



**Question 6.** Which of the following is a safeguard under Article 22?

1. Right to be informed of grounds of arrest
2. Right to be produced before a magistrate within 24 hours

Choose the correct code:

- (a) only 1
- (b) only 2
- (c) 1 and 2 both
- (d) None of the above

Answer – (b)

Explanation – Article 22 gives the right to be informed and to be produced before a magistrate.

**Question 7.** Choose the incorrect statement:

- (a) Article 21 includes Right to Shelter
- (b) Article 19 is available to foreigners
- (c) Article 22 provides protection from preventive detention
- (d) Article 14 ensures rule of law

Answer – (b)

Explanation – Article 19 is available only to Indian citizens, not to foreigners.

**Question 8.** Which of the following is NOT correctly matched?

- (a) Habeas Corpus – Protection against illegal detention
- (b) Mandamus – Order to private individual
- (c) Certiorari – Transfer of case to higher court
- (d) Quo-Warranto – Legality of public office

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Mandamus cannot be issued against private individuals.

**Question 9.** Uniform Civil Code is mentioned in:

- (a) Article 48
- (b) Article 45
- (c) Article 44
- (d) Article 39

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Article 44 mentions the UCC, suggesting that the State should endeavor to

implement a uniform set of civil laws applicable to all citizens regardless of religion.

**Question 10.** Which of the following provisions reflect the unitary features of the Indian Constitution?

1. Appointment of Governor by Centre
2. Representation in Rajya Sabha based on equality
3. Integrated judiciary

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) All of the above

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Representation in Rajya Sabha is based on population, not equality.

**Question 11.** Which of the following is a drawback of the Parliamentary system?

- (a) Fixed tenure
- (b) Government by experts
- (c) Risk of autocracy
- (d) Political instability due to coalition governments

Answer: (d)

Explanation: Coalition politics often leads to unstable governments, especially in India's parliamentary system.

**Question 12.** Who was the first tribal woman to become the President of India?

- (a) Pratibha Patil
- (b) Droupadi Murmu
- (c) Meira Kumar
- (d) Sarojini Naidu

Answer: (b) Droupadi Murmu

Explanation: She became the 15th President of India and the first tribal woman to hold the office.

**Question 13.** Who among the following Vice-Presidents died in office?

- (a) Shankar Dayal Sharma
- (b) Krishna Kant
- (c) Hamid Ansari
- (d) V.V. Giri

Answer: (b) Krishna Kant

Explanation: Krishna Kant died in 2002 while serving as Vice-President.

**Question 14.** Which of the following statements about Attorney General of India is correct?

- (a) He must be a Member of Parliament
- (b) He must be an eminent judge of the Supreme Court
- (c) He is appointed by the Chief Justice
- (d) He must be qualified to be appointed as a Supreme Court judge

Answer: (d)

Explanation: The Attorney General must be qualified to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court.

**Question 15.** Which one of the following can not be removed by the Governor?

- (a) State Election Commissioner
- (b) Advocate General
- (c) Minister of State
- (d) Vice-Chancellor of State University

Answer: (a)

Explanation: The State Election Commissioner can only be removed in the manner and on the grounds similar to a High Court judge—not by the Governor alone.

**Question 16.** Which of the following reports are laid before the State Legislature by the Governor?

1. Report of the State Finance Commission
2. Report of the State Election Commission
3. Report of the CAG relating to State

Select the correct answer:

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Governor lays reports of State Finance Commission and CAG. The State Election Commission does not submit an annual report like the UPSC.

**Question 17.** The 61st Constitutional Amendment Act reduced the voting age for Lok Sabha

elections from 21 years to 18 years. Which Article of the Constitution was amended for this purpose?

- (a) Article 324
- (b) Article 326
- (c) Article 325
- (d) Article 327

**Answer – (b) Article 326**

**Explanation –**

- The **61st Constitutional Amendment Act, 1988** lowered the **voting age** from **21 years to 18 years** for elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.
- This amendment was made to **Article 326**, which governs elections based on **adult suffrage**.
- The aim was to **increase political participation** among youth and strengthen democracy in India.
- Article 326 now reads: “The elections to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assembly of every State shall be on the basis of **adult suffrage**, i.e., every person who is **not less than 18 years of age...**”

**Question 18.** Which of the following is NOT true about Motion of Thanks?

- (a) It must be passed by both Houses
- (b) Defeat leads to fall of government
- (c) It is moved in every session
- (d) It discusses the President’s address

Answer: (c)

Explanation: It is moved only after general election and first session of every year – not every session.

**Question 19.** Consider the following statements:

1. The Speaker’s decision on Money Bill is subject to judicial review.
2. Governor’s assent on Money Bill is mandatory.

Choose the correct option:

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

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer - (a)

Explanation – The Speaker's certification can be judicially reviewed. Governor can withhold or reserve assent.

**Question 20.** Which Article provides for the establishment of Administrative Tribunals under Part XIV-A?

- (a) Article 320
- (b) Article 323A
- (c) Article 226
- (d) Article 323B

Answer - (b)

Explanation – Articles 323A provide for administrative and Article 323B provide for other tribunals under Part XIV-A of the Constitution.

**Question 21.** In case of state governments, CAG submits audit reports to:

- (a) Chief Justice of High Court
- (b) Chief Minister of the State
- (c) Governor of the State
- (d) Finance Minister of the State

Answer: (c)

Explanation: As per Article 151, the CAG submits the audit report to the Governor, who places it before the state legislature.

**Question 22.** What is the mandatory quorum for a Gram Sabha meeting?

- (a) 10% of total members
- (b) 1/4th of total members
- (c) 1/3rd of total members
- (d) No provision

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Though the Constitution is silent, most state acts provide for 1/4th quorum.

**Question 23.** What is the purpose of Article 355?

- (a) Protect State boundaries
- (b) Enforce tax laws
- (c) Protect states against external aggression and internal disturbance
- (d) Appoint Governor

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Article 355 imposes a duty on the Centre to protect states and ensure constitutional governance.

**Question 24.** Which Article provides for reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes in the Lok Sabha?

- (a) Article 330
- (b) Article 332
- (c) Article 334
- (d) Article 341

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Article 330 of the Constitution provides for reservation of seats in the House of the People (Lok Sabha) for SCs and STs in proportion to their population.

**Question 25.** Consider the following Articles:

1. Article 310 – Pleasure of President
2. Article 312 – All India Services
3. Article 315 – Public Service Commission

Which belong to Part XIV?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation: All three are in Part XIV – Services under Union and States.

Part XIV of the Constitution deals with Services under the Union and the States and includes Articles 308 to 323.

**Question 26.** Which of the following sectors has the highest contribution to UP's economy (2023–24)?

- (a) Services
- (b) Agriculture
- (c) Manufacturing
- (d) Mining

Answer: (a)

**Explanation:** The services sector contributed 46% to GSDP in 2023–24, the highest among sectors.

**Question 27.** According to Census 2011, which religious community in India showed the lowest child sex ratio?

- (a) Hindus

- (b) Muslims
- (c) Christians
- (d) Sikhs

Answer: (d) Sikhs

Explanation: Sikhs had the lowest child sex ratio — around 828 girls per 1000 boys.

Sikhs: 828 girls per 1000 boys

Jains: 889 girls per 1000 boys

Hindus: 913 girls per 1000 boys

Buddhists: 953 girls per 1000 boys

Muslims: 936 girls per 1000 boys (though some sources state 919 or 943 for child sex ratio in specific contexts, 936 is commonly cited for overall)

Christians: 958 girls per 1000 boys

**Question 28.** Which expressway under development in UP spans about 594 km and connects Meerut to Prayagraj?

- (a) Purvanchal Expressway
- (b) Bundelkhand Expressway
- (c) Ganga Expressway
- (d) Agra–Lucknow Expressway

Answer: (c) Ganga Expressway

Explanation: The Ganga Expressway is a greenfield project in UP, stretching about 594 km from Meerut to Prayagraj.

**Question 29.** The folk dance Diwari is primarily associated with which festival in Uttar Pradesh?

- (a) Holi
- (b) Deepawali
- (c) Makar Sankranti
- (d) Raksha Bandhan

Answer: (b) Deepawali

Explanation: Diwari is performed during Diwali by men using sticks and acrobatic steps, mostly in the Awadh and Bundelkhand regions.

**Question 30.** Which of the following is the first Ramsar Wetland Site from Uttar Pradesh?

- (a) Sur Sarovar
- (b) Sandi Bird Sanctuary
- (c) Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary
- (d) Upper Ganga River (Brijghat to Narora)

Answer: (d) Upper Ganga River

Explanation: The Upper Ganga River stretch from Brijghat to Narora was the first Ramsar site of UP, designated in 2005.

**Question 31.** Choose the incorrect statement:

- (a) Herbivores are primary consumers
- (b) Zooplankton are primary producers in aquatic systems
- (c) Earthworms are detritivores
- (d) Fungi act as decomposers

Answer – (b) Zooplankton are primary producers in aquatic systems

Explanation – Zooplankton are consumers; phytoplankton are the producers.

**Question 32.** Which agency certifies products under the Eco-Mark scheme in India?

- (a) CPCB
- (b) NGT
- (c) BIS
- (d) CSIR

Answer – (c) BIS

Explanation – The Bureau of Indian Standards tests and certifies products under Eco-Mark.

**Question 33.** Which of the following are decomposers in the food chain?

- A. Bacteria
- B. Fungi

Code:

- (a) Only A
- (b) Only B
- (c) A and B
- (d) Neither A nor B

Answer – (c) A and B

Explanation –

Both bacteria and fungi decompose dead organic matter, releasing nutrients back into the environment — vital for nutrient cycling.

**Question 34.** Which international conference led to the establishment of UNEP?

- (a) Earth Summit 1992
- (b) COP3
- (c) Stockholm Conference 1972

(d) COP21

Answer – (c) Stockholm Conference 1972

Explanation – Stockholm was the first global environment summit; UNEP was created post-conference.

**Question 35.** Match the carbon sink with its carbon storage mechanism:

A. Oceans – 1. Dissolution and phytoplankton uptake

B. Forests – 2. Photosynthesis

C. Soil – 3. Organic matter accumulation

D. Geologic Formations – 4. Underground CO<sub>2</sub> injection

Code:

A B C D

(a) 1 2 3 4

(b) 2 1 3 4

(c) 1 3 2 4

(d) 2 4 1 3

Answer – (a) 1 2 3 4

Explanation – Each carbon sink is accurately paired with its storage process.

**Question 36.** Choose the correct statement from the following:

(a) Ozone layer is thickest over the equator

(b) UV-B is entirely blocked by ozone layer

(c) UV-C is useful for vitamin D synthesis

(d) Polar vortex enhances ozone depletion

Answer – (d) Polar vortex enhances ozone depletion

Explanation – Polar vortex facilitates PSC formation, accelerating Cl-based ozone depletion.

**Question 37.** Which of the following organizations publishes the Living Planet Report?

(a) UNEP

(b) BirdLife International

(c) WWF

(d) IPCC

Answer – (c) WWF

Explanation – The Living Planet Report is a biennial publication by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) in collaboration with the

Zoological Society of London (ZSL). It highlights trends in vertebrate populations and ecological footprint.

**Question 38.** Which of the following articles was inserted via the 42nd Constitutional Amendment to safeguard forests and wildlife?

(a) Article 21A

(b) Article 48A

(c) Article 43B

(d) Article 39A

Answer – (b) Article 48A

Explanation – Article 48A was inserted through the 42nd Amendment in 1976, making it a Directive Principle of State Policy to protect and improve the environment and safeguard forests and wildlife.

**Question 39.** Consider the following statements:

1. Biosphere Reserves are declared under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. Biosphere Reserves are recognized by UNESCO's MAB programme.

Choose the correct answer:

(a) Only 1

(b) Only 2

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer – (b)

Explanation – Biosphere Reserves are designated under national schemes and later recognized internationally under MAB. They are not declared under WPA.

**Question 40.** Arrange the following wildlife projects in chronological order:

1. Project Tiger
2. Project Elephant
3. Project Hangul
4. Project Snow Leopard

Code:

(a) 1, 2, 3, 4

(b) 1, 3, 2, 4

(c) 3, 1, 2, 4

(d) 3, 2, 1, 4

Answer – (c)

Explanation – Hangul (1970), Tiger (1973), Elephant (1992), Snow Leopard (2009)

**Question 41.** Which state had the highest proportion of Scheduled Tribes in 2011?

- (a) Odisha
- (b) Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) Mizoram
- (d) Meghalaya

Answer – (c) Mizoram

Explanation –

As per Census 2011, the percentage of Scheduled Tribe population to the total population in the given states was:

Mizoram – 94.4%

Meghalaya – 86.1%

Arunachal Pradesh – 68.8%

Odisha – 22.8%

**Question 42.** What does the “Output Gap” represent in National Income accounting?

- (a) Difference between imports and exports
- (b) Difference between nominal and real GDP
- (c) Difference between potential and actual GDP
- (d) Difference between GDP and GNP

Answer: (c) Difference between potential and actual GDP

Explanation:

- Output Gap = Potential GDP – Actual GDP
- A positive gap → overheating economy;
- A negative gap → underperformance or recessionary trend.

**Question 43.** In the context of taxation, the term ‘Laffer Curve’ is used to represent:

- (a) Relationship between tax rate and tax revenue
- (b) Trend in indirect tax collection
- (c) Ratio of direct to indirect taxes
- (d) Tax liability of different income groups

Answer: (a) Relationship between tax rate and tax revenue

Explanation:

The Laffer Curve demonstrates that increasing tax rates beyond a point can reduce total tax revenue because higher rates discourage income generation or increase tax evasion.

**Question 44.** Who defined poverty as the deprivation of basic capabilities rather than merely low income?

- (a) Amartya Sen

(b) Gunnar Myrdal

(c) Mahbub ul Haq

(d) Jean Drèze

Answer: (a) Amartya Sen

Explanation: Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen emphasized that poverty should be understood as deprivation of basic capabilities like health, education, and participation in society.

**Question 45.** Which of the following factors lead to Situational Poverty?

- (a) Intergenerational caste bias
- (b) Conflict displacement
- (c) Wage inequality
- (d) Fatalistic beliefs

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Situational poverty results from shocks like disasters, job loss, displacement—not systemic discrimination.

**Question 46.** Under which function of money does "Loan repayment in future" come?

- (a) Medium of exchange
- (b) Store of value
- (c) Standard of deferred payments
- (d) Measure of value

Answer: (c)

Standard of deferred payments: This function of money means that it can be used to settle debts or make payments that are due in the future. Loans are a prime example – you borrow money now and agree to pay it back (plus interest) at a later date, using money as the agreed-upon unit for that future payment.

**Question 47.** Choose the incorrect statement:

- (a) Plastic money includes debit/credit cards
- (b) e-RUPI is a general purpose legal tender
- (c) Repo is a tool of monetary policy
- (d) RBI uses Moral Suasion as a qualitative tool

Answer: (b)

Explanation: e-RUPI is purpose-specific, not general purpose legal tender.

**Question 48.** When was the Reserve Bank of India nationalised?

- (a) 1935
- (b) 1949
- (c) 1950
- (d) 1969

Answer: (b)

Explanation: RBI was nationalised on 1st January 1949. It was originally a privately owned entity.

**Question 49.** Which ministry publishes the Foreign Trade Policy of India?

- (a) Ministry of Finance
- (b) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (c) Ministry of External Affairs
- (d) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Answer: (d)

Explanation: The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (DGFT) prepares the Foreign Trade Policy.

**Question 50.** Which Five-Year Plan emphasized “Garibi Hatao” as a major objective?

- (a) Third Plan
- (b) Fourth Plan
- (c) Fifth Plan
- (d) Sixth Plan

Answer: (c)

Explanation: The slogan “Garibi Hatao” was a key theme of the Fifth Plan (1974–79) launched under Indira Gandhi.

**Question 51.** What additional responsibility has been added to the Terms of Reference of the 16th Finance Commission?

- (a) Reviewing central tax rates
- (b) Managing public sector insurance
- (c) Disaster management funding arrangements
- (d) Allocating central universities

Answer: (c) Disaster management funding arrangements

Explanation: The Commission is tasked with reviewing and recommending measures to strengthen disaster management financing, including funds under the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

**Question 52.** Which period is known as the “Age of Conflict” and witnessed Turk invasions?

- (a) 600–750 CE
- (b) 1000–1200 CE
- (c) 1206–1526 CE
- (d) 647–800 CE

Answer: (b)

Explanation: 1000–1200 CE saw Rajput disunity, Ghazni and Ghori invasions.

**Question 53.** Which site is known for the first evidence of rice cultivation in the world?

- (a) Mehrgarh
- (b) Koldihwa
- (c) Lahuradeva
- (d) Bagor

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Lahuradeva in Sant Kabir Nagar, UP, provides the earliest evidence of rice cultivation (9000 BCE).

**Question 54.** Which of the following was the largest site of the Harappan Civilization in India?

- (a) Dholavira
- (b) Mohenjo-daro
- (c) Rakhigarhi
- (d) Kalibangan

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Rakhigarhi (Haryana) is the largest known Harappan site in India, larger than Mohenjo-daro.

**Question 55.** Which Harappan site shows evidence of burial of dog with human?

- (a) Kalibangan
- (b) Dholavira
- (c) Ropar
- (d) Lothal

Answer: (c)

Explanation: At Ropar (Punjab), a dog was found buried with a human.

**Question 56.** Arrange the following events in chronological order:

1. Lucknow Pact
2. Surat Split
3. Karachi Session
4. Gandhi-Irwin Pact

Code:

- (a) 2, 1, 4, 3
- (b) 1, 2, 3, 4
- (c) 2, 1, 3, 4

(d) 1, 2, 4, 3

Answer – (a)

Explanation – Surat Split (1907) > Lucknow Pact (1916) > Gandhi-Irwin Pact (March 1931) > Karachi Session (March 1931).

**Question 57.** Consider the following pairs:

1. John Shore – Female Infanticide Prevention
2. Lord William Bentinck – Abolition of Sati
3. Lord Ellenborough – Abolition of Slavery

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation: All three reforms are correctly matched with their respective administrators.

**Question 58.** Which of the following is not correctly matched?

- (a) The Indian Struggle – Subhas Chandra Bose
- (b) Anandmath – Aurobindo Ghosh
- (c) Gita Rahasya – B.G. Tilak
- (d) India Wins Freedom – Abul Kalam Azad

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Anandmath was written by Bankimchandra Chatterjee, not Aurobindo Ghosh.

**Question 59.** Which of the following acts shifted Education from the State List to the Concurrent List in the Indian Constitution?

- (a) 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976
- (b) 44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978
- (c) 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002
- (d) 91st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003

Answer: (a)

Explanation: The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 transferred education to the Concurrent List, enabling both Centre and States to legislate on education.

**Question 60.** Consider the following statements:

1. The 'Sunset Law' was related to the Permanent Settlement.

2. It allowed zamindari lands to be auctioned if revenue was not paid on time.

Choose the correct option:

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Under Sunset Law, zamindari land could be auctioned if revenue was not paid by sunset.

**Question 61.** Who among the following did not support the boycott of Simon Commission?

- (a) Justice Party
- (b) Indian National Congress
- (c) Hindu Mahasabha
- (d) Muslim League (Jinnah faction)

Answer - (a)

Explanation – Justice Party supported the Commission; others opposed it due to lack of Indian representation. Being a non-Brahmin party in Madras Presidency, it welcomed the Commission to counterbalance Congress dominance and to seek political safeguards for non-Brahmins.

**Question 62.** Consider the following statements:

1. The Second Round Table Conference was attended by Gandhi as the sole Congress representative.
2. Gandhi supported separate electorates for minorities including depressed classes.

Which of the above is/are correct?

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

Answer - (a)

Explanation – Gandhi opposed separate electorates for Depressed Classes, leading to a major deadlock.

**Question 63.** Choose the true statement from below:

- (a) Subhash Bose supported the Struggle-Truce-Struggle approach.
- (b) Gandhi believed that civil liberties should never be suspended.
- (c) Bose formed Rani of Jhansi Regiment in 1942.
- (d) Nehru supported immediate socialist revolution through mass civil disobedience.

Answer - (b)

Explanation – Gandhi was a consistent supporter of civil liberties. Bose formed the Rani Jhansi Regiment in 1943; Nehru was cautious about revolution.

**Question 64.** What was the objective of Gandhi's fast in 1943 while imprisoned in Aga Khan Palace?

- (a) Demand for Dominion Status
- (b) Protest against communal award
- (c) Protest against state-sponsored violence
- (d) Demand for Congress release

Answer - (c)

Explanation – Gandhi fasted in protest against British repression and state violence, not to demand political concessions.

**Question 65.** Who among the following threw bombs in the Central Legislative Assembly in 1929?

- (a) Bhagat Singh and Sukhdev
- (b) Chandrashekhar Azad and Rajguru
- (c) Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt
- (d) Ram Prasad Bismil and Ashfaqulla Khan

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt threw bombs in the Central Legislative Assembly on 8 April 1929 to protest against oppressive laws.

**Question 66.** Consider the following statements:

1. Mangal Pandey belonged to the 34th Bengal Native Infantry.
2. He fired upon a British officer in March 1857.

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: Mangal Pandey did serve in the 34th BNI and attacked British officers on March 29, 1857, making both statements correct.

**Question 67.** The primary cause of the Deccan Riots of 1875 was:

- (a) Excessive land revenue
- (b) American Civil War
- (c) Exploitation by moneylenders
- (d) Ryotwari system

Answer: (c)

Explanation: The immediate trigger was exploitation by Marwari moneylenders who charged exorbitant interest, leading to peasant uprising.

**Question 68.** Match the peasant movements with their leaders:

List I – Movement | List II – Leader

- A. Bardoli Satyagraha | 1. Baba Ramchandra
- B. Oudh Kisan Sabha | 2. Vallabhbhai Patel
- C. Bijolia Movement | 3. Vijay Singh Pathik
- D. Kheda Satyagraha | 4. Sardar Patel

Code:

A B C D

- (a) 2 1 3 4
- (b) 2 3 1 4
- (c) 1 2 3 4
- (d) 2 1 4 3

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Bardoli – Patel, Oudh – Baba Ramchandra, Bijolia – Pathik, Kheda – Patel.

**Question 69.** The Treaty of Sagauli was signed between—

- (a) British and Burma
- (b) British and Tibet
- (c) British and Nepal
- (d) British and Bhutan

Answer – (c)

Explanation – The Treaty of Sagauli (1815–16) was signed between British India and Nepal, marking the end of the Anglo-Nepalese War.

**Question 70.** Who gifted the Kohinoor diamond to Ranjit Singh?

- (a) Zaman Shah
- (b) Shah Shuja
- (c) Ahmad Shah Abdali
- (d) Dalip Singh

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Shah Shuja, a descendant of Abdali, gifted the Kohinoor diamond to Ranjit Singh.

**Question 71.** A strong earthquake struck the *Drake Passage* region in August 2025. The Drake Passage connects:

- (a) Indian and Pacific Oceans
- (b) Indian and Southern Oceans
- (c) Atlantic and Arctic Oceans
- (d) Atlantic and Pacific Oceans

**Answer – (d) Atlantic and Pacific Oceans**

**Explanation –**

- The **Drake Passage** is a body of water located between the **southern tip of South America (Cape Horn, Chile)** and the **South Shetland Islands of Antarctica**.
- It is the **shortest crossing** from Antarctica to any other landmass and is known for its rough seas and strong ocean currents.
- Geographically, the Drake Passage **connects the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific Ocean** through the Southern Ocean circulation system.
- It is an important route for scientific expeditions, shipping, and plays a major role in the **Antarctic Circumpolar Current (ACC)**, which regulates global ocean circulation and climate.
- In **August 2025**, a **strong earthquake** was reported in this tectonically active region, drawing global attention.

**Question 72.** Which one of the following rulers of medieval Gujarat surrendered Diu to Portuguese?

- (a) Ahmad Shah
- (b) Mahmud Begarha
- (c) Bahadur Shah
- (d) Muhammad Shah

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Bahadur Shah of Gujarat surrendered Diu to the Portuguese in 1535 under a treaty with Nuno de Cunha.

**Question 73.** Which region was called 'Swarnanagari' due to immense wealth acquired by Arabs?

- (a) Delhi
- (b) Multan
- (c) Brahmanabad
- (d) Lahore

Answer – (b)

Explanation – Multan was known as Swarnanagari (Golden City) for its enormous wealth looted by Arabs.

**Question 74.** Choose the incorrect statement from the following:

- (a) Shurasena had its capital at Mathura
- (b) Gandhara's capital was Takshashila
- (c) Panchala's capital was Hastinapur
- (d) Malla had its capital at Kushinara

Answer: (c) Panchala's capital was Hastinapur

Explanation: Panchala had two capitals: Ahichchhatra (north) and Kampilya (south). Hastinapur was the capital of the Kurus, not Panchala.

**Question 75.** Consider the following statements:

1. Abhidhamma Pitaka is known as the "Basket of Higher Teachings."
2. Kathavatthu was authored by Mahakashyap.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation: The Abhidhamma Pitaka systematizes Buddhist teachings. Kathavatthu is part of it but was authored by Moggaliputta Tissa, not Mahakashyap.

**Question 76.** The Jain concept of "Ratnatraya" or Three Jewels includes:

- (a) Right Faith, Right Knowledge, Right Conduct
- (b) Truth, Non-violence, Celibacy
- (c) Karma, Rebirth, Nirvana
- (d) Dharma, Artha, Moksha

Answer – (a)

Explanation – The core ethical doctrine of Jainism is the Triratna or Three Jewels – Samyak Darshan, Samyak Gyan, and Samyak Charitra.

**Question 77.** In the Vedic period, which river was most frequently mentioned in the Rig Veda?

- (a) Ganga
- (b) Saraswati
- (c) Sindhu
- (d) Yamuna

Answer: (c) Sindhu

Explanation: The Sindhu (Indus) River is mentioned most frequently in the Rigveda. It was considered economically and culturally significant and referred to as "Hiranyayi" (golden one).

**Question 78.** Who supervised the construction of Sudarshan Lake under Chandragupta Maurya?

- (a) Tushaspa
- (b) Suvisakh
- (c) Pushyagupta
- (d) Chakrapalit

Answer: (c)

Explanation: According to the Junagadh inscription, Sudarshan Lake was built under Chandragupta's governor Pushyagupta.

**Question 79.** Which of the following Gupta inscriptions provides the first inscriptional evidence of the Sati system?

- (a) Allahabad Pillar
- (b) Eran Pillar
- (c) Bhitari Pillar
- (d) Mehrauli Iron Pillar

Answer - (b)

Explanation – The Eran Stone Pillar inscription (510 CE) provides the earliest inscriptional evidence of the Sati system, mentioning the self-immolation of Goparaja's widow.

**Question 80.** Which of the following best explains the Indo-Greek impact on Indian society?

- (a) Revival of Vedic rituals
- (b) Foundation of Brahmi script
- (c) Start of Gandhara art and bilingual coinage
- (d) Construction of Kailasha temple

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Indo-Greeks influenced art (Gandhara), astronomy, and coinage (Greek + Brahmi).

**Question 81.** Match the following biogeochemical cycles with their major human impacts:

List-I – List-II

- A. Nitrogen Cycle – 1. Fertilizer runoff & eutrophication
- B. Carbon Cycle – 2. Fossil fuel combustion
- C. Sulphur Cycle – 3. Acid rain
- D. Phosphorus Cycle – 4. Mining & wastewater discharge

Code:

A B C D

- (a) 1 2 3 4
- (b) 2 1 4 3
- (c) 4 3 2 1
- (d) 1 4 2 3

Answer – (a) 1 2 3 4

Explanation –

A. Nitrogen Cycle → 1. Fertilizer runoff & eutrophication

Excessive use of nitrogen-based fertilizers leads to runoff into water bodies, causing algal blooms and eutrophication, which depletes oxygen and harms aquatic life.

B. Carbon Cycle → 2. Fossil fuel combustion

Human activities like burning of coal, oil, and gas increase atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>, enhancing the greenhouse effect and climate change.

C. Sulphur Cycle → 3. Acid rain

Sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from industrial processes and burning fossil fuels form sulphuric acid in the atmosphere, resulting in acid rain.

D. Phosphorus Cycle → 4. Mining & wastewater discharge

Human activities like mining of phosphate rocks and sewage disposal increase phosphorus in

water bodies, leading to nutrient pollution and eutrophication.

**Question 82.** Where is the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) headquartered?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Bengaluru
- (c) Hyderabad
- (d) Chennai

Answer: (d) Chennai

Explanation: NBA was established in 2003 under the Biodiversity Act, 2002.

**Question 83.** Which of the following is a keystone species in Indian forests?

- (a) Bison
- (b) Tiger
- (c) Deer
- (d) Langur

Answer: (b) Tiger

Explanation: A keystone species has a disproportionately large effect on its environment. In Indian forests, it's the tiger.

**Question 84.** Which of the following is an example of a supporting ecosystem service?

- (a) Pollination
- (b) Nutrient cycling
- (c) Freshwater supply
- (d) Climate regulation

Answer – (b) Nutrient cycling

Explanation – Supporting services like nutrient cycling underlie other ecosystem services.

**Question 85.** Match List-I (International Initiative) with List-II (Objective):

- A. Paris Agreement – 1. Support adaptation in developing nations
- B. Green Climate Fund – 2. Limit warming to 1.5–2°C
- C. UNFCCC – 3. Climate negotiation platform
- D. COP28 – 4. Framework convention on climate

Code:

A B C D

- (a) 1 2 3 4
- (b) 2 3 1 4

(c) 2 1 4 3

(d) 4 1 2 3

Answer – (c) 2 1 4 3

Explanation –

A. Paris Agreement → 2. Limit warming to 1.5–2°C

The Paris Agreement (2015) is a legally binding treaty under the UNFCCC, aiming to limit global temperature rise to well below 2°C, preferably to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

B. Green Climate Fund → 1. Support adaptation in developing nations

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) was created to assist developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change, with funding from developed countries.

C. UNFCCC → 4. Framework convention on climate

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was adopted in 1992 at the Rio Earth Summit. It provides the global legal framework for climate action.

D. COP28 → 3. Climate negotiation platform

The Conference of Parties (COP) is the annual meeting of UNFCCC member countries. COP28 (held in 2023 in UAE) was the 28th such meeting and is a major platform for climate negotiations and global stocktake.

**Question 86.** Assertion (A): NAPCC promotes inclusive and sustainable growth.

Reason (R): It includes both climate mitigation and adaptation strategies.

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: NAPCC is a comprehensive policy integrating climate strategies with development goals, making R a correct explanation.

**Question 87.** Assertion (A): Blue carbon ecosystems help mitigate climate change.

Reason (R): They sequester carbon dioxide and prevent coastal erosion.\*\*

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: Blue carbon ecosystems (like mangroves) sequester CO<sub>2</sub> and also provide shoreline protection — hence, R correctly explains A.

**Question 88.** Match Biodiversity Indices with Description:

- A. Alpha – 1. Within habitat
- B. Beta – 2. Between habitats
- C. Gamma – 3. Total landscape diversity
- D. Species Evenness – 4. Relative abundance

Code:

A B C D

- (a) 1 2 3 4
- (b) 2 3 1 4
- (c) 3 1 2 4
- (d) 1 3 2 4

Answer – (a) 1 2 3 4

Explanation –

A. Alpha Diversity → 1. Within habitat

Refers to species diversity within a particular area or ecosystem (e.g., a forest patch).

B. Beta Diversity → 2. Between habitats

Measures the change in species composition between two ecosystems or habitats.

C. Gamma Diversity → 3. Total landscape diversity

Refers to overall biodiversity across multiple ecosystems or landscape scale.

D. Species Evenness → 4. Relative abundance

Measures how evenly the individuals are distributed among different species in an ecosystem.

**Question 89.** Choose the correct statements:

- 1. India's east-west extent is 2933 km.
- 2. India lies between 8°4'N and 37°6'N.
- 3. The Prime Meridian passes through India.
- 4. The IST is 5:30 hours ahead of GMT.

(a) 1, 2 and 4

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 4 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Prime meridian (0°) does not pass through India.

**Question 90.** Which of the following tribes celebrates Diwali as a mourning festival?

- (a) Tharu
- (b) Kharwar
- (c) Jaunsari
- (d) Kol

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Tharu tribe observes Diwali as a festival of sorrow.

**Question 91.** Consider the following:

- 1. Sahariya – Rajasthan
- 2. Chenchu – Andhra Pradesh
- 3. Bhutia – Sikkim
- 4. Soliga – Kerala

How many of the above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Answer: (c) Only three

Explanation:

Sahariya – Rajasthan

Correct. Sahariyas are a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) found mainly in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

Chenchu – Andhra Pradesh

Correct. Chenchus are a PVTG predominantly found in Andhra Pradesh and parts of Telangana.

Bhutia – Sikkim

Correct. Bhutia is a scheduled tribe primarily found in Sikkim and the Himalayan region.

Soliga – Kerala

Incorrect. Soliga tribe is mainly found in Karnataka, especially in and around the Biligiriranga Hills (BR Hills) and MM Hills. They are not native to Kerala.

Correctly matched tribes = 3

**Question 92.** Which of the following regions in the Himalayas is known for Karewa deposits?

- (a) Kumaon Himalayas
- (b) Kashmir Valley
- (c) Arunachal Himalayas
- (d) Sikkim Himalayas

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Karewa are lacustrine deposits found in the Kashmir Valley, useful for saffron cultivation.

**Question 93.**

Assertion (A): The Northern Plains are one of the most agriculturally productive regions in India.

Reason (R): They have fertile alluvial soils and an adequate supply of water.

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

Explanation: The fertile alluvial soil, adequate irrigation, and flat terrain make the plains extremely suitable for intensive agriculture.

**Question 94.** Which state of India has the largest share of the Ganga Plain?

- (a) Bihar
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) West Bengal

(d) Uttarakhand

Answer: (b) Uttar Pradesh

Explanation: Uttar Pradesh forms the largest portion of the Ganga Plain, spanning from west to east with cities like Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, etc.

**Question 95.** Which river is the main source of water for Chilika Lake?

- (a) Mahanadi
- (b) Godavari
- (c) Krishna
- (d) Subarnarekha

Answer: (a) Mahanadi

Explanation:

Mahanadi and its tributaries contribute to the Chilika Lake, Asia's largest brackish water lagoon.

**Question 96.** Which of the following soils is highly leached due to heavy rainfall?

- (a) Black soil
- (b) Arid soil
- (c) Laterite soil
- (d) Red soil

Answer: (c) Laterite soil

Explanation:

Laterite soils form in high rainfall areas and are poor in nutrients due to leaching.

**Question 97.** Which of the following factors contributes most to the diversity of climate in India?

- (a) Soil type
- (b) Vegetation
- (c) Latitude and altitude
- (d) Cultural practices

Answer: (c) Latitude and altitude

Explanation: India's climate varies due to latitude, altitude, distance from sea, and topography.

**Question 98.** Which of the following is a tidal port in India?

- (a) Kochi
- (b) Haldia
- (c) Kandla
- (d) Paradip

Answer: (c) Kandla

Explanation: Kandla port (Gujarat) is a tidal port developed after partition to replace Karachi port.

**Question 99.** The Isthmus of Kra connects:

- (a) India and Sri Lanka
- (b) North and South Vietnam
- (c) Thailand and Malay Peninsula
- (d) Myanmar and Thailand

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Isthmus of Kra connects mainland Thailand with the Malay Peninsula.

**Question 100.** Which of the following peninsulas lies entirely in the tropical zone?

- (a) Korean Peninsula
- (b) Arabian Peninsula
- (c) Malay Peninsula
- (d) Scandinavian Peninsula

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Malay Peninsula lies entirely in Southeast Asia within the tropical zone.

**Question 101.** Choose the incorrect statement:

- (a) The Sun is a medium-sized star
- (b) Neptune is the farthest planet from the Sun
- (c) Comets originate from the asteroid belt
- (d) A solar eclipse occurs during a new moon

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Comets come from the Kuiper Belt and Oort Cloud, not asteroid belt.

**Question 102.** The Llanos and Campos are grasslands of:

- (a) Africa
- (b) North America
- (c) South America
- (d) Central Asia

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Llanos – Venezuela, Colombia

Campos – Brazil, Uruguay

**Question 103.** Which of the following conditions favor chemical weathering?

- 1. High temperature

2. High moisture

3. Cold dry climate

Select the correct code:

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Warm, moist climates accelerate chemical weathering (e.g., equatorial regions).

**Question 104.** Which of the following factors determine the destructiveness of an earthquake?

- 1. Depth of focus
- 2. Distance from epicenter
- 3. Population density
- 4. Building design

Select the correct code:

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation: Shallow focus, high population, poor construction, and close proximity to epicenter increase damage.

**Question 105.** Match the following climatic regions with their main vegetation:

- A. Tropical Rainforest – 1. Lianas and Epiphytes
- B. Tropical Savanna – 2. Grass with scattered trees
- C. Mediterranean – 3. Sclerophyllous shrubs
- D. Tundra – 4. Moss and lichens

Code:

A B C D

- (a) 1 2 3 4
- (b) 2 1 3 4
- (c) 1 3 2 4
- (d) 1 2 4 3

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Tropical Rainforest: dense canopy, epiphytes, vines

Savanna: tall grasses with scattered trees

Mediterranean: hard-leaved (sclerophyllous) shrubs

Tundra: mosses, lichens, no trees due to permafrost

**Question 106.** Which of the following correctly describes the function of the Virtual Launch Control Centre (VLCC)?

- (a) Launches rockets directly
- (b) Provides command to ground stations only
- (c) Simulates and monitors launch process remotely
- (d) Controls satellite operations in orbit

Answer: (c) Simulates and monitors launch process remotely

Explanation: VLCC remotely tests, simulates and supports real-time launch operations.

**Question 107.** Consider the following statements regarding Project 75 and Project 17A:

1. Project 75 is associated with anti-submarine corvettes.
2. Project 17A involves stealth frigate development.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) Only 2

Explanation: Project 75 is for submarines, not corvettes.

Project 75 refers to the Indian Navy's initiative to construct six Scorpene-class diesel-electric attack submarines, not corvettes.

These submarines are being built at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai, with French collaboration (Naval Group). Examples include INS Kalvari, INS Khanderi, etc.

Anti-submarine corvettes fall under Project 28 (Kamorta-class), not Project 75.

**Question 108.** Which of the following pairs is not correctly matched?

- (a) Carolus Linnaeus – Taxonomy

(b) Gregor Mendel – Modern Embryology

(c) Robert Hooke – Cell Biology

(d) G. Cuvier – Comparative Anatomy

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Carl von Baer is known as the Father of Modern Embryology, not Mendel.

**Question 109.** Which phase of mitosis is the shortest?

- (a) Telophase
- (b) Prophase
- (c) Metaphase
- (d) Anaphase

Answer: (d)

Explanation: Anaphase is the shortest and involves separation of chromatids.

**Question 110.** Which enzyme is NOT found in saliva?

- (a) Diastase
- (b) Ptyalin
- (c) Salivary lipase
- (d) Trypsin

Answer: (d)

Explanation: Trypsin is secreted by pancreas, not found in saliva.

**Question 111.** Which gland acts both as exocrine and endocrine?

- (a) Liver
- (b) Pituitary
- (c) Pancreas
- (d) Thyroid

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Pancreas has both endocrine (insulin) and exocrine (enzymes) functions.

**Question 112.** Choose the incorrect match:

- (a) Clavicle – Weakest bone
- (b) Femur – Longest and strongest bone
- (c) Mandible – Lower movable jaw
- (d) Stapes – Largest ear bone

Answer: (d)

Explanation: Stapes is the smallest bone, not the largest; it is part of the auditory ossicles.

**Question 113.** What is the causative agent of Sleeping Sickness?

- (a) Entamoeba histolytica
- (b) Trypanosoma brucei
- (c) Plasmodium vivax
- (d) Leishmania donovani

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Trypanosoma brucei causes Sleeping Sickness, transmitted by the Tsetse fly.

**Question 114.** Which vitamin aids in blood clotting?

- (a) Vitamin A
- (b) Vitamin C
- (c) Vitamin K
- (d) Vitamin D

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Vitamin K assists in synthesis of prothrombin in liver, essential for blood clotting.

**Question 115.** Assertion (A): Sound cannot travel through vacuum.

Reason (R): Sound waves are mechanical waves.

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 – Sound needs a material medium to propagate as it is a mechanical wave, hence it cannot travel through vacuum.

**Question 116.** The tendency of an object to resist any change in its motion is called:

- (a) Force
- (b) Inertia
- (c) Momentum
- (d) Acceleration

Answer – (b) Inertia

Explanation – Inertia is the property of matter by which it resists change in its state of motion. It depends on mass.

**Question 117.** Consider the following pairs:

1. Volt – Potential Difference
2. Ohm – Electrical Resistance
3. Tesla – Magnetic Field
4. Farad – Electric Power

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Answer – (c) Only three

Explanation –

Correct:

- Volt → Potential Difference
- Ohm → Resistance
- Tesla → Magnetic field

Incorrect:

- Farad → Capacitance, not power

**Question 118.** Match List-I (Scientist) with List-II (Invention/Discovery):

- A. James Watt – 1. Electric bulb
- B. Thomas Edison – 2. Steam engine improvements
- C. Albert Einstein – 3. Photoelectric effect
- D. Galileo – 4. Law of inertia

Code:

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

Answer – (a) 2 1 3 4

Explanation –

Watt → Improved steam engine

Edison → Electric bulb

Einstein → Photoelectric effect

Galileo → Inertia

**Question 119.** Which physical principle is used in a hydraulic lift?

- (a) Bernoulli's Principle
- (b) Pascal's Law
- (c) Newton's Law
- (d) Boyle's Law

Answer – (b) Pascal's Law

Explanation – Pascal's Law: Pressure applied at a point in a fluid is transmitted equally in all directions.

Used in hydraulic machines.

**Question 120.** Choose the correct statement:

- (a) Oxidation involves gain of electrons
- (b) Oxidation involves loss of electrons
- (c) Reduction involves loss of hydrogen
- (d) Reduction involves gain of oxygen

Answer – (b)

Explanation –

Oxidation = loss of electrons

Reduction = gain of electrons / hydrogen

**Question 121.** Which acid is commonly present in aerated soft drinks?

- (a) Sulphuric acid
- (b) Acetic acid
- (c) Carbonic acid
- (d) Hydrochloric acid

Answer – (c)

Explanation –  $\text{CO}_2$  dissolves in water forming carbonic acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ ) in soft drinks.

**Question 122.** Match List-I (Acid) with List-II (Source):

- A. Lactic acid – 1. Lemon
- B. Acetic acid – 2. Vinegar
- C. Citric acid – 3. Curd
- D. Tartaric acid – 4. Tamarind

Code:

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

Answer – (a)

Explanation –

Lactic acid → Curd

Acetic acid → Vinegar

Citric acid → Lemon

Tartaric acid → Tamarind

**Question 123.** Which of the following is incorrect regarding GM crops?

- (a) They are pest-resistant
- (b) They reduce use of pesticides
- (c) They increase soil fertility
- (d) Some are drought-resistant

Answer – (c)

Explanation – GM crops are engineered for pest/drought resistance or better yield, not for increasing soil fertility.

**Question 124.** A child inherits blood group A from the mother and B from the father. The child's blood group will be:

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) AB
- (d) O

Answer – (c) AB

Explanation – Blood group AB is a co-dominant trait, both A and B are equally expressed.

**Question 125.** Insulin used by diabetic patients is produced using:

- (a) Plants
- (b) Yeast
- (c) Transgenic bacteria
- (d) Human liver cells

Answer – (c)

Explanation – Recombinant DNA technology uses genetically engineered E. coli to produce human insulin.

**Question 126.** The NAKSHA Programme, recently in news, is aimed at:

- (a) Modernizing defence mapping of borders
- (b) Modernizing urban land records using geospatial technology
- (c) Tracking agricultural productivity using satellite imagery

(d) Digitalizing forest land ownership in tribal areas

**Answer – (b) Modernizing urban land records using geospatial technology**

**Explanation – NAKSHA (National geospatial Knowledge-based land Survey of urban HAbitations)** is led by the **Department of Land Resources (DoLR)** under the **Ministry of Rural Development**. It modernizes, verifies, and provides **transparent, reliable, and updated land records** for India's urban areas.

**Why in News – On 2 June 2025**, the **2nd phase of capacity-building training** began through five Centres of Excellence (CoEs).

**Question 127.** Consider the following statements about the NAVYA programme:

1. It is targeted at girls aged 10–14 years.
2. It is being implemented in aspirational districts across 19 states.

Choose the correct statement(s):

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

**Answer – (b) Only 2**

**Explanation –** The NAVYA programme is meant for adolescent girls aged **16–18 years** (not 10–14 years). It will be rolled out in **27 aspirational districts across 19 states** of India.

**Why in News –** NAVYA was launched in Sonbhadra, UP, as part of **PMKVY 4.0**, ensuring equal opportunities for girls in marginalized regions.

**Question 128.** Which of the following agencies is preparing the framework for default AC temperature standardisation?

- (a) Central Electricity Authority (CEA)
- (b) Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)
- (c) NITI Aayog
- (d) Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)

**Answer – (b) Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)**

**Explanation –** The **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)**, under the **Ministry of Power**, is drafting the framework. BEE's role is to promote energy-efficient devices and processes in India.

**Why in News –** Standardisation of AC settings is

part of India's **energy conservation strategy** amid rising electricity demand.

**Question 129.** Consider the following statements about **Spirulina (Arthrospira)**:

1. It is a **cyanobacterium** capable of thriving in extreme environments.
2. It has prior **NASA** use as an astronaut dietary supplement.

Which of the statements given 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 –** **Spirulina** is a blue-green **cyanobacterium** noted for resilience and **past NASA usage** as a supplement; Ax-4 extends this into **microgravity proteomics**.

**Why in news –** India's Ax-4 experiments may standardise **Spirulina** as **core space nutrition**.

**Question 130.** Consider the following statements about **International Day of Yoga (IDY)**:

1. The United Nations General Assembly declared **21 June** as IDY on **11 December 2014**.
2. The first global celebration of IDY was held in **New Delhi (Rajpath) in 2015**.

Choose the correct statement(s):

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

**Answer – (c) Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation –** The proposal was made by India (PM's UN speech on **27 Sept 2014**) and **UNGA adopted IDY on 11 Dec 2014**; the **first IDY** was celebrated at **Rajpath, New Delhi, in 2015**.

**Why in news –** 2025 marked the **11th year** of IDY with record participation.

**Question 131.** World Sickle Cell Awareness Day 2025 (19 June) carried the theme:

- (a) Stronger Together for SCD
- (b) Global Action, Local Impact: Empowering Communities for Effective Self-Advocacy
- (c) Cure SCD Now
- (d) End SCD by 2030

**Answer – (b) Global Action, Local Impact:  
Empowering Communities for Effective Self-Advocacy**

**Explanation –** The 2025 theme stresses **community empowerment** with global support to battle SCD.

**Why in news –** India's **National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission (2023)** targets elimination as a public-health problem by **2047**, a key policy marker for North-Central states including parts of **UP's adjoining tribal belts** focus.

**Question 132.** A special commemorative coin released by PM Modi in July 2025 honored which emperor's maritime achievements?

- (a) Ashoka
- (b) Harsha
- (c) Rajendra Chola I
- (d) Samudragupta

**Answer – (c) Rajendra Chola I**

**Explanation –** At the Aadi Thiruvathirai Festival (27 July 2025) in Gangaikonda Cholapuram, PM Modi released a commemorative coin in honor of Rajendra Chola I. The event was in news as part of triple commemoration—1,000 years of his maritime expedition, Gangaikonda Cholapuram temple's construction, and his birth anniversary celebrations.

**Question 133.** The Bharat NCX 2025, India's largest cybersecurity exercise, was organized by which body?

- (a) DRDO
- (b) National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS)
- (c) CERT-In
- (d) NITI Aayog

**Answer – (b) National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS)**

**Explanation –** On **21 July 2025**, the **National Cybersecurity Exercise – Bharat NCX 2025** was inaugurated. It was in news for its **live-fire simulations, AI-driven frameworks, and strategic exercises** to enhance cyber defense readiness, led by NSCS in collaboration with Rashtriya Raksha University.

**Question 134.** In July 2025, who became only the third Vice-President of India to resign mid-term?

- (a) Venkaiah Naidu
- (b) Jagdeep Dhankhar

- (c) Hamid Ansari
- (d) R. Venkataraman

**Answer – (b) Jagdeep Dhankhar**

**Explanation –** On **21 July 2025**, Vice-President **Jagdeep Dhankhar** resigned citing health reasons, becoming only the **third Vice-President in history** (after V.V. Giri and R. Venkataraman) to step down mid-term. It was in news as a rare constitutional vacancy requiring fresh elections by Parliament.

**Question 135.** Which state government has launched the “Shramshree” scheme?

- (a) Odisha
- (b) Bihar
- (c) Jharkhand
- (d) West Bengal

**Answer – (a) Odisha**

**Explanation –**

- In **2025**, the **Government of Odisha** launched the “*Shramshree*” scheme for the welfare of the **unorganised workers** in the state.
- Key features of the scheme include:
  - Creation of a **comprehensive database** of unorganised sector workers.
  - Providing them access to **social security benefits**, including health, insurance, pension, and welfare programmes.
  - Ensuring **skill development and employment opportunities** for registered workers.
- Odisha has a large workforce engaged in **construction, agriculture, and small-scale industries**, many of whom remain outside formal welfare schemes.
- The scheme is designed to **integrate state and central government labour welfare initiatives** into a single platform for better implementation.
- Other states like Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal also run labour welfare programmes, but “*Shramshree*” is **specific to Odisha**.

**Question 136.** The *Exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 2025* was conducted between:

- (a) Japan and South Korea
- (b) USA and Taiwan
- (c) South Korea and USA
- (d) USA and Japan

**Answer – (c) South Korea and USA**

**Explanation –**

- **Ulchi Freedom Shield (UFS) 2025** is a major **joint military exercise** held between the **United States and South Korea** in **August 2025**.
- It is conducted annually to strengthen defense preparedness against security threats, particularly from **North Korea**.
- The exercise combines:
  - **Defensive drills** simulating full-scale attacks.
  - **Cyber warfare, missile defense, and joint command post training.**
  - Civil defense readiness under South Korea's **Ulchi civil defense drills**.
- The 2025 edition involved thousands of troops and was one of the **largest joint drills in recent years**, reflecting deepening US–South Korea security cooperation.
- Other options:
  - USA–Japan and USA–Taiwan conduct separate security dialogues and exercises but not UFS.
  - Japan–South Korea have trilateral exercises with the USA, but **Ulchi Freedom Shield is specific to USA–South Korea**.

**Question 137.** In August 2025, which country has been verified by the **WHO** as having eliminated *rubella*?

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) India
- (c) Nepal
- (d) Sri Lanka

**Answer – (d) Sri Lanka**

**Explanation –**

- In **August 2025**, the **World Health Organization (WHO)** officially verified that **Sri Lanka** has eliminated *rubella* (also known as German measles).
- **Rubella** is a contagious viral disease that can cause serious birth defects (Congenital Rubella Syndrome – CRS) if contracted by pregnant women.
- Sri Lanka achieved elimination through:
  - **High immunisation coverage** with the Measles-Rubella (MR) vaccine.
  - Strong **disease surveillance systems**.
  - Community participation and **robust public health infrastructure**.
- This recognition places Sri Lanka among a small group of countries in the **South-East Asia Region** to achieve this milestone.
- India, Bangladesh, and Nepal are still working towards the WHO target of **measles and rubella elimination**, with significant progress but not yet full verification.

**Question 138.** The film '*Bengal Files*' is based on which of the following events?

- (a) The Partition of Bengal
- (b) The Chittagong Armoury Raid
- (c) Direct Action Day
- (d) Indigo Revolt

**Answer – (c) Direct Action Day**

**Explanation –**

- The film '**Bengal Files**', released in **2025**, is based on the tragic incidents of **Direct Action Day (16 August 1946)**.
- On this day, the Muslim League called for mass mobilisation in Bengal demanding the creation of Pakistan.
- The event led to widespread **communal riots in Kolkata (then Calcutta)**, resulting in the death of thousands of Hindus and Muslims. It is often referred to as the **Great Calcutta Killings**.
- The violence of Direct Action Day created deep mistrust between communities and

became a turning point in the run-up to the **Partition of India (1947)**.

- The film seeks to portray the **historical truth, sufferings of people, and political backdrop** of this communal outbreak.
- Other options:
  - *Partition of Bengal (1905, 1947)* – related but distinct event.
  - *Chittagong Armoury Raid (1930)* – led by Surya Sen.
  - *Indigo Revolt (1859–60)* – a peasant movement against forced indigo cultivation.

**Question 139.** Which of the following hosted the *first-ever Khelo India Water Games*?

- (a) Vembanad Lake
- (b) Dal Lake
- (c) Chilika Lake
- (d) Indira Sagar Lake

**Answer – (b) Dal Lake**

**Explanation –**

- The **first-ever Khelo India Water Games** were held in **April 2023** at the world-famous **Dal Lake in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir**.
- The event was organised under the **Khelo India programme** of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.
- Sports included: **canoeing, kayaking, rowing, and dragon boat races**.
- Aim:
  - To promote **water sports culture** in India.
  - To provide a platform for athletes from across the country.
  - To boost **tourism and local economy** in Jammu & Kashmir through sports.
- Dal Lake was chosen for its natural beauty and suitability for water-based adventure and sporting activities.
- Other lakes like Vembanad (Kerala), Chilika (Odisha), and Indira Sagar (Madhya Pradesh) are important water bodies but did not host this inaugural edition.

**Question 140.** Which has become the first state in India to achieve *full digital literacy*?

- (a) Mizoram
- (b) Goa
- (c) Andhra Pradesh
- (d) Kerala

**Answer – (d) Kerala**

**Explanation –**

- In **2025, Kerala** became the **first state in India to achieve full digital literacy**.
- This means that every household in Kerala now has at least one digitally literate member capable of using computers, smartphones, and internet-based services.
- The achievement came under initiatives like:
  - **Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON):** providing affordable internet to households.
  - **Digital Literacy Mission & Akshaya Centres:** training citizens in basic and advanced digital skills.
  - Integration of digital platforms in governance, education, and healthcare.
- Kerala has historically led India in **social indicators** like literacy, healthcare, and now in **digital empowerment** as well.
- The state government aims to use this digital literacy to strengthen **e-governance, online education, telemedicine, and digital economy participation**.

**Question 141.** A strong earthquake struck the *Drake Passage* region in August 2025. The Drake Passage connects:

- (a) Indian and Pacific Oceans
- (b) Indian and Southern Oceans
- (c) Atlantic and Arctic Oceans
- (d) Atlantic and Pacific Oceans

**Answer – (d) Atlantic and Pacific Oceans**

**Explanation –**

- The **Drake Passage** is a body of water located between the **southern tip of South America (Cape Horn, Chile)** and the **South Shetland Islands of Antarctica**.

- It is the **shortest crossing** from Antarctica to any other landmass and is known for its rough seas and strong ocean currents.
- Geographically, the Drake Passage **connects the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific Ocean** through the Southern Ocean circulation system.
- It is an important route for scientific expeditions, shipping, and plays a major role in the **Antarctic Circumpolar Current (ACC)**, which regulates global ocean circulation and climate.
- In **August 2025**, a **strong earthquake** was reported in this tectonically active region, drawing global attention.

**Question 142.** Which of the following has launched a new image generation and editing AI model '*Nano Banana*'?

- (a) OpenAI
- (b) Microsoft
- (c) Meta
- (d) Google

**Answer – (d) Google**

**Explanation –**

- In **August 2025**, **Google** launched a new AI-powered image generation and editing model called "*Nano Banana*".
- The model is part of the **Gemini AI family** developed by Google DeepMind.
- Key features include:
  - Ability to **generate images from text prompts** with high accuracy.
  - Advanced **editing capabilities**, such as background replacement, style transfer, and blending multiple images.
  - Maintaining **character likeness and consistency** across multiple edits (for people, pets, or objects).
- The initiative reflects Google's push to expand **creative AI tools** for developers, designers, and users worldwide.
- Other companies like OpenAI, Microsoft, and Meta have their own AI projects, but *Nano Banana* is specifically developed by **Google**.

**Question 143.** Which country recently banned YouTube for children under 16 to protect them from harmful online content?

- (a) United Kingdom
- (b) New Zealand
- (c) Australia
- (d) France

**Answer – (c) Australia**

**Explanation –**

- In 2024, Australia passed the *Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Act*, making it mandatory for social media users to be at least 16 years old.
- Initially, YouTube was excluded, but in mid-2025, the Australian Government extended the restriction to YouTube as well.
- From December 2025, children below 16 years will not be allowed to create or use YouTube accounts in Australia.
- The move aims to protect young users from harmful online content, cyber-bullying, and addictive usage patterns.
- Other countries such as the UK, New Zealand, and France are also considering stricter online safety laws, but **Australia is the first to impose such a direct age-ban on YouTube**.

**Question 144.** In which state a Harappan site was discovered at *Ratadiya Ri Dheri*?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Punjab
- (c) Haryana
- (d) Rajasthan

**Answer – (d) Rajasthan**

**Explanation –**

- *Ratadiya Ri Dheri* is a recently identified Harappan site located in **Rajasthan**.
- It adds to the list of Harappan settlements discovered in the state, alongside well-known sites such as **Kalibangan (Hanumangarh district), Sothi (Bikaner district), and Balathal (Udaipur district)**.
- The discovery of Ratadiya Ri Dheri further proves the wide geographical spread of the Indus Valley Civilization, which extended beyond the Indus river system

into the Ghaggar–Hakra and adjoining regions of Rajasthan.

- Rajasthan is important in Harappan studies because it shows both **Pre-Harappan (Sothi–Siswal culture)** and **Mature Harappan phases**.
- Thus, the correct answer is **Rajasthan**.

**Question 145.** Recently, the sacred *Piprahwa* relics of Lord Buddha returned to India. These relics were originally discovered in:

- (a) 1785
- (b) 1845
- (c) 1898
- (d) 1908

**Answer – (c) 1898**

**Explanation –**

- The **Piprahwa site** is located in **Siddharthnagar district, Uttar Pradesh**, near the Indo–Nepal border.
- In **1898**, British civil servant **William Claxton Peppe** carried out excavations at Piprahwa and discovered a large **stone coffer (reliquary)**.
- The coffer contained **relics of Lord Buddha**, along with gold, silver, crystal and stone objects, and a Brahmi inscription mentioning the *Sakyas (clan of Buddha)*.
- These are among the most significant Buddhist relics ever discovered in India and have been displayed internationally as symbols of peace.
- The relics highlight Uttar Pradesh's central place in Buddhist heritage, as nearby lie **Kapilvastu, Lumbini (Nepal)**, and **Kushinagar**.

Thus, the sacred Piprahwa relics were **discovered in 1898**.

**Question 146.** In which country *Klyuchevskoy* volcano erupted just hours after a major earthquake?

- (a) Russia
- (b) Iceland
- (c) Kazakhstan
- (d) USA

**Answer – (a) Russia**

**Explanation –**

- **Klyuchevskoy Volcano** is the tallest active volcano in **Eurasia**, located on the **Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia**. Its height is about **4,750 metres**.
- In **April 2024**, Klyuchevskoy erupted only a few hours after a strong **7.0 magnitude earthquake** struck the Kamchatka region.
- The eruption sent ash plumes several kilometers into the sky, disrupting air traffic routes across the North Pacific.
- This event highlights the **seismic–volcanic link** in tectonically active zones, as Kamchatka lies in the **Pacific Ring of Fire**, where earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are frequent.
- Countries like Iceland, Kazakhstan, and the USA also face volcanic activity, but the **eruption of Klyuchevskoy is specific to Russia**.

**Question 147.** Recently released “*Believer’s Dilemma*” is a biography of:

- (a) Dr. Manmohan Singh
- (b) Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- (c) Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao
- (d) Shri Inder Kumar Gujral

**Answer – (b) Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee**

**Explanation –**

- *The Believer’s Dilemma: Vajpayee and the Hindu Right’s Path to Power* is a recent biography of **Atal Bihari Vajpayee**, the **12th Prime Minister of India**.
- Written by **Abhishek Choudhary**, the book explores Vajpayee’s personal and political journey.
- It traces his rise from a poet and parliamentarian to a **moderate face of the BJP** and India’s leadership during crucial times.
- The biography examines:
  - His association with the **RSS** and ideological dilemmas.
  - His role in shaping the **BJP’s path to power**.
  - His balancing act between **Hindutva politics** and a more

**inclusive, democratic vision of India.**

- The book provides insight into Vajpayee's unique position as both a **believer in the Hindu Right** and a **statesman with a liberal, consensus-building approach**.

**Question 148.** Which film was honoured with the *Best Feature Film Award* at the **71st National Film Awards**?

- (a) The Kerala Story
- (b) 12th Fail
- (c) Jawan
- (d) Sam Bahadur

**Answer – (b) 12th Fail**

**Explanation –**

- The **71st National Film Awards** (2025) recognised outstanding achievements in Indian cinema for the year 2023.
- **"12th Fail"**, directed by **Vidhu Vinod Chopra**, won the **Best Feature Film Award**.
- The film is based on the struggles of **Manoj Kumar Sharma**, a boy from Chambal who rises from poverty to become an IPS officer through determination and honesty.
- It is inspired by the real-life story of IPS Manoj Sharma and highlights themes of **integrity, resilience, and the UPSC journey**, making it especially inspiring for students.
- Other films like *The Kerala Story*, *Jawan*, and *Sam Bahadur* received attention and acclaim, but **"12th Fail" was chosen as the Best Feature Film** for its strong social message and cinematic excellence.

Thus, the correct answer is **12th Fail**.

**Question 149.** Recently, the *Matri Van Initiative* was launched to revive the ecological health of:

- (a) Western Ghats
- (b) Sundarbans
- (c) Aravalli Hills
- (d) Eastern Himalaya

**Answer – (c) Aravalli Hills**

**Explanation –**

- The **Matri Van Initiative** was recently launched with the objective of restoring the degraded ecology of the **Aravalli Hills**, which stretch across **Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Gujarat**.
- The initiative aims to revive **native forests**, prevent desertification, and enhance biodiversity in this fragile region.
- The Aravallis, one of the **oldest fold mountain ranges in the world**, play a crucial role in:
  - Acting as a **green barrier against the Thar Desert**.
  - Protecting **groundwater recharge zones** for NCR and adjoining states.
  - Maintaining ecological balance in North-West India.
- However, the Aravallis face severe threats due to **deforestation, mining, urbanisation, and climate change**.
- The **Matri Van model** involves community participation, large-scale afforestation with native species, and linking conservation with cultural values of "Mother Earth" (*Matri*).

**Question 150.** Which scheme was launched under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan for street vendors?

- (a) SVANidhi Scheme
- (b) PM KUSUM
- (c) PM Gati Shakti
- (d) PM Vishwakarma

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:** PM SVANidhi provides collateral-free working capital loans to street vendors for post-COVID livelihood support.