

UPPCS Prelims 2025 Test 8 (Solution) – Current Affairs 2 (January + February) (SSW - 8077834630)

**UPPCS Prelims
2025
Current Affairs**

10 Month @ Rs. 199

By Team Self Study Wala
Under the Guidance of -



Mohit Sharma
(Director Sankalp IAS
Academy, 14+ yrs of
UPSC Expertise)

Self Study Wala: अब कामयाबी अपनेदम पर!



eMockTest
Digital India
ki Digital
Magazines

Bilingual, 2500+ Topics

Question 1. Which of the following states had the highest percentage of groundwater samples exceeding safe nitrate levels, as per the Annual Ground Water Quality Report 2024?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Rajasthan
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Haryana

Answer: (b) Rajasthan

Explanation: Rajasthan had 49% of its tested samples above the nitrate safety limit, the highest among the states mentioned.

Question 2. Consider the following statements about nitrate contamination:

1. It causes a condition known as Blue Baby Syndrome.
2. It reduces the oxygen-carrying capacity of red blood cells.

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: Nitrate contamination of drinking water, especially due to fertilizers leaching into

groundwater, is a serious environmental and health concern.

Statement 1 is correct:

Nitrate contamination is known to cause Blue Baby Syndrome (also called methemoglobinemia), a condition primarily affecting infants. In this syndrome, nitrates are converted to nitrites in the body, which bind to hemoglobin to form methemoglobin, which cannot carry oxygen efficiently.

Statement 2 is correct:

The formation of methemoglobin impairs the oxygen-carrying capacity of red blood cells. As a result, less oxygen is delivered to body tissues, leading to symptoms such as skin discoloration, fatigue, and in severe cases, death.

Question 3. Arrange the following in ascending order of India's GHG emissions contribution by sector (BUR-4):

- A. Waste
- B. Industry
- C. Agriculture
- D. Energy

Code:

- (a) $A < B < C < D$
- (b) $B < A < C < D$
- (c) $C < A < B < D$
- (d) $D < C < B < A$

Answer: (a)

Explanation: As per India's Fourth Biennial Update Report (BUR-4) submitted to the UNFCCC in 2024, the sector-wise contributions to total Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions are as follows (for the year 2019):

1. Waste – 2.56%
2. Industry – 8.06%
3. Agriculture – 13.72%
4. Energy – 75.66%

Question 4. Which of the following is the theme of Grameen Bharat Mahotsav 2025?

- (a) Atmanirbhar Rural India
- (b) Innovation for Rural Economy

(c) Building a Resilient Rural India for a Viksit Bharat 2024

(d) Panchayati Raj: Back to Basics

Answer: (c)

Explanation: The official theme for the 2025 edition was: "Building a Resilient Rural India for a Viksit Bharat 2024"

This theme aligns with the national objective of achieving a developed India (Viksit Bharat) by enhancing the capacities of rural communities, promoting sustainable livelihoods, and empowering panchayats and self-help groups.

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

(a) Pangong Lake – Saline Water Lake

(b) Melatonin – Sleep-Wake Cycle

(c) Surya Kiran Exercise – Bhutan

(d) CROPS – ISRO Orbital Plant Study

Answer: (c)

Explanation: (a) Pangong Lake – Saline Water Lake

Correctly matched. Pangong Tso is a saline lake in Ladakh that extends into Tibet.

Why in news: The lake was in news due to ongoing India-China border discussions and the upcoming tourism development projects by India along the lake to boost local economy and security.

(b) Melatonin – Sleep-Wake Cycle

Correctly matched. Melatonin is a hormone regulating the human circadian rhythm (sleep-wake cycle)

Why in news: Melatonin was in news due to rising use of melatonin supplements in India, especially post-COVID, as sleep disorders and awareness about circadian health have increased.

(c) Surya Kiran Exercise – Bhutan

Incorrectly matched. Surya Kiran is a bilateral military exercise between India and Nepal, not Bhutan.

Why in news: The 17th edition of Surya Kiran was held in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand, in 2024, highlighting growing India-Nepal defense cooperation.

(d) CROPS – ISRO Orbital Plant Study

Correctly matched. CROPS stands for Controlled Research on Orbital Plant Systems, part of ISRO's space biology research.

Why in news: ISRO recently initiated experiments to grow plants in microgravity aboard space missions, under its preparation for long-duration human spaceflight programs (like Gaganyaan and beyond).

Question 6. Which country became the 11th member of BRICS in 2025?

(a) Egypt

(b) Saudi Arabia

(c) Indonesia

(d) UAE

Answer: (c) Indonesia

Explanation: BRICS officially added Indonesia as its 10th member in 2025.

BRICS originally consisted of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

In 2024, the grouping invited six new countries to join: Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. However, Argentina declined the invitation in early 2024. As of January 2024, five countries officially joined, raising the total to 10 members.

Indonesia joined as the 11th member on **January 6, 2025.**

Question 7. Which of the following correctly describes "Iron Rice Bowl"?

(a) Chinese pension scheme

(b) Private job incentive scheme

(c) Guaranteed lifetime government job

(d) Government food subsidy program

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Iron Rice Bowl refers to guaranteed lifelong employment in Chinese civil services.

The Iron Rice Bowl concept was in the news recently as China faces rising youth unemployment, prompting debates about:

- The return of government job preference among Chinese youth.
- Comparisons with India's Sarkari Naukri culture, where secure public jobs remain highly aspirational.

Question 8. Consider the following about T-bills:

1. Issued by RBI on behalf of government
2. Carry interest payments every quarter
3. Issued at discount and redeemed at face value

Which of the statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation: T-Bills are zero coupon, so no interest; issued at a discount.

T-bills were in news recently as the Government of India increased short-term borrowing through T-bills amid revenue-expenditure mismatches.

Retail and institutional investors are also showing rising interest due to higher yields amid inflation and rate changes by RBI.

Question 9. Which Indian became the new ISRO Chairman in 2025?

- (a) S. Somanath
- (b) V. Narayanan
- (c) K. Sivan
- (d) Aniruddh Joshi

Answer: (b) V. Narayanan

Explanation: He succeeded S. Somanath and is a propulsion expert.

Question 10. Which of the following best defines “Quantum Entanglement”?

- (a) Entangling particles using magnets
- (b) Random transfer of energy
- (c) Instantaneous effect on one particle due to change in the other, regardless of distance
- (d) Slowing down of light in a vacuum

Answer: (c)

Explanation: It refers to correlated quantum states, famously termed “Spooky Action at a Distance” by Einstein.

Quantum Entanglement was recently in news due to:

- India’s National Quantum Mission (2023–2031) which aims to develop quantum

communication and encryption using entanglement-based technologies.

- Advancements in quantum satellites by China and India.

Question 11. Who was awarded the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna in 2024 for chess?

- (a) Arjun Erigaisi
- (b) R. Praggnanandhaa
- (c) Gukesh D
- (d) Koneru Humpy

Answer: (c) Gukesh D

Explanation: D. Gukesh, the Indian chess prodigy and reigning World Chess Champion, received the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award on January 17, 2025, for his outstanding performances—including winning the 2024 World Chess Championship and achieving double gold at the 45th Chess Olympiad.

He became the youngest recipient of India’s top sporting honor, awarded by the President.

Question 12. India’s metro network is now the _____ largest in the world by operational length.

- (a) First
- (b) Second
- (c) Third
- (d) Fourth

Answer: (c) Third

Explanation: As of 2024–25, India’s metro rail network has become the third-largest in the world in terms of operational length, after China and the USA.

India has over 900 kilometers of operational metro rail across 15+ cities, with rapid expansion ongoing in cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, and Pune.

The Delhi Metro alone accounts for over 390 km, making it one of the longest individual metro networks globally.

This reflects India’s push for urban mass rapid transit systems to reduce congestion, pollution, and improve urban mobility.

Question 13. Which Indian state hosted the first coastal and wader bird census in January 2025?

- (a) Tamil Nadu

(b) Maharashtra

(c) Gujarat

(d) Odisha

Answer: (c) Gujarat

Explanation:

The first coastal and wader bird census in January 2025 was held in Gujarat, specifically:

From 3rd to 5th January 2025, the Gujarat Forest Department, in partnership with the Bird Conservation Society of Gujarat, conducted India's first-ever Coastal and Wader Bird Census at the Marine National Park and Sanctuary, Jamnagar

The event covered about 170 km of coastline along the Gulf of Kutch and recorded hundreds of wader and coastal bird species

Conducted in **Jamnagar Marine National Park and Sanctuary**.

Question 14. Consider the following statements about Norovirus:

1. It spreads via oral-fecal route.
2. It causes respiratory illness.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Norovirus causes vomiting and diarrhea, not respiratory issues.

In January–February 2025, Norovirus was reported in the news due to a small outbreak in Kerala, particularly affecting school children in Wayanad and Ernakulam districts.

Question 15. Project VISTAAR is related to:

(a) Digital irrigation

(b) Rural e-governance

(c) Agricultural extension digitization

(d) Tribal welfare digitization

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Project VISTAAR (Vulnerable India's Systematic Transformation for Actionable Advancements and

Reform) is an initiative launched in January 2025 by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) in collaboration with Tata Trusts.

VISTAAR aims to strengthen agriculture extension systems digitally.

Question 16. In which region was the rare Banded Royal butterfly recently spotted?

(a) Arunachal Pradesh

(b) Assam

(c) Tripura

(d) Meghalaya

Answer: (c) Tripura

Explanation: Spotted in Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary for the first time in Tripura.

Question 17. What is the full form of CROPS launched by ISRO?

(a) Centre for Research on Orbital Plant Studies

(b) Compact Research Module for Orbital Plant Studies

(c) Controlled Research Operations on Plant Spaceflight

(d) Cultivation Research on Orbital Plant System

Answer: (b)

Explanation: CROPS stands for Compact Research Module for Orbital Plant Studies.

Question 18. Which of the following vehicles are covered under End-of-Life Vehicle Rules, 2025?

(a) Power Tillers

(b) Agricultural trailers

(c) E-Rickshaws

(d) Tractors

Answer: (c)

Explanation: The rules apply to all vehicles under Motor Vehicles Act, including electric vehicles and e-rickshaws. Agriculture vehicles are excluded.

Question 19. Which fish species' protein helped successfully repair damaged mouse hearts, as per recent research?

(a) Catfish

(b) Zebrafish

(c) Goldfish

(d) Rohu

Answer: (b) Zebrafish

Explanation: Zebrafish possess an active Hmga1 gene post-embryonic development, unlike in humans and mice, enabling tissue regeneration.

Recent biomedical research has shown that a protein found in zebrafish can stimulate heart repair in mammals, particularly mice, whose hearts were experimentally damaged.

The zebrafish is known for its remarkable regenerative ability, especially the ability to regrow damaged heart tissue.

This finding was in the news in early 2025 as scientists published a breakthrough study demonstrating cross-species regenerative capability using zebrafish proteins.

Question 20. Consider the following statements:

1. Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant is India's largest planned nuclear project.
2. NGC 3785 is located in the Virgo constellation.

Which of the statements above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

The Jaitapur Nuclear Power Project in Maharashtra is planned to have 6 reactors of 1,650 MW each, built with French company EDF (using EPR technology).

The total planned capacity is 9,900 MW, making it India's largest and the world's most powerful nuclear plant once completed.

Jaitapur Nuclear Project was in the news in 2025 due to the renewed India-France strategic energy partnership, where EDF and NPCIL moved ahead with pre-construction activities, land assessment, and clearances for the project.

NGC 3785 is located in the Leo constellation, and the question about Jaitapur is unrelated here.

NGC 3785 was mentioned in international science bulletins as part of a study on spiral galaxies, but not related to Virgo, which makes the second statement incorrect.

Question 21. Match the following vessels with their type:

- A. INS Surat – 1. Stealth Frigate
- B. INS Nilgiri – 2. Submarine
- C. INS Vaghsheer – 3. Destroyer

Code:

A B C

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

INS Surat – Destroyer

- INS Surat is a Visakhapatnam-class (Project 15B) guided-missile destroyer being constructed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL).
- It is the fourth destroyer in this class and one of India's most advanced surface combatants.

INS Nilgiri – Stealth Frigate

- INS Nilgiri is the lead ship of Project 17A (advanced stealth frigates).
- It incorporates stealth, improved weaponry, and sensors, and is named after the original Nilgiri-class of the Indian Navy.

INS Vaghsheer – Submarine

- INS Vaghsheer is the sixth Scorpene-class (Kalvari-class) submarine, built under Project 75.
- It is a diesel-electric attack submarine, enhancing India's underwater combat capability.

Question 22. Choose the true statement:

- (a) Amulya and Akshay are indigenously designed stealth aircraft.
- (b) INS Surat is India's first submarine with AI.
- (c) INS Vaghsheer is part of Project 75 and a Scorpene-class submarine.
- (d) Twigstats is used for ocean biodiversity mapping.

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

(a) Amulya and Akshay are indigenously designed stealth aircraft – Incorrect

These are not names of stealth aircraft in India's inventory. India's indigenous stealth aircraft project is known as AMCA (Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft).

"Amulya" and "Akshay" are not associated with any official defence aviation projects.

(b) INS Surat is India's first submarine with AI – Incorrect

INS Surat is a destroyer, not a submarine.

It is part of Project 15B, and not known for any AI-based submarine role.

(c) INS Vaghsheer is part of Project 75 and a Scorpene-class submarine – Correct

INS Vaghsheer is the sixth submarine in the Kalvari-class (Scorpene-class), developed under Project 75 with French collaboration.

It is a diesel-electric attack submarine, enhancing underwater capabilities of the Indian Navy.

(d) Twigstats is used for ocean biodiversity mapping – Incorrect

No tool or system by the name "Twigstats" is recognized in the context of ocean biodiversity mapping.

Tools used for such purposes include OBIS (Ocean Biodiversity Information System) and GIS-based marine mapping systems, not "Twigstats".

Question 23. India's first organic fisheries cluster was launched in which state?

(a) Meghalaya

(b) Arunachal Pradesh

(c) Sikkim

(d) Manipur

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

India's first Organic Fisheries Cluster was launched in Sikkim in January 2025.

This initiative aims to promote chemical-free aquaculture, in line with Sikkim's status as India's first organic state.

The project was launched under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

It was launched in **Soreng district** of Sikkim under PMMSY.

Question 24. Bhargavastra, recently tested by India, is designed to counter which threat?

(a) Ballistic missiles

(b) Swarm drones

(c) Underwater mines

(d) Enemy aircraft

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Bhargavastra is a micro-missile system for neutralizing swarm drone attacks. Bhargavastra was recently tested successfully by Indian defense authorities as part of boosting counter-drone capabilities.

Question 25. Choose the incorrect match:

(a) Hollongapar Sanctuary – Assam

(b) Hoolock Gibbon – Endangered species

(c) Manis indoburmanica – Indian Pangolin species

(d) Project 75 – Destroyers

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

(a) Hollongapar Sanctuary – Assam

Correct. Located in Jorhat district, it is known for its evergreen forests and home to Hoolock Gibbons.

(b) Hoolock Gibbon – Endangered species

Correct. The Western Hoolock Gibbon is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List.

(c) Manis indoburmanica – Indian Pangolin species

Correct. Manis pentadactyla and Manis crassicaudata are more commonly referenced, but Manis indoburmanica is a newly identified pangolin species in the Indo-Burma region, closely linked to Indian biodiversity studies.

(d) Project 75 – Destroyers

Incorrect because Project 75 refers to the construction of submarines, not destroyers.

It is a part of India's plan to build Scorpène-class diesel-electric attack submarines in collaboration with France's Naval Group.

These submarines are built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL).

Destroyers are surface warships, not submarines, and fall under separate naval projects (e.g., Project 15B for Visakhapatnam-class destroyers).

**UPPCS
Prelims Test
Series**

25 Test @ Rs. 299

By Team Self Study Wala
Under the Guidance of -



Mohit Sharma
(Director Sankalp IAS
Academy, 14+ yrs of
UPSC Expertise)

Self Study Wala: अब कामयाबी अपने दम पर!



eBooks
Digital India
ki Digital
Books

GS > CSAT > Current Affairs

Question 26. Consider the following about the Silver Notice launched by INTERPOL:

1. Helps track missing persons across countries
2. Aims at tracing assets acquired through criminal activity

Which is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Silver Notice is meant for tracing and recovering criminal assets like property, vehicles, and accounts.

Question 27. Which region saw the highest percentage increase in coastline as per Home Ministry's recent report?

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) West Bengal
- (d) Goa

Answer: (c)

Explanation: West Bengal's coastline increased from 157 km to 721 km — a 357% rise.

The Home Ministry released a report on India's Coastal Security and Surveillance, highlighting changes in coastal geography across states.

Question 28. What is the primary benefit of the SSI Mantra surgical system?

- (a) Submarine tracking
- (b) Space medicine
- (c) Long-distance robotic tele-surgery
- (d) Satellite-based diagnostics

Answer: (c)

Explanation: SSI Mantra is India's indigenous robotic system for remote tele-surgery and medical education.

Question 29. Which organization launched the 'Garudakshi' FIR portal to curb forest crimes?

- (a) Tamil Nadu Forest Dept.
- (b) Indian Forest Service
- (c) Karnataka Forest Department
- (d) Central Wildlife Bureau

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Garudakshi was launched by Karnataka Forest Department to digitize FIRs on forest crimes.

Question 30. The 'Firefly' satellite constellation has been launched by which Indian startup?

- (a) Skyroot
- (b) Agnikul
- (c) Pixxel
- (d) Bellatrix

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Bengaluru-based Pixxel launched India's first private satellite constellation 'Firefly' via SpaceX.

Question 31. Consider the following regarding India's undersea mission 'MATSYA 6000':

1. Aims to send 3 persons to 6,000 m depth.
2. Supports deep-sea mining of critical minerals.
3. Is part of the Deep Ocean Mission.

Which statements 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: MATSYA 6000 is India's first manned undersea submersible developed under the Deep Ocean Mission by the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

Aims to send 3 persons to 6,000 m depth – Correct

MATSYA 6000 is designed to carry 3 humans into the deep sea, up to 6,000 meters (6 km).

It will be used for exploration and scientific research in the deep ocean.

Supports deep-sea mining of critical minerals – Correct

One major goal is to aid in mining polymetallic nodules and other critical minerals such as cobalt, nickel, copper, and manganese from the seabed.

Is part of the Deep Ocean Mission – Correct

MATSYA 6000 is a key component of India's ₹4,077 crore Deep Ocean Mission, launched to promote blue economy, research, biodiversity study, and resource mapping.

Question 32. Which Indian organization received the Subhash Chandra Bose Disaster Management Award 2025?

- (a) ISRO
- (b) DRDO
- (c) INCOIS
- (d) NDRF

Answer: (c)

Explanation: INCOIS, Hyderabad was awarded for excellence in ocean-based disaster management.

The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, was awarded the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2025 in the institutional category, as announced by the Press Information Bureau (PIB).

INCOIS operates under the Ministry of Earth Sciences and plays a critical role in disaster risk reduction, especially in early warning services for tsunamis, storm surges, and ocean-related hazards.

It provides real-time ocean information and advisory services to various stakeholders,

including fishermen, coastal authorities, and disaster management agencies.

The award recognizes INCOIS's significant contributions to disaster preparedness and mitigation, particularly through science-based ocean data dissemination and tsunami early warning systems.

Question 33. 'Trajan' artillery system was developed jointly by:

- (a) India–UK
- (b) India–Russia
- (c) India–France
- (d) India–Israel

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Trajan 155 mm artillery system was developed by India's L&T and France's KNDS.

Question 34. What is the rank of India in overall QS World Future Skills Index 2025?

- (a) 2nd
- (b) 5th
- (c) 15th
- (d) 25th

Answer: (d)

Explanation: India ranked 25th overall but 2nd in digital skills readiness.

Question 35. The 'Yala Glacier' is located in which country?

- (a) India
- (b) Bhutan
- (c) China
- (d) Nepal

Answer: (d)

Explanation: Yala Glacier in Nepal is listed as "Critically Endangered" under the Global Glacier Casualty List.

Question 36. The "Call Before You Dig" mobile app is associated with:

- (a) Telecom infrastructure safety
- (b) Forest clearance tracking
- (c) Mining lease mapping
- (d) Railway asset management

Answer: (a)

Explanation: The CBuD app ensures safety during digging in areas with underground telecom infrastructure.

Question 37. Who was honored with Singapore's Honorary Citizenship Award in 2025?

- (a) Azim Premji
- (b) Tarun Das
- (c) Ratan Tata
- (d) Rajnish Kumar

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Tarun Das became the second Indian after Ratan Tata to receive Singapore's highest civilian honor.

Question 38. Which ministry launched the 'Prabhaav Factbook'?

- (a) Ministry of Finance
- (b) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- (c) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (d) Ministry of MSME

Answer: (c)

Explanation: It was launched by the DPIIT under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Question 39. "Sachetisation" as per SEBI is aimed at:

- (a) Encouraging high-value equity investments
- (b) Allowing IPOs below ₹1 crore
- (c) Offering small-ticket mutual fund products
- (d) Regulating chit fund schemes

Answer: (c)

Explanation: SEBI proposed investments as low as ₹250 to encourage small investors.

Question 40. Choose the correct statement:

- (a) Global Glacier Casualty List includes only South American glaciers.
- (b) IMD was founded in 1875 and celebrated 150th year in 2025.
- (c) CAR-T cell therapy uses bacteria to destroy cancer cells.
- (d) Pixxel is a government-led satellite project.

Answer: (b)

Explanation: IMD was established in 1875. The other statements are incorrect.

Question 41. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched?

- 1. INS Mumbai – Indigenous Destroyer
- 2. IMD Vision 2047 – Weather and Climate Roadmap
- 3. La Pérouse – Indo-Russian Naval Exercise

Select correct pair(s):

- (a) Only 1
- (b) 1 and 2
- (c) 2 and 3
- (d) All three

Answer: (b)

Explanation: La Pérouse is a French-initiated multilateral naval exercise.

Question 42. Consider the following statements about the International Year of Glacier Preservation 2025:

- 1. It was proposed by India and adopted by UN in 2022.
- 2. World Glacier Day will be observed on March 21.
- 3. The Hindu Kush Himalayas are heating slower than global average.

Which are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation: HKH is heating twice as fast, so statement 3 is false.

Question 43. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Blue carbon ecosystems absorb CO₂ ten times faster than tropical forests.
- 2. Mangroves, seagrasses, and salt marshes are blue carbon sinks.

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: Recent Studies show coastal wetlands like mangroves absorb CO₂ at a rate ten times faster than tropical forests.

Question 44. What is the strike range of the 'Pralay' tactical missile (India's first tactical quasi-ballistic missile)?

- (a) 50–150 km
- (b) 100–300 km
- (c) 150–500 km
- (d) 250–700 km

Answer: (c) 150–500 km

Explanation: Pralay missile is India's first tactical quasi-ballistic missile with a range of 150 to 500 km.

Question 45. Philadelphi Corridor connects which two regions?

- (a) Gaza and Lebanon
- (b) Egypt and Israel
- (c) Gaza and Egypt
- (d) West Bank and Jordan

Answer: (c) Gaza and Egypt

Explanation: The corridor lies on the Egypt-Gaza border and includes the strategic Rafah Crossing.

Question 46. Consider the following statements:

1. Odisha topped FHI 2025 rankings.
2. The Index includes Debt Sustainability and Quality of Expenditure.

Which of the above 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: The Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025, released by the RBI, ranked Odisha at the top among all Indian states based on its overall fiscal performance.

Odisha performed well on parameters like debt sustainability, quality of expenditure, and revenue generation.

The FHI includes indicators across multiple dimensions:

- Debt Sustainability – assesses how well a state manages its debt in relation to GSDP.
- Quality of Expenditure – evaluates how much spending is directed toward development versus non-development heads.

It also includes components like revenue buoyancy, own tax revenue, capital outlay, etc.

Therefore, both statements are correct, and the correct answer is (c) Both 1 and 2.

Question 47. Which institution developed the 'SANJAY' Battlefield Surveillance System?

- (a) DRDO
- (b) BEL and Indian Army
- (c) HAL and ISRO
- (d) BARC

Answer: (b) BEL and Indian Army

Explanation: The Indian Army developed SANJAY BSS with BEL to share battlefield intelligence in real-time.

Question 48. Arrange the following as per year of launch:

- I. PM Fasal Bima Yojana
- II. Global Plastic Action Partnership
- III. SANJAY Surveillance System

Code:

- (a) I, II, III
- (b) II, I, III
- (c) I, III, II
- (d) II, III, I

Answer: (a) I, II, III

Explanation: PMFBY – 2016, GPAP – 2018, SANJAY – Launched in Jan 2025.

Question 49. Choose the correct statement:

- (a) TEAM is launched by Ministry of Commerce to boost ONDC exports.
- (b) TEAM supports MSMEs to join e-commerce networks like ONDC.
- (c) TEAM is part of Startup India.
- (d) TEAM is limited to export-oriented units only.

Answer: (b) TEAM supports MSMEs to join e-commerce networks like ONDC.

Explanation:

- **TEAM** stands for **Trade Enabling and Marketing Scheme**.
- It is a **Government of India** initiative under the **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)**.
- The primary objective of **TEAM** is to **enable and support MSMEs** to onboard and expand their presence on **e-commerce platforms**, including **ONDC (Open Network for Digital Commerce)**.
- The scheme promotes **digital inclusion, capacity building, and market access** for **domestic and export markets**, but it is **not limited to export-oriented units**.

Question 50. Consider the following:

1. India has been declared malaria-free by WHO.
2. Sri Lanka and Maldives are WHO-certified malaria-free countries.

Which is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) Only 2

Explanation: **Statement 1 – Incorrect:**

- India **has not yet been declared malaria-free** by the **World Health Organization (WHO)**.
- However, India has made significant progress and aims to **eliminate malaria by 2030** under the **National Framework for Malaria Elimination (NFME)**.

Statement 2 – Correct:

- Both **Sri Lanka (2016)** and **Maldives (2015)** have been officially **certified as malaria-free** by WHO.
- A country is declared malaria-free by WHO when it has **zero indigenous cases for at least three consecutive years** and a strong surveillance system.

**UPPCS Mains
Test Series**

16 Test @ Rs. 1999

By Team Self Study Wala
Under the Guidance of -


Mohit Sharma
(Director Sankalp IAS
Academy, 14+ yrs of
UPSC Expertise)

Self Study Wala: अब कामयाबी अपने दम पर!



eBooks
Digital India
ki Digital
Books



GS > CSAT > Current Affairs

Question 51. What is the name of the hybrid pension system effective from 1 April 2025, combining Old Pension Scheme (OPS) and New Pension Scheme (NPS) benefits?

- (a) National Retirement Guarantee Scheme
(b) Hybrid Pension Model
(c) Unified Pension Scheme
(d) Bharat Pension Plan

Answer: (c) Unified Pension Scheme

Explanation: UPS is a contributory and sustainable scheme offering guaranteed pension benefits to NPS opt-in employees.

Question 52. Atrax christenseni, recently discovered in Australia, is a species of:

- (a) Venomous snake
(b) Fungal parasite
(c) Jellyfish
(d) Funnel-web spider

Answer: (d) Funnel-web spider

Explanation: Atrax christenseni is a venomous spider species, closely related to Sydney's deadly funnel-web spider.

Question 53. Choose the incorrect statement about Wetland City Accreditation:

- (a) It is a mandatory certification under UNFCCC
(b) It promotes urban wetland conservation
(c) Indore and Udaipur are India's first recipients

(d) It was approved at COP-12 of Ramsar Convention

Answer: (a) It is a mandatory certification under UNFCCC

Explanation: It is a voluntary certification approved under Ramsar Convention, not UNFCCC.

Question 54. Who launched the Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025?

- (a) RBI Governor
- (b) Finance Minister
- (c) Chairman of 16th Finance Commission
- (d) NITI Aayog CEO

Answer: (c) Chairman of 16th Finance Commission

Explanation: Arvind Panagariya, chairman of 16th Finance Commission, launched FHI on 24 Jan 2025.

Question 55. The 2025 Kho-Kho World Cup was held in which venue?

- (a) Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar
- (b) Nehru Indoor Stadium, Chennai
- (c) Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi
- (d) Sardar Patel Stadium, Ahmedabad

Answer: (c) Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi

Explanation: The tournament took place in Delhi with India winning both men's and women's titles.

Question 56. World Braille Day is observed every year on –

- (a) 6 January
- (b) 4 January
- (c) 10 January
- (d) 15 January

Answer: (b) 4 January

Explanation: **World Braille Day** is observed **every year on 4 January**, the **birth anniversary of Louis Braille** (born in 1809), the inventor of the **Braille script** used by visually impaired people to read and write.

The day was proclaimed by the **United Nations in 2018** and first observed in **2019**.

The objective is to raise awareness about the importance of **Braille as a means of communication** for blind and partially sighted people, promoting **inclusion, accessibility, and equal rights**.

The **theme for World Braille Day 2025** is: **"Celebrating Accessibility and Inclusion for the Visually Impaired."**

Question 57. Choose the correct statement about World Day of War Orphans 2025:

- (a) It is observed on 5 January
- (b) Theme for 2025 is "Peace for Every Child"
- (c) Focus for 2025 includes climate change impacts
- (d) It is declared by UNGA

Answer: (c) Focus for 2025 includes climate change impacts

Explanation: 6 January is World Day of War Orphans, and 2025's focus includes war, displacement, poverty, and climate change impacts.

Question 58. Which country's President was the Chief Guest at India's 76th Republic Day 2025?

- (a) South Korea
- (b) Indonesia
- (c) France
- (d) Sri Lanka

Answer: (b) Indonesia

Explanation: Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto was the chief guest on 26 January 2025.

Question 59. Match the following harvest festivals with their states:

- A. Pongal – 1. Assam
- B. Bhogali Bihu – 2. Tamil Nadu
- C. Lohri – 3. Punjab
- D. Sukarat – 4. Madhya Pradesh

Code:

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

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

Explanation: All matches are correct as per respective regional harvest festival celebrations in January.

Question 60. Arrange the following days in chronological order (January):

- I. World Braille Day
- II. National Bird Day
- III. World Day of War Orphans

Code:

- (a) I, II, III
- (b) II, I, III
- (c) III, I, II
- (d) I, III, II

Answer: (b) II, I, III

Explanation: 5 Jan – National Bird Day, 4 Jan – Braille Day, 6 Jan – War Orphans Day.

Question 61. Which international award-winning Indian female athlete was appointed Chairperson of AFI Athletics Commission in 2025?

- (a) Hima Das
- (b) Anju Bobby George
- (c) P. T. Usha
- (d) Dutee Chand

Answer: (b) Anju Bobby George

Explanation: She was appointed Chairperson of the AFI Athletics Commission and is a former World Athletics bronze medalist.

Question 62. Choose the true statement about Padma Awards 2025:

- (a) Total 113 Padma Bhushan awards were announced
- (b) Padma Awards include a cash prize
- (c) Maximum 120 awards per year excluding posthumous/foreigners
- (d) Bharat Ratna was given to 7 persons in 2025

Answer: (c) Maximum 120 awards per year excluding posthumous/foreigners

Explanation: As per guidelines, 120 Padma awards is the general cap, excluding specific exemptions.

Question 63. Which Indian state will implement UCC for the first time independently in 2025?

- (a) Gujarat

- (b) Goa

- (c) Uttarakhand

- (d) Karnataka

Answer: (c) Uttarakhand

Explanation: Uttarakhand is the first Indian state to independently approve UCC legislation.

Question 64. Which recent space launch marked ISRO's 100th successful mission?

- (a) PSLV-C55
- (b) GSLV-F15
- (c) SSLV-D1
- (d) GSLV MkIII-D5

Answer: (b) GSLV-F15

Explanation: GSLV-F15 launched NVS-02 satellite, marking ISRO's 100th launch milestone.

Question 65. What is the full form of APAAR ID?

- (a) Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry
- (b) Advanced Personal Academic Access Record
- (c) All-Purpose Academic Admission Record
- (d) Automated Portal for Academic Resource

Answer: (a) Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry

Explanation:

In **2024–2025**, the **Union Government** directed all schools to begin registration of students under the **APAAR ID** system.

APAAR ID stands for **Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry**.

It is a unique **Education ID (Ed-ID)** launched under the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** and is managed by the **Ministry of Education** through **DigiLocker** and the **Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)** platform.

APAAR is aimed at creating a **lifetime digital identity** for every student, from pre-primary to higher education, recording academic achievements and facilitating credit transfers.

APAAR ID is a 12-digit academic ID launched under NEP 2020.

The APAAR initiative has been in the news as it is being implemented **nationwide across CBSE, ICSE, and state board schools** to enable **seamless**

academic credit tracking, transfer, and career mobility.

It is a major step toward building the **National Digital Education Ecosystem (NDEAR)** under **Digital India**.

Question 66. Consider the following about Zombie Deer Disease:

1. Caused by virus
2. Affects deer, elk, moose
3. Caused by prion

Which are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation: In 2024 and early 2025, Canada and some U.S. states reported a worrying spread of a fatal neurological illness among wild deer and elk populations, known as "Zombie Deer Disease" or Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD).

The disease is caused by a prion, not a virus, and affects cervid species like deer and elk.

Question 67. Which port city of Tamil Nadu now hosts India's first Sea Glass Bridge?

- (a) Rameswaram
- (b) Chennai
- (c) Kanyakumari
- (d) Thoothukudi

Answer: (c) Kanyakumari

Explanation: The Sea Glass Bridge was recently inaugurated to connect Vivekananda Rock Memorial to Thiruvalluvar Statue.

Question 68. Choose the correct statement about PM Surya Ghar Scheme:

- (a) It provides subsidy for solar water pumps
- (b) 100 units/month free power is given
- (c) Up to 60% subsidy on installation of 2kW rooftop solar units
- (d) Implemented by Ministry of Power

Answer: (c) Up to 60% subsidy on installation of 2kW rooftop solar units

Explanation: MNRE's PM Surya Ghar Scheme provides 60% subsidy for systems up to 2kW capacity.

Question 69. What is the mascot of 38th National Games 2025 held in Uttarakhand?

- (a) Himalaya
- (b) Shivalik
- (c) Mauli
- (d) Kedarnath

Answer: (c) Mauli

Explanation: Mauli, the Monal bird (state bird of Uttarakhand), was the mascot for the Games.

Question 70. Which disease is caused by Mycobacterium leprae?

- (a) Tuberculosis
- (b) Leprosy
- (c) Dengue
- (d) Pneumonia

Answer: (b) Leprosy

Explanation: Leprosy (Hansen's Disease) is caused by Mycobacterium leprae and affects skin and nerves.

Leprosy was in the news due to the **National Strategic Plan and Roadmap for Leprosy Elimination (2023–2027)** launched by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.

The goal is **zero leprosy transmission and zero discrimination** by 2027, with total elimination as a public health problem.

On **World Leprosy Day 2025** (observed on **28 January 2025**, last Sunday of January), the government emphasized:

- **Early detection campaigns**
- **Awareness drives in rural India**
- **Digital case-tracking tools under Nikusth 2.0 portal**

India still accounts for over 50% of global leprosy cases, making elimination efforts a **major public health priority**.

Question 71. Match the following personalities with their 2025 recognition:

A. Smriti Mandhana – 1. ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year

B. Jasprit Bumrah – 2. ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year

C. Arjun Erigaisi – 3. Beat World No.1 in Blitz Chess

D. Manush Shah – 4. TT Men's National Champion 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-2, C-1, D-3

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

Explanation: Each individual is correctly matched with their respective 2025 recognition.

Question 72. Which international commission is India chairing for the first time in 2025?

(a) UN Security Council

(b) UN Narcotic Drugs Commission

(c) UN Human Rights Commission

(d) UNSC Sanctions Committee

Answer: (b) UN Narcotic Drugs Commission

Explanation: India is presiding over the 68th session of the CND in 2025.

Question 73. What is the name of the AIR initiative launched for Kumbh Mela 2025?

(a) Sangam Radio

(b) Kumbh Vani

(c) Prayagraj Voice

(d) Mela Mahotsav

Answer: (b) Kumbh Vani

Explanation: Kumbh Vani is the 24x7 dedicated AIR channel to guide pilgrims and share cultural content.

Question 74. Recently, Himachal Pradesh approved a pilot study on cannabis cultivation for which purposes?

(a) Textile and tourism

(b) Medicinal and industrial

(c) Fuel and fiber

(d) Cosmetic and fragrance

Answer: (b) Medicinal and industrial

Explanation: Himachal Pradesh aims to evaluate the feasibility of controlled cannabis cultivation for medicinal and industrial use.

Question 75. Assertion (A): Tanneries in Tamil Nadu are causing high pollution in Palar River.

Reason (R): These industries produce low COD and are water-efficient.

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: (c) A is true, R is false

Explanation: Tanneries generate high COD due to untreated effluents; thus R is false.

Recently, The National Green Tribunal (NGT) and Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) took note of rising pollution levels in the Palar River.

Question 76. Which Indian state became the second to implement "Right to Die with Dignity" based on SC guidelines?

(a) Kerala

(b) Maharashtra

(c) Karnataka

(d) Tamil Nadu

Answer: (c) Karnataka

Explanation:

- In **January 2025**, **Maharashtra** became the **second state in India** (after **Kerala**) to **formally implement the "Right to Die with Dignity"** based on the **Supreme Court of India's guidelines** on **passive euthanasia and living wills**.
- This was done in compliance with the **Supreme Court's 2023 modification** of its earlier **2018 judgment** in the case of *Common Cause vs. Union of India*, which recognized:
 - The **right to die with dignity** as part of **Article 21 (Right to Life)** of the Constitution.

- The legal validity of **Living Wills** (advance medical directives).
- Detailed **procedures for passive euthanasia**, including consent from family, doctors, and a medical board.
- The Maharashtra government instructed **public and private hospitals** to set up **medical boards** and awareness systems regarding living wills and end-of-life care.
- **Kerala** was the **first** to implement it in **October 2023**.

Question 77. Consider the following new Ramsar sites:

1. Khecheopalri Lake
2. Sakkarakottai
3. Theerthangal
4. Chandertal

Which of the above were added in Feb 2025?

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

Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 3 only

Explanation: Khecheopalri (Sikkim), Theerthangal and Sakkarakottai (Tamil Nadu) were added in Feb 2025.

Question 78. Which country ranked as the most affected nation in the Global Climate Risk Index 2025?

- (a) Somalia
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Mozambique
- (d) Libya

Answer – (b) Pakistan

Explanation –

The **Global Climate Risk Index 2025**, published by **Germanwatch**, uses data from 2022 and ranks countries based on the impacts of extreme weather events.

According to the report, **Pakistan** was the country most affected in 2022 in terms of human loss and economic damage—primarily due to the **historic**

floods that caused estimated losses around **US \$30 billion**

While **Somalia** is highly climate-vulnerable, it was not ranked **first** in 2025; that title for 2022 goes to **Pakistan**, followed by **Belize** and **Italy**

Question 79. Unani Day 2025 was celebrated to commemorate –

- (a) Hakeem Lukman
- (b) Galen
- (c) Hippocrates
- (d) Hakim Ajmal Khan

Answer: (d) Hakim Ajmal Khan

Explanation: **Unani Day** is celebrated every year on **11 February** to commemorate the **birth anniversary of Hakim Ajmal Khan (1868–1927)**.

He was a **renowned Unani physician**, a **visionary freedom fighter**, and **founding figure of several medical and educational institutions** in India, including **Jamia Millia Islamia** and **Tibbia College (now Ajmal Khan Tibbiya College)**.

Hakim Ajmal Khan played a crucial role in the **revival and institutionalization of Unani medicine** in modern India.

Question 80. Which country became the first in Africa to eliminate Onchocerciasis?

- (a) Nigeria
- (b) Niger
- (c) Uganda
- (d) Kenya

Answer: (b) Niger

Explanation: The **World Health Organization (WHO)** officially verified **Niger** on **30 January 2025** as the **first country in Africa** to have **interrupted transmission** of *Onchocerca volvulus*, the parasite that causes Onchocerciasis (River Blindness)

This global achievement places Niger among the elite group of countries worldwide—alongside **Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, and Guatemala**—that have either eliminated or interrupted the transmission of this disease.

Question 81. Which telescope discovered a new Einstein Ring in 2025?

- (a) James Webb Telescope

- (b) Euclid Space Telescope
- (c) Chandra X-Ray Telescope
- (d) Hubble Space Telescope

Answer: (b) Euclid Space Telescope

Explanation: ESA's Euclid telescope spotted the Einstein Ring around galaxy NGC 6505.

Question 82. Consider the following about Market Intervention Scheme (MIS):

1. It is a component of PM-AASHA.
2. It covers non-MSP perishable crops.

Choose the correct answer:

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

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: In **early 2025**, the **Government of India approved MIS operations for onion procurement in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh** due to **plummeting prices**.

Statement 1: It is a component of PM-AASHA – Correct

- The **Market Intervention Scheme (MIS)** is indeed a component of the **PM-AASHA** (Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan), launched in 2018.
- PM-AASHA includes three components:
 1. **Price Support Scheme (PSS)** – for MSP procurement of pulses and oilseeds.
 2. **Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS)** – for compensation when market prices fall below MSP.
 3. **Market Intervention Scheme (MIS)** – for **perishable and horticultural crops** not covered under MSP.

Statement 2: It covers non-MSP perishable crops – Correct

- MIS is implemented for crops like **onion, garlic, potato, apple, kinnow, tomato, etc., not notified under MSP**.

- It is designed to protect farmers from a **sharp fall in market prices**, especially for **horticultural and perishable produce**.

Question 83. Match the following Indian military changes in Feb 2025:

- A. Fort William – 1. Vijay Durg
- B. Kitchener House – 2. Manekshaw House
- C. St. George's Gate – 3. Shivaji Gate

Code:

- (a) A-1, B-2, C-3
- (b) A-2, B-1, C-3
- (c) A-3, B-1, C-2
- (d) A-1, B-3, C-2

Answer: (a) A-1, B-2, C-3

Explanation: In February 2025, the Indian Army's Eastern Command headquarters in Kolkata made headlines for renaming prominent colonial-era military landmarks, marking a step towards decolonizing the armed forces' legacy. These renamings reflect decolonization and honor Indian military heritage.

Question 84. Choose the correct statement about Ebola vaccine trial in 2025:

- (a) It is launched in Kenya
- (b) It targets Ebola Zaire strain
- (c) It's the world's first efficacy trial for Ebola Sudan virus
- (d) Developed by WHO alone

Answer: (c) It's the world's first efficacy trial for Ebola Sudan virus

Explanation: Launched in Uganda with IAVI and WHO to test efficacy during an active outbreak.

Question 85. Consider the following about Rusty-Spotted Cat:

1. It is the world's smallest wild cat
2. It was recently found in Tamil Nadu for the first time

Choose the correct option:

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both
- (d) Neither

Answer: (a) Only 1

Explanation: The recent discovery was in **Purulia, West Bengal**—not Tamil Nadu.

- It is the **world's smallest wild cat**, weighing **less than 1.6 kg**.
- Listed as **Near Threatened** on the **IUCN Red List**.
- Native to **India, Sri Lanka**, and possibly **Nepal**.
- Found in **dry deciduous forests, grasslands, and scrub habitats**.

Question 86. Which Indian state has the highest number of Ramsar sites as of February 2025?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Madhya Pradesh
- (d) Tamil Nadu

Answer: (d) Tamil Nadu

Explanation: Tamil Nadu now has 20 Ramsar sites, the highest in India. (Total Ramsar sites in July 2025 - 91)

Question 87. Rhododendron wattii is endemic to which Indian states?

- (a) Sikkim and West Bengal
- (b) Assam and Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) Manipur and Nagaland
- (d) Mizoram and Tripura

Answer: (c) Manipur and Nagaland

Explanation: This rare tree species is confined to these two Northeastern states.

In February 2025, a study gained attention for highlighting the habitat challenges and conservation needs of this vulnerable species in Nagaland, particularly within Dzukou Valley.

Rhododendron wattii is a rare and endangered plant species belonging to the Ericaceae family, found uniquely in the northeastern Himalayas of India.

According to studies and current-affairs reports, it is endemic to Manipur and Nagaland, particularly in locations like Dzukou Valley and Japfu Hill range.

Question 88. What is TROPEX?

- (a) Tribal welfare scheme
- (b) Indian Navy's largest war exercise

(c) National Rural Credit Plan

(d) Electronic defense satellite

Answer: (b) Indian Navy's largest war exercise

Explanation: TROPEX is a biennial tri-service maritime exercise in the Indian Ocean.

TROPEX-25 (Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise) took place from **January to March 2025** across the **Indian Ocean Region**, spanning from the **Strait of Hormuz to the Sunda and Lombok Straits**, and from North to South up to **35° S latitude**

The exercise also involved **joint operations** with the **Indian Army, Air Force, and Coast Guard**, including assets like **Su-30, Jaguar, C-130, AWACS**, and **over 600 infantry troops**.

Question 89. Exercise Ekuverin 2025 was conducted between which two countries?

- (a) India and Sri Lanka
- (b) India and Maldives
- (c) India and Myanmar
- (d) India and Indonesia

Answer: (b) India and Maldives

Explanation: Exercise Ekuverin is a bilateral annual military exercise between India and Maldives, meaning "Friends" in Dhivehi.

Question 90. The sixth edition of Exercise Dharma Guardian 2025 was held at –

- (a) Ranikhet
- (b) Mount Fuji
- (c) Hokkaido
- (d) Sikkim

Answer: (b) Mount Fuji

Explanation: Exercise Dharma Guardian 2025 between India and Japan was conducted in Mount Fuji, Japan.

Question 91. Assertion (A): Ranikhet disease can spread to humans.

Reason (R): It is a viral zoonotic disease that affects poultry primarily.

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) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation

Explanation: Newcastle Disease (Ranikhet) is zoonotic and causes high poultry mortality, with potential human transmission.

In **February 2025**, unusually **virulent strains of Ranikhet Disease** (also known as **Newcastle Disease**) were reported in commercial poultry farms in **Telangana (Khammam, Kothagudem)** and **Haryana (Barwala, Raipur Rani in Panchkula)**. The outbreaks resulted in **massive bird mortality**, with losses amounting to **over 100,000–150,000 chickens**, causing widespread concern among farmers.

Question 92. National Commission for Safai Karamcharis is currently functioning under –

(a) Ministry of Labour

(b) Ministry of Health

(c) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

(d) Ministry of Urban Affairs

Answer: (c) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Explanation: Since 2004, NCSK is a non-statutory body under this ministry.

Question 93. Consider the following statements about Shatavari:

1. It is native to India and enhances immunity.
2. It is used as a spice in Indian cuisine.

Choose the correct answer:

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both

(d) Neither

Answer: (a) Only 1

Explanation: Shatavari is an ayurvedic herb known for its medicinal properties, not culinary use.

The **Ministry of AYUSH** launched a **nationwide campaign** titled **“Shatavari – For Better Health”** on **6 February 2025** under the **National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB)**.

It aims to raise public awareness about Shatavari's **benefits for women's health**, immunity, and its economic potential as a **medicinal plant**.

Question 94. Choose the correct statement regarding India's solar capacity milestone:

(a) India achieved 100.33 GW solar capacity by Jan 2025

(b) India's solar goal for 2030 is 100 GW

(c) 100 GW was the goal under Kyoto Protocol

(d) This makes India the largest solar power producer

Answer: (a) India achieved 100.33 GW solar capacity by Jan 2025

Explanation: As per MNRE, India crossed 100 GW solar capacity by Jan 2025; goal is 500 GW non-fossil energy by 2030.

Question 95. 'Swavalambini' entrepreneurship programme is focused on which region?

(a) Northern India

(b) Central India

(c) Northeast India

(d) Southern India

Answer: (c) Northeast India

Explanation: The programme covers Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram for empowering women students in entrepreneurship.

Launched on **7 February 2025** by the **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** and **NITI Aayog**, **Swavalambini** is a dedicated **women entrepreneurship programme** focused on **Northeast India**—specifically **Assam, Meghalaya, and Mizoram**.

Question 96. NSDC International Academy aims to:

Provide global employment training

Set up medical tourism facilities

Choose the correct option:

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both

(d) Neither

Answer: (a) Only 1

- Explanation: **Statement 1 is correct.**
The **NSDC International Academy**, inaugurated in **February 2025**, is designed to **bridge the gap between Indian youth and global employment opportunities**. It offers:

- **World-class skill development** and training aligned to **international job markets** (Germany, Japan, Israel, GCC)
- Programs in **foreign languages, advanced technical skills, healthcare, and aviation**
- A goal to train over **1,000 candidates annually**, with **placement assistance** for overseas employment

- **Statement 2 is incorrect.**

There is **no evidence** that the Academy is involved in establishing **medical tourism infrastructure**. Its focus is exclusively on **skills, language, and international job preparedness**.

Question 97. Consider the following schemes under Odisha's Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP):

1. Mo Gelha Jiya
2. Kalpana Avijan
3. Veerangana Yojana

Which are correctly associated?

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (c) All three

Explanation: All are Odisha-specific schemes under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao.

Question 98. Consider the following statements:

1. Potash improves crop yield and plant immunity.
2. Punjab is the first state in India to find potash deposits.

Choose the correct answer:

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2

- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (a) Only 1

Explanation: Rajasthan was the first to report potash reserves. Punjab is second. Potash indeed boosts crop nutrition and yield.

Currently, India imports 100% of its potash needs, and developing domestic supplies is seen as a strategic priority.

Question 99. Recently, 'Srjanam', India's first indigenous biomedical waste treatment rig, was launched at–

- (a) IIT Delhi
- (b) PGI Chandigarh
- (c) AIIMS Delhi
- (d) JIPMER Puducherry

Answer: (c) AIIMS Delhi

Explanation: Developed by CSIR-NIIST, this fully automated and eco-friendly rig treats infectious medical waste without needing incinerators, making it a sustainable healthcare innovation.

Question 100. What do dragonflies and damselflies indicate in an ecosystem?

- (a) Nutrient deficiency
- (b) Poor air quality
- (c) Freshwater health
- (d) Salinity levels

Answer: (c) Freshwater health

Explanation: Odonates are sensitive to pollution and serve as bioindicators of freshwater ecosystems, showing ecological balance or stress.

Recently, over 50 species of dragonflies and damselflies were documented, including several endemic and vulnerable species, across lake, stream, and pond habitats.

Question 101. Assertion (A): Mission Amrit Sarovar aims to develop 50,000 water bodies across India.

Reason (R): It seeks to reduce dependency on rain-fed irrigation.

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) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation

Explanation: While the mission aims to build water resilience, its primary goal is rejuvenating water bodies—not replacing rain-fed irrigation.

Question 102. Consider the following statements:

1. Gyanesh Kumar was appointed as CEC in 2025 under a new act.
2. The selection committee includes the PM, Home Minister, and Leader of Opposition.

Choose the correct option:

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: Gyanesh Kumar's appointment was the first under the 2023 Act. The 3-member panel includes PM, LoP, and a nominated minister.

Question 103. Which Indian ministry launched the AI for Entrepreneurship program with Intel India?

(a) Ministry of MSME

(b) Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship

(c) Ministry of Electronics & IT

(d) Ministry of Corporate Affairs

Answer: (b) Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship

Explanation: The programme targets 1 lakh youth and promotes entrepreneurial thinking through AI microlearning.

Question 104. Klub-S missile is primarily launched from –

(a) Fighter aircraft

(b) Warships

(c) Submarines

(d) Satellites

Answer: (c) Submarines

Explanation: Klub-S is part of the Kalibr family, designed for submarine-launched long-range anti-ship warfare.

Question 105. What was the theme of the first BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025?

(a) Youth Against Extremism

(b) Youth as a Bridge

(c) Innovating Bay of Bengal

(d) Youth for BIMSTEC Democracy

Answer: (b) Youth as a Bridge

Explanation: The summit aimed to build regional youth cooperation across BIMSTEC nations with this bridging theme.

Question 106. What is the full form of KM3NeT in neutrino research?

(a) Kilometer-scale Neutrino Tracking

(b) Kinetic Mass 3-Neutrino Tracking

(c) Cubic Kilometre Neutrino Telescope

(d) K-Measured Neutrino Telescope

Answer: (c) Cubic Kilometre Neutrino Telescope

Explanation: KM3NeT is a deep-sea research project with two sites—ARCA for high-energy and ORCA for low-energy neutrinos.

Recently, ARCA (Astroparticle Research with Cosmics in the Abyss), located near Sicily in the Mediterranean Sea under KM3NeT project, detected a high-energy cosmic neutrino.

Question 107. Project Waterworth, the world's longest subsea internet cable initiative, is led by –

(a) Google

(b) Meta

(c) Microsoft

(d) SpaceX

Answer: (b) Meta

Explanation: Meta is laying over 50,000 km of subsea cable to improve global AI-ready internet infrastructure.

Announced in February 2025, Project Waterworth represents a multi-billion dollar investment aimed at enhancing global connectivity, bolstering digital inclusion, and supporting the expansion of AI technologies

It also reflects the shift towards Big Tech companies owning critical infrastructure, raising

discussions on digital infrastructure control and geopolitics

Question 108. Under the revised Kisan Credit Card Scheme 2025, what is the new maximum credit limit?

- (a) ₹1 lakh
- (b) ₹3 lakh
- (c) ₹5 lakh
- (d) ₹10 lakh

Answer: (c) ₹5 lakh

Explanation: In Budget 2025–26, KCC credit limit was enhanced from ₹3 lakh to ₹5 lakh with interest subvention.

Question 109. Consider the following about NAVDEX 2025:

1. It was held in Goa by DRDO
2. India showcased FPV and OPVs

Which is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both
- (d) Neither

Answer: (b) Only 2

Explanation: NAVDEX is held in Abu Dhabi; Goa Shipyard Ltd (not DRDO) showcased India's naval vessels.

Question 110. India's first Open-Air Art Wall Museum is located at –

- (a) India Gate
- (b) Lodhi Road
- (c) Rashtrapati Bhavan
- (d) Rajpath

Answer: (b) Lodhi Road

Explanation: India's first Open-Air Art Wall Museum was inaugurated on 18 February 2025 at Mausam Bhawan, the headquarters of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) located on Lodhi Road, New Delhi.

The museum was inaugurated at Mausam Bhawan (IMD HQ), featuring meteorology-themed murals.

Question 111. Majorana 1 is a quantum computing chip developed by –

- (a) IBM
- (b) Google
- (c) Microsoft
- (d) Intel

Answer: (c) Microsoft

Explanation: Microsoft developed Majorana 1 using topological superconductors to stabilize qubits, making quantum computing more error-resilient and practical.

Question 112. Which Indian state topped participation in Great Backyard Bird Count 2025 (GBBC 2025) with 12,907 checklists?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Gujarat

Answer: (c) Kerala

Explanation: Kerala led India in the Great Backyard Bird Count 2025, contributing the highest number of checklists.

Question 113. As per Budget 2025–26, virtual digital assets (VDAs) like cryptocurrency are now taxed as:

- (a) Exempted
- (b) Long-term capital gains
- (c) Undisclosed income
- (d) Agricultural income

Answer: (c) Undisclosed income

Explanation: VDAs are now categorized under undisclosed income if found in raids, attracting 60% tax + penalty.

Question 114. Consider the following about Bathouism:

1. It is the religion of the Bodo community.
2. It promotes idol worship and scriptural study.

Choose the correct answer:

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both
- (d) Neither

Answer: (a) Only 1

Explanation: In February 2025, The Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) recently moved to officially recognize Bathouism on government forms (e.g., birth and death certificates), marking a milestone in cultural identity and religious inclusion

This step aims to preserve the distinct faith and identity of the Bodo community, reflecting broader efforts to protect indigenous religions in India.

Bathouism is the indigenous religion of Bodos, based on nature worship and oral traditions—no idols or texts.

Question 115. What is the name of the AI-powered anti-poaching system deployed in Similipal?

- (a) PoacherBlock
- (b) VanRakshak
- (c) TrailGuard AI
- (d) AI VanyaNet

Answer: (c) TrailGuard AI

Explanation: TrailGuard AI is an edge-AI camera system detecting humans, animals, vehicles, sending alerts in 30–40 seconds.

Question 116. Ovoid cells, recently discovered, are linked with which brain function?

- (a) Sleep regulation
- (b) Object recognition memory
- (c) Hormonal control
- (d) Motor coordination

Answer: (b) Object recognition memory

Explanation: Found in hippocampus, these oval-shaped neurons activate on seeing new objects and help store them as memories.

Question 117. Gravehawk, Ukraine's new air defense system, is developed with assistance from –

- (a) USA & Germany
- (b) UK & Denmark
- (c) France & Israel
- (d) NATO & Poland

Answer: (b) UK & Denmark

Explanation: Gravehawk is a hybrid air-defense missile retrofit system co-developed by the UK and Denmark for Ukraine.

Question 118. The NAKSHA scheme launched in February 2025 is aimed at –

- (a) Mapping of forest boundaries
- (b) Land surveys in urban habitations
- (c) Survey of coastal regulation zones
- (d) Census of tribal lands

Answer: (b) Land surveys in urban habitations

Explanation: NAKSHA (National Geospatial Knowledge-based Land Survey of Urban Habitations) is an IT-based scheme by the Ministry of Rural Development to document and update land ownership in urban areas using aerial surveys.

Question 119. Belgica antarctica is:

- (a) A rare Antarctic penguin
- (b) The only insect native to Antarctica
- (c) A marine mollusk
- (d) A type of Antarctic seaweed

Answer: (b) The only insect native to Antarctica

Explanation: Belgica antarctica is a flightless midge known for surviving extreme cold and dormancy periods in Antarctica.

Question 120. Where was the 8th Indian Ocean Conference held in 2025?

- (a) Colombo
- (b) Muscat
- (c) Jakarta
- (d) New Delhi

Answer: (b) Muscat

Explanation: Hosted by the India Foundation and Oman's Foreign Ministry, the conference aimed at strengthening maritime partnership in the Indo-Pacific.

Question 121. Match the following exercises with participating country/navy:

- A. Exercise Komodo – 1. Indonesia
- B. NMFT – 2. Germany
- C. Exercise Shardul – 3. India

Code:

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

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

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

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

Answer: (a) A-1, B-2, C-3

Explanation: Exercise Komodo is conducted by Indonesia, NMFT 2025 was hosted in Munich, Germany, and INS Shardul represented India.

Question 122. RuTAGe Smart Village Centre was recently inaugurated in –

(a) Sonapat, Haryana

(b) Nagpur, Maharashtra

(c) Ranchi, Jharkhand

(d) Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Answer: (a) Sonapat, Haryana

Explanation: RSVC Mandaura was launched by India's Principal Scientific Adviser to connect rural needs with tech innovations.

Question 123. Consider the following:

1. Zhurong rover is China's Martian mission.
2. It found possible evidence of ancient Martian ocean.

Choose the correct answer:

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both

(d) Neither

Answer: (c) Both

Explanation: **Statement 1 is correct.**

The Zhurong rover is part of China's Tianwen-1 mission, and it is China's first rover to land and operate on Mars (May 2021)

Statement 2 is also correct.

In early 2025, data from Zhurong's ground-penetrating radar revealed buried sediment layers in the Utopia Planitia region resembling ancient beach formations.

These findings suggest the presence of a large ancient ocean—often referred to as Deuteronilus Ocean—on Mars about 3.5–4 billion years ago

The discovery, published in the PNAS journal, marks the first direct in-situ evidence of an ancient Martian shoreline, featuring sandy, wave-shaped layers preserved beneath the surface

The findings strengthen the evidence for Mars having been a habitable, water-rich planet with regional oceans and dynamic environments.

Question 124. The Cali Fund is related to –

(a) Disaster relief

(b) Biodiversity & Digital Sequence Information

(c) Fisheries modernization

(d) Food security

Answer: (b) Biodiversity & Digital Sequence Information

Explanation: The Cali Fund, launched during CBD COP16, ensures benefit sharing from commercial use of DSI (genetic data).

Question 125. Which decommissioned Indian Navy ship will become the country's first underwater museum?

(a) INS Trishul

(b) INS Vikrant

(c) INS Guldar

(d) INS Chakra

Answer: (c) INS Guldar

Explanation: The landing ship tank INS Guldar was handed over to MTDC to be repurposed as an underwater museum and reef.

Question 126. The Gold Card Investor Visa announced by the USA offers direct citizenship pathway with an investment of –

(a) \$800,000

(b) \$1.05 million

(c) \$2 million

(d) \$5 million

Answer: (d) \$5 million

Explanation: Unlike EB-5, the Gold Card Visa offers fast-track US citizenship with \$5 million investment and no job creation requirement.

Question 127. Consider the following statements:

1. Nyokum Yullo is celebrated by the Nyishi tribe.
2. It is closely associated with agriculture.

Which is/are correct?

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both

(d) Neither

Answer: (c) Both

Explanation: Nyokum Yullo is a harvest-related tribal festival celebrated by the Nyishi community in Arunachal Pradesh.

Question 128. Choose the correct statement about SWAYATT initiative:

- (a) It's a program by NITI Aayog for street vendors
- (b) It promotes drone adoption
- (c) It helps women, youth, startups join GeM platform
- (d) It is an e-commerce scheme for private vendors

Answer: (c) It helps women, youth, startups join GeM platform

Explanation: SWAYATT (Startups, Women, and Youth Advantage Through e-Transactions) on the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) aims to promote inclusive participation in government e-marketplace.

In February 2025, GeM celebrated six years of SWAYATT, announcing that:

- Over 1.77 lakh women-led MSEs are active.
- Startups have secured ₹35,950 crore in government orders.
- GeM signed an MoU with FICCI-FLO to enhance inclusion.

Question 129. The Herath Poshte festival is observed by which Indian community?

- (a) Jain community
- (b) Assamese tea tribes
- (c) Kashmiri Pandits
- (d) Bhil community

Answer: (c) Kashmiri Pandits

Explanation: Herath is Mahashivratri celebrated in Kashmir with Kalash and walnut rituals symbolizing Lord Shiva.

Herath, derived from "Har-Ratri" (Night of Shiva), is the Kashmiri Pandit community's version of Maha Shivratri, typically celebrated a day earlier than elsewhere in India

In February 2025, the Jammu & Kashmir government granted special leave to state employees and recognized the festival as a

regional public holiday, underscoring efforts to preserve Kashmiri Pandit cultural heritage.

Question 130. Where has India's first research centre on digital and internet addiction been established?

- (a) NIMHANS, Bengaluru
- (b) AIIMS, Delhi
- (c) IIT Bombay
- (d) PGIMER, Chandigarh

Answer: (b) AIIMS, Delhi

Explanation: CAR-AB (Centre for Advanced Research on Addictive Behaviours) was launched by ICMR and AIIMS to tackle screen addiction.

Question 131. Consider the following about Soliga tribe:

1. They are forest-dependent.
2. They are co-managers of the BRT Tiger Reserve.

Which is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both
- (d) Neither

Answer: (c) Both

Explanation: Soligas live in Karnataka's BRT reserve and support tiger conservation through ecological knowledge.

In February 2025, PM Modi commended the Soliga's role during Mann Ki Baat, recognizing their peaceful coexistence with tigers and contribution to rising tiger numbers in the reserve.

Question 132. Who founded the Animal Welfare Board of India?

- (a) Smt. Indira Gandhi
- (b) Rukmini Devi Arundale
- (c) Dr. Salim Ali
- (d) Dr. M.S. Swaminathan

Answer: (b) Rukmini Devi Arundale

Explanation: She was a prominent animal rights activist and founder of AWBI under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.

In June 2025, AWBI entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad, to train Animal Welfare Officers in animal rights law, enforcement, and cruelty prevention—reinforcing Rukmini Devi's vision.

Question 133. Kashi Tamil Sangamam 3.0 focused on the legacy of –

- (a) Thiruvalluvar
- (b) Adi Shankaracharya
- (c) Sage Agastya
- (d) Raja Raja Chola

Answer: (c) Sage Agastya

Explanation: Event timing & locale: The third edition of Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS 3.0) was conducted from 15–24 February 2025 in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, coinciding with the Mahakumbh in nearby Prayagraj and the newly inaugurated Ram Mandir in Ayodhya

Agastya is revered as a Saptarishi, father of Tamil grammar and Siddha medicine; his legacy was the theme of KTS 3.0.

Question 134. Who was the chief architect of India's National Education Policy 2020 and former ISRO Chairman who recently passed away?

- (a) Dr. Radhakrishnan
- (b) Dr. G. Madhavan Nair
- (c) Dr. K. Kasturirangan
- (d) Dr. K. Sivan

Answer: (c) Dr. K. Kasturirangan

Explanation: Dr. K. Kasturirangan served as ISRO Chairman (1994–2003) and led the NEP 2020 drafting committee. He was awarded the Padma Vibhushan.

Question 135. Consider the following about World Day of Social Justice 2025:

1. The 2025 theme focused on inclusion.
2. It is supported by ILO's Decent Work Agenda.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both
- (d) Neither

Answer: (c) Both

Explanation: The 2025 theme was "Empowering Inclusion..." and it aligns with ILO's 2008 declaration.

Question 136. Which day is observed as International Mother Language Day?

- (a) 20 January
- (b) 21 February
- (c) 23 February
- (d) 26 January

Answer: (b) 21 February

Explanation: UNESCO declared this day to commemorate the 1952 Language Movement in Bangladesh. 2025 marked its Silver Jubilee.

Question 137. National Science Day 2025 was themed on –

- (a) Science for Sustainable Future
- (b) Empowering Youth for Global Leadership
- (c) From Atoms to AI
- (d) Space and Youth Innovation

Answer: (b) Empowering Youth for Global Leadership

Explanation: NSD is observed on 28 Feb to mark C.V. Raman's discovery of the Raman Effect in 1928.

Question 138. Assertion (A): India added 4 new Ramsar sites in February 2025.

Reason (R): Ramsar sites are notified under the Wildlife Protection Act.

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: (c) A is true, R is false

Explanation: Ramsar sites are designated under the Ramsar Convention, not the Wildlife Protection Act.

Question 139. What was the theme of World Cancer Day 2025?

- (a) Closing the Care Gap

- (b) United by Unique
- (c) Together Against Cancer
- (d) Healing Together

Answer: (b) United by Unique

Explanation: The theme emphasizes collaboration and individuality in cancer treatment and awareness.

Question 140. What is India's rank in the Climate Risk Index 2025 based on 1993–2022 data?

- (a) 2nd
- (b) 6th
- (c) 10th
- (d) 1st

Answer: (b) 6th

Explanation: India ranked 6th with over 80,000 climate-related deaths and \$180 billion economic losses.

Question 141. Which country recently joined the OPEC+ grouping?

- (a) Brazil
- (b) Argentina
- (c) Nigeria
- (d) Angola

Answer: (a) Brazil

Explanation: Brazil joined OPEC+ in 2025, making it part of the 22-member strategic oil bloc.

Question 142. The Northern Pintail duck, recently seen in Arunachal Pradesh, is listed under which IUCN category?

- (a) Endangered
- (b) Near Threatened
- (c) Vulnerable
- (d) Least Concern

Answer: (d) Least Concern

Explanation: According to IUCN Red List, the Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) is categorized as Least Concern, but habitat loss still poses risks.

Question 143. What is the rank of India in the 2024 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)?

- (a) 72nd
- (b) 83rd
- (c) 96th

(d) 108th

Answer: (c) 96th

Explanation: India was ranked 96th out of 180 countries in CPI 2024 by Transparency International, scoring 38/100.

Question 144. Consider the following about BOBIGO:

1. It is a regional fisheries organisation.
2. India took over chairmanship from Sri Lanka in 2025.

Choose the correct answer:

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both
- (d) Neither

Answer: (a) Only 1

Explanation: India assumed chairmanship from Bangladesh, not Sri Lanka. BOBIGO focuses on artisanal fisherfolk livelihoods.

Question 145. Who won the Grammy Award 2025 in the Best New Age category for the album 'Triveni'?

- (a) A. R. Rahman
- (b) Shankar Mahadevan
- (c) Chandrika Tandon
- (d) Lata Mangeshkar

Answer: (c) Chandrika Tandon

Explanation: Her album "Triveni" is based on Sanskrit mantras and spiritual healing. She won in New Age, Ambient or Chant Album category.

Question 146. Who won the ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup 2025?

- (a) Australia
- (b) England
- (c) South Africa
- (d) India

Answer: (d) India

Explanation: India beat South Africa by 9 wickets in the final held in Malaysia, at Bayuemas Oval, Kuala Lumpur.

Question 147. Aero India 2025's theme was –

- (a) Wings of National Defence

(b) Defence Innovation for Future

(c) The Runway to a Billion Opportunities

(d) Atmanirbhar Air Power

Answer: (c) The Runway to a Billion Opportunities

Explanation: It reflects India's aim to become a hub of defence and aerospace innovation.

Question 148. HIMASHIELD 2024 Grand Challenge focused on which disaster type?

(a) Earthquakes

(b) Cyclones

(c) Glacier Lake Outburst Floods

(d) Tsunamis

Answer: (c) Glacier Lake Outburst Floods

Explanation: Organized by C-DAC under MeitY, HIMASHIELD sought indigenous solutions for GLOF threats in Himalayan regions.

Question 149. As per World Bank's 2025 report, India must maintain a real growth rate of –

(a) 6%

(b) 6.8%

(c) 7.2%

(d) 7.8%

Answer: (d) 7.8%

Explanation: India needs a 7.8% annual growth till 2047 to become a high-income economy in one generation.

Question 150. Assertion (A): Supreme Court stayed Lokpal's order against a High Court judge in March 2025.

Reason (R): Judges are fully within Lokpal's jurisdiction without limitation.

Code:

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

(b) A is true, R is false

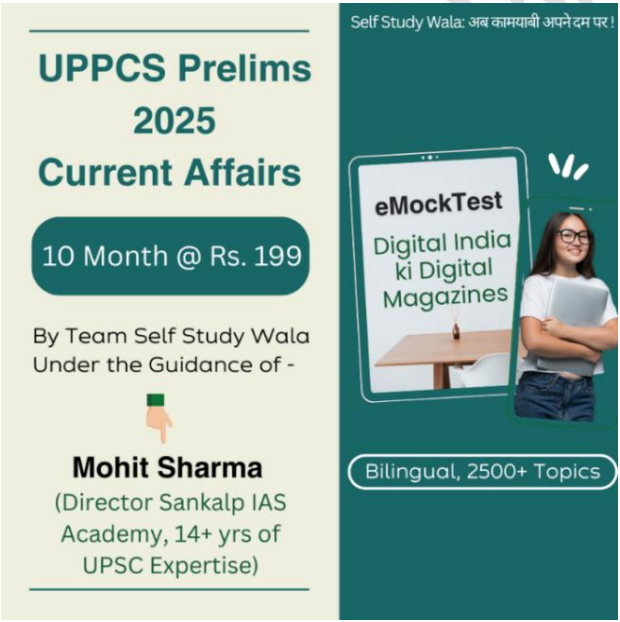
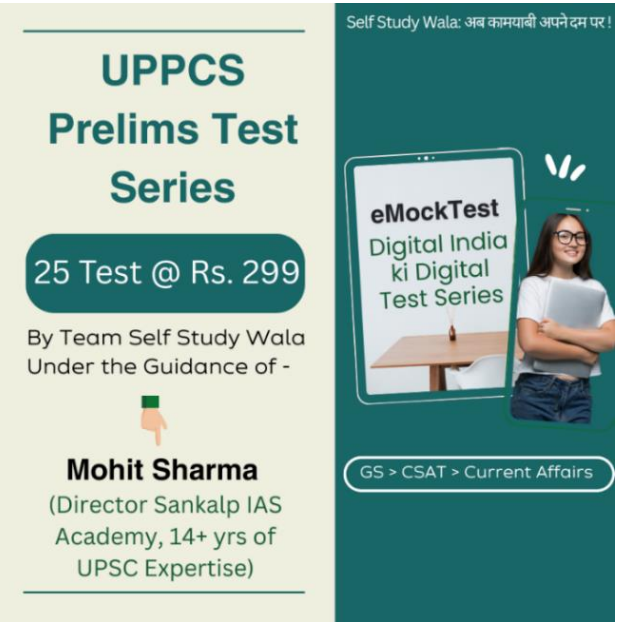
(c) A is false, R is true

(d) Both A and R are false

Answer: (b) A is true, R is false

Explanation: SC stayed Lokpal's order, stating judges are not under Lokpal's direct jurisdiction unless presidential sanction and CJI consultation are followed.

Our Best-Selling Products in the UPPCS Category

	
---	--

UPPCS Mains Test Series 16 Test @ Rs. 1999 By Team Self Study Wala Under the Guidance of -  Mohit Sharma (Director Sankalp IAS Academy, 14+ yrs of UPSC Expertise)	Self Study Wala: अब कामयाबी अपने दम पर! eMockTest Digital India ki Digital Test Series  GS > Hindi > Essay	UPPCS Mains Samdhan Series Best Self Study Books for UPPCS Mains By Team Self Study Wala Under the Guidance of -  Mohit Sharma (Director Sankalp IAS Academy, 14+ yrs of UPSC Expertise)	eBooks Digital India ki Digital Books  One Paper - One Book
---	---	--	---