

*Questions in UPSC CSE PRELIMS GS-I 2023 that can be solved from Forum IAS Tests.*

UPSC Question	Test	ForumIAS Question
<p><b>Q.2)</b> With reference to ancient India, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The concept of Stupa is Buddhist in origin.</li> <li>2. Stupa was generally a repository of relics.</li> <li>3. Stupa was a votive and commemorative structure in Buddhist tradition.</li> </ol> <p>How many of the statements given above are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) All three</li> <li>d) None</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b></p>	<p><b>PTS B1 L2 TEST 13-Q.81</b></p>	<p><b>Q.81)</b> With reference to Stupas, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stupas represents funeral cumulus in which relics and ashes of the dead were kept in ancient times.</li> </ol> <p>on a large scale began throughout ,The construction of stupas .2 India during the reign of Harshvardhana in 8<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. The devotional act of building a stupa assure an escape from the cycle of rebirth and death to the individual.</li> <li>4. Stupas are not built exclusively in Buddhism as there are also Jain stupas in existence.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 1, 3 and 4 only</li> <li>c) 2 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2 and 3 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b> <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b> A <b>stupa is a shrine</b> containing the remains of a holy or sainted person and/or artifacts (relics) associated with them, <b>originating in India prior to the 5th century BCE</b> as tombs of holy men and evolving afterwards into sacred sites dedicated to the Buddha. <b>Statement 1 is correct: Stupas were burial mounds prevalent in India from the Vedic period.</b> It is a conventional representation of a <b>funeral cumulus</b> in which relics and ashes of the dead were kept. <b>Statement 2 is incorrect:</b> The construction of stupas, on a large scale and associated with Buddhism, began <b>throughout India during the reign of Ashoka the Great (268-232 BCE)</b> of the Mauryan Empire (322-185 BCE) after his conversion to Buddhism. During the period of Ashoka, the art of stupas reached its climax. Almost <b>84,000 stupas were erected during his period.</b> <b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> The <b>devotional act of building a stupa</b> is thought to bring one good luck, health, good karma, and <b>assure one of either an escape from the cycle of rebirth and death (samsara)</b> which is a goal of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism or, at least, a good rebirth in another life on earth in which one will attain this goal. <b>Statement 4 is correct:</b> Buddhist stupas are not only one type, as there are also <b>Jain stupas</b>. The Jain stupa was a type of stupa erected by the Jains for devotional purposes. A Jain stupa dated to the 1st century BCE-1st century CE was excavated at Mathura in the 19th century, in the Kankali Tila mound. Source: Nitin Singhania Chapter 1 INDIAN ARCHITECTURE, SCULPTURE AND POTTERY Stupa - World History Encyclopedia</p>
	<p><b>PTS 2023 SIMULATOR X-Q.32</b></p>	<p><b>Q.32)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. While Chaitya is a place of worship, Vihara is the dwelling place of the monks.</li> <li>2. Unlike Viharas, some chaityas may contain stupas inside it.</li> <li>3. Unlike Viharas, Chaityas are part of both Jainism and Buddhism.</li> </ol>

	<p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?  a) 1 only  b) 1 and 2 only  c) 1 and 3 only  d) 3 only</p> <p><b>Ans) b</b>  <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b>  Due to the popularity of Buddhism and Jainism, stupas, chaityas and viharas were constructed on a large scale in ancient India. Each structure was built to serve different purposes of the religion.  <b>Statement 1 is correct: Vihara is a dwelling place</b> where the Buddhist monks resided and meditated  whereas <b>Chaitya refers to a shrine or prayer hall</b> in the Buddhism.  <b>Statement 2 is correct: Some chaityas have stupas inside it. For example, in Ellora there are many chaityas with a stupa in it. Viharas do not have stupas inside it.</b>  <b>A stupa is a mound-like or hemispherical structure containing remains of Buddhas</b> that is used as a place of meditation.  <b>Fig- Chaitya at Bhaja caves with Stupa</b>  <b>Statement 3 is incorrect: Stupa, Vihara and Chaitya all are part of Buddhist and Jaina monastic complexes,</b> but the largest number belongs to the <b>Buddhist religion.</b>  Source: <a href="https://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/kefa103.pdf">https://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/kefa103.pdf</a>  <a href="https://dbpedia.org/page/Jain_stupa">https://dbpedia.org/page/Jain_stupa</a></p>												
<p><b>SFG L1 TEST 30-Q.32</b></p>	<p><b>Q.32)</b> The great events of the life of the Buddha were represented by different symbols. In this context, consider the following pairs:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="730 1144 1246 1496"> <thead> <tr> <th>Events of Buddha's life</th> <th>Symbols</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Death of Buddha</td> <td>Stupa</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Great Renunciation</td> <td>Bull</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Birth of Buddha</td> <td>Throne</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. First sermon</td> <td>Wheel</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Enlightenment</td> <td>Bodhi tree</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>How many pairs are correctly matched?  a) Only two pairs  b) Only three pairs  c) Only four pairs  d) Only five pairs</p> <p><b>Ans) b</b>  <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer</b>  <b>Option 1 is correct: Mahaparinirvana i.e the death of Buddha is represented by the symbol Stupa. Stupa is a Buddhist commemorative monument that usually contains sacred relics associated with the Buddha or other saintly persons.</b>  <b>Option 2 is incorrect: Mahabhinishkramana i.e the Great Renunciation is represented by the symbol Horse (not Bull). It is also called as Great Departure</b></p>	Events of Buddha's life	Symbols	1. Death of Buddha	Stupa	2. Great Renunciation	Bull	3. Birth of Buddha	Throne	4. First sermon	Wheel	5. Enlightenment	Bodhi tree
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	<p>that marks the departure of Gautama Buddha from his palace at Kapilavastu to live a life as an ascetic</p> <p><b>Option 3 is incorrect:</b> The <b>birth</b> of Buddha is marked by a symbol of <b>Lotus and bull</b>. The lotus is said to have bloomed at the exact moment of the Buddha's birth, and is a reminder of the potential for enlightenment that exists within all beings</p> <p><b>Option 4 is correct: Dhammachakra Pravartan</b> i.e., Buddha's first sermon at Sarnath in Benaras (present day Varanasi in U.P) is represented by the symbol of the <b>wheel</b>.</p> <p><b>Option 5 is correct:</b> The <b>symbol of the enlightenment of the Buddha (Nirvana) is the bodhi tree</b>, under which the Buddha is said to have attained enlightenment.</p> <p>Source: Nitin Singhania: Religions in India - Basics about Buddhism</p>
<p><b>SFG L1</b> <b>Test 31-</b> <b>Q.9</b></p>	<p>With reference to the post-Mauryan art and culture, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Shunga rulers introduced the idea of decorated gateways in Buddhist stupas.</li> <li>2. During this period, the prayer halls or Chaityas were developed in rock caves.</li> <li>3. The Lomas Rishi cave is an example of man-made cave built during the post-Mauryan period.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 only c) 1 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>The collapse of the Mauryan rule in 187 BCE paved the way for the emergence of several powers in the Indian subcontinent. The period from the decline of the Mauryas to the rise of the Guptas (2nd century BCE to 3rd century CE) is known in Indian history as the post-Mauryan period.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct.</b> Stupas were the burial mounds where the ashes of the dead were kept. In Post-Mauryan period, the size of stupas became larger and more decorative with the use of Stone in place of wood and brick as used during the Mauryan and Vedic period. The <b>Shunga dynasty</b> introduced the idea of '<b>torans</b>' i.e., a <b>beautifully decorated gateways to the stupas</b> that were intricately carved with figures and patterns and were evidence of Hellenistic influence. <b>Examples: Bharhut stupa in Madhya Pradesh.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct.</b> The rock-cut cave architecture emerged during Mauryan Period where it was used as viharas (living quarters) only. In Post-Mauryan period, the rock-cut caves <b>developed Chaityas or the prayer halls along with the viharas.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect.</b> The <b>Lomas Rishi Cave</b> is a man-made cave in Bihar built during <b>Ashoka Period</b> as a part of sacred architecture of Ajivika Sect. The <b>Udayagiri and Khandagiri caves of Orissa</b> is an example of post-Mauryan caves that are both natural and man-made built by <b>kharavela rulers.</b></p>

		Source: NITIN SINGHANIA (CH-INDIAN ARCHITECTURE, SCULPTURE AND POTTERY)
<p><b>Q.3)</b> With reference to ancient South India, Korkai, Poompuhar and Muchiri were well known as</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>capital cities</li> <li>ports</li> <li>centres of iron-and-steel making</li> <li>shrines of Jain Tirthankaras</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b></p>	<p><b>SFG L1</b> <b>Test 32-</b> <b>Q.42</b></p>	<p>Consider the following pairs regarding the major ports in the kingdom of Chola, Chera, and Pandyas during Sangam age:</p> <p><b>Kingdom - Major Port</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chola - Puhar</li> <li>Chera - Uraiyur</li> <li>Pandya - <b>Korkai</b></li> </ol> <p>Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 and 2 only</li> <li>1 and 3 only</li> <li>2 and 3 only</li> <li>1, 2, and 3</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b> <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>The three principal chiefdoms of the Sangam age i.e., the Cheras, Cholas, and Pandyas had their strongholds both in the interior as well as on the sea coast. The major seaports of the three kingdoms are mentioned below:</p> <p>Statement 1 is correct: The Cholas had the Uraiyur port on Cauvery River and Puhar on the coromandel coast as their strongholds. Uraiyur was also the capital of Cholas. Puhar was also known as Kaveripattanam.</p> <p>Statement 2 is incorrect: <b>The Cheras had Karur port in the interior and Muchiris the well-known ancient port, on their west coast.</b> Uraiyur port belonged to Cholas. So, the statement is incorrect.</p> <p>Statement 3 is correct: The Pandyan kingdom was also known for its pearl fisheries. <b>The Pandyas had Madurai, Korkai, Kayal, and periyapattanam as their major ports.</b> Korkai was famous for the pearls and pearl fishing.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/20157/1/Unit-28.pdf">https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/20157/1/Unit-28.pdf</a> <a href="https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/61908/1/Unit-5.pdf">https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/61908/1/Unit-5.pdf</a> Poonam dalal dhaiya history</p>
<p><b>Q.5)</b> Consider the following dynasties:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hoysala</li> <li>Gahadavala</li> <li>Kakatiya</li> <li>Yadava</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above dynasties established their kingdoms in early eighth century AD?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only one</li> <li>Only two</li> <li>Only three</li> <li>None</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p>	<p><b>SFG L1</b> <b>Test 35-</b> <b>Q. 13</b></p>	<p>Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soft soapstone was the main building material.</li> <li>Shrines are laid in the shape of a star.</li> <li>Roofs of the temples were never sloping or slanting.</li> <li>Temples were built on a highly raised platform.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the above are the features of the Hoysala temple architecture?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1, 2 and 3 only</li> <li>1, 2 and 4 only</li> <li>3 and 4 only</li> <li>2 and 4 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b> <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>In the region of Karnataka near Mysore, <b>the temples built under the Hoysala rulers (1050-1300 A.D)</b> developed a distinct style of their</p>

		<p>own known as the Hoysala School of art. Its prominent seats being Belur, Halebid and Sringeri.</p> <p><b>Option 1 is correct:</b> In the temples of Hoysala dynasty, soft soap stone (Chorite schist) was the main building material.</p> <p><b>Option 2 is correct:</b> Unlike the crucified ground plan (plan that resembles the crucifixion cross) of the Panchayatan style, the Hoysala school of architecture laid shrines in the shape of an intricately designed star. This was known as the Stellate plan.</p> <p><b>Option 3 is incorrect:</b> In Hoysala architecture, roofs slope inwards to converge at the top.</p> <p><b>Option 4 is correct:</b> The temples were built on an upraised platform known as Jagati, which was about one metre high.</p> <p>Source: Nitin Singhania: Chapter- Indian Architecture</p>
	<p><b>SFG L2</b> <b>Test 32-</b> <b>Q.40</b></p>	<p>Which among the following Indian cities have earned the global recognition with their inclusion in the UNESCO’s ‘Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC)’ project?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amravati</li> <li>2. Warangal</li> <li>3. Thrissur</li> <li>4. Thanjavur</li> <li>5. Nilambur</li> </ol> <p>Choose the correct answer using the code given below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1, 2 and 3 only</li> <li>b) 2, 3 and 5 only</li> <li>c) 1, 4 and 5 only</li> <li>d) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Options 2, 3 and 5 are correct:</b> Warangal (Telangana), Thrissur and Nilambur (Kerala) have been included in the UNESCO’s ‘Global Network of Learning Cities’ (GNLC) project.</p> <p>About the cities:</p> <p>City</p> <p>Why a ‘learning city’?</p> <p><b>Warangal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Served as the capital of <b>Kakatiya dynasty which was established in 1163.</b></li> <li>• It has also been chosen for Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY) of Government of India.</li> <li>• It hosts second biggest grain market of Asia, located in Enumamula and emerging hub for IT sector activities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Thrissur</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Also known as ‘cultural capital’ of Kerala.</li> <li>• It is a major academic hub and has institutions like Kerala Kalamandalam, Kerala Agricultural University Kerala University of Health Sciences etc.</li> <li>• Also regarded as a banking town, having headquarters of major banks like South Indian Bank, Catholic Syrian Bank, Dhanalakshmi Bank, Manappuram General Finance and Leasing.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is also a major Centre for gold jewelry. About 70% of Kerala's jewelry is manufactured in Thrissur.</li> </ul> <p><b>Nilambur</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is located close to Nilgiri range of western ghats on the banks of Chaliyar river (forms part of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve).</li> <li>The city is an eco-tourism destination in Kerala</li> <li>It is also known as 'teak town' due to abundance of Nilambur teak.</li> <li>The bank of Chaliyar river is known for gold reserves</li> <li>Silent Valley National Park is located in this city.</li> <li>Major economic activities- agriculture, handicrafts, eco-tourism etc.</li> </ul> <p><b>Knowledge Base:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The GNLC initiative was launched by UNESCO in 2013 with the goal of promoting social cohesion, economic development and sustainability in urban areas.</li> </ul> <p>(Picture credit: The Hindu)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For GNLC status, cities with a population of 5 lakh and above are considered. Due to its potential, Nilambur has been the first town to be included in GNLC with less than 1 lakh population.</li> </ul> <p>Source:  <a href="https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/kerala/2022/sep/08/nilambur-thrissur-in-unesco-list-of-learning-cities-2495917.html">https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/kerala/2022/sep/08/nilambur-thrissur-in-unesco-list-of-learning-cities-2495917.html</a></p>
	<p><b>SFG LI</b>  <b>Test 32-</b>  <b>Q.29</b></p>	<p>With reference to the political developments in South India during the Early Medieval Period, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Pandyas took the place of Cholas after their decline.</li> <li>The Later Chalukyas were replaced by the Kalabhra dynasty.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 only</li> <li>2 only</li> <li>Both 1 and 2</li> <li>Neither 1 nor 2</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b>  <b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b>  The Early Medieval Period starting from the 7th century CE, saw a number regional empires in South India.  <b>Statement 1 is correct:</b> The Imperial Chola empire collapsed in the 13th century CE. The political vacuum created by their collapse was filled by their longtime enemies - the Pandyas in the deep South. In the Andhra region, the Cholas were succeeded by the Hoysalas. Hence this statement is correct.  <b>Statement 2 is incorrect:</b> The Western Chalukyas ruled over an extensive area in the Deccan for about two centuries after which the Rashtrakutas became powerful. The family of Western Chalukyas had its offshoots like the Eastern Chalukyas of Vengi and the Chalukyas</p>

		<p>of Kalyani. These offshoots of the Chalukyas (known as Eastern Chalukyas/ Later Chalukyas) were finally replaced by the Kakatiya dynasty in the 12th century CE in the eastern Deccan region comprising eastern parts of modern-day Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. In the Western Deccan region (from Narmada in North to Tungabhadra in South), the Later Chalukyas were <b>succeeded by the Yadava (also called the Seuna/ Sevuna) dynasty in the 12th century CE.</b></p> <p>The Kalabhra dynasty ruled over regions of the deep South between the 3rd and 6th centuries CE (after the ancient Sangam Age), and came before and not after the Chalukyas. Hence this statement is incorrect. The Kalabhra dynasty was replaced by the Chalukyas and the Pallavas.</p> <p>Source: Ancient &amp; Medieval India by Poonam Dalal Dahiya, Ch-9, Pg-9.38; Ancient &amp; early Medieval India by Upinder Singh, Ch-, Pg-</p>										
<p><b>Q.6)</b> With reference to ancient Indian History, consider the following pairs:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Literary work</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Author</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Devichandragupta</td> <td>Bilhana</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Hammira-Mahakavya</td> <td>Nayachandra Suri</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Milinda-panha</td> <td>Nagarjuna</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Nitivakyamrita</td> <td>Somadeva S</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?</p> <p>a) Only one b) Only two c) Only three d) All four</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p>	Literary work	Author	1. Devichandragupta	Bilhana	2. Hammira-Mahakavya	Nayachandra Suri	3. Milinda-panha	Nagarjuna	4. Nitivakyamrita	Somadeva S	<p><b>SFG LI TEST 31-Q.29</b></p>	<p>Which of the following literary sources give information about the Mauryan empire in India?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parishishtaparvan</li> <li>2. Mudrarakshasa</li> <li>3. Devichandraguptam</li> <li>4. Divyadana</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</p> <p>a) 1 and 2 only b) 3 only c) 1, 2 and 4 only d) 1, 2, 3 and 4</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b> <b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>Mauryan period has a greater number and more diverse type of primary sources as compared to the earlier periods. Apart from <b>Megasthenes' Indica and Kautilya's Arthashastra</b> there were some other literary sources.</p> <p><b>Option 1 is correct:</b> The <b>Parishishtaparvan</b> is a 12th-century Sanskrit mahakavya by <b>Hemachandra</b> which details the histories of the earliest <b>Jain teachers</b>. It largely covers the period between 480-200 BCE and <b>follows the growth of the kingdom of Magadha and the establishment of the Maurya Empire.</b></p> <p><b>Option 2 is correct:</b> The <b>Mudrarakshasa</b> is a Sanskrit play written by <b>Vishakhadatta</b> that <b>narrates the ascent of the king Chandragupta Maurya to power in India.</b> Vishakhadatta was <b>believed to be a contemporary of Chandragupta II</b>, and lived in the late 4th century to early 5th century. However, this claim was disputed by some scholars.</p> <p><b>Option 3 is incorrect:</b> <b>Devichandraguptam is a Sanskrit play written by Vishakhadatta.</b> It is a play about the early life of Gupta King <b>Chandragupta II</b> and it depicts a story of Gupta King <b>Ramagupta</b> who decides to surrender his queen <b>Dhruvadevi</b> to a <b>Shaka invader</b> but his <b>younger brother Chandragupta</b> enters the enemy camp <b>disguised as queen</b> and kills the enemy. In the climax</p>
Literary work	Author											
1. Devichandragupta	Bilhana											
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		<p>of the play, Chandragupta dethrones Ramagupta and marries Dhruvadevi.</p> <p><b>Option 4 is correct:</b> The Buddhist text <b>Divyavadana</b> speaks of a revolt in Taxila during Bindusara's region. Bindusara (reign 297 – c. 273 BCE) was a <b>second Mauryan ruler, father of emperor Ashoka</b>. According to Divyavadana the subjects of Taxila were dissatisfied with rogue administrators.</p> <p>Source:  <a href="https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/64794/1/Unit16.pdf">https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/64794/1/Unit16.pdf</a></p>
	<p><b>JATF TEST 9- Q.41</b></p>	<p>Buddhacharita, A biography of the Buddha, was composed by:</p> <p>a) Nagasena  b) Buddhaghosha  c) Dhammapala  d) Ashvaghosha</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer</b></p> <p>Ashvaghosha lived in the court of King Kanishka. He was a Buddhist philosopher, poet and dramatist.</p> <p><b>Option a is incorrect.</b> <b>The Milinda-panha traditionally attributed to Nagasena,</b> is one of the great achievements of Indian prose and was probably written at the time of Menander (160–35 BCE) or shortly after.</p> <p><b>Option b is incorrect.</b> <b>Buddhaghosha</b> (flourished early 5th century CE) is undoubtedly the most prolific and important writer in the Pali language. Buddhaghosha's first work probably was the Visuddhimagga (Pali: "The Path of Purification"), a greatly revered compendium of Theravada teaching.</p> <p><b>Option c is incorrect.</b> <b>Dhammapala</b>, who probably came from southern India, is credited with the writing of numerous commentaries, including the Paramattha dipani, a commentary on several books of the Khuddaka nikaya. In the Paramattha manjusa a commentary on Buddhaghosha's Visuddhimagga, Dhammapala quotes a verse from the Hindu scripture Bhagavadgita and frequently mentions the views of other schools and teachers.</p> <p><b>Option d is correct.</b> <b>Ashvaghosha, a poet who composed a biography of the Buddha, the Buddhacharita,</b> lived in the court of the Kushana ruler 'Kanishka'. Ashvaghosha and other Buddhist scholars now began writing in Sanskrit.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://www.britannica.com/topic/Buddhism/The-Pali-canon-Tipitaka">https://www.britannica.com/topic/Buddhism/The-Pali-canon-Tipitaka</a>  NCERT Class 6 History, Page 95-96</p>
<p><b>Q.7)</b> "Souls are not only the property of animal and plant life, but also of rocks, running water and many other natural objects not looked on as living by other religious sects."</p> <p>The above statement reflects one of the core beliefs of which one of the following religious sects of ancient India?</p> <p>a) Buddhism</p>	<p><b>SFG L1 TEST 37-Q.29</b></p>	<p>Consider the following statements with reference to the Ajivika and Ajnana traditions of Shramana schools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ajivikas believed in the existence of the soul.</li> <li>2. Ajivikas rejected the authority of Vedas.</li> <li>3. Ajnanas was one of the branches of Jainism.</li> <li>4. Ajnanas generally believed that it is impossible to attain knowledge about nature.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <p>a) 2 and 3 only  b) 1 and 2 only</p>



<p>b) Jainism e) Shaivism d) Vaishnavism</p> <p><b>Ans) b</b></p>		<p>c) 1, 2 and 4 only d) 1, 3 and 4 only</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b> <b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b> The word <b>Shramana</b> means <b>one who performs acts of austerity and ascetic</b>. Shramanic religions are considered <b>Nastika or a Heterodox school of philosophy</b>. Ajivikas and Ajnana traditions belong to Shramanic thought. <b>Statements 1 and 2 are correct:</b> Ajivika school was founded by Makkhali Gosala in 5th century BC. The school revolves around the Niyati (Fate) doctrine of absolute determinism. It believes that there is no free will and that whatever has happened, is happening or will happen is entirely pre-ordained or pre-decided and is based on cosmic principles. Hence there was no use of Karma. <b>They also rejected the authority of Vedas like Buddhism and Jainism. However, they believed in the existence of soul (atman) in every living being like Jainism. But they believed existence of soul in material form whereas Jainism propounds formless soul.</b> <b>Statement 3 is incorrect:</b> Ajnana school was a major rival of Jainism and Buddhism and not a branch of Jainism. <b>Statement 4 is correct:</b> The Ajnana sect believed in radical skepticism. The school believed that it is impossible to attain knowledge about nature. Even if it is possible, it is useless for attaining salvation. They specialized in refutation and were considered ignorant. They believed that “Ignorance is Best”. Source: Chapter-12 Religions of India, Indian Art and Culture by Nitin Singhania. <a href="https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/38176/1/Unit-4.pdf">https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/38176/1/Unit-4.pdf</a> <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/society/faith/veiling-power-of-ajnana/article33395873.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/society/faith/veiling-power-of-ajnana/article33395873.ece</a></p>
	<p><b>SFG LI TEST 30-Q.47</b></p>	<p>With reference to the various sects of ancient India, consider the following statements: 1. Unlike Jainism, Ajivika did not believe in the ‘Doctrine of Determinism’. 2. Unlike Buddhism, Jainism completely denied the existence of soul. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? a) 1 only b) 2 only c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b> <b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b> <b>Statement 1 is incorrect:</b> Ajivikas believed in the <b>doctrine of determinism. According to this doctrine</b>, affairs of the entire universe were predetermined including an individual’s fate, to the last detail. The doctrine barred personal efforts to change or accelerate improvement toward one’s spiritual destiny. <b>Statement 2 is incorrect:</b> <b>Jainism does believe in the soul. It believes that the soul exists forever, even after it has left the body.</b></p>

		<p>Each soul is always independent and the soul is responsible for what it does.</p> <p>The soul experiences the consequences of its actions and the soul can become liberated from the cycle of birth and death.</p> <p>Source: 11th TN SCERT - Chapter-Rise of Territorial Kingdoms and New Religious Sects</p>
<p><b>Q.9)</b> Who among the following rulers of medieval Gujarat surrendered Diu to Portuguese?</p> <p>a) Ahmad Shah b) Mahmud Begarha c) Bahadur Shah d) Muhammad Shah</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p>	<p><b>SFG L2 TEST 19-Q.1</b></p>	<p>In the context of Portuguese rule in India, which of the following events had taken place during the tenure of the Governor Alfonso De Albuquerque?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establishment of the first Portuguese factory at Calicut.</li> <li>2. Accession of the island of Bassein.</li> <li>3. Abolition of Sati.</li> <li>4. Introduction of 'Blue Water Policy'.</li> <li>5. Acquisition of Goa from the Sultan of Bijapur.</li> </ol> <p>Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:</p> <p>a) 1, 2 and 4 only b) 2, 3 and 5 only c) 4 and 5 only d) 3 and 5 only</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b> <b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>For the first time a Portuguese expedition arrived in India in 1498. It was led by Vasco Da Gama. In 1505, the King of Portugal appointed a Governor in India for the first time. Francisco De Almeida was the first such appointee. He was succeeded by Alfonso de Albuquerque, who came to India in 1512.</p> <p><b>Option 1 is incorrect: Pedro Alvarez Cabral</b> led a voyage to India after the successful expedition by Vasco Da Gama. Cabral arrived at <b>Calicut</b> in 1500, where is <b>established the first factory</b>. Locals made a stiff resistance to the Portuguese's factory at Calicut, but Cabral successfully retaliated by bombarding Calicut. He also signed treaties with the local rules of Cochin and Cannanore.</p> <p><b>Option 2 is incorrect: In 1534, the ruler of Gujarat Bahadur Shah ceded the island of Bassein to Portuguese in return of their help during the conflict with Humayun.</b> Portuguese also got a hold over dependencies and revenues of the Island. <b>The ruler also promised a base in Diu.</b> These events happened during the Governorship of <b>Nino da Cunha</b> (assumed office in 1529).</p> <p><b>Option 3 is correct: Alfonso de Albuquerque</b> was not only the first Portuguese leader, but also the first amongst Europeans to abolish the practice of 'sati' in Goa. The practice of sati had spread in Goa during the Shilahara-Kadamba period. Despite, abolishing of Sati, it prevailed clandestinely in some parts of the State.</p> <p><b>Option 4 is incorrect: The Blue Water Policy</b> was introduced by the first Governor- <b>Francisco de Almeida</b>. It envisioned to make Portuguese the master of the Indian Ocean. was opposed to the establishment of a territorial empire in India, preferring that the Portuguese maintain supremacy at sea and limit their activities to purely commercial transactions. This is known as the <b>Blue Water Policy</b>.</p>

		<p><b>Option 5 is correct:</b> Alfonso de Albuquerque <b>acquired Goa from the Sultan of Bijapur</b>, Ismail Adil Shah, in the year 1510. The ruler of Vijayanagar Krishnadevaraya helped the Portuguese Governor. Later, the capital of Viceroyalty was also transferred from Cochin to Goa.</p> <p>Source :  <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/saving-history-not-sati/articleshow/45016268.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/saving-history-not-sati/articleshow/45016268.cms</a>  Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India (Page 23, Chapter 3)</p>
	<p><b>JATF TEST 5- Q.43</b></p>	<p>In the context of history, Treaty of Tordesillas is associated with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a treaty between the rulers of Portugal and Spain to divide the non-Christian world by an imaginary line in the Atlantic.</li> <li>a treaty between king of England and the duke of Orléans arose out of the French civil war.</li> <li>a peace treaty that ended the Third Anglo-Dutch War.</li> <li>a treaty between the Sultan Bahadur of Gujarat and the Portuguese empire.</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b>  <b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b>  <b>Option a is correct.</b> In 1497, under the Treaty of Tordesillas (1494), the rulers of Portugal and Spain divided the non-Christian world between them by an imaginary line in the Atlantic, some 1,300 miles west of the Cape Verde Islands. Under the treaty, Portugal could claim and occupy everything to the east of the line while Spain could claim everything to the west. The situation was thus prepared for the Portuguese incursions into the waters around India.</p> <p><b>Option b is incorrect. Treaty of Bourges:</b> In 1412, Treaty of Bourges is an <b>agreement between Henry IV, king of England, and the duke of Orléans arose out of the French civil war.</b> In return for Henry's aid against the Burgundians, Orléans accepted English claims to sovereignty over the duchy of Aquitaine. Henry dispatched an army in July 1412, but as the Orléanists had reached a temporary peace with Burgundy, the treaty was never fulfilled.</p> <p><b>Option c is incorrect. Treaty of Westminster:</b> Treaty of Westminster of 1674 was the peace treaty that ended the <b>Third Anglo-Dutch War.</b></p> <p><b>Option d is incorrect. Treaty of Bassein:</b> The <b>Treaty of Bassein was signed by Sultan Bahadur of Gujarat and the Kingdom of Portugal on 23 December 1534 while on board the galleon São Mateus. Based on the terms of the agreement, the Portuguese Empire gained control of the city of Bacaim as well as its territories, islands, and seas.</b></p> <p>Source: <a href="https://www.nationalgeographic.org/thisday/jun7/treaty-tordesillas/">https://www.nationalgeographic.org/thisday/jun7/treaty-tordesillas/</a>  Spectrum: Advent of europeans in india-pg 23,24</p>
	<p><b>PTS SIMULATOR TEST 8- Q.57</b></p>	<p>In the context of Indian history, arrange the following historical events in ascending order of their occurrence?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conquest of goa by Portuguese.</li> <li>Establishment of Sultanate at Golconda.</li> <li>Establishment of Mughal Empire by Babur in India.</li> <li>Establishment of sultanate of Berar.</li> </ol>

		<p>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</p> <p>a) 4 - 1 - 2 - 3  b) 1 - 2 - 3 - 4  c) 4 - 2 - 1 - 3  d) 1 - 3 - 2 - 4</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Option a is correct: The correct sequence of the historical event in the ascending order of their occurrence is as follows: 4 - 1 - 2 - 3.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Emergence of sultanate of Berar (1490).</li> <li>2. Conquest of goa by Portuguese (1510).</li> <li>3. Emergence of Sultanate at Golconda (1518).</li> <li>4. Establishment of Mughal Empire by Babur (1526).</li> </ol> <p><b>Option 4:</b> During the disintegration of Bahmani sultanate, <b>Fath-ullah Imad-ul-Mulk, governor of Berar declared independence in 1490</b>, and founded the Imad Shahi dynasty of Berar sultanate. He established the capital at Achalpur (Ellichpur). He also fortified Gavilgad and Narnala. His successor, Ala-ud-din, resisted the aggression of Ahmadnagar with the help from Bahadur Shah, sultan of Gujarat.</p> <p><b>Option 1: Battle of Goa, (9–10 December 1510)- The first part of India to fall to European colonial rule was Goa in 1510 A.D.</b> At that time Goa was ruled by Sultan of Bijapur. Its conquest was the work of energetic Portuguese viceroy Afonso de Albuquerque, who recognized that the port-city would make a perfect permanent base for Portugal’s navy and commerce in the Indian Ocean</p> <p><b>Option 2: Quṭb Shāhī dynasty, (1518–1687),</b> was one of the five successor states of the Bahmanī kingdom. The <b>founder was Qulī Quṭb Shah</b>, a Turkish governor of the Bahmanī eastern region, which largely coincided with the preceding Hindu state of Warangal. <b>Quṭb Shah declared his independence in 1518 and moved his capital to Golconda.</b> Toward the end of the century, Muḥammad Qulī Quṭb Shah built a new capital at Hyderabad, a few miles away.</p> <p><b>Option 3: The first Battle of Panipat in 1526 was between Babur and Ibrahim Lodi.</b> The result of the battle <b>laid the foundation of the Mughal Empire by ending the rule of the Delhi Sultanate.</b></p> <p>Source: NCERT page 193, Themes in Indian History Part II , Class XI</p> <p><a href="https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?lehs2=3-5">https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?lehs2=3-5</a>  <a href="https://www.britannica.com/topic/Portuguese-Conquest-of-Goa">https://www.britannica.com/topic/Portuguese-Conquest-of-Goa</a>  <a href="https://www.britannica.com/topic/Quṭb-Shahi-dynasty">https://www.britannica.com/topic/Quṭb-Shahi-dynasty</a>  <a href="https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Deccan_sultanates">https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Deccan_sultanates</a></p>
<p><b>Q.10)</b> By which one of the following Acts was the Governor General of Bengal designated as the Governor General of India?</p> <p>a) The Regulating Act  b) The Pitt's India Act  c) The Charter Act of 1793  d) The Charter Act of 1833</p>	<p><b>SFG L2 TEST 1-Q.22</b></p>	<p><b>“This act made the Governor-General of Bengal as the Governor-General of India.</b> It deprived the Governors of Bombay and Madras of their legislative powers. It attempted to introduce a system of open competition for selection of civil servants.”</p> <p>Which one of the following acts is being described in the above given paragraph?</p> <p><b>a) Charter Act of 1833</b>  b) Indian Councils Act of 1861</p>

<p>Ans) d</p>		<p>c) Government of India Act of 1858 d) Government of India Act of 1919</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b> <b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b> The <b>Charter Act of 1833</b> was a significant milestone in the history of British India as it established the framework for the modern administrative structure of India and initiated the process of constitutional reforms. It also paved the way for the eventual transfer of power from the East India Company to the British Crown. <b>Features of the Charter Act of 1833:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>It made the Governor-General of Bengal as the Governor-General of India and vested in him all civil and military powers.</b> Thus, the act created, for the first time, a <b>Government of India having authority over the entire territorial area possessed by the British in India.</b> Lord William Bentick was the first governor-general of India.</li> <li>2. It <b>deprived the governor of Bombay and Madras of their legislative powers.</b> 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.</li> <li>3. It <b>ended the activities of the East India Company as a commercial body</b>, which became a purely administrative body. It provided that the company's territories in India were held by it 'in trust for His Majesty, His heirs and successors'.</li> <li>4. The <b>Charter Act of 1833 attempted to introduce a system of open competition</b> for selection of civil servants, and stated that the Indians should not be debarred from holding any place, office and employment under the Company. However, this provision was negated after opposition from the Court of Directors</li> </ol>								
	<p><b>JATF TEST 6- Q.68</b></p>	<p>Consider the following pairs:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="730 1317 1305 1809"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>Constitutional Acts in British India</i></th> <th><i>Features</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. The Charter Act of 1833</td> <td>Separation of the Executive and Legislative functions of the Government</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. The Charter Act of 1813</td> <td>Authorisation to the Local Governments in India to impose taxes on persons.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. The Charter Act of 1853</td> <td>First time introduced local representation in the Indian Legislative Council.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Which of the pair given above is/are correctly matched?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) 2 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 1 and 3 only</li> </ol>	<i>Constitutional Acts in British India</i>	<i>Features</i>	1. The Charter Act of 1833	Separation of the Executive and Legislative functions of the Government	2. The Charter Act of 1813	Authorisation to the Local Governments in India to impose taxes on persons.	3. The Charter Act of 1853	First time introduced local representation in the Indian Legislative Council.
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		<p><b>Ans) c</b>  <b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b>  <b>Pair 1 is incorrectly matched.</b>  The <b>Charter Act of 1853</b> (and not the <b>Charter Act of 1833</b>) separated, for the first time, the <b>legislative and executive functions</b> of the Governor-General's council.  The <b>Charter Act of 1833 was the final step towards centralisation</b> in British India. <b>It made the Governor-General of Bengal as the Governor-General of India and vested in him all civil and military powers.</b> It deprived the Governor of Bombay and Madras of their legislative powers. It ended the activities of the East India Company as a commercial body, which became a purely administrative body.  <b>Pair 2 is correctly matched.</b>  The <b>Charter Act of 1813 stated:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It abolished the trade monopoly of the company in India i.e., the Indian trade was thrown open to all British merchants. However, it continued the monopoly of the company over trade in tea and trade with China.</li> <li>• It asserted the sovereignty of the British Crown over the Company's territories in India.</li> <li>• It allowed the Christian missionaries to come to India for the purpose of enlightening the people.</li> <li>• <b>It authorised the Local Governments</b> in India to <b>impose taxes</b> on persons. They could also punish the persons for not paying taxes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pair 3 is correctly matched.</b>  The Charter Act of 1853 stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It introduced an open competition system of selection and recruitment of civil servants. The covenanted civil service was, thus, thrown open to the Indians also. Accordingly, the Macaulay Committee (the Committee on the Indian Civil Service) was appointed in 1854.</li> <li>• It extended the Company's rule and allowed it to retain the possession of Indian territories on trust for the British Crown</li> <li>• <b>It introduced, for the first time, local representation in the Indian (Central) Legislative Council.</b></li> </ul> <p>Source: Spectrum Chapter 26 Constitutional, Administrative and Judicial Developments</p>
<p><b>Q.11)</b> In essence, what does 'Due Process of Law' mean?  a) The principle of natural justice  b) The procedure established by law  c) Fair application of law  d) Equality before law</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p>	<p><b>SFG L2</b>  <b>TEST</b>  <b>2- Q.1</b></p>	<p>Consider the following statements regarding the 'procedure established by law' and the 'due process of law':</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The term 'procedure established by law' has been explicitly mentioned in the Indian Constitution.</li> <li>2. The term 'due process of law' refers to the laws made by the judiciary instead of legislature.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) Both 1 and 2</li> <li>d) Neither 1 nor 2</li> </ol>

		<p>Ans) a</p> <p>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</p> <p><b>Procedure established by law-</b> Under this, <b>judiciary will only assess whether or not proper procedure has been followed in enacting and implementing the laws.</b> It upholds the law only if confirms to the procedure established. It does not go into the legislative wisdom or rationale behind the formation of a specific law even if the law goes against the principles of the natural justice.</p> <p><b>Due process of law-</b> <b>Under this, judiciary will not only check the procedural validity, but also assess whether or not a law is fair, just and reasonable.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct:</b> The term ‘procedure established by law’ <b>has been explicitly mentioned</b> in the India Constitution. <b>Article 21</b> states that no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to the procedure established by law.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect:</b> The term ‘due process of law’ <b>does not imply that laws are made/ are to be made by the judiciary.</b> In other words, the judiciary does not overtake the legislative function of the Parliament. It simply <b>tests the laws on the grounds of reasonableness and fairness.</b> It aims to protect the individuals <b>against the arbitrary actions of both the executive and the legislature.</b></p> <p>Source: <a href="https://blog.forumias.com/difference-between-procedure-established-by-law-and-due-process-of-law/">https://blog.forumias.com/difference-between-procedure-established-by-law-and-due-process-of-law/</a></p>										
	<p><b>PTS B1</b> <b>L2</b> <b>TEST</b> <b>1- Q.96</b></p>	<p>Consider the following pairs:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="730 1070 1279 1787"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>Judicial doctrine</i></th> <th><i>Meaning in Indian context</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Doctrine of Pith and Substance</td> <td>It helps in examining the true nature of a legislation and deciding which list it belongs to.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Doctrine of Procedure Established by Law</td> <td>Checks if there is a law to deprive the life and personal liberty of a person and also see if the law made is fair, just and not arbitrary.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Doctrine of Severability</td> <td>In case of inconsistency to the Constitution, only the disputed provision of the statute will be void and not the whole of it</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Doctrine of Eclipse</td> <td>Any law that violates fundamental rights is not null or void ab initio, but is only non-enforceable.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Which of the pairs given above is/are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 only b) 1 and 2 only c) 3 and 4 only d) 1, 3 and 4 only</p>	<i>Judicial doctrine</i>	<i>Meaning in Indian context</i>	1. Doctrine of Pith and Substance	It helps in examining the true nature of a legislation and deciding which list it belongs to.	2. Doctrine of Procedure Established by Law	Checks if there is a law to deprive the life and personal liberty of a person and also see if the law made is fair, just and not arbitrary.	3. Doctrine of Severability	In case of inconsistency to the Constitution, only the disputed provision of the statute will be void and not the whole of it	4. Doctrine of Eclipse	Any law that violates fundamental rights is not null or void ab initio, but is only non-enforceable.
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3. Doctrine of Severability	In case of inconsistency to the Constitution, only the disputed provision of the statute will be void and not the whole of it											
4. Doctrine of Eclipse	Any law that violates fundamental rights is not null or void ab initio, but is only non-enforceable.											

		<p><b>Ans) d</b>  <b>Exp) option d is correct</b>  <b>Pair 1 is correctly matched:</b> The Doctrine of Pith and Substance helps in examining the true nature of a legislation and deciding which list it belongs to, central or state. The doctrine is employed in such cases to resolve the inconsistency between laws made by the Centre and the State Legislature. The doctrine was first acknowledged in the Canadian Constitution and In India, it came to be adopted in the pre-independence period, under the Government of India Act, 1935.  <b>Pair 2 is incorrectly matched:</b> <b>The Doctrine of Due process of law, not only checks if there is a law to deprive the life and personal liberty of a person but also see if the law made is fair, just and not arbitrary.</b>  <b>Pair 3 is correctly matched:</b> According to the doctrine of severability, the whole law/act would not be held invalid, but only the provisions which are not in consistency with the Fundamental rights. This doctrine is also known as the doctrine of separability and protects the Fundamental Rights of the citizens. In A.K. Gopalan v. State of Madras (1950), the SC used this doctrine.  <b>Pair 4 is correctly matched:</b> The doctrine of eclipse states that any law that violates fundamental rights is not null or void ab initio, but is only non-enforceable, i.e., it is not dead but inactive. It was first introduced in India in Bhikaji Narain Dhakras v. State of Madhya Pradesh (1955). The Supreme Court held that the impugned law became, for the time being, eclipsed by the fundamental right.  Knowledge Base: Some other important judicial doctrines are:  1. Doctrine of Incidental or Ancillary Powers - It has developed as an addition to the Doctrine of Pith and Substance. it means that the power to legislate on a subject also includes the power to legislate on ancillary matters that are reasonably connected to that subject.  2. Doctrine of Territorial Nexus - Article 245 states that a state legislature can make laws on the territory of the state and not on extraterritorial laws provided there is nexus or connection between the state and the object of the legislation.  3. Doctrine of Colourable Legislation - This is applied when the legislature enacting the law has transgressed its power as is mentioned in the Constitution. By applying this principle the fate of the Impugned Legislation is decided.  Source) Indian Constitution at work NCERT</p>
<p><b>Q.12)</b> Consider the following statements:  <b>Statement-1:</b> In India, prisons are managed by State Governments with their own rules and regulations for the day-to-day administration of prisons  <b>Statement-II:</b> In India, prisons are governed by the Prisons Act, 1894 which expressly kept the subject of prisons in the control of Provincial Governments.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p>	<p><b>SFG L2</b>  <b>TEST</b>  <b>2- Q.40</b></p>	<p><b>Q.40)</b> With reference to India, consider the following statements:  1. When a prisoner makes out a sufficient case, parole cannot be denied to such prisoner because it becomes a matter of his/her right.  2. State Governments have their own ‘Prisoner Release on Parole Rules’.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct?  a) 1 only  b) 2 only  c) Both 1 and 2  d) Neither 1 nor 2    <b>Ans) b</b>  <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b></p>



<p>a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I</p> <p>b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I</p> <p>c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p>		<p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect.</b> Parole is a system of releasing a prisoner with suspension of the sentence. <b>Parole cannot be claimed as a matter of right.</b> Parole may be denied to a prisoner even when he makes out sufficient cause for release on parole.</p> <p>Parole is to be granted only on a sufficient cause such as cases of severe illness or death of any member of the prisoner's family. The granting authority for parole is the deputy home secretary of the state government.</p> <p>On the other hand, <b>Furlough is seen as a matter of right for a prisoner</b>, to be granted periodically irrespective of any reason. It is granted merely to enable the prisoner to retain family and social ties, and to counter the ill-effects of prolonged time spent in prison.</p> <p>Both Parole and Furlough can be denied if the competent authority is of the opinion that releasing the inmate would not be in the interest of society.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct.</b> <b>State governments have their own Prisoner Release on Parole Rules.</b> 'Prisons' is a State subject under the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.</p> <p><b>The management and administration of prisons fall exclusively in the domain of state governments and are governed by the Prisons Act, 1894, and the Prison Manuals of the respective state governments.</b></p> <p>The Prisons Act further says that only states can make rules regarding the release of prisoners on furlough, parole and remission, as part of the correctional process in jail reforms.</p>
<p><b>Q.13)</b> Which one of the following statements best reflects the Chief purpose of the 'Constitution' of a country?</p> <p>a) It determines the objective for the making of necessary laws.</p> <p>b) It enables the creation of political offices and a government.</p> <p>c) It defines and limits the powers of government.</p> <p>d) It secures social justice, social equality and social security.</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p>	<p><b>SFG L1</b></p> <p><b>TEST</b></p> <p><b>2-Q.41</b></p>	<p>A constitutional government by definition is a:</p> <p>a) government by legislature</p> <p>b) popular government</p> <p>c) multi-party government</p> <p>d) limited government</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>A constitutional government by definition is a limited government.</b> A constitutional government is the one that is defined by the constitution of the country. Constitution of a country is supreme law of the land; it is empowered with the sovereign authority of the people (we the people) by the framers and the consent of the legislatures of the states. It is the source of all government powers, and also <b>provides important limitations on the government</b> that protect the fundamental rights of citizens.</p> <p>Source) UPSC 2020,  <a href="https://www.britannica.com/topic/political-system/Constitutional-government">https://www.britannica.com/topic/political-system/Constitutional-government</a></p>

<p><b>Q.14)</b> In India, which one of the following Constitutional Amendments was widely believed to be enacted to overcome the judicial interpretations of the Fundamental Rights?</p> <p>a) 1st Amendment b) 42nd Amendment c) 44th Amendment d) 86th Amendment</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p>	<p><b>SFG L1 TEST 1-Q.21</b></p>	<p>The Ninth Schedule was introduced in the Constitution of India during the prime ministership of:</p> <p>a) Jawaharlal Nehru b) Lal Bahadur Shastri c) Indira Gandhi d) Morarji Desai</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b> <b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b> <b>First Constitutional (Amendment) Act of 1951</b>, introduced the Ninth Schedule in the Constitution of India during the prime-ministership of <b>Jawaharlal Nehru</b>. This amendment made laws placed in Ninth Schedule immune to judicial review, even if they violate any Fundamental Rights.</p> <p>The Ninth Schedule was brought in the Indian Constitution on <b>18 June 1951</b> to abolish Zamindari system. The Ninth Schedule contains a list of laws that cannot be challenged in courts. Out of 284 such laws which are shielded from judicial review, 90 per cent of laws are about agriculture and landholding.</p> <p>Source) <a href="https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/cancel-ninth-schedule-in-the-indian-constitution-shetkari-sanghatana/article34841659.ece#:~:text=%E2%80%9CThe%20Ninth%20Schedule%20was%20brought,are%20about%20agriculture%20and%20landholding.">https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/cancel-ninth-schedule-in-the-indian-constitution-shetkari-sanghatana/article34841659.ece#:~:text=%E2%80%9CThe%20Ninth%20Schedule%20was%20brought,are%20about%20agriculture%20and%20landholding.</a></p>
	<p><b>SFG L2 TEST 2- Q.36</b></p>	<p>Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Article 31A provides for the compensation in case of acquisition of property by the State.</li> <li>2. Article 31B does not provide protection from Judicial review while Article 31A provides the same.</li> <li>3. Article 31C seeks to facilitate the implementation of Article 39(b) and Article 39(c).</li> </ol> <p>Which of the above given statements is/are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 only b) 1 and 2 only c) 2 and 3 only d) 1 and 3 only</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b> <b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer</b></p> <p>After the deletion of the Right to property from article 31, later on Article 31 A, B and C were added to the Indian Constitution. <b>The First Amendment Act, 1951 inserted Articles 31A and 31B to the Constitution. Article 31C was inserted in the Constitution by 25th Amendment Act, 1971.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct: Article 31A saves five categories of laws from being challenged and invalidated on the ground of contravention of the fundamental rights conferred by Article 14 and Article 19.</b> It includes Acquisition of estates and related rights by the State, Taking over the management of properties by the State, Amalgamation of corporations, Extinguishment or modification of rights of directors or shareholders of corporations and Extinguishment or modification of mining leases. <b>It also provides the guaranteed</b></p>

		<p><b>right to compensation in case of acquisition or requisition of the private property by the state.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect:</b> Article 31B protects the acts and regulations included in the Ninth Schedule from being challenged and invalidated on the ground of contravention of any of the fundamental rights. <b>The scope of Article 31B is wider than Article 31A as it immunizes any law included in the Ninth Schedule from the Fundamental Rights (unlike article 31A that protects only five categories).</b> However, the Supreme Court in its judgement in the I.R. Coelho case (2007) ruled that even laws under the Ninth Schedule would be open to scrutiny if they violated Fundamental Rights or the basic structure of the Constitution.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct: Article 31C says that no law that seeks to implement socialistic directive principles specified in Articles 39 (b) and (c), shall be declared void on the grounds of contravention of the fundamental rights conferred by Article 14 or Article 19.</b></p> <p>Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth – 6<sup>th</sup> Edition , Chapter-Fundamental Rights</p>
<p><b>Q.15)</b> Consider the following organizations/bodies in India:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The National Commission for Backward Classes</li> <li>2. The National Human Commission Rights</li> <li>3. The National Law Commission</li> <li>4. The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above are constitutional bodies?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) Only three</li> <li>d) All four</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p>	<p><b>PTS B1 L3 TEST 1- Q.38</b></p>	<p>Consider the following statements with reference to the National Commissions of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Backward Classes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The 65th Constitutional Amendment provides for the establishment of the National Commission for SCs and STs.</li> <li>2. <b>National Commission for Backward Classes was given constitutional status in 2019.</b></li> <li>3. National Commission of SCs can advise on the planning process of socio-economic development of the Scheduled Castes.</li> <li>4. National Commission for Backward Classes presents its annual report to the President.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 2, 3 and 4 only</li> <li>c) 1, 3 and 4 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2, 3 and 4</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer</b></p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct:</b> Originally, Article 338 of the Constitution provided for the appointment of a Special Officer for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) to investigate all matters relating to the constitutional safeguards for the SCs and STs. <b>The 65th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1990 provided for the establishment of a high-level multi-member National Commission for SCs and STs</b> in the place of a single Special Officer for SCs and STs.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect:</b> In the Mandal case judgement (1992), the Supreme Court directed the central government to constitute a permanent statutory body to examine the complaints of under-inclusion, over- inclusion or non-inclusion of any class of citizens in the list of backward classes. Accordingly, <b>the National Commission</b></p>

		<p>for Backward Classes (NCBC) was set up in 1993. However, <b>it was granted constitutional status by the 102nd Amendment Act of 2018 (not in 2019).</b></p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> Among the key function of the NCSCs is to <b>inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the Scheduled Castes.</b> Furthermore, it can participate and advise on the planning process of socio-economic development of the Scheduled Castes and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union and any State.</p> <p><b>Statement 4 is correct:</b> The <b>National Commission of Backward Classes presents an annual report to the President.</b> It can also submit a report as and when it thinks necessary. The President places all such reports before the Parliament, along with a memorandum explaining the action taken on the recommendations made by the Commission.</p> <p>Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, Chapter-47-49</p>
	<p><b>PTS B1 L3 TEST 1- Q.16</b></p>	<p>Consider the following statements with reference to the National Commission of Human Rights in India:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NHRC investigates grievances regarding the violation of human rights either Suo moto or after receiving a petition.</li> <li>It can visit any jail or any other institution under the control of the State Government to see the living conditions of the inmates and to make recommendations thereon.</li> <li>NHRC undertakes and promotes research in the field of human rights.</li> <li>It is in conformity with the Paris Principles, adopted at the first international workshop on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 and 3 only</li> <li>1 and 2 only</li> <li>1, 3 and 4 only</li> <li>1, 2, 3 and 4</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer</b></p> <p><b>The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India is a statutory public body constituted on 12 October 1993</b> under the Protection of Human Rights Ordinance of 28 September 1993.</p> <p><b>Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct:</b> Among the key functions and powers of the NHRC is that the NHRC <b>investigates grievances regarding the violation of human rights either suo moto or after receiving a petition.</b> It has the power to interfere in any judicial proceedings involving any allegation of violation of human rights. It <b>can visit any jail or any other institution under the control of the State Government to see the living conditions of the inmates</b> and to make recommendations thereon. It can review the safeguards provided under the constitution or any law for the protection of the</p>

		<p>human rights and can recommend appropriate remedial measures. <b>NHRC undertakes and promotes research in the field of human rights.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 4 is correct: NHRC is in conformity with the Paris Principles</b>, adopted at the first international workshop on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights held in October 1991, and endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations by its Regulations 48/134 of 20 December, 1993.</p> <p>Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, Chapter- 55</p>
	<p><b>PTS B1</b> <b>L2</b> <b>TEST</b> <b>1- Q.97</b></p>	<p>Consider the following statements regarding Law Commission of India:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>It is a non-statutory body constituted by government from time to time.</b></li> <li>2. The commission can suo-motu undertake review of existing laws in India.</li> <li>3. It works as an advisory body to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) 2 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 1 and 3 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct. Law Commission of India is a non-statutory body.</b> The government of India constitutes it, from time to time. Recently, the Supreme Court has issued notice to the Centre on a PIL. It is to declare the Law Commission of India as a “statutory body”. And also, to appoint a chairperson and members for the body within a month.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct.</b> The Law Commission, on a reference made to it by the Central Government or <b>suo-motu</b>, undertakes research in law and review of existing laws in India for making reforms therein and enacting new legislations.</p> <p>The recommendations of the commission are <b>not binding on the government</b>. They are advisory only. The government or concerned department may accept or reject these recommendations.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect.</b> The commission is established for a fixed tenure. It works as an <b>advisory body to the Ministry of Law and Justice (not Ministry of Parliamentary affairs)</b>.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://blog.forumias.com/law-commission-of-india-as-a-statutory-body/">https://blog.forumias.com/law-commission-of-india-as-a-statutory-body/</a></p>

**Q.16)** Consider the following statements:

1. If the election of the President of India is declared void by the Supreme Court of India, all acts done by him/her in the performance of duties of his/her office of President before the date of decision become invalid.
2. Election for the post of the President of India can be postponed on the ground that some Legislative Assemblies have been dissolved and elections are yet to take place.
3. When a Bill is presented to the President of India, the Constitution prescribes time limits within which he/she has to declare his/her assent.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Ans) d**

**SFG L1  
TEST  
6-Q.49**

Consider the following pairs:

<i>Type of Veto</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
1. Absolute Veto	President withholds his assent to a bill
2. Suspensive Veto	Only a higher majority of Parliament can override this Veto power
3. Qualified Veto	Power to reject the bill altogether
4. Pocket Veto	The President does not act upon the bill

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

When a bill is introduced in the Parliament, Parliament can pass the bill and before the bill becomes an act, it must be presented to the Indian President for his approval. It is on President of India to either reject the bill, return the bill, or withhold his assent to the bill. The choice of the President over the bill is called his veto power. Veto Power of the President of India is guided by Article 111 of the Indian Constitution.

**Pair 1 is correct. Absolute Veto** is the power of the President to **withhold the assent to the bill**. When the President exercises his absolute veto, a bill never sees the day of the light. The bill ends even after passed by the Indian Parliament and does not become an act. President uses his absolute veto-When the bill passed by the Parliament is a Private Member Bill and when the cabinet resigns before President could give his assent to the bill. In India, the President has exercised his absolute veto before.

**Pair 2 is incorrect. A Suspensive Veto** is the power of the President to **return the bill to the Parliament with or without consideration**. His suspensive veto can be overridden by the re-passage of the bill by the Indian Parliament. If the Parliament resends the bill with or without amendment to the Indian President, he must approve the bill without using any of his veto powers. **With respect to state bills, the state legislature has no power to override the suspensive veto of the President.** Governor can withhold the bill for the President's consideration and even if state legislature resends the bill to the Governor and the Governor sends it to the President, he still can withhold his assent. Whereas a **Qualified Veto is one that can be overridden** by Parliament with a high majority if the President withholds their assent on the bill.

**Pair 3 is incorrect.** The **Qualified Veto** is the power of president to withhold the assent but it can be overridden by the legislature with a

		<p><b>higher majority. This type of veto is not used by the President of India.</b></p> <p><b>Pair 4 is correct. Pocket Veto is the power of the President to not act upon the bill is termed as a pocket veto. Constitution does not give any time-limit to President within which he has to act upon the bill.</b> Therefore, the President uses his pocket veto where he doesn't have to act upon the bill.</p> <p>Source: LAXMIKANT(CH-PRESIDENT)</p>
	<p><b>SFG L2 TEST 7-Q.16</b></p>	<p>Which of the following statement is correct regarding the election of the President of India?</p> <p>a) All doubts and disputes related to the election of the President are decided by a special body constituted by the Central Government.</p> <p>b) The Value of vote of every MLA is same irrespective of the state, so as to maintain uniformity among states.</p> <p>c) When a state legislative assembly stands dissolved, Rajya Sabha members from that state can vote as proxy for the respective state.</p> <p>d) The total value of votes of all elected MLAs of all the states and Union Territories taken together is equal to total value of votes of all elected Members of Parliament.</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Option a is incorrect:</b> All doubts and disputes in connection with election of the President are <b>inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court whose decision is final.</b> The election of a person as President cannot be challenged on the ground that the electoral college was incomplete (ie, existence of any vacancy among the members of electoral college).</p> <p><b>Option b is incorrect:</b> Value of vote of each MLA differs from state to state. It maintains uniformity of state representation. Every elected member of the legislative assembly of the state shall have as many votes as there are multiples of one thousand in the quotient obtained by dividing the population of the state by the total number of the elected members of the assembly.</p> <p><b>Option c is incorrect:</b> Where an assembly is dissolved, the members cease to be qualified to vote in the presidential election, even if fresh elections to the dissolved assembly are not held before the presidential election. <b>There is no such provision of proxy voting for any member of electoral college in the election of the President of India.</b></p>

		<p><b>Option d is correct:</b> There has been maintained a parity between the states as a whole and union on the other side. Every elected member of either House of Parliament shall have such number of votes as may be obtained by dividing the total number of votes assigned to members of the legislative assemblies of the states by the total number of the elected members of both the houses of Parliament. This also means that total value of votes of all elected MLAs (including elected members of assembly of UTs) is equal to total value of votes of elected MPs.</p> <p>Knowledge Base: The electoral college consists of elected members of both the houses of parliament, elected members of legislative assemblies of the states and elected members of legislative assembly of the union territories of Delhi and Puducherry.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/droupadi-murmu-elected-15th-president-of-india/article65667766.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/droupadi-murmu-elected-15th-president-of-india/article65667766.ece</a></p>
<p><b>Q.17)</b> With reference to Finance Bill and Money Bill in the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. When the Lok Sabha transmits Finance Bill to the Rajya Sabha, it can amend or reject the Bill.</li> <li>2. When the Lok Sabha transmits Money Bill to the Rajya Sabha, it cannot amend or reject the Bill, it can only make recommendations</li> <li>3. In the case of disagreement between the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, there is no joint sitting becomes necessary for Finance bill.</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above, statements are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) All three</li> <li>d) None</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p>	<p><b>SFG L1 TEST 5- Q.42</b></p>	<p>Consider the following statements with reference to the finance bill and appropriation bill:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>A Finance Bill is a type of Money Bill.</b></li> <li>2. The government of India cannot withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund of India till the enactment of the appropriation bill.</li> <li>3. Unlike the Appropriation Bill, the amendments seeking to reject or reduce a tax can be moved in the case of finance bill.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) 1 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2 and 3</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct: A Finance Bill is a Money Bill as defined in Article 110 of the Constitution. It is accompanied by a Memorandum explaining the provisions included in it.</b> The Finance Bill is introduced to give effect to the financial proposals of the Government of India for the following year. At the time of presentation of the Annual Financial Statement before Parliament, a Finance Bill is also presented in fulfillment of the requirement of Article 110 (1)(a) of the Constitution, detailing the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of taxes proposed in the Budget.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct: Appropriation act authorizes the payments from the Consolidated Fund of India. This means that the government cannot withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund of India till the enactment of the appropriation bill.</b> Under Article 114(3) of the Constitution, no amount can be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund without the enactment of appropriation bill by Parliament. The Appropriation Bill becomes the Appropriation Act after President gives its assent to the bill.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> The Finance Bill is introduced to give effect to the financial proposals of the Government of India for the following year. <b>It is subjected to all the conditions applicable to a Money Bill. Unlike the Appropriation Bill, the amendments</b></p>



		<p><b>seeking to reject or reduce a tax can be moved in the case of finance bill.</b> According to the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act of 1931, the Finance Bill must be enacted within 75 days.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Indian polity by M Laxmikanth pdf 6<sup>th</sup> edition. Chapter name-Parliament. Page no-543.</p> <p><a href="https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/budget2011-2012/ub2011-12/keybud/keybud2011.pdf">https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/budget2011-2012/ub2011-12/keybud/keybud2011.pdf</a></p>
	<p><b>SFG L1 TEST 5-Q.12</b></p>	<p>With reference to ‘Money bills’, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. They can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member.</li> <li>2. They requires the certification of the speaker whenever transmitted to the Rajya Sabha.</li> <li>3. Defeat of Money bills introduced in Lok Sabha leads to the resignation of the government.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 only</li> <li>b) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>c) 3 only</li> <li>d) 2 and 3 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Article 110</b> of the Constitution deals with the definition of <b>Money bills</b>. Money bills are concerned with financial matters like taxation, public expenditure. Whereas, the bills mentioned in <b>Articles 117 (1) and Article 117 (3) are financial bills.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect:</b> Ordinary bills can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member. Whereas, <b>Money bill</b> can be introduced <b>only by a minister</b>. It cannot be introduced by any private member.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct: Money bills</b> always requires the certification of the speaker whenever transmitted to the Rajya Sabha. Whereas, <b>ordinary bills do not require the certification</b> of the speaker when transmitted to the Rajya Sabha (if it has originated in the Lok Sabha).</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> Money bill’s defeat in the Lok Sabha <b>leads to the resignation of the government.</b> Defeat of non-Money bills introduced by a minister in Lok Sabha may lead to the resignation of the government. But if ordinary or non-money bill is introduced by any private member of the parliament then defeat will not lead to the resignation of the government.</p> <p>Source: M Laxmikanth (Chapter- 22, Parliament)</p>

	<p><b>SFG L1 TEST 5- Q.16</b></p>	<p>A Joint Session of Parliament can be called for which of the following types of bills?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Money bill</li> <li>2. Ordinary bill</li> <li>3. Financial bills (I)</li> <li>4. Constitutional Amendment bills under Article 368</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1, 2 and 3 only</li> <li>b) 2, 3 and 4 only</li> <li>c) 2 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 2 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Joint sitting</b> is an <b>extraordinary machinery</b> provided by the Constitution aimed to maintain a much-needed <b>synergy between the two houses</b> of the Parliament. <b>Article 118</b> provides that President of India may after consultation with the chair of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker of Lok Sabha may make rules for <b>procedure of joint session</b> of parliament.</p> <p><b>Statements 2 and 3 are correct:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ordinary Bill and Financial bills (I)</b> are sent for the President's assent only after being approved by both the Houses. In case of a deadlock due to disagreement between the two Houses, a joint sitting of both the houses can be summoned by the president to resolve the deadlock.</li> </ul> <p><b>Statements 1 and 4 are incorrect:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Money bill</b> is sent for the President's assent even if it is approved by only Lok Sabha. There is no chance of any disagreement between the two Houses as the Rajya Sabha has limited rights over money bills. Hence, <b>there is no provision of joint sitting of both the Houses in this regard.</b></li> <li>• <b>Constitution Amendment Bill:</b> As per Article 368, the Indian Constitution can be amended by both houses of parliament by 2/3rd majority. In case of disagreement between both houses, there is no provision to summon joint session of parliament.</li> </ul> <p><b>Knowledge Base:</b></p> <p>When can Joint Sitting be called?</p> <p>A Joint Sitting can be called under any one of the following three situations after a bill has been passed by one House and transmitted to the other House:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. if the bill is rejected by the other House;</li> <li>2. if the Houses have finally disagreed as to the amendments to be made in the bill; or</li> <li>3. if more than six months have elapsed from the date of the receipt of the bill by the other House without the bill being passed by it.</li> </ol> <p>In the above three situations, the president can summon both the Houses to meet in a joint sitting for the purpose of deliberating and voting on the bill.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> M laxmikant (Chapter 22, Parliament)</p>
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		<p>[Answered] joint session of the two houses of the Parliament. - ForumIAS Blog</p>
	<p><b>SFG L1 TEST 5- Q.29</b></p>	<p>With reference to the position of Legislative Council of a State and the Rajya Sabha under the Indian Constitution, consider the following Statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Like the Rajya Sabha, the Legislative Councils cannot reject or amend a Money Bill.</li> <li>2. Unlike the Rajya Sabha, the Legislative Council does not participate in the election of the President of India.</li> <li>3. The Legislative Council does not have any exclusive or special powers as enjoyed by the Rajya Sabha.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the Statements given above are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 2 and 3 only</li> <li>c) 1 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2 and 3</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>Even though both the council and the Rajya Sabha are second chambers, the Constitution has given the council much lesser importance than the Rajya Sabha.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct:</b> A Money Bill can be introduced only in the assembly and not in the legislative council. The Legislative councils, like the <b>Rajya Sabha, cannot amend or reject a money bill.</b> It should return the bill to the assembly within 14 days, either with recommendations or without recommendations.</p> <p>Similarly, a Money Bill can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha and not in the Rajya Sabha. <b>Rajya Sabha cannot amend or reject a Money Bill.</b> It should return the bill to the Lok Sabha within 14 days, either with recommendations or without recommendations</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct: The Council does not participate in the election of the President of India</b> and representatives of the state in the Rajya Sabha. The council has no effective say in the ratification of a constitutional amendment bill. In this respect also, the will of the assembly prevails over that of the council.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct: The Rajya Sabha has been given four exclusive or special powers that are not enjoyed by the Legislative Council of a State:</b> 1. It can authorise the Parliament to make a law on a subject enumerated in the State List (Article 249). 2. It can authorise the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to both the Centre and states (Article 312). 3. It alone can initiate a move for the removal of the vice president. 4. A proclamation can remain</p>

		<p>effective even if it is approved by the Rajya Sabha alone (Articles 352, 356 and 360).  <b>Source:</b> 546, 725-728, M. Laxmikant 6th Edition.pdf</p>
<p><b>Q.18)</b> Consider the following statements:  Once the Central Government notifies an area as a 'Community Reserve"  1. the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State becomes the governing authority of such forest  2. hunting is not allowed in such area  3. People of such area are allowed to collect non-timber forest produce.  4. People of such area are allowed traditional agricultural practices.  How many of the above statements are correct?  a) Only one  b) Only two  c) Only three  d) All four    <b>Ans) c</b></p>	<p><b>SFG L2</b>  <b>TEST</b>  <b>48-</b>  <b>Q.40</b></p>	<p>Consider the following statements regarding Community Reserves.  1. Once a forest land has been declared a Community Reserve, its governance comes under the local village councils.  2. After a forest has been made into a Community Reserve, people can hunt and practice Jhum cultivation without hindrance.  3. Community Reserves are protected under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.  Which of the above given statements is / are <i>incorrect</i>?  a) 1 and 2 only  b) 2 and 3 only  c) 3 only  d) 1, 2 and 3    <b>Ans) d</b>  <b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b>  <b>All the statements are incorrect</b>  A community reserve is usually formed by the local village council and the forest department signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU).  <b>Option 1 is Incorrect.</b> Once a forest land has been declared a community reserve, its governance comes under the forest department instead of being governed by the local village councils.  <b>Option 2 is also Incorrect.</b> After a forest has been made into a community reserve, people cannot hunt there, nor can they use it for agricultural practices, let alone jhum cultivation.  <b>Option 3 is also Incorrect.</b> Community reserves fall under the protected areas, along with marine protected areas, national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and conservation reserves, according to the Wildlife (Protection) Act (WLPA), 1972.  Source:  <a href="https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&amp;source=web&amp;rct=j&amp;url=https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/forests/amp/community-reserves-are-they-forest-department-s-backdoor-entry-into-north-east-india-85242&amp;ved=2ahUKEwju8Jie_bL-AhUk8zgGHa_4C8AQFnoECDsQAQ&amp;usg=AOvVaw2-tZNdRP-UpLq_q29rG8wL">https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&amp;source=web&amp;rct=j&amp;url=https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/forests/amp/community-reserves-are-they-forest-department-s-backdoor-entry-into-north-east-india-85242&amp;ved=2ahUKEwju8Jie_bL-AhUk8zgGHa_4C8AQFnoECDsQAQ&amp;usg=AOvVaw2-tZNdRP-UpLq_q29rG8wL</a></p>

<p><b>Q.19)</b> With reference to "Scheduled Areas" in India, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Within a State, the notification of an area as Scheduled Area takes place through an Order of the President.</li> <li>2. The largest administrative unit forming the Scheduled Area is the District and the lowest is the cluster of villages in the Block.</li> <li>3. The Chief Ministers of the Concerned States are required to submit annual reports to the union Home Ministry on the administration of Scheduled Areas in the States.</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above statements are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) All three</li> <li>d) None</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b></p>	<p><b>SFG L1 TEST 9- Q.3</b></p>	<p>With reference to the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>A region is declared as a Scheduled Area by the President</b> but any change in its area can be done only by the Governor of respective State.</li> <li>2. The executive power of a State does not extend to the Scheduled Areas.</li> <li>3. The President can direct to establish a Tribes Advisory Council in states without Scheduled Areas.</li> <li>4. A Governor can make a regulation to repeal any act of the state legislature in Scheduled Areas, with the President's assent.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1,3 and 4 only</li> <li>b) 1, 2 and 3 only</li> <li>c) 2, 3 and 4 only</li> <li>d) 3 and 4 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>The Scheduled Areas defined in the Fifth Schedule are inhabited by 'aboriginals' who are socially and economically rather backward, and special efforts need to be made to improve their condition.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect:</b> The President is empowered to declare an area to be a scheduled area. He can also increase or decrease its area, alter its boundary lines, rescind such designation or make fresh orders for such redesignation on an area in consultation with the Governor of the state concerned.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect:</b> The executive power of a state extends to the Scheduled Areas. But the Governor has a special responsibility regarding such areas. He has to submit a report to the President regarding the administration of such areas, annually or whenever so required by the President. The executive power of the Centre extends to giving directions to the states regarding the administration of such areas.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> Each state having Scheduled Areas has to establish a <b>tribe's advisory council</b> to advise on welfare and advancement of the scheduled tribes. A similar council <b>can also be established in a state having scheduled tribes but not Scheduled Areas therein, if the President so directs.</b> It is to consist of 20 members, three-fourths of whom are to be the representatives of the scheduled tribes in the state legislative assembly.</p> <p><b>Statement 4 is correct:</b> The Governor has several powers in respect to the Scheduled Areas. He may make a <b>regulation to repeal</b> or amend any <b>act</b> of Parliament or the <b>state legislature</b>, which is applicable to a scheduled area. <b>But all such regulations require the assent of the President.</b></p> <p>Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant – 6<sup>th</sup> Edition – Chapter 41 - Scheduled and Tribal Areas.</p>
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		<p>In case of common high courts of two or more states the Governors of all states are consulted by President.</p>
	<p><b>SFG L2 TEST 8- Q.18</b></p>	<p>With reference to Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Only the Governor can declare an area as Schedule Area in a State under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution.</li> <li>2. As per the Constitution, provisions related to the Panchayats as well as Municipalities do not apply to the Fifth Scheduled Areas until Parliament makes a law regarding the same.</li> <li>3. Any amendment to the Fifth Schedule requires a Constitutional amendment under Article 368 of the Constitution.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 2 only</li> <li>b) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>c) 3 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2 and 3</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Article 244 in Part X</b> of the Constitution envisages a special system of administration for certain areas designated as scheduled areas and tribal areas. <b>Fifth Schedule</b> of the Constitution of India deals with provisions relating to the <b>administration and control of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect: The President of India (not Governor of the State) declares an area as scheduled area in a state</b> under the fifth schedule for <b>any states except in four states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram</b> which are covered under the <b>Sixth schedule.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct: Article 243M and Article 243 ZC</b> of the constitution of India <b>exempted Scheduled Areas</b> declared under fifth schedule from the scope of applicability of provisions related to the <b>Panchayats (Part IX) and Municipalities (Part IXA) respectively.</b> However, this Article (243M &amp; 243 ZC) allows Parliament by law to extend Part IX and IXA to scheduled areas with certain exceptions and modifications. Accordingly, the Parliament enacted the <b>Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996</b> to provide for the <b>extension of the provisions of Part IX</b> of the Constitution relating to the Panchayats to the Scheduled Areas.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect: Any change in provisions mentioned in the fifth schedule can be amended by Parliament by simple majority and falls outside scope of Article 368.</b></p> <p>Source: Lamikanath - Scheduled and Tribal Areas</p>

	<p><b>SFG L2 TEST 8- Q.32</b></p>	<p>With reference to District Councils for the administration of Autonomous Districts, under the Sixth schedule of the constitution, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The constitution mandates that a District Councils must be represented by the elected members only.</li> <li>2. They are prohibited by Constitution from being involved in any judicial matters.</li> <li>3. They are empowered to assess and collect land revenue as well as to impose certain taxes.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are <b>incorrect</b>?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) 1 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2 and 3</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>The sixth schedule of the Constitution of India contains provisions related to the Administration of Tribal Areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram. Further the Sixth Schedule provides for the creation of autonomous District Councils by the Governor to work for the advancement of tribal communities in such areas. The sixth schedule of the constitution states that <b>if there are different tribes in an autonomous district</b>, then the governor can <b>divide the district into several autonomous regions. Autonomous regions are carved out of Autonomous districts</b> by the Governor to ensure representation of homogeneous sections of tribal communities.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect:</b> The Constitution (sixth schedule) <b>creates a District council</b> represented both by the elected members as well as nominated members to administer autonomous districts in the State. Each autonomous district has a district council consisting of 30 members, of whom four are nominated by the governor and the remaining 26 are elected on the basis of adult franchise.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect:</b> The Sixth schedule of the <b>constitution empowers district councils</b> (and regional councils) within their territorial jurisdictions to <b>constitute village councils or courts for trial of suits and cases between the tribes</b>. They also hear appeals from them; thus, sixth schedule does not prohibit District councils (and regional councils) to involve in judicial functions.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> It is true that <b>district councils are empowered to assess and collect land revenue</b> as well as to impose certain taxes. The district council can establish, construct or manage matter related to primary schools, dispensaries, markets, ferries, fisheries, roads etc., within their territorial jurisdictions.</p> <p>Source: Laxmikanth - Scheduled and Tribal Areas Sixth Schedule of the Constitution</p>



<p><b>Q.20)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <p><b>Statement – I:</b> The Supreme court of India has held in some judgements that the reservation policies made under Article 16 (4) of the constitution of India would be limited Article 335 for maintenance of efficiency of administration.</p> <p><b>Statement – II:</b> Article 335 of the Constitution of India defines the term ‘efficiency of administration’.</p> <p>Which of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <p>a) Both statement – I and Statement – II are correct explanation for statement – I</p> <p>b) Both statement – I and statement – II are correct and statement II is not the correct explanation for statement I.</p> <p>c) Statement – I is correct but statement – II is incorrect.</p> <p>d) Statement – I is incorrect but statement – II is correct.</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p>	<p><b>PTS B1</b> <b>L3</b> <b>TEST</b> <b>1- Q3</b></p>	<p>This was a landmark judgment in the reservation policy in India. It upholds the threshold limit of 50% excluding the concept of ‘creamy layer’ from the context of reservation policy. It ruled that Article 16 of the constitution only granted reservation for the initial stage of employment and in terms of promotion no reservation can exist, and it must be solely in terms of merit.</p> <p>Which case description is mentioned in the above paragraph?</p> <p>a) Champakam Dorairajan case b) Indra Sawhney case c) Maneka Gandhi case d) M. Nagaraj case</p> <p><b>Ans) b</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Statement a is incorrect.</b> In the state of <b>Madras vs Smt. Champakam Dorairajan (1951) case</b>, the court held that the caste-based reservations violate <b>provisions of Article 15(1)</b>. Article 15(1) provides for non-discrimination of the State against citizens based only on religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth, or any of them. This resulted in the First Constitutional Amendment. The Parliament amended Article 15 to include provisions of reservation under Article 15(4).</p> <p><b>Statement b is correct.</b> The <b>Indra Sawhney (1992) case</b> is the most important ruling for deciding the criteria of reservation for backward classes in India. The case is famous for laying down several landmark propositions such as the <b>50% threshold in the reservation</b>, and the <b>exclusion of ‘creamy layer’</b> from the context of reservation policy. It also ruled that Article 16(4) of the constitution only granted reservation for the initial stage of employment, in terms of promotion no reservation can exist, and it must be solely in terms of merit.</p> <p><b>Statement c is incorrect.</b> The <b>Maneka Gandhi vs. Union of India (1978) case</b>, the Supreme Court upheld that ‘procedure established by law’ within the meaning of Article 21 must be right, just and fair and not arbitrary or oppressive otherwise. Thus, the procedure established by law has acquired the same significance in India as the ‘due process of law’ clause in America.</p> <p><b>Statement d is incorrect.</b> <b>The M. Nagaraj vs Union of India (2006) case</b> upheld the constitutionality of the provision concerning promotions feeling the need to provide the quota. This stands in addition to the court’s decision that Article 16(4) must be read along with <b>Article 335(claims of SC &amp; ST in making of appointments to services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State)</b> of the Constitution, that the state should provide reservations on grounds of inadequate representation if such reservations do not adversely affect the maintenance of efficiency of administration.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/readersblog/unswayed-thoughts/indra-sawhney-and-others-v-s-the-union-of-india-43064/">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/readersblog/unswayed-thoughts/indra-sawhney-and-others-v-s-the-union-of-india-43064/</a> <a href="https://indianlawportal.co.in/indra-sawhney-v-union-of-india/">https://indianlawportal.co.in/indra-sawhney-v-union-of-india/</a> <a href="https://blog.forumias.com/maratha-reservation-and-the-reservation-policy-in-india-explained-">https://blog.forumias.com/maratha-reservation-and-the-reservation-policy-in-india-explained-</a></p>
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	<p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 351 in Part XVII</b> of the Constitution exhorts the State that it <b>shall be the duty of the Union to promote the spread of the Hindi language and to develop it</b> so that it may serve as a medium of expression for all the elements of the composite culture of India.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect: Article 335 in Part XVI mentions that claims of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, in the making of appointments to services and posts</b> in connection with the affairs of the Union or a State. It has <b>nothing to do with admission in educational institutions</b>. It is mentioned in <b>Article 46 that the State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people</b>, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect:</b> Statement 2 and 4 refers to directions which the Centre can give to the state government with regard to the exercise of their executive power.</p> <p>(i) <b>the construction and maintenance of means of communication</b> (declared to be of national or military importance) by the state; <b>(Article 257 in Part XI of the Constitution)</b></p> <p>(ii) the measures to be taken for the protection of the railways within the state;</p> <p>(iii) the provision of adequate facilities for instruction in the mother-tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups in the state; and</p> <p>(iv) the drawing up and execution of the specified schemes for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the state</p> <p><b>Statement 4 is correct. “To raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living of people and to improve public health” is contained in Article 47 in Part IV of Constitution.</b></p> <p>Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, 8<sup>th</sup> Chapter</p>
<p><b>SFG L2 TEST 2- Q.16</b></p>	<p>Which of the following Directives is/are outside the Part IV of the Indian Constitution?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provision of adequate facilities for instruction in the mother-tongue at the primary stage of education.</li> <li>2. Protection and improvement of the environment</li> <li>3. Promotion and development of Hindi language</li> <li>4. Distribution of material resources of the community in an equitable manner.</li> <li>5. Consideration of the claims of the members of the Scheduled Tribes in the making of appointments to public services.</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct answer using the codes given below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 5 only</li> <li>b) 2, 3 and 4 only</li> <li>c) 1, 3 and 5 only</li> <li>d) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) c</b> <b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b></p>

		<p>There are certain directives that are <b>outside of Part IV of the Indian Constitution</b>. They are also important principles that guide the governance of the country. There are some other Directives contained in other Parts of the Constitution. They are:</p> <p><b>Option 1 is correct: Instruction in mother tongue is outside Part IV of the Constitution. It states that-</b> It shall be the endeavour of every state and every local authority within the state to <b>provide adequate facilities for instruction in the mother-tongue at the primary stage of education to children</b> belonging to linguistic minority groups (Article 350-A in Part XVII).</p> <p><b>Option 2 is incorrect:</b> Protection and improvement of the environment and to safeguard forests and wild life in the country is a <b>part of DPSP under Article 48A</b>.</p> <p><b>Option 3 is correct: Development of the Hindi Language is outside Part IV of the Constitution.</b> It shall be the duty of the Union to <b>promote the spread of the Hindi language and to develop it so that it may serve as a medium of expression</b> for all the elements of the composite culture of India (Article 351 in Part XVII).</p> <p><b>Option 4 is incorrect: Similarly,</b> distribution of material resources of the community for the common good in an equitable manner is also a <b>part of DPSP under Article 39</b>.</p> <p><b>Option 5 is correct: Claims of SCs and STs to Services is outside Part IV of the Constitution.</b> The claims of the <b>members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be taken into consideration</b>, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, in the <b>making of appointments to services</b> and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or a State (Article 335 in Part XVI).</p> <p>Source: Laxmikanth</p>										
<p><b>Q.21)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <p><b>Statement-I</b> India, despite having Uranium deposits, depends on coal for most of its electricity production.</p> <p><b>Statement-II:</b> Uranium, enriched to the extent of at least 60%, is required for the production of electricity.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <p>a) Both Statement-I and Statement – II are correct and Statement- II is the correct explanation for Statement- I</p> <p>b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I</p> <p>c) Statement- I is Correct but Statement-II is incorrect</p>	<p><b>PTS</b> <b>2023 All India Test 1</b></p>	<p><b>Q.70)</b> With reference to Minerals found in India, consider the following pairs:</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>Mineral</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>Famous Town/ Location</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Petroleum</td> <td>Naharkatiya</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Uranium</td> <td>Turamdih</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Iron</td> <td>Lohardaga</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Diamond</td> <td>Shimoga</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>How many pairs given above are correctly matched?</p> <p>a) Only one pair b) Only two pairs c) Only three pairs d) All four pairs</p> <p><b>Ans) b</b> <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b> <b>Pair 1 is correct.</b> Naharkatiya mine is a petroleum oil field in Assam. It is India's first oil field that has been declared as Oil Heritage Well. The annual production is 2.5 million tonnes of oil and 1 million cubic meters of natural gas. Oil from this area is sent through pipelines to oil refineries located at Noonmati in Assam (443 km) and Barauni in Bihar (724 km).</p>	<i>Mineral</i>	<i>Famous Town/ Location</i>	1. Petroleum	Naharkatiya	2. Uranium	Turamdih	3. Iron	Lohardaga	4. Diamond	Shimoga
<i>Mineral</i>	<i>Famous Town/ Location</i>											
1. Petroleum	Naharkatiya											
2. Uranium	Turamdih											
3. Iron	Lohardaga											
4. Diamond	Shimoga											

<p>d) Statement-I incorrect but Statement-II is correct.</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p>		<p><b>Pair 2 is correct.</b> Turamdih is a Uranium mine in Jharkhand. It was commissioned in 2003 and became the fourth uranium mine of the Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL). It is an underground mine where the production capacity of the ore can be increased from 550 tonnes to 750 tonnes per day by pulling it on the surface.</p> <p><b>Pair 3 is incorrect.</b> The patlands of Lohardaga in Jharkhand have rich deposits of Bauxite (ore, which is used in manufacturing of aluminium). Some of the important iron ore mines in India are Gurumahisani, Sulaipet, Badampahar (Mayurbhuj), Kiruburu(Kendujhar) and Bonai (Sundergarh). Other minerals which are found in the district are feldspar, fire clay and China clay.</p> <p><b>Pair 4 is incorrect.</b> Shimoga (also called Shivamogga in Kannada) Mines in Karnataka is a Manganese Mines. The other major minerals that are found in Shimoga are white quartz, limestone, and kyanite. The diamond mines in India are found in parts of Andhra Pradesh, Panna belt of Madhya Pradesh, Behradin-Kodawali area in Raipur district and Tokapal, Dugapal, etc. areas in Bastar district of Chhattisgarh; and Eastern Indian tract mostly of Odisha, lying between Mahanadi and Godavari valleys.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://www.livemint.com/http://www.ucil.gov.in/turamdihmine.html">https://www.livemint.com/http://www.ucil.gov.in/turamdihmine.html</a>  <a href="https://lohardaga.nic.in/mines-and-minerals/">https://lohardaga.nic.in/mines-and-minerals/</a>  <a href="https://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/legy207.pdf">https://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/legy207.pdf</a>  <a href="https://niti.gov.in/planningcommission.gov.in/docs/plans/planrel/fiv-yr/1st/1planch27-1.html">https://niti.gov.in/planningcommission.gov.in/docs/plans/planrel/fiv-yr/1st/1planch27-1.html</a>  <a href="https://www.shivamoggaonline.in/city-guide/natural-resources-in-shimoga">https://www.shivamoggaonline.in/city-guide/natural-resources-in-shimoga</a></p>
	<p><b>PTS</b> <b>2023 B1</b> <b>L3</b> <b>TEST 5</b></p>	<p><b>Q.67)</b> With reference to Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR), consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR) use natural uranium (UO<sub>2</sub>) as fuel and produce plutonium as a by-product.</li> <li>2. In a Pressurized Water Reactor, the reactor core heats water, which turns directly into steam in the reactor vessel.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 only  b) 2 only  c) Both 1 and 2  d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b>  <b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>A nuclear reactor is a power plant that can control nuclear fission to produce electricity. The Atomic Energy Act, 1962 was framed and implemented with the set objectives of using two naturally occurring elements Uranium and Thorium as nuclear fuel in Indian Nuclear Power Reactors.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct: Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors form Stage I of India's three-stage nuclear power programme. In the first stage of the programme, scarce natural uranium (UO<sub>2</sub>) fuelled pressurised heavy water reactors (PHWR) produce electricity while generating plutonium-239 as by-product.</b></p>

		<p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect:</b> In a boiling-water reactor, the reactor core heats water, which turns directly into steam in the reactor vessel. The steam is used to power a turbine generator. <b>In a pressurized-water reactor, the reactor core heats water and keeps it under pressure to prevent the water from turning into steam. This hot radioactive water flows through tubes in a steam generator.</b></p> <p>Source: <a href="https://blog.forumias.com/answered-nuclear-energy-although-has-potential-to-solve-indias-energy-problems-but-carry-great-inherent-risks-elaborate/">https://blog.forumias.com/answered-nuclear-energy-although-has-potential-to-solve-indias-energy-problems-but-carry-great-inherent-risks-elaborate/</a>  <a href="https://dae.gov.in/node/sites/default/files/3rdstage.pdf">https://dae.gov.in/node/sites/default/files/3rdstage.pdf</a>  <a href="https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/nuclear/nuclear-power-plants-types-of-reactors.php">https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/nuclear/nuclear-power-plants-types-of-reactors.php</a>  <a href="http://large.stanford.edu/courses/2014/ph241/parekh1/">http://large.stanford.edu/courses/2014/ph241/parekh1/</a></p>
<p><b>Q.22)</b> Consider the following statements:  <b>Statement-I:</b>  Marsupials are not naturally found in India.  <b>Statement-II:</b>  Marsupials can thrive only in montane grasslands with no predators.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I</li> <li>Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I</li> <li>Statement-I is correct Statement-II is incorrect.</li> <li>Statement-I incorrect but Statement-II is correct.</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p>	<p><b>SFG L2 TEST 48</b></p>	<p><b>Q.47)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <p>Statement 1: Koalas are examples of specialist species.</p> <p>Statement 2: They can eat variety of food and thrive in a varied range of habitats.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both the Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct and Statement 2 is the correct explanation for statement 1</li> <li>Both statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct but Statement 2 is not the correct explanation for Statement 1</li> <li>Statement 1 is correct but Statement 2 is not correct</li> <li>Statement 1 is not correct but Statement 2 is correct</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>In the field of ecology, classifying a species as a generalist or a specialist is a way to identify what kinds of food and habitat resources it relies on to survive.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct.</b> Koala (<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>) is an <b>example of specialist species</b>. Specialist species <b>eat a limited diet and occupy a much narrower niche</b>. <b>Native to Australia, koalas are herbivorous marsupials that feed only on the leaves of the eucalyptus tree.</b> Therefore, their range is <b>restricted to habitats that support eucalyptus trees</b>. Within this diet, some koalas specialize even further and eat leaves from only one or two specific trees. This can pose a problem when <b>environmental disruptions</b>, like effects from climate change or habitat loss, occur. Such disturbances <b>have a strong effect on specialists</b> because they cannot adapt to use other food sources or habitats as quickly as generalist species.</p>

		<p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect.</b> Specialist species evolved to fit a very specific niche. <b>Example:</b> Canada lynx (<i>Lynx canadensis</i>) is a carnivorous specialist which preys upon snowshoe hare. It inhabits the forested, mountainous areas favoured by their prey. In contrast, <b>generalist species can feed on a wide variety of things and thrive in various environments.</b> Raccoons (<i>Procyon lotor</i>) are an example of a generalist species. They can live in a wide variety of environments, including forests, mountains, and large cities, which they do throughout North America. Raccoons are omnivores and can feast on everything from fruit and nuts to insects, frogs, eggs, and human trash. Other examples of generalist species include bobcats and coyotes.</p> <p>Source:  <a href="https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/generalist-and-specialist-species/#:~:text=Koala%20are%20a%20specialist%20species,leaves%20of%20the%20eucalyptus%20tree.&amp;text=Generalists%20can%20eat%20a%20variety,example%20of%20a%20generalist%20species">https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/generalist-and-specialist-species/#:~:text=Koala%20are%20a%20specialist%20species,leaves%20of%20the%20eucalyptus%20tree.&amp;text=Generalists%20can%20eat%20a%20variety,example%20of%20a%20generalist%20species</a></p>
<p><b>Q.24)</b> Consider the following fauna:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lion-tailed Macaque</li> <li>2. Malabar Civet</li> <li>3. Sambar Deer</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above are generally nocturnal or most active after sunset?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) All three</li> <li>d) None</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b></p>	<p><b>PTS</b>  <b>2023</b>  <b>PREPA</b>  <b>RATO</b>  <b>RY</b>  <b>TEST</b>  <b>31</b></p>	<p><b>Q.4)</b> Which of the following animals are critically endangered mammals found in India?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Large Rock-rat</li> <li>2. Namdapha Flying Squirrel</li> <li>3. Malabar Civet</li> <li>4. Eastern Hoolock Gibbon</li> <li>5. Nicobar Long tailed Macaque</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1, 2 and 3 only</li> <li>b) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only</li> <li>c) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b>  <b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b>  As per the Red Data Book of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), there are 13 Critically Endangered species of birds in India. Among animals, <b>10 species</b> have been identified in India as Critically Endangered in the class <b>mammals</b>.  List of Critically Endangered Mammals in India:  <b>Option 1 is correct:</b> The Large Rock-rat or Elvira rat (<i>Cremnomys elvira</i>) is a rodent found only in the Yercaud hills of Eastern Ghats area in TamilNadu. It is a nocturnal and fossorial (burrowing) species. It inhabits highly specialized habitats in rocky outcrops. It lives in tropical dry deciduous scrub forest where it has been seen in rocky cliffs and areas. It is not found in any protected areas.  <b>Threats</b> - The main threat to this species is a decline in habitat due to the expansion of human settlements, mining in the foothills, uncontrolled grazing in the rocky areas, etc. Other threats include conversion of forests, fuel wood collection, mining and dumping of debris in the foothills of small hillocks in the reserve forest, etc. Due to their extremely limited range, a single event such as disease, fire or</p>

other anthropogenic factors could wipe out the entire population in a very short span of time.



**Option 2 is correct: Namdapha Flying Squirrel (Biswamoyopterus biswasi) is a unique (the only one in its genus) flying squirrel that is restricted to a single valley in the Namdapha Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh. It is listed as critically endangered by the IUCN. Its Major Habitat is the Tropical Forest region. Main Threats is that they are Hunted for food.**



**Option 3 is correct: Malabar Civet (Viverra civettina) is considered to be one of the world's rarest mammals. It endemic to India and was first reported from Travancore, Kerala. The Malabar civet is on the IUCN red list as critically endangered. It is nocturnal in nature and found exclusively in the Western Ghats. Habitat includes Wooded plains and hill slopes of evergreen rainforests.**





**Option 4 is incorrect:** Of the 26 species of non-human primates found in India only one, the hoolock gibbon, is an ape. Hoolock gibbons are classified as lesser apes (different from great apes like chimps), with two subspecies found in India: western hoolock (hoolock hoolock) and eastern hoolock gibbon (hoolock leuconedys). The distribution of both species is restricted to the south bank of the Dibang-Brahmaputra river system in the seven states of the Northeast. A maximum of 10,000 gibbons are now left in India. The western hoolock gibbon is ‘**Endangered**’ according to the IUCN Red List, though it is widely distributed in all the seven states of the Northeast. Eastern hoolocks are listed as a ‘**Vulnerable**’ species and they are found only in eastern Arunachal Pradesh and in the Sadiya subdivision of Assam. Both are on Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act of India, 1972.



**Option 5 is incorrect:** The subspecies of long-tailed macaque in India is Nicobar long tailed macaque, which is endemic to the three Nicobar Islands including Great Nicobar, Little Nicobar and Katchal. It has been categorized as ‘**Vulnerable**’ in IUCN Redlist due to its restricted distribution, and susceptibility of its habitat to natural calamities.




Source:

[http://www.wfenvi.nic.in/Database/ExtinctionofAnimals\\_4517.aspx?format=Print](http://www.wfenvi.nic.in/Database/ExtinctionofAnimals_4517.aspx?format=Print)

		<p><a href="https://www.worldwildlife.org/species/sumatran-rhino">https://www.worldwildlife.org/species/sumatran-rhino</a>  <a href="https://roundglasssustain.com/conservations/hoolock-gibbons-return-apes-northeast-india">https://roundglasssustain.com/conservations/hoolock-gibbons-return-apes-northeast-india</a></p>
<p><b>Q.26)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Some mushrooms have medicinal properties.</li> <li>2. Some mushrooms have psycho- active properties.</li> <li>3. Some mushrooms have insecticidal properties.</li> <li>4. Some mushrooms have bioluminescent properties.</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above statements are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) Only three</li> <li>d) All four</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p>	<p><b>JATF TEST 12</b></p>	<p><b>Q.46)</b> With reference to ‘Cordy Gold Nanoparticles’, sometimes mentioned in the news, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is derived from the synthesis of bacteria and gold salts.</li> <li>2. It is used for faster drug delivery in human body.</li> <li>3. It can be effective in treating certain kind of cancer.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 only</li> <li>b) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>c) 2 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 1 and 3 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>Recently, scientists from four Indian institutions, including Bodoland University, have developed Cordy Gold Nanoparticles (Cor-AuNPs), which can make drug delivery in the human body faster and surer.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect:</b> Cordy Gold Nanoparticles (Cor-AuNPs) are derived from the <b>synthesis of the extracts of Cordyceps Militaris and Gold Salts</b>. Cordyceps militaris is a <b>high value parasitic fungus</b>, lab-grown at the Department of Biotechnology’s Technology Incubation Centre (TIC) in Bodoland University. Wild Cordyceps mushroom are found in the eastern Himalayan belt. Gold salts are ionic chemical compounds of gold generally used in medicine.</p> <p><b>Cordy Gold Nanoparticles (Cor-AuNPs)</b></p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct:</b> Cordyceps militaris, called <b>super mushroom because of its tremendous medicinal properties, adds bioactive components to the synthesis of gold nanoparticles for better penetration in the cells of human body leading to faster and effective drug delivery.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> Cordyceps-gold nanoparticles (Cordy-AuNPs) have been found to have antimicrobial, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and anti-cancer properties. Gold nanoparticles plays vital role in the development of the <b>anticancer drugs</b>. The gold nanoparticles with C. Militaris is proved to be an efficient</p>

		<p>chemotherapeutic drug against the hepatocellular carcinoma (Liver Cancer) cells.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/gold-gets-nano-boost-from-super-mushroom-for-better-drug-delivery/article66090620.ece#:~:text=Photo%3A%20Special%20Arrangement-.Assam's%20Bodoland%20University%20is%20part%20of%20collaborative%20research%20on%20a,super%20mushroom%20for%20greater%20efficacy.https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31304798/">https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/gold-gets-nano-boost-from-super-mushroom-for-better-drug-delivery/article66090620.ece#:~:text=Photo%3A%20Special%20Arrangement-.Assam's%20Bodoland%20University%20is%20part%20of%20collaborative%20research%20on%20a,super%20mushroom%20for%20greater%20efficacy.</a></p> <p><a href="https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31304798/">https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31304798/</a></p>
<p><b>Q.31)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Jhelum River passes through Wular Lake.</li> <li>2. Krishna River directly feeds Kolleru Lake.</li> <li>3. Meandering of Gandak River formed Kanwar Lake.</li> </ol> <p>How many of the statements given above are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) All three</li> <li>d) None</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b></p>	<p><b>PTS</b> <b>2023</b> <b>BATC</b> <b>HI</b> <b>LEVEL</b> <b>1 TEST</b> <b>9</b></p>	<p><b>Q.24)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sambhar Lake accounts for more than 50% of India's salt production.</li> <li>2. Pangong Tso is the largest freshwater lake in India.</li> <li>3. Kolleru lake is situated between the deltas of Krishna and Godavari River.</li> <li>4. Roopkund lake is a man-made reservoir in Uttarakhand.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 1, 2 and 4 only</li> <li>c) 3 only</li> <li>d) 3 and 4 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect: Gujarat contributes to 76 per cent of India's total salt production</b> due to its arid climate and large land availability. Gujarat alone produced <b>260 lakh tonnes in 2018-19</b>. <b>Sambhar Lake produces 2.1 lakh tonnes</b> of salt each year, placing Rajasthan among the top three salt-producing states of India, but it is certainly not contributing to India's 50% of salt production. Although Sambhar Lake is the largest saltwater lake in India.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect: Wular lake is India's largest freshwater lake in India.</b> Also, Pangong Tso is not a freshwater lake. It is a <b>salt-water lake and is a kind of endorheic basin</b>, which implies that it retains its water and does not allow outflow of its water to other external water bodies, such as oceans and rivers.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct: Kolleru Lake is freshwater lake and is located in Andhra Pradesh. Kolleru is located between Krishna and Godavari delta. The lake is fed directly by water from the seasonal Budameru and Tammileru streams, and is connected to the Krishna and Godavari systems by over 68 inflowing drains and channels. It serves as a habitat for migratory birds. It supports the livelihood of fishermen and riparian population in the area.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 4 is incorrect: Roopkund Lake is located 5,029 metres (16,500ft) above sea level at the bottom of a steep slope on Trisul, one of India's highest mountains, in the state of Uttarakhand. It is not a man-made lake. It is a high-altitude glacial lake. Recently it has been seen in news because skeletal remains of an estimated 600-</b></p>

	<p><b>800 people</b> have been found here. In tourism promotions, the local government describes it as a "<b>mystery lake</b>".  Source: <a href="https://theprint.in/india/salt-shortage-expected-next-year-as-heavy-rains-lockdown-hit-production-in-gujarat/515568/">https://theprint.in/india/salt-shortage-expected-next-year-as-heavy-rains-lockdown-hit-production-in-gujarat/515568/</a>  <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/travel/destinations/intriguing-facts-about-pangong-lake-to-bowl-you-over/articleshow/67128956.cms?val=3728">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/travel/destinations/intriguing-facts-about-pangong-lake-to-bowl-you-over/articleshow/67128956.cms?val=3728</a>  <a href="http://www.rainwaterharvesting.org/kolleru_lake/kolleru_lake.htm">http://www.rainwaterharvesting.org/kolleru_lake/kolleru_lake.htm</a>  <a href="https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-56116533">https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-56116533</a></p>
<p><b>PTS 2023 ALL INDIA TEST 2</b></p>	<p><b>Q.55)</b> Which of the following rivers originate within the territory of India?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Jhelum River</li> <li>2. Sutlej River</li> <li>3. Yamuna River</li> <li>4. Teesta River</li> <li>5. Barak River</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1, 2 and 3 only</li> <li>b) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only</li> <li>c) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Option 1 is correct:</b> The <b>Jhelum</b>, an important tributary of the Indus, rises from a spring at <b>Verinag</b> situated at the foot of the <b>Pir Panjal</b> in the south-eastern part of the valley of <b>Kashmir</b>. It flows through <b>Srinagar</b> and the <b>Wular lake</b> before entering <b>Pakistan</b> through a deep narrow gorge. It joins the <b>Chenab</b> near <b>Jhang</b> in <b>Pakistan</b>.</p> <p><b>Option 2 is incorrect:</b> The <b>Satluj</b> originates in the <b>Rakas Lake</b> near <b>Mansarovar</b> at an altitude of <b>4,555 m</b> in <b>Tibet</b> where it is known as <b>Langchen Khambab</b>. It flows almost parallel to the <b>Indus</b> for about <b>400 km</b> before entering <b>India</b>, and comes out of a gorge at <b>Rupar</b>. It passes through the <b>Shipki La</b> on the <b>Himalayan</b> ranges and enters the <b>Punjab</b> plains. It is an antecedent river.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> The <b>Yamuna</b>, the western most and the longest tributary of the <b>Ganga</b>, has its source in the <b>Yamunotri glacier</b> on the western slopes of <b>Banderpunch range (6,316 km)</b> in <b>Uttarakhand</b>. It joins the <b>Ganga</b> at <b>Prayag (Allahabad)</b>. It is joined by the <b>Chambal</b>, the <b>Sind</b>, the <b>Betwa</b> and the <b>Ken</b> on its right bank while the <b>Hindan</b>, the <b>Rind</b>, the <b>Sengar</b>, the <b>Varuna</b> join it on its left bank</p> <p><b>Option 4 is correct:</b> <b>Teesta River</b> originates from the <b>Tso Lhamo Lake</b> in the <b>Himalayas</b> near <b>Chunthang, Sikkim</b>, and flows to the south through <b>West Bengal</b> before entering <b>Bangladesh</b>. <b>Teesta</b> river is a <b>tributary of the Brahmaputra</b>. In <b>Bangladesh</b>, the <b>Teesta</b> joins the <b>Brahmaputra</b> on its right bank, from where the river is known as the <b>Yamuna</b>. Then, it finally merges with the river <b>Padma</b>, which falls in the <b>Bay of Bengal</b>.</p> <p><b>Statement 5 is correct:</b> <b>Barak River</b> rises in the <b>Manipur hills</b> and enters the plains near <b>Lakhipur, Assam</b>. The river in</p>


		<p>Bangladesh is called as Meghna and receives the combined flow of the Ganga and Brahmaputra.</p>
	<p><b>PTS</b> <b>2023</b> <b>BATC</b> <b>H 8</b> <b>TEST 4</b></p>	<p><b>Q.39)</b> If you travel through the Himalayas, you are likely to see which of the following lakes located there?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Auli lake</li> <li>2. Kanwar lake</li> <li>3. Wular lake</li> <li>4. Renuka lake</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 4 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) 2 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 1, 3 and 4 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>The Himalayas is known for its tall peaks. However, numerous lakes embedded in the backdrop of the rugged rocky landscape, creates a wonderful oasis.</p> <p><b>Option 1 is correct. Auli, or Auli Bugyal lake</b> is a ski destination, with a panoramic view of the lofty peaks of one of the greatest mountain range in the world, the Himalayas. Auli Lake is considered as <b>highest man-made lake in the world</b>. The government of Uttarakhand has developed this in view of creating artificial snow on the new ski slopes in the event of low snowfall. Auli hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> South Asian Winter Games in 2011 along with Dehradun. The Ice hockey and ice skating events were conducted in Dehradun while the snowboarding and skiing events were held at Auli.</p>  <p><b>Option 2 is incorrect. Kanwar lake, Asia's largest freshwater oxbow lake and Bihar's only Ramsar site, located in Begusarai district, is facing threat of running dry (it is not located in</b></p>

		<p><b>Himalayas</b>). Originally spread over 6,786 hectares, the lake has been a preferred destination for migratory birds and home to several rare aquatic species.</p> <p><b>Option 3 is correct.</b> Wular Lake is the <b>2nd largest fresh-water lake of Asia</b>, situated on the foothills of Haramuk Mountain. Main source of water for Wular Lake is River Jhelum. This lake also has a small island in its centre called the 'Zaina Lank'.</p> <p><b>Option 4 is correct.</b> Renuka (Himachal Pradesh) lake is the largest natural lake in Himachal Pradesh, this lake is named after the goddess Renuka.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://baramulla.nic.in/tourist-place/wular-lake/">https://baramulla.nic.in/tourist-place/wular-lake/</a>  <a href="http://hptdc.in/index.php/redukaji-famous-for-redukaka-lake-and-mini-zoo/">http://hptdc.in/index.php/redukaji-famous-for-redukaka-lake-and-mini-zoo/</a>  <a href="https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/patna-news/bihars-biggest-lake-left-high-and-dry-despite-ramsar-tag-101617208132502.html">https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/patna-news/bihars-biggest-lake-left-high-and-dry-despite-ramsar-tag-101617208132502.html</a>  <a href="https://www.euttaranchal.com/tourism/auli-artificial-lake.php#:~:text=About%20Auli%20Artificial%20Lake,scanty%20rainfall%20created%20this%20lake.">https://www.euttaranchal.com/tourism/auli-artificial-lake.php#:~:text=About%20Auli%20Artificial%20Lake,scanty%20rainfall%20created%20this%20lake.</a></p>										
<p><b>Q.33)</b> Consider the following trees:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jackfruit (Artocarpus heterophyllus)</li> <li>Mahus (Madhuca indica)</li> <li>Teak (Tectona grandis)</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above are deciduous trees?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only one</li> <li>Only two</li> <li>All three</li> <li>None</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b></p>	<p><b>SFG 2023 LEVEL 1 TEST 41</b></p>	<p><b>Q.24)</b> With reference to major vegetation found in various Indian Forest type, consider the following pairs:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="730 929 1295 1227"> <thead> <tr> <th>Indian Forest Type</th> <th>Predominant Tree</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Sub-tropical Pine forest</td> <td>Acacia</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Tropical Moist deciduous forest</td> <td>Teak</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Tropical Wet evergreen forest</td> <td>Jackfruit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Tropical Thorn forest</td> <td>Rhododendron</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 and 2 only</li> <li>2 and 3 only</li> <li>3 and 4 only</li> <li>1, 2, 3 and 4</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer</b></p> <p>Classification of Natural Vegetation of India is primarily based on spatial and annual variations in rainfall. Temperature, soil and topography are also considered. India's vegetation can be divided into <b>5 main types</b> as given below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moist Tropical Forests</li> <li>Dry Tropical Forests</li> <li>Montane Sub-tropical Forests</li> <li>Montane Temperate Forests</li> <li>Alpine Forests</li> </ol> <p><b>Pair 1 is incorrect: Sub tropical Pine forests</b> are found in the steep dry slopes of the Shivalik Hills, Western and Central Himalayas, Khasi, Naga, and Manipur Hills. The trees predominantly found in these areas are the <b>chir, oak, rhododendron, and pine as well as sal, amla, and laburnum</b> are found in the lower regions.</p>	Indian Forest Type	Predominant Tree	1. Sub-tropical Pine forest	Acacia	2. Tropical Moist deciduous forest	Teak	3. Tropical Wet evergreen forest	Jackfruit	4. Tropical Thorn forest	Rhododendron
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	<p><b>Pair 2 is correct: Tropical Moist deciduous forests</b> are found throughout India except in the western and the north-western regions. The trees are tall, have broad trunks, branching trunks and roots to hold them firmly to the ground. Some of the taller trees shed their leaves in the dry season. There is a layer of shorter trees and evergreen shrubs in the undergrowth. These forests are dominated by <b>sal and teak, along with mango, bamboo, and rosewood.</b></p> <p><b>Pair 3 is correct: Tropical Wet evergreen forests</b> are found along the Western Ghats, the Nicobar and Andaman Islands and along the north-eastern region. It is characterized by tall, straight evergreen trees. The more common trees that are found here are <b>the jackfruit, betel nut palm, jamun, mango, and hollock.</b> The trees in this forest form a tier pattern: shrubs cover the layer closer to the ground, followed by the short-structured trees and then the tall variety. Beautiful fern of various colours and different varieties of orchids grow on the trunks of the trees</p> <p><b>Pair 4 is incorrect: Tropical Thorn forests</b>, this type is found in areas with black soil: North, West, Central, and South India. The trees do not grow beyond 10 metres. <b>Acacia, Spurge, caper, and cactus are typical of this region</b></p> <p>Source: Ch 3 Shankar IAS Environment</p>										
<p><b>JATF_</b> <b>PTS</b> <b>2023</b> <b>TEST</b> <b>12</b></p>	<p><b>Q.84)</b> Consider the following pairs:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="730 1003 1284 1279"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>Forest Type</i></th> <th><i>Type of Flora</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Tidal Forests</td> <td>Sundari Tree</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. <b>Tropical Deciduous Forest</b></td> <td>Juniper</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Montane Forests</td> <td>khejri</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Tropical Thorn Forest</td> <td>Babool</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Which of the pairs given above is/ are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 and 3 only c) 3 and 4 only d) 1 and 4 only</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>India is not only famous for its diverse wildlife, architectural marvels and culture, but also for its dense and vast forest cover. Indian climate befits the variety of flora and fauna.</p> <p>Forest is the <b>second largest land use</b> in India next to agriculture. The forest cover of India is assessed as <b>67.83 million hectares</b> which constitute 20.64 per cent of the country's geographical area, ranging from the Himalayan Temperate to Dry Zone forests.</p> <p><b>Pair 1 is correct: Tidal Forests</b> are the forests found on the <b>coasts along estuaries and bays and gulfs.</b> They are also known as <b>Mangroves.</b> These forests are populated by <b>trees that are adapted to tolerate high salinity.</b> They have adaptations like <b>air roots, salt secreting leaves and viviparous seeds</b> to survive the <b>saline and anoxic conditions.</b> Some examples of these trees are <b>Sundari</b></p>	<i>Forest Type</i>	<i>Type of Flora</i>	1. Tidal Forests	Sundari Tree	2. <b>Tropical Deciduous Forest</b>	Juniper	3. Montane Forests	khejri	4. Tropical Thorn Forest	Babool
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		<p>(<i>Heritiera Minor</i>), <i>Avicennia</i>, <i>Agar</i>, <i>Bhendi</i>, <i>Keora</i>, <i>Nipa</i>, etc. India's largest mangrove - the <b>Sunderbans</b> - have a huge population of Sundari trees.</p> <p><i>Distribution</i> - <b>Sunderban Delta (West Bengal), Krishna Delta, Godavari Delta, Kaveri Delta, Gulf of Kutch, Andaman &amp; Nicobar Islands.</b></p> <p><b>Pair 2 is incorrect: Tropical Deciduous Forests</b> are those forests that are found in regions of moderate rainfall (70-200 cm annually). These are also known as <b>Monsoon Forests</b>. They are the <b>most widespread</b> in India. Their <b>most notable feature</b> is that they <b>shed all their leaves during the summer or the winter season</b> to withstand the heat and minimise loss of water through transpiration. Some classic examples of the type of trees found in these forests are <b>Teak, Sal, Sheesham, Mahua, Kusum, Sandalwood, Amaltas, Khair, tendu, Palas, Bel, etc.</b></p> <p><i>Distribution</i> - <b>Foothills of Himalayas, Plains of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, eastern slopes of Western Ghats, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha.</b></p> <p><b>Junipers</b> are trees generally found in <b>Alpine forests</b>, i.e. the forest found at a <b>height between 2900m and 3500m</b></p> <p><b>Pair 3 is incorrect: Khejri</b> is mostly found in tropical thorn forests. <b>Montane Forests</b> are those forests that are <b>found in mountain or hilly regions with higher altitudes</b>. Their speciality is that they have <b>various forms of vegetation</b> which <b>depend</b> on the <b>altitude</b>. They can be <b>deciduous, wet-temperate, and temperate</b> in nature. Some examples of trees found in these types of forests are <b>pine, deodar, spruce, silver fir, oak, beech, birch, rhododendrons, chestnut, maple, etc</b></p> <p><b>Pair 4 is correct: Tropical Thorn Forest</b> are those forests that are found in <b>arid areas</b> with <b>scant rainfall</b> of about <b>50-100cm annually</b>. <b>Vegetation</b> here is <b>stunted and scattered</b>. The <b>roots are long</b> and go deep underground to draw on the little moisture available at depths. Their <b>leaves evolve into thorns</b> to prevent loss of moisture by transpiration. Some other <b>examples of trees</b> found in this type of forest are - <b>khejri, ber, babool, neem, etc.</b></p> <p><i>Distribution</i> - <b>Kutch, Saurashtra, south-western Punjab, western Haryana, western and northern Rajasthan, upper Ganga plains, the Deccan Plateau and the lower Peninsular India.</b></p> <p>Source: NCERT Class 11th Indian Geography, Ch 5  <a href="https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?kegy1=5-7">https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?kegy1=5-7</a>  <a href="https://www.shareyouressays.com/essays/classification-of-indian-forest-essay/120597">https://www.shareyouressays.com/essays/classification-of-indian-forest-essay/120597</a></p>
<p><b>Q.39)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amakantak Hills are at the confluence of Vindhya and Sahyadri Ranges.</li> <li>2. Biligirirangan Hills constitute the easternmost part of Satpura Range.</li> <li>3. Seshachalam Hills constitute the southernmost part of Western Ghats.</li> </ol>	<p><b>PTS</b>  <b>2023 B8</b>  <b>TEST 4</b></p>	<p><b>Q.14)</b> With reference to Narmada, Tapi and Mahi Rivers, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Narmada and Tapi rivers flow south of Satpura ranges.</li> <li>2. All the three rivers originate from Amarkantak plateau in Chhattisgarh.</li> <li>3. Tapi runs only through two states to drain into Arabian Sea.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the above-mentioned statements is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 3 only</li> <li>c) 1 and 3 only</li> </ol>



<p>How many of the statements given above are correct?</p> <p>a) Only one b) Only two c) All three d) None</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p>		<p>d) None of the above</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b> <b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer</b></p> <p>Narmada and Tapi are among the major west flowing rivers that drain into the Arabian Sea. Some of the features of the rivers are as follows:</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect – Satpura mountain ranges runs between Narmada and Tapi river.</b> Both the rivers flow south of Vindhya. Narmada flows between Vindhya and Satpura ranges. Both flows across the rift valleys created due to fault mountains unlike the fold mountains of Himalayan ranges.</p>  <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect - The Amarkantak region is a unique natural heritage area and is the meeting point of the Vindhya and the Satpura Ranges,</b> with the Maikal Hills being the fulcrum. This is where the <b>Narmada River, the Son River and Johila River (Tributary of Son)</b> emerge. Tapi originates from Multai in the Betul district of Madhya Pradesh. Mahi river originates in the Mahi Kanta hills, from the northern slopes of Vindhya at an altitude of 500 m near village Bhopawar, Madhya Pradesh.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect – The river Tapi flows from Madhya Pradesh to Maharashtra and enters Gujarat to drain into Arabian Sea (so, it flows through 3 states).</b> It is 724 km long and drains an area of 65,145 sq. km. Nearly 79 per cent of its basin lies in Maharashtra, 15 per cent in Madhya Pradesh and the remaining 6 per cent in Gujarat.</p> <p>Source: India – Physical Environment – The Drainage System</p>
<p><b>Q.41)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <p><b>Statements - I:</b> Interest income from the deposits in Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) distributed to their investors is exempted from tax, but the dividend is taxable.</p> <p><b>Statements - II:</b> InvITs are recognized as borrowers under the ‘Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002’.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p>	<p><b>PTS 2023 Simulaton Test 8</b></p>	<p><b>Q.9)</b> Consider the following statements with reference to Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. While mutual funds can invest in InvITs, they cannot invest in REITs.</li> <li>2. Both REITs and InvITs must invest certain portions of their assets in completed or revenue generating projects.</li> <li>3. Unlike REITs, InvITs does not have any minimum investment requirements.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 and 3 only b) 2 only c) 2 and 3 only d) 1 and 2 only</p>

<p>a) Both Statement – I and Statement – II are correct and Statement – II is the correct explanation for Statement – I</p> <p>b) Both Statement – I and Statement – II are correct and Statement – II is not the correct explanation for Statement – I</p> <p>c) Statement –I is correct but Statement – II is incorrect</p> <p>d) Statement – I is incorrect but Statement – II is correct</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p>		<p><b>Ans) b</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) were introduced by the government to mobilise money from the investors to accelerate infrastructure development in the country.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect:</b> The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has allowed mutual funds to invest their money in both REITs as well as InvITs. A mutual fund is permitted to invest up to 5 per cent of its net asset value and also it cannot invest more than 10% of units issued by a single issuer of REIT and InvIT,</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct:</b> It is true that both REITs and InvITs must invest certain portions of their assets in completed or revenue generating properties/projects. REITs must invest at least 80% of the assets in completed and income-generating properties. Similarly, InvITs must at least 80% of the assets in completed and revenue-generating infrastructure projects.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect: Both REITs and InvITs have minimum investment requirements. Earlier, For REITs the minimum investment amount was ₹ 50,000 and for InvITs, it was ₹ 1,00,000. Now, as per the recent circular of SEBI, the minimum investment has been reduced to a range between ₹ 10,000 and ₹ 15,000 as well as the lot size has been decreased. Thus, minimum investment is needed in both kind of investment trusts.</b></p> <p>Source:<a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/business/market/nse-indices-launches-indias-first-ever-reits-and-invits-index-8550680/#:~:text=invest%20in%20real,-estate,-projects%2C%20whereas%20InvITs">https://indianexpress.com/article/business/market/nse-indices-launches-indias-first-ever-reits-and-invits-index-8550680/#:~:text=invest%20in%20real,-estate,-projects%2C%20whereas%20InvITs</a></p> <p><a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/business/banking-and-finance/mutual-funds-can-now-invest-in-reits-invits-sebi/">https://indianexpress.com/article/business/banking-and-finance/mutual-funds-can-now-invest-in-reits-invits-sebi/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php/Real_Estate_Investment_Trusts_(REITs)#:~:text=Atleast,-80,-%25%20in%20completed%20and">http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php/Real_Estate_Investment_Trusts_(REITs)#:~:text=Atleast,-80,-%25%20in%20completed%20and</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php/Infrastructure_Investment_Trust_(InvITs)#:~:text=to%20invest%20at,-least,-80%25%20of%20the">http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php/Infrastructure_Investment_Trust_(InvITs)#:~:text=to%20invest%20at,-least,-80%25%20of%20the</a></p>
<p><b>Q.42)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <p><b>Statement – I:</b> In the post-pandemic recent past, many Central Banks worldwide had carried out interest rate hike.</p> <p><b>Statement – II:</b> Central Banks generally assume that they have the ability to counteract the rising consumer prices via monetary policy means.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <p>a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I</p>	<p><b>PTS 2023 Simulat or Test</b></p>	<p><b>Q.1)</b> With regards to inflation targeting in India, which of the following statements is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The RBI solely determines the inflation target, in terms of the Consumer Price Index, once in every five years.</li> <li>2. RBI's flexible inflation targeting places price stability as the primary objective of the monetary policy.</li> <li>3. If the RBI fails to meet the inflation target, then a new monetary policy committee will be formed to address the issue.</li> <li>4. The monetary policy committee determines the policy interest rates required to achieve the inflation target.</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</p> <p>a) 1, 3 and 4 only</p> <p>b) 2 only</p> <p>c) 2 and 4 only</p> <p>d) 2, 3 and 4 only</p>

<p>b) Both Statement-I and Statements-II is are correct and Statement-II is not the correct cexplanation for Statement-II</p> <p>c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p>	<p><b>Ans) c</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect.</b> The RBI Act provides for the <b>inflation target to be set by the Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank</b>, once in every five years. Accordingly, the Central Government has notified 4 per cent Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation as the target until the fiscal year 2025-26 with the upper tolerance limit of 6 per cent and the lower tolerance limit of 2 per cent.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct.</b> India formally adopted flexible inflation targeting (FIT) in June 2016 to place <b>price stability, defined in terms of a target CPI inflation, as the primary objective of the monetary policy</b>. In May 2016, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act, 1934 was amended to provide a statutory basis for the implementation of the flexible inflation targeting framework.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect.</b> If RBI fails to meet the inflation target, then it will have to <b>explain the reason</b> for its failure to meet the target as well as <b>give a timeframe</b> within which it will achieve the inflation target.</p> <p><b>Statement 4 is correct.</b> The amended RBI Act, 1934 provides for an empowered six-member monetary policy committee (MPC) to be constituted by the Central Government by notification in the Official Gazette. The <b>MPC determines the policy interest rate required to achieve the inflation target</b>.</p> <p>Source: <a href="http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php?title=Inflation_Targeting_In_India">http://www.arthapedia.in/index.php?title=Inflation_Targeting_In_India</a>  <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/re-evaluating-inflation-targeting/article34094821.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/re-evaluating-inflation-targeting/article34094821.ece</a></p>
	<p><b>Q.49)</b> What are the possible impacts of monetary tightening of the US federal reserve in India?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It may make investing in India less attractive for foreign investors.</li> <li>2. It may increase the cost of imports for India.</li> <li>3. It may increase the current account deficit for India.</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</p> <p>a) 1 and 3 only  b) 1 and 2 only  c) 2 and 3 only  d) 1, 2 and 3</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>Global economies are in a recession due to high inflationary pressure. To combat this, the US federal reserve, central bank of the US, is taking aggressive steps such as an increase in interest rates to reduce the money supply flow in the economy.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct:</b> The Indian economy is highly vulnerable to the US Federal Reserve interest rate action. When interest rates are increased by the US Federal Reserve, investors in the government securities in the USA will benefit due to higher interest rates. So, a greater number of global investors will prefer to invest in the government securities of the US because they are considered as safest</p>

		<p>investment opportunity. For example, when interest rates in the US rise, the propensity of FIIs to invest in India goes down due to higher opportunity costs for them. For example, FIIs could earlier borrowed at 2% and invested in India and get a return of 8%, but if the Fed increases rates from 2% to 4%, then some of the investors in the US may not find investing in India attractive and may start pulling out funds from India and invest back in the US.</p> <p><b>Statements 2 and 3 are correct:</b> One of the primary channels through which the Federal Reserve's monetary policy affects India is through exchange rate fluctuations. A monetary tightening by the Fed could lead to an <b>appreciation of the US dollar</b>, which in turn could lead to a <b>depreciation of the Indian rupee</b>. This could make <b>Indian exports cheaper</b> and more competitive, but it could <b>also increase the cost of imports</b> and lead to higher inflation in India. FII Outflows along with intervention by RBI will cause depletion of India's Forex reserves. <b>This may lead to increase in current account Deficit for India.</b></p> <p>Source : <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/explained-how-the-us-fed-rate-hike-will-impact-the-indian-economy/articleshow/93184123.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/explained-how-the-us-fed-rate-hike-will-impact-the-indian-economy/articleshow/93184123.cms</a>  <a href="https://www.livemint.com/economy/us-fed-aggressive-rate-hike-know-how-it-will-impact-indian-economy-11663890672815.html">https://www.livemint.com/economy/us-fed-aggressive-rate-hike-know-how-it-will-impact-indian-economy-11663890672815.html</a></p>										
<p><b>Q.43)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <p><b>Statement-I:</b> Carbon markets are likely to be one of the most widespread tools in the fight against climate change.</p> <p><b>Statement-II:</b> Carbon markets transfer resources from the private sector to the State. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <p>a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I</p> <p>b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I</p> <p>c) Statement-I is correct but Statements-II is incorrect</p> <p>d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p>	<p><b>SFG 2023</b> <b>Level 1</b> <b>Test 43</b></p>	<p><b>Q.2)</b> With reference to climate change convention of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), consider the following pairs:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="730 1144 1249 1608"> <thead> <tr> <th>Climate change convention</th> <th>Major outcomes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Sharm el-Sheikh Summit</td> <td>Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation initiative</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Glasgow Summit</td> <td>Green Climate Fund.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Paris Summit</td> <td>Sustainable Development Mechanism (SDM)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Madrid Summit</td> <td>Climate Ambition Alliance</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>How many pair/s is/are correctly matched?</p> <p>a) Only one pair b) Only two pairs c) Only three pairs d) All the four pairs</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b> <b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b> The UNFCCC was formed in 1994 to stabilize the greenhouse gas emissions and to protect the earth from the threat of climate change. The Conference of Parties (COP) is the apex decision-making body of UNFCCC and so far, 27 COPs were held.</p>	Climate change convention	Major outcomes	1. Sharm el-Sheikh Summit	Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation initiative	2. Glasgow Summit	Green Climate Fund.	3. Paris Summit	Sustainable Development Mechanism (SDM)	4. Madrid Summit	Climate Ambition Alliance
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4. Madrid Summit	Climate Ambition Alliance											

		<p><b>Pair 1 is correct:</b> The <b>Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation initiative</b> was the outcome of <b>Sharm el-Sheikh Climate Change Conference (COP27) of UNFCCC</b>. The initiative aims to improve the <b>quantity and quality of climate finance contributions</b> to transform agriculture and food systems by 2030.</p> <p><b>Pair 2 is incorrect:</b> The Green Climate Fund (GCF) was established during the <b>2010 Climate Change Conference in Cancun</b> as a fund within the UNFCCC framework to <b>assist developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices</b> to counter climate change. <b>Glasgow climate change conference (COP26)</b> asked the developed countries to at least <b>double the money</b> being provided for adaptation by 2025 from the 2029 levels.</p> <p><b>Pair 3 is correct:</b> Sustainable Development Mechanism (SDM) was the outcome of the <b>Paris Climate Change conference (COP21) of UNFCCC</b>. SDM replaced the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of <b>Kyoto Protocol and SDM is the carbon market for the trading of emissions reduction created anywhere in the world by the public or the private sector.</b></p> <p><b>Pair 4 is correct:</b> The <b>Climate Ambition Alliance</b> is an outcome of a <b>climate change conference (COP 25) in Madrid, Spain</b>. COP25 under the <b>Presidency of the Government of Chile</b> and was held with logistical support from the Government of Spain. Climate Ambition Alliance aims to bring <b>together countries, businesses, investors, cities and regions who are working towards achieving net-zero CO2 emissions by 2050</b>.</p> <p>Source:  <a href="https://www.google.com/search?q=Outcomes+of+recent+CoP+UNFCCC&amp;oq=Outcomes+of++recent+CoP+UNFCCC&amp;aqs=chrome..69i57j33i160l3j33i22i29i30i5j33i15i22i29i30i625.13290j0j4&amp;sourceid=chrome&amp;ie=UTF-8#:~:text=Food%20and%20Agriculture%20for%20Sustainable%20Transformation%20initiative">https://www.google.com/search?q=Outcomes+of+recent+CoP+UNFCCC&amp;oq=Outcomes+of++recent+CoP+UNFCCC&amp;aqs=chrome..69i57j33i160l3j33i22i29i30i5j33i15i22i29i30i625.13290j0j4&amp;sourceid=chrome&amp;ie=UTF-8#:~:text=Food%20and%20Agriculture%20for%20Sustainable%20Transformation%20initiative</a>  <a href="https://blog.forumias.com/unfccc-summits/#:~:text=Sustainable%20Development%20Mechanism%20(SDM)%E2%80%9D">https://blog.forumias.com/unfccc-summits/#:~:text=Sustainable%20Development%20Mechanism%20(SDM)%E2%80%9D</a>  <a href="https://blog.forumias.com/key-takeaways-from-cop-25/">https://blog.forumias.com/key-takeaways-from-cop-25/</a>  <a href="https://blog.forumias.com/glasgow-climate-pact-cop26-outcomes-explained-pointwise/">https://blog.forumias.com/glasgow-climate-pact-cop26-outcomes-explained-pointwise/</a>  <a href="https://unfccc.int/conference/un-climate-change-conference-december-2019#:~:text=Climate%20Change%20Conference-,COP%2025,-(2%20%E2%80%932013%20December">https://unfccc.int/conference/un-climate-change-conference-december-2019#:~:text=Climate%20Change%20Conference-,COP%2025,-(2%20%E2%80%932013%20December</a>  <a href="https://cop25.mma.gob.cl/en/climate-ambition-alliance/">https://cop25.mma.gob.cl/en/climate-ambition-alliance/</a></p>
<p><b>Q.45)</b> Consider the following markets:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Government Bond Market</li> <li>2. Call Money Market</li> <li>3. Treasury Bill Market</li> <li>4. Stock Market</li> </ol>	<p><b>SFG</b> <b>2023</b> <b>Level 1</b> <b>Test 12</b></p>	<p><b>Q.43)</b> With reference to Call money Market, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Call money is non-interest-earning financial loan with a pre-fixed maturity date.</li> <li>2. <b>Call money is a short-term loan made by a financial institution to another financial institution.</b></li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> </ol>

<p>How many of the above are included in capital markets?</p> <p>a) Only one b) Only two c) Only three d) All four</p>	<p>c) both 1 and 2 d) neither 1 nor 2</p> <p><b>Ans) b</b> <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b> <b>Statement 1 is incorrect.</b> Call money, also known as "money at call," is a short-term financial loan that is payable <b>immediately, and in full, when the lender demands it. Unlike a term loan, which has a set maturity and payment schedule, call money does not have to follow a fixed schedule,</b> nor does the lender have to provide any advanced notice of repayment. <b>It is an interest paying loan</b> but due to its short-term nature, it does not feature regular principal and interest payments which longer term loans might. <b>Statement 2 is correct.</b> <b>Call money is a short-term, interest-paying loan from one to 14 days made by a financial institution to another financial institution.</b> Due to the short-term nature of the loan, it does not feature regular principal and interest payments, which longer-term loans might. The interest charged on a call loan between financial institutions is referred to as the <b>call loan rate.</b> Source: <a href="https://www.investopedia.com/terms/c/call-money.asp">https://www.investopedia.com/terms/c/call-money.asp</a></p> <p><b>Q.17)</b> With reference to financial markets, which of the following statements is correct?</p> <p><b>a) Capital market is a place where buyers and sellers indulge in trade of financial securities for a period of minimum five years.</b> b) A Primary market is one in which a company issues its new shares on a stock exchange. c) The long-term financial market does not include stock purchases in the primary market. d) Cash Management Bill is one of the important instruments in long term financial market.</p> <p><b>Ans) b</b> <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer</b> <b>Statement a is incorrect.</b> Capital market is a place where buyers and sellers indulge in <b>buying/selling of financial securities</b> like bonds, stocks. (<b>Not necessarily 5 years</b>). The long-term financial market of an economy is known as the '<b>capital market</b>'. <b>This market makes it possible to raise long-term money (capital), i.e., for a period of minimum 365 days and above.</b> <b>Statement b is correct.</b> <b>A primary market is one in which a company issues new security in stock exchange.</b> Whereas Secondary market deals with the exchange of prevailing or previously issued <b>securities</b> among investors. <b>Statement c is incorrect.</b> The long-term financial market includes commodity and stock purchases in <b>both primary market and secondary market.</b> The primary market is the market for new shares or securities. <b>Statement d is incorrect.</b> The Government of India, in consultation with the RBI, decided to issue a new short-term instrument, known as</p>
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		<p><b>Cash Management Bills</b>, since August 2009 to meet the temporary cash flow mismatches of the government. The Cash Management Bills are non-standard and discounted instruments <b>issued for maturities less than 91 days.</b></p> <p>Knowledge Base: <b>Capital markets are used to sell different financial instruments, including equities and debt securities. These markets are divided into two categories: primary and secondary markets.</b></p> <p>The best-known capital markets include the stock market and the bond markets. This market seeks to improve transactional efficiencies by bringing suppliers together with those seeking capital and providing a place where they can exchange securities.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/gfdr/gfdr-2016/background/long-term-finance#:~:text=Definition,public%20and%20private%20equity%20instruments.">https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/gfdr/gfdr-2016/background/long-term-finance#:~:text=Definition,public%20and%20private%20equity%20instruments.</a></p> <p>Ramesh Singh Indian economy page: 341 (pdf)</p>
<p><b>Q.47)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Government of India provides Minimum Support Price for niger (Guizotia abussinical seeds).</li> <li>2. Niger is cultivated as a Kharif crop.</li> <li>3. Some tribal people in India use niger seed oil for cooking.</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above statements are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) All three</li> <li>d) None</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p>	<p><b>PTS 2023 Simulat or Test 7</b></p>	<p><b>Q.49)</b> In the context of Indian Economy, consider the following statements regarding Cotton:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is covered under the Minimum support Price (MSP) framework.</li> <li>2. India is the only country where all the four species of cotton are grown.</li> <li>3. Half of the total world production of cotton comes from India.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the above statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 1 only</li> <li>c) 2 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 1 and 3 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>Cotton is one of the most important fiber and cash crop of India and plays a dominant role in the industrial and agricultural economy of the country. It provides the basic raw material like cotton fibre to cotton textile industry. Cotton in India provides direct livelihood to 6 million farmers and about 40 -50 million people are employed in cotton trade and its processing.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct:</b> Minimum Support Price (MSP) is a form of market to insure agricultural producers against any sharp fall in farm prices. <b>The MSP are announced by the GOI at the beginning of the sowing season based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).</b> The government announces MSPs for 22 mandated crops and fair and remunerative price (FRP) for sugarcane. The mandated crops are 14 crops of the kharif season, 6 rabi crops and two other commercial crops. In addition, the MSPs of toria and de-husked coconut are fixed on the basis of the MSPs of rapeseed/mustard and copra, respectively. The list of crops are as follows.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cereals (7) - paddy, wheat, barley, jowar, bajra, maize and ragi</li> <li>2. Pulses (5) - gram, arhar/tur, moong, urad and lentil</li> <li>3. Oilseeds (8) - groundnut, rapeseed/mustard, toria, soyabean, sunflower seed, sesamum, safflower seed and nigerseed</li> <li>4. Raw cotton</li> </ol>

		<p>5. Raw jute 6. Copra 7. De-husked coconut 8. Sugarcane (Fair and remunerative price) 9. Virginia flu cured (VFC) tobacco</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct: There are four cultivated species of cotton viz. Gossypium arboreum, G. herbaceum, G. hirsutum and G. barbadense.</b> The first two species are diploid and are native to the old world. They are also known as Asiatic cottons because they are grown in Asia. The last two species are tetraploid and are also referred to as New World Cottons. G. hirsutum is also known as American cotton or upland cotton and G. barbadense as Egyptian cotton or Sea Island cotton or Peruvian Cotton or Tanguish Cotton or quality cotton. <b>India is the country where all the four cultivated species are grown on commercial scale.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect: Cotton is one of the most important commercial crops cultivated in India and accounts for around 25% of the total global cotton production.</b> India is the largest producer of cotton in the world and the third largest exporter. It is also the largest consumer of cotton in the world.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://vikaspedia.in/agriculture/market-information/minimum-support-price">https://vikaspedia.in/agriculture/market-information/minimum-support-price</a> <a href="https://www.nfsm.gov.in/BriefNote/BN_Cotton.pdf">https://www.nfsm.gov.in/BriefNote/BN_Cotton.pdf</a> <a href="https://texmin.nic.in/sites/default/files/Cotton%20Sector.pdf">https://texmin.nic.in/sites/default/files/Cotton%20Sector.pdf</a></p>								
<p><b>Q.48)</b> Consider the investments in the following assets: 1. Brand recognition 2. Inventory 3. Intellectual property 4. Mailing list of clients</p> <p>How many of the above are considered intangible investments? a) Only one b) Only two c) Only three d) All four</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b> <b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b></p>	<p><b>SFG</b> <b>2023 L2</b> <b>Test 12</b></p>	<p><b>Q.47)</b> Consider the following pairs with reference to components of expenditure method of national income calculation:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="730 1211 1302 1503"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Example</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Consumption</td> <td>Purchasing new car by an Indian resident</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Investment</td> <td>Purchase of land for business</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Government Spending</td> <td>Money spent on primary education by Government of India</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched? a) 1 and 2 only b) 1 and 3 only c) 2 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b> <b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b> The expenditure method is a system for calculating gross domestic product (GDP) that combines consumption, investment, government spending, and net exports. It is the most common way to estimate GDP. It says everything that the private sector, including consumers and private firms, and government spending within the borders of a particular country, must add up to the total value of all finished goods and services produced over a certain period. This method produces</p>	Component	Example	1. Consumption	Purchasing new car by an Indian resident	2. Investment	Purchase of land for business	3. Government Spending	Money spent on primary education by Government of India
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		<p>nominal GDP, which must then be adjusted for inflation to result in the real GDP.</p> <p><b>Pair 1 is correct: Purchasing new car, mobiles, computer etc. both India made &amp; (Imported) foreign made are counted in expenditure method calculation of national income.</b> We can ignore the purchase of second-hand goods, because we are only measuring ‘new’ things “Made in India” in present year.</p> <p><b>Pair 2 is correct: Purchase of tangible capital assets like new House, Land, Building, Factory, Truck, Machinery and purchase of intangible capital assets like IPR / Patents, Computer Software etc. are part of investment under investor spending on business capital good. Further purchase of raw material &amp; intermediate goods, wages to workers for production all are counted under investor spending on business capital goods.</b></p> <p><b>Pair 3 is correct:</b> The government spending component of national income calculation represents expenditures by state, local and central government authorities on defense and nondefense goods and services, such as weaponry, health care, and education.</p> <p>Source:  <a href="https://corporatefinanceinstitute.com/resources/economics/national-income-accounting/">https://corporatefinanceinstitute.com/resources/economics/national-income-accounting/</a> <a href="https://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/leec102.pdf">https://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/leec102.pdf</a>  <a href="https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/definition/gross-domestic-product">https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/definition/gross-domestic-product</a></p>
<p><b>Q.49)</b> Consider the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Demographic performance</li> <li>2. Forest and ecology</li> <li>3. Governance reforms</li> <li>4. Stable government</li> <li>5. Tax and fiscal efforts</li> </ol> <p>For the horizontal tax devolution, the Fifteenth Finance Commission used how many of the above as criteria other than population area and income distance?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only two</li> <li>b) Only three</li> <li>c) Only four</li> <li>d) All five</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b></p>	<p><b>PTS</b>  <b>2023 B1</b>  <b>L2 Test</b>  <b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Q.22)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The share of states in the central taxes recommended by the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission was less than that recommended by the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission.</li> <li>2. The 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission used the 2011 Census to determine the population as against the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission which had used the 2001 Census.</li> <li>3. Unlike 14<sup>th</sup> finance commission, the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission used the ‘Demographic Performance’ as one of the bases to decide the share of states in the central taxes.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 only</li> <li>b) 1 and 3 only</li> <li>c) 2 only</li> <li>d) 2 and 3 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b>  <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b>  The Finance Commission is a constitutional body formed by the President of India to give suggestions on centre-state financial relations. The 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission (Chair: Mr. N. K. Singh) was required to submit two reports. The first report, consisting of recommendations for the financial year 2020-21, and the final report with recommendations for the 2021-26 period.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct:</b> The share of states in the central taxes for the 2021-26 period is recommended to be 41%. <b>This is less than the 42% share recommended by the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission for 2015-20 period.</b> The adjustment of 1% is to provide for the newly formed</p>

		<p>union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh from the resources of the centre.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect:</b> The 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission used the 2011 Census to determine the population as against the <b>14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission which had used both the 1971 and 2011 Censuses.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> The 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission used the <b>'Demographic Performance' as one of the bases to decide the share of states in the central taxes which was not used by the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission.</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #f4a460;">Criteria</th> <th style="background-color: #f4a460;">14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Weightage (2015-20)</th> <th style="background-color: #f4a460;">15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Weightage (2021-26)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">Income Distance</td> <td>50.0</td> <td>45.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">Population - 1971</td> <td>17.5</td> <td>----</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">Population - 2011</td> <td>10.0</td> <td>15.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">Area</td> <td>15.0</td> <td>15.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">Forest Cover</td> <td>7.5</td> <td>----</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">Forest &amp; Ecology</td> <td>----</td> <td>10.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">Demographic Performance</td> <td>----</td> <td>12.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">Tax Effort</td> <td>----</td> <td>2.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">Total</td> <td>100.00</td> <td>100.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: <a href="https://prsindia.org/policy/report-summaries/report-15th-finance-commission-2021-26">https://prsindia.org/policy/report-summaries/report-15th-finance-commission-2021-26</a></p>	Criteria	14 <sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Weightage (2015-20)	15 <sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Weightage (2021-26)	Income Distance	50.0	45.0	Population - 1971	17.5	----	Population - 2011	10.0	15.0	Area	15.0	15.0	Forest Cover	7.5	----	Forest & Ecology	----	10.0	Demographic Performance	----	12.5	Tax Effort	----	2.5	Total	100.00	100.00
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<p><b>Q.53)</b> Consider the following pairs:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #f4a460;">Regions often mentioned in news</th> <th style="background-color: #f4a460;">Reason for being in news</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">1. North Kivu and Ituei</td> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">War between Armenia and Azerbaijan</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">2. Nagorno-Karabakh</td> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">Insurgency in Mozambique</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">3. Kherson and Zaporizhzhia</td> <td style="background-color: #f4a460;">Dispute between Israel and Lebanon</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?</p> <p>a) Only one b) Only two c) All three d) None</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p>	Regions often mentioned in news	Reason for being in news	1. North Kivu and Ituei	War between Armenia and Azerbaijan	2. Nagorno-Karabakh	Insurgency in Mozambique	3. Kherson and Zaporizhzhia	Dispute between Israel and Lebanon	<p><b>PTS 2023 Simulat or test 6</b></p>	<p><b>Q.82)</b> The Minsk agreement, generally seen in news, is an agreement which sought to end the war between-</p> <p>a) Armenia and Azerbaijan. b) <i>Yemen and Houthi rebels.</i> c) Ukraine and Russian separatist groups. d) Ethiopia and Eritrea.</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b> <b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>Minsk agreements (Minsk 1 and Minsk 2), which were negotiated in 2014 and 2015, remain the basis for the peace process to resolve the conflict in eastern Ukraine between Russia and Ukraine.</p> <p><b>Option a is incorrect: The Bishkek Protocol</b> is the aforementioned provisional ceasefire agreement that was brokered by Russia with the aim of <b>de-escalating the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan</b> in 1994 at Bishkek, capital of Kyrgyzstan.</p> <p><b>Option b is incorrect:</b> In 2018, United Nations succeeded in <b>encouraging two key players in the yemen conflict, namely the Yemeni government and the Houthis</b>, to agree on an agreement known as the <b>Stockholm Agreement</b>. This agreement received positive attention because it was considered a breakthrough in building the parties' trust, which would subsequently become the foundation of the peace process in Yemen. However, it is unfortunate that the implementation process of the agreement was very slow and was even declared a failure at several points of commitment.</p> <p><b>Option c is correct: The Minsk agreements</b> were a series of international agreements which sought to end the Donbas war fought between <b>armed Russian separatist groups and Armed Forces of Ukraine, with Russian regular forces playing a central part.</b></p>																						
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		<p>Ukraine and the Russia-backed separatists agreed on a 12-point ceasefire deal in <b>September 2014</b>.</p> <p><b>Option d is incorrect: The Algiers Agreement</b> was a peace agreement between the governments of <b>Eritrea and Ethiopia</b> that was signed on 12 December 2000, at Algiers, Algeria, to formally end the Eritrean–Ethiopian War, a border war fought by the two countries from 1998 to 2000.</p> <p>Source:  <a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/minsk-agreements-ukraine-conflict-7784444/">https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/minsk-agreements-ukraine-conflict-7784444/</a>  <a href="https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2022/02/11/explainer-what-are-the-minsk-agreements-a76327">https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2022/02/11/explainer-what-are-the-minsk-agreements-a76327</a>  <a href="https://peacemaker.un.org/eritreathioia-agreement2000">https://peacemaker.un.org/eritreathioia-agreement2000</a>  <a href="https://ijmmu.com/index.php/ijmmu/article/view/3905">https://ijmmu.com/index.php/ijmmu/article/view/3905</a></p>												
	<p><b>PTS 2023 Simulat or Test 4</b></p>	<p><b>Q.36)</b> Consider the following pairs:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="730 1422 1248 1733"> <thead> <tr> <th>Places in the news</th> <th>Country</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Lake Natron</td> <td>Tanzania</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Nagorno-Karabakh region</td> <td>Ukraine</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Panjshir region</td> <td>Afghanistan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Kherson region</td> <td>Azerbaijan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. NEOM city</td> <td>United Arab Emirates</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?</p> <p>a) 2, 3 and 4 only  b) 1 and 3 only  c) 1, 3 and 5 only  d) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only</p> <p><b>Ans) b</b>  <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b></p>	Places in the news	Country	1. Lake Natron	Tanzania	2. Nagorno-Karabakh region	Ukraine	3. Panjshir region	Afghanistan	4. Kherson region	Azerbaijan	5. NEOM city	United Arab Emirates
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	<p><b>Pair 1 is correct: Lake Natron</b> is an alkaline lake located in the Arusha Region in <b>Tanzania</b>. Over a period of time, this lake has become a centre of attraction for experts and analysts. It has been reported that the lake turns animals that touch it into "stone". This sounds like folklore or a horror movie script, but it can be true to some extent because of the presence of salt in it. <b>The salty water in Lake Natron has a pH of over 10.5</b> and reports said that the water is so caustic that it can burn the skin and eyes of animals that aren't adapted to it. The lake gets its blood-red tone from Bacteria, which can tolerate harsh conditions.</p> <p><b>Pair 2 is incorrect:</b> Recently, Armenia is witnessing growing anti-govt unrest over the Nagorno-Karabakh region. <b>Nagorno-Karabakh</b> is a disputed territory between <b>Azerbaijan and Armenia (Not Ukraine)</b>. It is internationally recognized as part of <b>Azerbaijan</b>, but most of it is governed by the unrecognised Republic of Artsakh (also known as the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic (NKR)). The <b>Kherson and Mykolaiv</b> regions of <b>Ukraine</b> are some of most disputed regions between Ukraine and Russia.</p> <p><b>Pair 3 is correct: Panjshir</b> is home to the largest population of <b>ethnic Tajiks</b> living in <b>Afghanistan</b> which shapes the region's political and cultural identity. Although they don't have strong ties to Tajikistan, their value system is markedly different from the country's dominant Pashtun population. <b>The Taliban, a predominantly Pashtun organisation</b>, has historically struggled to gain support in Panjshir.</p> <p><b>Pair 4 is incorrect: Kherson is a region in Ukraine on the Dnieper River</b> near the Black Sea. Kherson is one of the Ukraine's regional capitals to have fallen to Russian forces. Recently, Russian troops continue to attack Kherson region with guided aerial bombs.</p> <p><b>Pair 5 is incorrect: NEOM city project is an initiative of crown prince Mohammed bin Salman – Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler (Not UAE). Neom is a large area of the country that has been earmarked for development.</b> Although often called a smart city, Neom is more accurately described as a region that will contain numerous cities, resorts and other developments. The megacity project will spread across 26,500 sq. kilometres on the Red Sea coast (in an area larger than Kuwait or Israel).</p> <p>Source:</p> <p><a href="https://www.wionews.com/science/does-lake-natron-lake-really-turn-animals-into-stone-whats-the-truth-575128">https://www.wionews.com/science/does-lake-natron-lake-really-turn-animals-into-stone-whats-the-truth-575128</a></p> <p><a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-global/azerbaijan-armenia-border-clashes-rising-fear-of-another-war-8150903/">https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-global/azerbaijan-armenia-border-clashes-rising-fear-of-another-war-8150903/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-15896396">https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-15896396</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.dezeen.com/2023/02/14/neom-guide-line-saudi-arabia/#:~:text=An%20initiative%20of%20crown%20prince,cities%2C%20resorts%20and%20other%20developments.">https://www.dezeen.com/2023/02/14/neom-guide-line-saudi-arabia/#:~:text=An%20initiative%20of%20crown%20prince,cities%2C%20resorts%20and%20other%20developments.</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.livemint.com/news/world/neom-all-you-need-to-know-about-saudi-arabia-s-futuristic-city-without-roads-and-cars-11676860649796.html#:~:text=The%20brainchild%20of%20this%20ofuturistic,larger%20than%20Kuwait%20or%20Israel.">https://www.livemint.com/news/world/neom-all-you-need-to-know-about-saudi-arabia-s-futuristic-city-without-roads-and-cars-11676860649796.html#:~:text=The%20brainchild%20of%20this%20ofuturistic,larger%20than%20Kuwait%20or%20Israel.</a></p> <p><a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/research/why-panjshir-valley-stood-strong-for-decades-and-how-it-has-fallen-now-7517281/">https://indianexpress.com/article/research/why-panjshir-valley-stood-strong-for-decades-and-how-it-has-fallen-now-7517281/</a></p>
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<p><b>Q.56)</b> Consider the following statements in respect of the 44th Chess Olympiad, 2022:</p> <p>1. It was the first time that Chess Olympiad was held in India.</p> <p>2. The official mascot was named Thambi'.</p> <p>3. The trophy for the winning team in the open section is the Vera Menchik Cup.</p> <p>4. The trophy for the winning team in the women's section is the Hamilton-Russell Cup.</p> <p>How many of the statements given above are correct?</p> <p>a) Only one b) Only two c) Only three d) All four</p>	<p><b>PTS</b> <b>2023 L2</b> <b>Test 7</b></p>	<p><b>Q.90)</b> With reference to the Chess Olympiad, consider the following statements:</p> <p>1. It is an annual chess tournament held at the global level.</p> <p>2. It is organized by the International Olympic Committee.</p> <p>3. India will be hosting the 2022 chess Olympiad for the first time.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 only c) 2 and 3 only d) 3 only</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b> <b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect:</b> The Chess Olympiad is a <b>biennial (and not annual) chess tournament</b> in which teams representing nations of the world compete. The first Official Chess Olympiad was held in 1927 in London, UK.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect: FIDE (International Chess Federation) (and not the International Olympic Committee)</b> organizes the tournament and selects the host nation.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> The 44<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad will be held in Chennai, India. India is <b>hosting the Chess Olympiad for the first time</b>. Moreover, Asia gets to host the event after a gap of 30 years. The Philippines last hosted it from Asia in 1992.</p> <p><b>Knowledge Base:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• India made its debut at Chess Olympiad in 1956. India has a gold medal (joint winners with Russia in 2020) and two bronze medals (2021, 2014) from the Chess Olympiad.</li> </ul> <p><b>Source:</b> <a href="https://blog.forumias.com/pm-launches-historic-torch-relay-for-44th-chess-olympiad/">https://blog.forumias.com/pm-launches-historic-torch-relay-for-44th-chess-olympiad/</a></p>																
<p><b>Q.57)</b> Consider the following pairs:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Area of conflict mentioned in news</th> <th style="text-align: left; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Country where it is located</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Donbas</td> <td>Syria</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Kachin</td> <td>Ethiopia</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Tigray</td> <td>North Yemen</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?</p> <p>a) Only one b) Only two c) All three d) None</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b> <b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p>	Area of conflict mentioned in news	Country where it is located	1. Donbas	Syria	2. Kachin	Ethiopia	3. Tigray	North Yemen	<p><b>SFG</b> <b>2023 L1</b> <b>Test 5</b></p>	<p><b>Q.40)</b> Consider the following pairs in context of places in news:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="border: none;">Place in news</th> <th style="border: none;">Country/Region</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="border: none;">1. Barbados</td> <td style="border: none;">Caribbean Islands</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">2. Donbas</td> <td style="border: none;">Poland</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">3. Amami Islands</td> <td style="border: none;">China</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?</p> <p>a) 1 only b) 1 and 2 only c) 1 and 3 only d) 2 and 3 only</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b> <b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Pair 1 is correctly matched: Barbados</b> is an island in the <b>Caribbean region</b> of the Americas, and the most easterly of the Caribbean Islands. It recently became the newest republic in the world. This is the first time since the 1970s that a Caribbean state has become a republic.</p>	Place in news	Country/Region	1. Barbados	Caribbean Islands	2. Donbas	Poland	3. Amami Islands	China
Area of conflict mentioned in news	Country where it is located																	
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Place in news	Country/Region																	
1. Barbados	Caribbean Islands																	
2. Donbas	Poland																	
3. Amami Islands	China																	



**Pair 2 is incorrectly matched: Donbas** is a small region in **eastern Ukraine (and not Poland)** adjoining the Russian border. With Russia mobilizing thousands of troops on its border with Ukraine, which has **sparked fears of war**, Donbas is once again at the center of a looming conflict.

**Q.37)** Consider the following pairs:

Conflicted region	Associated Country
1. Tigray region	Ethiopia
2. Kachin region	Myanmar
3. Marib region	Yemen
4. Kirkuk region	Syria

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- a) Only one pair.
- b) Only two pairs
- c) Only three pairs
- d) All four pairs

**Ans) c**

**Exp) Option c is the correct answer.**

**Pair 1 is correct: Tigray is a conflicted region within Ethiopia.**


The Ethiopian government and its supporters accuse the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) of trying to re-establish their rule over the country through violence and force. In turn, the TPLF accuses the federal government of Ethiopia of accumulating too much power for itself, and that it is engaging in ethnic discrimination of Tigrayans.

**Pair 2 is correct: Kachin State**, also known by the endonym Kachinland, is the northernmost state of Myanmar. **The Kachin conflict or the Kachin War is one of the multiple conflicts which are collectively referred to as the internal conflict in Myanmar. Kachin insurgents have been fighting against the Tatmadaw (Myanmar Armed Forces) since 1961.**

**Pair 3 is correct: Marib region is a conflicted zone in Yemen.** Conflict is between Houthi rebels and Yemen government. Houthi rebels launched an offensive to seize Marib, the last stronghold of Yemen's internationally recognized government.

**Pair 4 is incorrect: Kirkuk region is a part of Iraq (not Syria).** Kirkuk is a historically multi-ethnic city where conflict has emerged over ownership since the establishment of Iraq. Kurds, Arabs and Turkmen are all competing for positions of power. The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) wanted Kirkuk to become part of the Kurdistan Region, which is opposed by the region's Arab and

	<b>Simulat or 2023 test 5</b>	<p>Turkmen populations. There has been a long planned referendum to resolve Kirkuk's status under Article 140 of the Iraqi Constitution.</p> <p>Source:  <a href="https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01436597.2021.1925104#:~:text=Kirkuk%20is%20a%20historically%20multi,to%20avoid%20further%20political%20marginalisation.">https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01436597.2021.1925104#:~:text=Kirkuk%20is%20a%20historically%20multi,to%20avoid%20further%20political%20marginalisation.</a>  <a href="https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-29319423">https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-29319423</a>  <a href="https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/myanmar-s-kachin-take-higher-education-their-own-hands-amid-conflict">https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/myanmar-s-kachin-take-higher-education-their-own-hands-amid-conflict</a>  <a href="https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/conflict-in-the-tigray-region-of-ethiopia/">https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/conflict-in-the-tigray-region-of-ethiopia/</a></p>
<p><b>Q.59)</b> Consider the following heavy industries:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fertilizer plants</li> <li>2. Oil refineries</li> <li>3. Steel plants</li> </ol> <p>Green hydrogen is expected to play a significant role in decarbonizing how many of the above industries?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) All three</li> <li>d) None</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p>	<b>JATF Test 6</b>	<p><b>Q.30)</b> With reference to the Green Hydrogen and Green Hydrogen Policy, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Green hydrogen is produced by electrolysis of water using renewable energy.</li> <li>2. Oil refining, fertilizers and steel sectors are the key users of Hydrogen.</li> <li>3. The Policy has set a target to produce 500 million tonnes of Green Hydrogen per year by 2030.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 1 only</li> <li>c) 2 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 1 ,2 and 3</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>The National Hydrogen Mission was launched on India's 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day (i.e., 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2021) to aid the government in meeting its climate targets and making India a green hydrogen hub.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct:</b> The green hydrogen is hydrogen gas produced through electrolysis of water — an energy intensive process for splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen— using renewable power to achieve this. It is the clean hydrogen generated by <b>using renewable energy such as solar and wind energy</b> instead of fossil fuels. The electricity produced through solar/wind energy is used to <b>undertake electrolysis of water (in electrolyzers) to produce hydrogen.</b> The carbon footprint of green hydrogen is negligible compared to other methods of production.</p>

		<p><b>Statement 2 is correct:</b> The Policy is likely going to make it more economical for key users of hydrogen and ammonia such as the oil refining, fertiliser and steel sectors to produce green hydrogen for their own use. These sectors currently use grey hydrogen or grey ammonia produced using natural gas or naphtha.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect:</b> The policy has set a target of 5 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) (not 500 million) of Green Hydrogen production by 2030.</p> <p><b>Source:</b>  <a href="https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1799067#:~:text=Hydrogen%20and%20Ammonia%20are%20envisaged,energy%20security%20of%20the%20nation.">https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1799067#:~:text=Hydrogen%20and%20Ammonia%20are%20envisaged,energy%20security%20of%20the%20nation.</a>  <a href="https://blog.forumias.com/green-hydrogen-policy/#:~:text=The%20Green%20Hydrogen%20Policy%20defines,and%20ammonia%20produced%20from%20biomass">https://blog.forumias.com/green-hydrogen-policy/#:~:text=The%20Green%20Hydrogen%20Policy%20defines,and%20ammonia%20produced%20from%20biomass</a></p>
<p><b>Q.60)</b> Consider the following statements about G-20:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The G-20 group was originally established as a platform for the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors to discuss the international economic and financial issues.</li> <li>2. Digital public infrastructure is one of India's G-20 priorities.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) Both 1 and 2</li> <li>d) Neither 1 nor 2</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p>	<p><b>PTS 2023</b> <b>Simulator Test 1</b></p>	<p><b>Q.83)</b> Which of the following multilateral forums/ organizations have both India and Bangladesh as their members?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).</li> <li>2. Group of Twenty (G20)</li> <li>3. New Development Bank (NDB)</li> <li>4. Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF)</li> <li>5. Non-Alignment Movement (NAM)</li> </ol> <p>Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 5 only</li> <li>b) 1, 3 and 5 only</li> <li>c) 1, 3 and 4 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2 and 4 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b>  <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b>          Both India as well as Bangladesh share several international platforms, including South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).  <b>Option 1 is correct:</b> Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) is an inter-governmental organization aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and sustainable development within the Indian Ocean region through its 23 Member States. <b>Both India and Bangladesh are the members of this grouping.</b>  <b>IORA members:</b></p>  <p><b>Option 2 is incorrect:</b> The Group of Twenty (G20) is the premier forum for international economic cooperation. It was founded in 1999 after the Asian financial crisis as a forum for the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors to discuss global economic and financial</p>



		<p><b>issues.</b> The G20 was upgraded to the level of Heads of State/Government in the wake of the global economic and financial crisis of 2007, and, in 2009, was designated the “premier forum for international economic cooperation. It comprises of 19 countries and the European Union. <b>India, but not Bangladesh, is a member of this grouping.</b> Other members are countries Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States</p> <p><b>Option 3 is correct:</b> New Development Bank (NDB) supports infrastructure and sustainable development projects. <b>Both India and the Bangladesh are the members of NDB.</b> Other members are Brazil, Russia, China, South Africa and United Arab Emirates (UAE). Egypt is the latest member added to the bank in February 2023. Membership of NDB is open to all the members of the United Nations.</p> <p><b>Option 4 is incorrect:</b> The United States launched the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) along with other Nations. This framework will advance resilience, sustainability, inclusiveness, economic growth, fairness, and competitiveness for the countries in the Indo-Pacific region. for our economies. <b>India is a member of this grouping (but partly opted out on one of the pillars- data and privacy).</b> <b>Bangladesh is not a member of this grouping.</b> Other members are Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.</p> <p><b>Option 5 is correct:</b> The Non-Alignment Movement recognizes three categories for participation: Full Member, Observer and Guest. The Bandung Principles and the Membership Criteria of the Non-Aligned Movement function as admission criteria both for new members and observers. At present, <b>the Movement has 120 Member States (both India and Bangladesh are Member states),</b> 17 Observer Countries and 10 Observer organizations.</p> <p>Source :</p> <p><a href="https://www.ndb.int/about-ndb/members/">https://www.ndb.int/about-ndb/members/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/05/23/fact-sheet-in-asia-president-biden-and-a-dozen-indo-pacific-partners-launch-the-indo-pacific-economic-framework-for-prosperity/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/05/23/fact-sheet-in-asia-president-biden-and-a-dozen-indo-pacific-partners-launch-the-indo-pacific-economic-framework-for-prosperity/</a></p>
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	<p><b>PTS 2023 Simulat or Test 7</b></p>	
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	<p><b>Q.56)</b> Consider the following statements with reference to the G20 (Group of 20):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. W20 (Women 20) is an official engagement group under the G20.</li> <li>2. Theme of India's G20 presidency is 'Recover Together, Recover Stronger'.</li> <li>3. A new Initiative Chief Science Advisers' Roundtable (CSAR) is operationalized under India's G20 Presidency.</li> <li>4. G20 EMPOWER works for the development of least developed countries in their capacity building.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 3 only</li> <li>b) 2 and 3 only</li> <li>c) 2, 3 and 4 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2, 3 and 4</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>The G20 or Group of 20 is an intergovernmental forum comprising 19 countries and the European Union (EU).</b> It works to address major issues related to the global economy, such as international financial stability, climate change mitigation, and sustainable development.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct: W20 (Women 20) is an official engagement group under the G20</b> which was established during the <b>Turkish presidency in 2015</b>. Its primary objective is to ensure that gender considerations are mainstreamed into G20 discussions and translated into the G20 Leaders' Declaration as policies and commitments that foster gender equality and women's economic empowerment.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect: The theme of India's G20 Presidency - "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth · One Family · One Future" - is drawn from the ancient Sanskrit text of the Maha Upanishad.</b> Essentially, the theme affirms the value of all life – human, animal, plant, and microorganisms – and their interconnectedness on the planet Earth and in the wider universe. Whereas under the Indonesian Presidency of the G20 in 2022 theme was the, 'Recover Together, Recover Stronger'. The 17th Group of 20 (G20) Heads of State and Government Summit took place in October 2022 in Bali, Indonesia.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> A new Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), a new Engagement Group "Startup 20" and a new Initiative Chief Science Advisers' Roundtable (CSAR) have been operationalized in India's G20 Presidency.</p> <p><b>Statement 4 is incorrect:</b> The G20 Alliance for the Empowerment and Progression of Women's Economic Representation (<b>G20 EMPOWER</b>) is <b>accelerating women's leadership and empowerment in the private sector.</b> Recently, the second G20 EMPOWER meeting took place in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on 5th and 6th April 2023. The meeting was a pivotal steppingstone towards creating a G20 partnership for actions for women-led development. Hence, <b>G20 EMPOWER is not related to the Least Developed Countries.</b></p> <p>Source:  <a href="https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1882356">https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1882356</a>  <a href="https://sdg.iisd.org/events/g20-leaders-summit-2022/">https://sdg.iisd.org/events/g20-leaders-summit-2022/</a></p>
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		<p><a href="https://www.g20empower-indonesia.org/#about">https://www.g20empower-indonesia.org/#about</a> <a href="https://www.startup20india2023.org/#:~:text=Startup20%20is%20the%20first%20of,presidency%20of%20the%20G20%202023.">https://www.startup20india2023.org/#:~:text=Startup20%20is%20the%20first%20of,presidency%20of%20the%20G20%202023.</a> <a href="https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1902349">https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1902349</a></p>
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<p><b>Q.63)</b> Consider the following statements</p> <p><b>Statement-I</b> 7th August is declared as the National Handloom Day.</p> <p><b>Statement-II</b> It was in 1905 that the Swadeshi Movement was launched on the same day.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <p>a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I</p> <p>b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I</p> <p>c) Statement-I correct but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct</p>	<p><b>SFG L1</b> <b>Test 18</b></p>	<p><b>Q.21)</b> Which one of the following movements has contributed to a split in the Indian National Congress resulting in the emergence of 'moderates' and 'extremists'?</p> <p>a) Swadeshi Movement</p> <p>b) Quit India Movement</p> <p>c) Non-Cooperation Movement</p> <p>d) Civil Disobedience Movement</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b> <b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b> The Swadeshi movement was launched in protest of the Government's decision to partition Bengal had been made public in <b>July 1905</b>. <b>The extremists wanted to extend the Swadeshi and Boycott movements from Bengal to the rest of the country whereas the moderates wanted to confine the movement in Bengal.</b> Later, there was a tussle between the two groups for the presidentship of the National Congress for that year (1906). These events inflamed the differences between the approaches of the two groups. <b>The split between the two came at the Surat Session of the National Congress in December 1907.</b> <b>Source:</b> UPSC CSE 2015</p>
<p><b>Q.64)</b> Consider the following statements in respect of the National Flag of India according to the Flag Code of India, 2002:</p> <p><b>Statement-I:</b> One of the standard sizes of the National Flag of India is 600 mm x 400 mm.</p> <p><b>Statement-II:</b> The ratio of the length to the height (width) of the Flag shall be 3:2.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <p>a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I</p> <p>b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I</p> <p>c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct</p>	<p><b>SFG</b> <b>2023 L1</b> <b>Test 20</b></p>	<p><b>Q.5)</b> Which of the following statements regarding the Flag Code of India, seen in news recently, is correct?</p> <p>a) The national flag must be made exclusively from handmade/ spun fabric.</p> <p>b) The national flag can be displayed by the general public only on Republic Day &amp; Independence Day.</p> <p>c) The national flag must never be burned or buried.</p> <p>d) The national flag cannot be worn as a part of any costume below the waist.</p> <p><b>Ans) d</b> <b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b> The Flag Code of India, 2022 laid down rules on how to use, display and hoist the national flag. It took effect on 26 January 2022. The instructions regarding the National Flag are contained in the Flag Code of India 2002 and upheld by the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971. <b>Statement a is incorrect: Earlier the tricolour used to be made exclusively out of hand spun material using hand making techniques. However, in recent amendments (December 2021), the machine production of the tricolour was allowed.</b> It allowed the national flag to be made of <b>polyester or stitched using machines.</b> Now, the Tricolour can be made of <b>hand-spun, hand-woven or machine-made cotton, polyester, wool, silk and khadi bunting.</b> <b>Statement b is incorrect: The tricolour may be displayed by any organisation or any member of the general public on any special</b></p>


		<p><b>occasion</b>, such as the Republic or Independence Day, <b>or any ordinary day as well</b>. The only caveat is that they must ensure that <b>all rules for ensuring the respect and dignity</b> of the flag are <b>maintained</b>.</p> <p><b>Statement c is incorrect:</b> The Code permits the <b>burning or burial</b> of the tricolour, in order to <b>dispose of it</b>, if it has been <b>badly damaged</b>. Although it is encouraged to store the flags properly, in case they have been damaged <b>beyond repair</b> due to some reason, they may be disposed of by <b>burning, but only in private in a dignified manner</b>. They may also be <b>disposed of by burial</b>, but only <b>after being folded properly and being placed in a wooden box</b>.</p> <p><b>Statement d is correct:</b> The code <b>prohibits the use of the national flag “as a portion of costume or uniform”</b>. It <b>cannot be used as an accessory to be worn below the waist</b> of any person “nor shall it be embroidered or printed on cushions, handkerchiefs, napkins, undergarments or any dress material.</p> <p>Knowledge Base:          The flag can be as big or small as one wants “but the ratio of the length to the height (width) of the National Flag shall be 3:2. The flag must always be a rectangle rather than square or any other shape.          It is against rules to display a damaged or dishevelled National Flag          No other flag or bunting shall be placed higher than or above or side by side with the National Flag; nor shall any object including flowers or garlands, or emblem be placed on or above the flag mast from which the National Flag is flown”. The Tricolour should never be used as a festoon, rosette, bunting or for a decorative purpose. No advertisements should be festooned to the pole from which it flies.          The National Flag cannot be flown on any vehicle except those of the President, Vice President, Prime Minister, Governor and other dignitaries. The flag should also not be used to cover the sides, back, and top of any vehicle.          People, who are waving flags made of paper, should not throw these on the ground after the ceremony. The flag “shall not be allowed to touch the ground or the floor or trail in the water.          Source: <a href="https://www.firstpost.com/explainers/har-ghar-tiranga-how-to-disposing-of-the-national-flag-flag-code-india-independence-day-11061961.html#:~:text=The%20Flag%20Code%20of%20India%2C%202022%2C%20which%20was%20amended%20vide,polyester%20or%20stitched%20using%20machines.">https://www.firstpost.com/explainers/har-ghar-tiranga-how-to-disposing-of-the-national-flag-flag-code-india-independence-day-11061961.html#:~:text=The%20Flag%20Code%20of%20India%2C%202022%2C%20which%20was%20amended%20vide,polyester%20or%20stitched%20using%20machines.</a>  <a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/tricolour-display-rules-independence-day-explained-8086735/">https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/tricolour-display-rules-independence-day-explained-8086735/</a></p>						
<p><b>Q.65)</b> Consider the following statements in respect of the Constitution Day:  <b>Statement-I:</b>          The Constitution Day is celebrated on 26th November every year to promote constitutional values among citizens.  <b>Statement-II:</b>          On 26th November, 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India set up</p>	<p><b>SFG</b>  <b>2023 L1</b>  <b>Test 1</b></p>	<p><b>Q.12)</b> Consider the following pairs regarding the various committees of the Constituent Assembly and their Chairpersons:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Committee.</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Chairperson</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1. Union Powers Committee</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Jawaharlal Nehru</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2. Provincial Constitution Committee</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Dr. B.R. Ambedkar</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Committee.	Chairperson	1. Union Powers Committee	Jawaharlal Nehru	2. Provincial Constitution Committee	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
Committee.	Chairperson							
1. Union Powers Committee	Jawaharlal Nehru							
2. Provincial Constitution Committee	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar							


<p>a Drafting Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar to prepare a Draft Constitution of India.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <p>a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-I is the correct explanation for Statement-I</p> <p>b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I</p> <p>c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;">3. Union Constitution Committee</td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;">Dr. Rajendra Prasad</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">4. Minorities sub-committee</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">J.B. Kriplani</td> </tr> </table> <p>How many pairs given above are correctly matched?</p> <p>a) Only one pair b) Only two pairs c) Only three pairs d) All four pairs</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>The Constituent Assembly was constituted in November 1946 under the scheme formulated by the Cabinet Mission Plan.</b> The Constituent Assembly established 22 committees, including the drafting committee, to prepare the constitution. The committees produced an <b>accepted report</b>, which was used to form a <b>drafting committee led by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar</b>, who was a legal member of the Indian government at the time. Out of these, eight were major committees and the others were minor committees.</p> <p><b>Pair 1 is correctly matched and pair 2, 3 and 4 are incorrectly matched:</b></p> <p><b>Major Committees and their chairman:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Union Powers Committee - Jawaharlal Nehru (Pair 1 is correct)</b></li> <li>2. <b>Union Constitution Committee -Jawaharlal Nehru (Pair 3 is incorrect)</b></li> <li>3. <b>Provincial Constitution Committee -Sardar Patel (Pair 2 is incorrect)</b></li> <li>4. <b>Drafting Committee - Dr. B.R. Ambedkar</b></li> <li>5. <b>Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas - Sardar Patel.</b></li> </ol> <p>This committee had the following five sub-committees:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>Fundamental Rights Sub-Committee - J.B. Kripalani</b></li> <li>b. <b>Minorities Sub-Committee - H.C. Mukherjee (Pair 4 is incorrect)</b></li> <li>c. <b>North-East Frontier Tribal Areas and Assam Excluded &amp; Partially Excluded Areas Sub-Committee -Gopinath Bardoloi</b></li> <li>d. <b>Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas (other than those in Assam) Sub-Committee - A.V. Thakkar.</b></li> <li>e. <b>North-West Frontier Tribal Areas Sub-Committee</b></li> </ol> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. <b>Rules of Procedure Committee - Dr. Rajendra Prasad</b></li> <li>7. <b>States Committee (Committee for Negotiating with States) - Jawaharlal Nehru</b></li> <li>8. <b>Steering Committee - Dr. Rajendra Prasad.</b></li> </ol> <p>Source: Laxmikanth- Ch 2(making of the constitution)</p> <p><b>Q.70)</b> "India's national calendar is based on the Saka Era, with Chaitra as its first month and a normal year of 365 days.</p> <p><b>The preamble of the Constitution of India mentions 26 November 1949 as the date of adoption of the Constitution."</b> In this context in which of</p>	3. Union Constitution Committee	Dr. Rajendra Prasad	4. Minorities sub-committee	J.B. Kriplani	
3. Union Constitution Committee	Dr. Rajendra Prasad					
4. Minorities sub-committee	J.B. Kriplani					

	<p><b>PTS 2023 Simulat or 6</b></p>	<p>the following years, the Constitution of India was adopted according to National Calendar based on Saka Era?</p> <p>a) 1871 Saka Samvat b) 2006 Saka Samvat c) 2027 Saka Samvat d) 1949 Saka Samvat</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b> <b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>The zero year (base year) of Saka Samvat is 78 A.D. It was started by <b>Saka rulers to mark their victory over Kushanas</b>. It is a solar calendar, any dating system based on the seasonal year of approximately 365 1/4 days, the time it takes the Earth to revolve once around the Sun.</p> <p>Option a is correct: As the base year or zero year for Saka Samvat is 78 A.D. So, we have to subtract 78 years from the Gregorian Calander year to arrive at the correct year according to the Saka Calendar. So, the year 1949 will be 1871 according to Saka Calendar.</p> <p>Knowledge Base: The national calendar based on the <b>Saka Era</b>, with <b>Chaitra</b> as its first month and a normal year of 365 days was adopted from 22 March 1957 along with the Gregorian calendar for the following official purposes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gazette of India.</li> <li>2. News broadcast by All India Radio.</li> <li>3. Calendars issued by the Government of India.</li> <li>4. Government communications addressed to the public.</li> </ol> <p>Dates of the national calendar have a permanent correspondence with dates of the Gregorian calendar, 1 <b>Chaitra</b> falling on 22 March normally and on 21 March in leap year.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://knowindia.india.gov.in/national-identity-elements/national-calendar.php">https://knowindia.india.gov.in/national-identity-elements/national-calendar.php</a> <a href="https://indiannumismatics.com/table-of-eras.php">https://indiannumismatics.com/table-of-eras.php</a> <a href="https://journalsofindia.com/bhaskarabda-calendar/">https://journalsofindia.com/bhaskarabda-calendar/</a></p>
<p><b>Q.68)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <p><b>Statement-I:</b> India accounts for 3.2% of global export of goods.</p> <p><b>Statement-II:</b> Many local companies and some foreign companies operating in India have taken advantage of India's Production-linked Incentive' scheme.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <p>a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I. b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-I is not the correct explanation for Statement-I. c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect. d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.</p>	<p><b>[PTS 2023 SIMUL ATOR X QUEST ION 9]</b></p>	<p>Consider the following statements about Production Linked Incentive Scheme of Government of India</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Under this scheme, companies receive incentives on incremental sales from products manufactured in India.</li> <li>2. The scheme aims to boost domestic manufacturing by increasing investment in targeted sectors.</li> <li>3. Currently this scheme is applicable in the Electronics and Pharmaceutical sector only.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 only b) 1 and 2 only c) 2 and 3 only d) 1,2 and 3</p> <p><b>Ans) b</b> <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct:</b> PLI Schemes are a cornerstone of the Government's push for achieving an Atmanirbhar Bharat. The objective is to make domestic manufacturing globally competitive and to create global Champions in manufacturing. <b>The strategy behind scheme is to offer companies incentives on incremental sales from products manufactured in India</b>, over the base year.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct:</b> They have been specifically designed to <b>boost domestic manufacturing, in sunrise and strategic sectors</b>, curb cheaper imports and <b>reduce import bills</b>, improve <b>cost competitiveness</b> of domestically manufactured goods, and enhance</p>



<b>Ans) d</b>	<p>domestic capacity and exports. Hence it aims to achieve large scale production by increasing investment in targeted sectors.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect:</b> Currently Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme is open for 14 sectors like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Electronic/Technology Products – <b>MeitY</b></li><li>• Pharmaceuticals drugs – <b>D/o Pharmaceutical</b></li><li>• Telecom &amp; Networking Products - <b>D/o Telecommunications</b></li><li>• Food Products -<b>Ministry of Food Processing Industries</b></li><li>• White Goods (ACs &amp; LED) – <b>DPIIT</b></li><li>• High Efficiency Solar PV Modules -<b>MNRE</b></li><li>• Automobiles &amp; Auto Components – <b>D/o Heavy Industry</b></li><li>• Advance Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery – <b>D/o Heavy Industry</b></li><li>• Textile Products: MMF segment and technical textiles – <b>M/o Textiles</b></li><li>• Specialty Steel -<b>M/o Steel etc</b></li></ul> <p>Source: <a href="https://www.meity.gov.in/esdm/pli">https://www.meity.gov.in/esdm/pli</a> <a href="https://www.investindia.gov.in/production-linked-incentives-schemes-india">https://www.investindia.gov.in/production-linked-incentives-schemes-india</a></p>
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<p><b>Q.71)</b> Consider the following countries</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bulgaria</li> <li>2. Czech Republic</li> <li>3. Hungary</li> <li>4. Latvia</li> <li>5. Lithuania</li> <li>6. Romania</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above countries share a land border with Ukraine?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only two</li> <li>b) Only three</li> <li>c) Only four</li> <li>d) Only five</li> </ol>	<p><b>Simulat or 0 2023</b></p>	<p><b>Q.52)</b> Which among the following countries share land boundary with Russia?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Poland</li> <li>2. Belarus</li> <li>3. Belgium</li> <li>4. Hungary</li> <li>5. Lithuania</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1, 3 and 4 only</li> <li>b) 2,3 and 5 only</li> <li>c) 1,2 and 5 only</li> <li>d) 2,3,4 and 5 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer</b></p> <p>Russia's territory covers an area of approximately 11% of the Earth's landmass. The Russian Federation is the largest country in the world (by area). Russia, is located partly in Eastern Europe and partly in North Asia; it borders the Arctic Ocean to the north, the Bering Sea and the Sea of Okhotsk in the east.</p> <p>Russia borders 14 countries, Azerbaijan, <b>Belarus (Option 2 is correct)</b>, China, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Kazakhstan, North Korea, Latvia, <b>Lithuania (Option 5 is correct)</b>, Mongolia, Norway, <b>Poland (Option 1 is correct)</b>, and Ukraine.</p>  <p>Out of these, <b>Poland borders Kaliningrad Oblast to the south and Lithuania to the north and east</b>, and the Baltic Sea to the northwest. It is the westernmost federal subject of Russia. It is a semi-exclave situated on the Baltic Sea. Kaliningrad Oblast was an exclave of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic and with the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 it became separated from the rest of Russian land by independent countries.</p>
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		 <p>It shares maritime borders with Japan, Sweden, Turkey, and the United States.</p>
<p><b>Q.72)</b> With reference to the Earth's atmosphere, which one of the following statements is correct?</p> <p>a) The total amount of insolation received at the equator is roughly about 10 times of that received at the poles.</p> <p>b) Infrared rays constitute roughly two-thirds of insolation.</p> <p>c) Infrared waves are largely absorbed by water vapour that is concentrated in the lower atmosphere.</p>	<p><b>SFG</b> <b>2023 L1</b> <b>Test 27</b></p>	<p><b>Q.9)</b> With reference to ‘Spatial Distribution of Insolation at the earth’s surface’, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The subtropical deserts receive maximum insolation on Earth.</li> <li>2. The amount of insolation received by the equator is more as compared to the tropics.</li> <li>3. The middle and higher latitudes receive less insolation in the winter season than in the summer.</li> <li>4. At the equinoxes, the solar insolation is zero at the poles.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the following statements given above are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 and 4 only b) 2 and 3 only c) 1, 3 and 4 only</p>

<p>d) Infrared waves are a part of visible spectrum of electromagnetic waves of solar radiation.</p>		<p>d) 3 and 4 only</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b>  <b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b>  The amount of insolation received on the earth's surface is not uniform everywhere. It varies from place to place and from time to time. The tropical zone receives the maximum annual insolation. It gradually decreases towards the poles. Insolation is more in summers and less in winters.  <b>Statement 1 is correct:</b> Maximum insolation is received over the subtropical deserts, where the cloudiness is the least. The cloudless skies allow for maximum insolation in the subtropical deserts as compare to other cloudy regions that reflects sunlight.  <b>Statement 2 is incorrect:</b> Equator receives <b>comparatively less insolation than the tropics due to presence of clouds.</b>  <b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> The <b>middle and higher latitudes receive less radiation in the winter season</b> than in the summer. Seasonal change has impact on insolation in this region, hence, dissimilarities are found in the amount of solar radiation.  <b>Statement 4 is correct:</b> At the equinoxes, solar insolation is at a maximum at the equator and is zero at the poles. At the summer solstice of the northern hemisphere, daily insolation reaches a maximum at the North Pole because of the 24-hour-long solar day. At the winter solstice, the sun does not rise above the horizon north of about 66.5°, where solar insolation is zero.  Source: NCERT 11th Geography Unit 4 Climate, Chapter 9 SOLAR RADIATION, HEAT BALANCE AND TEMPERATURE  <a href="https://www.uou.ac.in/lecturenotes/science/MSCGE-19/Insolation,%20Atmospheric%20temperature%20and%20Heat%20Budget%20of%20the%20Earth.pdf">https://www.uou.ac.in/lecturenotes/science/MSCGE-19/Insolation,%20Atmospheric%20temperature%20and%20Heat%20Budget%20of%20the%20Earth.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Q.73)</b> Consider the following statements:  <b>Statement-I</b>  The soil in tropical rain forests is rich in nutrients  <b>Statement-II</b>  The high temperature and moisture of tropical rain forests cause dead organic matter in the soil to decompose quickly.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?  a) Both Statement-I and Statement- are correct and Statement- is the correct explanation for Statement-I.  b) Both Statement-I and Statement- are correct and Statement-I is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.  c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.</p>	<p><b>PTS</b>  <b>2023 L2</b>  <b>Preparatory test</b>  <b>29</b></p>	<p><b>Q.32)</b> With reference to the tropical rainforest biome, consider the following statements:  1. It is characterized by non-uniformity in temperature and humidity throughout the year.  2. The soils of this biome are rich in nutrients due to high rainfall.  3. The vegetation consists of multi layered canopy and tall trees.  Which of the statements given above are correct?  a) 1 and 2 only  b) 2 and 3 only  c) 3 only  d) 1, 2 and 3</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b>  <b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer</b>  The tropical rainforest is a hot, moist biome where it rains all year long. It is known for its dense canopies of vegetation that form three different layers. The top layer or canopy contains giant trees that grow to heights of 75 m (about 250 ft) or more. This layer of vegetation prevents much of the sunlight from reaching the ground. Thick, woody vines are also found in the canopy. They climb trees in the canopy to reach for sunlight.</p>

<p>d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.</p>		<p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect.</b> In the tropical rainforest <b>both temperature and humidity remain high</b> and more or less uniform <b>throughout the year</b>. The annual rainfall exceeds 200 cm and is generally distributed throughout the year.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect.</b> <b>Soil of tropical rainforests are red latosols, and they are very thick. There is poor nutrients in the upper layers of the soil due to high rainfall. The high rate of leaching makes these soils virtually useless for agricultural purposes, but when left undisturbed, the rapid cycling of nutrients within the litter layer, formed due to decomposition can compensate for the natural poverty of the soil.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct.</b> The tropical rainforest is characterised by highly diverse flora. The extreme dense vegetation of the tropical rain forests remains <b>vertically stratified with tall trees</b> often covered with vines, creepers, lianas, epiphytic orchids and bromeliads. The lowest layer is an <b>understory of trees, shrubs, herbs, like ferns and palms</b>. Undergrowth is restricted in many areas by the lack of sunlight at ground level.</p> <p>Source: Environment, Shankar IAS, Chapter-3, Pg. 24</p>
<p><b>Q.74)</b> Consider the following statements</p> <p><b>Statement-I:</b> The temperature contrast between is greater continents and oceans during summer than in winter.</p> <p><b>Statement-II:</b> The specific heat of water is more than that of land surface.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <p>a) Both Statement-I and Statement- are correct and Statement- is the correct explanation for Statement-I. b) Both Statement-1 and Statement- are correct and Statement-I is not the correct explanation for Statement-I. c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect. d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.</p>	<p><b>SFG 2023 L1 T27</b></p>	<p><b>Q.41)</b> The annual range of temperature in the interior of the continents is high as compared to coastal areas. What is/are the reason/reasons?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Thermal difference between land and water</li> <li>2. Variation in altitude between continents and oceans</li> <li>3. Presence of strong winds in the interior</li> <li>4. Heavy rains in the interior as compared to coasts</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct answer using the codes given below.</p> <p>a) 1 only b) 1 and 2 only c) 2 and 3 only d) 1, 2, 3 and 4</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b> <b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>The annual range of temperature is defined as the difference between the hottest and coldest months at a place, taking monthly mean temperatures in each case. It is given approximately by the difference between the average of the January maximum and minimum temperatures, and the corresponding average for July.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct.</b> The continents get heated faster and get cooled faster in comparison to the Oceans. The annual range of temperature is high in the interior of the continent because places located in the interior of the continent are far away from the moderating influence of the sea.</p> <p><b>Statements 2 is incorrect.</b> Altitude affects the daily range of temperature and annual mean temperature but has negligible impact on annual range of temperature. <b>Latitude affects the</b> annual range of temperature. The annual range of temperature increases with increasing latitude.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect.</b> Wind is generally stronger near the coasts compared to interior areas of continents.</p>

		<p><b>Statement 4 is incorrect.</b> Rainfall in the interiors of the Continents is generally low as compared to Coasts. It is because the rain bearing winds from seas and oceans tend to lose most of the moisture till they reach the interiors.</p> <p>The continents get heated faster and get cooled faster in comparison to the Oceans. The annual range of temperature is high in the interior of the continent because places located in the interior of the continent are far away from the moderating influence of the sea.</p> <p>Source) UPSC 2013</p>
<p><b>Q.75)</b> Consider the following statements :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In a seismograph, P waves are recorded earlier than S waves.</li> <li>2. In P waves, the individual particles vibrate to and fro in the direction of wave propagation whereas in S waves, the particles vibrate up and down at right angles to the direction of wave propagation.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) Both 1 and 2</li> <li>d) Neither 1 nor 2</li> </ol>	<p><b>SFG L2</b> <b>Test 28</b></p>	<p><b>Q.27)</b> Consider the following statements regarding the Surface Earthquake Waves:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. They are generated by the interaction of body waves with surface rocks.</li> <li>2. Their speed is slower than Body waves.</li> <li>3. They are usually more destructive than Body waves.</li> <li>4. As compared to Deeper Earthquakes, Shallow Earthquakes produce stronger Surface Waves.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1, 2 and 3 only</li> <li>b) 1, 2 and 4 only</li> <li>c) 2, 3 and 4 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2, 3 and 4</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>There are two categories of seismic waves known as body and surface waves. Body waves move along the internal division of the Earth and further divided into two sub-types. These are primary and secondary waves designated by the P and S. Surface waves as the name itself indicates moves at the external division of the Earth's surface with two subtypes namely Rayleigh and Love waves.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct:</b> Body waves are generated due to the release of energy at the focus and move in all directions travelling through the body of the earth. Hence, the name body waves. The body waves interact with the surface rocks and generate a new set of waves called surface waves. These waves move along the surface.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct:</b> Surface waves arrive at the surface after the Body waves as their speed is slower than Body waves. In the Body waves, Primary or P waves are the first to arrive and then secondary or s waves. The surface waves are the last to report on seismograph as they are the slowest.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> Surface waves are more destructive. They cause displacement of rocks, and hence, the collapse of structures occurs. It makes everything upon the surface to be in motion including buildings, bridges, transmission lines and numerous man-made objects. These waves generally affect only the surface of the earth and die out at smaller depth. These waves cover the longest distances of all the seismic waves. Though their speed is slower than P and S waves, but these are most violent and destructive</p>

	<p><b>Statement 4 is correct: Shallow</b> earthquakes produce stronger surface waves; the strength of the surface waves is reduced in deeper earthquakes.</p> <p>Source:  <a href="https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/59074/1/Block-2.pdf">https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/59074/1/Block-2.pdf</a>  and  <a href="https://www.mtu.edu/geo/community/seismology/learn/seismology-study/surface-wave/#:~:text=Surface%20waves%20travel%20more%20slowly,are%20reduced%20in%20deeper%20earthquakes.">https://www.mtu.edu/geo/community/seismology/learn/seismology-study/surface-wave/#:~:text=Surface%20waves%20travel%20more%20slowly,are%20reduced%20in%20deeper%20earthquakes.</a></p> <p><b>Q.12)</b> Earthquake surface waves are divided into Love (L-waves) and Rayleigh (R-waves). Of the two L waves are more destructive because:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>L-waves create a rolling, up and down motion with an elliptical and retrograde particle motion.</li> <li>L-waves shake the ground in the direction they are propagating.</li> <li>L-wave is the fastest and is a compressional wave, ultimately compresses and expands material in the same direction it is travelling.compressional wave, ultimately compresses and expands material in the same direction it is travelling.</li> <li>L-waves have a particle motion transverse to the direction of propagation but with no vertical motion.</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) d</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option d is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>Surface waves, in contrast to body waves can only move along the surface. They arrive after the main P and S waves and are confined to the outer layers of the Earth. They cause the most surface destruction. Earthquake surface waves are divided into two different categories: Love and Rayleigh.</p> <p><b>Option a is incorrect. Rayleigh waves create a rolling, up and down motion with an elliptical and retrograde particle motion</b> confined to the vertical plane in the direction of propagation. Surface waves are generally not generated by deep earthquakes.</p> <p><b>Option b and c is incorrect.</b> P-waves shake the ground in the direction they are propagating. The P-wave is the first to arrive at a location, as it is the fastest. The P wave, or compressional wave, ultimately compresses and expands material in the same direction it is travelling.</p> <p><b>Option d is correct. Love waves have a particle motion, which, like the S-wave, is transverse to the direction of propagation but with no vertical motion. Their side-to-side motion (like a snake wriggling) causes the ground to twist from side to side, that's why Love waves cause the most damage to structures.</b></p> <p>Knowledge Base: <b>Additional Information</b></p> <p><b>Body waves:</b> Body waves are of two types: compressional or primary (P) waves and shear or secondary (S) waves. P- and S- waves are called "body waves" because they can travel through the interior of a body such as the Earth's inner layers, from the <b>focus</b> of an earthquake to distant points on the surface. The Earth's molten core can only be traveled through by compressional waves.</p>
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**PTS**  
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**L1 T10**  
**Q 12**

		<p>P-waves travel fastest, at speeds between 4-8 km/sec in the Earth's crust. S-waves travel more slowly, usually at 2.5-4 km/sec. Sound waves are usually called P-waves and are heard but not often felt. Except in the most powerful earthquakes they generally do not cause much damage. P-waves shake the ground in the direction they are propagating, while S-waves shake perpendicularly or transverse to the direction of propagation (i.e. they displace material at right angles to their path).</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://www.sms-tsunami-warning.com/pages/seismic-waves#.YoPnQWThUzY">https://www.sms-tsunami-warning.com/pages/seismic-waves#.YoPnQWThUzY</a></p>
<p><b>Q.77)</b> 'Wolbachia method' is sometimes talked about with reference to which one of the following?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Controlling the viral diseases spread by mosquitoes.</li> <li>Converting crop residues into packing material.</li> <li>Producing biodegradable plastics.</li> <li>Producing biochar from thermo-chemical conversion of biomass.</li> </ol>	<p><b>PTS batch 7 comprehensive test 5</b></p>	<p><b>Q.42)</b> Consider the following statements with reference to the Wolbachia bacteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wolbachia are natural bacteria present in about 50% of insect species.</li> <li>The flies and mosquitos infected with Wolbachia bacteria are less resistant to RNA viruses.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 only</li> <li>2 only</li> <li>Both 1 and 2</li> <li>Neither 1 nor 2</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b>  <b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b>  <b>Statement 1 is correct: Wolbachia</b> are natural bacteria present in <b>up to 50% of insect species</b>, including <b>some mosquitoes</b>. However, Wolbachia is not usually found in the Aedes aegypti mosquito, the primary species responsible for transmitting human viruses such as Zika, dengue, chikungunya and yellow fever. Wolbachia is safe for humans, animals and the environment.  <b>Statement 2 is incorrect: Wolbachia is a good bacterium for certain insects.</b> The advantages of Wolbachia are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The flies and mosquitos infected with Wolbachia bacteria are more resistant to RNA viruses</b> such as West Nile virus, Chikungunya virus, cricket paralysis virus, flock house virus and Norovirus.</li> <li>In leafminers, the bacteria help their hosts to produce green islands. The leafminers are insects that live and eats the leaf tissues in their larval stage.</li> <li>The Wolbachia bacteria help the leafminers to produce green islands on the leaves that are yellowing. This allows the larva to grow to their adult forms.</li> <li>It helps in iron metabolism in some of the insect species.</li> <li>The occurrence of Wolbachia in household mosquitos helps them remain resistant to insecticides.</li> </ol> <p><b>KB: Wolbachia plays the role of disease vector</b>, that is, disease causing bacteria, in <b>isopod species</b>. They have major role in river blindness (onchocerciasis) and elephantiasis. Wolbachia also help humans by disease prevention. Wolbachia causes Crystoplasmic incompatibility in some of its hosts. Crystoplasmic incompatibility is</p>



		<p>a phenomenon that makes the eggs and sperms incapable of producing an offspring.                  Source: <a href="https://www.worldmosquitoprogram.org/en/work/wolbachia-method/how-it-works">https://www.worldmosquitoprogram.org/en/work/wolbachia-method/how-it-works</a>  <a href="https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/science/indonesian-good-mosquitoes-dengue-7602556/">https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/science/indonesian-good-mosquitoes-dengue-7602556/</a></p>
<p><b>Q.78)</b> Consider the following activities :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Spreading finely ground best rock on farmlands extensively</li> <li>2. Increasing the alkalinity of by adding lime</li> <li>3. Capturing carbon dioxide released by various industries and pumping into abandoned subterranean mines in the form of carbonated waters</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above activities are often considered and discussed for carbon capture and sequestration?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) All three</li> <li>d) None</li> </ol>	<p><b>SFG L2</b> <b>Test 48</b></p> <p><b>PTS L2</b> <b>prepara</b></p>	<p><b>Q.16)</b> Which one of the following options correctly describes the term “carbon fertilisation”?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The process of capturing and storing atmospheric carbon dioxide in Earth’s crust.</li> <li>b) Increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere leading to an increase in the rate of photosynthesis in plants.</li> <li>c) A method for removing dissolved organic substances from Ocean and other marine bodies.</li> <li>d) None of the above.</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b>  <b>Exp) option b is the correct answer.</b>  <b>Option a is incorrect: Carbon sequestration is the process of capturing and storing atmospheric carbon dioxide.</b> It is one method of reducing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere with the goal of reducing global climate change.  <b>Option b is correct:</b> The carbon dioxide fertilization or carbon fertilisation is responsible for plant growth, and it also contributes to the greening effect. <b>It refers to the increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere leading to an increase in the rate of photosynthesis in plants.</b>  <b>Option c is incorrect: Carbon adsorption is an effective method for removing dissolved organic substances that cause tastes, odours, or colours is adsorption by activated carbon.</b> Adsorption is the capacity of a solid particle to attract molecules to its surface. Powdered carbon mixed with water can adsorb and hold many different organic impurities. When the carbon is saturated with impurities, it is cleaned or reactivated by heating to a high temperature in a special furnace.                  Source:  <a href="https://greenstories.co.in/carbon-fertilization-and-its-effects-on-crop/">https://greenstories.co.in/carbon-fertilization-and-its-effects-on-crop/</a>  <a href="https://www.usgs.gov/faqs/what-carbon-sequestration#:~:text=Carbon%20sequestration%20is%20the%20process,carbon%20sequestration%3A%20geologic%20and%20biologi">https://www.usgs.gov/faqs/what-carbon-sequestration#:~:text=Carbon%20sequestration%20is%20the%20process,carbon%20sequestration%3A%20geologic%20and%20biologi</a>                  c.  <a href="https://www.britannica.com/technology/water-supply-system/Chlorination#ref1084833">https://www.britannica.com/technology/water-supply-system/Chlorination#ref1084833</a></p> <p><b>Q.47)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biological carbon sequestration is the process of storing carbon dioxide in underground geologic formations, or rocks.</li> <li>2. Green carbon is carbon removed by photosynthesis process by storing in the plants and soil of natural ecosystems.</li> <li>3. Hydrodynamic Trapping involves storage of carbon dioxide gas under low-permeability cap rock.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p>

	<p><b>tory test</b> <b>32</b></p>	<p>a) 1 only b) 1 and 2 only c) 2 and 3 only d) 1 and 3 only</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b> <b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Carbon capture and storage</b> describes the technologies designed to tackle global warming by capturing CO<sub>2</sub> at power stations, industrial sites or even directly from the air and permanently storing it underground.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect: Biological carbon sequestration</b> is the storage of carbon dioxide in vegetation such as grasslands or forests, as well as in soils and oceans. <b>Geological carbon sequestration</b> is the process of <b>storing carbon dioxide in underground geologic formations</b>, or rocks. Typically, carbon dioxide is captured from an industrial source, such as steel or cement production, or an energy-related source, such as a power plant or natural gas processing facility and injected into porous rocks for long-term storage.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct: Green carbon</b> is carbon removed by <b>photosynthesis and stored in the plants and soil of natural ecosystems</b> and is a vital part of the global carbon cycle. Many plants and most crops, have short lives and release much of their carbon at the end of each season, but forest biomass accumulates carbon over decades and centuries.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct: Geologic Sequestration</b> is thought to have the largest potential for near-term application. There are various Geologic Sequestration Trapping Mechanisms like <b>Hydrodynamic Trapping</b>, Solubility Trapping and Mineral Carbonation. In Hydrodynamic Trapping, Carbon dioxide can be trapped as a <b>gas under low-permeability cap rock</b> (much like natural gas is stored in gas reservoirs). In Solubility Trapping, Carbon dioxide can be dissolved into a liquid, such as water or oil. In Mineral Carbonation, Carbon dioxide can react with the minerals, fluids, and organic matter in a geologic formation to form stable compounds/minerals; largely calcium, iron, and magnesium carbonates.</p> <p>Source: Shankar : Chapter 21,22,23,26</p>
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<p><b>PTS 2023 Simulat or 4 Qn: 97</b></p> <p><b>Q.86)</b> Consider the following pairs:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 20%;">Objects in space</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Cepheids</td> <td>Giant clouds of dust and gas in space</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Nebulae</td> <td>Stars which bright and dim periodically</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Pulsars collapse</td> <td>Neutron stars that are formed when massive stars run out of fuel and</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>How many of the above pairs are correctly matched ?</p> <p>a) Only one b) Only two c) All three d) None</p>	Objects in space	Description	1. Cepheids	Giant clouds of dust and gas in space	2. Nebulae	Stars which bright and dim periodically	3. Pulsars collapse	Neutron stars that are formed when massive stars run out of fuel and	<p><b>Q.97)</b> Which of the following statements best describes the term ‘Quasars’?</p> <p>a) Emission of electromagnetic radiation by stars due to the action of gravitational force of black holes upon stars. b) An event of bending of light by the gravitational force of supermassive blackholes. c) Extremely bright objects, at the center of distant galaxies, powered by gas spiraling at high velocity into a supermassive black hole d) Emission of electromagnetic radiation by a neutron star.</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b> <b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b></p> <p><b>Option a is incorrect: Quasars are not the emission of electromagnetic radiation due to destruction of stars by blackholes. Tidal Disruption Event (TDE) is an astronomical phenomenon that occurs when a star approaches near the Super Massive Black Holes, those stars will be shredded by the gravitational pull of black holes resulting in a temporary flare of electromagnetic radiation and these are called tidal disruption events.</b></p> <p><b>Option b is incorrect: Quasars are not related to bending of light. Gravitational lens is a concept related to bending of light. Gravitational lens is a distribution of massive celestial objects including stars, black holes etc., between a distant light source and an observer, that can bend the light from the source as the light travels toward the observer. The celestial object that causes the light to curve is called a gravitational lens.</b></p> <p><b>Option c is correct: A quasar is an astronomical object of very high luminosity found in the centers of some distant galaxies and powered by gas spiraling at high velocity into an extremely large black hole. Quasars are powered by supermassive black holes at the centers of galaxies that are actively consuming vast amounts of matter, such as gas and stars, causing them to emit intense radiation. This radiation can be so intense that it outshines the entire galaxy containing the black hole</b></p> <p>A quasar is a type of active galactic nucleus (AGN) that emits enormous amounts of energy, including light and radio waves, due to the intense radiation produced by the accretion disk around a supermassive black hole. <b>In other words, a quasar is a phenomenon that occurs when a supermassive black hole at the center of a galaxy is actively feeding on matter and emitting intense radiation, which can outshine the entire galaxy.</b></p> <p><b>Option d is incorrect: Quasars are not stars. A Pulsar is a highly magnetized rotating neutron star that emits beams of electromagnetic radiation out of its magnetic poles.</b></p> <p>Source :  <a href="https://www.space.com/17262-quasar-definition.html">https://www.space.com/17262-quasar-definition.html</a>  <a href="https://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/universe_level12/quasars.html">https://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/universe_level12/quasars.html</a></p>
Objects in space	Description								
1. Cepheids	Giant clouds of dust and gas in space								
2. Nebulae	Stars which bright and dim periodically								
3. Pulsars collapse	Neutron stars that are formed when massive stars run out of fuel and								

<p><b>Q.88)</b> Consider the following statements</p> <p>1. Ballistic missiles are jet-propelled at subsonic speeds throughout their flights, while cruise missiles are rocket-powered only in the initial phase of flight.</p> <p>2. Agni-V is a medium-range supersonic cruise missile, while BrahMos is a solid-fuelled intercontinental ballistic missile.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 only b) 2 only c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p><b>PTS</b> <b>2023</b> <b>SIMUL</b> <b>ATOR</b> <b>5</b> <b>Qn. 43</b></p>	<p><b>Q.43)</b> With reference to missile technology, how are ballistic missiles different from Cruise missiles?</p> <p>a) Cruise missiles are jet-propelled throughout their flights, while ballistic missiles are rocket-powered only in the initial phase of flight.</p> <p>b) Cruise missiles usually have lower target accuracy compared to ballistic missiles.</p> <p>c) Cruise missiles generally have a higher payload capacity than that of ballistic missiles.</p> <p>d) Ballistic missiles are difficult to detect compared to cruise missiles.</p> <p><b>Ans) a</b> <b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b> <b>Option a is correct: strategic missile</b>, jet- or rocket-propelled weapon designed to strike targets far beyond the battle area. Strategic missiles are either of the cruise or ballistic type. <b>Cruise missiles are jet-propelled at subsonic speeds throughout their flights, while ballistic missiles are rocket-powered only in the initial (boost) phase of flight</b>, after which they follow an arcing trajectory to the target. As gravity pulls the ballistic warhead back to Earth, speeds of several times the speed of sound are reached.</p> <p><b>Option b is incorrect: A ballistic missile has lower target accuracy compared to cruise missiles</b>; thus cruise missile is a high precision missile. As the ballistic missiles are guided mostly by gravity, air resistance and other external factors, these will have low target accuracy. In contrast cruise missiles guided missiles used against terrestrial targets have higher target accuracy.</p> <p><b>Option c is incorrect: Ballistic missiles have a higher payload carrying capacity and longer range</b> (300 km to 12,000 km) compared to Cruise missiles, as there is no fuel requirement after its initial trajectory.</p> <p><b>Option d is incorrect: Cruise missiles are difficult to detect compared to ballistic missiles. Cruise missiles remain within the atmosphere</b> for the duration of their flight and can fly as low as a few metres off the ground which makes cruise missiles very difficult to detect. In contrast, <b>ballistic missile which fly above the atmosphere</b> of earth can be easily detected by anti missile technology.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://armscontrolcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Ballistic-vs.-Cruise-Missiles-Fact-Sheet.pdf">https://armscontrolcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Ballistic-vs.-Cruise-Missiles-Fact-Sheet.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Q.89)</b> Consider the following statements regarding mercury pollution:</p> <p>1. Gold mining activity is a source of mercury pollution in the world.</p> <p>2. Coal-based thermal power plants cause mercury pollution.</p> <p>3. There is no known safe level of exposure to mercury.</p> <p>How many of the above statements are correct?</p>	<p><b>PTS</b> <b>2023</b> <b>SIMUL</b> <b>ATOR</b> <b>X</b> <b>Qn 17</b></p>	<p><b>Q.17)</b> Which of the following are considered the significant sources of Mercury Pollution?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volcanic eruptions</li> <li>Coal fired thermal power plants.</li> <li>Forest fires.</li> <li>Manufacturing of cement.</li> <li>Broken LED bulbs.</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</p> <p>a) 1,3 and 5 only b) 2,3 and 4 only c) 1,2,3 and 4 only</p>

<p>a) Only one b) Only two e) All three d) None</p>		<p>d) 1,2,3,4 and 5</p> <p><b>Ans) c</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>Mercury is the only liquid metal found at normal temperatures and it is used in thermometers, barometers, manometers etc. As <b>elemental mercury evaporates</b>, it can move easily through the air and end up thousands of kilometres away from where it was first released and is one of the major environmental pollutants in the world.</p> <p><b>Option 1 is correct:</b> Various <b>natural processes, including volcanic eruptions</b>, weathering of rocks, and undersea vents can release mercury from the Earth's crust into water bodies, soils, and the atmosphere.</p> <p><b>Option 2 is correct:</b> Mercury is a naturally occurring chemical element found in rocks in the earth's crust, including in deposits of coal. As such mercury will be released on combustion of coal and hence it is true that <b>coal fired thermal power plants are one of the sources of Mercury pollution.</b></p> <p><b>Option 3 is correct:</b> <b>Forest fires/Wildfires are one of the important sources of Mercury pollution.</b> Mercury coming from industrial and natural sources often settles into soil and plant matter. Intense fires then release the mercury back into the atmosphere. For instance, forest fires and other blazes in the <b>United States release about 30 percent as much mercury</b> as the nation's industrial sources.</p> <p><b>Option 4 is correct:</b> The <b>manufacturing of cement</b>, and the extraction of metals from ore are important sources of mercury pollution. Other major industries acting as source of mercury are <b>iron and steel industries, pulp and paper manufacturing, non-ferrous smelting and refining (10%), and mining and rock quarrying industries.</b></p> <p><b>Option 5 is incorrect:</b> <b>A light-emitting diode (LEDs) bulb are free of Mercury</b> and for this reason it is considered an effective <b>alternative to mercury containing Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs)</b>. Unlike LEDs, the broken CFL bulbs emit mercury into the atmosphere.</p> <p>Knowledge Base: SOME IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT MERCURY</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Highly toxic to the nervous system</li> <li>2. Persistent in the environment</li> <li>3. Bioaccumulates (higher concentrations in tissues of aquatic plants and animals than in water)</li> <li>4. Biomagnifies (higher concentrations at increasingly higher levels in the food chain)</li> </ol> <p>Source: <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/pollutants/mercury-environment/about/sources.html#:~:text=natural%20processes%2C%20including-,volcanic,-eruptions%2C%20weathering%20of">https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/pollutants/mercury-environment/about/sources.html#:~:text=natural%20processes%2C%20including-,volcanic,-eruptions%2C%20weathering%20of</a></p>
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<p><b>Q.90)</b> With reference to green hydrogen, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It can be used directly as a fuel for internal combustion.</li> <li>2. It can be blended with natural gas and used as fuel for heat or power generation.</li> <li>3. It can be used in the hydrogen fuel cell to run vehicles.</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above statements are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) All three</li> <li>d) None</li> </ol>	<p><b>SFG</b> <b>2023</b> <b>Level 2</b> <b>Test 44</b></p>	<p><b>Q.44)</b> Consider the following statements regarding fuel cells.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To produce electricity efficiently, fuel cells utilize the chemical energy of the fuels.</li> <li>2. Since there are no carbon dioxide emissions from hydrogen fuel cells, they can address some climate challenges.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) Both 1 and 2</li> <li>d) Neither 1 nor 2</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) c</b> <b>Exp) Option c is the correct answer.</b> <b>Statement 1 is correct.</b> A fuel cell generates electricity cleanly and effectively by utilising the chemical energy of hydrogen or other fuels. Electricity, water, and heat are the only byproducts if hydrogen is the fuel. In terms of the range of potential applications, fuel cells are unique and can run on a variety of fuels and feedstocks and can power devices as big as utility power stations and as small as laptop computers. <b>Statement 2 is correct.</b> Due to the fact that hydrogen fuel cells emit only water and no carbon dioxide, they can effectively address significant climate change concerns. Compared to traditional combustion-based technologies, which are currently used in many power plants and vehicles, fuel cells offer a number of advantages. In contrast to conventional combustion engines, fuel cells run more efficiently and are capable of directly converting the chemical energy in fuel into electrical energy at efficiencies of more than 60%. <a href="https://www.energy.gov/eere/fuelcells/fuel-cells#:~:text=How%20Fuel%20Cells%20Work,)%E2%80%94sandwiched%20around%20an%20electrolyte.">https://www.energy.gov/eere/fuelcells/fuel-cells#:~:text=How%20Fuel%20Cells%20Work,)%E2%80%94sandwiched%20around%20an%20electrolyte.</a></p>
<p><b>Q.91)</b> Consider the following statements with reference to India:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. According to the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006, the 'medium enterprises are those with and machinery between is crore and 25 crore.</li> <li>2. All bank loans to the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises qualify under the priority sector.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) Both 1 and 2</li> <li>d) Neither 1 nor 2</li> </ol>	<p><b>JATF</b> <b>PTS</b> <b>2023 T3</b></p>	<p><b>Q.96)</b> With reference to the Priority Sector Lending (PSL) directions issued by RBI, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is applicable to only those foreign banks which have more than 20 bank branches functioning in India.</li> <li>2. The compliance of banks to the targets is monitored on 'quarterly' basis.</li> <li>3. A Regional Rural Bank has to ensure that at least 75 percent of its net credit goes to PSL.</li> <li>4. If a Scheduled Commercial Bank (SCB) does not fulfil its targets, then it has to contribute the remaining target in the Rural Infrastructural Development Fund (RIDF).</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1, 2 and 4 only</li> <li>b) 2, 3 and 4 only</li> <li>c) 1, 2 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 3 and 4 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b> <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer</b> Priority Sector means those sectors which the Government of India (GOI) and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) consider as important sectors for the development of the basic needs of the country and are to be given priority over other sectors. Therefore, the banks are mandated to encourage the growth of such sectors through the provision of adequate and timely credit. The details are.</p>

		<p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect.</b> The PSL directions are <b>applicable to all the foreign banks</b>. As per the directions, the priority sector lending is applicable to every Commercial Bank [including Regional Rural Bank (RRB), Small Finance Bank (SFB), Local Area Bank] and Primary (Urban) Co-operative Bank (UCB) other than Salary Earners' Bank licensed to operate in India by the Reserve Bank of India. Therefore, it is also applicable to foreign banks, although with some variations in PSL targets with foreign banks having 20 branches and above, and those having less than 20 branches,</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct. Monitoring of Priority Sector Lending targets</b> is done on the 'quarterly' basis in order to ensure continuous flow of credit to priority sector. The data on priority sector advances is required to be furnished by banks to FIDD, Central Office at quarterly and annual intervals as per the reporting format (quarterly and annually).</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct.</b> The <b>Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)</b> and <b>Small Finance Banks (SFB)</b> are mandated to lend <b>75 per cent</b> (i.e. more than 50%) of Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) or CEOBE whichever is higher as total Priority Sector Lending. However, all domestic commercial banks (excl. RRBs &amp; SFBs) &amp; foreign banks with 20 branches and above are mandated to fulfil the target of 40% of Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) for Total Priority Sector lending.</p> <p><b>Statement 4 is correct. In case of non-achievement of the priority sector targets</b> by a commercial bank. The same amount shall be allocated for contribution to the <b>Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)</b> established with NABARD and other funds with NABARD/NHB/SIDBI/MUDRA Ltd., as decided by the Reserve Bank from time to time.</p> <p>Source:</p> <p><a href="https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=11959">https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=11959</a></p>
<p><b>Q.92)</b> With reference to Central Bank digital currencies, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is possible to make payments in a digital currency without using US dollar or SWIFT system.</li> <li>2. A digital currency can be distributed with condition programmed into it such as a time- frame for spending it.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) Both 1 and 2</li> <li>d) Neither 1 nor 2</li> </ol>	<p><b>PTS</b> <b>2023</b> <b>Simulat</b> <b>or test</b> <b>2 Q5</b></p>	<p><b>Q.5)</b> The central bank digital currency (CBDC) and Mobile Money are two different payment systems that have gained popularity in recent times. In this context, how is Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) different from Mobile Money?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CBDC is issued by the governments, whereas Mobile Money is generated in a decentralized manner through a process known as "mining".</li> <li>2. CBDC is a direct liability of the central bank, whereas mobile money is the liability of commercial banks.</li> <li>3. Unlike Mobile money, CBDC cannot be used by the consumers for performing retail payments.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) 3 only</li> <li>d) 2 and 3 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b> <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b> Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) is a digital version of a country's fiat currency that is issued and backed by the country's central bank. It is a form of digital cash that can be used for payments and transactions. Mobile money refers to the use of mobile devices and telecommunication networks to make financial transactions. It is a digital payment system that allows users to send, receive, and store money using their mobile devices.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect:</b> CBDC is a <b>national digital currency issued by the central bank</b> that is <b>expected to replace or coexist with fiat money and hold the same value</b>. Mobile money, on the other hand, utilizes <b>existing commercial banking-based accounting</b> to manage customer wallet balances based on exchange with cash or lines of credit and loans. <b>Units of cryptocurrency (not mobile money)</b> are created through a</p>

		<p>process called mining, which involves using computer power to solve complicated mathematical problems that generate coins</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct:</b> CBDC is a <b>direct liability on the central bank</b> as it is the main issuer of the currency, whereas <b>mobile money is the liability of commercial banks and other authorized financial institutions</b>. Although some implementation approaches propose that <b>CBDC can be implemented in either an indirect or hybrid form</b>, its liability still remains on the central bank.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect:</b> Both <b>CBDC and mobile money wallets are meant to facilitate domestic retail payments</b>. While CBDC is a digital version of fiat currency issued by the central bank, and mobile money is a digital payment system that allows users to perform financial transactions using their mobile devices, both are designed to facilitate digital payments within a country's domestic economy.</p> <p>Source:  <a href="https://www.progresssoft.com/blogs/the-big-differences-between-cbdc-and-mobile-money">https://www.progresssoft.com/blogs/the-big-differences-between-cbdc-and-mobile-money</a></p>
<p><b>Q.97)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. According to the Constitution of India, the Central Government has a duty to protect States from internal disturbances.</li> <li>2. The Constitution of India exempts the States from providing legal counsel to a person being held for preventive detention.</li> <li>3. According to the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002, confession of the accused before the police cannot be used as evidence.</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above statements are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) All three</li> <li>d) None</li> </ol>	<p><b>SFG</b> <b>2023 L2</b> <b>T8</b></p>	<p><b>Q.47)</b> With reference to the proclamation of the national emergency in India, consider the following statements.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The First national emergency was proclaimed in wake of Indo-Pakistan War of 1965.</li> <li>2. The National Emergency of 1975 was proclaimed on the ground of internal disturbances.</li> <li>3. The Bihar Movement was a peaceful protest launched by the opposition parties after the National Emergency of 1975 was declared.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 2 only</li> <li>b) 2 only</li> <li>c) 1 and 3 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2 and 3</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) b</b>  <b>Exp) Option b is correct</b></p> <p>Under Article 352, the President can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion (earlier internal disturbances). Its history of invoking is as under:</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect.</b> Since Independence, <b>three National Emergency</b> has been proclaimed (1962, 1971 and 1975). The first two proclamations (1962 and 1971) were made on the ground of 'external aggression'. The <b>first proclamation</b> was issued in <b>1962 on account of Chinese aggression</b> in the NEFA (North-East Frontier Agency). It was in force till January 1968. Hence, a fresh proclamation was not needed at the time of war against Pakistan in 1965. The <b>second proclamation</b> of national emergency was made in December 1971 in the wake of attack by Pakistan.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct.</b> The 1975 <b>National Emergency was declared on 25 June 1975</b>. It was made on the ground of '<b>internal disturbance</b>', that is, certain persons have been inciting the police and the armed forces against the discharge of their duties and their normal functioning. For example, Jayaprakash in a massive demonstration in Delhi's Ramlila grounds on 25 June 1975 asked the army, the police and government employees not to obey "illegal and immoral orders".</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect.</b> The Bihar Movement was a political movement initiated by students in the Indian state of Bihar in 1974. It was launched before emergency were declared.</p> <p>The Bihar Movement (1974-75) under the leadership of Jayaprakash Narayan aimed at a 'Total Revolution' in the country. It was against misrule and corruption in the state government. It later turned against Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's government in the central government. It was also called Sampoorna Kranti and JP Movement.</p> <p>Source:          Political Science, Class 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter 6. Crisis of democratic order          Laxmikanth, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Chapter 16, Emergency Provisions</p>



<p><b>Q.99)</b> Consider the following statements:</p> <p>1. In Biodiversity the India, Management Committees are key to the realization of the objectives of the Nagoya Protocol.</p> <p>2. The Biodiversity Management Committees have important functions in determining access and benefit sharing, including the power to levy collection fees on the access of biological resources within its jurisdiction.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 only b) 2 only c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p><b>PTS</b> <b>2023,</b> <b>L2</b> <b>Test 15</b> <b>Qn89</b></p>	<p><b>Q.89)</b> Consider the following statements about Biological Diversity Act, 2002:</p> <p>1. The act mandates the monetary compensation as the only means of benefit sharing for conservers of biodiversity.</p> <p>2. Under this act, National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) is the body to grant Intellectual Property Rights for research on biological resources.</p> <p>3. The Biodiversity Management Committees under this act, are mandated to document local biodiversity and associated knowledge.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 only b) 2 and 3 only c) 1 and 2 only d) 1, 2 and 3</p> <p><b>Ans) b</b> <b>Exp) Option b is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>India's Biological Diversity Act 2002 was enacted to meet the requirements of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 1992. The Act formulates a three-tier structure consisting of a National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) at the national level, State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) at the State level and Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) at local body levels.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is incorrect:</b> The Act provides for sharing of benefits with conservers of biodiversity and holders and creators of associated knowledge. Benefits may be shared in various forms such as:</p> <p>(a) monetary compensation, (b) sharing of intellectual property rights, or (c) technology transfer.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is correct: National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) is a statutory body established under the Biological Diversity Act 2002 (BDA).</b> It is an autonomous body and it performs regulatory and advisory functions for the Government of India on issues of conservation, sustainable use of biological resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources. NBA checks biopiracy and protects the indigenous and traditional genetic resources. <b>Anybody seeking any kind of IPR (Intellectual Property Rights) on a research based upon biological resource or knowledge obtained from India requires prior approval of NBA. No person who has been granted approval, shall transfer any biological resource or knowledge associated to others except with the prior permission of the NBA.</b></p> <p><b>Statement 3 is correct:</b> The State Biodiversity Boards (SSBs) also regulate, by granting approvals or otherwise requests for commercial utilization or bio-survey and bio-utilization of any biological resource by Indians. <b>The primary responsibility of the BMCs is to document local biodiversity and associated knowledge in the form of a People's Biodiversity Register.</b></p> <p>Source: Chapter 3 forum red book Chapter 8 Shankar</p>
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<p><b>Q.100)</b> Consider the following statements in respect of election to the President of India:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The members nominated to either House of the Parliament or the Legislative Assemblies of States are also eligible to be included in the Electoral College.</li> <li>2. Higher the number of elective Assembly seats, higher is the value of vote of each MLA of that State.</li> <li>3. The value of vote of each MLA of Madhya Pradesh is greater than that of Kerala.</li> <li>4. The value of vote of each MLA of Puducherry is higher than that of Arunachal Pradesh because the ratio of total population to total number of elective Puducherry is greater as compared to Arunachal Pradesh.</li> </ol> <p>How many of the above statements are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Only one</li> <li>b) Only two</li> <li>c) Only three</li> <li>d) All four</li> </ol>	<p><b>PTS 2023 – All India Test 1 Qn 11</b></p>	<p><b>Q.11)</b> With reference to ‘Presidential Elections in India’, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The nominated members of the state legislative assemblies do not participate in the election of the President.</li> <li>2. No President in Independent India has ever been elected unopposed</li> <li>3. All doubts and disputes in connection with the election of the President are inquired into by the Election Commission of India.</li> <li>4. In Presidential elections, a voter can indicate his preference for more than one candidate.</li> </ol> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1 and 4 only</li> <li>b) 2 and 3 only</li> <li>c) 1 only</li> <li>d) 1, 2 and 4 only</li> </ol> <p><b>Ans) a</b></p> <p><b>Exp) Option a is the correct answer.</b></p> <p>The <b>President</b> is the head of the Indian State. He is the <b>first citizen of India</b> and acts as the symbol of unity, integrity and solidarity of the nation. Articles 52 to 78 in Part V of the Constitution deal with the Union executive including President of India.</p> <p><b>Statement 1 is correct:</b> The President is elected not directly by the people but by members of electoral college consisting of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the elected members of both the Houses of Parliament;</li> <li>2. the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the states; and</li> <li>3. the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry.</li> </ol> <p>Thus, the nominated members of both of Houses of Parliament, the nominated members of the state legislative assemblies, the members (both elected and nominated) of the state legislative councils (in case of the bicameral legislature) and the nominated members of the Legislative Assemblies of Delhi and Puducherry do not participate in the election of the President.</p> <p><b>Statement 2 is incorrect.</b> There is only one instance when the President of India was elected unopposed. The country's seventh president Neelam Sanjiva Reddy was the only one to be elected unopposed to the post in the history of independent India. He became the first person to be elected President of India without a contest and remains the only President to have been elected unopposed.</p> <p><b>Statement 3 is incorrect:</b> Under Indian Constitution, all doubts and disputes in connection with election of the President are inquired into and decided by the <b>Supreme Court (not by Election Commission of India)</b> whose decision is final.</p> <p><b>Statement 4 is correct:</b> Each member of the electoral college is given only one ballot paper. The voter, while casting his vote, is required to indicate his preferences by marking 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. against the names</p>
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		of candidates. This means that the voter can indicate as many preferences as there are candidates in the fray. Source: Laxmikanth Chapter 17 President
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