

Test Series Question Paper-13-04-2024

Q1. Consider the following statements with reference to drainage system in India:

1. Over 90 per cent of the water drains into the Bay of Bengal and the rest is drained into the Arabian Sea or forms inland drainage.
2. The Brahmaputra River carry the largest volume of water among Indian rivers.
3. The Luni is the largest river in the Thar Desert.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Over 90 per cent of the water drains into the Bay of Bengal and the rest is drained into the Arabian Sea or forms inland drainage. Also, 77 per cent of the drainage area of the country is oriented towards the Bay of Bengal while 23 per cent of the drainage area of the country is oriented towards the Arabian sea.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Brahmaputra river carry the largest volume of water among Indian rivers. The maximum discharge of Brahmaputra at Pandu near Guwahati was recorded as 72,779 cumec on 23.08.62 and minimum discharge was recorded as 1757 cumec on 22.02.63. The average annual discharge is about 20,000 cumec and average dry season discharge is 4,420 cumec.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Luni is the largest river in the Thar Desert . It originates in the Pushkar valley of the Aravalli Range, near Ajmer, passes through the southeastern portion of the Thar Desert, and ends in the marshy lands of Rann of Kutch in Gujarat, after travelling a distance of 495 km (308 mi).

Q2. Consider the following pairs

River	Origin
1. Krishna	Trimbakeshwar
2. Ken	Ahirkawan
3. Vagai	Varushanadu Hills

How many of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

(d) None

Ans:(b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is incorrect:** The Krishna River originates in the Western Ghats near Mahabaleshwar, in Maharashtra. It is second largest river in Peninsular India.
- **Pair 2 is correct:** The Ken River, is one of the major rivers of the Bundelkhand region of central India, and flows through two states, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. It is a tributary of the Yamuna. The Ken River originates near the **village Ahirgawan** on the north-west slopes of Barner Range in **Katni district**, Madhya Pradesh.
- **Pair 3 is correct:** The Vaigai drains an area of 7,741 Sq.Km, which entirely lies in the state of Tamil Nadu. The Vaigai river rises on the Eastern slopes of the Varushanadu hills.

Q3. Consider the following statements with reference to bottom relief of Ocean:

1. Amsterdam-St Paul Plateau (Ridge) is located in Atlantic Ocean.
2. Amirante Trench is located in Indian Ocean.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Ridges in Indian Ocean, extends from the southern tip of Indian Peninsula in the north to Antarctica in the south almost in north-south direction and forms a continuous chain of highlands. **Ridges of Indian ocean between 30°S and 50°S latitudes and is known as Amsterdam-St Paul Plateau.**
- **Statement 2 is correct: There are very few deeps and trenches in the Indian Ocean.** Some of the **trenches** are Java Trench (7,450m deep), Ob Trench (6,875m deep), Mauritius Trench, **Amirante Trench** etc

Q4. Consider the following statements

1. India has the world's fifth-largest hydropower capacity.
2. The Koyna Hydroelectric Project is the largest completed hydroelectric power plant in India.
3. The Tehri dam is the tallest dam in India.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** India has the world's fifth-largest hydropower capacity. Only China, Brazil, the US and Canada have a greater hydropower capacity than India.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Koyna Hydroelectric Project is India's largest completed hydroelectric power plant with a capacity of 1,960MW. It is located near Patan, in Maharashtra's Satara district.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Tehri dam is located at the confluence of the Bhagirathi and the Bhilangana rivers, near the city of Tehri. The dam is a multi-purpose rock and earth-filled embankment dam, and at **260.5 metres is the tallest in India.**

Q5. Consider the following pairs with reference to minerals in India:

Minerals	Leading producer State
1. Moulding sand	Chhattisgarh
2. Vermiculite	Karnataka
3. Tin concentrate	Odisha

How many of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correct:** Chhattisgarh is the sole producer of moulding sand. Also, it is one of the leading producers of coal, dolomite, bauxite and iron ore.
- **Pair 2 is incorrect:** Andhra Pradesh is largest producer of Vermiculite. In 2021-22, it contributed around 77% of total production in India.
- **Pair 3 is incorrect:** Chhattisgarh is the sole producer of Tin concentrate in India.

Q6. Consider the following statements with reference to Oceanic deposits:

1. Siliceous ooze is most abundant in the Pacific Ocean.
2. Diatoms is a type of Calcareous Ooze.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Siliceous ooze are the oceanic deposits derived from dead remains of living organisms. These types of ooze are usually found in the open ocean, away from land. Siliceous ooze is **most abundant in the Pacific Ocean**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect: Diatoms is a type of Siliceous Ooze.** Diatoms are single-celled micro-algae having cell-wall made of silica, giving it glassy appearance.

Q7. Consider the following pairs regarding different types of population pyramids:

LIST I

1. Expanding Populations
2. Declining Populations
3. Constant Population

LIST II

- A triangular shaped pyramid with a wide base
- A bell shaped pyramid and tapered towards the top
- A narrow base and a tapered top

How many of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correct:** The age sex pyramid of Expanding population is a triangular shaped pyramid with a wide base and is typical of less developed countries. These have larger populations in lower age groups due to high birth rates.

- **Pair 2 is incorrect:** The age-sex pyramid of constant population is bell shaped and tapered towards the top. This shows birth and death rates are almost equal leading to a near constant population.
- **Pair 3 is incorrect:** The age sex pyramid of declining Populations has a narrow base and a tapered top showing low birth and death rates. The population growth in developed countries is usually zero or negative.

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding Foot Loose Industries:

1. They are not dependent on any specific raw material.
2. These industries can employ a large labor force.
3. These are generally highly polluting industries.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Foot loose industries can be located in a wide variety of places. They are not dependent on any specific raw material, weight losing or otherwise.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** They largely depend on component parts which can be obtained anywhere. They produce in small quantity and also employ a small labour force.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** These are generally not polluting industries. The important factor in their location is accessibility by road network.

Q9. Consider the following statements:

1. P-waves vibrate parallel to the direction of the wave.
2. The direction of vibrations of S-waves is perpendicular to the wave direction in the vertical plane.
3. P-waves move faster and are the first to arrive at the surface.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

(d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** P-waves vibrate parallel to the direction of the wave. This exerts pressure on the material in the direction of the propagation.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The direction of vibrations of S-waves is perpendicular to the wave direction in the vertical plane. Hence, they create troughs and crests in the material through which they pass.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** P-waves move faster and are the first to arrive at the surface. These are also called 'primary waves'. The P-waves are similar to sound waves.

Q10. Consider the following statements:

1. The temperature inside the earth increases which allows the lighter materials to sink towards the Centre.
2. The early atmosphere largely contained helium and hydrogen.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The earth was mostly in a volatile state during its primordial stage. Due to gradual increase in density the temperature inside has increased. As a result the material inside started getting separated depending on their densities. This allowed heavier materials (like iron) to sink towards the centre of the earth and the lighter ones to move towards the surface.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Earth's original atmosphere was probably just hydrogen and helium, because these were the main gases in the dusty, gassy disk around the Sun from which the planets formed.

Q11. Consider the following landforms:

1. Moraines
2. Eskers

3. Horns
4. Cirque

How many of the above landforms are Erosional Landforms?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) All four
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Depositional Landforms:**

- A moraine is material left behind by a moving glacier. This material is usually soil and rock. Just as rivers carry along all sorts of debris and silt that eventually builds up to form deltas, glaciers transport all sorts of dirt and boulders that build up to form moraines.
- Eskers are ridges made of sands and gravels, deposited by glacial meltwater flowing through tunnels within and underneath glaciers, or through meltwater channels on top of glaciers.

- **Erosional Landforms:**

- A glacial horn is a type of landform caused by several glaciers eroding a rock from at least three different sides.
- Glacial cirques large-scale erosional features common to many mountainous regions. Classic cirques take the form of armchair-shaped hollows and a gently-sloping or over deepened valley floor.

Q12. Arrange the following Biospheres of India from South to North:

1. Nokrek Biosphere Reserve
2. Simlipal Biosphere Reserve
3. Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve
4. Panna Biosphere Reserve

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (c)



Q13. Consider the following statements:

1. Species evenness measures the proportion of species at a given site.
2. Alpha diversity refers to the diversity within a particular area or ecosystem.
3. Beta diversity is the measure of the overall diversity for the different ecosystems within a region.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Species evenness measures the proportion of species at a given site, e.g. low evenness indicates that a few species dominate the site.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Alpha diversity refers to the diversity within a particular area or ecosystem, and is usually expressed by the number of species (i.e., species richness) in that ecosystem.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Beta diversity is a comparison of diversity between ecosystems, usually measured as the change in amount of species between the ecosystems.

Q14. Consider the following statements regarding temperate grasslands:

1. These grasslands receive less precipitation than savannas.
2. Steppes is one of the types of the temperate grasslands.
3. Russia is home to temperate grasslands.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Temperate grasslands do not have any trees or shrubs, and receive less precipitation than savannas.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Prairies and steppes are two types of temperate grasslands; prairies are characterized as having taller grasses, while steppes have shorter grasses.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Temperate grasslands are found further away from the equator, in South Africa, Hungary, Argentina, Uruguay, North America, and Russia.

Q15. Recently, UDGM portal was seen in news, which of the following is true about the portal?

- (a) It is one stop solution for information on all clearance related procedures, duties, fee and charges for Import/Export of any goods.
- (b) To effectively settle the pending contractual disputes of government and government undertakings.

(c) To facilitates the registered users to search unclaimed deposits/accounts across multiple banks at one place in a centralised manner.

(d) To deal with NPAs, without the involvement of the court, through various alternatives.

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- UDGM refers to Unclaimed Deposits-Gateway to Access inforMation, which is an online portal developed by RBI. It facilitates the registered users to search unclaimed deposits/accounts across multiple banks at one place in a centralised manner.
- All unclaimed deposits/accounts that are part of Depositor Education and Awareness (DEA) Fund of RBI can be searched in UDGM portal.

So, option (c) is correct.

Q16. Recently, Operation Kachchhap was seen in the news, the aim of the operation was:

- (a) To protect baby Gangetic turtles
- (b) To protect the Asian Elephants
- (c) To increase the population of clouded leopards
- (d) To save the Great Indian Bustard from extinction

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) saves 955 live baby Gangetic turtles in a crackdown on illegal wildlife trade in multicity Operation “Kachchhap.”
- The species of Gangetic turtles rescued are Indian Tent Turtle, Indian Flapshell Turtle, Crown River Turtle, Black spotted/Pond Turtle and Brown Roofed Turtle.

So, option (a) is correct.

Q17. Consider the following statements regarding GSAT-24 Satellite:

1. It is the first demand-based communication satellite for the satellite-based DTH television services.
2. This satellite is launched by the GSLV Mk-III.
3. The satellite will be owned and operated by NSIL (New Space India Limited).

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), the newly created commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), will put together its first demand-based communication satellite for the satellite-based DTH television services provider Tata Sky.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The GSAT-24, a 4,000 kg class Ku-band satellite with all transponders dedicated for DTH services, will be launched by the Ariane-5 from Europe's Arianespace.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The satellite will be owned and operated by NSIL, which will also be the intermediary agency between ISRO, Arianespace and Tata Sky.

Q18. With reference to the National Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023, Consider the following statements:

1. This Index is released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
2. It has three equally weighted dimensions such as Health, Education, and Standard of living.
3. Uttar Pradesh registered the largest decline in the number of poor.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** NITI Aayog in collaboration with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) developed the National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) that offers a multi-dimensional perspective on poverty.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Like the global MPI, India's national MPI has three equally weighted dimensions – Health, Education, and Standard of living – which are represented by 12 indicators.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Uttar Pradesh registered the largest decline in the number of poor with 5.94 crore people escaping multidimensional poverty during the last nine years followed by Bihar at 3.77 crore, Madhya Pradesh at 2.30 crore and Rajasthan at 1.87 crore.

Q19. With reference to the Sangam Age, consider the following statements:

1. The Varna based organization of society was clearly discernible in the Tamil regions.
2. There was legal and social equality between the sexes in the Sangam age.
3. The sati was commonly prevalent among the Tamils.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Varna based organization of society is not clearly discernible in the Tamil regions. The ancient text of Tamils the Tolkappiyam in a section refers to four-fold division of society. It was influenced by the northern Brahmanical ideas regarding the four-fold division and tried to apply the concept to Tamilakam though with the deference.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Brahmanical concepts of the ideal women as chaste wife and mother are noticed in early Tamil texts. As a mother, daughter and wife they played vital role in the family life of human society. There was no statement of legal and social equality between the sexes in the Sangam age.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The life of widow was very miserable. The sati (udankattai eruthal) or self-immolation on the husband's funeral pyre was commonly prevalent among the Tamils. There are several evidences to the practice of sati in early history of Tamil society. The widow was subjected to several restrictions and embarrassment.

Q20. Consider the following statements regarding Kushan Empire:

1. The Kushan ruler adopted title of Devaputra suggesting the divine origin of the king.
2. The second Buddhist council was held under the patronage of the Kanishka.
3. The great Buddhist scholar Asvaghosh was the contemporary of the Kanishka.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** In many inscriptions, the Kushan ruler is also called Devaputra suggesting the divine origin of the king. In adopting this title, they were perhaps influenced by the Chinese custom of calling the emperor T'ien-tzu meaning "the son of Heaven".
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The fourth Buddhist council was held under the patronage of the King Kanishka and the Chairman was the Vasumitra. The council resulted in the division of Buddhism into Hinayana and Mahayana.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Sometimes well-known celebrities were included in the inner circle of Kanishka's acquaintances. The great Buddhist scholar Asvaghosh and the famous physician Charaka were described in the Tsa pao-tsang ching as intimate friends of Kanishka.

Q21. Consider the following statements regarding the Gupta Empire:

1. The Chinese traveler Fahien visited India during the reign of Chandragupta II has left a valuable account of the socio-economic conditions of the Gupta empire.
2. Harisena was the court poet of the Chandragupta II.
3. Brahmanism reigned supreme during the Gupta period.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Chinese traveler Fahien, who visited India during the reign of Chandragupta II, has left a valuable account of the social, economic, and religious conditions of the Gupta empire.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Samudragupta was a patron of many poets and scholars, one of whom was Harisena. Thus, he must be credited with a share in the promotion of Sanskrit literature and learning, characteristic of his dynasty.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** In the sphere of religion, Brahmanism reigned supreme during the Gupta period. It had two branches - Vaishnavism and Saivism. Most of the Gupta kings were Vaishnavites.

Q22. With reference to the Buddhism, consider the following statements:

1. The concept of Bodhisattva is the result of Mahayana Buddhism.
2. Vajrayana is based on Mahayana Buddhist philosophy.
3. Hinayana Buddhism did not believe in image worship of Buddha.
4. Mahavamsa is one of the prominent Buddhist texts of Hinayana Buddhism.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) All Four
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Mahayana Buddhism school is more liberal and believes in the heavenliness of Buddha and Bodhisattvas embodying Buddha Nature. The concept of Bodhisattva is the result of Mahayana Buddhism.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Vajrayana is based on Mahayana Buddhist philosophy. It involved combining Brahmanical rituals with Buddhist philosophies.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Hinayana school includes the followers of the original preaching of the Buddha. It is more of an orthodox school. They did not believe in idol or image worship of Buddha.

Q23. Terapanthi sect belongs to which of the following religion?

- (a) Buddhism
- (b) Jainism
- (c) Hinduism
- (d) Sikhism

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Svetambara School has three sub-sects include Sthanakavasi, Murtipujaka (Deravasi), Terapanthi.
- The founder of the Terapanthi sect of the Svetambar Jains was Sree Sree Bhikhanji Swami.
- They pray to saints rather than to an idol in a temple, like Sthanakavasi. Terapanthi saints also wear a muhapatti near their mouth to cover it.

So, option (b) is correct.

Q24. Arrange the following events in a chronological order:

1. Treaty of Madras
2. Battle of Bidara
3. Treaty of Aix – La Chapelle
4. Battle of Wandiwash

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The Treaty of Madras was a peace agreement signed on 4 April 1769 between Mysore and the British East India Company which brought an end to the First Anglo-Mysore War.
- The Battle of Chinsurah, also known as the Battle of Biderra or the Battle of Hoogly, was a military engagement which took place on 25 November 1759 near Chinsurah (then a Dutch outpost) during the Seven Years' War.

- The First Carnatic War ended in 1748 when the Treaty of Aix-La Chapelle was signed bringing the Austrian War of Succession to a conclusion. Under the terms of this treaty, Madras was handed back to the English, and the French, in turn, got their territories in North America.
- The Battle of Wandiwash was a battle in India between the French and the British in 1760. The battle was part of the Third Carnatic War fought between the French and British colonial empires, which itself was a part of the global Seven Years' War.

Q25. With reference to the “Pitt’s India Act of 1784”, consider the following statements:

1. This act allowed the Board of Control to manage the commercial affairs.
2. The British Government was given supreme control over Company’s affairs and its administration in India.
3. This act provided that the Supreme Court was to have jurisdiction over all the inhabitants of Calcutta.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The features of Pitt’s India Act of 1784 were as follows:
 - It distinguished between the commercial and political functions of the Company.
 - **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It allowed the Court of Directors to manage the commercial affairs, but created a new body called the Board of Control to manage the political affairs. Thus, it established a system of double government.
 - It empowered the Board of Control to supervise and direct all operations of the civil and military government or revenues of the British possessions in India.
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** Thus, the act was significant for two reasons: first, the Company’s territories in India were for the first time called the ‘British possessions in India’; and second, the British Government was given the supreme control over Company’s affairs and its administration in India.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Amending Act of 1781 provided that the Supreme Court was to have jurisdiction over all the inhabitants of Calcutta. It also required the court to administer the personal law of the defendants i.e., Hindus were to be tried according to the Hindu law and Muslims were to be tried according to the Mohammedan law.

Q26. Consider the following statements:

1. The term untouchability is explicitly mentioned under Article 17 of the Indian constitution.
2. Private organisations are not covered under the ambit of the Article 17.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The term 'untouchability' has not been defined either in the Constitution or in the Act. However, the Mysore High Court held that the subject matter of Article 17 is not untouchability in its literal or grammatical sense but the 'practice as it had developed historically in the country'.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Supreme Court held that the right under Article 17 is available against private individuals and it is the constitutional obligation of the State to take necessary action to ensure that this right is not violated.

Q27. Consider the following statements:

1. Any law made by Parliament under Article 33 cannot be challenged in any court on the ground of contravention of any of the fundamental rights.
2. The power to make laws to give effect to certain specified fundamental rights shall vest only in the Parliament.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The power to make laws under Article 33 is conferred only on Parliament and not on state legislatures. Any such law made by Parliament cannot be challenged in any court on the ground of contravention of any of the fundamental rights.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Article 35 lays down that the power to make laws, to give effect to certain specified fundamental rights shall vest only in the Parliament and not in the state legislatures.

Q28. Consider the following statements regarding the Charter Act of 1833:

1. The Governor-General of India was given exclusive legislative powers for the entire British India.
2. It attempted to introduce a system of open competition for selection of civil servants.
3. It ended the system of double Government by abolishing the Board of Control and Court of Directors.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It deprived the Governor of Bombay and Madras of their legislative powers. The Governor-General of India was given exclusive legislative powers for the entire British India. The laws made under the previous acts were called as Regulations, while laws made under this act were called as Acts.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Charter Act of 1833 attempted to introduce a system of open competition for selection of civil servants and stated that the Indians should not be debarred from holding any place, office and employment under the Company.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Government of India Act of 1858 ended the system of double Government by abolishing the Board of Control and Court of Directors.

Q 29. Consider the following statements:

1. Rig Veda, Sama Veda, Yajur Veda and Atharva Veda are subdivision of Vedas.
2. The Rig Veda and Sama Veda have been included in the list of literature signifying World human heritage by UNESCO.
3. The Aryans had composed all of the Vedas.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Each Veda has four subdivisions – the Samhitas, the Brahmanas, the Aranyakas and the Upanishads. Rig Veda, Sama Veda, Yajur Veda and Atharva Veda are itself Vedas.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Only the Rig Veda has been included in the list of literature signifying World human heritage by UNESCO. The Rig Veda is a collection of 1,028 hymns, divided into 10 Mandals (books). They are the earliest compositions and hence, they depict the life of the Early Vedic people in India.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Atharva Veda the last Veda is considered a non-Aryan work. It is divided into 20 kandas (books), with 711 hymns. The Atharva Veda is a collection of magic spells and charms to ward off the evil spirits and diseases.

Q 30. With reference to ancient India, which one of the following is correct chronology of four stages of ashrama life

- (a) Brahmacharya -Grihastha -Vanaprastha - Sannyasa
- (b) Grihastha- Brahmacharya-Vanaprastha -Sannyasa
- (c) Grihastha- Brahmacharya- Sannyasa- Vanaprastha
- (d)) Brahmacharya -Grihastha – Sannyasa- Vanaprastha

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The First Ashrama: "Brahmacharya" or the Student Stage
- The Second Ashrama: "Grihastha" or the Householder Stage
- The Third Ashrama: "Vanaprastha" or the Hermit Stage
- The Fourth Ashrama: "Sannyasa" or the Wandering Ascetic Stage.

Q31. With reference to ancient India, the term "Gavyuti" represents which of the following ?

- (a) Land
- (b) Kinship Units
- (c) Lineage
- (d) Measure of distance

Ans:(d)

Explanation:

- Gavyuti is an ancient Indian unit of distance, equivalent to 12,000 feet; It is supposed to be the distance at which a cow's call or lowing can be heard.

Q32.Consider the following statements with reference to “Gana-Sanghas and Kingdoms” of ancient India:

1. The chief office was not hereditary in Gana-Sanghas, while it was hereditary in kingdoms.
2. Vajji was a Gana-Sanghas, while Malla was a kingdom.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** In, Gana-Sanghas the chief office was not hereditary and was known as Ganapati or Ganaraja. Gana-Sanghas had more representative government. Kingdoms had centralized form of government with king as Sovereign and all the power was vested in him. **Here The ruling family became a dynasty with hereditary succession**
- **Statement 2 is incorrect: Both Vajji and Malla were Gana-Sanghas.** The Gana-Sanghas (literally meaning an assembly of Gana, those who claim to be of equal status) were an alternative polity to the kingdoms.

Q33.Consider the following statements with reference to the the “Vijayanagara empire”:

1. The provincial governors had power to issue their own coins.
2. The chief gold coin was the varaha that has uniform weights throughout the empire.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The provincial governors had a large measure of autonomy as they held their own courts, appointed their own officers, and maintained their own armies. **At times, they even issued their own coins.**
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** According to the accounts of the foreign travelers, the Vijayanagar kingdom was one of the wealthiest kingdoms of the world at that time. There were numerous industries and they were organised into guilds. **The chief gold coin was the varaha but weights and measures varied from place to place.**

Q34. Consider the following statements with reference to the “Bhakti movement”:

1. Nayanars and Alvars were sharply critical of the Buddhists and Jains.
2. In, Nayannar Bhakti, the relationship between the god and the devotee was similar to that between master and slave.
3. In Alvar Bhakti, the relationship between the god and the devotee was similar to that between mother and child.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The seventh to ninth centuries saw the emergence of new religious movements, led by the Nayanars (saints devoted to Shiva) and Alvars (saints devoted to Vishnu) who came from all castes including those considered “untouchable” like the Pulaiyar and the Panars. **They were sharply critical of the Buddhists and Jainas and preached ardent love of Shiva or Vishnu as the path to salvation.**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** In, Nayannar Bhakti, the relationship between the god and the devotee was similar to that between master and slave. Thus, the Nayannars describe themselves as atiyar (servant).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** In Alvar Bhakti, the relationship between the devotee and Krishna was often expressed in terms of the lover–beloved or mother–child relationship.

Q35. Consider the following statements with reference to “Nanapanthis”:

1. They advocated intense training of the mind and body through practices like yogasanas, and breathing exercises to attain salvation.
2. They became a popular force in northern India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** To them the path to salvation lay in meditation on the formless Ultimate Reality and the realisation of oneness with it. **To achieve this they advocated intense training of the mind and body through practices like yogasanas, breathing exercises and meditation.**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** These groups became particularly popular among “low” castes. **Their criticism of conventional religion created the ground for devotional religion to become a popular force in northern India.**

Q36. Consider the following statements with reference to the king “Sher Shah Suri”:

1. He followed the Afghan theory of kingship in India.
2. His ministers did not make decisions themselves.
3. The village-panchayat (assembly) enjoyed a large measure of independence in looking after the welfare of the people.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Sher Shah gave due respect to the sentiments and traditions of the Afghans in order to win their respect and loyalty. But he knew that the Afghan theory of kingship was not workable in India. Thus, he changed the traditions of the Afghans and, in practice, came nearer the Turkish theory of kingship.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Sher Shah Suri concentrated all administrative powers in his own hand. His ministers enjoyed less powers as compared with the ministers of the Mughals. **His ministers did not make decisions themselves.**
- **Statement 3 is correct:** During Sher Shah reign administration of villages were in the hands of their hereditary officers like Patwaris, etc. **The village-panchayat (assembly) enjoyed a large measure of independence in looking after the welfare of the people.**

Q37. Consider the following statements with reference to “moderates” of Indian freedom struggle:

1. They believed that the British basically wanted to be just to the Indians but were not aware of the real conditions.
2. They did not involve the common people in the national movement
3. They were loyal to the British administration.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct: They believed that the British basically wanted to be just to the Indians but were not aware of the real conditions.** Therefore, if public opinion could be created in the country and public demands be presented to the government through resolutions, petitions, meetings, etc., the authorities would concede these demands gradually.
- **Statement 2 is correct: They did not involve the common people in the national movement.** They Confined to the educated classes only and did not try to employ the masses.
- **Statement 3 is correct: They were loyal to the British administration.** They had complete faith in the British justice system. The Moderate leaders believed that political connections with Britain were in India's interest at that stage of history and that the time was not ripe for a direct challenge to the British rule.

Q38. The slogan "No taxation without representation" given by nationalist after which act?

- (a) The Indian Councils Act 1861
- (b) The Indian Councils Act 1892
- (c) The Indian Councils Act 1909
- (d) The Government of India Act 1919

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **The Indian Councils Act 1892** was result of demands of early nationalist. However, these reforms were severely criticised at Congress sessions, where the nationalists made no secret of their dissatisfaction with them. Now, they demanded (i) a majority of elected Indians, and (ii) control over the budget, i.e., the power to vote upon and amend the budget. **They gave the slogan— "No taxation without representation."**

Q39. Consider the following pairs:

Newspaper/Magazine/Book

Place of publication

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Young India | Ahmedabad |
| 2. The Leader | Allahabad (Prayagraj) |

3. Al-Hilal

Delhi

How many of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Pair 1 is correct: Young India (1919) by Mahatma Gandhi published at Ahmedabad in English. It was a weekly magazine.
- Pair 2 is correct: The Leader (1924) founded by Madan Mohan Malaviya was published at Allahabad. It was an English newspaper.
- **Pair 3 is incorrect:** Al-Hilal (1912) founded by Abul Kalam Azad was **published at Calcutta**. It was in Urdu.

Q40. Consider the following pairs:

Region

- 1. Kivu region
- 2. Shebba Farms area
- 3. Essequibo region

State/s in conflict

- Lebanon
- Israel and Jordan
- Venezuela and Guyana

How many of the above pairs is/ are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is incorrectly matched.** The Kivu conflict is an umbrella term for a series of protracted armed conflicts in the North Kivu and South Kivu provinces in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo which have occurred since the end of the Second Congo War.
- **Pair 2 is incorrectly matched.** Shebaa Farms, area of land along the border of Lebanon and the Golan Heights (a territory recognized by most of the international community as part of Syria but occupied by Israel since the Six-Day War [1967]) that is claimed by Lebanon, internationally recognized as part of Syria, and occupied by Israel.

- **Pair 3 is correctly matched.** The Guyana–Venezuela territorial dispute is an ongoing territorial dispute over the Essequibo region, a 159,500 km² area west of the Essequibo River.

Q41. Consider the following:

1. Founding of cities like Hissar, Jaunpur, and Firozabad in Delhi.
2. Bringing two Asokan Pillars to enhance Firozabad's beauty.
3. Supervising the repair of Qutb Minar.

How many of the above is/ are the architectural contributions of Firoz Shah during his reign?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Firoz Shah, who ruled from 1351 to 1388, was not only an avid builder of new cities and public buildings but also showed a keen interest in the preservation and beautification of existing structures. He established cities such as Hissar, Jaunpur, and Firozabad and transported two Asokan Pillars to Firozabad. Additionally, his involvement in the maintenance and restoration of the Qutb Minar illustrates his dedication to architectural heritage. **So, statements 1, 2, and 3 are correct.**

Q42. Consider the following statements with respect to the significant characteristic or achievements of the Khalji Dynasty in medieval Indian history.

1. Indian subcontinent saw the introduction of gunpowder and firearms.
2. Construction of the Qutub Minar.
3. During Alauddin Khalji's reign, the empire expanded to its largest extent, covering most subcontinent.

How many of the above statements is/ are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** Mangols invasion led to transmission of gun powder in the Indian subcontinent. Babur also used gun powder in India.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The Qutub Minar, also spelled "Qutb Minar," was built in 1192 by Qutb-ud-din Aibak, the first Sultan and first Muslim ruler of Delhi, and was completed in 1368 by Firoz Shah Tughlaq.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The Khalji Dynasty, ruling from 1290 to 1320, was the second dynasty of the Delhi Sultanate. A significant achievement during this period was the considerable expansion of the empire under Alauddin Khalji, who conquered vast territories in the Indian subcontinent. His military campaigns extended the Sultanate's reach far beyond Delhi, encompassing a large part of India. This period was marked by military expansion and administrative reforms. The Khalji rule is often remembered for its military conquests and attempts to bring most of the Indian subcontinent under a centralized administration.

Q43. Consider the following statements:

1. Muhammad Ghori and Mahmud of Ghazni were both rulers of the Ghaznavid Empire, with Ghori succeeding Ghazni in the late 10th century.
2. Mahmud of Ghazni was known for his numerous invasions into the Indian subcontinent primarily for plunder, while Muhammad Ghori aimed at establishing a permanent Islamic rule in the region.

Which of the above statement/s correctly differentiates between Muhammad Ghori and Mahmud of Ghazni?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** Muhammad Ghori (ruled from 1173 to 1206) was a ruler from Ghurid Dynasty based in Ghor region, currently present in Afghanistan. Mahmud Ghazani was sultan of Ghaznavid Empire ruling from 998 to 1030.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Mahmud of Ghazni, ruling in the early 11th century, is well-known for his numerous invasions into the Indian subcontinent, driven primarily by the motive of plunder and wealth acquisition. His raids on Hindu temples were particularly notable. Muhammad Ghori, on the other hand, emerged as a significant figure in the late 12th century with the objective of establishing and expanding Islamic rule in the Indian subcontinent. His military campaigns laid the groundwork for the establishment of Muslim rule in North India, particularly through the foundation of the Delhi Sultanate.

Q44. Consider the following statements:

- (a) Iltutmish was the first to introduce the concept of "Iqta" in India.
- (b) The "Slave" rulers primarily focused on agriculture rather than military expansion.
- (c) Qutubuddin Aibak initiated land reforms that resulted in the doubling of agricultural output.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) None
- (b) Only one
- (c) Only two
- (d) All three

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Iltutmish introduced the Iqta system, a form of land-grant and revenue collection.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The "Slave" rulers were more focused on establishing and expanding their empire.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** There is no historical evidence to suggest that Qutubuddin Aibak initiated such comprehensive land reforms.

Q45. Who among the following can be appointed as an ad hoc judge of the Supreme Court of India?

- (a) A retired judge of the Supreme Court
- (b) A sitting judge of a High Court
- (c) A distinguished jurist in the opinion of the President
- (d) All of the above

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- When there is a lack of quorum of the permanent judges to hold or continue any session of the Supreme Court, the Chief Justice of India can appoint a judge of a High Court as an ad hoc judge of the Supreme Court for a temporary period. **So, option(b) is correct.**

Q46. Which of the following statements are correct regarding the Court of Record in India?

1. As per Article 141, Supreme Court acts as a Court of Record has the power to punish for contempt of court, including contempt of itself.
2. In India, only Supreme Court act as Courts of Record.

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** Supreme Court to be a court of record. The Supreme Court shall be a court of record and shall have all the powers of such a court including the power to punish for contempt of itself. This power of Court of Record for Supreme Court is derived from Article 129 (Supreme court) and Article 215(for High courts).
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The judgements, proceedings and acts of the Supreme Court are recorded for perpetual memory and testimony. These records are admitted to be of evidentiary value and cannot be questioned when produced before any court. Every High Court shall be a court of record and shall have all the powers of such a court including the power to punish for contempt of itself.

Q47. Article 6 of the Paris Agreement has been in news often. It is a:

- (a) global carbon tax to ensure all countries adhere to their climate commitments.
- (b) market-based approaches and collaborative strategies that promote sustainable development.
- (c) requires all countries to uniformly reduce their carbon emissions annually.
- (d) establishes a singular global carbon market for trading emissions.

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Article 6 of the Paris Agreement is pivotal for fostering international cooperation towards achieving climate goals. It recognizes the importance of flexibility and inclusivity in addressing climate change, providing a framework that accommodates both market-based mechanisms and collaborative strategies. This dual approach allows countries to engage in innovative and efficient methods to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance sustainable development, tailored to their unique circumstances and commitments under the Paris Agreement. The emphasis is on enabling countries to work together in a variety of ways to meet their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) effectively and sustainably. So, option (b) is correct.

KHAN SIR

Q48. Consider the following statements:

1. The Western Ghats is richer in biodiversity than the Eastern Ghats, and is recognized as one of the world's eight 'hottest hotspots' of biological diversity.
2. The Sundarbans, known for its unique mangrove forests, is the largest tiger reserve and national park in India.
3. Chilika Lake, situated on the east coast of India, is the largest saltwater lake in Asia and is a major habitat for migratory birds.

How many of the above statements is/ are correct?

- (a) None
- (b) Only one
- (c) Only two
- (d) All three

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is Correct:** The Western Ghats are indeed recognized as one of the world's biodiversity hotspots due to their rich and unique flora and fauna, which is significantly richer than that of the Eastern Ghats.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Nagarjuna sagar-srisailem tiger reserve is the largest tiger reserve and Hemis National Park is the largest National Park in India.
- **Statement 3 is Correct:** Chilika Lake is the largest brackish water lake in Asia and is located in Odisha, on the east coast of India. It is a significant wetland habitat for migratory birds and is recognized as a Ramsar site for its biodiversity.

Q49. Consider the following statements:

1. Through the fractional reserve banking system, banks lend a multiple of their reserves, effectively expanding the money supply in the economy.
2. Commercial banks generate credit exclusively by investing in government securities, which increases the overall money supply.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** In the fractional reserve banking system, banks are required to keep only a portion of deposits as reserves. They lend out the remaining amount, which, when redeposited and re-lent, effectively multiplies the original deposit, thereby expanding the money supply.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** While banks do invest in government securities, this is not the sole or primary method of credit creation. The key mechanism is lending a portion of their deposits to borrowers.

Q50. Consider the following statements:

1. Recapitalization involves the government buying shares of public sector banks.
2. The Reserve Bank of India directly invests in public sector banks as a form of recapitalization.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Recapitalisation typically involves actions such as the government buying shares in public sector banks, thereby infusing money into Banks.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** In the context of recapitalisation, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not directly invest in public sector banks, it is Government which does Recapitalisation.

Q51: Consider the following statements regarding the functioning of the district councils in the Sixth Schedule areas:

1. The district councils possess legislative powers without the Governor's assent.
2. Autonomous regions within a district can be formed by the Governor.
3. The district councils can establish primary schools, hospitals, parks without any restrictions.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The district councils require the Governor's assent for laws they pass on specific matters.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Governor can indeed form autonomous regions within a district.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** While the district councils can establish primary schools, they do have certain restrictions and need the Governor's assent for such establishments.

Q52: Consider the following statements about parliamentary committees:

1. The Public Accounts Committee cannot question Parliament's policy but can intervene in day-to-day administration.
2. The Departmental Standing Committees focus solely on public expenditure and financial accountability.

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Public Accounts Committee cannot intervene in day-to-day administration and cannot question Parliament's policy.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Departmental Standing Committees cover all ministries and departments, these committees help deeper analysis of bills and are not solely focused on public expenditure and financial accountability.

Q53: Consider the following statements about the effects of a National Emergency on fundamental rights:

1. Article 19 is automatically suspended when a National Emergency is declared on the basis of war/external aggression.
2. Proclamation of emergency can suspend right to move any court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Article 19 is automatically suspended when a National Emergency is declared, no separate order for suspension is required (Article 358). However, 44th Constitutional Amendment made it clear that Article 19 will not be automatically suspended on the basis of armed rebellion.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The President can suspend the right to move any court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights during a National Emergency under Article 359. But the suspension of enforcement is related only to those Fundamental Rights which are specifically mentioned in Presidential order.

Q54: Consider the following statements with reference to comparison between the Non-Cooperation movement (NCM) and the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM):

1. NCM had a clear objective of complete independence compared to CDM.
2. Many labour upsurges coincided with the CDM because of the All-India Trade Union Congress (AITU).
3. There was a massive participation of peasants and business in CDM compared to NCM.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

Civil Disobedience Movement differed from the Non-Cooperation Movement:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The stated objective this time was complete independence and not just remedying two specific wrongs and a vaguely worded swaraj.
- The methods involved violation of law from the very beginning and not just non-cooperation with foreign rule.
- There was a decline in forms of protests involving the intelligentsia, such as lawyers giving up practice, students giving up government schools to join national schools and colleges.
- Muslim participation was nowhere near that in the Non-Cooperation Movement level.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** No major labour upsurge coincided with the movement.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The massive participation of peasants and business groups compensated for the decline of other features.
- The number of those imprisoned was about three times more this time.
- The Congress was organisationally stronger.

Q55: Consider the following pairs:

Organizations	Founder
1. Yugantar Group	Barindra Kumar Ghosh
2. Anushilan Samiti	Promotha Mitter
3. Dacca Anushilan Samiti	Surya Sen

How many of the above given pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correct:** Yugantar was a weekly which was started by people like Barinder Kumar Ghosh and Bhupendranath Dutta. In 1907, an abortive attempt was made by the Yugantar group on the life of a very unpopular British official, Sir Fuller (the first Lt. Governor of the new province of Eastern Bengal and Assam).
- **Pair 2 is correct:** The Anushilan Samiti was founded by Promotha Mitter, Jatindranath Banerjee, Barindra Kumar Ghosh and others in Calcutta in 1902.
- **Pair 3 is incorrect:** Dhaka Anushilan Samiti was a branch of the Anushilan Samiti founded in the city of Dhaka in November 1905. Initially a group of eighty under the leadership of Pulin Behari Das, it "spread like wildfire" throughout the province of East Bengal.

Q56: Consider the following statement:

1. Gopuram evolved during Vijayanagar period.
2. 'Thousand pillared mandapa' was one of the striking features of the Vijayanagar period.

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The tall entrance towers or gopurams, evolved under the Pandyas, continued in Vijayanagar period also.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Raya Gopurams, towers in commemoration of the visit of emperors in different corners of the empire, are also important examples of architecture of the period. Another feature was the so called 'thousand pillared mandapa' a huge hall with many rows of pillars.

Q57: The term 'Apabhramsa' was used in medieval Sanskrit texts to denote:

- (a) Outcasts among the Rajputs
- (b) Deviations from Vedic rituals
- (c) Early forms of some of the modern Indian languages
- (d) Non-Sanskrit verse metres

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Various form of Sanskrit in public dealing was termed 'Apabhramsa'.
- The term "Apabhramsa" was used in medieval Sanskrit texts to denote early forms of some of the modern Indian Languages.
- Scholars have opined that different Hindi dialects of northern India and Kashmiri, Punjabi, Sindhi, Nepali, Shauryaseni and Marathi etc. Are developed from Apabhramsa.

Q58. Consider the following statements:

1. An ecotone contains some organisms which are entirely different from adjoining communities.
2. Mangroves represent an ecotone between marine and terrestrial ecosystems.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Ecotone is a zone of junction between two or more diverse ecosystems. Examples are grasslands, estuaries, and river banks. Well-developed ecotones contain some organisms which are entirely different from that of the adjoining communities.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Mangrove forests represent an ecotone between marine and terrestrial ecosystems. An ecotone may be narrow or quite wide. It has conditions intermediate to the adjacent ecosystems. Hence it is a zone of tension.

Q59. Consider the following statements:

1. Bioaccumulation refers to the tendency of pollutants to concentrate as they move from one trophic level to the next.
2. Biomagnification can be defined as the increase in concentration of a pollutant from the environment to the first organism in a food chain.
3. Homeostasis can be defined as the capacity of the ecosystem for self-regulation.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Bioaccumulation refers to how pollutants enter a food. It can be defined as the increase in concentration of a pollutant from the environment to the first organism in a food chain.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Biomagnification refers to the tendency of pollutants to concentrate as they move from one trophic level to the next.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Homeostasis is defined as a self-regulating process by which a living organism can maintain internal stability while adjusting to changing external conditions.

Q60. Consider the following statements:

1. Wildlife sanctuaries enjoy a greater degree of protection than National Park.
2. Grazing of livestock is prohibited in the National Park.
3. Wildlife sanctuary can be created for a particular species whereas a National Park is not primarily focused on a particular species.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** National parks are given a greater degree of protection than wildlife sanctuaries with human activity greatly restricted.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Certain activities that are regulated in sanctuaries, such as grazing of livestock, are prohibited in the National parks.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Wildlife sanctuary can be created for a particular species whereas a National Park is not primarily focused on a particular species. For example, grizzled Giant Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary in Srivalliputhur.

Q61. Consider the following:

1. Water Vapour
2. Carbon Monoxide
3. Methane
4. Perfluocarbons

Which of the above are direct greenhouse gases under the Kyoto Protocol?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The greenhouse effect is the process through which heat is trapped near the Earth's surface by substances known as 'greenhouse gases.' Imagine these gases as a cozy blanket enveloping our planet, helping to maintain a warmer temperature than it would have otherwise.
- The GHG inventory covers the seven direct greenhouse gases under the Kyoto Protocol:
 - Carbon dioxide (CO₂)
 - Methane (CH₄)
 - Nitrous oxide (N₂O)
 - Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
 - Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
 - Sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆)
 - Nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃)

So, option (c) is correct.

Q62. Recently, "Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation" which was in the news has been released by :

- (a) United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
- (b) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- (c) United National Development Programme (UNDP)
- (d) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Recently, Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation has been released by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific's (UNESCAP). It is a bi-annual survey that deals with trade facilitation measures taken by individual countries.

Q63. Consider the following statements with reference to the “Expulsion of Lawmakers in India” which has been in news recently:

1. A special majority is needed to pass a motion for expulsion in each house.
2. After expulsion he/she cannot contest the election further for the limited period of time.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** A simple majority is needed to pass the motion for expulsion in each house. An MP can be suspended or face expulsion if found guilty of breach of privileges or contempt of the house. Also, the Presiding Officer of the House has the power to force a member to withdraw from the House to ensure smooth proceedings of house.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Even after expulsion lawmaker can contest the election further.

Q64. Consider the following statements:

1. State-owned enterprises, borrowing on behalf of the government for specific projects.
2. The government setting up Special Purpose Vehicles to raise funds for specific projects.
3. The government raising funds from small savings schemes such as the Public Provident Fund.

How many of the above statements represent “Off-Budget borrowing” of Government of India?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Off-budget borrowing refers to a government's practice of raising funds for various purposes without reflecting these expenditures in the official budget. state-owned enterprises, or PSUs, can borrow on behalf of the government for

specific projects or purposes. **This debt is not directly part of the central government's budget, thus it is Off-Budget Borrowing.**

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The government can set up SPVs to raise funds for specific projects or purposes. **These SPVs might borrow from the market, and their debt does not directly affect the official budget. Thus it is Off-Budget Borrowing .**
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The government may raise funds from small savings schemes such as the Public Provident Fund (PPF), National Savings Certificate (NSC), and the NSSF. **While these funds are technically part of the budget, they are accounted for differently, making it challenging to assess their impact on the fiscal deficit.**

Q65. Consider the following pairs with reference to “Hoysala temples” which is now World Heritage site:

Temple	Location
1. Chennakeshava Temple	Belur
2. Keshav Temple	Somnathpura
3. Hoysaleswara Temple	Halebidu

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correct:** Recently, the sacred ensembles of Karnataka’s Hoysala Temples have secured a place on the UNESCO World Heritage list. Hoysala temples were built in the 12th-13th centuries and are represented here by the three components of **Belur, Halebid, and Somnathapura. The Chennakeshava Temple is located in Belur, about 35 kilometers northwest of Hassan town, the headquarter of Hassan district.**
- **Pair 2 is correct:** The Keshav Temple is located at Somnathpura, 38 kilometers east of Mysore city .It is dedicated to Lord Krishna.
- **Pair 3 is correct:** The Hoysaleswara Temple is located in Halebidu town in Hassan district of Karnataka state. Temple is dedicated to lord shiva . It is the largest monument in Halebidu.

KHAN SIR

Q 66. Which of the following Principles are presently part of the Basic Structure of Indian constitution?

1. Priority of fundamental rights over directive principles
2. Parliamentary democracy
3. Separation of powers
4. Federal character of the Constitution
5. Rule of law

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Only 1, 2 and 3
- (b) Only 2, 3, 4 and 5
- (c) Only 3, 4 and 5
- (d) Only 2, 3 and 5

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

Fifty years have passed since the historic Kesavananda Bharati ruling in 1973, which established the basic structural concept. Some Principles that are presently part of the Basic Structure:

- Sovereignty of India
- Supremacy of the Constitution
- Power of judicial review
- Parliamentary democracy
- Separation of powers
- Federal character of the Constitution
- Equality of status and opportunity of an individual
- Secularism and freedom of conscience and religion
- Government of laws and not of men' i.e. the rule of law
- Harmony and balance between fundamental rights (FRs) and directive principles (DPSPs), and FR not Priority over DPSPs.

So, option (b) is correct.

Q 67. Which of the following indicators are included in the National Multidimensional Poverty Index model?

1. Maternal Health
2. Life expectancy
3. Bank Account
4. Per capita income

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- NITI Aayog released a discussion paper titled 'Multidimensional Poverty in India since 2005-06'. The paper uses National MPI for estimating Multidimensional Poverty.
- National MPI model retains the 10 original indicators of the global MPI model and has added two indicators, viz., Maternal Health and Bank Account.
- Per capita income and Life expectancy are not included as indicators in National Multidimensional Poverty Index.

So, option (c) is correct.

Q 68. Consider the following statements regarding bond yield:

1. Bond yield represents the total return an investor can expect to receive from holding a bond until maturity.
2. As the price of a bond increases, its yield increases.

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

Recently, RBI's decision for Open Market Operation (OMO) sale of government securities (G-Sec) triggered a spike in bond yields to their highest level in FY 2023-24.

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Bond yield indeed represents the total return an investor can expect to receive from holding a bond until maturity. It includes both the interest payments received periodically and any capital gains or losses upon the bond's maturity or sale.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The relationship between bond yield and price is inverse. As the price of a bond increases, its yield decreases, and vice versa.

Q 69. Consider the following statements regarding G7 climate club:

1. It is led by USA and France.
2. It is a closed group limited to G-7 members only.
3. The club has enforcement mechanisms for countries not meeting their climate goals.
4. India is a member of club.

How many of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** G7 climate club is Led by Germany and Chile, along with 36 member countries.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Climate Club is designed to be open to any country committed to ambitious climate action.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The club is meant to be a collaborative effort, not a punitive one. It lacks enforcement mechanisms.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** India is not a member of a club.

Q70. Consider the following:

1. Sea moss
2. Spirulina
3. Mushroom
4. Yeast

How many of the above is/ are edible fungi species?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Sea moss, scientifically known as Chondrus crispus, is a type of algae or seaweed. It is an edible sea plant similar to other seaweeds, algae, and other familiar leafy sea vegetables like kelp or dulse. **So,1 is incorrect.**

- Spirulina is a blue-green algae, and is believed to be one of the oldest life forms on Earth.
So, 2 is incorrect.

Mushrooms are a lot like plants, but they lack chlorophyll and have to take nutrients from other materials. Mushrooms are neither plants nor animals. They constitute their own kingdom: the Fungi. These include the familiar mushroom-forming species, as well as **yeasts**, molds, smuts, and rusts. **So, 3 and 4 are correct**

Q71. Consider the statements with respect to the India's new Carbon Credit Trading Scheme:

1. Carbon credit certificates will be issued by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).
2. These certificates will be traded on power exchanges registered with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).
3. The Grid Controller of India Ltd. shall be the registry for the Indian Carbon Market.

How many of the above statements is/ are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS), brought into effect through the Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2022, empowers the central government to establish a carbon trading framework. It is a new initiative by the Ministry of Power to regulate and incentivize the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in India. It involves the issue and trading of carbon credits to meet emission targets.
- **Statement 1 is correct.** The carbon credit certificates will be issued by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) to entities that surpass their assigned emission reduction targets.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** These certificates will be traded on power exchanges registered with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Grid Controller of India Ltd acts as the registry for the scheme, undertaking the registration of entities and maintaining a record of transactions.

Q72. Consider the following statements:

1. Market in Crypto Regulation (MiCAR) is a regulatory framework by the United Kingdom.
2. MiCAR explicitly excludes crypto-assets that are unique and not fungible with other crypto-assets.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- MiCAR is a milestone in the cryptocurrency market since it is the first comprehensive regulation for the still-emerging technology. The framework defines the assets that fall under its jurisdiction, who can offer related products and services, and who has the authority to regulate and enforce the legislation.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The Markets in Crypto-Assets (MiCA) regulation is a landmark framework created by the European Commission (EC) that focuses on maintaining financial stability. It also is designed to protect investors and promote widespread transformation in the crypto asset sector in European Union (EU) countries.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** MiCAR explicitly excludes crypto-assets that are unique and not fungible with other crypto-assets. Therefore, in relation to most NFTs, MiCAR will not apply. However, MiCAR may apply to NFTs whose characteristics make it more likely to be fungible (e.g., NFTs issued in series or as a collection).

Q73. Assertion(A)-Non-Banking Financial Institution (NBFC) cannot accept demand deposits and cannot issue cheque drawn on itself.

Reason(R)-NBFC Provide banking services to people without holding a Bank license.

Which one of the following is correct in context of above given statements?

- (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.

Ans:(a)

Explanation:

- Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) is a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 engaged in the business of loans and advances, acquisition of shares/stocks/bonds/debentures/securities issued by Government or local authority or other marketable securities of a like nature, leasing, hire-purchase, insurance business, chit business but does not include any institution whose principal business is that of agriculture activity, industrial activity, purchase or sale of any goods (other than securities) or providing any services and sale/purchase/construction of immovable property.

- A non-banking institution which is a company and has principal business of receiving deposits under any scheme or arrangement in one lump sum or in installments by way of contributions or in any other manner, is also a non-banking financial company (Residuary non-banking company).
- Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) are not permitted to accept demand deposits or issue checks drawn on themselves. Depositors of NBFCs do not have access to deposit insurance coverage from DICGC. NBFCs are not subject to the norms of Public Sector Lending or Cash Reserve Requirements. They are regulated by multiple regulatory authorities

Q74. Consider the following statements with respect to “NIDHI Company”:

1. It is a nonbanking financial company
2. It is registered under SARFAESI Act, 2002
3. It receives deposits from, and lends to its members only.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Nidhi company fall under the umbrella of NBFCs (Non-banking Financial Companies).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** operating as entities registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and overseen by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Their primary objective is to foster savings and thrift among their members. These entities accept deposits from and extend loans exclusively to their members for mutual benefit, adhering to the principles of mutual cooperation regulated by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

Q 75. Consider the following statements regarding Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs):

1. Debt Recovery Tribunals are established under the SARFAESI Act, 2002.
2. Appeals against the decisions of Debt Recovery Tribunals can only be made to the High Court.
3. The Central Government appoints the presiding officer of the DRT, who is qualified to be a Judge of a High Court.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans:(d)

Explanation:

RBI's annual Trend and Progress of Banking in India report for the financial year 2022-23, showed that the gross non-performing assets (GNPA) ratio fell to 3.9 percent in 2022-23.

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) are established under the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions (RDDBFI) Act, 1993 provide for the establishment of tribunals for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Appeals against the decisions of DRTs can be made to the Debt Recovery Appellate Tribunal (DRAT) and further to the High Court, if necessary.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Central Government appoints the presiding officer of the DRT, who is qualified to be a Judge of a District Court.

Q76. Consider the following statements with reference to the appointment of judges in the higher judiciary in India:

1. Constitution has not prescribed a minimum age for appointment as a judge of a supreme court and high court.
2. Constitution makes provision for appointment of a distinguished jurist as a judge of a supreme court or high court.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** In order to be appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court, a person must be a citizen of India and must have been, for atleast five years, a Judge of a High Court or of two or more such Courts in succession, or an Advocate of a High Court or of two or more such Courts in succession for at least 10 years or he must be, **in the opinion of the President, a distinguished jurist** A person to be appointed as a judge of a high court, should have the following qualifications:
 1. He should be a citizen of India.,

2. He should have held a judicial office in the territory of India for ten years; or, He should have been an advocate of a high court (or high courts in succession) for ten years. Thus, no criteria of age given by constitution.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Only in case of supreme court, a distinguished jurist can be appointed as judge. Such criteria are not given for appointment of judges of high court.

Q77. Consider the following statements with reference to “National Digital university” which has been in news recently:

1. There will be an unlimited number of seats for every course under it.
2. The university will only provide online courses from its partner institute.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans:(c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** National Digital university provides an endless number of seats for every course. It is centered on developing skills. It aims to increase the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER), with an aim to achieve 50% GER by 2030 .
- **Statement 2 is correct:** As, The university will only provide online courses from its partner institute. Student can choose to earn credits from any of the participating institutes. The University will be built on a networked hub-spoke model, with the hub building cutting edge ICT expertise. The best public universities and institutions in the country will collaborate as a network of hub-spokes. Such initiative contributes towards the “Digital India” movement.

Q78. Arrange the following cities from East to West directions:

1. Al Haditha
2. Riyadh
3. Piraeus
4. Dubai

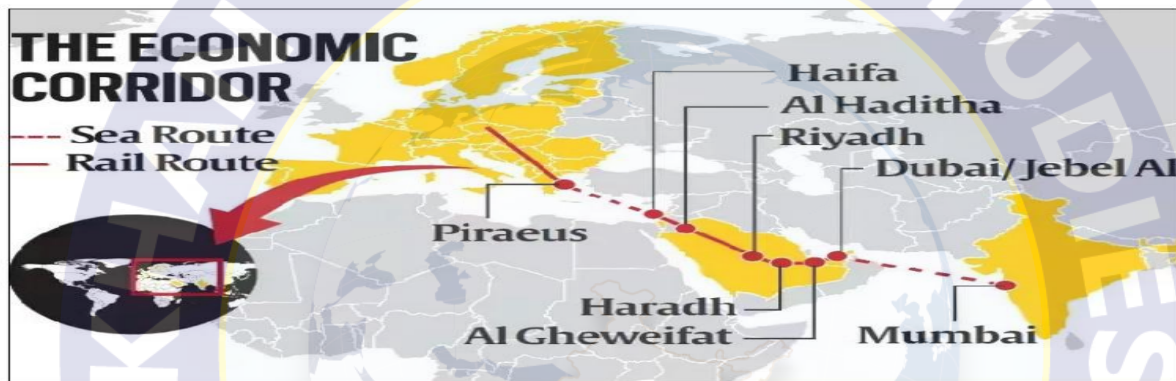
Select the correct answer to the codes below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- India-Middle East -Europe Economic Corridor is a ground-breaking phenomenon and will staggeringly change the trade and connectivity perception between India, West Asia, and Europe.
- UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Israel are going to play a major role in this connectivity framework.
- The India -Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor formation will be a multimodal one. This transcontinental passage will involve India, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel, and Greece.



So, option (b) is correct.

Q79. Consider the following Elephant Reserve:

1. Eastern Dooars Elephant Reserve
2. Chirang-Ripu Elephant Reserve
3. Dihing Patkai Elephant Reserve

How many of the above Elephant Reserves is/are located in Assam?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans:(b)

Experiment:

- Asian elephants were believed to be widely distributed - from Tigris - Euphrates in West Asia eastward through Persia into the Indian sub-continent, South and Southeast Asia including Sri Lanka, Java, Sumatra, Borneo and up to North China. However currently they

are confined to Indian Subcontinent, South East Asia and some Asian Islands - Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Malaysia. About 60% of the Asian elephant population is in India.

Sno.	Elephant Reserve	Details
1.	Eastern Dooars Elephant Reserve	It is located in West Bengal. It was notified in 2001. It is alluvial floodplains lie south of the outer foothills of the Himalayas and north of the Brahmaputra River basin. It is part of the Terai-Duar savanna and grasslands ecoregion. Sankosh River divide Eastern Dooars from Western Dooras.
2.	Chirang-Ripu Elephant Reserve	It is located in Assam. The forests of Ripu and Chirang are contiguous with those of Buxa Tiger Reserve of West Bengal and Phipsoo Wildlife Sanctuary of Bhutan. Manas National Park is also the core area of Chirang-Ripu Elephant Reserve.
3.	Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve	It is located in Assam. Dehing Patkai was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 2004. It is also known as the Jeypore Rainforest. Dehing is the name of the river that flows through this forest and Patkai is the hill at the foot of which the sanctuary lies.

Q80: With reference to the “adaptation gap report “consider the following statements:

1. It is released by United Nation Development Programme.
2. Adaption Gap Report 2023 focuses on need to establish a ‘Loss and Damage fund’ and funding arrangement for vulnerable developing countries.

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Adaptation gap report has been published annually by the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**. The aim of the reports is to inform national and international efforts to advance adaptation.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Adaption Gap Report 2023 focuses on need to establish a ‘Loss and Damage fund’ and funding arrangement for vulnerable developing countries. It is an annual science-based assessment of the global progress on adaptation planning, financing, and implementation. It is estimated that adaptation costs will increase significantly by 2050 for

most sectors, especially under high-warming scenarios. The adaptation finance needs are 10-18 times as high as the current international public adaptation fund flows.

Q81: State of climate service report is released by:

- (a) United Nations Environment Programme
- (b) World health organisation
- (c) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- (d) World Meteorological Organization

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- State of climate service report is released by **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**.
- The health of the most vulnerable countries and populations will be impacted by the extreme weather events resulting from climate change, including heatwaves, droughts, floods and wildfires.

Q82. Consider the following statements regarding the Inversion of Temperature:

1. It can be defined as the increase in temperature with an increase in height.
2. Surface inversion promotes stability in the lower layers of the atmosphere.
3. A long winter night with clear skies is an ideal situation for inversion.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** A temperature inversion is a layer in the atmosphere in which air temperature increases with height. Normally, temperature decreases with an increase in elevation. It is called the normal lapse rate. At times, the situation is reversed and the normal lapse rate is inverted. It is called the Inversion of temperature.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Surface inversion promotes stability in the lower layers of the atmosphere. Smoke and dust particles get collected beneath the inversion layer and spread horizontally to fill the lower strata of the atmosphere.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** A long winter night with clear skies and still air is ideal situation for inversion. The heat of the day is radiated off during the night, and by early morning

hours, the earth is cooler than the air above. Over polar areas, temperature inversion is normal throughout the year.

Q83. Consider the following statements:

1. Coriolis Force deflects the wind in the right direction in the northern hemisphere.
2. The pressure gradient is strong where the isobars are apart.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The rotation of the earth about its axis affects the direction of the wind. This force is called the Coriolis force. It deflects the wind to the right direction in the northern hemisphere and the left in the southern hemisphere. The deflection is more when the wind velocity is high.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The differences in atmospheric pressure produce a force. The rate of change of pressure with respect to distance is the pressure gradient. The pressure gradient is strong where the isobars are close to each other and weak where the isobars are apart.

Q84. Consider the following statements regarding "Laterite soil"

1. These soils develop in areas with high temperatures and high rainfall.
2. These soils are rich in nitrogen and organic matter.
3. These soils are the result of intense leaching due to tropical rains.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Laterite has been derived from the Latin word 'Later' which means brick. The laterite soils develop in areas with high temperatures and high rainfall.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** These soils are poor in organic matter, nitrogen, phosphate, and calcium, while iron oxide and potash are in excess. Hence, laterites are not suitable for cultivation; however, the application of manures and fertilizers is required to make the soils fertile for cultivation.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** These are the result of intense leaching due to tropical rains. With rain, lime and silica are leached away, and soils rich in iron oxide and aluminum compounds are left behind. The Humus content of the soil is removed fast by bacteria that thrive well in high temperatures

Q85. Which one of the following organizations publishes the Global Livability Index?

- (a) International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- (b) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- (c) International Labour Organization (ILO)
- (d) European Intelligence Unit (EIU)

Ans: (d)

Explanation

- The Global Liveability Index 2023 has been released by the European Intelligence Unit. It is determined by 5 factors viz. stability, healthcare, culture and environment, education, and infrastructure.
- As per the Global Liveability Index of 2023, five Indian cities figured on the list comprising 173 across the world. The list included - Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Ahmedabad, and Bangalore. But all five scored poorly, ranked between 140 and 146. Indian megacities Delhi and Mumbai tied for 141st place with a score of 60.2 out of 100. As per the report, the top cities in the world to live are: Vienna (Austria), Copenhagen (Denmark), Melbourne and Sydney (Australia) while the bottom 3 Liveable cities are Algiers (Algeria), Tripoli (Libya) and Damascus (Syria). **So, option (d) is correct.**

Q86. Consider the following statements regarding the Konda Reddi tribe:

1. It is recognized as a particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG).
2. It depends on the slash-and-burn cultivation.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Konda Reddi tribe is a particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG) in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Konda (or Hill) Reddis of Andhra Pradesh are one of the tribal groups which depend to a great extent on slash-and-burn cultivation.
 - Slash-and-burn cultivation method of cultivation in which forests are burned and cleared for planting.

Q87. Consider the following statements regarding the Katchatheevu Island:

1. It was part of the Jaffna kingdom of Sri Lanka in British era.
2. In 1974 Sri Lankan Government ceded this island to India.
3. The only structure on the island is a Catholic shrine – St Anthony's church.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** In the early medieval period, it was controlled by the Jaffna kingdom of Sri Lanka. In the 17th century, control passed to the Ramnad kingdom based out of Ramanathapuram, about 55 km northwest of Rameswaram.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** In 1974 as a part of the Indo-Sri Lankan Maritime Agreement, the Indian Government 'ceded' Katchatheevu island to Sri Lanka. Though it allowed Indian fishermen to access the island.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The only structure on the island is an early 20th-century Catholic shrine – St Anthony's church. Every year, church festival is held here during February or March and draws thousands of pilgrims. This mainly includes fisherfolk from both India and Sri Lanka, praying for happiness and good health.

Q88. Consider the following statements regarding Geographical Indication (GI) tags:

1. GI tags are covered under the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property.
2. Panjab Thandai, a traditional drink, has received a GI tag.
3. GI tag is under the Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** GIs are covered under the **Paris Convention** for the Protection of Industrial Property. **Governed by the WTO's Agreement** on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). GI tags are awarded to products with specific geographical origins and unique characteristics.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Over 60 products from India have received Geographical Indication (GI) tags, including Banaras Thandai. Assam's six crafts, including **Bihu Dhol and Mishring handloom products**, have received GI tags. Thirteen other products from Assam, such as **Bodo Dokhona and Bodo Eri silk**, have also been tagged.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** GI tags are issued as per the **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999**. This tag is issued by the Geographical Indication Registry under the **Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry**. The first GI tag in India was awarded to Darjeeling tea two decades ago.

Q89. Consider the following statements regarding the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD):

1. The Ministry of Earth Sciences oversees the operations of IMD.
2. The IMD issues a red colour code warning to signify initial or natal stage of the bad weather conditions.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It was established in 1875. It is the primary government agency responsible for weather forecasting, meteorological observations, and seismology in India. It functions under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- **Statement 2 is Incorrect:** IMD indeed issues color-coded warnings to alert the public about extreme weather events.

- **Green:** This code signifies "all is well" and indicates no adverse weather is expected. No advisory is issued.
- **Yellow:** A yellow alert means "be aware" of bad weather conditions. This could include heavy rain, thunderstorms, or snowfall that could disrupt daily activities.
- **Orange:** An orange alert is issued for "be prepared" situations. This indicates extremely bad weather is likely, with the possibility of disruptions to travel, power outages, and communication issues.
- **Red:** This is the most severe warning level, signifying "take action." A red alert is issued when extremely hazardous weather conditions are guaranteed, posing a significant risk to life and property.

Q90. Consider the following statements regarding the Vaikom Satyagraha:

1. Vaikom Satyagraha was a movement focused on demanding the right of lower caste people to enter temples in the Vaikom region of Kerala.
2. It was initiated in the early 19th century by social reformer Narayana Guru.
3. The movement gained significant momentum under the leadership of K. Kelappan and T. K. Madhavan.
4. It was a pivotal non-violent movement against untouchability.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** These included a prohibition, not just on temple entry, but even on walking on the roads surrounding temples. The Vaikom Satyagraha was launched in opposition to this. Amidst rising nationalist sentiment and agitations across the country, it foregrounded social reform.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Vaikom Satyagraha was initiated in 1924 by the local leaders, not in the early 19th century. Back then, the people of the oppressed classes especially **the Ezhavas**, were prohibited from walking on the four roads surrounding the Vaikom Mahadeva temple. Spearheaded by Congress leader T.K. Madhavan, who himself was an Ezhava, an agitation was launched against this social injustice. Narayana Guru supported this movement and even participated by wearing Khadi clothes in solidarity.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** The movement indeed gained significant momentum under the leadership of K. Kelappan and T. K. Madhavan.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Vaikom Satyagraha, initiated a century ago, was a pivotal non-violent movement against untouchability and caste discrimination. It was Initiated in 1924, and lasted for 604 days, from March 30, 1924, to November 23, 1925.

Q91. Consider the following taxes:

1. Additional duties of excise
2. Entertainment tax
3. Luxury tax
4. Taxes on gambling and lottery

Which of the above taxes that were once a part of state government taxes have now been subsumed under the Goods and Service Tax (GST)?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) All four
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

The following central taxes have been replaced by GST:

- Service tax
- Central excise duties
- Additional duties of excise
- Additional duty of customs
- Duties of excise
- Cess and surcharge

The state taxes subsumed by GST are as follows:

- Entry tax
- Luxury tax
- Central sales tax
- Purchase tax
- State VAT
- Entertainment tax
- State cess and surcharges
- Taxes on advertisements

- Taxes on gambling and lottery

So, option (b) is correct.

Q92. Consider the following pairs regarding the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) report 2024:

List I	List II
1. India	World's largest Arms Importer
2. China	World's largest Arms Exporter
3. France	Largest Arms supplier of India

How many of the above given pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correct:** India remains the world's top arms importer, accounting for 9.8% of the global arms sales followed by Saudi Arabia (8.4%) and Qatar (7.6%) states the latest report 2024 from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).
- **Pair 2 is incorrect:** The USA (42%) is the world's largest arms exporter followed by France (11%) and Russia (11%) as per the latest report 2024 from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).
- **Pair 3 is incorrect:** Russia (36%) is the largest arms supplier to India followed by France (33%) and the United States of America (13%). India is the largest arms customer of France, Russia and Israel.

Q93. Which of the following categories did Rural Electrification Corporation Limited win the SKOCH Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) 2024?

- (a) Green hydrogen innovative technology
- (b) Renewable Energy Financing
- (c) Clean Technology Innovation
- (d) Environmental Conservation

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) Limited, a leading NBFC and Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Power, has received the SKOCH ESG Award 2024 in the 'Renewable **Energy Financing**' category. REC finances the entire Power-Infrastructure sector comprising Generation, Transmission, Distribution, Renewable Energy, and new technologies like Electric Vehicles, Battery Storage, Pumped Storage Projects, Green Hydrogen, and Green Ammonia projects.
- The SKOCH ESG Award is a recognition given to organizations that exhibit exceptional performance in Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) practices.

So, option (b) is correct.

Q94. Consider the following statements regarding the Kodaikanal Solar Observatory (KoSO):

1. The Government of India sanctioned the KoSO in 1893, with construction commencing in 1895 under the supervision of Smith.
2. It is located in the Nilgiri Hills of Tamil Nadu.
3. The observatory focuses on studying cosmic rays and radio astronomy.

How many of the above statements is/are not correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The British Raj, acknowledging the need for regular solar observations, proposed the establishment of an Indian solar observatory.
- Charles Michie Smith, tasked with locating an ideal site, identified Kodaikanal in Tamil Nadu for its favorable atmospheric conditions and high altitude.
- The Government of India sanctioned the Kodaikanal Solar Physics Observatory in 1893, with construction commencing in 1895 under the supervision of Smith.
- On April 1, 1899, the Madras Observatory merged with KoSO, consolidating resources and expertise in solar observations. KoSO was established in 1893, not in 1876.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** KoSO is located in the Palani Hills of Tamil Nadu, not in the Nilgiri Hills.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** KoSO expanded its research areas beyond solar physics after World War II such as cosmic rays, radio astronomy, and ionospheric physics, reflecting its multidisciplinary approach.

Q95. Consider the following statements regarding the Reserve bank of India (RBI):

1. It was established based on Hilton Young Commission's recommendations.
2. Since its inception it is fully owned by the Government of India.
3. Its Monetary Policy committee (MPC) is required to meet at least three times in a year.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- (e) Only one
- (f) Only two
- (g) All three
- (h) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The RBI was established based on Hilton Young Commission's recommendations. It was established in 1935 under the Reserve Bank of India Act.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Though RBI was originally privately owned, since nationalisation in 1949, it is fully owned by the Government of India.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Monetary Policy committee (MPC) determines the policy repo rate required to achieve the inflation target. The MPC is required to meet at least four times in a year. The quorum for the meeting of the MPC is four members. Each member of the MPC has one vote, and in the event of an equality of votes, the Governor has a second or casting vote.

Q96. Consider the following statements regarding the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) Limited:

1. It is a Maha Ratna company.
2. The Ministry of Finance recently granted an 'Infrastructure Finance Company (IFC)' status to IREDA.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) is a Public Limited Government Company established as a Non-Banking Financial Institution in 1987

engaged in promoting, developing and extending financial assistance for setting up projects relating to new and renewable sources of energy.

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It is a Mini Ratna (Category – I) Government of India Enterprise under the administrative control of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) granted an 'Infrastructure Finance Company (IFC)' status to IREDA on 13.03.2023.
- IREDA has been upgraded from 'Schedule B' to 'Schedule A' category CPSE.

Q97. Consider the following statements regarding World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD):

1. It has been observed by the United Nations annually since, 2002.
2. The theme of WAAD 2024 is 'Empowering Autistic Voices'.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Every year, on April 2, the global awareness event of World Autism Day is observed to raise awareness about autism spectrum disorders (ASD).
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The United Nations General Assembly designated 2 April as World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD) in 2007.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The theme of World Autism Awareness Day 2024 is 'Empowering Autistic Voices'.

Q98. In context of 'Kallakkadal', consider the following statements:

1. It refers to coastal flooding triggered by swell waves during pre-monsoon season.
2. Expression 'Kallakkadal,' is a Tamil word coined by local fishermen.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Kallakkadal refers to coastal flooding triggered by swell waves during the pre-monsoon season along India's southwest coast.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Kallakkadal,' coined by local fishermen is a fusion of two **Malayalam** words which is 'Kallan' denoting thief, and 'Kadal,' representing sea.

Q99. Which of the following organizations is NOT involved in organizing the Leadership Development Program in Science and Technology (LEADS)?

- (a) Indian National Science Academy (INSA)
- (b) National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG)
- (c) National *Education Association* (NEA)
- (d) All of the above

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The programme seeks to create robust science ecosystem to nurture and empower future leaders in the field of Science and Technology. Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) jointly organised the 2nd Leadership Development in Science & Technology (LEADS) Programme-2024.
- It aims to enhance the capabilities of individuals and organizations involved in governance and public administration in India. The Indian National Science Academy (INSA) is a premier scientific organization that promotes and recognizes excellence in scientific research and fosters scientific cooperation within India and globally.
- LEADS brings together the expertise and resources of INSA and NCGG, institutions dedicated to quality scientific pursuit and good governance, respectively. The programme will impart required leadership skills to the participants for the pursuit of excellence in leadership, administration, team building, infrastructure development, institution building, financial planning, innovation, incubation, HR management, addressing gender-related/diversity issues, understanding governance structure, international relationships, handling interpersonal relationships, etc.

Q100. Consider the following statements regarding Demographic Dividend:

1. It refers to a period of economic growth resulting from changes in a country's population structure.
2. This typically occurs when the working-age population (15-64 years) surpasses 60% of the total population.
3. According to a World Bank report, South Asia, including India, faces risks of squandering its demographic dividend.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Demographic Dividend refers to a period of economic growth that occurs due to changes in the age structure of a population, particularly when the working-age population (15-64 years) grows larger relative to the dependent population (children and elderly).
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** While the precise threshold may vary, the demographic dividend typically occurs when the working-age population comprises a significant proportion of the total population. However, there's no fixed percentage like 60%.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** According to a World Bank report, South Asia, including India, faces risks of squandering its demographic dividend due to inadequate job creation relative to the growing working-age population, as highlighted in the "Jobs for Resilience" regional update.

