites several guest countries each year. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- G20 leaders meet annually. In addition, Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meet regularly during the year to discuss ways to strengthen the global economy, reform international financial institutions, improve financial regulation and implement the key economic reforms that are needed in each member economy. The G20 Presidency rotates annually according to a system that ensures a regional balance over time. Reflecting its nature as an informal political forum, the G20 does not have a permanent

secretariat. Instead, the G20 president is responsible for bringing together the G20 agenda in consultation with other members and in response to developments in the global economy. To ensure continuity, the presidency is supported by a “troika” made up of the current, immediate past and next host countries. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

- W-20 is an Initiative led by G-20 For women to realize their full potential. It recommends policies and programs across sectors ranging from infrastructure to manufacturing, from trade to financial regulation, and from tax systems to health and education, should be designed with gender equality in mind. Acknowledging and promoting women’s economic contributions are essential to achieving the G20 goal of boosting the world’s economy by an additional 2 percent of GDP over the next five years. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

#### Q 54.B

- Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) was recently approved by The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister.

#### Features of FIDF

- **Funding:** It will have an estimated fund size of Rs.7,522 crore jointly to be raised through the Nodal Loaning Entities (NLEs), beneficiaries contribution and budgetary support from the Government of India. State Government will not provide budgetary support. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Nodal Loaning Entities:** National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), National Cooperatives Development Corporation (NCDC) and all Scheduled Banks shall be the Nodal Loaning Entities. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Financing investment activities:** FIDF would provide concessional finance to State Governments/UTs and State entities, cooperatives, individuals and entrepreneurs etc., for taking up the identified investment activities of fisheries development. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

#### Q 55.D

- **About the economy of Harappan civilization:**
  - **The Indus Valley people had one of the largest trading areas, ranging anywhere from Mesopotamia to China.** We know Indus Valley traders went to Mesopotamia as well as other countries because Indus seals have been found in there. Also, the Mesopotamians wrote about importing goods from the Indus people which further support the idea of a trading partnership between the two civilizations. Indus Valley traders crossed mountains and forests to trade. They followed rivers walking along the river bank and used boats to cross rivers when needed.
  - Note: A closed economy is one that has no trade activity with outside economies. A closed economy is self-sufficient, which means no imports come into the country and no exports leave the country.
  - Cotton was one of the most important products of the Indus Valley trade. Their wealth was based on a subsistence economy of wheat and barley. The Indus civilization had a broad trade network, but their currency was traded goods. **Instead of money, there was a swapping and bartering system.** The Indus Valley Civilization had what was called soapstone seals and this is what they might have used for money later on in the civilization.
  - Trade goods included terracotta pots, beads, gold and silver, colored gemstones such as turquoise and lapis lazuli, metals, flints (for making stone tools), seashells and pearls. Minerals came from Iran and Afghanistan. Lead and copper came from India. Jade came from China and cedar tree wood was floated down the rivers from Kashmir and the Himalayas.
  - Lothal was originally the site for the lustrous Red Ware culture, associated with the post-Rigvedic Vedic civilization, and named for its mica-related pottery. The people of Lothal worshipped a fire god, that could be the horned deity depicted on ancient seals. **The city that developed as the most important port and a center of the bead industry, gems and valuable ornaments that flourished until 1900 BC.**

**Q 56.C**

- **Code of Criminal Procedure Act, 1973**
- This Act, called the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir (**Hence, statement 2 is not correct**):
- Also, the provisions of this Code, except those relating to Chapters VIII, X and XI thereof, shall not apply (a) to the State of Nagaland and (b) to the tribal areas, but the concerned State Government may, by notification, apply such provisions or any of them to the whole or part of the State of Nagaland or such tribal areas, as the case may be, with such supplemental, incidental or consequential modifications, as may be specified in the notification.
- This Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 came into force on the 1st day of April 1974. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Both the Centre and the State can amend the CrPC as the procedural law falls in the Concurrent List. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

After the Revolt of 1857, the crown took over the administration in India. A **Criminal Procedure Code, 1861 was passed by the British parliament. The 1861 code continued after independence and was amended in 1969. It was finally replaced by the present Code of Criminal Procedure.**

**Q 57.B**

- The targets and sub-targets for banks under priority sector are as follows:

Categories	Domestic scheduled commercial banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks and Small Finance Banks) and Foreign banks with 20 branches and above	Foreign banks with less than 20 branches
<b>Total Priority Sector</b>	40 per cent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher.	40 per cent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher, to be achieved in a phased manner by 2020.
<b>Agriculture #</b>	18 per cent of ANBC or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher.  Within the 18 percent target for agriculture, a target of 8 percent of ANBC or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher is prescribed for Small and Marginal Farmers.	Not applicable
<b>Micro Enterprises</b>	7.5 percent of ANBC or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher.	Not applicable
<b>Advances to Weaker Sections</b>	10 percent of ANBC or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher	Not applicable
# Domestic banks have been directed to ensure that their overall direct lending to non-corporate farmers does not fall below the system-wide average of the last three years achievement.		

**Q 58.A**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Presence of warm ocean currents increase the surface temperature leading to melting of ice. For e.g. Norwegian coast, even at latitudes 60 degree to 70 degree north is ice-free throughout because of the warm North Atlantic drift.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** Offshore winds blow from land to water and result in upwelling of cold water from below. Thus, they decrease the surface temperature leading to even more freezing.
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** Enclosed seas in high latitudes have lower temperature than the open seas which remain icebound atleast during winter season.

**Q 59.B**

- **Peatlands are a type of wetland** that occur in almost every country on Earth, currently covering 3% of the global land surface. The term 'peatland' refers to the peat soil and the wetland habitat growing on its surface.

- In these areas, year-round waterlogged conditions slow the process of plant decomposition to such an extent that dead plants accumulate to form peat. Over millennia this material builds up and becomes several metres thick.
- Large amounts of carbon, fixed from the atmosphere into plant tissues through photosynthesis, are locked away in peat soils, representing a valuable global carbon store.
- **Peatlands are the largest natural terrestrial carbon store;** the area covered by near natural peatland worldwide sequesters 0.37 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide a year – storing more carbon than all other vegetation types in the world combined.
- In their natural, wet state peatlands provide vital ecosystem services. By regulating water flows, they help minimise the risk of flooding and drought and prevent seawater intrusion. In many parts of the world, peatlands supply food, fibre and other local products that sustain local economies. They also preserve important ecological and archaeological information such as pollen records and human artefacts.
- **Biological oxidation of peat occurs only when peatlands are drained and degraded.** When the water level is lowered, the peat is no longer water saturated, oxygen enters the peat and microorganisms break it down. Previously well-preserved carbon and nitrogen are then released as greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, and as nitrate to the surface water. Only 15 percent of the world's peatlands have been drained yet they are responsible for five percent of all global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions.
- The Global Peatlands Initiative, led by UN Environment and a group of more than 20 partners, is working with partner countries (Democratic Republic of Congo, the Republic of Congo, Indonesia and Peru) to enable, activate, amplify and accelerate the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of peatlands.

#### Q 60.D

- **Namdapha National Park is the largest protected area in the Eastern Himalaya biodiversity hotspot and is located in Arunachal Pradesh in Northeast India. It is the largest national park in India in terms of area. It is located in the Eastern Himalayan sub-region and is recognized as one of the richest areas in biodiversity in India. The park harbors the northernmost lowland evergreen rainforests in the world at 27°N latitude. The area is also known for extensive dipterocarp forests (species of mainly tropical lowland rainforest trees).**
- Because of many different vegetation zones, the park is home to a great diversity of mammal species. Four big cat species occur in the park: snow leopards, clouded leopards, common leopards, and tigers. Other large predators are dholes, wolves, and Asiatic black bears.
- Smaller carnivores include red panda, red fox, yellow-throated marten, Eurasian otter etc. Large herbivores are represented by elephants wild boar, forest musk deer, Indian muntjac, hog deer, sambar, gaur, common goral, mainland serow, takin, and bharal. Seven species of non-human primates including Stump-tailed macaque and Slow Loris, Hoolock Gibbons, Capped Langurs, Assamese Macaques, and Rhesus Macaques are found in this region.

#### Q 61.C

- **India recently banned the import of pet coke for use as fuel, but said shipments for use as feedstock in some industries was allowed. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Usage of pet coke, a dirtier alternative to coal, in the energy-hungry country has come under scrutiny due to rising pollution levels in major cities.
- **Import of pet coke is allowed for only cement, lime kiln, calcium carbide and gasification industries, when used as the feedstock or in the manufacturing process on actual user condition.**
- **As the world's largest consumer of pet coke,** India imports over half its annual pet coke consumption of about 27 million tonnes, mainly from the United States. Local producers include Indian Oil Corp, Reliance Industries and Bharat Petroleum Corp. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- Petcoke, which is a dark solid carbon material that emits 11 per cent more greenhouse gases than coal, according to the Carnegie-Tsinghua Center for Global Policy, but it has more **than twice the calorific value of coal and is widely used as an alternative to coal in power plants**, cement kilns and blast furnaces. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

#### Q 62.C

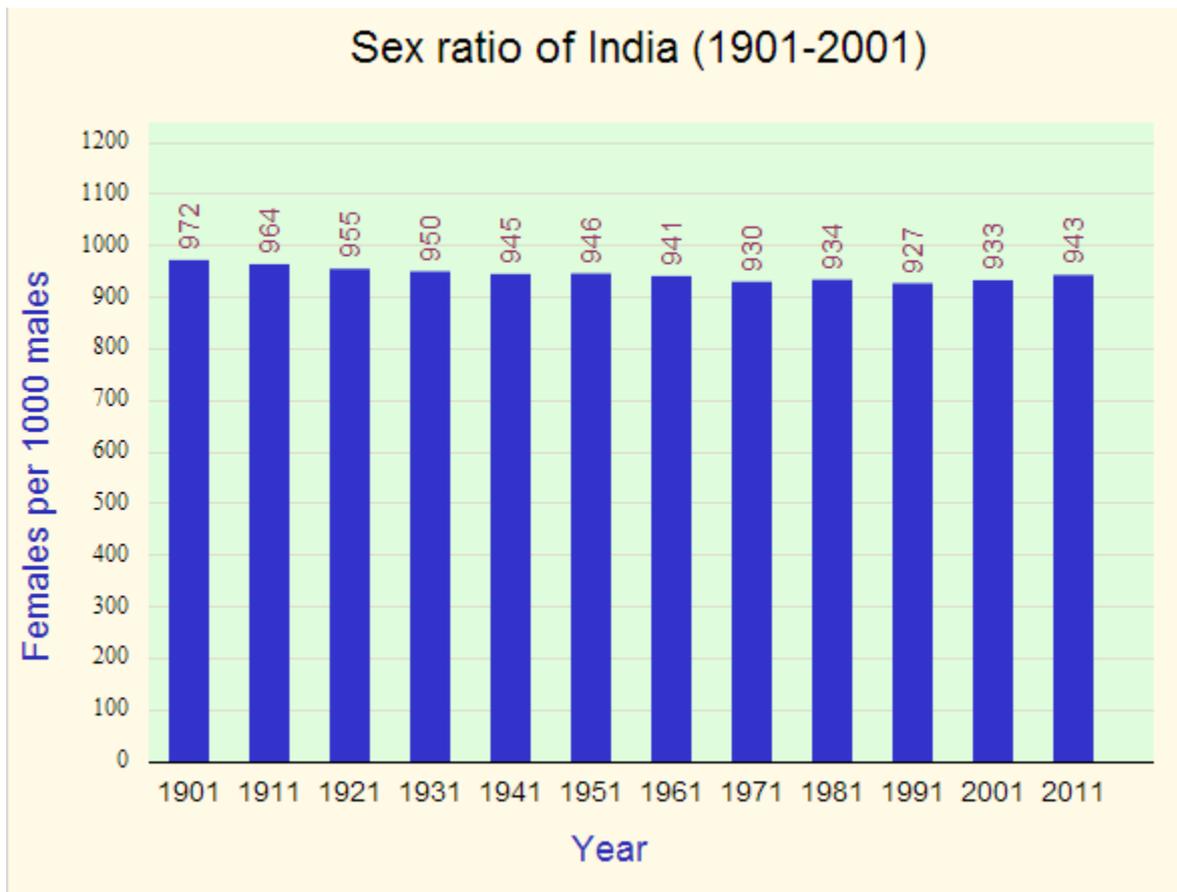
- **A plasma is a hot ionized gas consisting of approximately equal numbers of positively charged ions and negatively charged electrons.**
- The characteristics of plasmas are significantly different from those of ordinary neutral gases so that plasmas are considered a distinct "fourth state of matter."
- For example, because plasmas are made up of electrically charged particles, **they are strongly influenced by electric and magnetic fields** while neutral gases are not.
- An example of such influence is the trapping of energetic charged particles along geomagnetic field lines to form the Van Allen radiation belts.
- **It is estimated that 99% of the matter in the observable universe is in the plasma state.** Hence the expression "plasma universe." (The phrase "observable universe" is an important qualifier: roughly 90% of the mass of the universe is thought to be contained in "dark matter," the composition and state of which are unknown.)
- **Stars and the interstellar medium are examples of astrophysical plasmas. In our solar system, the Sun, the interplanetary medium, the magnetospheres and/or ionospheres of the Earth and other planets, as well as the ionospheres of comets and certain planetary moons all consist of plasmas.**

#### Q 63.D

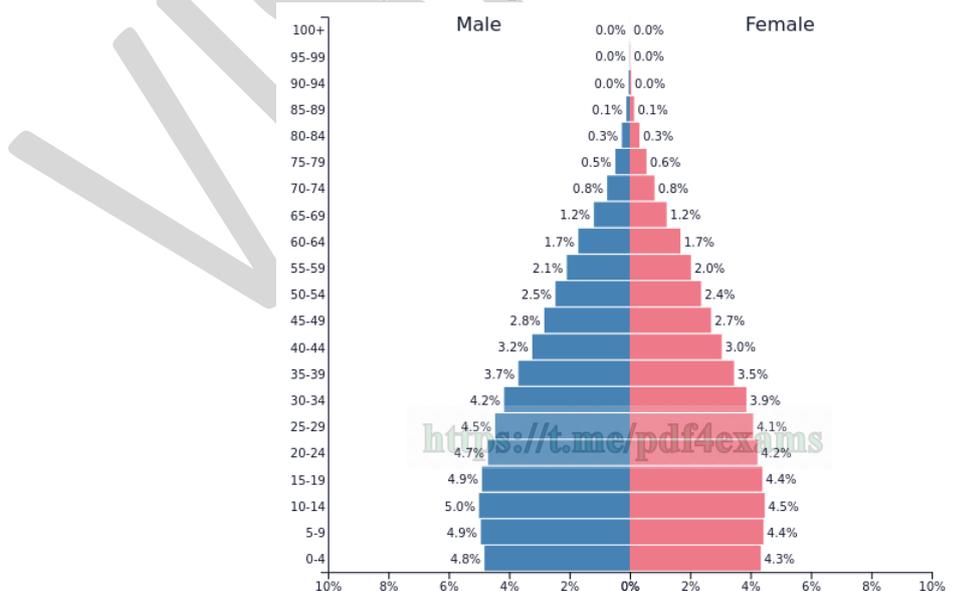
- **Mangi Tungi Hills** are the two hills of Sahyadri range having about 10 cave temples belonging to Jainism.
- They are near Teharabad village of Baglan tehsil in North Maharashtra.
- These two peaks have special significance in Jainism because around 990 million Digambar Jains achieved salvation on these two hills. Therefore, the area is called 'Siddha Kshetra' (gateway to the state of enlightenment).
- **Mangi Tungi is also the site of the 108-feet tall statue of Jain Tirthankar Bhagwan Rishabhdev. This is the tallest monolithic Jain statue in the world, erected in 2016. It is also known as Statue of Ahimsa. Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**
- **Gommateswar:** Gommateswar houses the 57-feet tall statue of Bahubali (Son of Lord Rishabhdev) at Sravan Belagola was the tallest single-rock Jain statue in the world.
- **Mount Abu:** The Dilwara Temples are located about 2½ kilometers from Mount Abu, Rajasthan's only hill station. These Jain temples were built by Vimal Shah and designed by Vastupala-Tejpal between the 11th and 13th centuries AD and are famous for their use of marble and intricate marble carvings.
- **Kumbhojgiri** is 35 km away from Kolhapur and has around 24 temples dedicated to Jain Tirthankaras within the complex, sacred to both Digambara and Svetambara sects.

#### Q 64.D

- Sex ratio is used to describe the number of females per 1000 of males. Sex ratio is a valuable source for finding the population of women in India and what is the ratio of women to that of men in India. In the Population Census of 2011 it was revealed that the population ratio in India 2011 is 940 females per 1000 males. The Sex Ratio 2011 shows an upward trend from the census 2001 data. Census 2001 revealed that there were 933 females to that of 1000 males. **Since decades India has seen a decrease in the sex ratio 2011, but since the last two of the decades there has been in slight increase in the sex ratio. Since the last five decades the sex ratio has been moving around 930 of females to that of 1000 males. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**



- **Age pyramid**
- An age-sex pyramid (also known as **population pyramids**) breaks down a country or location's population into male and female genders and age ranges. Usually, the left side of the pyramid represents the male population and the right side of the pyramid represents female population.
- Along the horizontal axis (x-axis) of a population pyramid, the graph displays population either as a total population of that age or a percentage of the population at that age. The center of the pyramid starts at zero population and extends out to the left for male and right for female in increasing size or proportion of the population. Along the vertical axis (y-axis), age-sex pyramids display five-year age increments, from birth at the bottom to old age at the top.



India - 2017  
Population: 1,342,512,705  
PopulationPyramid.net

As seen from graph, the age-structure of India is typically of developing country with **Broad base and tapering top**.

**Hence statement 1 is not correct.**

**According to census, 2011**

The Median age of India has continuously increased from 21 years (1951) to 25.2 in 2011 and 29 (by 2010).

**Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

#### Q 65.C

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces or INF treaty was signed between the US and USSR in 1987 as an arms control treaty.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The treaty was signed in 1987 while the Cuban Missile Crisis happened in 1962.
- **Statement 3 is correct** as the treaty eliminates all land-based ballistic and cruise missiles with short and intermediate range. The INF Treaty eliminated all of two nations' land-based ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, and missile launchers with ranges of 500–1,000 kilometers (short medium-range) and 1,000–5,500 km (intermediate-range). The treaty did not apply to air- or sea-launched missiles.
- The U.S. formally suspended the treaty on 1 February 2019, and Russia did so the following day.

#### Q 66.B

- **Additive manufacturing** uses computer-aided-design (CAD) software or 3D object scanners to direct hardware to deposit material, **layer upon layer**, in precise geometric shapes.
- **So, it refers to those technologies that grow three-dimensional objects one superfine layer at a time.** Each successive layer bonds to the preceding layer of melted or partially melted material.
- Although the terms "3D printing" and "rapid prototyping" are casually used to discuss additive manufacturing, each process is actually a subset of additive manufacturing.
- **It is possible to use different substances for layering material, including metal powder, thermoplastics, ceramics, composites, glass and even edibles like chocolate.**
- By contrast, when an object is manufactured by traditional means, it is often necessary to remove material through milling, machining, carving, shaping or other means.
- So, traditional manufacturing leads to high inventory costs of multiple parts that need to be produced and stored before being assembled. This makes the design phase complex and costly, rendering it expensive to redesign to correct initial mistakes or innovate to meet changing consumer needs.
- However, with additive manufacturing, it is possible for building the entire product in one go, with hollow interiors without assembly or interlocked parts. Changing features or tweaking shapes is also a simple software change effected in minutes. Retooling of machines is not required and each unit can be customised.
- By eliminating the need to hold a large inventory of parts, set up an assembly line and purchase costly machines, **additive manufacturing reduces capital and space requirements as well as the carbon footprint.**

#### Q 67.C

- National Security Architecture of India:
  - **Cabinet Committee on Security is chaired by the PM.** It is the apex body for executive action on matters of national security. It normally includes the Ministers of Defence, External Affairs, Home and Finance.
  - **Defense Planning Committee is headed by the National Security Adviser.** It has been set up to align National security needs and defense resources into one decision-making box.
  - **National Security Council is chaired by the National Security Advisor.** It is the top executive body of India which advises the Prime Minister's Office on matters of national security and strategic interests.

**Q 68.D**

- The objectives of setting up of payments banks will be to further financial inclusion by providing (i) small savings accounts and (ii) payments/remittance services to migrant labour workforce, low-income households, small businesses, other unorganised sector entities and other users. The minimum paid-up equity capital for payments banks shall be Rs. 100 crore.
- The scope of activities :
  - **Acceptance of demand deposits.** Payments bank will initially be restricted to holding a maximum balance of Rs. 100,000 per individual customer.
  - Issuance of ATM/debit cards. Payments banks, however, cannot issue credit cards.
  - **Payments and remittance services through various channels.**
  - **BC of another bank, subject to the Reserve Bank guidelines on BCs.**
  - Distribution of non-risk sharing simple financial products like mutual fund units and insurance products, etc.

**Q 69.A**

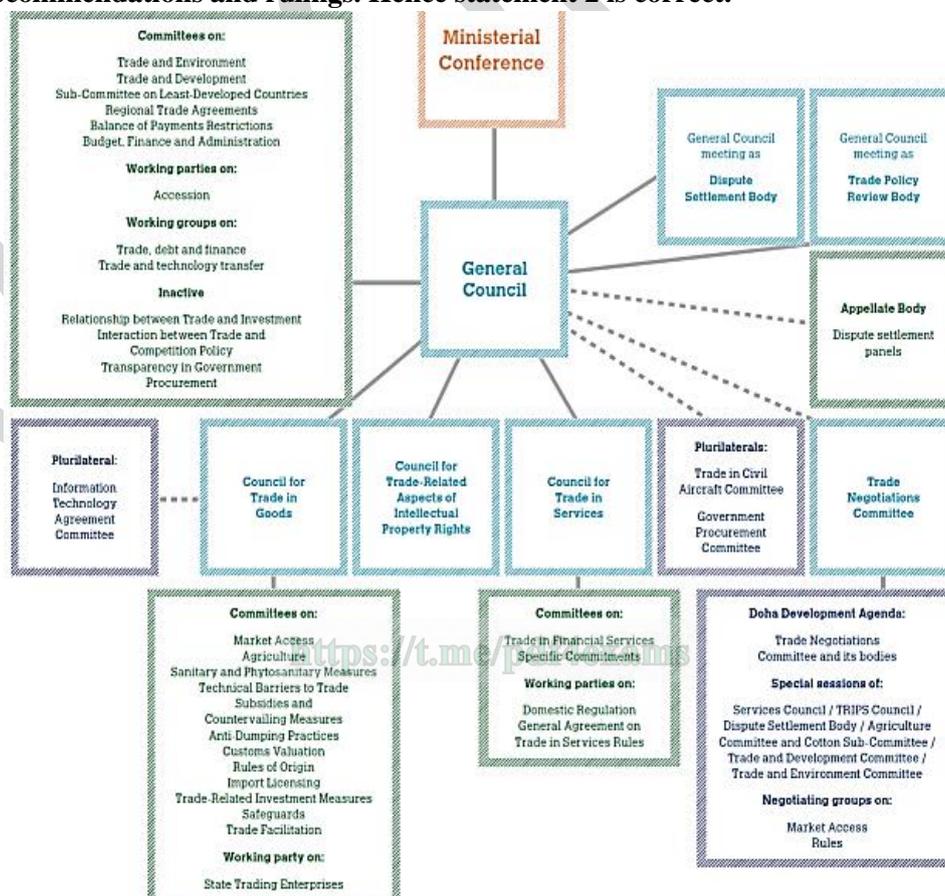
- Exim Bank was established by the Government of India. It commenced operations in 1982 under the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981 as a purveyor (dealer/seller) of export credit, mirroring global Export Credit Agencies. It is the apex financial institution for financing, facilitating and promoting India's international trade. The Bank primarily lends for exports from India including supporting overseas buyers and Indian suppliers for export of developmental and infrastructure projects, equipment, goods and services from India. It is regulated by RBI. **Hence statements 1 and 2 are correct.**
- It aims at:
  - Providing financial assistance to exporters and importers and functioning as the principal financial institution for coordinating the working of institutions engaged in financing export and import of goods and services with a view to promoting the country's international trade.
  - Act on business principles with due regard to public interest.
  - Providing government-backed loans, guarantees and insurance to ventures to do business overseas.
  - Empowers all the strata of society to hone their skills and create business opportunities overseas.
  - Offers a gamut of unique products and need-based services that boost Indian businesses across the globe.
- The basic objective of Export Promotion Councils is to promote and develop the exports of the country. Each Council is responsible for the promotion of a particular group of products, projects and services. Presently, there are fourteen Export Promotion Councils under the administrative control of the Department of Commerce. These Councils are registered as non-profit organizations under the Companies Act/ Societies Registration Act. The Councils perform both advisory and executive functions. The role and functions of these Councils are guided by the Foreign Trade Policy. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

**Q 70.D**

- A person who has been elected to the office of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker of the House of the People or the Deputy Chairman of the Council of States or the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council of a State or the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of a State, shall not be disqualified under tenth Schedule,—
  - if he, by reason of his election to such office, voluntarily gives up the membership of the political party to which he belonged immediately before such election and does not, so long as he continues to hold such office thereafter, rejoin that political party or become a member of another political party; or
  - if he, having given up by reason of his election to such office his membership of the political party to which he belonged immediately before such election, rejoins such political party after he ceases to hold such office.
- **But whenever the question arises that whether the Chairman or the Speaker of a House has become subject to such disqualification, the question shall be referred for the decision of such member of the House as the House may elect in this behalf and his decision shall be final.**

Q 71.C

- The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations. The goal is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably and freely as possible. The WTO was born out of negotiations, and everything the WTO does is the result of negotiations. The bulk of the WTO's current work comes from the 1986–94 negotiations called the Uruguay Round and earlier negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Its creation on 1 January 1995 marked the biggest reform of international trade since the end of the Second World War. India is one of the founding members of WTO.
- Organizational Structure of World Trade Organization (WTO):
  - **Ministerial Conference** -The topmost decision-making body of the WTO is the Ministerial Conference, which usually meets every two years. It brings together all members of the WTO, all of which are countries or customs unions. The Ministerial Conference can take decisions on all matters under any of the multilateral trade agreements. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - The General Council is the WTO's highest-level decision-making body in Geneva, meeting regularly to carry out the functions of the WTO. It has representatives (usually ambassadors or equivalent) from all member governments and has the authority to act on behalf of the ministerial conference which only meets about every two years. The current chair is Ambassador Sunanta KANGVALKULKIJ (Thailand).  
The General Council also meets, under different rules, as the Dispute Settlement Body and as the Trade Policy Review Body.
  - **As a Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) , the General Council deals with disputes between WTO members.** Such disputes may arise with respect to any agreement contained in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round that is subject to the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU). **The DSB has authority to establish dispute settlement panels, refer matters to arbitration, adopt panel, Appellate Body and arbitration reports, maintain surveillance over the implementation of recommendations and rulings contained in such reports, and authorize suspension of concessions in the event of non-compliance with those recommendations and rulings. Hence statement 2 is correct.**



**Q 72.B**

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** Spring tides are formed when the sun, the moon, and the earth are in a straight line. Neap tides are formed when the sun and the moon are at right angle to each other and the forces of the sun and the moon tend to counteract one another.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** When the moon's orbit is closest to earth (perigee), unusually high and low tides occur. During this time the tidal range is greater than normal. When the moon is farthest from earth (apogee), the moon's gravitational force is limited and the tidal ranges are less than their average heights. A similar phenomenon is observed when the earth is closest to the sun (perihelion) and when the earth the farthest from the sun (aphelion).

**Q 73.C**

- Article 20 of the Constitution grants protection against arbitrary and excessive punishment to an accused person. It confers the following three protection on all individuals:
  - No person shall be convicted of any offence except for violation of a law in force at the time of the commission of the act. And **no person can be given a punishment greater than what is provided in law on the date of commission of an offence.**
  - **No person can be prosecuted and punished for the same criminal offence more than once (Double jeopardy).**
  - No person accused of any offence shall be compelled to be a witness against himself.
- **Hence both the statements are correct.**

**Q 74.B**

- International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) is a international not-for-profit, non-governmental organization established in 1950. ICID is a professional network of experts from across the world in the field of irrigation, drainage, and flood management. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The primary aim of the organization is to promote 'Sustainable agriculture water management' to achieve 'Water secure world free of poverty and hunger through sustainable rural development'. It recognises the historical irrigation and/or drainage structure when fulfilling the some criterion as "Heritage Irrigation Structure" (HIS). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- A meeting of the International Executive Council, the highest decision making body of International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), at Saskatoon in Canada has accepted Telangana government's nomination of Sadarmatt anicut across river Godavari in Nirmal district and Pedda Cheruvu in Kamareddy district in the ICID Register of Heritage Irrigation Structures.

**Q 75.D**

- Achintya Bheda Abheda philosophy: It combines monism and dualism by stating that the soul is both distinct and non-distinct from Krishna or God. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The simultaneous existence of oneness and many-ness is called Acintya in Sanskrit, which means "inconceivable". Inconceivability implies that this aspect of reality is inconceivable to the human and finite mind. Chaitanya Mahaprabhu a medieval bhakti saint was associated with this Philosophy.
- It does not give emphasis on the eternality and infallibility of Vedas. **Hence statement 2 is not correct**
- It is a **sub-school of Vedanta philosophy** (which in turn is based on Upanishadic principals and hence the name Vedanta). **Hence statement 3 is correct**

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**Q 76.D**

- The Kaveri rises in Brahmagiri hills of Kogadu district in Karnataka.
- **Since the upper catchment area receives rainfall during the southwest monsoon season (summer) and the lower part during the northeast monsoon season (winter), the river carries water throughout the year with comparatively less fluctuation than other Peninsular rivers.**
- Its important tributaries are the Kabini, the Bhavani, and the Amravati.

**Q 77.D**

- In March 1927, the British Government announced its decision to appoint the “Statutory Commission” in advance of the prescribed date. None of the Indians were appointed in the commission and the promise of appeasing the Indian opinion seemed to be a bubble. **Hence Statement 3 is correct**
- The Congress Party decided to boycott the Commission at their session at Madras in 1927. The Muslim League led by M A Jinnah also boycotted it. **Hence Statement 1 is not correct.**
- Simon Commission did not recommend complete Indianisation of Police and bureaucracy. **Hence statement 2 is not correct**
- Recommendations:
  - There should be a constitutional reconstruction.
  - It would be a federal constitution.
  - The provinces should be given full autonomy including law.
  - The governor should have discretionary power to relate to internal security and administrative powers to protect the different communities.
  - The number of members of provincial legislative council should be increased. Governor general should have complete power to appoint the members of the cabinet.
  - The government of India should have complete control over the high court.

**Q 78.B**

- The **famine of 1876-78** had resulted from the failure of two monsoons. It covered an area of two lakh fifty thousand square miles and affected fifty-eight million people. The worst affected areas were Madras, Mysore, Hyderabad, Bombay, Central India, and Punjab. It took a toll of five million lives in a single year. The **first Famine Commission (1878-80) under Sir Richard Strachey** was appointed and it made many commendable recommendations. They include the provision of **funds for famine relief** and **construction work** in the annual budget. **The Famine Code** came into existence in 1883.

**Q 79.D**

- Bannerghatta National Park in Karnataka is home to a large number of species like the tiger, elephant, bonnet macaque etc.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Bannerghatta Biological Park is part of a wild-life corridor for elephants which connects the Biligiri Rangana Hills and the Sathya Mangalam Forest. The Bannerghatta Biological Park is a landmark with a connectivity with Talli Reserve Forest in the South-East and Bilikalli Forest in the South.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The beautiful Suvarnamukhi stream running through the park, originates in the Suvarnamukhi hills. These hills spread out to a huge rock, about a kilometre long. The Champaka Dhaama Swamy temple built in the Dravidian style of the Hoysala age, lies at the foot of the rock. The temple enshrines an image of Vishnu with his consorts Sridevi and Bhudevi.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Bannerghatta Butterfly Park is the first butterfly park in India, opened in 2006.

**Q 80.B**

- Recently, the Lok Sabha passed the The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (second amendment) Bill, 2017 to **abolish the ‘No- Detention’ policy in schools.**
- As per the amendment bill, regular examination will be held in Classes 5 and 8 and if a child fails there is a provision to give her additional opportunity to take a re-examination within two months. If she fails again in the re-examination, the relevant Central or State Government may decide to allow schools to detain the child.

**Q 81.B**

- As per the Interim Budget 2019-20, Expenditure of government in various sectors is as follows:
  - **Central Sector Schemes -12%**
  - **Interest payments - 18%**
  - **Defence - 8%**

- **Subsidies - 9%**
- Centrally Sponsored Schemes - 9%
- Finance commission & other transfers - 8%
- State's share of taxes and duties - 23%
- Pensions- 5%
- Other expenditures - 8%

**Hence option (b) is correct.**

#### Q 82.B

- The Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017 safeguards the rights of people living with HIV and affected by HIV. The Act addresses HIV-related discrimination, strengthens the existing programme by bringing in legal accountability, and establishes formal mechanisms for inquiring into complaints and redressing grievances. Some of the provisions of the Act are:
  - The Act provides that every HIV infected or affected person below the age of 18 years has the right to reside in a shared household and enjoy the facilities of the household. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - The Act also prohibits any individual from publishing information or advocating feelings of hatred against HIV positive persons and those living with them. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Act lists various grounds on which discrimination against HIV positive persons and those living with them is prohibited. These include the denial, termination, discontinuation or unfair treatment with regard to:
  - employment,
  - educational establishments,
  - health care services,
  - residing or renting property,
  - standing for public or private office, and
  - provision of insurance (unless based on actuarial studies).
- The Act prohibits the requirement of HIV testing as a pre-requisite for obtaining employment or accessing health care or education. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.** Every person in the care and custody of the state shall have right to HIV prevention, testing, treatment and counseling services.

#### Q 83.C

- **The Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park at Wandoor is at a distance of 29 Kms from Port Blair (Andaman and Nicobar Island)** and covers an area of 281.5 Sqr. Kms. This Marine Park comprises of open sea, creeks and 15 small and large islands.
- Gahirmatha is the lone mass nesting spot of Olive ridley turtle in the Indian Ocean region and the only turtle sanctuary in Odisha. **Gahirmatha was declared a turtle sanctuary in 1997 by Odisha government** after considering its ecological importance and as part of efforts to save the sea turtles. The Olive Ridley turtles travel across the South Pacific to breed on the coast of Gahirmatha.
- The **marine biodiversity in the Malvan region** has been reported to be relatively rich and hence the Government of **Maharashtra** has declared part of Malvan coastal waters as Marine Sanctuaries in 1987. The total area of marine Sanctuary is about 29.12 sq.km.

#### Q 84.D

- The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 seeks to protect women from sexual harassment at their place of work. The Act defines sexual harassment at the workplace and creates a mechanism for redressal of complaints. The definition of "aggrieved woman," who will get protection under the Act, is extremely wide to cover all women, irrespective of their age or employment status and **whether in the organized or unorganized sectors**, public or private and covers clients, customers and domestic workers as well.
- The Act covers concepts of quid pro quo harassment and hostile work environment as forms of sexual harassment if they occur in connection with an act or behaviour of sexual harassment.

- An internal complaints committee (ICC) is **mandatory in every private or public organisation that has 10 or more employees**. The Internal Complaints Committee has been given powers of a civil court for summoning, discovery and production of documents etc. Each Internal Committee requires membership from an NGO or association committed to the cause of women.
- **It also provides safeguards against false or malicious charges.**
- **Hence, all the given statements are correct.**

#### Q 85.C

- **Zearalenone is a fungal toxin infesting cereals such as wheat, maize and barley.** It attacks crops while they are growing, but can also develop when cereals are stored without being dried fully.
- Fungal toxins are commonly found in food, and can be a public health concern. India regulates the levels of some of these, including aflatoxin, deoxynivalenol, ergot and patulin. The first three infest cereals, while patulin is found in apples. Each of these toxins has been associated with disease outbreaks.
- A vast amount of data shows that zearalenone is an oestrogen mimic. By behaving like this female sex hormone(oestrogen), it can cause infertility and other diseases in animals. Levels of zearlanenone have been correlated with breast and endometrial cancer in some studies, but not in others.
- A recent study(Journal of Food Science) detected zearalenone in wheat, rice, corn and oats from markets in Uttar Pradesh. The study, by researchers from Lucknow's Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (IITR), found the substance in 70 of the 117 samples tested.
- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India does not impose maximum limits for zearalenone, though the European Union (EU) does.

#### Q 86.B

- Real estate (Regulation and Development ) Act, 2016 is enacted to establish the Real Estate Regulatory Authority for regulation and promotion of the real estate sector and to ensure sale of plot, apartment or building, as the case may be, or sale of real estate project, in an efficient and transparent manner and to protect the interest of consumers in the real estate sector and to establish an adjudicating mechanism for speedy dispute redressal and also to establish the Appellate Tribunal to hear appeals from the decisions, directions or orders of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority and the adjudicating officer and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. It extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- RERA seeks to address issues like delays, price, quality of construction, title and other changes. The promoter of a real estate development firm has to maintain a separate escrow account for each of their projects. A minimum of 70 percent of the money from investors and buyers will have to be deposited. If the developer does not hand over the project on the date as mentioned in the agreement then the buyer has the right to withdraw from the project. Further, the buyer can claim the entire amount along with the interest. But if the buyer does not withdraw then he has the right to be compensated with interest for every month of delay. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Buyers have been given elaborate rights like the right to receive the information, copies of sanction plans, approvals, right to receive compensation against misrepresentation or unfair practices, for delays in handing over possession etc. Stringent penalties on developer up to 10% of the estimated cost of the project and/or imprisonment up to 3 years have been provided for violation of various provisions of the Act. The penalties on Real Estate Agents and Customers for non-adherence to the provisions of the Act also are equally stringent considering their obligations. A speedy complaint redressal mechanism has been established under RERA. Regulator/Adjudication officer of the Regulator has been empowered to look into complaints from customers or suo moto on the violations of the Act. Real Estate Appellate Tribunal (REAT) are to be established for quicker disposal of appeals. A 60 days period is defined for redressals. This should enable a focused platform for real estate dispute redressal instead of consumer forums /courts etc where they are clubbed with many other consumer disputes. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

**Q 87.A**

- Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal had recently withdrawn the “general consent” granted to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), effectively curtailing the agency’s powers in the States without prior permission.
- **Given that the CBI has jurisdiction only over central government departments and employees, it can investigate a case involving state government employees or a violent crime in a given state only after that state government gives its consent. Thus, it gets a general consent instead of a case-specific consent to avoid taking permission each time.**
- The general consent is normally given for periods ranging from six months to a year.

**Q 88.D**

- The call money market (CMM) the market where overnight (one day) loans can be availed by banks to meet liquidity. Banks who seeks to avail liquidity approaches the call market as borrowers and the ones who have excess liquidity participate there as lenders. The CMM is functional from Monday to Friday. Banks can access CMM to meet their reserve requirements (CRR and SLR) or to cover a sudden shortfall in cash on any particular day. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- Participants in the call money market are banks and related entities specified by the RBI. Scheduled commercial banks (excluding RRBs), co-operative banks (other than Land Development Banks) and Primary Dealers (PDs), are permitted to participate in call/notice money market both as borrowers and lenders. As per the new regulations, Payment Banks are also allowed to participate in CMM as both lenders and borrowers. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

**Q 89.A**

- **Mricchakatika: The Mricchakatika (the clay-cart) by Sudraka** (248 A.D.) presents a remarkable social drama with touches of grim reality. The play is set in the ancient city of Ujjayini during the reign of the King Palaka, near the end of the Pradyota dynasty that made up the first quarter of the fifth century BC. The central story is that of a noble but impoverished young Brahmin **Charudatta**, who falls in love with a wealthy courtesan or nagarvadhu, Vasantasena. The characters are drawn from all strata of society, which include thieves and gamblers, rogues and idlers, courtesans and their associates, police constables, mendicants and politicians. In Act III an interesting account of a burglary is given in which **stealing is treated as a regular art**. The interlinking of a **political revolution with the private affairs of the two lovers** adds a new charm to the play.
- **Kumarasambhava:** Kumarasambhava, (meaning Birth of Kumara) an epic poem by **Kalidasa** was written in the 5th century CE. The work describes the courting of the ascetic Shiva, who is meditating in the mountains, by Parvati, the daughter of the Himalayas; the conflagration of Kama (the god of desire)—after his arrow struck Shiva—by the fire from Shiva’s third eye; the wedding and lovemaking of Shiva and Parvati; and the subsequent birth of Kumara (Skanda), the war god.
- **Vikramorvasiya:** Vikramorvasiya ( meaning Urvashi Won by Valour ) is a five-act Sanskrit play by **Kalidasa** who flourished in the 4th Century CE, on the Vedic love story of king Pururavas and an Apsara, a celestial nymph named Urvashi.
- **Meghaduta:** It was written by **Kalidasa**. In this narrative lyric poem, the poet makes a cloud a messenger to tell the story of two lovers who are separated. This is also quite in keeping with the sublime conception of love, which looks dark in separation, like a black cloud with a silver lining.

**Q 90.D**

- The Global Commission on the Economy and Climate is a major international initiative to examine how countries can achieve economic growth while dealing with the risks posed by climate change. The Commission was commissioned by seven countries – Colombia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Norway, South Korea, Sweden and the United Kingdom – as an independent initiative to report to the international community. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Commission comprises former heads of government and finance ministers and leaders in the fields of economics and business. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

- The New Climate Economy (NCE) is the Commission's flagship project. It provides independent and authoritative evidence on the relationship between actions which can strengthen economic performance and those which reduce the risk of dangerous climate change. In September 2018, The New Climate Economy (NCE) Commission's flagship project released its latest report, *Unlocking the Inclusive Growth Story of the 21st Century: Accelerating Climate Action in Urgent Times*. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

#### Q 91.D

- The Ganges River dolphin **inhabits the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems of Nepal, India, and Bangladesh.**
- The Ganges Dolphin is among the four freshwater dolphins found in the world – the other three are found in the Yangtze River (China), the 'bhulan' of the Indus (Pakistan) and the 'boto' of the Amazon River (Latin America).
- **It is National Aquatic animal of India.**
- It has been categorised as endangered on the Red List of Threatened Species by the IUCN. It is also **protected under the Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act (1972).**
- A long thin snout, rounded belly and large flippers are characteristics of the Ganges River dolphin. It is a mammal and cannot breathe in the water and must surface every 30-120 seconds. Because of the sound it produces when breathing, the animal is popularly referred to as the 'Susu'.
- **Hence, all the given statements are correct.**

#### Q 92.C

- Kasuti is a hand-woven variety of embroidery of Dharwar district of Karnataka. Basically found in the Silk pallus, Kasuti embroidery consists of interwoven geometric patterns that make up for this interesting design. It has mostly been adapted from the temple designs and architectural musings of the surroundings. **Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- Phulkari, which literally translates into 'flower work', has a history etched in the culture of Punjab. Spun from the charkha this spectacular style of embroidery is patterned on odinis, shawls, kurtis and chunris. **Hence pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- The craft of Chikan work, often referred to as Lucknow Chikan, is over 400 years old with a firm presence in the Indian and global fashion arena. The technique of its creation is called Chikankari and its unique sensibility flaunts grace and elegance as subtly as the wearer pleases. **Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.**

#### Q 93.C

- **Eka movement:** Towards the end of 1921, peasant discontent surfaced in some northern districts of the **United Provinces—Hardoi, Bahraich, Sitapur**. The issues involved were high rents, oppression of thikadars in charge of revenue collection and practice of share - rents. The meetings of the Eka or the Unity Movement involved a symbolic religious ritual in which the assembled peasants vowed that they would pay only the recorded rent but would pay it on time. The grassroots leadership of the Eka Movement came from **Madari Pasi** and other low-caste leaders, and many small zamindars.
- **Tebhaga movement:** In September 1946, the **Bengal Provincial Kisan Sabha** gave a call to implement, through mass struggle, the **Flood Commission** recommendations of **tebhaga - two-third share** to the bargardars, the share-croppers also known as bagchasi or adhyar, instead of the one - half share. The communist cadres, including many urban student militias went to the countryside to organise the bargardars. The central slogan was "**nij khamare dhan tolo**" - i.e., sharecroppers taking the paddy to their own threshing floor and not to the jotedar's house, as before, so as to enforce tebhaga.
- **Mappila Revolt:** The Mappilas were the Muslim tenants inhabiting the **Malabar region** where most of the landlords were Hindus. The Mappilas had expressed their resentment against the oppression of the landlords. Their grievances centered around **lack of security of tenure, high rents, renewal fees, and other oppressive exactions**. Things took a turn for the worse in August 1921 when the arrest of a

respected priest leader, **Ali Musaliar**, sparked off large-scale riots. Initially, the symbols of British authority - courts, police stations, treasuries and offices and unpopular landlords (enemies who were mostly Hindus) were the targets. Many Hindus were seen by the Mappilas to be helping the authorities. What began as an anti-government and anti-landlord affair **acquired communal overtones**.

#### Q 94.A

- **Centralized Public Grievance Redress And Monitoring System (CPGRAMS)** is an online web-enabled system which primarily aims to enable submission of grievances by the aggrieved citizens from anywhere and anytime (24x7) basis to Ministries/Departments/Organisations who scrutinize and take action for speedy and favorable redress of these grievances.
- Tracking grievances is also facilitated on this portal through the system generated unique registration number.
- Issues which are not taken up for redress
  - **Subjudice cases or any matter concerning judgment given by any court.**
  - **Personal and family disputes.**
  - **RTI matters.**
  - Anything that impacts upon territorial integrity of the country or friendly relations with other countries.
  - Suggestions.

#### Q 95.D

- A mixture contains two or more pure substances that are not bonded together. They retain their own properties, such as color, boiling point, etc.
- There are two types of mixtures: mixtures in which the substances are evenly mixed together (called a solution) and a mixture in which the substances are not evenly mixed (called a heterogeneous mixture).
- Solutions carry the same properties throughout. A solution has a solvent and a solute as its components.
- The component of the solution that dissolves the other component in it (usually the component present in larger amount) is called the solvent. The component of the solution that is dissolved in the solvent (usually present in lesser quantity) is called the solute. For example, a **solution of iodine in alcohol known as 'tincture of iodine'**, has iodine (solid) as the solute and alcohol (liquid) as the solvent.
- **Colloids** and suspensions are heterogeneous mixtures. Colloids are mixtures in which the size of the particles is between  $1 \times 10^{-9} \text{m}$  and  $1 \times 10^{-6} \text{m}$  - between 10 and 1000 times smaller than a small grain. These particles are still much bigger than the particles in a solution.
- A common example of a colloid is **milk**. One way to tell that milk is a colloid is by the Tyndall effect. The Tyndall effect is the scattering of light by particles. This involves shining a light through the mixture: when the light is shined through a colloid, the light does not go straight through, but has a cloudy appearance. Because light is not allowed to pass through the mixture, the mixture is considered a colloid. When light is passed through a solution, the particles are so small that they do not obstruct the light. However, when light is passed through a colloid, since the particles are larger, they will act as an obstruction to the light and the light is scattered.
- The particles in a colloid, while able to scatter light, are still small enough so that they do not settle out of solution.
- On the other hand, suspensions are mixtures which contain even bigger particles than solutions or colloids do. In suspensions, particles settle into layers within a container if they are left standing. This means that the particles in a suspension are large enough so that gravity pulls them out of solution. With suspensions, filtration can usually be used to separate the excess particles from the solution.
- **Apple juice** doesn't separate into layers like suspensions do, but apple juice will let light through so it is a solution and not a colloid.

#### Q 96.D

- **NASA is targeting 2024 for the launch of a new mission, Interstellar Mapping and Acceleration Probe (IMAP) to learn more about the generation of cosmic rays in the heliosphere**, (a sort of

magnetic bubble surrounding and protecting our solar system) and better understand the boundary of the heliosphere. Cosmic rays created locally and from the galaxy and beyond affect human explorers in space and can harm technological systems, and likely play a role in the presence of life itself in the universe.

- Heliosphere is the region where the constant flow of particles from our Sun, called the solar wind, collides with material from the rest of the galaxy. The spacecraft will be positioned about 1.5 million kilometres away from Earth towards the Sun at what is called the first Lagrange point or L1.

#### Q 97.A

- **Cloud seeding or weather modification is an artificial way to induce moisture in the clouds so as to cause rainfall. In this process, either silver iodide or dry ice is dumped onto the clouds by using an aircraft or an artillery gun which leads to a rain shower.** After some research, hygroscopic materials like table salt are being increasingly used.

#### Q 98.D

- **E.V. Ramasamy Naicker**, popularly known as Periyar (Great Sage), was born in a family of well-off artisans. Wandering all over India, particularly the Hindu pilgrimage centers, he experienced the 'evils' of Hinduism and the priestly exploitations.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** To Naicker, Hinduism was a tool of **Brahminical domination** and the Brahmins epitomised Hindu arrogance and perpetrated social injustice. Naicker's methods of struggle included the destruction of the images of Hindu deities such as Rama and Ganesha. According to Periyar, "Rama and Sita are despicable characters, not worthy of imitation and admiration even by the lowest of fourth-rate humans." Ravana (a Dravidian hero presented as a demon in the north), on the other hand, is depicted as a Dravidian of "excellent" character.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Naicker was active in the Congress-led freedom struggle for sometime. He **participated in the non-cooperation movement, offered satyagraha and defended khadi.** Protesting **against the Brahmanical dominance** in high politics, he quit Congress and developed Dravidian cultural alternatives to the prevailing hegemonic Brahminical culture. In 1925, he organized the "**Self Respect Movement**", **designed as Dravidian Uplift**, seeking to expose Brahminical tyranny and the deceptive methods by which they controlled all spheres of Hindu life.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** In 1939, Naicker organized the "**Dravida Nadu Conference**" for the advocacy of a separate and independent **Dravidasthan**. The demand was again reiterated the following year in response to the Lahore resolution demanding Pakistan passed by the Muslim League. Naicker gave **full support to the scheme for Pakistan** and tried to enlist support for the creation of a Dravidasthan.

#### Q 99.D

- Although Sher Shah rule lasted for five years, he organized a brilliant administrative system. The central government consisted of several departments. The king was assisted by four important ministers:
  - **Diwan –i- Wizarat – also called as Wazir - in charge of Revenue and Finance.**
  - **Diwan-i-Ariz – in charge of Army.**
  - Diwan-i-Rasalat- Foreign Minister.
  - Diwan-i-Insha- Minister for Communications.

**Hence only pair 2 and 3 are correctly matched.**

#### Q 100.C

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- SGBs are government securities denominated in grams of gold. They are substitutes for holding physical gold. Investors have to pay the issue price in cash and the bonds will be redeemed in cash on maturity.
- Sovereign gold bonds will be issued by Reserve Bank India on behalf of the Government of India. The Bonds will be restricted for sale to resident entities including individuals, HUFs, Trusts, Universities and Charitable Institutions. **Hence statements 1 and 2 are correct.**