ANALYSIS / APPROACH / SOURCE / STRATEGY: GENERAL STUDIES PRE 2017 PAPER

- TEAM VISION IAS

- The analysis is based on premise that UPSC wants to identify aspirants with certain skills and aptitude required to function as a good administrator. UPSC does not explicitly describe these skills so we infer them from Syllabus, Question Paper and feedback of experts and students.

- This analysis is an attempt to quantify the subjective understanding and make explicit the implicit.

- We have inferred some conclusions from these stats but you are free to infer differently. Moreover independent/impartial thinking is one of the qualities expected in administrators.
**Observations on CSP 2017**

- This year’s paper was more conceptual compared to the papers of CSAT era and it displayed a good mix of current affairs and conventional subjects.
- The level of questions ranged from easy to moderate and difficult from almost in all the sections. The elimination was difficult as the options framed were too close or very similar.
- However, even in conventional or static portion the tilt was more towards **Polity and Governance**. Polity questions were asked from traditional concepts as compared to previous year’s trend. Eg. concept of rights, democracy, etc.
- In the **current affairs section**, the testing was done from their basic concepts as well as facts related to them. However, the questions from this section was not restricted to the present year but from the previous 2 – 3 years.
- **Economy** questions were largely drawn from Current Affairs eg- GST, Monetary Policy Committee, etc. but conventional understanding in questions like post 1991 reforms, etc was also checked.
- **Geography and Environment** sections were difficult to attempt and required conceptual clarity, linkage of current affairs with basic concepts (e.g. Indian Ocean Dipole), detailed reading of Atlas, Conventions/Alliance to which India is not party were also asked (e.g GCCA, etc), the questions on unique features of geographical locations were also focused (eg Chandipur, Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve).
- The overall weightage to **History** sections has remained more or less same but difficulty level has increased in terms of factual knowledge and standard sources.
- **S&T** questions were largely drawn from news items.
- **Govt initiatives** ranging from education, health and nutrition, etc. were again focused this year but solving them required deeper knowledge.
- Deceptive presentation is a common method to segregate deep knowledge with superficial knowledge or hunch. This technique was used in questions like National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (4,00,000 crores), National Pension Scheme( age group), etc.
• Pointers for most of the questions could be traced to standard sources such as The Hindu, Indian Express, PIB, etc. But as recommended earlier, in the age of internet, complete knowledge of topic is expected.

Recommendations:

• In a difficult paper, the static-conventional part is the savior. Thoroughly read basic/standard books to be very clear of basic concepts. One good News Paper (like The Hindu, Indian Express, etc) and sites like PIB, PRS must be followed. One shall also read India Year Book, as many of the questions related to government initiatives could be answered based on that.
• Regularly follow the current issues and news. One should combine reading newspaper with simultaneous revision of related conceptual key terms.
• Read one good book on each traditional subject. This will help in prelims, mains and interview i.e. all stages of examination. This will also help in making some unapproachable question approachable.
• Be ready for both analytical and factual questions at the same time. This year there is a fair combination of both.
• In this year’s paper, where difficulty level is on the higher side, number of attempted Q’s also matter. In case of confusing options, one cannot go on attempting all as has been the case in previous years. Negative marking takes a heavy toll.
• Strategy should be to avoid negative marking in tough questions and maximize your score by first finding the easy ones and completing them.
• Read questions carefully and use elimination technique wherever possible.
• One should always have few strong areas to rely on. Do not ignore your strong areas to do research in weak areas.
• Solving previous year’s questions would help in identifying the key areas which UPSC focuses on. Many of the topics from static portion (like Trade disputes act, liberalization etc.) have been asked earlier by UPSC.
Nature of Question

**F:** Fundamental, Conventional and conceptual question which is easily available in commonly recommended books. If a current affairs source is mentioned then it indicates that you had one more reason to prepare this.

**FA:** Fundamental Applied question is an analytical question which requires information + application of mind. Answer to these questions are from commonly recommended books but not so obvious to find.

**CA:** Current Affair question which can be answered almost completely using given source alone.

**CAA:** Current Affair Applied question needs information from more than one source to answer AND/OR application of mind (common sense and overall understanding) of aspirant. This is why source for these questions may not be answering the question completely.

**FCA:** Fundamental + Current affair. This is a F or FA question supplemented with current affairs or a current affairs question that needs background information for complete answer. Source to these questions might not answer the questions in entirety.

**U:** Unconventional Question: Unconventional Question means the question that is distantly related to syllabus provided by UPSC. It is neither present in even reference sources (in addition to recommended books) nor prominently in news.

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**EM = Essential material like basic books etc.**

**RM = Reference material**

**EN = Essential News/Current Affairs**

**RR = Random Read like random website etc.**

**E : Easy , M : Medium , D : Difficult**

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**ENGLISH Medium**

**Hindi माध्यम**

**MainS 365**

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Medieval History</td>
<td>Which one of the following was a very important seaport in the Kakatiya kingdom? (a) Kakinada (b) Motupalli (c) Machilipatnam (Masulipatnam) (d) Nelluru</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Motupalli was the chief port of the Kakatiyas and this port was visited by the Venitian traveller, Marco Polo.</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>U</td>
<td>Early India: From the Origins to A.D. 1300, Part 1 Romilla Thapar page 384</td>
<td>RM</td>
<td>To check in-depth knowledge on Medieval Indian history</td>
</tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>With reference to ‘Global Climate Change Alliance’, which of the following statements is/are correct? 1. It is an initiative of the European Union. 2. It provides technical and financial support to targeted developing countries to integrate climate change into their development policies and budgets. 3. It is coordinated by World Resources Institute (WRI) and World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD). Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>The Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) was established by the European Union (EU) in 2007 to strengthen dialogue and cooperation with developing countries, in particular least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS). Under the first pillar, the GCCA+ serves as a platform for dialogue and exchange of experience between the EU and developing countries, focusing on climate policy and bringing renewed attention to the issue of international climate finance. Under the second pillar, the GCCA+ acts as a source of technical and financial support for the world’s most climate-vulnerable countries, whose populations need climate finance the most. International organisations – notably the Centre for International Forestry Research</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gcca.eu/about-the-gcca/what-is-the-gcca">http://www.gcca.eu/about-the-gcca/what-is-the-gcca</a></td>
<td>RR</td>
<td>To check about the Institutions related to climate change and climate change financing mechanism</td>
</tr>
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(CIFOR), the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UN Habitat and the World Bank – are involved in the implementation of some GCCA-funded interventions, and also co-finance some initiatives.

Statement 3 is not correct: Through the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHGP) World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) work with businesses to develop standards and tools that help companies measure, manage, report and reduce their carbon emissions.

| 3 | Art and Culture | With reference to the religious history of India, consider the following statements: 1. Sautranti and Sammiya were the sects of Jainism. 2. Sarvastivadin held that the constituents of phenomena were not wholly momentary, but existed forever in a latent form. 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 | Statement 1 is not correct: Sautranti and Sammiya were the sects of Buddhism. Statement 2 is correct: Sarvastivadins (They who say "All is"), had the view that the constituents of phenomena (dharmas) were not wholly momentary, but existed forever in a latent form. | D | THE WONDER THAT WAS INDIA: A L Basham page 272 | U | To check in-depth knowledge of religious philosophies. |

| 4 | Geography | Mediterranean Sea is a border of which of the following countries? | C | The countries with coastlines on the Mediterranean Sea are Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and | M | FCA Atlas | EM | These countries are often seen in Map on Page 35, 3.1 Israel-Palestine, PT-365 International Relations. |
1. Jordan  
2. Iraq  
3. Lebanon  
4. Syria  
Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
(a) 1, 2 and 3  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 3 and 4 only  
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only  
Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Monaco, Montenegro, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. In addition, the Gaza Strip and the British Overseas Territories of Gibraltar and Akrotiri and Dhekelia have coastlines on the sea. On the Eastern shore, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon and Israel have their coastline on the Mediterranean Sea.  

<table>
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<tr>
<th>5</th>
<th>Current Affairs</th>
<th>National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) is a fund created by the Government of India for enhancing infrastructure financing in the country. Its creation was announced in the Union Budget 2015-16. Governing Council of NIIF is an advisory body chaired by the Finance Minister. It is not an organ of NITI Aayog. Hence statement 1 is not correct. The proposed corpus of NIIF is Rs. 40,000 Crores (around USD 6 Billion). Hence statement 2 is also not correct.</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>CAA</th>
<th><a href="http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/Govt-mulls-%E2%80%98outcome-linked%E2%80%99-incentive-for-NIIF-chief/article14378399.ece">http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/Govt-mulls-%E2%80%98outcome-linked%E2%80%99-incentive-for-NIIF-chief/article14378399.ece</a></th>
<th>EN</th>
<th>Infrastructure has been a very important focus area of the government and therefore NIIF has remained continuously in news.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| 6 | Current Affairs | The Global Infrastructure Facility is a/an (a) ASEAN initiative to upgrade infrastructure in | B | The GIF supports Governments in bringing well-structured and bankable infrastructure projects to market. GIF’s project support | D | CAA | http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/gif- | EN | This is an old news, however is important |
Asia and financed by credit from the Asian Development Bank.
(b) World Bank collaboration that facilities the preparation and structuring of complex infrastructure Public-Private Partnership (PPPs) to enable mobilization of private sector and institutional investor capital.
(c) Collaboration among the major banks of the world working with the OECD and infrastructure projects that have the potential to mobilize private investment.
(d) UNCTAD funded initiative that seeks to finance and facilitate infrastructure development in the World.

can cover the spectrum of design, preparation, structuring and transaction implementation activities, drawing on the combined expertise of the GIF’s Technical and Advisory Partners and focusing on structures that are able to attract a wide range of private investors.
Along with the World Bank Group, Canada is co-chair of the GIF’s Governing Council.

| 7 | Polity and Governance | For election to the Lok Sabha, a nomination paper can be filed by
(a) anyone residing in India.
(b) a resident of the constituency from which the election is to be contested.
(c) any citizen of India whose name appears in the electoral roll of a constituency.
(d) any citizen of India. | Qualifications for election to Lok Sabha:
- must be a citizen of India
- not less than 25 years of age
- must be registered as an elector for a parliamentary constituency | E | F | Laxmikant - Indian Polity, chapter - "Parliament" | EM to check the basic knowledge

A person "X" is a 30 year old citizen of India and is a registered elector in Parliamentary constituency. "X" is qualified for which of the following positions?
1. President
2. Prime Minister
3. Speaker of Lok Sabha
4. Chairman of Rajya Sabha
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

| 8 | Geography | Consider the following statements:
1. In India, the Himalayas are spread over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal | Statement 1 is not correct: In India, the Himalayas are spread over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal | D | FA | Atlas | EM In depth knowledge and detailed

All India test series - test 2115
A person "X" is a 30 year old citizen of India and is a registered elector in Parliamentary constituency. "X" is qualified for which of the following positions?
1. President
2. Prime Minister
3. Speaker of Lok Sabha
4. Chairman of Rajya Sabha
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only
spread over five states only.  
2. Western Ghats are spread over five states only.  
3. Pulicat Lake is spread over two States only.  
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?  
(a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 3 only  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) 1 and 3 only  

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| 9 | Environment | Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) is a standard criterion for  
| | | (a) Measuring oxygen levels in blood  
| | | (b) Computing oxygen levels in forest ecosystems  
| | | (c) Pollution assay in aquatic ecosystems  
| | | (d) Assessing oxygen levels in high altitude regions  
| | | Biological oxygen demand (BOD) is the amount of dissolved oxygen needed (i.e., demanded) by aerobic microorganisms to break down organic material present in a given water sample. A highly polluted water will have a high levels of biological oxygen demand (BOD).  
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| 10 | Current Affairs | With reference to the role of UN-Habitat in the United Nations Programme working towards a better urban future, which of the  
| | | Statement 1 is correct: UN-Habitat is the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future. Its mission is to promote socially and  
| | | Statement 1 is correct: UN-Habitat is the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future. Its mission is to promote socially and  
| | | M | CAA | http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-elected-president-of-  
| | | EM | To check the basic concepts of ecology and environment.  
| | | EN | It was in news due to two factors:  
| | | EN | Covered in PT 365 Updation – Environment  

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## Current Affairs

### With reference to ‘National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF)’, which of the statements given below is/are correct?

1. Under NSQF, a learner can acquire the certification for competency only through formal learning.
2. An outcome expected from the implementation of NSQF is to organize qualifications according to a series of levels of knowledge, skills, and aptitude. These levels are defined in terms of learning outcomes which the learner must possess regardless of whether they were acquired through formal, non-formal or informal learning. It provides for multiple pathways.

### UN-Habitat

1. UN-Habitat has been mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities to provide adequate shelter for all. Statement 1 is correct.
2. Its partners are either governments or local urban authorities only. Statement 2 is not correct: It partners with a range of organizations in its endeavor. For example, governments, local authorities, NGOs, Trade unions, professionals, Academics and Researchers, Human Solidarity Groups, Indigenous People, Private Sector, Foundations, Financial Institutions. Statement 3 is correct: In the absence of effective urban planning, the consequences of this rapid urbanization can lead to lack of proper housing and growth of slums, inadequate and outdated infrastructure – be it roads, public transport, water, sanitation, or electricity – escalating poverty and unemployment, safety and crime problems, pollution and health issues. UN-Habitat contributes to the overall objective of a sustainable urbanization.

### UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development – Habitat III

2. In May 2017, India was elected as the president of the UN-Habitat. On behalf of India, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation Minister will preside over the meetings of UN-Habitat.

### National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF)

1. Many programmes have been launched by the government for skill development in the country. In this regard, NQSIF has Covered in PT 365 Economy
NSQF is the mobility between vocational and general education. Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

horizontal as well as vertical, both within vocational education and vocational training and among vocational education, vocational training, general education and technical education, thus linking one level of learning to another higher level. Thus Statement 1 is not correct and statement 2 is correct.

http://www.nesda.gov.in/nsqf.html

remained regularly in the news.

| 12 | Modern History | In the context of Indian history, the principle of ‘Dyarchy (diarchy)’ refers to (a) Division of the central legislature into two houses. (b) Introduction of double government i.e., Central and State governments. (c) Having two sets of rulers; one in London and another in Delhi. (d) Division of the subjects delegated to the provinces into two categories. | D | The Government of India Act of 1919 was enacted to satisfy the people of India to some extent. The salient features of the Act were as follows: (a) Preamble: The Act provided for a Preamble that laid down the basic principles and policies upon which it was based. According to it the policy of the British Parliament was – (i) to provide for the increasing association of Indians in every branch of Indian administration, (ii) to develop self governing institutions with a view to the progressive realisation of responsible government in British India as an integral part of the empire; (iii) accordingly, the Preamble suggested for a decentralised unitary form of government. The Act divided the functions of government in two categories: central and provincial. The provincial subjects were further subdivided into transferred and reserved. Thus, in the provinces a new form of government, dyarchy, was introduced. Dyarchy means dual set of governments, e.g. | M | NCERT-Textbook-Chapter-1-to-8-Indian-Constitution-and-Administration-Class-11 | RR | With reference to Indian history Government of India act 1919 was one of the important act. Thus the sole criteria is to check the basic knowledge of subject and topic. |
accountable and non-accountable.
In the transferred subjects the Governors were to be assisted by the ministers responsible to the legislature while in the reserved subjects the Governors were to be advised by the councillors who were not accountable to the legislature.

Current Affairs
Consider the following in respect of ‘National Career Services’:
1. National Career Service is an initiative of the Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India.
2. National Career Service has been launched in a Mission Mode to improve the employment opportunities to uneducated youth of the country.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

National Career Service (NCS) project is an initiative launched by the Ministry of Labour and Employment (India) Government of India as a Mission Mode Project for establishing quick and efficient career related services. Hence statement 1 is not correct. The main stakeholders for the NCS would include:
- Unemployed candidates seeking jobs
- Students seeking career counseling
- Candidates seeking vocational / occupational guidance
- Illiterate, under-privileged sections of society, blue-collar workers seeking placements and guidance
- Person with different abilities (PWDS), ex-servicemen, veterans / senior citizens, etc.
- Employers seeking suitable candidates
Thus statement 2 is correct.

Lack of employment has remained continuously in the news. Though, NCS was established in 2015, it has remained in news due to focus on helping people in finding employment.

Current Affairs
Which of the following statements best describes the term 'Scheme for Sustainable Structuring of Stressed Assets (S4A)',
B
The S4A by RBI envisages determination of the sustainable debt level for a stressed borrower, and bifurcation of the outstanding debt into sustainable debt and

Stressed assets and NPAs have constantly remained in
Covered in PT 365 Economy Section and All India Test series - 2128, 2222, 2241
Which of the following is/are among the steps taken by RBI
recently seen in the news?
(a) It is a procedure for considering ecological costs of developmental schemes formulated by the Government.
(b) It is a scheme of RBI for reworking the financial structure of big corporate entities facing genuine difficulties.
(c) It is a disinvestment plan of the Government regarding Central Public Sector Undertakings.
(d) It is an important provision in 'The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code' recently implemented by the Government.

| 15 | Environment | Consider the following statements:
|     |             | 1. Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) to Reduce Short Lived Climate Pollutants is a unique initiative of G20 group of countries.
|     |             | 2. The CCAC focuses on methane, black carbon and hydrofluorocarbons.
|     |             | 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 | The Climate & Clean Air Coalition is the only global effort that unites governments, civil society and private sector, committed to improving air quality and protecting the climate in next few decades by reducing short-lived climate pollutants across sectors. The Coalition’s initial focus is on methane, black carbon, and HFCs. The governments of Bangladesh, Canada, Ghana, Mexico, Sweden and the United States, along with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), came together to initiate the first effort to treat these pollutants as a collective challenge. The coalition has 53 country partners and 17 International Governmental Organizations and 45 Non
| RR | The Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) was invited to be a member of Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) in 2013. |
| 16 | Geography | With reference to ‘Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)’ sometimes mentioned in the news while forecasting Indian monsoon, which of the following statements is/are correct? 1. IOD phenomenon is characterised by a difference in sea surface temperature between tropical Western Indian Ocean and tropical Eastern Pacific Ocean. 2. An IOD phenomenon can influence an El Nino’s impact on the monsoon. Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2 | B | Statement 1 is not correct: The Indian Ocean Dipole is an irregular oscillation of sea-surface temperatures in which the western Indian Ocean becomes alternately warmer and then colder than the eastern part of the ocean. Statement 2 is correct: an IOD can either aggravate or weaken the impact of El Nino on Indian monsoon. If there is a positive IOD, it can bring good rains to India despite of an El Nino year. | D FCA | http://indianexpress.com/article/explained/indian-ocean-dipole-and-the-monsoon-the-joker-in-the-forecast-pack/ | EM | The question aims to test fundamentals in Geography. IOD and El Nino are also seen in news frequently. | All India Test Series Test 2134 | Which among the following can suppress rainfall from the Indian Monsoons? 1. La-Nina 2. Negative Indian Ocean Dipole 3. Active phase of Madden Julian Oscillation Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1 and 2 only (b)2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1,2 and 3 |
| 17 | Environment | If you want to see gharials in their natural habitat, which one of the following is the best place to visit? (a) Bhitarkanika Mangroves (b) Chambal River (c) Pulicat Lake (d) Deepor Beel | B | National Chambal Sanctuary, also called the National Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary is a tri-state protected area in northern India for the critically endangered gharial (small crocodiles), the red-crowned roof turtle and the endangered Ganges river dolphin. | E CAA | NCERT: Contemporary India - II, Chapter -2 Forest and Wildlife Resources. http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/agra/number- | EN | Recently it was reported that the population of Gharials has increased in the Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary. | All India Test Series Tests 2118, 2212, 2352 | Consider the following statements regarding a "Protected Area": 1. It falls in the tri-point of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. 2. It hosts critically endangered species such as Gharial, the Red-crowned Roof Turtle and...
| 18 | Current Affairs | Consider the following in respect of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS):
1. Inaugural IONS was held in India in 2015 under the chairmanship of the Indian Navy.
2. IONS is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region by providing an open and inclusive forum for discussion of regionally relevant maritime issues. There are 35 members - navies of the IONS which have been geographically grouped into the following four sub-regions:- South Asian Littorals, West Asian Littorals, East African Littorals, South East Asian and Australian Littorals.
The inaugural IONS-2008 was held in New Delhi, India on 14 Feb 08. CNS, Indian Navy was designated the Chairman IONS for the period 2008-10. The theme of the IONS-2008 was “Contemporary Trans-national

| B | The ‘Indian Ocean Naval Symposium’ (IONS) is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region by providing an open and inclusive forum for discussion of regionally relevant maritime issues. There are 35 members - navies of the IONS which have been geographically grouped into the following four sub-regions:- South Asian Littorals, West Asian Littorals, East African Littorals, South East Asian and Australian Littorals.
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http://ions.gov.in/

| EN | In-depth knowledge about IONS. Also, Indian ocean has been a focus area for the government in the light growing Chinese presence in the region.

| | the Ganges River Dolphin.
3. The headquarter of the sanctuary is situated at Morena in Madhya Pradesh. Which of the following sanctuaries is best described by the above mentioned statements?
(a) National Chambal Sanctuary
(b) Palpur Kuno Wildlife Sanctuary
(c) Sanjay Gandhi National Park
(d) Pench National Park

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| 19 | Art and Culture | The painting of Bodhisattva Padmapani is one of the most famous and oft-illustrated paintings at (a) Ajanta (b) Badami (c) Bagh (d) Ellora | A | The painting is on the back wall of the interior hall before the shrine-antechamber in Cave No. 1 at Ajanta dating back to the late fifth century CE. The Bodhisattva is holding a padma (lotus), has large shoulders, and has three bents in the body creating a movement in the picture space. The modelling is soft. The figure of the Bodhisattva is wearing a big crown in which detailed rendering is visible. | E | AN INTRODUCTIO N TO INDIAN ART, page 54 | EM | To test basic knowledge of art and architecture of Ancient India |

<p>| 20 | Art and Culture | Consider the following pairs: Traditions Communities 1. Chaliha Sahib Festival – Sindhis 2. Nanda Raj Jaat Yatra – Gonds 3. Wari-Warkari - Santhals Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched? (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) None of the above | A | Pair 1 is matched correctly: Chalia sahib is the festival of the Sindhis which involves devotees fasting for days. Pair 2 is not matched correctly: The Nanda Devi Jat is celebrated every year in the Nanda Devi temples spread across Garhwal and Kumaon. The festival commences on the day earmarked for the Devi’s visit to her maiti or parents’ home and culminates with the return to her husband’s home. This tradition is beautifully expressed in the folk songs of Uttarakhand. Pair 3 is not matched correctly: Pandharpur Wari or Wari (Vari) is an annual pilgrimage to Pandharpur - the seat of the god Vithoba in Maharashtra, in honour of the deity. Palakhis carrying the paduka (foot prints) of various saints - most | D | U | <a href="http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/An-unusual-Warkari-at-the-Wari/articleshow/52951360.cms">http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/An-unusual-Warkari-at-the-Wari/articleshow/52951360.cms</a> <a href="http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/Jhulelal-festival/articleshow/134353.cms">http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/Jhulelal-festival/articleshow/134353.cms</a> | RR | To check in depth knowledge about cultural heritage of India. |</p>
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<th>Environment</th>
<th>Which of the following statements can help in water conservation in agriculture?</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 21          | 1. Reduced or zero tillage of the land  
2. Applying gypsum before irrigating the field  
3. Allowing crop residue to remain in the field Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
(a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3 |

| No-till farming (also called zero tillage or direct drilling) is a way of growing crops or pasture from year to year without disturbing the soil through tillage. No-till is an agricultural technique which increases the amount of water that infiltrates into the soil and increases organic matter retention and cycling of nutrients in the soil. Gypsum improves the ability of soil to drain and not become waterlogged thus increasing water-use efficiency of crops. |

| Current Affairs | Consider the following statements: The nation-wide ‘Soil Health Card Scheme’ aims at 1. expanding the cultivable area under irrigation. 2. enabling the banks to assess the quantum of loans to be granted to farmers on the basis of soil quality. 3. checking the overuse of fertilizers in farmlands. Which of the above statements is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 3 only  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3 |

| 22          | Launched by the central government in February 2015, the scheme is tailor-made to issue ‘Soil card’ to farmers which will carry crop-wise recommendations of nutrients and fertilizers required for the individual farms. This is aimed to help farmers to improve productivity through judicious use of inputs. Thus only statement 3 is correct. |

| Soil health card has remained continuously in news due to increased focus on farm output. | Covered in All India Test Series 2125,2219  
With reference to Soil Health Card Scheme, consider the following Statements:  
1. It is field-specific detailed report of soil fertility status .  
2. It aims to provide farm insurance based on soil health.  
3. Every soil health card will be renewed every year. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only  
(b) 1 and 2 only  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3 |
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### Science and Technology

Consider the following pairs:

**Commonly used/consumed materials**

1. Lipstick – Lead
2. Soft drinks – Brominated vegetable oils
3. Chinese fast food – Monosodium glutamate

**Unwanted or controversial chemicals likely to be found in them**

- Lipstick – Lead
- Soft drinks – Brominated vegetable oils
- Chinese fast food – Monosodium glutamate

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

---

**Organic Light Emitting Diodes (OLEDs)** are used to create digital display in many devices. What are the advantages of OLED displays over Liquid Crystal displays?

1. OLED displays can be fabricated on flexible plastic substrates.
2. Roll-up displays embedded in clothing can be made using OLEDs.

---

### Possible Answers

**D** Lead is a common impurity found in cosmetic lip products, such as lipsticks, and other cosmetics, such as eye shadows, blushes, compact powders, shampoos, and body lotions. Brominated vegetable oil is a food additive sometimes used to keep citrus flavoring from separating out in some sodas and soft drinks. It’s banned as a food additive in Europe and Japan. MSG is a glutamate, or salt of glutamic acid, a “non-essential” amino acid. It is a neurotransmitter - transporting messages from one nerve cell to another. Because it is said to enhance flavours, some scientists believe it “excites nerve endings” and exhibits “neuro- excitatory properties”, that is the ability to stimulate neurons. It is commonly used in chinese fast food.

---

**D** Flexible Organic Light Emitting Diodes (FOLED) fabricated on flexible plastic substrates can be bent or rolled while operating. The manufacturing process of OLEDs is different to those of LCD technology. OLEDs can be printed onto almost any substrate with inkjet printer technology. That is

---

**FA**


**http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/no-added-msg-claim-did-maggi-in/article7313318.ece**

**http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-international/coke-to-drop-ingredient-entirely/article5984124.ece**

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**EN**

MSG was in news due to maggi controversy.

---

**C** All the three statements are correct with regard to OLED and they are the disadvantages of LCDs. Flexible Organic Light Emitting Diodes (FOLED) fabricated on flexible plastic substrates can be bent or rolled while operating. The manufacturing process of OLEDs is different to those of LCD technology. OLEDs can be printed onto almost any substrate with inkjet printer technology. That is

---

**FA**

**http://www.about-oled.com/advantages-and-drawbacks.html**
3. Transparent displays are possible using OLEDs. Select the correct answer using the code given below:
   (a) 1 and 3 only
   (b) 2 only
   (c) 1, 2 and 3
   (d) None of the above statements is correct

   why new applications like displays embedded in clothes or roll-up displays are possible.
   LCD technology engages a backlight, whereas OLED has no backlighting function. Hence it can be used for making transparent displays.

25  Art and Culture

   Which of the following is/are famous for Sun temples?
   1. Arasavalli
   2. Amarakantak
   3. Omkareshwar

   Select the correct answer using the code given below:
   (a) 1 only
   (b) 2 and 3 only
   (c) 1 and 3 only
   (d) 1, 2 and 3

   A The Sun Temple is situated in Arasavalli Village in Andhra Pradesh. Sun temples are not located in Amarkantak and Omkareshwar.

26  Polity and Governance

   Consider the following statements:
   1. In the election for Lok Sabha or State Assembly, the winning candidate must get at least 50 percent of the votes polled, to be declared elected.
   2. According to the provisions laid down in the Constitution of India, in Lok Sabha, the Speaker’s post goes to the majority party and the Deputy Speaker’s to the Opposition.

   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

   D Statement 1 is not correct. In election for lok sabha and state assembly, the first past the post system is followed where a candidate who polls more votes than any other candidate is elected.
   Statement 2 is incorrect. As per the constitution, the speaker and deputy speaker in lok sabha are elected among its members.
Which of the following has/have occurred in India after its liberalization of economic policies in 1991?

1. Share of agriculture in GDP increased enormously.
2. Share of India’s exports in world trade increased.
3. FDI inflows increased.
4. India’s foreign exchange reserves increased enormously.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

The post-reform period shows the gradual decline in the agriculture sector’s contribution to the Indian economy. India’s traditional occupation, agriculture now contributes only about 15% to the GDP, down from 29 percent in 1991.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect. Share of India’s exports increased since 1991.

Hence, statement 2 is correct. Before 1991, foreign investment was negligible. The first year of reform saw a total foreign investment of only $74 million. However, investments have steadily risen since then, except for occasional blips between 1997 and 2000 and 2008 and 2012 – owing to the global economic slowdown. As of 31 March 2016, the country has received total FDI of $371 billion, since 1991. The year 2008 recorded the highest FDI inflow of $43.40 billion. The biggest spurt in inflow was between 2005 and 2006 – 175.54%. As of March 2016, India has attracted $10.55 billion worth of FDI. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

It was India’s dismal state of forex reserves that forced the government to bring in economic reforms. Now, 25 years later, forex reserves are at a record high. In 1991, it stood at just $5.8 billion. As of 24 June, the country’s forex reserves are at $360.8 billion. Usually, import
28 Science and Technology
What is the application of Somatic Cell Nuclear Transfer Technology? (a) Production of biolarvicides (b) Manufacture of biodegradable plastics (c) Reproductive cloning of animals (d) Production of organisms free of diseases
C
Somatic-cell nuclear transfer involves removing the nucleus, which contains the DNA, and implanting it into an unfertilised egg, whose nucleus has been removed. It is used in reproductive cloning of organisms.

29 Current Affairs
Consider the following statements:
1. National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) helps in promoting the financial inclusion in the country.
2. NPCI has launched RuPay, a card payment scheme. 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
C (NPCI) is an umbrella organization for all retail payments system in India. It was set up with the guidance and support of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA). The core objective was to consolidate and integrate the multiple systems with varying service levels into nation-wide uniform and standard business process for all retail payment systems. The other objective was to facilitate an affordable payment mechanism to benefit the common man across the country and help financial inclusion. Thus statement 1 is correct. It offers many products and services which include RuPay card, BHIM app, Unified payment interface among others. Thus statement 2 is correct.
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| 30 | Environment | The term ‘M-STriPES’ is sometimes seen in the news in the context of (a) Captive breeding of Wild Fauna (b) Maintenance of Tiger Reserves (c) Indigenous Satellite Navigation System (d) Security of National Highways |
| 31 | Economics | What is/are the most likely advantages of implementing ‘Goods and Services Tax (GST)?’ 1. It will replace multiple taxes collected by multiple authorities and will thus create a single market in India. 2. It will drastically reduce the ‘Current Account Deficit’ of India and will enable it to increase its foreign exchange reserves. 3. It will enormously increase the growth and size of economy of India and will enable it to overtake China in the near future. Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 |

### Monitoring System for Tigers’- Intensive Protection and Ecological Status (M-STriPES)

**B**

Monitoring System for Tigers’- Intensive Protection and Ecological Status is a software monitoring system launched by the Indian Government in 2010 in some tiger reserves to reduce vulnerability of Tigers. The system would enable field managers to assist intensity and spatial coverage of patrols in a geographic information system (GIS) domain.

**M**

Official launch of M-STriPES (Monitoring System For Tigers- Intensive Protection and Ecological Status) software-enabled mobile app at Corbett Tiger Reserve.


**EN**

Consistently in news

Covered in PT365 Economy and VisionIAS test series - 2130

Which of the following can be achieved with the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax Act (GST)?

1. Common marketplace for direct taxes
2. Elimination of distortions in intrastate trade
3. Boost investment and growth

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
| 32 | Current Affairs | 'Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA)' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of negotiations held between India and (a) European Union (b) Gulf Cooperation Council (c) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (d) Shanghai Cooperation Organization A The FTA talks with EU have been deadlocked since 2013 after 16 rounds of negotiations. Last year EU raised its concern over what it called India’s “unilateral termination” of existing Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) with “a significant number of” EU-member countries. E CA [http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=160131](http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=160131) [http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/India-EU-aim-to-break-Free-Trade-Agreement-impasse/article14378438.ece](http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/India-EU-aim-to-break-Free-Trade-Agreement-impasse/article14378438.ece) EN FTA negotiations with EU has remained continuously in news. Covered in PT 365 Updation - International |

| 33 | Current Affairs | Consider the following statements: 1. India has ratified to Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) of WTO. 2. TFA is a part of WTO’s Bali Ministerial Package of 2013. 3. TFA came into force in January 2016. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 A The TFA is the WTO’s first-ever multilateral accord that aims to simplify customs regulations for the cross-border movement of goods. It was outcome of WTO’s 9th Bali (Indonesia) ministerial package of 2013. India ratified it in April 2016. It came into force in February 2017. Thus statement 3 is not correct. M CA [http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=159992](http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=159992) [http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/india-legally-vetted-proposal-on-global-services-pact-at-wto/article17355734.ece](http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/india-legally-vetted-proposal-on-global-services-pact-at-wto/article17355734.ece) EN TFA has remained regularly in news for last 3 years. Covered in PT 365 Economy and PT 365 Updation - Economy All India test series - partially covered in test 2124, 2121 and 2358 Doha round of WTO covers negotiations on which of the following? 1. Agriculture 2. Services 3. Non-Agricultural Market Access 4. Trade Facilitation Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 1 and 4 only (c) 2, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4 |

<p>| 34 | Current Affairs | What is the importance of developing Chabahar Port by India? (a) India’s trade with African countries will enormously increase. (b) India’s relations with oil-producing Arab countries will be strengthened. C India and Iran signed a series of agreements that allowed New Delhi to use the port of Chabahar to access Central Asia and Afghanistan without depending upon Pakistan. E CA <a href="http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=147456">http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=147456</a> <a href="http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/India-to-develop-Iran-Chabahar-Port/article21236115.ece">http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/India-to-develop-Iran-Chabahar-Port/article21236115.ece</a> EN Chabahar port has remained continuously in news. Covered in PT365 International Relations, All India test series, test 2123 (covered in explanation). Chabahar Port is associated with which of the following locations? 1. Gulf of Oman 2. Persian Gulf |</p>
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| **35** | **Current Affairs** | In India, it is legally mandatory for which of the following to report on cyber security incidents?  
1. Service providers  
2. Data centres  
3. Body corporate | Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
(a) 1 only  
(b) 1 and 2 only  
(c) 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3 |
| **D** | **The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team shall serve as the national agency for performing the following functions in the area of cyber security,**  
– (a) collection, analysis and dissemination of information on cyber incidents;  
– (b) forecast and alerts of cyber security incidents;  
– (c) emergency measures for handling cyber security incidents;  
– (d) coordination of cyber incidents response activities;  
– (e) issue guidelines, advisories, vulnerability notes and white papers relating to information security practices, procedures, prevention, response and reporting of cyber incidents;  
– (f) such other functions relating to cyber security as may be prescribed.  
*Any service provider, intermediaries, data centres, body corporate or person who fails to provide the information called for or comply with the above section shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees or with both.* | **D** | **CAA**  
[http://lawmin.nic.in/id/P-ACT/2000/The%20Information%20Technology%20Act,%202000.pdf](http://lawmin.nic.in/id/P-ACT/2000/The%20Information%20Technology%20Act,%202000.pdf) |
|   |   |   | **Cyber security regularly in news.** |
| 36 | Polity and Governance | Right to vote and to be elected in India is a (a) Fundamental Right (b) Natural Right (c) Constitutional Right (d) Legal Right | D | According to Supreme Court judgment Jyoti Basu vs Debi Ghosal - A right to elect, fundamental though it is to democracy, is, anomalously neither a fundamental right nor a Common Law Right. **It is a statutory right.** So is the right to be elected, and the right to dispute an election.  
***NOTE*** - As per NCERT One of the important decisions of the framers of the Indian Constitution was to guarantee every adult citizen in India, the right to vote i.e. universal adult franchise. The article 326 of the Constitution provides for the right to vote and to be elected in India. What is true of the right to vote is also true of right to contest election. All citizens have the right to stand for election and become the representative of the people. | D | F | Union of India vs. Association for Democratic Reforms and Anr. (2002) SCC 294 and People’s Union for Civil Liberties vs. Union of India (2003)  
**** Article 326 of the constitution & NCERT - 11, Indian constitution at work, chapter 3, page 66 | EM | to check the basic knowledge |

| 37 | Current Affairs | What is the purpose of 'evolved Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (eLISA)' project? (a) To detect neutrinos (b) To detect gravitational waves (c) To detect the effectiveness of missile defence system (d) To study the effect of solar flares on our communication systems | B | eLISA is a spectacular plan of setting into space three spacecraft, a mother and two daughter spacecraft, which will fly in a triangular formation, trailing the earth in its orbit around the sun at a distance of over 50 million km. Laser interferometers will accurately measure changes in the distance between these cubes. If they should be affected by a gravitational wave, the minute changes in this distance are measure by the interferometer. | E | CA | [http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/eLISA-eLISAspaceantennae-to-probe-gravitational-waves/article14433813.ece](http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/eLISA-eLISAspaceantennae-to-probe-gravitational-waves/article14433813.ece) | EN | Gravitational waves have been regularly in news. | Covered in PT 365 SnT and All India Test Series 2115, 2209, 2360 Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?  
Spacecraft/ Mission : Purpose  
1. New Horizons : to map and investigate Mercury  
2. Juno : to understand origin and evolution of Jupiter  
3. LISA Pathfinder : to demonstrate the technology needed to build a space-based gravitational wave observatory  
Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 |
### Current Affairs

#### 38
- **What is the purpose of ‘Vidyanjali Yojana’?**
  1. To enable the famous foreign educational institutions to open their campuses in India.
  2. To increase the quality of education provided in government schools by taking help from the private sector and the community.
  3. To encourage voluntary monetary contributions from private individuals and organizations so as to improve the infrastructure facilities for primary and secondary schools.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 2 only  
(b) 3 only  
(c) 1 and 2 only  
(d) 2 and 3 only

- **The Ministry of HRD recently launched the Vidyanjali scheme aimed at boosting the education system by delivering volunteer teachers to government schools.** It will not replace the regular and professionally qualified teachers in the government schools. The volunteer’s responsibility is towards overall development of the child, not academics. The volunteer service will be used in developing skills like public speaking, creative writing, counseling, music and dance.

### Current Affairs

#### 39
- **What is the aim of the programme ‘Unnat Bharat Abhiyan’?**
  (a) Achieving 100% literacy by promoting collaboration between voluntary organizations and government’s education system and local communities.
  (b) Connecting institutions of higher education with local communities to address the development challenges.
  (c) Strengthening India’s scientific research

With a view to uplift rural India, the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan programme is launched in collaboration with the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) and the National Institutes of Technology (NITs) across the country. The programme aims to connect institutions of higher education, including Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Indian Institutes of Science Education & Research (IISERs) etc. with local communities to address the development challenges through appropriate technologies.

- **A lot of focus in on grassroot innovation.** The scheme was in news in this regard.

### Current Affairs

- **Many schemes have been launched by the government to improve the learning outcome and quality of the education. Covered in PT 365 Social and All India Test Series 2114,2208,2238,2364**
  - The recently launched Vidyanjali scheme aims at (a) boosting the education system by delivering volunteer teachers to government schools.
  - (b) providing support to young entrepreneurs by coordinated delivery of various entrepreneurship programs.
  - (c) introducing compulsory certification for teachers in government and private schools
  - (d) none of the above

- **Covered in PT365 - Govt schemes & All India Test Series 2125,2219,2366:**
  - With reference to Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, consider the following statements:
    1. It aims to support smart cities project and urban development.
    2. It connects IITs and NITs with local communities to address the development challenges. 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
institutions in order to make India a scientific and technological power.
(d) Developing human capital by allocating special funds for health care and education of rural and urban poor, and organizing skill development programmes and vocational training for them.

| 40 | Polity and Governance | Consider the following statements: 1. The Election Commission of India is a five-member body. 2. Union Ministry of Home Affairs decides the election schedule for the conduct of both general elections and bye-elections. 3. Election Commission resolves the disputes relating to splits/mergers of recognized political parties. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 3 only | D | Only statement 3 is correct. Election Commission of India is a 3 member body and it is the election commission which decides the election schedule for both general elections and bye-elections. It is also the function of election commission to resolve the disputes relating to splits/mergers of recognized political parties. | E | FA | Laxmikant - Indian Polity, chapter - "Election Commission" |

| 41 | Environment | In India, if a species of tortoise is declared protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, what does it imply? (a) It enjoys the same level of protection as the tiger. (b) It no longer exists in the wild, a few individuals are under captive protection; and not it is impossible to prevent its extinction. | A | The Act provides for the protection of wild animals, birds and plants; and for matters connected therewith or ancillary or incidental thereto. It extends to the whole of India, except the State of Jammu and Kashmir which has its own wildlife act. It has six schedules which give varying degrees of protection. Schedule I and part II of Schedule II provide absolute protection - offences under these are | E | FA | NCERT: Contemporary India - II, Chapter -2 Forest and Wildlife Resources. |

EM to check the basic knowledge

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All India Test Series - Tests 2134, 2127. Q. With reference to the black-necked crane, consider the following statements: 1. The high altitude wetlands in the Tibetan plateau are the main breeding ground of the species. 2. It is given legal protection under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
### Polity and Governance

| Question | Answer | Source
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<td>Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Wildlife Protection Act, 1972? 1. Schedule V of the Act contains vermins which can be hunted. 2. As per the act, only the central government can declare an animal as vermin. 3. The Act covers only animals and not plants.</td>
<td>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</td>
<td>Laxmikanth Ch-30 High Court</td>
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42. In India, Judicial Review implies

(a) the power of the Judiciary to pronounce upon the constitutionality of laws and executive orders.
(b) the power of the Judiciary to question the wisdom of the laws enacted by the Legislatures.
(c) the power of the Judiciary to review all the legislative enactments before they are assented to by the President.
(d) the power of the Judiciary to review its own judgements given earlier in similar or different cases.

Judicial review is the power of judiciary to examine the constitutionality of legislative enactments and executive orders of both the Central and state governments. On examination, if they are found to be violative of the Constitution (ultra-vires), they can be declared as illegal, unconstitutional and invalid (null and viod). Consequently, they cannot be enforced by the government. The constitutional validity of a legislative enactment or an executive order can be challenged in a high court or supreme court on the following three grounds: (a) it infringes the fundamental rights (Part III), (b) it is outside the competence of the authority which has framed it, and (c) it is repugnant to the constitutional provisions.
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| 43 | Modern History | With reference to Indian freedom struggle, consider the following events: 1. Mutiny in Royal Indian Navy 2. Quit Indian Movement launched 3. Second Round Table Conference What is the correct chronological sequence of the above events? (a) 1-2-3 (b) 2-1-3 (c) 3-2-1 (d) 3-1-2 | C | Second Round Table Conference took place on **7th September 1931**. The Quit India Movement, also known as the August Movement was a Civil Disobedience Movement launched by Gandhi Ji on **8th August 1942**. Royal Indian Navy (RIN) mutiny was a rebellion launched on **February 18, 1946**, by seamen on the HMIS Talwar. Hence correct chronological sequence of the above events are **3-2-1** | E | F | NCERT chapter 13 class 12 themes in indian history-3 | RR | To check the basic knowledge of all the important historical events. |
| 44 | Economics | Consider the following statements: 1. Tax revenue as a percent of GDP of India has steadily increased in the last decade. 2. Fiscal deficit as a percent of GDP of India has steadily increased in the last decade. 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 | D | **Service tax, personal income tax and corporation tax** have been reduced in the recent past to boost aggregate demand, so as to protect the economy from global recession. **Excise duty** rates have been reduced in the recent past to boost aggregate demand, so as to protect the economy from global recession hence tax revenue as a percent of GDP of India has steadily not increase in the last decade. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.** Fiscal deficit as a percent of GDP of India has not steadily increased in the last decade. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.** | M | CAA | Economic survey 2014-15 | RM | Economic survey has discussed this issue in detail. |
| 45 | Current Affairs | Recently there was a proposal to translocate some of the lions from their habitat in Gujarat to which one of the following sites? (a) Corbett National Park | B | An environment ministry’s expert committee approved Kuno Palpur in Madhya Pradesh as the second home for Asiatic lions found only in Gir national park. However, the Gujarat government will not share | M | CA | [http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/M.P.-seeks-](http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/M.P.-seeks-). | EN | Important news regarding lion conservation |
(b) Kuno Palpur Wildlife Sanctuary
(c) Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary
(d) Sariska National Park

lions unless 33 studies as mandated by international wildlife watchdog IUCN is completed

When the President’s Rule is imposed in a state, the President dismisses the state council of ministers headed by the chief minister. The state governor, on behalf of the President, carries on the state administration with the help of the chief secretary of the state or the advisors appointed by the President. This is the reason why a proclamation under Article 356 is popularly known as the imposition of ‘President’s Rule’ in a state. Further, the President either suspends or dissolves the state legislative assembly. The Parliament passes the state legislative bills and the state budget. The President’s Rule does not lead to dissolution of local bodies. Hence, the answer is 1 and 3 only.

Which of the following are envisaged by the Right against Exploitation in the Constitution of India?
1. Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour
2. Abolition of untouchability
3. Protection of the interests of minorities
4. Prohibition of

RIGHT AGAINST EXPLOITATION includes Article 23 & 24 of the Indian Constitution. Article 23 prohibits traffic in human beings, begar (forced labour) and other similar forms of forced labour. Any contravention of this provision shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law. This right is available to both citizens and non-citizens. It
### Employment of Children in Factories and Mines

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Article 24 prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in any factory, mine or other hazardous activities like construction work or railway. But it does not prohibit their employment in any harmless or innocent work.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>48</th>
<th>Geography</th>
<th>Which of the following is geographically closest to Great Nicobar?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Great Nicobar is the southernmost and largest of the Nicobar Islands of India, north of Sumatra. The island of Sumatra is located 180 km (110 mi) to the south of Great Nicobar.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| A  | Great Nicobar | (a) Sumatra  
(b) Borneo  
(c) Java  
(d) Sri Lanka |

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>49</th>
<th>Polity and Governance</th>
<th>Out of the following statements, choose the one that brings out the principle underlying the Cabinet form of Government:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>The Parliamentary system is also known as the ‘Westminster’ model of government, responsible government and cabinet government. The Constitution establishes the parliamentary system not only at the Centre but also in the states. The features of parliamentary government in India are: (a) Presence of nominal and real executives; (b) Majority party rule, (c) Collective responsibility of the executive to the legislature, (d) Membership of the ministers in the legislature, (e) Leadership of the prime minister or the chief minister, (f) Dissolution of the lower house (Lok Sabha or Assembly).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Laxmikanth Ch-Salient Features of Indian Constitution.</td>
<td>(d) Forced migration due to displacement and development activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>44</th>
<th>Important from the viewpoint of India’s territorial extent.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EM</td>
<td>Important from the viewpoint of India’s territorial extent.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>45</th>
<th>All India Test Series - Test 2118 (partially covered) Which one of the following pairs of islands is separated from each other by the “Eight Degree Channel?”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>Andman and Nicobar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b)</td>
<td>Nicobar and Sumatra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c)</td>
<td>Maldives and Lakshadweep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d)</td>
<td>Sumatra and Java</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>46</th>
<th>Important from the viewpoint of India’s territorial extent.</th>
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<td>EM</td>
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</table>

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<tr>
<th>47</th>
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<tr>
<td>EM</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 50 | Polity and Governance | Which one of the following is not a feature to Indian federalism?
(a) There is an independent judiciary in India.
(b) Powers have been clearly divided between the Centre and the States.
(c) The federating units have been given unequal representation in the Rajya Sabha.
(d) It is the result of an agreement among the federating units. | D | The Constitution of India establishes a federal system of government. It contains all the usual features of a federation, viz., two government, division of powers, written Constitution, super-macy of Constitution, rigidity of Constitution, independent judiciary and bicameralism. Moreover, the term ‘Federation’ has nowhere been used in the Constitution. Article 1, on the other hand, describes India as a ‘Union of States’ which implies two things: one, **Indian Federation is not the result of an agreement by the states**; and two, no state has the right to secede from the federation. | E | F | Laxmikanth-CH-Salient Features of the Constitution | EM | to test the basic clarity |

| 51 | Modern History | The object of the Butler Committee of 1927 was to
(a) Define the jurisdiction of the Central and Provincial Governments.
(b) Define the powers of the Secretary of State for India.
(c) Impose censorship on national press.
(d) Improve the relationship between the Government of India and the Indian States. | D | The Report of the Butler Committee on the relations between the Indian States and British India. The Committee advise that the Viceroy (instead of the Governor-General in Council) should represent the Crown in all dealings with the States. This proposed change is comparable with the new Imperial arrangement by which the Governor-General of a Dominion is High Commissioner for the Dominion's Protectorates. The Committee sympathize with the fear of the Native Princes that | M | F | spectrum page no.321 | EM | To check the basic knowledge. |

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their States might pass without their consent under a new Government in British India responsible to an Indian Legislature, and they plainly express the opinion that no such transference should be made without the consent of the Princes.

<p>| 52 | Current Affairs | The term ‘Domestic Content Requirement’ is sometimes seen in the news with reference to (a) Developing solar power production in our country (b) Granting licenses to foreign T.V. channels in our country (c) Exporting our food products to other countries (d) Permitting foreign educational institutions to set up their campuses in our country | A | ‘Domestic Content Requirement’, recently in news, is related to development of solar power production. The World Trade Organization had ruled against India’s domestic content policy for solar cells and modules; India appealed the ruling in a bid to keep DCR rules in place for government procurement. The case against India was originally filed in 2013, following the announcement of DCR in JNNSM Phase II policy and after India decided to file an anti-dumping case against the U.S., China, Malaysia and Taiwan. | E | <a href="http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/removal-of-domestic-content-requirement-in-solar-not-a-big-blow/articleshow/54412591.cms">http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/removal-of-domestic-content-requirement-in-solar-not-a-big-blow/articleshow/54412591.cms</a> | EN | WTO ruling against India. | Covered in 2017 Vision IAS Open test 1-2225 Which of the following is not correct about National Solar Mission? (a) The Mission has the target of achieving 1,00,000 MW solar power by 2022. (b) WTO has allowed India to mandate Domestic Content Requirement in achieving the target under the mission. (c) It is one of the eight missions of National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). (d) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is the implementing agency for the National Solar Mission. |
| 53 | Current Affairs | Consider the following statements: 1. The Nuclear Security Summits are periodically held under the aegis of the United Nations. 2. The International Panel on Fissile Materials (IPFM) was founded in January 2006 and is an | D | Nuclear Security Summits are an United States-led initiative and are not under the aegis of the United Nations. The International Panel on Fissile Materials (IPFM) was founded in January 2006 and is an | D | <a href="http://indianexpress.com/article/explained/nuclear-security-summit-how-to/">http://indianexpress.com/article/explained/nuclear-security-summit-how-to/</a> | RR | The fourth edition of Nuclear Security Summit (NSS) was held in Washington, |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>54</th>
<th>Current Affairs</th>
<th>Who among the following can join the National Pension System (NPS)?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(a) Resident Indian citizens only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(b) Persons of age from 21 to 55 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(c) All State Government employees joining the services after the state of notification by the respective State Governments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(d) All Central Government employees including those of Armed Forces joining the services on or after 1st April, 2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| C | NPS (National Pension System) is a defined contribution based Pension Scheme launched by Government of India. Eligibility- |
|   | - NPS is applicable to all new employees of Central Government service (except Armed Forces) and Central Autonomous Bodies joining Government service on or after 1st January 2004. |
|   | - NPS is applicable to all the employees of State Governments, State Autonomous Bodies joining services after the date of notification by the respective State Governments. |
|   | - All citizens of India between the age of 18 and 60 years as on the date of submission of his / her application to Point of Presence (POP) / Point of Presence-Service Provider (POP-SP) can join NPS. Recently, NRIs were also allowed to open National Pension Scheme (NPS) accounts online. |
55 | Geography | With reference to river Teesta, consider the following statements:
1. The source of river Teesta is the same as that of Brahmaputra but it flows through Sikkim.
2. River Rangeet originates in Sikkim and it is a tributary of river Teesta.
3. River Teesta flows into Bay of Bengal on the border of India and Bangladesh.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

B | Statement 1 is not correct. The Teesta River originates from the Pahunri (or Teesta Kangse) glacier and flows southward through the Sikkim Himalaya. where the Rangpo River joins, and where it forms the border between Sikkim and West Bengal up to Teesta Bazaar. Just before the Teesta Bridge, where the roads from Kalimpong and Darjeeling join, the river is met by its main tributary, the Rangeet River. Hence Statement 2 is correct. It changes course southwards flowing into West Bengal. The river then goes merging up with the Brahmaputra River after it bifurcates the city of Jalpaiguri and flows just touching Cooch Behar district at Mekhliganj and moves to Fulchori in Bangladesh. Thus it does not flow directly into the Bay of Bengal. Hence statement 3 is not correct.

M | FCA | EM | River Teesta has been often seen in news with respect to India-Bangladesh international relations. Its waters are still disputed between the two nations.

PT 365 Updation Material, Page 16. Eliminating statement 3, one could arrive at the correct answer.

56 | Current Affairs | Consider the following statements:
1. In tropical regions, Zika virus disease is transmitted by the same mosquito that transmits dengue.
2. Sexual transmission of Zika virus disease is possible.
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

C | Zika virus is primarily transmitted to people through the bite of an infected mosquito from the Aedes genus, mainly Aedes aegypti in tropical regions. This is the same mosquito that transmits dengue, chikungunya and yellow fever. Although Zika virus is primarily transmitted through mosquitoes, it can also be sexually transmitted as well.

M | FCA | Atlas | EN | Last year, World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed India's first three cases of Zika virus.
Covered in june 2016 current affairs All India Test series, test 2114 and 2360 (partially covered)
Consider the following statements about Zika virus disease:
1. It is caused by a virus transmitted by mosquito.
2. Presently there is no vaccine available for Zika virus.
3. Zika can be passed from a pregnant woman to her foetus. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
| 57 | Current Affairs | Consider the following statements:  
1. The Standard Mark of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is mandatory for automotive tyres and tubes.  
2. AGMARK is a quality certification mark issues by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).  
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 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>In 2010, a certification from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has been made mandatory for all types of automotive tyres and tubes. AGMARK is a certification mark employed on agricultural products in India, assuring that they conform to a set of standards approved by the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, an agency of the Government of India. The AGMARK is legally enforced in India by the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act of 1937 (and amended in 1986).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
https://www.nhp.gov.in/Zika-virus_pg  
| RR | AGMARK has been in use to promote agricultural produce. |
| 58 | Economics | What is/are the advantage/advantages of implementing the ‘National Agriculture Market’ scheme?  
1. It is a pan-India electronic trading portal for agricultural commodities.  
2. It provides the farmers access to nationwide market, with prices commensurate with the quality of their produce.  
Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2 |
| C | National Agriculture Market (NAM) is a pan-India electronic trading portal which networks the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**  
NAM promotes uniformity, streamlining of procedures across the integrated markets, removes information asymmetry between buyers and sellers and promotes real time price discovery, based on actual demand and supply, promotes transparency in auction process, and access to a nationwide market for the farmer, with prices commensurate with quality of his produce and online payment and availability of better quality produce and at more reasonable prices to the consumer. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.** |
| EN | One of the important reforms in agricultural sector. | Covered in PT 365 Economy All India test series, test 2112, 2357  
With reference to the National Agricultural Market (NAM), consider the following statements:  
1. It aims to create a pan-India electronic trading portal for agricultural commodities.  
2. It will be implemented as a Central Sector Scheme through Agri-Tech Infrastructure Fund (ATIF).  
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 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Correctness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. It reiterates India’s commitment to the Doha Development Agenda and the TRIPS Agreement.</td>
<td>(c) Both 1 and 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion is the nodal agency for regulating intellectual property rights in India.</td>
<td>(b) 2 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which of the above statements is/are correct?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a) 1 only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) 2 only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Both 1 and 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) Neither 1 nor 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Union Cabinet approved the National Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy in 2016 that will lay the future roadmap for intellectual property in India. This policy shall weave in the strengths of the Government, research and development organizations, educational institutions, corporate entities including MSMEs, start-ups and other stakeholders in the creation of an innovation-conducive environment, which stimulates creativity and innovation across sectors, as also facilitates a stable, transparent and service-oriented IPR administration in the country. The Policy recognizes that India has a well-established TRIPS-compliant legislative, administrative and judicial framework to safeguard IPRs, which meets its international obligations while utilizing the flexibilities provided in the international regime to address its developmental concerns. It reiterates India’s commitment to the Doha Development Agenda and the TRIPS agreement. Hence statement 1 is correct.

These objectives are sought to be achieved through detailed action points. The action by different Ministries/Departments shall be monitored by DIPP which shall be the nodal department to coordinate, guide and oversee implementation and future development of IPRs in India. Hence statement 2 is correct.
Environment

According to the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, which of the following animals cannot be hunted by any person except under some provisions provided by law?
1. Gharial
2. Indian wild ass
3. Wild buffalo
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Polity and Governance

Which of the following statements is/are true of the Fundamental Duties of an Indian citizen?
1. A legislative process has been provided to enforce these duties.
2. They are correlative to legal duties.
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Modern History

Consider the following pairs:
1. Radhakanta Deb – First President of the British Indian Association
2. Gazulu Lakshminarasu Chetty – Founder of the Madras Mahajana Sabha
3. Surendranath Banerjee – Founder of the Indian Association
Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?
(a) 1 only  
(b) 1 and 3 only  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Modern History

The British Indian Association was established on 31 October 1851. The first committee of the association was composed of:
- Raja Radhakanta Deb – President
- Raja Kalikrishna Deb – Vice-President, Debendranath Tagore – secretary, Digambar Mitra – Asst Secretary.
In May 1884, M. Veeraraghavachariar, G. Subramania Iyer and P. Anandacharlu established the Madras Mahajana Sabha.

Modern History

The questions aims to test general awareness on endangered species. Indian wild ass and the wild buffalo are endangered species.

Modern History

Which of the following species are critically endangered?
1. Namdapha Flying Squirrel
2. Malabar Civet
3. Siberian Crane
4. Gharial
5. Wild Ass
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 4 only  
(b) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only  
(c) 2, 3 and 5 only  
(d) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>63</th>
<th>Polity and Governance</th>
<th>Which one of the following objectives is not embodied in the Preamble to the Constitution of India?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) Liberty of thought</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) Economic liberty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(c) Liberty of expression</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(d) Liberty of belief</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2) Consider the following pairs: Associations Leader associated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Bombay Presidency Association : Pherozeshah Mehta</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Poona Sarvajanik sabha : M. G. Ranade</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Madras Mahajansabha : Subramaniya Iyer Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) 1 and 2 only</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) 3 only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(c) 1 and 3 only</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>64</th>
<th>Current Affairs</th>
<th>With reference to the 'Quality Council of India (QCI)', consider the following statements:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. QCI was set up jointly by the Government of India and the Indian Industry.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Chairman of QCI is appointed by the Prime Minister on the recommendations of the industry to the Government. Which of the above</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) 1 and 3 only</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) 1, 2 and 3 only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(c) 2 and 4 only</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| CAA | http://www.qcin.org/about.php | EN | The Quality Council of India (QCI), on its eLearning portal 'eQuest', recently launched online certificate courses in manufacturing |
| 65 | Current Affairs | What is the purpose of setting up of Small Finance Banks (SFBs) in India? | A | The objectives of setting up of small finance banks will be to further financial inclusion by - (i) provision of savings vehicles, and (ii) supply of credit to small business units; small and marginal farmers; micro and small industries; and other unorganised sector entities, through high technology-low cost operations. | M | CAA | https://rbi.org.in/scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=32614 | EN | Small Finance Banks (SFBs) have been in news. | PT365 Economy and All India test series, test 2123 (covered in explanation) Which of the following statements regarding "small finance banks" is/are correct? 1. They are required to maintain both CRR and SLR. 2. They are not required to follow Priority Sector Lending norms. 3. Foreign investments in these banks is not permitted. Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 |
| 66 | Current Affairs | With reference to ‘Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD)’, consider the following statements: 1. The first APMCHUD was held in India in 2006 on the theme of ‘A Vision for Sustainable Urbanization in the Asia-Pacific by 2020’. ‘Emerging Urban Forms – Policy Responses and Governance Structure’ was the theme of the 6th Asia Pacific Conference on Housing and Urban Development held in December 2016. 2nd APMCHUD was held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 3rd in Solo, Republic of Indonesia, 4th in Durban, South Africa, 5th in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. | D | The 1st APMCHUD was held in New Delhi, India from 13th-16th December, 2006 on the theme of ‘A Vision for Sustainable Urbanization in the Asia-Pacific by 2020’. ‘Emerging Urban Forms – Policy Responses and Governance Structure’ was the theme of the 6th Asia Pacific Conference on Housing and Urban Development held in December 2016. 2nd APMCHUD was held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 3rd in Solo, Republic of Indonesia, 4th in Durban, South Africa, 5th in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. | D | U | http://mhupa.gov.in/writereaddata/6thAsiaPacific_Vigyapan_bhawan.pdf | RR | 6th Asia Pacific Conference on Housing and Urban Development held in December 2016. |
| 67 | Polity and Governance | Democracy’s superior virtue lies in the fact that it calls into activity (a) the intelligence and character of ordinary men and women. (b) the methods for strengthening executive leadership. (c) a superior individual with dynamism and vision. (d) a band on dedicated party workers. | A | The object of government according to Mill’s views, being the attainment of values and virtues in men, their self-development, it is essential that the government should be of those whose self development is being sought. This is only possible if the people participate in the making and working of their government or the government is truly representative. “Virtue and intelligence should become genuine attributes of character in a citizen…..and then through participation, people at large, would be able to control the rulers by influencing the character and direction of public policy”. | D | FA | N.D. ARORA and SS Awasthy ‘Political Theory & Political Thought’ | RM | To test the philosophy or underlying notion of a basic concept |

| 68 | Current Affairs | Which of the following is a most likely consequence of implementing the ‘Unified Payments Interface (UPI)? (a) Mobile wallets with not be necessary for online payments. (b) Digital currency will totally replace the physical currency in about two | A | UPI is a payment system that allows money transfer between any two bank accounts by using a smartphone. UPI allows a customer to pay directly from a bank account to different merchants, both online and offline, without the hassle of typing credit card details, IFSC code, or net banking/wallet | M | CA | http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/What-is-Unified-Payment-Interface/article14593189.ece | EN | Unified Payment Interface officially become operational | PT365 Economy |
decades.
(c) FDI inflows will drastically increase.
(d) Direct transfer of subsidies to poor people will become very effective.

| 69 | Current Affairs | The terms ‘Event Horizon’, ‘Singularity’, ‘String Theory’ and ‘Standard Model’ are sometimes seen in the news in the context of
(a) Observation and understanding of the Universe
(b) Study of the solar and the lunar eclipses
(c) Placing satellites in the orbit of the Earth
(d) Origin and evolution of living organisms on the earth | The terms - ‘Event Horizon’ - boundary in space-time, ‘Singularity’ - location in space-time where the gravitational field of a celestial body becomes infinite, ‘String Theory’ - links together all physical aspects, and ‘Standard Model’ - unifying the four fundamental forces, are related to the observations and understanding of the Universe. | http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/how-a-new-discovery-shakes-up-the-standard-model-of-particle-physics/article18112302.ece
http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/no-big-bang-the-universe-was-there-all-along-studies/article6959499.ece
http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/cv-vishveshwara-the-black-hole-man-of-india/article8318058.ece | EN | All terms have been in news. |
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| 70 | Science and Technology | With reference to agriculture in India, how can the technique of 'genome sequencing', often seen in the news, be used in the immediate future?  
1. Genome sequencing can be used to identify genetic markers for disease resistance and drought tolerance in various crop plants.  
2. This technique helps in reducing the time required to develop new varieties of crop plants.  
3. It can be used to decipher the host-pathogen relationships in crops.  
Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3 | D | All the statements are correct. Genome sequencing is figuring out the order of DNA nucleotides, or bases, in a genome—the order of As, Cs, Gs, and Ts that make up an organism's DNA. Genome sequencing of wild varieties of plants can be used to identify disease resistance and drought tolerance genes in various plants and develop new varieties of crop plants in lesser time. Genome sequencing of crop plants can be helpful in deciphering and understanding the host-pathogen realationship in crops. | D | FA | https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4807965/ | RM | Genome sequencing has been in news due to various related projects. |

| 71 | Polity and Governance | The main advantage of the parliamentary form of governments is that (a) the executive and legislature work independently. (b) it provides continuity of policy and is more efficient. (c) the executive remains responsible to the legislature. (d) the head of the government cannot be changed without election. | C | The Parliamentary system is also known as the 'Westminster' model of government, responsible government and cabinet government. The Constitution establishes the parliamentary system not only at the Centre but also in the states. The features of parliamentary government in India are: (a) Presence of nominal and real executives; (b) Majority party rule, (c) Collective responsibility of the executive to the legislature, (d) Membership of the ministers in the legislature, (e) Leadership of the prime minister or the chief minister, (f) Dissolution of the lower House (Lok Sabha or Assembly). | E | F | Laxmikanth, Ch- Salient Features of the Constitution - Laxmikanth | EM | to test the basic clarity | VISION IAS TEST SERIES (35 Test Series Module)Test 2104, 2238 Which of the following is/are the defining features of the parliamentary form of Government in India?  
1. Watertight separation of powers between executive, legislature and judiciary.  
2. Executive being responsible to the legislature.  
3. Division of powers between center and state.  
Select the correct answer using the code given below.  
(a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 1 and 3 only  
(c) 2 only  
(d) 2 and 3 only |
<p>| 72 | Polity and Governance | In the context of India, which one of the following is the correct relationship between Rights and Duties? (a) Rights are correlative with Duties. (b) Rights are personal and hence independent of society and Duties. (c) Rights, not Duties, are important for the advancement of the personality of the citizen. (d) Duties, not Rights, are important for the stability of the State. | A | Rights are what we want others to do for us whereas the duties are those acts which we should perform for others. Thus, a right comes with an obligation to show respect for the rights of others. The obligations that accompany rights are in the form of duties. | E | FA | NIOS &quot;Democracy at Work&quot;- CH-Fundamental Right and Fundamental Duties | EM | To test the basic underlying notion behind a concept |
| 73 | Polity and Governance | The mind of the makers of the Constitution of India is reflected in which of the following? (a) The Preamble (b) The Fundamental Rights (c) The Directive Principles of State Policy (d) The Fundamental Duties | A | In the Berubari Union case (1960), the Supreme Court said that the Preamble shows the general purposes behind the several provisions in the Constitution, and is thus a key to the minds of the makers of the Constitution. | E | FA | Laxmikanth Ch- Preamble of the Constitution | EM | To test the basic underlying notion behind a concept |
| 74 | Geography | If you travel by road from Kohima to Kottayam, what is the minimum number of States within India through which you can travel, including the origin and the destination? (a) 6 (b) 7 (c) 8 (d) 9 | B | The shortest route from Kohima (Nagaland) to Kottayam (Kerala) passes through the following states: Nagaland-Assam-West Bengal-Odisha-Andhra Pradesh-Tamil Nadu-Kerala | D | U | Atlas | RR | Cabinet approved North East Road Network Connectivity Project Phase I. |
| 75 | Polity and Governance | The Parliament of India exercises control over the functions of the Council of Ministers through 1. Adjournment motion 2. Questions hour 3. Supplementary questions | D | The Parliament exercises control over the ministers through various devices like question hour, discussions, adjournment motion, no confidence motion, etc. | E | F | Laxmikanth Ch-Parliamentary System | RM | To test the basic clarity |</p>
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<td>76</td>
<td>Polity and Governance</td>
<td>With reference to the Parliament of India, consider the following statements: 1. A private member's bill is a bill presented by a Member of Parliament who is not elected but only nominated by the President of India. 2. Recently, a private member's bill has been passed in the Parliament of India for the first time in its history. 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</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>A Private Member's bill is introduced by any member of Parliament other than a minister. Its introduction in the House requires one month’s notice. Its drafting is the responsibility of the member concerned. The last Private Member’s Bill passed by parliament was the Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Bill, 1968, which became an act on August 9, 1970. The Rights of Transgender Persons Bill, 2014, passed by the Rajya Sabha on Friday is the first private member’s bill to get the upper house's approval in the past 45 years.</td>
<td>FCA</td>
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<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>Ancient History</td>
<td>With reference to the difference between the culture of Rigvedic Aryans and Indus Valley people, which of the following statements is/are correct? 1. Rigvedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare whereas the people of Indus Valley Civilization did not leave any evidence of using them. 2. Rigvedic Aryans knew gold, silver and copper</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Statement 1 is correct: Rigvedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare whereas the people of Indus Valley Civilization did not leave any evidence of using them. Statement 2 is not correct: Various materials were used in Harappan civilisation to make beads: stones like carnelian, jasper, crystal, quartz and steatite; metals like copper, bronze and gold; and shell, faience and terracotta or burnt clay. Some</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
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whereas Indus Valley people knew only copper and iron. 3. Rigvedic Aryans had domesticated the horse whereas there is no evidence of Indus Valley people having aware of this animal. Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

beads were made of two or more stones, cemented together, some of stone with gold caps. Statement 3 is not correct: Evidences of the horse comes from a superficial level of Mohenjo daro and from a terracotta figurine from Lothal. The remains of the horse have been reported from Surkotada belonging to around 2000BC. A few horse's teeth have been found in the lowest stratum of the Baluchistan site of Rana Ghundal, probably dating from several centuries earlier than the foundation of Harappa. This would indicate that horse-riding nomads found their way to N.-W. India in small numbers long before the Aryan invasion.

78 Current Affairs Recognition of Prior Learning Scheme’ is sometimes mentioned in the news with reference to (a) Certifying the skills acquire by construction workers through traditional channels. (b) Enrolling the persons in Universities for distance learning programmes. (c) Reserving some skilled jobs to rural and urban poor in some public sector undertakings. (d) Certifying the skills acquired by trainees under the National Skill Development Programme.

A The Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is an assessment of the skills acquired by the individual through experience, observation and self-learning. The assessment, which is followed by a certification, gives an edge to an otherwise informal worker. It provides the employee with the confidence, social recognition and empowerment that are necessary to negotiate his future employment. Following successful assessment, a candidate is given a financial reward, in addition to certification.


EN Recently, IL&FS Skills Development Corporation Ltd (IL&FS Skills) a joint initiative of IL&FS Education & National Skills Development Corporation (NSDC) launched Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) programme in the Apparel sector under
| 79 | Geography | From the ecological point of view, which one of the following assumes importance in being a good link between the Eastern Ghats and the Western Ghats? (a) Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (b) Nallamala Forest (c) Nagarhole National Park (d) Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve | A | Sathyamangalam forest range is a significant wildlife corridor in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve between the Western Ghats and the rest of the Eastern Ghats. Located in the Erode district of Tamil Nadu, the Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve is the largest wildlife sanctuary in the state. With a forest area of 1,411.6 square kilometres, the reserve is a part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve and lies between the Western Ghats and the rest of the Eastern Ghats. Situated in a key position between the Western and Eastern Ghats, the Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve boasts of a wide variety of fauna. The reserve also adjoins four other protected areas -- Billigiriranga Swamy Temple Wildlife Sanctuary, Sigur Plateau, Mudumalai National Park and Bandipur National Park. | D | FCA | http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/Bear-population-up-and-counting-at-the-Sathyamangalam-Tiger-Reserve/article13986305.ece | RR | The Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve was in news for increase in Bear population. Also in December 2016, Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve eco-tourism plan was revived. |
| 80 | Polity and Governance | One of the implications of equality in society is the absence of (a) Privileges (b) Restraints (c) Competition (d) Ideology | A | The term ‘equality’ means the absence of special privileges to any section of the society, and the provision of adequate opportunities for all individuals without any discrimination. | E | F | Laxmikanth | EM | to test the basic clarity |
| 81 | Environment | Consider the following statements in respect of Trade Related Analysis of Fauna and Flora in Commerce (TRAFFIC): | B | TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network, is the leading non-governmental organization working globally on trade in wild animals and plants in the context | D | FCA | http://www.traffic.org/traffic-programme/ | EN | Recent issues of wildlife poaching and organisations related. All India Test series - Test 2127 Which of the following statements is/are correct with regard to TRAFFIC network? 1. It is a non-governmental
1. TRAFFIC is a bureau under United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
2. The mission of TRAFFIC is to ensure that trade in wild plants and animals is not a threat to the conservation of nature.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

TRAFFIC was established in 1976 by IUCN and WWF to respond to the growing threats posed by illegal wildlife trade and overexploitation. It is not a bureau under UNEP.

Which principle among the following was added to the Directive Principles of State Policy by the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution?
(a) Equal pay for equal work for both men and women
(b) Participation of workers in the management of industries
(c) Right to work, education and public assistance
(d) Securing living wage and human conditions of work to workers

The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 added four new Directive Principles to the original list. They require the State:
1. To secure opportunities for healthy development of children (Article 39).
2. To promote equal justice and to provide free legal aid to the poor (Article 39 A).
3. To take steps to secure the participation of workers in the management of industries (Article 43 A).
4. To protect and improve the environment and to safeguard forests and wild life (Article 48 A).

Which one of the following statements is correct?
(a) Rights are claims of the State against the citizens.
(b) Rights are privileges which are incorporated in the Constitution of a State.
(c) Rights are claims of the citizens against the State.
(d) Rights are legal and moral entitlements or claims of a person over other fellow beings, over society and over the government.
### Current Affairs

| 84 | Which of the following gives 'Global Gender Gap Index' ranking to the countries of the world? (a) World Economic Forum (b) UN Human Rights Council (c) UN Women (d) World Health Organization | A | Global Gender Gap Index is released by World Economic Forum. As per the Global Gender Gap Report 2016, India ranks at 87th in respect of Global Gender Gap Index (GGI) among 144 countries of the World. As per the GGR, India climbed 21 spots to rank 87th in 2016, which is an improvement from being ranked at 108th in 2015. | CA | [http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.asp?relid=155103](http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.asp?relid=155103) | EN | India’s performance in Global Gender Gap Report 2016. Covered in PT365 Economy and Social All India test series, tests 2120, 2122 Which of the following is/are the key areas of inequality considered by World Economic Forum (WEF) to compute the Global Gender Gap Report? 1. Health 2. Education 3. Economy 4. Politics Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1, 2 and 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4 |

<p>| 85 | Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Smart India Hackathon 2017? 1. It is a centrally sponsored scheme for developing every city of our country into Smart Cities in a decade. 2. It is an initiative to identify new digital technology innovations for solving the many problems faced by our country. 3. It is a programme aimed at making all the financial transactions in our country completely digital in a decade. Select the correct answer | B | Smart India Hackathon 2017 was a 36 hrs non-stop digital product development competition during which teams of thousands of technology students built innovative digital solutions for the problems posted by 29 different central govt. ministries/ departments e.g. Ministry of Railways, External Affairs, Ministry of Defense, ISRO, Ministry of Tourism, Dept. of Atomic Energy, etc. Smart India Hackathon 2017, has been launched to build Digital India and to engage the youth directly with nation building. For the first time, govt. departments were directly engaging with | CA | <a href="http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.asp?relid=159825">http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.asp?relid=159825</a> | EN | Smart India Hackathon 2017 November 2016 VisionIAS Monthly Current Affairs(Environment) |</p>
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| **86** | **Economics** | Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the ‘Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)?**
|   |   | 1. It decides the RBI’s benchmark interest rates.  
|   |   | 2. It is a 12-member body including the Governor of RBI and is reconstituted every year.  
|   |   | 3. It functions under the chairmanship of the Union Finance Minister.  
|   |   | Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
|   |   | (a) 1 only  
|   |   | (b) 1 and 2 only  
|   |   | (c) 3 only  
|   |   | (d) 2 and 3 only  
| **A** |   | The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 (RBI Act) has been amended by the Finance Act, 2016, to provide for a statutory and institutionalised framework for a Monetary Policy Committee it would be entrusted with the task of fixing the **benchmark policy rate (repo rate)** required to contain inflation within the specified target level. Hence **Statement 1 is correct.**  
|   |   | As per the provisions of the RBI Act, out of the six **Members** of Monetary Policy Committee, three Members will be from the RBI and the other three Members of MPC will be appointed by the Central Government. Hence **statement 2 is not correct.**  
|   |   | The Governor of the Bank— ex officio Chairperson of MPC. Hence **statement 3 is not correct.**  
| **M** | **CAA** | [http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.asp?relid=151264](http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.asp?relid=151264)  
| **EN** |   | Important Institutions which will add lot of value and transparency to monetary policy decisions in India.  
|   |   | **Covered in PT365 Economy & asked in All India Test Series tests 2136 and 2017 VisionIAS Open test 2225 Q.**  
|   |   | With reference to Monetary Policy Committee, consider the following statements:  
|   |   | 1. It will fix the benchmark policy interest rates to contain inflation within the specified target levels.  
|   |   | 2. It will be headed by the Finance minister.  
|   |   | 3. The recommendations of MPC will be binding on the RBI.  
|   |   | Which of the statements given above is/are correct?  
|   |   | (a) 1 only  
|   |   | (b) 1 and 3 only  
|   |   | (c) 2 and 3 only  
|   |   | (d) 1, 2 and 3  
|   |   | Consider the following statements regarding the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC): It is headed by the Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). It is entrusted with the task of fixing the policy interest rate to contain inflation within the specified target level. The Members of the MPC appointed by the Central Government shall hold office for a period of four years.  
|   |   | Which of the statements given above is/are correct?  
|   |   | (a) 2 only  
|   |   | (b) 1 and 3 only  
|   |   | (c) 2 and 3 only  
|   |   | (d) 1, 2 and 3
| 87 | Art and Culture | With reference to Manipuri Sankirtana, consider the following statements:  
1. It is a song and dance performance.  
2. Cymbals are the only musical instruments used in the performance.  
3. It is performed to narrate the life and deeds of Lord Krishna.  
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?  
(a) 1, 2 and 3  
(b) 1 and 3 only  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) 1 only | B | Sankirtana encompasses an array of arts performed to mark religious occasions and various stages in the life of the Vaishnava people of the Manipur plains.  
Sankirtana practices centre on the temple, where performers narrate the lives and deeds of Krishna through song and dance.  
**Hence, statement 1 and 3 are correct.**  
In a typical performance, two drummers and about ten singers-dancers perform in a hall or domestic courtyard encircled by seated devotees.  
**Hence, statement 2 is not correct.** | M | F | [http://ccrtindia.gov.in/manipur.php](http://ccrtindia.gov.in/manipur.php)  
| 88 | Modern History | Who among the following was/were associated with the introduction of Ryotwari Settlement in India during the British Rule?  
1. Lord Cornwallis  
2. Alexander Read  
3. Thomas Munro  
Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
(a) 1 only  
(b) 1 and 3 only  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3 | C | In the British territories in the south there was a similar move away from the idea of Permanent Settlement. The new system that was devised came to be known as the ryotwar (or ryotwari ). It was tried on a small scale by **Captain Alexander Reed** in some of the areas that were taken over by the Company after the wars with Tipu Sultan. Subsequently developed by **Thomas Munro**, this system was gradually extended all over south India. Lord Cornwallis was associated with Zamindari/Permanent Settlement | M | F | [http://ncert.nic.in/Ch3-Ruling-The-Country-Side-PAGE-NUMBER-29](http://ncert.nic.in/Ch3-Ruling-The-Country-Side-PAGE-NUMBER-29) | EM | To check the factual knowledge. |
| 89 | Environment | In the context of solving pollution problems, what is/are the advantage/advantages of bioremediation technique?  
1. It is a technique for cleaning up pollution by  
C | Statement 1 is correct.  
Bioremediation is treatment that uses naturally occurring organisms to break down hazardous substances into less toxic or non-toxic substances. It uses microorganisms to degrade | D | FA | Vision IAS environment material. | EM | Bioremediation is constantly in news due to recent incidents of oil spill and pollution. | All India Test series **2126, 2354**  
With reference to Bioremediation, consider the following statements:  
1. No toxic chemicals are used in this process.  
2. It is limited to those |
enhancing the same biodegradation process that occurs in nature.
2. Any contaminant with heavy metals such as cadmium and lead can be readily and completely treated by bioremediation using microorganisms.
3. Genetic engineering can be used to create microorganisms specifically designed for bioremediation. Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

| 90 | Modern History | The Trade Disputes Act of 1929 provided for (a) the participation of workers in the management of industries. (b) arbitrary powers to the management to quell industrial disputes. (c) an intervention by the British Court in the event of a trade dispute. (d) a system of tribunals and a ban on strikes. | D | Trade Disputes Act (TDA), 1929 made compulsory the appointment of Courts of Inquiry and Consultation Boards for settling industrial disputes; • made illegal the strikes in public utility services like posts, railways, water and electricity, unless each individual worker planning to go on strike gave an advance notice of one month to the administration; • forbade trade union activity of coercive or purely political nature and even sympathetic strikes. | D | F | India's struggle for independence, Bipin Chandra and Spectrum page no.346 | EM | To check the basic and factual knowledge.

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<th>91</th>
<th>Polity and Governance</th>
<th>Local self-government can be best explained as an exercise in (a) Federalism (b) Democratic decentralization (c) Administrative delegation (d) Direct democracy</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>In January 1957, the Government of India appointed a committee to examine the working of the Community Development Programme (1952) and the National Extension Service (1953) and to suggest measures for their better working. The chairman of this committee was Balwant Rai G Mehta. The committee submitted its report in November 1957 and recommended the establishment of the scheme of 'democratic decentralisation', which ultimately came to be known as Panchayati Raj.</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>Laxmikanth Ch-Panchayati Raj</th>
<th>RM</th>
<th>to check basic polity underlying principle</th>
<th>VisionIAS Test Series Test Series-2105,2203</th>
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<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>Polity and Governance</td>
<td>Consider the following statements: With reference to the Constitution of India, the Directive Principles of State Policy constitute limitations upon 1. legislative function. 2. executive function. Which of the above statements is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Directive Principles of state policy cannot act as constraints/limitations on the government because they are not enforceable and they are fundamental to the governance of a country. Fundamental Rights operate as limitations on the tyranny of the executive and arbitrary laws of the legislature.</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Laxmikanth Ch-Directive Principles of State Policy</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>To check basic polity knowledge</td>
<td>Laxmikanth Ch-Panchayati Raj</td>
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### Geography

At one of the places in India, if you stand on the seashore and watch the sea, you will find that the sea water recedes from the shore line a few kilometres and comes back to the shore, twice a day, and you can actually walk on the sea floor when the water recedes. This unique phenomenon is seen at

- (a) Bhavnagar
- (b) Bheemunipatnam
- (c) Chandipur
- (d) Nagapattinam

Chandipur is located in Balasore district. This beach is unique in the whole world no where on earth you can find a beach where the sea water retreats inside the sea from 1km to 5km every day and it again comes back to the shore slowly during high tide. This happens twice every day. It is also known as Odisha’s Hide and Seek Beach. Bhavnagar has highest tidal range in India.

### Current Affairs

With reference to the ‘Prohibition of Benami Property Transaction Act, 1988 (PBPT Act)’, consider the following statements:

1. A property transaction is not treated as a benami transaction if the owner of the property is not aware of the transaction.
2. Properties held benami are liable for confiscation by the Government.
3. The Act provides for three authorities for investigations but does not provide for any appellate mechanism.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

### Benami Property Transactions

Benami Property Transactions Act, 1988 was amended and renamed as Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions Act, 1988 (PBPT Act).
Government without payment of compensation.
- An appellate mechanism has been provided under the PBPT Act in the form of Adjudicating Authority and Appellate Tribunal.

| Page | Environment | 96 | Due to some reasons, if there is a huge fall in the population of species of butterflies, what could be its likely consequence/consequences? 1. Pollination of some plants could be adversely affected. 2. There could be a drastic increase in the fungal infections of some cultivated plants. 3. It could lead to a fall in the population of some species of wasps, spiders and birds. Select the correct using the code given below: (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 | C | Statement 1 and 3 are correct. Butterflies are pollinating insects. They help in pollination of many flowering plants. Butterflies also act as a lower member of the food chain. A number of animals, including birds and mice feed on butterfly. As populations of butterfly diminish, so will populations of birds and other animals that rely on them as a food source. This loss of the butterfly is the beginning of the “butterfly effect.” Statement 2 is not correct. | D | FA | http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Tiruchirapalli/w hen-butterflies-take-a-hit/article7928831.ece | RR | To check the basic concepts and its applicability. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 97 | Environment | It is possible to produce algae based biofuels, but what is/are the likely limitation(s) of developing countries in promoting this industry? 1. Production of algae based biofuels is possible in seas only and not on continents. 2. Setting up and engineering the algae based biofuels production requires high level of expertise/technology until the construction is complete. | B | Statement 1 is incorrect. Production of algal biofuel is possible both in seas and on continents. They can grow on marginal or non-crop land and also on brackish or polluted water. Land based systems are more developed then sea based systems. Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Developing and engineering ABB technology requires a high level of expertise until construction is finished. Innovation for higher productivity | D | FCA | http://www.fao.org/3/a-ak333e.pdf http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/india-can-be-a-world-leader-in-algal-farming-says-us-expert/article9449569.ece | RR | In news |
3. Economically viable production necessitates the setting up of large scale facilities which may raise ecological and social concerns. Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

| 98 | Current Affairs | Which of the following are the objectives of ‘National Nutrition Mission’? 1. To create awareness relating to malnutrition among pregnant women and lactating mothers. 2. To reduce the incidence of anaemia among young children, adolescent girls and women. 3. To promote the consumption of millets, coarse cereals and unpolished rice. 4. To promote the consumption of poultry eggs. Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1, 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 3 and 4 only | A | There are two components of the National Nutrition Mission as follows: 1. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign against malnutrition 2. Multi-sectoral Nutrition Programme The key objectives of these programmes are as under: - To create awareness relating to malnutrition amongst pregnant women, lactating mothers, promote healthy lactating practices and importance of balanced nutrition; - To improve maternal and child under-nutrition in 200 high burdened districts and to prevent and reduce the under-nutrition prevalent among children below 3 years; - To reduce incidence of anaemia among young children, adolescent girls and women. | D | CA | http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.asp?relid=103192 | http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Nutrition-Mission-gets-new-boost/articleshow/51248078.cms | EM | The Union Budget 2016 increased allocations for the National Nutrition Mission and establishment of new labs for testing food given under the scheme. Global Nutrition Report |

| 99 | Modern History | Consider the following statements: 1. The Factories Act, 1881 was passed with a view to fix the wages of industrial | B | To improve the lot of the factory workers in towns, he passed the first Factory Act in 1881. The Act prohibited the employment of children under the age of seven, | D | F | India’s struggle for independence, Bipin chandra, | EM | To check the basic knowledge. |
workers and to allow the workers to form trade unions.
2. N. M. Lokhande was a pioneer in organizing the labour movement in British India. Which of the above statements is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

limited the number of working hours for children below the age of twelve and required that dangerous machinery should be fenced properly. The Act also made provision for one hour rest during the working period and four days leave in a month for the workers. Inspectors were appointed to supervise the implementation of these measures. Hence there is no provision for fixed wage and formation of trade unions. Narayan Meghaji Lokhande was a pioneer of the labour movement in India. He is remembered not only for ameliorating the working conditions of textile mill-hands in the 19th century but also for his courageous initiatives on caste and communal issues.

In the context of mitigating the impending global warming due to anthropogenic emissions of carbon dioxide, which of the following can be potential sites for carbon sequestration?
1. Abandoned and uneconomic coal seams
2. Depleted oil and gas reservoirs
3. Subterranean deep saline formations
Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Carbon sequestration is the process involved in carbon capture and the long-term storage of atmospheric carbon dioxide. Geological sequestration involves the storage of CO2 underground in depleted oil and gas reservoirs, saline formations or deep, unminable coal beds.

Carbon sequestration and its methods are often seen in news. UPSC has gone one step further to ask potential sites for geological carbon sequestration. Oceans are considered to be a big reservoir of carbon sink. In this context, which of the following may provide for the mechanism of ocean sequestration?
1. Introduction of iron into oceans
2. Introduction of urea into oceans
3. Direct injection of carbon dioxide in the ocean
Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
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## DIFFICULTY

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### ETHICS, INTEGRITY AND APTITUDE

**with**

- **Renowned Faculty**
  (Psychology related topics and Case-study discussions on behavioral aspects of decision making, ethics & human interface)

- **Senior Bureaucrat**
  (Public Administration related topics of the syllabus and case study approach from practical experience of Indian Administration)

- **Senior Bureaucrats**
  for Case-Study Discussions

Syllabus will be covered in 25 classes
(5-6 classes per week)

**Features**
- Classroom Mini-Test
- Comprehensive Study Material
- Vision IAS All India Mock Test on Ethics (GS Paper IV)

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SECTIONWISE DIFFICULTY

Sectionwise difficulty

- Economics
- Ancient History
- Modern History
- Medieval History
- Science and Technology
- Geography
- Polity and Governance
- Environment
- Art and Culture
- Current Affairs

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- Medium
- Easy
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