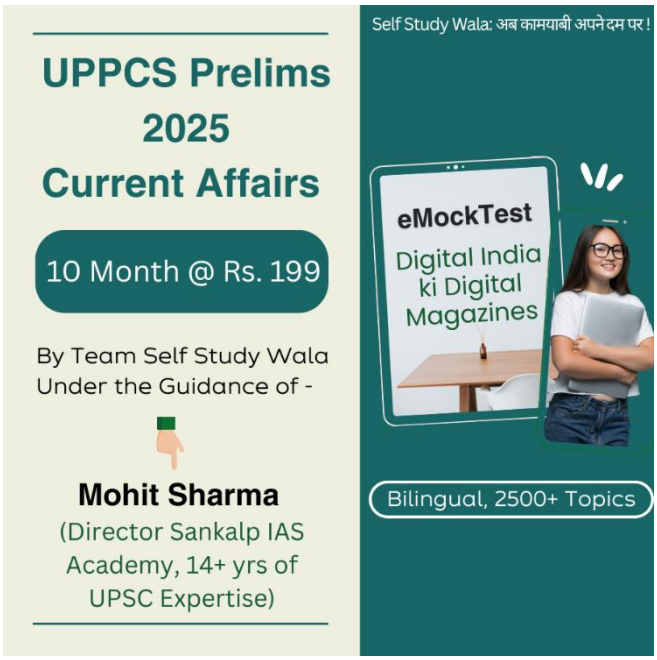
UPPCS Prelims 2025 Test 4 (Solution) – Current Affairs (Nov + Dec) (SSW - 8077834630)



Question 1. Which of the following states has become the first state to classify heatwave as a State-Specific Disaster to enable relief from SDRF?

(a) Rajasthan

(b) Tamil Nadu

(c) Uttar Pradesh

(d) Bihar

Answer - (b)

Explanation – Tamil Nadu became the **first state** to classify heatwave as a State-Specific Disaster in 2024, enabling the use of SDRF funds for relief. This was necessary as the Centre does not recognize heatwave as a natural disaster.

Question 2. Consider the following statements:

1. New Pamban Bridge is India's first vertical lift sea railway bridge.
2. It connects Rameshwaram to mainland India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Both statements are true. The New Pamban Bridge is India's first vertical lift sea railway bridge, spanning 2.07 km and linking the mainland to Rameshwaram.

Why in News: The New Pamban Bridge, under construction in Tamil Nadu, is being developed as India's first vertical lift sea railway bridge, expected to open by mid-2025.

Question 3. Match the following:

A. WOH G64 – 1. Milky Way Galaxy

B. ATACMS – 2. Kabul Government

C. Chonkus – 3. Lockheed Martin

D. Raja Mahendra Pratap – 4. Cyanobacteria

Code:

(a) A-1, B-4, C-3, D-2

(b) A-1, B-3, C-4, D-2

(c) A-4, B-2, C-1, D-3

(d) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Answer - (b)

Explanation –

- WOH G64 is a massive star outside the Milky Way (Large Magellanic Cloud),
- ATACMS is a US missile system by Lockheed Martin,
- Chonkus is a newly discovered cyanobacteria strain,
- Raja Mahendra Pratap declared a provisional government in Kabul in 1915.

Question 4. Consider the following statements regarding the newly discovered fortified city Al-Natah in Saudi Arabia:

1. It is believed to be over 4,000 years old.
2. It is located in a desert oasis called Khyber.
3. It has a 14.5 km long wall indicating organized settlement.

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

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Answer - (d)

Explanation – The Al-Nataḥ site, discovered in Saudi Arabia's Khyber oasis, is a 4,000-year-old fortified urban settlement with a 14.5 km-long enclosing wall, suggesting planned habitation.

Why in News: In 2024, Saudi Arabia discovered Al-Nataḥ, an ancient urban settlement in Khyber Oasis, dating back 4,000 years.

Question 5. Which of the following is not correctly matched?

Discovery/Initiative – Purpose

(a) One Day One Genome – Showcase microbial diversity

(b) Chonkus Cyanobacteria – Carbon absorption to fight climate change

(c) PyPIM – Enhances CPU dependency in computing

(d) First in the World Challenge – Promote innovative health tech

Answer - (c)

Explanation – PyPIM reduces CPU dependency by processing data directly in memory (PIM – Processing In Memory). Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

Question 6. Consider the following statements regarding UP's GeM adoption:

1. Uttar Pradesh is the first state to completely adopt GeM.
2. The platform has helped the state save ₹5000 crore annually.
3. Government purchases are now done through GeM for improved transparency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) Only 1

(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer - (b)

Explanation – All statements are true. UP is the first state to fully adopt Government e-Marketplace (GeM), ensuring transparency and significant cost savings in procurement. The platform has helped the state save ₹2000 crore annually.

Why in News: In 2024, Uttar Pradesh became the first state to fully implement GeM (Government e-Marketplace) across all departments.

Question 7. Which of the following is true about the new district created in Prayagraj for Kumbh 2025?

(a) It will exist permanently as UP's 76th district.

(b) Kumbh Mela district includes 5 tehsils from the Prayagraj division of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) It will remain active only between Dec 1, 2024, and Mar 31, 2025.

(d) Vijay Kiran Anand was appointed the first CM of the district.

Answer - (c)

Explanation – The temporary district for Kumbh will exist from 1 December 2024 to 31 March 2025 to manage administrative affairs. Vijay Kiran Anand was appointed District Magistrate, not CM.

The newly created "Kumbh District" for the management of the Kumbh Mela includes the following three tehsils from the Prayagraj division of Uttar Pradesh:

- Phulpur
- Koraon
- Jasra

Question 8. Choose the true statement from the following regarding the UNESCO-listed Kumbh Mela:

(a) It is organized every 12 years at only one fixed location.

(b) Mahakumbh is celebrated every 144 years only in Haridwar.

(c) Magh Kumbh is held annually in Prayagraj.

(d) Ardh Kumbh is celebrated every 4 years in Ujjain and Nashik.

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Magh Kumbh is held annually in Prayagraj during the Hindu month of Magh. Ardh Kumbh is every 6 years in Prayagraj and Haridwar only. Kumbh is every 12 years in Prayagraj (Uttar Pradesh), Haridwar (Uttarakhand), Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh), and Nashik (Maharashtra). Mahakumbh is every 144 years in Prayagraj only.

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Question 9. Which of the following statements about Pilibhit Tiger Reserve of UP is incorrect?

(a) It won the TX2 Award in 2020

(b) It is part of Terai Arc Landscape

(c) It was established in 2012

(d) Core Zone access is restricted to official vehicles only

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Pilibhit Tiger Reserve was notified in 2014, not 2012. Amangarh Tiger Reserve was established in 2012. All other statements are correct.

Question 10. Which of the following is correctly matched?

Event – Year

(a) Chandousi Baoli discovery – 2022

(b) Sambhal Jama Masjid violence – November 2024

(c) Agra Hammam protected site status – 2020

(d) Hastinapur declared Iconic Site – 2011

Answer - (b)

Explanation – The Sambhal Jama Masjid survey led to violence on November 2024.

Chandousi Baoli was discovered in December 2024.

Agra Hammam was protected in 2024 by court.

Hastinapur was declared Iconic Site in 2021.

Question 11. Consider the following statements regarding the UP Supplementary Budget 2024–25:

1. The budget was ₹17,865.72 crore, about 2.42% of the main budget.
2. Major allocation was made to Energy, Finance, and Education sectors.
3. Unemployment rate fell from 19% in 2012 to 2.4% in 2024.

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

Answer - (d)

Explanation – All three statements are correct as per the data provided in the supplementary budget presented by UP government in 2024–25.

Why in News: In November 2024, the UP government presented a supplementary budget of ₹17,865.72 crore, which is about 2.42% of the ₹7.36 lakh crore main budget.

Question 12. Choose the incorrect statement from the following:

(a) PyPIM technology helps bypass CPU for direct memory processing.

(b) Chonkus cyanobacteria is found in Himalayan glacial water.

(c) ATACMS is a surface-to-surface missile made by Lockheed Martin.

(d) One Day One Genome initiative aims to showcase microbial potential.

Answer - (b)

Explanation – Chonkus cyanobacteria was discovered near Volcano Island in Italy, not in the Himalayas. All other statements are correct.

Why in News: In 2024, Chonkus cyanobacteria was discovered near Volcano Island, Italy.

Question 13. Consider the following statements:

1. Sambhal's Jama Masjid is among three mosques reportedly built under Babur's orders.
2. ASI has declared it a protected heritage site.
3. The mosque was built by Jahangir Quli Khan in 1620.

Choose the correct Answer:

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) Only 3

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer - (a)

Explanation –

Statements 1 and 2 are correct.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The mosque was built on Babur's orders in 1526 by Jahangir Quli Khan, not in 1620.

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Question 14. Which of the following is the correct feature of PyPIM Platform recently developed by Israel?

(a) It boosts RAM power for gaming applications.

(b) It bypasses CPU to allow direct data processing in memory.

(c) It links Java with Processing-In-Memory systems.

(d) It enables facial recognition using GPU acceleration.

Answer - (b)

Explanation – PyPIM integrates Python with PIM (Processing-In-Memory) technology to process data directly in memory, reducing CPU dependency and solving the memory wall problem.

Why in News: PyPIM was launched in 2024 by Israeli researchers to demonstrate Processing-In-Memory (PIM) through Python, enabling faster and energy-efficient computing by bypassing the CPU.

Question 15. Which of the following statements about Iran's satellite launches is/are true?

1. Kausar and Hodhod were launched by a Russian Soyuz rocket.
2. These satellites mark Iran's first ever space entry.
3. Russia and Iran are strengthening ties despite global criticism.

Select the correct Answer:

(a) Only 1

(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer - (b)

Explanation – Iran had earlier launched satellites like Khayyam and Pars-1 before Kausar and Hodhod. So, statement 2 is incorrect. Statements 1 and 3 are correct.

Why in News: In early November 2024, Russia launched Iranian satellites Kausar and Hodhod aboard a Soyuz rocket.

Question 16. Which of the following was a major reason for Ayodhya surpassing Taj Mahal in tourist footfall during Jan–Sept 2024?

(a) Global Buddhist tourism promotion

(b) Inauguration of Ram Mandir and rise in religious tourism

(c) Hosting of G20 Tourism Track

(d) Kumbh Mela pre-event promotions

Answer - (b)

Explanation – Ayodhya attracted 135.5 million domestic tourists due to the Ram Mandir inauguration, surpassing Taj Mahal's 125.1 million (domestic + foreign).

Why in News: In 2024, Ayodhya recorded 135.5 million domestic tourists, outpacing the Taj Mahal (125.1 million), primarily due to the inauguration of the Ram Mandir, making it a religious tourism hub.

Question 17. Choose the true statement about UP's AI City project:

(a) It has been inaugurated in Noida to boost 5G applications.

(b) It is the first AI City planned in India, proposed in Lucknow.

(c) It was launched under the National Supercomputing Mission.

(d) It will only cater to agricultural AI startups.

Answer - (b)

Explanation – UP government proposed India's first AI City in Lucknow to promote AI startups, innovation clusters, and a tech ecosystem.

Why in News: In October 2024, Uttar Pradesh announced India's first AI City, proposed in Lucknow, to host AI startups, data centers, and research labs, aiming to build a tech-driven economy.

Question 18. Which country has been re-elected to the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission for the 2025–26 term?

(a) India

(b) China

(c) Brazil

(d) Russia

Answer - (a)

Explanation – India has been re-elected to the UN Peacebuilding Commission for 2025–2026.

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India is a founding member and plays an active role in global peace initiatives.

Why in News: In December 2024, India was re-elected to the UN Peacebuilding Commission for the 2025–26 term, continuing its role in global conflict resolution and peacebuilding.

Question 19. Consider the following statements regarding the MACE telescope:

1. It is the world's highest imaging Cherenkov telescope.
2. It is located in Hanle, Ladakh.
3. It studies gamma rays above 20 billion eV.

Which of the above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer - (d)

Explanation – All statements are correct. MACE is the highest imaging Cherenkov telescope located in Hanle, Ladakh, and studies ultra-high-energy gamma rays.

Question 20. Which of the following is NOT a country where One Stop Centres for Indian women have been established?

(a) Qatar

(b) UAE

(c) Germany

(d) Kuwait

Answer - (c)

Explanation – One Stop Centres have been established in Gulf countries and select places like Toronto and Singapore. Germany is not among them.

Why in News: In 2024, India expanded its One Stop Centres for Indian women in UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Toronto, and Singapore. Germany is not included, hence the correct answer.

Question 21. Which of the following are objectives of the "Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat" campaign launched in November 2024?

1. Promoting girls' education and skill development
2. Launch of a national portal to report child marriages
3. Ending school dropouts due to early marriage

Select the correct Answer using the code below:

(a) Only 1 and 2

(b) Only 2 and 3

(c) Only 1 and 3

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer - (d)

Explanation – The campaign focuses on empowering girls via education, skills, entrepreneurship, and awareness. It includes a national portal and aims to reduce child marriages and dropouts.

Why in News: The Government of India launched the "Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat" campaign in November 2024 to:

- Encourage girls' education,
- Enable reporting via a national portal, and
- Address early school dropouts due to child marriage.

Question 22. Choose the incorrect statement regarding PAN 2.0:

(a) PAN 2.0 will be paperless and fully online.

(b) PAN 2.0 services are only available for new applicants.

(c) e-PANs will be sent to registered emails.

(d) Existing PAN holders need not apply again.

Answer - (b)

Explanation – PAN 2.0 is applicable to all, including existing PAN holders, and they don't need to reapply. Option (b) is incorrect.

Question 23. Consider the following statements:

1. SAREX-24 was hosted in Kochi by Indian Coast Guard.
2. Its theme was enhancing search and rescue via regional cooperation.
3. It was jointly conducted with ASEAN secretariat.

Which of the above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) Only 2 and 3

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

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Answer - (a)

Explanation – SAREX-24 was organized in Kochi with the theme of regional cooperation in Search and Rescue (SAR) operations. ASEAN was not officially part of the hosting.

Why in News: In October 2024, SAREX-24 (Search and Rescue Exercise) was held in Kochi by the Indian Coast Guard, with participation from littoral nations, but not ASEAN officially. Theme: "Regional SAR cooperation."

Question 24. Assertion (A): India improved its rank by 11 places in Network Readiness Index 2024.

Reason (R): India's improved performance in digital governance and connectivity led to this jump.

Select the correct Answer:

(a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct Explanation of A

(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct Explanation of A

(c) A is true but R is false

(d) A is false but R is true

Answer - (a)

Explanation – India ranked 49th in 2024, up from 60th in 2023, due to digital infrastructure, ICT adoption, and governance enhancements.

Why in News: In 2024, India jumped from 60th to 49th in the Network Readiness Index, driven by digital governance, connectivity, and ICT innovation. Hence, both A and R are correct and R explains A.

Question 25. Choose the true statement regarding the National Security Guard (NSG):

(a) NSG was formed under the command of Indian Army.

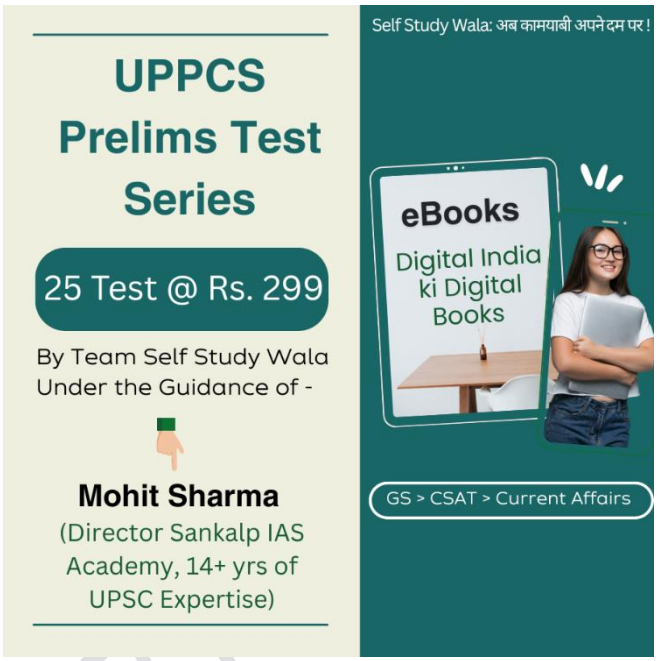
(b) It was established after Operation Blue Star in 1984.

(c) It is part of CISF and reports to Defence Ministry.

(d) NSG operates mainly in Naxal areas.

Answer - (b)

Explanation – NSG was officially established on 22 September 1986 after Operation Blue Star, and works under the Ministry of Home Affairs, not Defence.



Question 26. Which of the following statements regarding the Axiom-4 mission is/are correct?

1. It is India's first human mission to space.
2. Two Indian Air Force officers were selected for ISS training.
3. India plans to launch its own space station by 2035.

Select the correct Answer:

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) Only 3

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer - (b)

Explanation – Axiom-4 is a private ISS mission involving Indian astronauts but not India's first mission. India's first manned mission Gaganyaan is planned for 2026, and a space station by 2035.

Why in News: In November 2024, two Indian Air Force pilots were selected for the Axiom-4 mission to the International Space Station (ISS) in collaboration with a US private space company.

Question 27. Which of the following was recently declared as India's 57th Tiger Reserve in 2024?

(a) Madhav National Park

(b) Ratapani Wildlife Sanctuary

(c) Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve

(d) Satpura Tiger Reserve

Answer - (b)

Explanation – In 2024, Ratapani Wildlife Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh was notified as India's 57th and MP's 8th Tiger Reserve.

Question 28. Consider the following statements regarding the PRAGATI platform:

1. It is a three-tier system involving PMO, central secretaries, and state chief secretaries.
2. It uses digital data management, video conferencing, and geospatial technology.
3. It was developed by the Election Commission of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) Only 3

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer - (a)

Explanation – PRAGATI is a digital governance platform developed by PMO with NIC, not the Election Commission. It integrates grievance redressal, project monitoring, and implementation.

Why in News: The PM chaired the 45th PRAGATI meeting in November 2024, reviewing major projects.

Question 29. Choose the correct statement regarding India's change in GDP base year:

(a) India has revised the GDP base year to 2020–21.

(b) New base year reflects post-pandemic consumption patterns.

(c) The base year change is effective from 2023–24 financial year.

(d) The previous base year was 2004–05.

Answer - (b)

Explanation – India has decided to shift the base year for GDP to 2022–23, replacing 2011–12, to reflect post-pandemic consumption and digital trends.

Why in News: In December 2024, India announced a GDP base year revision to 2022–23 (from 2011–12) to capture post-pandemic economic shifts, digital services, and updated consumption trends.

Question 30. Match the following committees/institutions with their roles:

A. Biswanath Goldar Committee – 1. NAS methodology refinement

B. CSO – 2. Releases annual NAS

C. RBIH – 3. Developed MuleHunter.AI

D. FSSAI – 4. Reclassified packaged water as high-risk food

Code:

(a) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(b) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

(c) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

(d) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

Answer - (a)

Explanation –

Biswanath Goldar Committee: for NAS updates

CSO: issues NAS reports

RBIH: developed AI model for fraud detection

FSSAI: reclassified packaged mineral water

Question 31. Consider the following statements regarding COP16 of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD):

1. It was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
2. India reiterated its pledge to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030.
3. UNCCD is one of the three Rio Conventions adopted in 2012.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) Only 3

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer - (a)

Explanation – UNCCD COP16 was held in Riyadh. India reiterated its 26 million hectare restoration target. UNCCD is one of the three Rio Conventions adopted in 1992, not 2012.

Why in News: At COP16 of UNCCD held in Riyadh (2024), India reaffirmed its commitment to

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restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030.

Question 32. Which of the following statements is true regarding the "World Drought Atlas 2024"?

(a) It was launched by IPCC during COP28.

(b) It forecasts global rainfall till 2100.

(c) It was jointly released by UNCCD and EU's Joint Research Centre.

(d) It focuses only on Africa's drought-prone zones.

Answer - (c)

Explanation – The World Drought Atlas 2024 was released at UNCCD-COP16 by the UN and EU JRC. It predicts that 75% of global population may face drought by 2050.

Question 33. Choose the correct pair:

Event – Location

(a) IISF 2024 – IIT Guwahati

(b) Harimau Shakti 2024 – Singapore

(c) CINBAX 2024 – Shillong

(d) SAREX-24 – Vishakhapatnam

Answer - (a)

Explanation – IISF 2024 was hosted at IIT Guwahati. Harimau Shakti was in Malaysia, CINBAX in Pune, and SAREX-24 in Kochi.

Question 34. Which artist won the Turner Prize 2024 for their installation featuring a Ford Escort decorated with a doli?

(a) Jesse Darling

(b) Jasleen Kaur

(c) Rabindra Singh

(d) Lubaina Himid

Answer - (b)

Explanation – Jasleen Kaur, a Scottish artist, won the 2024 Turner Prize for her installation "Alter-Altar", which included a decorated Ford Escort. This prestigious UK prize honours contemporary art.

Why in News: Jasleen Kaur, a Scottish artist of Indian origin, won the 2024 Turner Prize for her installation "Alter-Altar", which featured a Ford Escort decorated as a doli, exploring migration and identity.

Question 35. Who received the UN Champions of the Earth Award 2024 for work on biodiversity and Western Ghats conservation?

(a) Ramesh Agrawal

(b) Sunita Narain

(c) Madhav Gadgil

(d) Rajendra Singh

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Madhav Gadgil was honoured with the UN Champions of the Earth Award 2024 for his outstanding efforts in protecting the Western Ghats and leading the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel.

Why in News: Ecologist Madhav Gadgil was awarded the UN Champions of the Earth 2024 for his pioneering work in biodiversity conservation, especially in the Western Ghats and for leading the WGEEP Report.

Question 36. Which city did Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) capture last in their December 2024 offensive that led to the fall of the Assad regime?

(a) Hama

(b) Aleppo

(c) Idlib

(d) Damascus

Answer - (d)

Explanation – HTS captured Damascus on 8 December 2024, forcing President Bashar al-Assad to flee to Russia, ending the 54-year Assad family rule.

Question 37. Which of the following telescopes confirmed the measurements of Hubble, intensifying the 'Hubble Tension' in cosmology?

(a) Spitzer

(b) James Webb

(c) Chandra X-ray

(d) Kepler

Answer - (b)

Explanation – The James Webb Space Telescope validated Hubble's high expansion rate, confirming that the tension is not due to instrument error.

Why in News: In 2024, the James Webb Space Telescope independently confirmed Hubble's

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cosmic expansion rate, reaffirming the "Hubble Tension" – the mismatch between early and late universe expansion models.

Question 38. Which country chaired the 68th session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs for the first time in 2024?

(a) USA

(b) India

(c) Russia

(d) China

Answer - (b)

Explanation – India chaired the CND's 68th session in 2024 for the first time, reflecting its growing leadership in global drug policy governance.

Question 39. Under which article of the Indian Constitution can the Vice President (Rajya Sabha Chairman) be removed?

(a) Article 64

(b) Article 67(b)

(c) Article 75

(d) Article 61

Answer - (b)

Explanation – As per Article 67(b), the Vice President (who is also the ex-officio Chairman of Rajya Sabha under Article 64) can be removed by a resolution passed by a majority in Rajya Sabha and agreed by Lok Sabha.

Why in News: In late 2024, there was political discussion around removal procedures for high constitutional functionaries, including the Vice President, due to rising tensions in Rajya Sabha proceedings.

Question 40. Who was appointed as the 26th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India in December 2024?

(a) Rakesh Mohan

(b) Sanjay Malhotra

(c) Urjit Patel

(d) Arvind Subramanian

Answer - (b)

Explanation – Sanjay Malhotra, a 1990-batch IAS officer, was appointed the 26th RBI Governor. He succeeded Shaktikanta Das and began his tenure on 11 December 2024.

Question 41. Which of the following statements regarding Hyperloop Test Track in India is correct?

(a) Located in IIT Bombay

(b) 410-meter test track set up at IIT Madras

(c) Meant for road-based electric vehicle testing

(d) First Hyperloop system to operate commercially

Answer - (b)

Explanation – The 410-meter-long Hyperloop test track is India's first, set up at IIT Madras, intended for research and competition in high-speed vacuum tube transport.

Why in News: In 2024, India's first Hyperloop test track (410 meters) was inaugurated at IIT Madras, making it a hub for vacuum tube transport research under the Avishkar Hyperloop project.

Question 42. Choose the correct ascending order of FDI contribution to India (April 2000–Sept 2024):

1. Japan
2. UAE
3. Singapore
4. Mauritius

Code:

(a) 2 < 1 < 3 < 4

(b) 1 < 2 < 4 < 3

(c) 4 < 3 < 2 < 1

(d) 3 < 1 < 2 < 4

Answer - (a)

Explanation –As per DPIIT's 2024 report, top FDI sources to India were:

UAE (3%) < Japan (6%) < Singapore (24%) < Mauritius (25%), making (a) the correct order.

Question 43. Which of the following best describes the purpose of the "Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav 2024"?

(a) Promote Yoga in Himalayan states

(b) Celebrate India's eight military commands

(c) Highlight investment and culture of North-East states

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(d) Showcase eight Buddhist pilgrimage sites

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav focused on North-East India's economic, cultural, and GI product showcase, referring to the 8 states as forms of prosperity (Lakshmi).

Why in News: Held in Guwahati in 2024, the Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav aimed to promote economic growth, culture, and GI products of the 8 North-Eastern states, symbolically linked to 8 forms of Lakshmi (prosperity).

Question 44. Which of the following organizations developed India's unmanned surface vessel "Jaldoot"?

(a) ISRO and BHEL

(b) GRSE and DRDO

(c) HAL and INCOIS

(d) BEL and NAL

Answer - (b)

Explanation – GRSE (Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers) and DRDO's NSTL jointly developed "Jaldoot" for naval survey and communication missions.

Why in News: In October 2024, GRSE and DRDO's NSTL jointly launched Jaldoot, an autonomous unmanned surface vessel for naval surveys, surveillance, and communication.

Question 45. Choose the correct statement regarding the Nayakkarapatti Tungsten Block:

(a) Located in Kerala and rich in graphite

(b) Protested due to religious reasons in Assam

(c) Falls in a declared biodiversity heritage site

(d) India is world's largest tungsten producer

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Nayakkarapatti block in Madurai, Tamil Nadu includes the Arittapatti biodiversity heritage site. The area faces opposition due to ecological concerns.

Why in News: In 2024, mining plans for Nayakkarapatti block in Madurai, Tamil Nadu sparked environmental protests as it overlaps the Arittapatti Biodiversity Heritage Site.

Question 46. Assertion (A): CE20 is a cryogenic engine developed by ISRO.

Reason (R): It uses Liquid Oxygen and Liquid Hydrogen as propellants.

Code:

(a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct Explanation of A

(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct Explanation of A

(c) A is true but R is false

(d) A is false but R is true

Answer - (a)

Explanation – The CE20 cryogenic engine, developed by ISRO, uses Liquid Oxygen and Liquid Hydrogen and powers the upper stage of LVM-3 rocket.

Question 47. Which temple from Tamil Nadu received UNESCO's 2023 Award of Distinction for heritage preservation?

(a) Brihadeshwara Temple

(b) Meenakshi Amman Temple

(c) Abathsahayeshwarar Temple

(d) Airavatesvara Temple

Answer - (c)

Explanation – The Abathsahayeshwarar Temple in Thukkachi, Tanjore was recognized by UNESCO for its exemplary restoration while preserving its heritage.

Why in News: In 2024, UNESCO honored Abathsahayeshwarar Temple, Thukkachi (Tanjore), for its exemplary restoration and conservation, promoting sustainable heritage architecture.

Question 48. Which of the following is true about the Carbon-14 Diamond Battery developed in the UK?

(a) It runs on solar cells and graphite coating

(b) It has a half-life of 5,700 years

(c) It uses hydrogen peroxide to store energy

(d) It is used in smartphones for fast charging

Answer - (b)

Explanation – The battery uses Carbon-14, a radioactive isotope with a half-life of 5,700 years, offering ultra-long-term energy for low-power devices.

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Why in News: In 2024, UK scientists developed the Carbon-14 diamond battery, with a half-life of 5,700 years, offering ultra-long energy storage for space and medical implants.

Question 49. Swahid Diwas, observed on 10th December in Assam, commemorates:

(a) Tribal rebellion of 1857

(b) Quit India Movement martyrs

(c) Assam Accord anti-foreigner protest martyrs

(d) Independence of Assam Kingdom

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Swahid Diwas honors those who died during the Assam Movement (1979–1985) against illegal immigration, culminating in the Assam Accord.

Question 50. What is 'DHARANI' as launched by IIT Madras?

(a) A geospatial crop insurance platform

(b) India's first fetal brain 3D imaging dataset

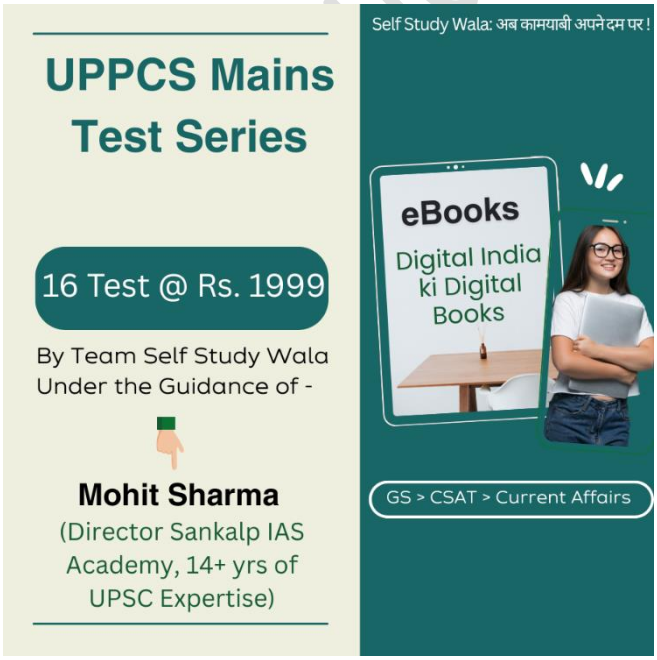
(c) A GIS-based land record app

(d) AI-powered disaster management dashboard

Answer - (b)

Explanation – DHARANI is India's (and world's) first detailed 3D fetal brain dataset, developed at Sudha Gopalakrishnan Brain Centre, IIT Madras.

Why in News: In 2024, IIT Madras's Brain Centre unveiled DHARANI, the world's first 3D fetal brain imaging dataset, helping in early neurodevelopment studies.



Question 51. Which two countries were added to the Schengen Area effective from 1 January 2025?

(a) Romania and Bulgaria

(b) Cyprus and Greece

(c) Ireland and Poland

(d) Croatia and Finland

Answer - (a)

Explanation – Romania and Bulgaria officially joined the border-free Schengen Zone in 2025, enabling unrestricted movement within most EU countries.

Question 52. Who became the youngest World Chess Champion in FIDE history by winning in 2024?

(a) R Praggnanandhaa

(b) Nihal Sarin

(c) D Gukesh

(d) Arjun Erigaisi

Answer - (c)

Explanation – D Gukesh, at 18 years, defeated Ding Liren in the FIDE World Chess Championship 2024, breaking Garry Kasparov's 1985 record.

Question 53. Which company developed the quantum chip "Willow" that solved a computation task in under 5 minutes?

(a) IBM

(b) Google

(c) Microsoft

(d) Intel

Answer - (b)

Explanation – In 2024, Google developed the quantum chip Willow, which solved a complex problem in under 5 minutes—something that would take a supercomputer 10^{+25} years.

Question 54. According to the 2024 CWC Water Assessment, what is India's per capita water availability estimated for 2024?

(a) 980 cubic meters

(b) 1300 cubic meters

(c) 1513 cubic meters

(d) 1720 cubic meters

Answer - (c)

Explanation – The Central Water Commission (CWC) pegged India's 2024 per capita water availability at 1,513 m^3, which places India in the water-stressed category (below 1700 m^3).

Question 55. What are Shock Diamonds, recently seen during rocket launches?

(a) Space rocks formed in orbit

(b) Meteorites from lunar impact

(c) Optical patterns in supersonic gas jet exhaust

(d) Crystals found in high-pressure drills

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Shock Diamonds, or Mach Diamonds, are light-dark patterns formed when supersonic exhaust jets expand and compress upon exiting a rocket nozzle.

Why in News: During ISRO and SpaceX launches in 2024, Shock Diamonds were seen—these are diamond-shaped optical patterns formed in the supersonic exhaust of rocket engines due to pressure differentials.

Question 56. Which country became the first European nation to join CPTPP in December 2024?

(a) Germany

(b) Italy

(c) United Kingdom

(d) France

Answer - (c)

Explanation – The United Kingdom joined the CPTPP (Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership) in December 2024, becoming its 12th member and the first from Europe.

Question 57. What is the major concern regarding the synthetic 'Mirror Bacteria' recently discussed by scientists?

(a) They increase food production efficiency

(b) They are resistant to all known antibiotics

(c) They may evade natural immune systems due to reverse chirality

(d) They are natural pathogens in deep-sea ecosystems

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Mirror Bacteria have reversed chirality, making them invisible to existing immune responses, thus posing serious biological threats.

Why in News: In 2024, global scientists warned that synthetic mirror bacteria, made of opposite chirality molecules, could evade human immunity, posing a threat to biosecurity and ecological balance.

Question 58. Choose the correct statement about the Order of Mubarak Al Kabeer:

(a) It is Kuwait's civilian medal for citizens

(b) It is a trade award between Gulf countries

(c) It is Kuwait's highest honor for foreign leaders

(d) It is a military-only decoration

Answer - (c)

Explanation – PM Modi received Kuwait's highest civilian award for foreign dignitaries—Order of Mubarak Al Kabeer—in December 2024.

Why in News: In December 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the Order of Mubarak Al Kabeer, Kuwait's highest civilian award for foreign dignitaries.

Question 59. What is 'Yuga Yugeen Bharat', as seen in news?

(a) A government scheme for rural rejuvenation

(b) India's new national museum to be built in North and South Blocks

(c) An archaeological documentary series

(d) A new chapter in NCERT curriculum

Answer - (b)

Explanation – 'Yuga Yugeen Bharat' will be the world's largest museum, developed in Delhi's historic North & South Blocks with French collaboration.

Question 60. Assertion (A): INS Nirdeshak will aid hydrographic surveys and navigation.

Reason (R): It is part of India's aircraft carrier development program.

Code:

(a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct Explanation of A

(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct Explanation of A

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(c) A is true but R is false

(d) A is false but R is true

Answer - (c)

Explanation – INS Nirdeshak is a survey vessel, not an aircraft carrier component. It is part of the Survey Vessel Large project.

Why in News: In 2024, INS Nirdeshak, a survey vessel large, was commissioned to enhance hydrographic data collection and navigation mapping. It has no link with aircraft carrier development.

Question 61. Protected Area Regime (PAR), reinstated recently in NE states, regulates foreign entry under which rule?

(a) Forest Conservation Act, 1980

(b) Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order, 1958

(c) ILP Regulation of 1873

(d) Disaster Management Act, 2005

Answer - (b)

Explanation – Under the Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order, 1958, areas in Mizoram, Nagaland, and Manipur require prior permits for foreign visits.

Why in News: In 2024, the Centre reinstated the Protected Area Regime (PAR) in Mizoram, Nagaland, and Manipur, requiring foreigners to obtain prior permits under the Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order, 1958 to visit these areas.

Question 62. Which chemical is associated with incendiary weapons and was allegedly used via drone attacks in Ukraine?

(a) Sarin

(b) Mustard gas

(c) White phosphorus

(d) Chlorine

Answer - (c)

Explanation – White phosphorus ignites at 30°C and causes severe burns. Though not banned under CWC, its use against civilians violates Protocol III of CCCW.

Why in News: In 2024, reports of White Phosphorus attacks via drones surfaced during the Russia-Ukraine war. Although not banned by the Chemical Weapons Convention, its use on civilians violates Protocol III of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW).

Question 63. Sacred groves, protected by indigenous communities, are legally recognized under which act?

(a) Forest Rights Act, 2006

(b) Environment Protection Act, 1986

(c) Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972

(d) Biodiversity Act, 2002

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, sacred groves are protected as Community Reserves (Section 36C), ensuring community participation in conservation.

Why in News: In 2024, multiple sacred groves across Meghalaya and Maharashtra were declared Community Reserves under Section 36C of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, giving them legal protection with local stewardship.

Question 64. Which Indian institution ranked highest in the QS Sustainability Rankings 2025?

(a) IIT Bombay

(b) IISc Bangalore

(c) IIT Delhi

(d) JNU Delhi

Answer - (c)

Explanation – In the **QS World University Sustainability Rankings 2025,** IIT Delhi secured the 171st global rank, highest among Indian institutions, for sustainability practices, environmental research, and social impact.

Question 65. Which state showed the maximum increase in forest cover as per ISFR 2023?

(a) Gujarat

(b) Chhattisgarh

(c) Odisha

(d) Rajasthan

Answer - (b)

Explanation – Chhattisgarh recorded the highest total increase in combined forest and tree cover (684 sq. km), as per India State of Forest Report 2023.

Question 66. India's first bio-bitumen national highway was constructed in:

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(a) Karnataka

(b) Tamil Nadu

(c) Maharashtra

(d) Madhya Pradesh

Answer - (c)

Explanation – The Nagpur-Mansar stretch in Maharashtra became India's first national highway built using lignin-based bio-bitumen made from crop residue.

Question 67. Match the following naval warships with their project classification:

A. INS Nilgiri – 1. Project 17A

B. INS Surat – 2. Project 15B

C. INS Nirdeshak – 3. Survey Vessel (Large)

D. INS Vikrant – 4. Indigenous Aircraft Carrier

Code:

(a) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(b) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

(c) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

(d) A-4, B-2, C-1, D-3

Answer - (a)

Explanation – INS Nilgiri is a Project 17A stealth frigate, INS Surat is Project 15B destroyer, INS Nirdeshak is a survey vessel, and INS Vikrant is India's Indigenous Aircraft Carrier.

Question 68. Who chairs the Joint Parliamentary Committee on "One Nation, One Election" as of 2024?

(a) Bhupender Yadav

(b) P P Chaudhary

(c) Arjun Ram Meghwal

(d) Jagdeep Dhankhar

Answer - (b)

Explanation – P. P. Chaudhary, BJP MP, was appointed Chairman of the JPC on One Nation, One Election in 2024.

Question 69. Which insect, known as "Murder Hornet," was declared eradicated from the US in 2024?

(a) Africanized Bee

(b) Vespa mandarinia

(c) Asian Wasp

(d) Locust

Answer - (b)

Explanation – In October 2024, the Northern Giant Hornet (Vespa mandarinia), dubbed the "Murder Hornet", was declared eradicated from the US, where it had posed a serious threat to honeybees since 2019.

Question 70. In 2023–24, India's insurance penetration declined while insurance density:

(a) Declined

(b) Remained same

(c) Slightly improved

(d) Sharply increased

Answer - (c)

Explanation – According to IRDAI, insurance penetration dropped to 3.7%, but insurance density increased marginally from $92 to $95 per capita.

Why in News: As per IRDAI's 2024 annual report, insurance penetration fell to 3.7%, but insurance density (premium per capita) increased marginally from $92 to $95, reflecting higher value policies.

Question 71. What is the purpose of the Next-Generation DNA Sequencing (NGS) facility launched at WII?

(a) Weather prediction

(b) Vaccine production

(c) Fast genome decoding for conservation research

(d) Soil fertility improvement

Answer - (c)

Explanation – The NGS facility allows rapid decoding of entire genomes, enabling advanced research in wildlife conservation and biodiversity genomics.

Question 72. Pashmina wool, a GI-tagged product, is obtained from:

(a) Bactrian camel

(b) Changthangi goat

(c) Tibetan sheep

(d) Jamunapari goat

Answer - (b)

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Explanation – Changthangi goat, native to Ladakh, produces the world's finest pashmina wool (12–15 microns thick), now certified at WII's advanced lab.

Why in News: In 2024, Changthangi goats of Ladakh were again in the spotlight after India's first certified Pashmina lab was inaugurated at WII. The goats produce ultra-fine wool (12–15 microns).

Question 73. The term "Phewa Dialogue" recently seen in news is associated with:

(a) India-Nepal-China regional talks

(b) Indo-Pacific naval summit

(c) Himalayan climate fund

(d) Iran-Afghanistan transit corridor

Answer - (a)

Explanation – Phewa Dialogue is a bilateral initiative between Nepal and China for regional prosperity and peace, named after Phewa Lake in Pokhara.

Question 74. National Farmers Day is celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of:

(a) Lal Bahadur Shastri

(b) M.S. Swaminathan

(c) Chaudhary Charan Singh

(d) Sir Chhotu Ram

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Kisan Diwas is celebrated on 23rd December to honor Chaudhary Charan Singh, India's 5th PM and a champion of farmers' rights.

Question 75. As per GST Council's 55th meeting, which of the following is exempt from GST?

(a) Caramel popcorn

(b) Fortified rice kernels

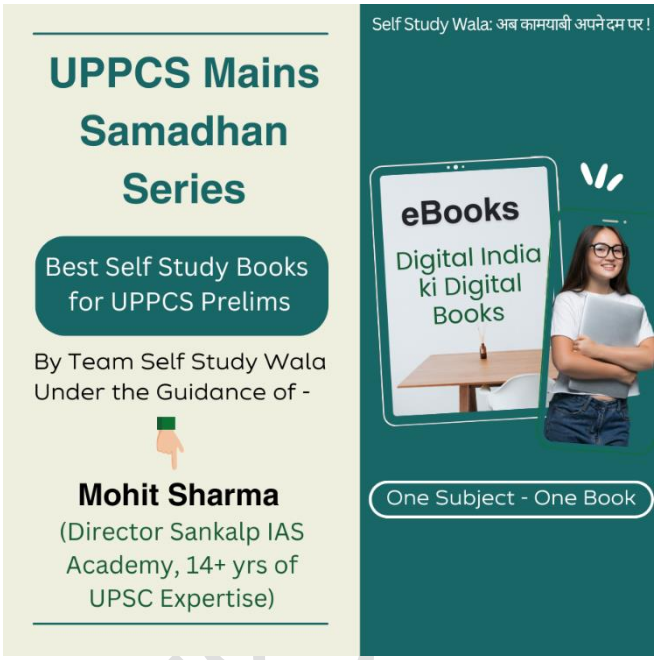
(c) Gene therapy

(d) Pepper supplied by corporates

Answer - (c)

Explanation – In its 55th meeting, the GST Council exempted Gene Therapy from GST. Caramel popcorn attracts 18% GST.

Caramel popcorn remains under 18% GST, while pepper is taxed if sold by corporates.



Question 76. What was the theme of National Consumer Day 2024?

(a) Digital Payment Literacy for Consumers

(b) Virtual Hearings & Digital Access to Consumer Justice

(c) Fair Trade & Safe Commerce

(d) Rights of Rural Consumers

Answer - (b)

Explanation – The theme for National Consumer Day 2024 was "Virtual Hearings & Digital Access to Consumer Justice", highlighting online redressal mechanisms.

Question 77. What is the central theme adopted by the Uttar Pradesh government for Mahakumbh 2025?

(a) Digital Kumbh, Secure Kumbh, Clean Ganga

(b) Harit Kumbh, Swachh Kumbh, Surakshit Kumbh

(c) Eco-Kumbh, Smart Kumbh, Bhavya Kumbh

(d) Sanatan Kumbh, Smart India, Digital Devotion

Answer - (b)

Explanation – The Uttar Pradesh government announced "Harit Kumbh, Swachh Kumbh, Surakshit Kumbh" as the official theme for Mahakumbh 2025, focusing on green practices, cleanliness, and pilgrim safety using drone monitoring, green infrastructure, and sanitation drives.

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Question 78. Which of the following is the main objective of the Sanskrit Scholarship Scheme in Uttar Pradesh?

(a) Promoting Urdu literature

(b) Industrial development

(c) Revival of Gurukul education system

(d) Providing skill training to youth

Answer - (c)

Explanation – The primary objective of the Sanskrit Scholarship Scheme is the revival of the Gurukul education system and promotion of Sanskrit and traditional education, as highlighted in the UP Budget 2024–25.

Question 79. Choose the true statement regarding the status of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU):

1. AMU was granted minority status by the Supreme Court in 2024.
2. AMU was founded by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan in 1875 as MAO College.

Options:

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer - (c)

Explanation – In November 2024, the Supreme Court reinstated minority status to AMU under Article 30(1). AMU was originally established by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan in 1875 as Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental (MAO) College.

Question 80. Choose the incorrect statement from the following:

(a) DGP in UP must have at least 6 months of service left before appointment.

(b) The tenure for DGP is fixed at 2 years.

(c) The policy was introduced in February 2023.

(d) The aim is to reduce political interference in top police appointments.

Answer - (c)

Explanation – The new DGP appointment policy in Uttar Pradesh was introduced in November 2024, not February 2023. All other statements are correct.

Question 81. Which of the following was declared as a gem cluster by the UP government in 2024?

(a) Varanasi

(b) Lucknow

(c) Gorakhpur

(d) Jhansi

Answer - (b)

Explanation – Lucknow, along with Meerut, Moradabad, and Agra, was declared a gem cluster by the UP government to boost jewelry manufacturing, exports, and women's entrepreneurship.

Question 82. Which of the following is not a correct match?

(a) Kumbh Mela 2025 – Prayagraj

(b) Full Motion Simulator – C-295 aircraft

(c) IWAI – Cyber security training

(d) NeGD – AI-based training for UP officers

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) is responsible for inland waterways, such as launching the Nishadraj Cruise, not for cyber security. That domain lies with NeGD and MeitY.

Question 83. Which agency is primarily responsible for the green management and organization of Mahakumbh 2025 in Prayagraj?

(a) IWAI

(b) NeGD

(c) NMCG and Prayagraj Mela Authority

(d) Central Pollution Control Board

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Prayagraj Mela Authority and the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) are key agencies tasked with implementing the theme “Harit Kumbh, Swachh Kumbh, Surakshit Kumbh” during the Mahakumbh 2025.

Question 84. Which of the following is/are the objective(s) of the Agra canal-side road project?

A. Promote urban expansion

B. Reduce traffic congestion

C. Provide connectivity for tourism

D. Provide expressway access to Gorakhpur

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Select the correct Answer using the code given below:

(a) A and B only

(b) A, B and C only

(c) B and D only

(d) A, C and D only

Answer - (b)

Explanation – The project is aimed at supporting urban development, reducing traffic congestion, and boosting tourism connectivity in Agra. It has no connection to Gorakhpur.

Question 85. What is the rank of India in the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2025?

(a) 8th

(b) 10th

(c) 12th

(d) 15th

Answer: (b) 10th

Explanation: India was ranked 10th in the CCPI 2025, marking it among the highest-performing countries, although it fell from 8th place in the previous year.

Question 86. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched?

1. LeadIT – India & Sweden
2. COP29 – Paris
3. Global Peatland Atlas – UNESCO
4. UNEP – Climate Club

Select the correct Answer:

(a) Only 1

(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 2 and 4 only

(d) All of the above

Answer: (a) Only 1

Explanation:

LeadIT – India & Sweden

Correct. The Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT) was launched by India and Sweden during the UN Climate Action Summit in 2019. It focuses on low-carbon transition in heavy industries.

COP29 – Paris

Incorrect. COP29 (2024) is to be hosted by Azerbaijan, not Paris. Paris hosted COP21 in 2015, which led to the Paris Agreement.

Global Peatland Atlas – UNESCO

Incorrect. The Global Peatland Atlas was published by the Greifswald Mire Centre, Wetlands International, and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), not UNESCO.

UNEP – Climate Club

Incorrect. The Climate Club is an initiative proposed by the G7 nations and particularly driven by Germany. UNEP is not its founding or managing body.

Hence, only Pair 1 is correctly matched.

Question 87. Assertion (A): Biofloc Technology helps reduce the use of antibiotics in aquaculture.

Reason (R): It converts fish waste into consumable microbial biomass.

Code:

(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct Explanation.

(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct Explanation.

(c) A is true, but R is false.

(d) A is false, but R is true.

Answer: (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct Explanation.

Explanation:

Recently, multiple state governments in India (e.g., Uttar Pradesh, Odisha) have promoted Biofloc fish farming under subsidy schemes to boost sustainable aquaculture.

Biofloc Technology (BFT) is an advanced aquaculture technique that promotes the growth of beneficial microbes in fish tanks or ponds.

These microbes convert nitrogenous fish waste (ammonia, etc.) into protein-rich microbial biomass, which can be consumed by the fish.

This improves water quality and provides additional nutrition, reducing the need for antibiotics and expensive feed.

Hence, both the assertion and reason are true, and Reason is the correct Explanation of the Assertion.

Question 88. Choose the incorrect statement:

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(a) Sambhar Lake is India's largest saline wetland.

(b) It was designated a Ramsar site in 1990.

(c) Avian botulism in Sambhar Lake is caused by a virus.

(d) It is located in Rajasthan.

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Avian botulism is caused by a neurotoxin produced by the bacterium Clostridium botulinum, not a virus.

Sambhar Lake was recently in news due to mass deaths of migratory birds—avian botulism was suspected again.

Concerns were also raised about ecological degradation, illegal salt mining, and the need for wetland conservation in the face of climate change.

It is under scrutiny for wetland encroachment and declining bird populations, prompting action from environmental bodies and state authorities.

Question 89. Choose the true statement:

(a) Amorphophallus Titanum blooms annually.

(b) It is native to Sumatra, Indonesia.

(c) It is called corpse flower due to its color.

(d) It has the shortest bloom cycle among flowering plants.

Answer: (b)

Explanation: The flower is native to Sumatra and blooms rarely; its smell resembles rotting flesh.

Why in News?

The corpse flower (Amorphophallus titanum) recently bloomed at several botanical gardens worldwide — including in California, Tokyo, and London, drawing global attention due to its rarity.

It attracted thousands of visitors for its once-in-a-decade bloom and foul smell, highlighting its importance in plant conservation and biodiversity awareness.

Question 90. Identify the correct ascending order of these greenhouse gas emitters by rank in CCPI 2025:

A. USA

B. China

C. India

Code:

(a) India < China < USA

(b) China < USA < India

(c) USA < India < China

(d) India < USA < China

Answer: (a) India < China < USA

Explanation:

The Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2025 ranks countries based on their climate protection performance across four key areas:

1. Greenhouse gas emissions
2. Renewable energy
3. Energy use
4. Climate policy

Let's break down their rankings:

India: Ranked 7th globally – Best performer among G20 nations

China: Ranked 55th

USA: Ranked 57th – One of the lowest among developed economies

Thus, in ascending order of performance (best to worst):

India < China < USA

Question 91. Choose the correct statement:

(a) Lothal is the only port city of the Harappan Civilization.

(b) Lothal was excavated by SR Rao in 1954.

(c) Lothal means "Mound of the Dead" in Gujarati.

(d) All of the above

Answer: (d) All of the above

Explanation: According to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Lothal is the only port-town of the Harappan Civilization

Lothal is excavated by SR Rao. The name signifies "mound of the dead" similar to Mohenjodaro.

Why in News: A research student died during excavation at Lothal due to a site collapse.

Question 92. Consider the following statements:

1. Kodo millet is gluten-free.
2. It is widely grown in the humid Gangetic plains.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

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(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (a) Only 1

Explanation: Kodo millet is indeed gluten-free and drought-resistant, but it thrives in dry regions, not humid areas.

Why in News: Kodo millet consumption was linked to the death of wild elephants in Bandhavgarh due to fungal toxins.

Question 93. Assertion (A): Atmospheric CO_2 can be converted to methanol.

Reason (R): NTPC has developed world's first CO_2 to Methanol conversion plant.

Code:

(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct Explanation.

(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct Explanation.

(c) A is true, R is false.

(d) A is false, R is true.

Answer: (a)

Explanation: NTPC's Vindhyachal facility successfully set up the world's first such plant.

Why in News: NTPC inaugurated the world's first CO_2-to-methanol plant at Singrauli, MP.

Question 94. Choose the incorrect statement:

(a) African penguin is native to Antarctica.

(b) It has a pink gland above eyes to cool its body.

(c) It is now critically endangered.

(d) 97% of its population has already declined.

Answer: (a)

Explanation: The African Penguin is native to southern Africa, not Antarctica.

Why in News: IUCN upgraded its status to "Critically Endangered" on the Red List.

Question 95. Match the following – Reports and Organizations:

A. World Cities Report – 1. UNEP

B. Emissions Gap Report – 2. UN Habitat

C. CCPI – 3. India & Sweden

D. LeadIT – 4. Germanwatch

Code:

(a) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(b) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

(c) A-3, B-4, C-2, D-1

(d) A-4, B-3, C-1, D-2

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

A. World Cities Report – UN Habitat (2)

The World Cities Report is published by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), focusing on urbanization trends and policies.

B. Emissions Gap Report – UNEP (1)

The Emissions Gap Report is an annual report by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) assessing the gap between current emissions trajectories and climate targets.

C. CCPI – Germanwatch (4)

The Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) is published by Germanwatch, NewClimate Institute, and Climate Action Network.

D. LeadIT – India & Sweden (3)

The Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT) is a joint initiative by the Government of Sweden and India, launched at the UN Climate Action Summit in 2019.

Why in News: All four reports were recently released during COP29 and climate summits.

Question 96. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

1. Mirror Bacteria – Opposite chirality molecules
2. DSI – DNA/RNA digital data
3. Titan Arum – Fire-resistant flowering plant

Select correct Answer:

(a) Only 1 and 2

(b) Only 2 and 3

(c) Only 1

(d) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Titan Arum is not fire-resistant; Dicliptera polymorpha is.

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Why in News: Mirror bacteria and DSI were discussed at international biodiversity conventions.

Question 97. What is the objective of the Bhu-Neer Portal?

(a) River linking projects

(b) Regulation of groundwater usage

(c) Soil health improvement

(d) Agricultural irrigation planning

Answer: (b)

Explanation: The portal monitors, regulates, and simplifies India's groundwater use compliance.

Why in News: It was launched during India Water Week 2024 by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Question 98. Consider the following:

1. Sambhar Lake – Ramsar Site
2. Konark Temple – Nagara style
3. Amorphophallus – Blooms annually

How many above are correct?

(a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) All three

(d) None

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Amorphophallus blooms once in 10 years; the other two are correct.

Why in News: Sambhar Lake saw mass bird deaths; Konark Wheels were replicated at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Question 99. Arrange the following in correct descending order of India's production:

A. Milk –

B. Eggs –

C. Wool –

D. Meat

(a) A > D > B > C

(b) A > B > D > C

(c) A > C > B > D

(d) A > B > C > D

Answer: (b) A > B > D > C

Explanation:

Milk – India is the largest producer of milk in the world.

2022-23 production: approx 230+ million tonnes

Eggs – India ranks among the top producers globally.

2022-23 production: approx 138 billion eggs

Meat – Production is lower than milk and eggs, but still substantial.

2022-23 production: approx 9 million tonnes

Wool – Significantly lower in quantity.

2022-23 production: approx 33 million kg

Descending order of production:

Milk > Eggs > Meat > Wool

Why in News: "Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics 2024" was released by Govt. of India.

Question 100. Who has been appointed as the 51st Chief Justice of India (CJI)?

(a) Justice D.Y. Chandrachud

(b) Justice H.L. Dattu

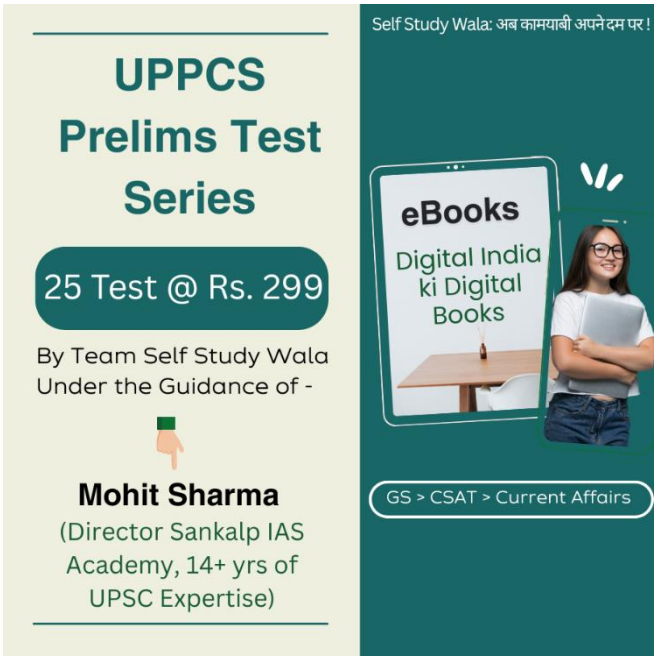
(c) Justice Sanjiv Khanna

(d) Justice U.U. Lalit

Answer: (c) Justice Sanjiv Khanna

Explanation: Justice Sanjiv Khanna was sworn in as the 51st Chief Justice of India, with tenure till 13 May 2025.

Why in News: He was recently appointed by the President as the next CJI.



Question 101. Consider the following statements:

1. Right to Shelter is part of Article 21 of the Indian Constitution.
2. Bulldozer actions without due process violate this right.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: SC ruled that demolitions without notice violate Article 21, affirming Right to Shelter.

Why in News: SC issued binding guidelines to check unconstitutional demolition actions.

Question 102. Assertion (A): State Finance Commissions are mandatory for Panchayats.

Reason (R): Article 243I of the Constitution mandates their formation every five years.

Code:

(a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct Explanation.

(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct Explanation.

(c) A is true, R is false.

(d) A is false, R is true.

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Article 243I ensures periodic review of Panchayat finances.

Why in News: Discussion held in the "Devolution to Development" conference with 16th Finance Commission.

Question 103. Match the following:

A. PM Vishwakarma – 1. MoMSME

B. PM Vidyalaxmi – 2. Ministry of Education

C. PMAY-Gramin – 3. Ministry of Rural Development

D. NAMO Drone Didi – 4. Ministry of Agriculture

Code:

(a) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(b) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

(c) A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2

(d) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

Answer: (a)

Explanation: All schemes are correctly matched with their nodal ministries.

Why in News: All these schemes were recently in focus due to Cabinet clearance or updates.

Question 104. Choose the correct statement:

(a) CARA regulates adoption in India.

(b) CARA functions under Ministry of Women and Child Development.

(c) India follows Hague Convention on inter-country adoption.

(d) All of the above

Answer: (d)

Explanation: All statements are true about the adoption regulatory framework in India.

Why in News: November was observed as Adoption Awareness Month 2024.

Question 105. What is the theme of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2024 celebrations?

(a) Inclusion through Education

(b) Honouring Freedom Fighters

(c) 150th Birth Anniversary of Birsa Munda

(d) Tribal Health & Nutrition

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Celebrations centered around Birsa Munda's 150th Jayanti.

Why in News: Commemorated with stamp and coin release.

Question 106. WAVES OTT was launched by:

(a) Doordarshan

(b) ONDC

(c) Prasar Bharati

(d) Ministry of Culture

Answer: (c)

Explanation: WAVES OTT by Prasar Bharati is India's public sector digital streaming platform.

Why in News: It was launched to compete in digital media space.

Question 107. What was launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to regulate groundwater use in India?

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(a) AquaNet Portal

(b) JalJeevan Portal

(c) Bhu-Neer Portal

(d) JalVikas Portal

Answer: (c) Bhu-Neer Portal

Explanation: Bhu-Neer was launched to ensure transparent and efficient groundwater compliance monitoring.

Why in News: It was launched during the 8th India Water Week 2024.

Question 108. Assertion (A): India has added optical fiber connectivity to Siachen Glacier.

Reason (R): Fiber optic cables use reflection of microwaves for signal transfer.

Code:

(a) Both A and R are true and R is correct Explanation.

(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not correct Explanation.

(c) A is true, R is false.

(d) A is false, R is true.

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Cables use light waves, not microwaves, and work on total internal reflection.

Why in News: Indian Army established high-speed optical fiber at world's highest battlefield.

Question 109. Consider the following

1. PM-WANI promotes public Wi-Fi access.
2. It was launched under Digital India.

Choose the correct option:

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (c)

Explanation: PM-WANI is an initiative to expand internet services across India.

Why in News: It was relaunched with enhanced outreach in rural areas.

Question 110. Match the following:

A. Brazil – 1. Rejects BRI

B. Norway – 2. Apology to indigenous groups

C. Gabon – 3. New constitution adopted

D. India – 4. Tribal Pride Week

Code:

(a) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(b) A-2, B-3, C-4, D-1

(c) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

(d) A-4, B-3, C-1, D-2

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Each country took notable actions relating to social justice, governance, or diplomacy.

Why in News: All actions occurred between Oct–Nov 2024.

Question 111. Choose the true statement(s):

(a) Siddi community is listed as Scheduled Tribe in India.

(b) They trace ancestry to African slaves brought by the Portuguese.

(c) They reside mainly in Northeast India.

(d) Both (a) and (b)

Answer: (d)

Explanation: Siddis live mostly in Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra—not Northeast.

Why in News: The community was featured in a film "Rhythm of Dhamam."

Question 112. Statement I: Accessibility is a fundamental right.

Statement II: Supreme Court declared it under Articles 14, 19, and 21.

Which is correct?

(a) Only I

(b) Only II

(c) Both I and II

(d) Neither I nor II

Answer: (c)

Explanation: SC ruling emphasized access to environment/services as a fundamental right.

Why in News: This ruling was delivered by bench headed by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud.

Question 113. What is the focus of Jobs at Your Doorstep Report?

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(a) Corporate employment policies

(b) Infrastructure development

(c) District-wise skill demand mapping

(d) Urban entrepreneurship

Answer: (c)

Explanation: It maps skill gaps to local industry demands across six STARS states.

Why in News: Released by Education Ministry to guide NEP-aligned school reforms.

Question 114. Consider the following:

1. Antariksha Abhyas was India's first space threat preparedness drill.
2. It was conducted by the Indian Air Force.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (a) Only 1

Explanation: Antariksha Abhyas was India's first space-based drill led by the Defence Space Agency, not IAF.

Why in News: Conducted in 2024 to simulate threats to India's space assets.

Question 115. Assertion (A): India ranks 3rd in Business Environment improvement in EIU's 2024 ranking.

Reason (R): India's Ease of Doing Business reforms directly improved its score.

Code:

(a) Both A and R are true and R is correct Explanation.

(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not correct Explanation.

(c) A is true, R is false.

(d) A is false, R is true.

Answer: (a)

Explanation: India improved due to liberalized FDI, tax, and trade regimes.

Why in News: Ranked 51st overall, but 3rd among most improved.

Question 116. Which country recently hosted the ICA Global Cooperative Conference for the first time?

(a) USA

(b) Germany

(c) Brazil

(d) India

Answer: (d) India

Explanation: ICA's 130-year-old event was hosted in New Delhi, themed "Cooperation Builds Prosperity for All."

Why in News: ICA 2024 was hosted at Bharat Mandapam.

Question 117. Choose the correctly matched pair (City – Defense Exercise):

(a) Ahmedabad – Eastern Blitz

(b) Ambala – VINBAX

(c) Pune – YUDH ABHYAS

(d) Arunachal – Sampriti

Answer: (b) Ambala – VINBAX

Explanation:

(a) Ahmedabad – Eastern Blitz

Incorrect. Eastern Blitz is not associated with Ahmedabad. It refers to an Indian Army exercise conducted in Eastern Command regions, not in Gujarat.

(b) Ambala – VINBAX

Incorrect. VINBAX is a joint military exercise between India and Vietnam. It has been conducted in locations like Chandimandir (Haryana), Jabalpur (MP) — not Ambala.

VINBAX was upgraded to bi-service level with UN peacekeeping theme.

(c) Pune – YUDH ABHYAS

Correct. Yudh Abhyas is a bilateral military exercise between India and the USA, and Pune (Maharashtra) has hosted multiple editions of it, including in recent years.

(d) Arunachal – Sampriti

Incorrect. Sampriti is a bilateral exercise between India and Bangladesh, but it has been conducted in places like Meghalaya, Tangail (Bangladesh) etc., not in Arunachal Pradesh.

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Question 118. Which of the following best describes "Project Shaurya Gatha"?

(a) Rehabilitation of ex-servicemen

(b) Historical war memorial project

(c) Military tourism and education initiative

(d) India's first joint military command system

Answer: (c)

Explanation: The project aims to preserve Indian military heritage and educate through defense institutions.

Why in News: Launched during Indian Military Heritage Festival 2024.

Question 119. Match – Reports vs Organization:

A. State of Food and Agriculture – 1. FAO

B. Digital Euro Proposal – 2. ECB

C. Hidden Costs in Food System – 3. FAO

D. Jobs at Your Doorstep – 4. Education Ministry

Code:

(a) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(b) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

(c) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

(d) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Each report is correctly matched with its publishing agency.

Why in News: These reports were released in 2024 and highlighted by GoI ministries.

Question 120. Consider the following:

1. D-SIBs are too-big-to-fail banks.
2. G-SIBs list includes ICICI Bank.

Which is/are correct?

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both

(d) Neither

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

D-SIBs

- D-SIBs stands for Domestic Systemically Important Banks.
- These are banks identified by the RBI as too big to fail, meaning their failure would have a significant impact on the economy.
- Currently, SBI, ICICI Bank, and HDFC Bank are classified as D-SIBs in India.

G-SIBs

- G-SIBs are Global Systemically Important Banks, identified by the Financial Stability Board (FSB).
- No Indian bank, including ICICI, has ever been listed as a G-SIB.
- G-SIBs include large global banks like JPMorgan Chase, HSBC, BNP Paribas, Bank of China, etc.

Why in News: RBI released updated D-SIB list in early 2024.

Question 121. Assertion (A): India is a signatory to the UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Reason (R): SC recently declared accessibility a fundamental right.

Code:

(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct Explanation.

(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct Explanation.

(c) A is true, R is false.

(d) A is false, R is true.

Answer: (b)

Explanation: India is legally bound to ensure accessibility as per UNCRPD and Article 21.

Why in News: SC declared access to services/environments as a fundamental right.

Question 122. Consider the following:

1. RCEP is India's trade agreement with ASEAN.
2. AITIGA is a bilateral investment treaty with USA.

Choose the correct option:

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both

(d) Neither

Answer: (d) Neither

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Explanation: RCEP is Asia-Pacific trade bloc; AITIGA is ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement.

Why in News: 6th AITIGA review meeting held in New Delhi.

Question 123. Match – Defense Exercises & Partner Country:

A. VINBAX – 1. Vietnam

B. AUSTRAHIND – 2. Australia

C. INDRA – 3. Russia

D. YUDH ABHYAS – 4. USA

Code:

(a) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(b) A-4, B-3, C-1, D-2

(c) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

(d) A-3, B-2, C-4, D-1

Answer: (a)

Explanation: These are correct bilateral exercises India conducts with the respective countries.

Why in News: AUSTRAHIND and VINBAX conducted in India in Nov 2024.

Question 124. Which of the following is correct about the "UNICORN Mast"?

(a) Used in India's new telecom satellites

(b) Japan-developed radar technology for drones

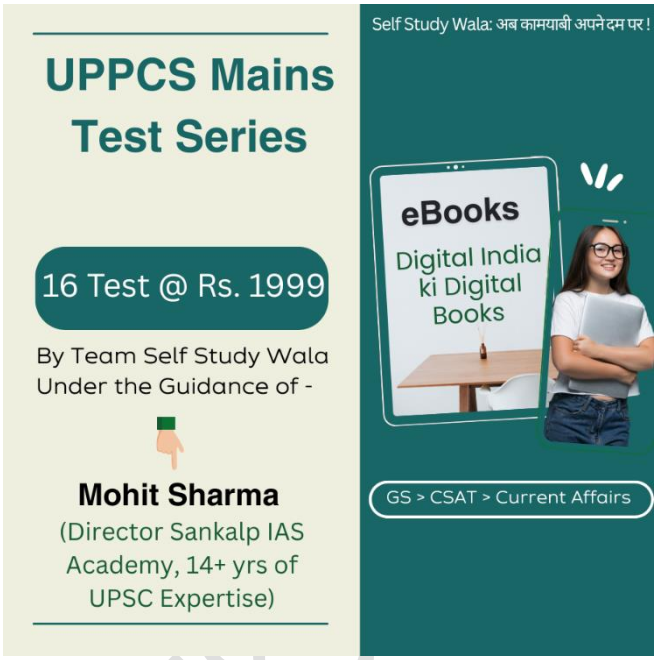
(c) Stealth antenna system for naval ships

(d) Missile defense system jointly developed with Israel

Answer: (c)

Explanation: It enhances stealth by integrating antennas into a conical mast structure.

Why in News: India and Japan signed MoU to co-develop it for Indian Navy ships.



Question 125. What is the name of the world's first wooden satellite launched by Japan?

(a) WakoSat

(b) LignoSat

(c) WoodCube

(d) BioCube

Answer: (b) LignoSat

Explanation: Japan launched LignoSat to test durability of wood in space conditions.

Why in News: LignoSat was sent to ISS via SpaceX to test structural viability of wood in extreme space temperatures.

Question 126. Consider the following:

1. ZIMSAT-2 is Zimbabwe's second satellite.
2. It was launched from the Kennedy Space Center, USA.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both

(d) Neither

Answer: (a) Only 1

Explanation: ZIMSAT-2 was launched from Russia's Vostochny Cosmodrome, not the USA.

Why in News: Zimbabwe launched ZIMSAT-2 as part of its space tech ambitions.

Question 127. Assertion (A): AI systems often face a "Black Box" problem.

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Reason (R): It is difficult to explain how outputs are derived from inputs.

Code:

(a) Both A and R are true, and R is correct Explanation.

(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not correct Explanation.

(c) A is true, R is false.

(d) A is false, R is true.

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Assertion (A): AI systems often face a "Black Box" problem

True. Especially in complex models like deep learning neural networks, the internal working is often opaque and not easily understandable, even to the developers. This is referred to as the “black box” problem.

Reason (R): It is difficult to explain how outputs are derived from inputs

True. This is precisely why it's called a black box — the decision-making logic is not transparent or interpretable in human terms.

Therefore, both A and R are correct, and R is the correct Explanation of A.

Why in News: The issue is being discussed in global AI regulation frameworks.

Question 128. Choose the true statement:

(a) Arrow-3 is a short-range interceptor.

(b) David’s Sling is developed by India.

(c) Iron Dome neutralizes short-range projectiles.

(d) Arrow-2 operates in outer space.

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Iron Dome targets short-range threats; Arrow-3 intercepts in space.

Why in News: Arrow-3 to be deployed in Germany amid missile defense agreements.

Question 129. Match the following – Missile Systems:

A. LRLACM – 1. India

B. Tomahawk – 2. USA

C. BrahMos – 3. India-Russia

D. Iron Dome – 4. Israel

Code:

(a) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(b) A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2

(c) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3

(d) A-1, B-4, C-3, D-2

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

A. LRLACM – 1. India

LRLACM stands for Long-Range Land Attack Cruise Missile, developed by India's DRDO. It is part of India's indigenous missile development.

B. Tomahawk – 2. USA

The Tomahawk is a long-range, all-weather, subsonic cruise missile developed by the United States. Widely used by the US Navy.

C. BrahMos – 3. India-Russia

BrahMos is a joint venture between India and Russia, and is one of the fastest supersonic cruise missiles in the world.

D. Iron Dome – 4. Israel

The Iron Dome is a mobile all-weather air defense system developed by Israel to intercept short-range rockets and artillery shells.

Why in News: India tested LRLACM with terrain hugging capability.

Question 130. What is the current extended range of Guided Pinaka Rocket?

(a) 40 km

(b) 75+ km

(c) 100+ km

(d) 120 km

Answer: (b) 75+ km

Explanation: The Guided Pinaka Rocket is an indigenously developed artillery rocket system by DRDO and manufactured by Indian defense firms.

The original Pinaka had a range of up to 40 km, which was unguided.

The Guided Pinaka version has been upgraded with:

Improved accuracy via an inertial navigation system (INS) and GPS guidance.

Extended range of over 75 kilometers.

It serves as a precision strike weapon system in the Indian Army’s arsenal.

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Why in News: DRDO completed successful trials of Guided Pinaka.

Question 131. Choose the incorrect statement about missile speeds:

(a) Hypersonic = 5–10 Mach

(b) Supersonic = 1–5 Mach

(c) BrahMos = Hypersonic

(d) Long-range hypersonic missile = 1500+ km

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

(a) Hypersonic = 5–10 Mach

Correct. Hypersonic speeds are defined as Mach 5 and above (i.e., 5 times the speed of sound or higher).

(b) Supersonic = 1–5 Mach

Correct. Supersonic missiles travel between Mach 1 and Mach 5.

(c) BrahMos = Hypersonic

Incorrect.

BrahMos is a supersonic cruise missile with a speed of Mach 2.8–3.0.

It is not hypersonic (does not reach Mach 5).

However, India and Russia are developing BrahMos-II, which aims to be hypersonic, but it is still under development.

(d) Long-range hypersonic missile = 1500+ km

Correct. Hypersonic glide vehicles or long-range hypersonic missiles (like Russia's Avangard or China's DF-ZF) are designed to travel hundreds to thousands of kilometers, often exceeding 1500 km in range.

Why in News: India tested its first 1500 km-range hypersonic missile.

Question 132. Which country topped patent filings in WIPO Indicators 2024?

(a) USA

(b) India

(c) China

(d) Japan

Answer: (c) China

Explanation: China leads in patents, trademarks, and designs globally.

Why in News: WIPO released World IP Indicators where India ranks in top 10.

Question 133. What material is used in the stealth system "Analakshya" developed by IIT Kanpur?

(a) Graphene

(b) Textile-based metamaterial

(c) Titanium mesh

(d) Liquid crystal polymer

Answer: (b) Textile-based metamaterial

Explanation: IIT-K's Anālakshya is a microwave absorber using textile-based metamaterials.

Why in News: IIT Kanpur launched India's first stealth cloaking textile for radar invisibility.

Question 134. Choose the true statement:

(a) IL-35 may protect from autoimmune diabetes

(b) IL-35 destroys beta cells in pancreas

(c) It causes inflammation in gut lining

(d) IL-35 is a cancer-causing protein

Answer: (a)

Explanation: IL-35 suppresses T-cells that attack insulin-producing beta cells.

Why in News: Guwahati IASST researchers proposed IL-35 for Type-1 diabetes treatment.

Question 135. What are "bactoneurons" developed by Indian scientists?

(a) Bacteria that cause brain inflammation

(b) Engineered bacteria that perform computation

(c) Cancer-treating microbes

(d) Soil-enhancing biofertilizers

Answer: (b)

Explanation: E. coli engineered to mimic neural computation via fluorescence.

Why in News: Saha Institute demonstrated living bacteria as logic processors.

Question 136. Statement I: AMR is caused by microbial resistance to antibiotics.

Statement II: WHO leads the Global Joint Secretariat on AMR.

Choose correct:

(a) Only I

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(b) Only II

(c) Both I and II

(d) Neither

Answer: (c)

Explanation: WHO, FAO, UNEP and WOAH collaborate under AMR Secretariat.

Why in News: Jeddah Commitments 2024 adopted to combat global AMR.

Question 137. What is BRIC-NABI Institute's primary focus?

(a) Organic mining

(b) Smart satellite manufacturing

(c) Agri-food biomanufacturing

(d) Smart grid development

Answer: (c)

Explanation: BRIC-NABI will enhance sustainable food systems via biotech.

Why in News: India's first Biomanufacturing Institute inaugurated in Mohali.

Question 138. Match – Days with Dates:

A. World Pneumonia Day – 1. 12 November

B. National Milk Day – 2. 26 November

C. Constitution Day – 3. 26 November

D. World Toilet Day – 4. 19 November

Code:

(a) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(b) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

(c) A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2

(d) A-4, B-2, C-1, D-3

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Each day is commemorated on the correct date listed.

Why in News: All these days were observed with special themes in 2024.

Question 139. Assertion (A): Constitution Day marks the adoption of the Indian Constitution.

Reason (R): It is celebrated every year on 26 January.

Code:

(a) Both A and R are true, and R is correct Explanation.

(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not correct Explanation.

(c) A is true, R is false

(d) A is false, R is true

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Constitution Day is on 26 November; Republic Day is on 26 January.

Why in News: Observed with special programmes across institutions.

Question 140. Identify the incorrect pair:

(a) Hojagiri Day – Tripura

(b) Rani Lakshmibai – Born in Gwalior

(c) Acharya Kripalani – Led Congress in 1946

(d) Lala Lajpat Rai – Died during Simon Commission protest

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Rani Lakshmibai was born in Varanasi, not Gwalior.

Why in News: All commemorated during November 2024 for respective anniversaries.

Question 141. Who is the author of Living the Asian Century?

(a) Ramachandra Guha

(b) Kishore Mahbubani

(c) Manu S. Pillai

(d) Nandan Nilekani

Answer: (b) Kishore Mahbubani

Explanation: Kishore Mahbubani is known for works on Asian geopolitics.

Why in News: Featured in UPSC-relevant book lists and GK columns.

Question 142. Which of the following personalities have been elected as Prime Minister for the third time in recent years?

(a) Pravind Jugnauth – Mauritius

(b) Duma Boko – Botswana

(c) Narendra Modi – India

(d) Navin Ramgoolam – Mauritius

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

Code:

(a) Only (c)

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(b) (a) and (c)

(c) (a) and (d)

(d) (b) and (d)

Answer: (b) (a) and (c)

Explanation:

(a) Pravind Jugnauth – Mauritius

Recently elected for a third term as Prime Minister of Mauritius.

(b) Duma Boko – Botswana

He is the leader of the opposition in Botswana and has not been elected PM.

(c) Narendra Modi – India

Elected as Prime Minister of India for the third consecutive term in 2024.

(d) Navin Ramgoolam – Mauritius

He is a former PM, but has not been re-elected recently.

Question 143. Who won the Rohini Nayyar Prize 2024 for grassroots innovation?

(a) Ravi Kumar

(b) Gaurav Goyal

(c) Anil Pradhan

(d) Pratik Sinha

Answer: (c) Anil Pradhan

Explanation: He is co-founder of Young Tinker Foundation promoting mobile STEM labs.

Why in News: Honoured for empowering rural Odisha youth through robotics education.

Question 144. Choose the correct statement:

(a) Samantha Harvey won Booker 2024 for "Orbital"

(b) Ballon d'Or 2024 was won by Neymar

(c) Ricky Kej won his first Grammy in 2024

(d) PM Modi won Nobel Peace Prize

Answer: (a)

Explanation: "Orbital" won the 2024 Booker Prize for its space-based narrative.

Why in News: Booker, Grammy, and international peace awards announced.

Question 145. Identify the correct statement:

(a) World Immunization Day is on 12 Nov

(b) 2024 Theme of World Toilet Day: "Safe Toilets for All"

(c) India was certified Yaws-free in 2015

(d) National Education Day is celebrated on 26 Jan

Answer: (c)

Explanation: India became the first Yaws-free country as per WHO.

Why in News: Cited during observance of World Immunization and Health Days 2024.

Question 146. Which of the following correctly explains RNA editing over DNA editing?

(a) RNA editing is permanent

(b) DNA editing is safer

(c) RNA editing is temporary and reversible

(d) Both are same

Answer: (c)

Explanation: RNA editing does not alter genome and effects fade over time.

Why in News: RNA editing success in clinical trials made global headlines.

Question 147. Which of the following correctly describes the Agni-Prime missile tested in November 2024?

(a) Surface-to-surface ballistic missile with 500 km range

(b) Hypersonic cruise missile tested for the first time

(c) Intermediate-range ballistic missile with range up to 2000 km

(d) Submarine-launched ballistic missile with GPS guidance

Answer – (c) Intermediate-range ballistic missile with range up to 2000 km

Explanation –

Agni-Prime is a next-generation ballistic missile developed by DRDO, with a range of 1000–2000 km, and was successfully tested in November 2024. It is lighter and more accurate than earlier Agni series missiles.

Question 148. Which Indian city hosted the International Purple Fest for Disability Awareness in November 2024?

(a) Bengaluru

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(b) Varanasi

(c) Panaji

(d) Lucknow

Answer – (c) Panaji

Explanation –

The International Purple Fest, a major event for promoting awareness on disability rights and inclusion, was held in Panaji, Goa, featuring global participants and cultural programs.

Question 149. India and which country launched a joint Green Hydrogen Mission in November 2024?

(a) France

(b) Japan

(c) Australia

(d) Germany

Answer – (d) Germany

Explanation –

As part of India–Germany Green & Sustainable Development Partnership, both countries launched a joint Green Hydrogen initiative to promote clean energy, technology transfer, and funding in November 2024.

Question 150. Choose the correct statement about India's position in the Global Hunger Index 2024 (released in November):

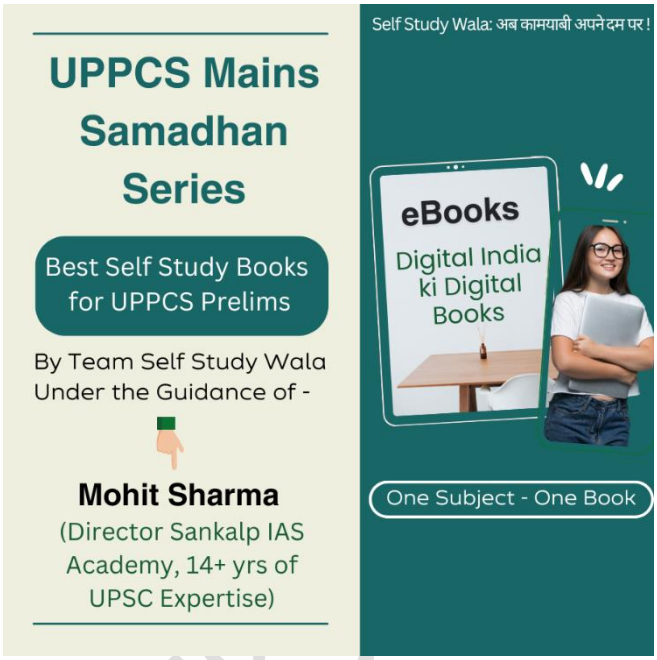
(a) India improved its ranking by 20 places over 2023

(b) India was ranked below all South Asian neighbours

(c) The index was jointly released by World Bank and FAO

(d) India was in the "low hunger" category

Answer – (b) India was ranked below all South Asian neighbours

Explanation –

As per recent patterns, India often ranks below Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Pakistan in the Global Hunger Index. In 2024 too, it was placed in the "serious" category, sparking debates over data validity.