

Answer & Explanation for G.S. Test-5 on Economics, History and Current Affairs held on 4th February 2018

Q1. Which of the following is a part of GST structure?

1. Input Tax Credit
2. Value Added Tax
3. E-Way bills
4. Reverse Charge

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2, 3 and 4
- D. 1 and 2 only

Answer: C

Exp: • GST is a national level VAT based on Input Tax Credit.

• Input Tax Credit is the tax that a business pays on a purchase and that it can use to reduce its tax liability when it makes a sale. In other words, businesses can reduce their tax liability by claiming credit to the extent of GST paid on purchases.

• Under GST, the process and procedural aspects for the movement of goods are prescribed in the e-way bill rules. E-way bill stands for Electronic Way Bill. It is usually a unique bill number generated for the specific consignment involving the movement of goods. It will be used for inter-state and intra-state movement of goods beyond 10 km and of a value of more than Rs. 50,000.

• Reverse Charge mechanism is to be used if a GST payer is transacting with a dealer who is not covered by GST. Under Normal Scenario, tax is paid by a supplier who makes supply of goods or services or both. However, under Reverse Charge Mechanism, liability to pay tax would not be on the supplier of goods or services or both but on the recipient of such goods or services or both.

Q2. Consider the following statements:

1. The Centre has to pass on 42 per cent of all central taxes revenue to States.
2. After the roll out of GST, the Centre has to pass on 42 per cent of direct taxes only to States.
3. Any expenditure which is not a part of a Five Year Plan in India is called Non-Plan Expenditure.
4. Kelkar Task Force recommended abolition of distinction between Plan and Non-Plan Expenditure.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2, 3 and 4
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 3 and 4 only

Answer: B

Exp: • Fourteenth Finance Commission's recommended that 42% of all taxes collected by the Centre should be shared with states, up from the existing share of 32%. By convention, since the Finance Commission is a constitutional body set up under Article 280 of our Constitution, central governments invariably accept the award relating to sharing of taxes with states.

• Even after GST, the Centre has to pass on 42 per cent of its tax revenue (from both direct taxes and GST) to States.

• Non-Plan expenditure is a term used in India only and the distinction stands abolished from 2017-18. It was a Committee headed by Rangarajan which first recommended abolition of this distinction.

- Kelkar Task Force was on implementation of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act.

Q3. Which of the statements given below is incorrect?

- A. Bank Rate at present is 6.25 per cent.
- B. MSF rate at present is 6.25 per cent.
- C. Repo Rate is 5.75 per cent.
- D. Cash Reserve Ratio is 4 per cent.

Answer: C

Exp: Repo rate is 6 per cent while Reverse Repo Rate is 5.75 per cent. Bank Rate and MSF rate are the same.

Q4. The Government is to recapitalise public sector banks to the tune of Rs. 2 lakh 11 thousand crores as follows:

- 1. Rs. 58,000 crores out of this to be by way of bonds.
- 2. Rs. 1,35,000 crores to be by way of Equity to be raised by banks from the market which would bring down government shareholding.
- 3. Rs.18,000 crores to be provided in the Union Budget.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3
- B. 3 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. 2 only

Answer: B

Exp: Out of 2,11,000 crores, Rs.1,35,000 crores is to be in the form of bonds, Rs. 58,000 crores to be raised through fresh shares and Rs.18,000 crores to be provided in the Budget 2018-2019.

Q5. Which of the following comprises non-debt creating capital receipts in the Union Budget?

- 1. Disinvestment proceeds
- 2. Sale of assets by the government
- 3. Recovery of past loans
- 4. Grants received from foreign governments

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2, 3 and 4
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 4 only

Answer: C

Exp: The Capital receipts are of two types viz. Debt receipt and non-debt receipts. The debt receipts are those which government needs to repay along with interest. Non-debt receipts are those which come to the government by sale of some assets. Most of the capital receipts of the government are debt receipts and are shown as liabilities in the Government's balance sheet.

Grants are shown under Revenue Account of the Budget. Sale of assets implies auction of Spectrum, Coal Blocks and selling any of its assets like land, building, machinery, factory, etc.

Q6. The Composition Scheme under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) has the following features:

- 1. It is applicable to those businesses whose annual turnover is upto Rs.1.5 crores.

2. Under the Scheme, tax rate for traders and manufacturers is one per cent and for restaurants 5 per cent.
3. The Scheme is optional in the sense that businesses under these threshold can opt to be covered under GST or covered under composite scheme.
4. Tax paid by businesses under the Scheme cannot charge this tax from customers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1, 2, 3 and 4
- B. 1 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A

Exp: Composition Scheme under the law is for small businesses. This is to bring relief to small businesses. Prior to the GST Council meeting held in November, 2017 the tax rate on traders was one per cent, on manufacturers, two per cent and on restaurants five per cent. Also, prior to this meeting, the annual turnover threshold was one crore which was raised to 1.5 crores.

Economic Survey 2017-18 shows more than 54.3 % of those eligible to register under the composition scheme, chose instead to be regular filers. The survey states that this set up minimizes their administrative burden, but also makes it difficult for them to sell to larger firms, which would not be able to secure input tax credits on such purchases.

Q7. Which of the following would be called Specific Tax?

1. Tax imposed on the basis of per metre cloth.
2. Tax imposed on the basis of quality of cloth.
3. Tax imposed on the basis of price of cloth.
4. Tax imposed on the basis of weight of a commodity.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 1 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B

Exp: Tax imposed on the basis of any specific feature of a commodity is called Specific Tax. These features can be quantity, quality, weight, length, width, etc. Tax based on price or value of a commodity is called Ad Valorem Tax.

Q8. Which of the following deficits in the Union Budget highlight the burden of interest payments of loans?

- A. Fiscal Deficit
- B. Revenue Deficit
- C. Effective Revenue Deficit
- D. Primary Deficit

Answer: D

Exp: Primary Deficit is equal to Fiscal Deficit minus interest payments. This deficit in India reflects that most of the fiscal deficit is on account of high interest burden. For example, in the Union Budget 2017-18, while Fiscal Deficit is 5,46,000 crores, interest payments are 5,23,000 crores.

Q9. Fiscal Marksmanship implies:

- A. Adopting measures to reduce fiscal deficit and revenue deficit
- B. Adopting transparent practices to reflect various fiscal parameters in the budget

- C. The degree of precision of fiscal targets laid down in the budget like precisely forecasting total borrowing, tax-GDP ratio, revenue deficit, fiscal deficit, etc.
D. It's a term defined in the FRBM Act 2003 specially for the state governments.

Answer: C

Exp: Government's fiscal policy is evaluated not only on overall fiscal marksmanship but also on marksmanship in terms of key revenue generating and expenditure targets.

Q10. Income inequalities can be brought down by adopting a system of

1. Proportional taxation
2. Regressive taxation
3. Progressive taxation
4. Surcharges on those earning above a certain limit

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 4 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 3 and 4 only

Answer: C

Exp: Progressive taxation implies imposing higher tax rate on those with high incomes and lower tax rate on those with lower incomes, as it is in India and many other countries. In addition, surcharge may also be imposed on those having income above a certain limit to reduce inequalities further as we have in India.

Q11. Consider the following statements:

1. India introduced Mahalanobis Strategy in the First Five Year Plan.
2. Mahalanobis Strategy focused on heavy industries with the goal of making India an exporter of industrial goods.

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

Answer: D

Exp: Mahalanobis Strategy started in the 2nd FYP and its goal was to focus on heavy industries to make India self-sufficient in capital goods and mobilize resources for other sectors in future.

Q12. Consider the following:

1. Households
2. Firms
3. Government
4. Banks

Money with which of the above agents is/are NOT included in Money Supply in the economy?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 3 and 4 only

Answer: D

Exp: Money supply refers to the amount of money with the public where public refers to every agent in the economy except government and banks.

Money supply is the entire stock of currency and other liquid instruments circulating in a country's economy as of a particular time. The circulating money involves the currency, printed notes, money in the deposit accounts and in the form of other liquid assets. It also does not include credit, such as loans, mortgages and credit cards. RBI uses M0, M1, M2, M3 and M4.

Public and private sector analysts have long monitored changes in the money supply because of the belief that it affects the price level, inflation, the exchange rate and the business cycle. That relation between money and prices is historically associated with the quantity theory of money.

Q13. Which of the following parts of Capital Account of Balance of Payments was/were introduced after 1991 in the Indian Economy?

1. External Commercial Borrowings
2. Foreign Portfolio Investments
3. NRI Deposits
4. Foreign Direct Investment

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: C

Exp: FDI was coming in the Indian economy much before 1991 even if their role increased drastically after 1991.

Q14. 'Crowding in' of private investment by government is likely to

1. Increase Private Investment
2. Decrease Private Investment
3. Increase Fiscal Deficit
4. Decrease Fiscal Deficit

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 4 only
- C. 1 and 4 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

Answer: A

Exp: Under crowding in effect, the government expenditure tends to support private sector investment, even if due to higher government expenditure, fiscal deficit increases. Such phenomenon is mainly seen when government is making more capital expenditure like infrastructure development.

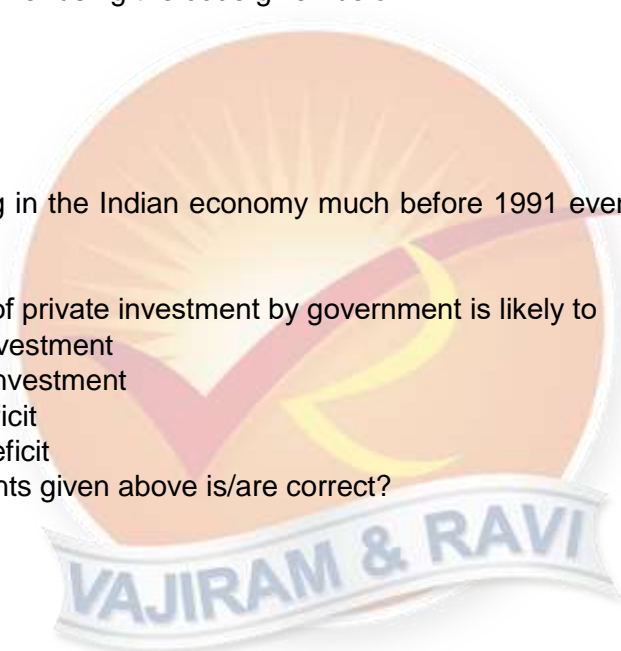
Q15. Economic Reforms were introduced in 1991 in the backdrop of

1. Severe BOP crisis with high current account deficit
2. Excessive government role in industries
3. Sharp fall in employment growth rate
4. Drastic fall in GDP growth rate

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B



Exp: India was having higher GDP and Employment growth rates during 1980s compared to the earlier decades.

Q16. Consider the following statements:

1. Poverty Line is the minimum income level of a household needed to purchase products of basic needs.
2. Indian poverty line, at present, is based on calorie requirements along with a minimum expenditure on education and health.

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

Answer: B

Exp: Poverty line in India is based on consumption expenditure levels and not income levels. The current poverty line in India, based on Tendulkar Committee Report, includes calorie requirements along with a minimum expenditure on education and health.

Q17. Consider the following

1. Call Money Rate
2. Base Rate
3. Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate (MCLR)
4. Bank Rate

Which of the following rate(s) is/are NOT determined by RBI?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1, 2, and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: C

Exp: Call Money Rate is the short-term inter-bank lending rate which is market determined depending upon supply and demand for funds with the banking sector. Base Rate and MCLR, both are determined by banks as their minimum lending rate. Till 2016, it was base rate, but now MCLR is such rate where the changes in short-term interest rates like repo rate have also to be incorporated by banks. Bank Rate is the rate at which RBI is ready to provide loans to the banks by rediscounting their commercial bills and is determined by RBI.

Q18. Which of the following accounts in Balance of Payments is/are accommodating Account?

1. Current Account
2. Capital Account
3. International Reserves Account

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

Answer: C

Exp: In a classification, BOP accounts can be divided into Autonomous and Accommodating Accounts. Autonomous Account includes international transactions with some independent economic motive like profits or income. Current and Capital Accounts are autonomous. Accommodating account is the one which balances any surplus or deficit in autonomous account to ensure that all receipts and expenditures finally can match. International

Reserves is accommodating as it increases or decreases according to surplus or deficit in autonomous accounts.

Q19. Consider the following statements related to Disguised Unemployment:

1. It is a problem related to agricultural sector, in general.
2. It impacts the average income of the household.
3. Marginal Productivity of the workers facing the problem is zero.
4. Employing such workers in other economic sector can increase National Income

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 1 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: D

Exp: Disguised unemployment exists where part of the labour force is either left without work or is working in a redundant manner where worker productivity is essentially zero. It is unemployment that does not affect aggregate output. It refers to the work area where surplus manpower is employed out of which some individuals have zero or almost zero marginal productivity such that if they are removed the total level of output remains unchanged.

For example: 1. In rural areas, this type of unemployment is generally found in agricultural sector like - in a family of 9 people all are engaged in the same agricultural plot. But if 4 people are withdrawn from it there will be no reduction in output. So, these 4 people are actually disguisedly employed. 2. In urban areas, this type of unemployment can be seen mostly in service sectors such as in a family all members are engaged in one petty shop or a small business which can be managed by lesser number of persons.

Q20. If GDP at current prices grows at 6.5% per annum with average annual inflation of 6% then Real GDP over the year is growing at

- A. 6.5%
- B. 0.5%
- C. 12.5%
- D. Can't be determined

Answer: B

Exp: Real GDP growth rate is nominal GDP growth rate adjusted for annual inflation (growth rate of prices over a year).

Q21. Consider the following statements

1. Gini Coefficient can be derived from the Lorenz Curve of a country.
2. A higher gini coefficient implies greater economic equality.

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

Answer: A

Exp: In economics, the Gini is a measure of statistical dispersion intended to represent the income or wealth distribution of a nation's residents, and is the most commonly used measure of inequality.

It was developed by the Italian statistician Corrado Gini in 1912. It is often used as a gauge of economic inequality, measuring income distribution or, less commonly, wealth distribution among a population.

Its value varies anywhere from zero to 1; zero indicating perfect equality and one indicating the perfect inequality. The numerator is the area between the Lorenz curve of the distribution and the uniform distribution line; the denominator is the area under the uniform distribution line.

Q22. Consider the following statements:

1. Core Inflation does not incorporate the price change in food and fuel prices.
2. Core Inflation is more volatile than Headline Inflation.

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

Answer: A

Exp: Headline inflation incorporates change in prices of all the important categories of goods (i.e. food, industrial goods and fuel) and services. Core inflation looks into change in prices, primarily of industrial goods and not food and fuel prices. Since food and fuel prices are more volatile, headline inflation is more volatile than core inflation.

Q23. Consider the following statements about 'Jobless Growth' in India in the last decade:

1. Employment in Agricultural Sector has declined
2. Employment in Industrial Sector has declined
3. All India labour-force participation has failed to increase
4. Female labour-force participation has increased

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: C

Exp: Jobless growth in last decade has been associated with fall in both agricultural and industrial employment with only services employment registering some increase. Labour-force participation has also stagnated and even declined slightly, mainly because of sharp decline in female labour-force participation.

Q24. Consider the following statements about Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI):

1. It was developed in 2010 by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
2. It defines a household as poor on the basis of deprivations in the three dimensions - Health, Education and Living Standard.
3. To give emphasis to human capital, Education and Health indicators are given more weightage than that of Living Standard in MPI.
4. A minimum income earned by the household is used as the main indicator to measure deprivation in Living Standard in MPI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B

Exp: The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), published for the first time in the 2010 Report, complements monetary measures of poverty by considering overlapping

deprivations suffered by individuals at the same time. The index identifies deprivations across the same three dimensions as the HDI and shows the number of people who are multidimensionally poor. The MPI can help the effective allocation of resources by making possible the targeting of those with the greatest intensity of poverty; it can help address some SDGs strategically and monitor impacts of policy intervention. The MPI can be adapted to the national level using indicators and weights that make sense for the region or the country, it can also be adopted for national poverty eradication programs, and it can be used to study changes over time.

MPI is developed by OPHI & UNDP and looks into deprivations in Health, Education and Living Standard. Living Standard is given maximum weightage as 6 out of 10 indicators are from this dimension with 2 each from Education and Health. The 6 Living Standard indicators are Cooking Fuel, Sanitation, Drinking Water, Electricity, Floor and Assets.

Q25. Consider the following statements about Head Count Ratio (HCR):

1. It represents the proportion of Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in the economy.
2. It gives a measure of incidence and depth of poverty.
3. HCR has been declining in India between 2004-05 and 2011-12.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C

Exp: HCR measures only incidence of poverty (proportion of poor population) and not depth (average shortfall in consumption expenditure of BPL population from poverty line). HCR has declined between 2004-05 and 2011-12, both because of higher GDP growth (particularly higher agricultural growth) and higher wages given under MGNREGS. There has been no official estimation of HCR post 2011-12 in India.

Q26. Which of the statements about private income is incorrect?

- A. It is the sum of transfer and earned income of private sector.
- B. It is more than personal income
- C. It includes wage of household
- D. It includes undistributed profit of public sector.

Answer: D

Exp: Private income is that part of national income which is earned by private household or firms and transfer income to them. It is calculated by subtracting undistributed profit of public sector and profit of departmental enterprises from National Income. So undistributed profit of public sector is not a part of it. Private Income = Personal Income + Profit Tax + Undistributed profit of private sector.

Q27. Consider the following statements:

1. National Income is the sum of domestic factor income and net factor income from abroad.
2. National Income is also net national product at factor cost
3. National Income is calculated by subtracting net indirect tax from gross national product at market price.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. None of the above

Answer: B

Exp: 1st and 2nd statements are correct. 3rd is not correct because it gives gross national product at factor cost if we subtract net indirect tax from gross national product at market price .

Q28. Which of the following policies is least likely to promote inclusive growth?

- A. Increased expenditure by government on health care
- B. Developing rural roads
- C. Provision of public irrigation system
- D. Increasing expenditure on public administration

Answer: D

Exp: Expenditure on health care results in human development and expenditure on roads and irrigation results in physical development. Both are required for inclusive growth but public administration expenditure can be for non-developmental aspects too.

Q29. Which of the following statements is correct in the context of inclusive growth?

- A. Government expenditure on health care has gone up from 1% of GDP to 2% of GDP in last 5 years
- B. Government expenditure on national highway development is Rs. 64000 crore according to Budget 2017-18
- C. Government has initiated Indradhanush programme to cover 8 diseases for vaccination
- D. The number of children enrolling in public schools has been increasing more as compared to private schools according to ASER 16.

Answer: B

Exp: Government expenditure on health care is still between 1.2 to 1.4% of GDP. Indradhanush covers 12 diseases now. The number of children dropping out of government schools has been 14.5 million and enrolling in private schools is 17.5 million. Budget of 2017-18 had provisioned 64000 crore for national highway development.

Q30. Which of the following statements about Industrial Licensing is incorrect?

- A. It resulted in restricting competition in market.
- B. The purpose was to check excess capacity creation in the market.
- C. It promoted technological innovation by protecting the firms
- D. It increased rent seeking activities.

Answer: C

Exp: Licensing restricted entry and hence created entry barriers. The purpose was to restrict wastage by restricting the output produced. It discouraged innovation as the firms had no competition in the market. It increased bribery to get licence and this is called rent seeking.

Q31. Which of the following will NOT qualify as liberalisation policy?

- A. Delicensing
- B. Dereservation of industry for public sector
- C. Disinvestment
- D. Introducing administered price mechanism in sugar

Answer: D

Exp: Delicensing removed the requirements of taking licensing and dereservation opened industries for private sector participation and both increased entry and ease of doing business. Disinvestment resulted in broadbasing ownership in public sector and hence resulted in more autonomy in decision making. APM is a method to control the market and hence anti liberalisation.

Q32. Which of the following is incorrect about Disinvestment Policy in India?

- A. Disinvestment of Air India has been cleared by the Union Cabinet

- B. The disinvestment target of government for 2017-18 is Rs. 72500 crore
- C. Government has separate targeted amount of proceeds from strategic disinvestment, minority sale and strategic minority sale
- D. Sale of spectrum is part of disinvestment.

Answer: D

Exp: Sale of spectrum is taken as non-debt capital receipt but is not considered as disinvestment. Strategic disinvestment of Air India has been cleared by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs in 2017. The Budget provides separate targeted amount of proceeds from different form of disinvestments.

Q33. Consider the following statements:

1. Real GDP is always less than nominal GDP
2. Real GDP growth is always equal to nominal GDP growth.
3. GDP deflator in India is CPI

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. None of the above
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C

Exp: Nominal GDP can be less than real GDP in case of deflation. Real GDP growth can be different from nominal GDP growth if price change is not constant. GDP deflator in India is a mix of commodities in CPI and WPI.

Q34. Which of the following is NOT a Maharatna Public Sector Enterprise?

- A. Indian Oil Corporation
- B. Coal India Limited
- C. HPCL
- D. BPCL

Answer: C

Exp: HPCL is a Navaratna and it is going to be merged soon into a Maharatna called ONGC. Rest all are Maharatna. BPCL is the latest entrant into the group from Oct 2017.

The Public Sector Enterprises are run by the Government under the Department of Public Enterprises of Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises. After economic reforms, various PSUs have been awarded additional financial autonomy by the Government. The government grants the status of Navaratna, Miniratna and Maharatna to Central Public Sector Enterprises based upon the profit made by these CPSEs. The Maharatna category has been the most recent one since 2009, other two have been in function since 1997. The Maharatna firms can now decide on investments of up to 15 per cent of their net worth in a project while the Navaratna companies could invest up to Rs 1,000 crore without explicit government approval. Two categories of "Miniratnas" afford less extensive financial autonomy.

Q35. Consider the following statements:

1. The private sector company shares in Bharat 22 have been sourced from SUUTI.
2. SUUTI is a fund comprising of all financial assets transferred from erstwhile UTI when it was privatised.
3. SUUTI is a public sector company.

Which of the statements given above is/are NOT correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 3 only

D. 1 and 3 only

Answer: C

Exp: • SUUTI – The Parliament bifurcated UTI in 2002, creating SUUTI and UTI Asset Management Co. Pvt. Ltd, the former holding the assured-return investment plans of UTI and the latter overseeing market-linked plans. The bifurcation took place after UTI's US-64 investment plan ran into trouble. Now, the Finance Ministry is selling more of its SUUTI holdings separately even after including three SUUTI stocks in the upcoming Bharat 22 ETF. It holds stake in 51 companies, including listed blue-chip firms such as Reliance Industries, Axis Bank, and ITC as well as eight unlisted entities, including NSDL, STCI Finance, Over The Counter Exchange, and Stock Holding Corporation of India.

- ETF – It is a basket of stocks with assigned weights that reflects the composition of an index. Arun Jaitley announced the Bharat 22 ETF in 2017. It includes 22 central public sector enterprise (CPSE) stocks from six sectors including three SUUTI stocks with 40% weightage within the index.
- Disinvestment – With a target of mopping up Rs. 72,500 crore from disinvestment in 2017-18 fiscal, the Government used all options, including unloading stakes held by SUUTI, and not just sale of shares in public sector units.

Q36. Match List-I (Text) with List-II (Subject) and select the correct answer using the code given below:

List-I (Text)	List-II (Subject)
A. <u>Milinda Panha</u>	1. Medicine
B. <u>Mahabhasya</u>	2. Buddhism
C. <u>Charak Samhita</u>	3. Grammar
D. <u>Periplus of the Erythrean Sea</u>	4. Trade

- A. a:3 b:4 c:2 d:1
 B. a:2 b:3 c:1 d:4
 C. a:3 b:2 c:4 d:1
 D. a:1 b:2 c:4 d:3

Answer: B

Exp: • Milind-Panha is a Pali treatise which means "Wisdom of (King) Milinda". It deals with the conversation that took place between the monk Nagasena and King Milinda in the form of questions and answers.

- The Mahabhasya attributed to Patanjali, is a commentary on selected rules of Sanskrit grammar from Panini's treatise, the Ashtadhyayi, as well as Katyayana's Varttika. It is dated to the 2nd century BCE.
- The Charaka Samhita is a Sanskrit text on Ayurveda. Along with the Sushruta-samhita, it is one of the two foundational Hindu texts of Ayurveda field that have survived from ancient India.
- Periplus is a text written by an unknown Greek navigator on Indo Roman trade during early centuries of Christian era.

Q37. What does Chakra (Wheel) represent in Buddhist art?

- A. Buddha's Enlightenment
 B. Buddha's Renunciation
 C. Buddha's Teachings
 D. Buddha's Nirvana

Answer: C

Exp: Chakra symbolizes the event, what in Buddhism is known as Dhamma-Chakra-Pravatan, the first sermon delivered by Buddha at Sarnath.

Q38. The wooden fence at Mahabodhi temple at Gaya was replaced by stone railings under which of the following dynasty?

- A. Sunga
- B. Satavahana
- C. Kushana
- D. Kanvas

Answer: A

Exp: Sungas were Brahmanas but they were not opponent of Buddhism. The present structure of Sanchi was built during the Sunga time. They also replaced wooden fence of Mahabodhi temple with stone railings.

Q39. Match List-I (Rock caves) with List-II (Religion) and select the correct answer using the code given below:

List-I (Rock Caves)	List-II (Religion)
A. Barabar Hills	1. Buddhism
B. Udayagiri-Khandagiri	2. Ajivikas
C. Karle	3. Jainism

- A. a:2 b:3 c:1
- B. a:2 b:1 c:3
- C. a:1 b:2 c:3
- D. a:1 b:3 c:2

Answer: A

Exp: None

Q40. Which of the following statements regarding Sangam literature is incorrect?

- A. It refers to the presence of Brahmanas along with other three varnas in society.
- B. The hero stones known as Nadukal were erected in honour of dead heroes.
- C. The Sati practice was followed in some cases.
- D. The female poets also contributed to the Sangam poems.

Answer: A

Exp: Brahmanas are mentioned but there is no reference to such terms as Kshatriyas or Vaisyas or Sudras. Nadukal were the stones erected for the warriors who sacrificed their life in war against the enemy.

Q41. Which of the following site has reported the earliest evidence of the stone images of Jaina tirthankaras?

- A. Mathura
- B. Kaushambi
- C. Amravati
- D. Vaishali

Answer: A

Exp: Mathura was an important art centre under the Kushanas. Here, besides the earliest Buddha images, Jaina images too have been found.

Q42. Consider the following statements:

1. A.O. Hume, a retired ICS, was one of the founders of Indian National Congress.
2. A.O. Hume presided over the first session of the Indian National Congress held at Bombay.
3. William Wedderburn, wrote a book in 1913 and criticized A.O. Hume in his book for being pro-Indian.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 1 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

Answer: D

Exp: He had never been the President of INC.

William Wedderburn was a protégé of A.O. Hume and had been his great supporter.

Q43. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Tilak?

- 1. He had been associated with the publication of two weekly journals – Maratha and Kesari.
- 2. He criticized the work of Plague Commission formed in 1896.
- 3. He also started organizing Ganapati and Shivaji festivals.
- 4. He considered M.G. Ranade as his political guru, who had criticized the British economic policy.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A

Exp: • Bal Gangadhar Tilak used to run his two newspapers, Kesari, in Marathi and Maratha in English.

- Maharashtra was one of the last parts of India to fall to the British, and the people of the region still felt a strong resentment against their foreign rulers. In 1896 two brothers of Poona, Damodar and Balkrishna Chapekar, shot and killed W. C. Rand, the chairman of the Poona Plague Commission. The Chapekars may have gotten their political ideas and their hatred of the Poona Plague Commission from the pages of Tilak's Kesari. So at least thought the government of Bombay, which put Tilak on trial for sedition in 1897. Convicted, he was sentenced to eighteen months of rigorous imprisonment. By the time of his release in September 1898, he was seen as a national hero.

- Bal Gangadhar Tilak, nationalist and 'The Father of Indian Unrest' as described by the British, was the man behind turning a private, household Ganesh Chaturthi celebration to a gala event. For national awakening Tilak initiated Ganeshotsav and Shivaji Utsav in 1894. Shivaji Utsav started at Fort Raigad in 1894 and reached as far as Japan by 1905. In 1896 Ganeshotsav attained national importance.

- Ranade founded the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha & Ahmednagar Education Society and later was one of the originators of the Indian National Congress. He has been portrayed as an early adversary of the politics of Tilak and a mentor to Gopal Krishna Gokhale.

Q44. Which of the statements given below are correct?

- 1. The Government of India Act, 1919 introduced dyarchy in the provinces.
- 2. Dyarchy is also known as Double Government as it provided that in provinces the Governor and the Indians would run the government.
- 3. Dyarchy system completely separated the provincial and central subjects for the first time.
- 4. It was introduced as a consequence of "August Declaration".

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2 and 4 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A

Exp: Dyarchy is not related with separation of central and provincial subjects.

August Declaration –

On 20 August 1917, Montagu made a historic declaration in the House of Commons defining the goal of British policies in India. "Increasing association of Indians in every branch of administration, and the Gradual development of self-governing Institutions with a view to the progressive realization of responsible governments in India as an Integral part of the British Empire". The keyword was Responsible Government i.e. the rulers must be answerable to the elected representatives. The nationalists criticized it, as it lacked their legitimate expectations. The declaration was criticized in the December 1917 Calcutta session, in which Annie Besant as president – pleaded for establishment of Self Government in India. Tilak characterized the Montague reforms as "unworthy and disappointing- a sunless dawn". But the moderates led by Surendranath Banerjee supported the Montague declaration in November 1918 in a separate conference. Thus Congress got divided again in 1919 due to the above.

Q45. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the code given below:

List-I	List-II
A. Bengalee	1. Motilal Ghosh
B. Sudharak	2. Dadabhai Nauroji
C. Voice of India	3. G.K. Gokhale
D. Amrit Bazar Patrika	4. Surendranath Banerjee

- A. a:1 b:2 c:3 d:4
 B. a:2 b:4 c:3 d:1
 C. a:3 b:4 c:2 d:1
 D. a:4 b:3 c:2 d:1

Answer: D

Exp: None

Q46. Consider the following statements:

1. After the Surat Split of 1907 the Indian National Congress again got divided in 1919.
2. The reason for the division was that some of the Congress leaders were willing to accept the Montford Reforms, 1918.
3. At this time, C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru resigned from the Congress and formed their own separate party known as Swaraj Party.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
 B. 2 and 3 only
 C. 1 and 3 only
 D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A

Exp: CR Das and ML Nehru did not resign, rather T.B. Saprú, S.N. Banerjee and Annie Besant resigned from the Congress.

Q47. Which among the following organizations/institutions were NOT started by Raja Ram Mohan Roy?

1. Atmiya Sabha
2. Brahmo Samaj
3. Hindu School
4. Vedanta College

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
 B. 1, 2 and 4 only

C. 2, 3 and 4 only

D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B

Exp: Atmiya Sabha was a philosophical discussion circle in India. The Association was started by Ram Mohan Roy in 1815 in Kolkata and its main activity was conducting discussion and debate sessions on monotheistic Hindu Vedantism. He founded 'Vedanta College' in 1825 to propagate Hindu monotheism. He found 'British Indian Unitarian Association' in 1827 and 'Brahmo Samaj' in 1828.

David Hare founded many important and prestigious educational institutions in Calcutta, such as the Hindu School, and Hare School and helped in founding Presidency College.

Q48. Which among the following work/activities/events were associated with Lord Ripon?

1. First regular census in India.

2. Ilbert Bill Controversy

3. Royal Titles Act

4. Repeal of Gagging Act

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

A. 1, 2 and 3 only

B. 1, 3 and 4 only

C. 1, 2 and 4 only

D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: C

Exp: Royal Titles Act was passed in 1876 during Lytton's time period.

The first modern census was conducted between 1865 and 1872 in different parts of the country in a non-synchronous fashion. The efforts culminated in 1872 and hence the year is dubbed as the year of the first population census in India. Synchronous censuses started from 1881 and since then there has been no interruption in the exercise conducted once every 10 years.

The Ilbert bill was introduced in 1883 by Viceroy Ripon, who actually desired to abolish the racial prejudice from the Indian Penal Code. Ripon had proposed an amendment for existing laws in the country and to allow Indian judges and magistrates the jurisdiction to try British offenders in criminal cases at the District level. It had never been allowed before. So naturally, the Europeans living in India looked it as a humiliation and the introduction of the bill led to intense opposition in Britain as well as India (by the British residents). So it was withdrawn but was reintroduced and enacted in 1884 in a severely compromised state.

The Royal Titles Act 1876 was an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom which officially recognized Queen Victoria as "Empress of India". This title had been assumed by her in 1876, under the encouragement of the Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli.

Gagging Act or Vernacular Press Act (Act of 1878) was enacted to curtail the freedom of the Indian press and prevent the expression of criticism toward British policies—notably, the opposition that had grown with the onset of the Second Anglo-Afghan War (1878–80). The Act was proposed by Lord Lytton in 1878. The Act excluded English-language publications as it was meant to control seditious writing in 'publications in Oriental languages' everywhere in the country, except for the South. But the British totally discriminated the Indian Press. The newspapers themselves kept criticizing the measure without end. The succeeding administration of Lord Ripon reviewed the developments consequent upon the Act and finally withdrew it. However, the resentment it produced among Indians helped fuel India's growing independence movement.

Q49. Consider the following statements:

1. The Muslim League was formed by Saiyid Ahmad Khan and Aga Khan in 1906.

2. It was a party aimed at protecting the interests of the Muslims.

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

Answer: B

Exp: Saiyid Ahmad Khan had died earlier and thus had not been associated with the Muslim League.

Q50. Which among the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

Organisation/ Movement	Founder
1. Young Bengal Movement :	Henry Vivian Derozio
2. Servants of India Society :	Dadabhai Nauroji
3. Aligarh Movement :	Muhammad and Shaukat Ali
4. Ramkrishna Mission :	Ramkrishna Paramhansa

- A. 2 and 3 only
- B. 1 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

Exp: Servant of India Society – G.K. Gokhale

Aligarh Movement – Saiyid A. Khan

Ramkrishna Mission – Vivekanand

Young Bengal – Henry V Derozio

Young Bengal Movement was launched by Henry Louis Vivian Derozio (1809-1831), who had come to Calcutta in 1826 and was appointed in the Hindu College as a teacher of English literature and History. The Young Bengal was a group of radical Bengali free thinkers emerging from Hindu College, Calcutta. They were also known as Derozians. The Young Bengals were inspired and excited by the spirit of free thought and revolt against the existing social and religious structure of Hindu society. A number of Derozians were attracted to the Brahmo Samaj movement much later in life when they had lost their youthful fire and excitement.

The Aligarh Movement was the push to establish a modern system of education for the Muslim population of British India, during the later decades of the 19th century. The founder of the original college, and the other educational institutions that developed from it, was Sir Syed Ahmad Khan. He became the leading light of the wider Aligarh Movement. The educational reform established a base, and an impetus, for the wider Movement: an Indian Muslim renaissance that had profound implications for the religion, the politics, the culture and society of the Indian sub-continent. The movement was political in nature from the very beginning. The Deoband school was opposed to the movement as Aligarh Movement was pro British. The Aligarh Movement introduced a new trend in Urdu literature. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and his association left the old style of writing in the Urdu language, which was rhetorical and academic, and started a simple style which helped Muslims to understand the main purpose of the movement. One indirect consequence of the awakening is the notion that without this revival of a Muslim self-consciousness and self-confidence, directly attributable to the Movement, there could or would have been no Pakistan Movement in the run up to Indian Independence.

Ramkrishna Mission named after Ramkrishna Paramhansa is an Indian socio-religious organisation which forms the core of a worldwide spiritual movement known as the Ramkrishna Movement or the Vedanta Movement. The mission is named after and inspired

by the Indian saint Ramakrishna Paramahansa and founded by Ramakrishna's chief disciple Swami Vivekananda on 1st May 1897.

Q51. Which among the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Swadeshi Movement was launched in the wake of the partition of Bengal.
2. Boycott of foreign goods, a programme of the movement, was not much successful as Indian goods were cheaper.
3. A major form of mass mobilization during the Swadeshi Movement was formation of Samitis.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C

Exp: Samitis such as the Swadesh Bandhab Samiti of Ashwini Kumar Dutta (in Barisal) emerged as a very popular and powerful method of mass mobilization. These samitis generated political consciousness among the masses through magic lantern lectures, swadeshi songs, physical and moral training to their members, social work during famines and epidemics, organization of schools, training in swadeshi crafts and arbitration courts. The Swadesh Bandhav Samiti at Barisal, for example, formed a large number of arbitration committees and settled local disputes, enabling people to avoid the Courts of Law. These experiments of course did not survive in the long run.

Q52. Which among the following statements are correct?

1. The Permanent Settlement was introduced by Lord Cornwallis.
2. The Zamindars were made the owners of the land, subject to timely payment of land revenue.
3. In subsequent years, it gave rise to absentee-landlordism.
4. The Permanent Settlement was introduced in the maximum area of British India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A

Exp: Ryotwari was introduced in the maximum area (51%).

Q53. The term "Factory" in the 18th and 19th century was used to denote:

- A. The centres of production of textiles on the coastal towns in India.
- B. The fortified areas where troops were stationed.
- C. The fortified places for storing the goods where factors used to work.
- D. None of the above

Answer: C

Exp: None

Q54. Arrange the following events in chronological order:

1. Treaty of Bassein
2. Subsidiary Alliance with Hyderabad
3. Treaty of Madras
4. Treaty of Lahore

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 3, 2, 1, 4
- B. 3, 2, 4, 1
- C. 2, 1, 3, 4
- D. 2, 3, 4, 1

Answer: A

Exp: Treaty of Bassein between Peshwa Baji Rao-II and the British in December 1802.
Subsidiary Alliance with Hyderabad was signed in 1798.
Treaty of Madras between Hyder Ali and the British in 1769.
Treaty of Lahore between the British and Sikh State in 1846.

Q55. Which among the following reflect the changes in the British Policy towards India after 1857?

- 1. The British policy of non-intervention in socio-religious matters.
- 2. The policy of annexation of the Indian Kingdoms was vigorously pursued
- 3. The ratio of British troops was increased
- 4. The association of Indians in the legislative work

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1, 3 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B

Exp: The British Government in the post-1857 period stopped the policy of annexation.

Q56. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Moderates and the Extremists were united at the Lucknow session which was presided by Annie Besant.
- 2. The Lucknow session was also attended by Mahatma Gandhi and J.L. Nehru.

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

Answer: B

Exp: The Lucknow session was presided by A.C. Mazumdar.

Q57. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Morley-Minto reforms provided, for the first time, an Indian member to the Viceroy Executive Council.
- 2. The Morley-Minto reforms also introduced separate electorates for the religious minorities like the Muslims and the Sikhs.
- 3. It paved the way for the formation of a separate party for the Muslims known as Muslim League.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

Answer: D

Exp: Morley-Minto reforms introduced separate electorates for the Muslims only.
Muslim League was formed in 1906 much before the Morley-Minto Reforms.

Q58. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the code given below:

List-I	List-II
A. Indian Universities Commission	1. Sir Colin Scott-Moncrieff
B. Police Commission	2. Thomas Raleigh
C. Famine Commission	3. Andrew Frazer
D. Irrigation Commission	4. Anthony MacDonell

- A. a:2 b:1 c:3 d:4
 B. a:2 b:4 c:1 d:3
 C. a:1 b:2 c:4 d:3
 D. a:2 b:3 c:4 d:1

Answer: D

Exp: The Viceroy Lord Curzon filled with imperialistic design was not in favour of giving any power to the Indians. He concluded that Indian Universities and the colleges were slowly becoming cradle of propaganda against the Government. So, with an idea to bring the Universities under control, Lord Curzon appointed Indian Universities Commission (Raleigh Commission) under Sir Thomas Raleigh in 1902. The Raleigh bill after becoming an Act, was called the Indian Universities Act 1904. (The Hunter Commission of 1882 which was appointed by Lord Ripon left the University education completely and emphasized upon primary education. On the contrary, the Raleigh Commission excluded the primary education completely and emphasized upon the Higher Education only.)

Lord Curzon set up a Police Commission under Sir Andrew Frazer in 1902-03. On the basis of recommendations of this Commission, a basic structure of Indian domestic intelligence developed and remained almost same till 1947. He set up the Criminal Investigation Departments (CIDs) in the provinces of British India. In 1903, the Thugi and Dakaiti Department was abolished.

When people were dying of starvation and diseases, MacDonnell Commission was appointed by Lord Curzon in 1901. This Commission came out with a "Moral Strategy", distribution of advances and loans to the peasants and setting up a Famine Commissioner in the famine affected provinces. (During the period of Lord Lytton, 'Strachey Commission' of 1880 was created to develop a general strategy and principles to deal with the famines. The Strachey Commission came out with the recommendation on whose basis a Famine Code was developed. However, in due course of time, the Famine Code was forgotten and remained defunct until the next attack of famine occurred in India.)

After the disastrous famine period of 1896-1900, there was an emphasis on pushing for more internal administration reforms with greater vigour. In this context, construction of irrigation works in accordance with the broad plans was outlined by an Irrigation Commission under Sir Colin Scott-Moncrieff. This commission was appointed by Lord Curzon. The most important part of these undertakings was Punjab. It recommended measures for the irrigation of an additional 10,200 square miles (26,400 square km) beyond the roughly 30,000 square miles (78,000 square km) already irrigated. The acceptance of these proposals by Lord Curzon's government in 1905 was a landmark in the government of India's irrigation policy. However, this work was later authorized in 1905 and it took more than 2 decades to get completed.

Q59. Consider the following statements:

1. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad propagated his rationalist and nationalist ideas through his newspaper Al Hilal.
2. During the First World War, a medical mission was sent to Turkey under his leadership.

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

Answer: A

Exp: Al-Hilal – The newspaper, started in 1912, espoused the cause of the Indian independence movement and exhorted Indian Muslims to join the movement. The participation of the Muslim masses in the Swadeshi Movement was limited and the British colonial government had, through a policy of communal concessions and divide and rule, been working to ensure they would not join the Indian nationalist movement. Maulana Azad saw the launching of an Urdu newspaper as the best way to reach out to the Muslim masses to change their attitude towards foreign rule. The paper played a catalytic role in shaping Muslim opinion against the Raj. The British colonial government disapproved of the Al Hilal and demanded securities from it under the Press Act before finally confiscating its press in 1914. The Al Hilal thus ceased to exist after being in operation for only two years.

Medical Mission to Turkey was headed by Dr. M.A. Ansari. During the Balkan Wars of 1912–13, concerned Muslims around India mobilized to dispatch three medical teams to treat wounded Ottoman soldiers. Among them the one organized by Mohammad Ali Jauhar and directed by Dr Mukhtar Ahmad Ansari caught the limelight, thanks to the regular letters sent home by the director of the mission and published at the weekly Comrade journal. It thus provides an account of an early example of religious internationalism, different from traditional notions of Islamic unity, supported by the emergence of a global Muslim civil society and a community of opinion in India led by the educated middle class.

Dr. Ansari later played an important role in the negotiation of the 1916 Lucknow Pact and served as the Muslim League's president in 1918 and 1920. He was also the President of the Indian National Congress during its 1927 session. As a result of in-fighting and political divisions within the League in the 1920s, and later the rise of Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Muslim separatism, Dr. Ansari drew closer to Mahatma Gandhi and the Congress. Ex-Vice President of India Mohammad Hamid Ansari is the grandson of a brother of Dr. Ansari

Q60. Consider the following statements:

1. Sarojini Naidu was the first woman President of the Indian National Congress.
2. In 1890, Kadambini Ganguly, the first woman graduate of Calcutta University addressed the Congress Session.

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

Answer: B

Exp: Annie Beasant was the first woman President of the Congress.

About Sarojini Naidu –

In 1915–18, she travelled to different regions in India delivering lectures on social welfare, women's empowerment and nationalism. She also helped to establish the Women's Indian Association (WIA) in 1917. She was sent to London along with Annie Besant, President of Home Rule League and Women's Indian Association, to present the case for the women's vote to the Joint Select Committee.

She took part in the National Movement, became a follower of Gandhiji (Mahatma Gandhi) and fought for the attainment of Swaraj. She became the President of Indian National Congress at Kanpur session in 1925. She was the first Indian woman to hold the post. She accompanied Gandhi to London for the inconclusive second session of the Round Table Conference for Indian–British cooperation (1931). Later she was appointed the Governor of the United Provinces, now Uttar Pradesh.

Known as the 'Nightingale of India', Sarojini Naidu also led an active literary life and attracted notable Indian intellectuals to her famous salon in Bombay. In 1914 she was elected a fellow

of the Royal Society of Literature. Her collected poems, all of which she wrote in English, have been published under the titles *The Sceptred Flute* (1928) and *The Feather of the Dawn* (1961).

Kadambini Ganguly –

Kadambini Ganguly and Chandramukhi Basu were the first two female graduates from India and the entire British Empire. She was also the first South Asian female physician, trained in western medicine, to graduate in South Asia. Anandi Gopal Joshi, another Indian, graduated as a physician the same year (1886) in the United States. Kadambini was also among the early Indian women to 'cross the seas' to Europe in 1892 to pursue higher studies. She returned with three advanced degrees in medicine and surgery to become the leading woman practitioner of Hippocratic medicine in the Asian subcontinent.

In 1883 she married the Brahmo reformer and leader of women's emancipation Dwarkanath Ganguly. They were actively involved in female emancipation and social movements to improve work conditions of female coal miners in eastern India.

She was one of the six female delegates to the fifth session of the Indian National Congress in 1889. She was also the first woman to address an open session of the Indian National Congress in 1890. When the Partition of Bengal divided the country in 1906, Kadambini organized the Women's Conference in Calcutta for solidarity and served as its president in 1908. In the same year, she openly supported the Satyagraha and mobilised people to raise funds to support the workers. She served as the President of Transvaal Indian Association formed after the imprisonment of Mahatma Gandhi in South Africa and worked tirelessly for Indians there. Kadambini openly spoke against the Calcutta Medical College's practice of not admitting female candidates at the Medical Conference of 1915.

Q61. Consider the following statements:

1. Mahatma Gandhi considered the famous moderate leader G.K. Gokhale as his political guru.
2. After arriving in India in 1915 Gandhiji joined the Servants of India Society, an organization established earlier by G.K. Gokhale.
3. Gandhiji undertook fast in India for the first time during the Champaran Satyagraha.
4. Rowlatt Satyagraha was Gandhiji's first all India satyagraha.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- A. 1 and 4 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: C

Exp: The Servants of India Society was formed in Pune, Maharashtra, on June 12, 1905 by Gopal Krishna Gokhale, who left the Deccan Education Society to form this association. Along with him were a small group of educated Indians, as Natesh Appaji Dravid, Gopal Krishna Deodhar and Anant Patwardhan who wanted to promote social and human development and overthrow the British rule in India. The Society organized many campaigns to promote education, sanitation, health care and fight the social evils of untouchability and discrimination, alcoholism, poverty, oppression of women and domestic abuse. Prominent Indians were its members and leaders. It chose to remain away from political activities and organizations like the Indian National Congress. The base of the Society shrank after Gokhale's death in 1915, and in the 1920s with the rise of Mahatma Gandhi as President of the Congress, who launched social reform campaigns on a mass scale throughout the nation and attracted young Indians to the cause. Gandhi had never been a member of Servants of India Society.

During Ahmedabad Mill Strike he undertook fast for the first time.

Q62. Consider the following statements:

1. Annexation of Awadh
2. The Lex Loci Act, 1850
3. General Service Enlistment Act of 1856
4. Post Office Act of 1854

Which of the above were the causes of the Revolt of 1857?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 2, 3 and 4
- D. None of the above

Answer: C

Exp: • The Punjab and Pegu were the conquests of war. The states of Satara, Jhansi, Nagpur, and Sambhalpur had fallen in by the "Doctrine of Lapse". The Kingdom of Awadh was the only great Indian state whose ruler Nawab Wajid Ali Shah was dispossessed on the ground of "intolerable misgovernment". Awadh was annexed in 1856 just before the end of the tenure of Lord Dalhousie and he was about to be replaced with Lord Canning.

- The Lex Loci Act of 1850 was an Indian law designed to protect the civil rights of religious converts that almost entirely meant the rights of converts to Christianity. The core of it was to protect the inheritor's rights of disowned children. Indians protested it on some of those same grounds of Freedom of Religion. Lex Loci eliminated a major disincentive to conversion
- The General Service Enlistment Act of 1856 required recruits to serve overseas if ordered, a challenge to the castes who composed so much of the Bengal army.
- The Post Office Act of 1854 withdrew the free postage facility for them.

Q63. In which of the following movements, Gandhiji admitted to have committed a 'Himalayan Blunder' by offering a weapon of Satyagraha to the people insufficiently trained in the discipline of 'non-violence'?

- A. Bardoli Satyagraha
- B. Non-cooperation Movement
- C. Rowlatt Satyagraha
- D. Quit India Movement

Answer: C

Exp: None

Q64. With reference to Modern India, Carlyle Circulation is related with:

- A. The partition of the country into India and Pakistan
- B. The promise of Dominion Status to India
- C. College Violation of Government Order
- D. Boycott of government function

Answer: C

Exp: When Indian youth started opposing western education against partition of Bengal, the then Chief Secretary of Bengal Carlyle issued a declaration known as Carlyle Circulation on 22 October 1905 that if any college violated the government order and the students quit the educational institutions then no assistance was to be provided by Government to the Institutes.

Q65. Through which of the actions of constitutional development, a High Commissioner for India at London was appointed?

- A. Minto-Morley Reforms of 1909.
- B. Indian Councils Act of 1892.
- C. Montague-Chelmsford Reforms of 1919.

D. The Government of India Act of 1935.

Answer: C

Exp: Main features of the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms of 1919:

- Dyarchy was introduced in the Provinces.
- A Bicameral (Two Chambers) Legislature was set up at the Centre.
- The salaries of the Secretary of State for India and his assistants were to be paid out of the British revenues.
- A High Commissioner for India at London was appointed.

In 1919, Crewe Committee determined that there existed the need to separate the agency work of the India Office from its other political and administrative roles, and recommended the transfer of all such work to "a High Commissioner for India or some similar Indian Governmental Representative in London." It was also felt popular opinion in India would view this as a step towards full dominion status for India. The Government of India Act that same year upheld the recommendations of the Committee. The first High Commissioner for India was an Indian Civil Service officer Sir William Stevenson Meyer; the first of Indian origin was Sir Dadiba Merwanji Dalal.

Q66. Consider the following pairs:

List – I	List – II
1. First Mass Strike/ Satyagraha in India :	Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-1922)
2. First Hunger Strike :	Champanan Satyagraha
3. First Satyagraha in India :	Ahmedabad (1918)
4. First Non-Cooperation :	Rowlatt Satyagraha

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

- A. 2 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. None of the above
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: C

Exp: Fact about Mahatma Gandhiji

- First Satyagraha in India – Champanan Satyagraha (1917).
- First Hunger Strike – Ahmedabad (1918)
- First Mass Strike/Satyagraha in India – Rowlett Satyagraha (1919)
- First Non-cooperation – Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-22)

Q67. After the withdrawal of the Non-Cooperation Movement who was/were in support of boycotting the legislature?

- 1. C.R. Das
- 2. Vallabh Bhai Patel
- 3. Rajendra Prasad
- 4. C. Rajagopalachari

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 2 and 4 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

Answer: B

Exp: After the withdrawal of the Non-Cooperation Movement, the Congress was divided into two groups, one group led by C.R. Das, Motilal Nehru and Vithalbhai Patel wanted that the Congress should take part in the election and wreck the working of legislatures from within. The other group which was led by Vallabh Bhai Patel, C. Rajagopalachari and Rajendra

Prasad was in support of boycotting the legislatures and wanted the Congress to be engaged in the constructive programme.

Q68. The core of the safety-valve thesis rests on the assumption that:

- A. The Congress as a party would assist the colonial rulers to implement political and social reforms.
- B. The Congress would assist the British in administering the colony
- C. The Congress leaders would constitute the colonial elite
- D. A violent anti-colonial revolution was bound to occur unless a constitutional platform like the Congress was founded.

Answer: D

Exp: None

Q69. Which was/were basis(es) on which the Government of India Act of 1935 was passed?

1. Outcomes of Round Table Conferences.
2. Report of the Simon Commission.
3. White Paper issued by the British Government in 1933.
4. Nehru Report, 1928.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 2 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: C

Exp: - The Government of India Act of 1935 was passed on the basis of the report of Simon Commission, the outcome of the Round Table Conferences and the White Paper issued by the British Government in 1933.

- As the Government failed to accept the Nehru Report (1928), the Congress gave a call to launch the Civil Disobedience Movement.

Q70. With reference to the Indian education history, which of the following was based on the principle of "Learning through Activity/Work"?

- A. Sargent Plan of Education
- B. The Hartog Committee
- C. The Hunter Education Commission
- D. Wardha Scheme of Basic Education

Answer: D

Exp: • Sargent Scheme, formally known as the Report of the Sargent Commission on Post-War Education Development in India, was a 1944 memorandum prepared at the behest of the British-run Government of India that outlined the future development of literacy and education in India. A central goal of the Sargent Scheme was the educational reconstruction of India. It recommended the introduction of free and compulsory education for all Indian children in the 6-11 years age group. The plan aimed to bring about universal literacy in India within 40 years of its introduction, i.e. by 1984.

• In 1929, the Hartog Committee submitted its report. This Committee was appointed to survey the growth of education in British India. It "devoted far more attention to mass education than Secondary and University Education". It mentioned that the great waste of money and efforts which resulted because of the pupils leaving their schools before completing the particular stage of education – leading to relapse to illiteracy.

• Hunter Education Commission was a landmark commission appointed by Viceroy Lord Ripon with objectives to look into the complaints of the non-implementation of the Wood's Despatch of 1854; the contemporary status of elementary education in the British

territories; and suggest means by which this can be extended and improved. This commission, headed by Sir William Wilson Hunter, had submitted its report in 1882. It brought out the neglect to the primary and secondary education in the country and recommended that the responsibility for the Primary Education must be given to the Local Boards and Municipal Boards.

- Wardha Scheme of basic education: the Indian National Congress organised a national conference on education in October 1937 in Wardha. In the light of the resolutions passed in the national conference, the Zakir Hussain Committee formulated a detailed national scheme for basic education. The main principle behind the scheme was learning through activity and work. However the outbreak of the war in 1939 and resignation of Indian National Congress led to postponement of the Scheme.

Q71. Which of the following States for the first time has made a law that makes social audit of Government programmes and schemes a part of government practice?

- A. Assam
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Meghalaya
- D. Maharashtra

Answer: C

Exp: Meghalaya became the first state in country to operationalize The Meghalaya Community Participation and Public Services Social Audit Act, 2017, a law that makes social audit of government programmes and schemes a part of government practice. The law makes social audits part of the system as earlier it was a civil society initiative rather than government-mandated. The social audit will make it easier to correct course of scheme rolling along. It will give people direct say in how money needs to be spent and may also fill the information gap for officers as they are directly in touch with the ground level people.

Q72. Consider the following diseases:

1. Smallpox
2. Rinderpest
3. Polio
4. Yaws
5. Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus

Which of the above diseases have been completely eliminated in India?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 4 and 5 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer: D

Exp: Smallpox was eradicated in 1980. The last natural case of smallpox, according to WHO, was in 1977 in Somalia.

Rinderpest: The second disease to be eradicated is rinderpest. It did not affect humans, but cattle and other members of the ruminant family. It was in October 2010 that the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation announced rinderpest's eradication after nine years of no diagnoses. It's the only disease of livestock that has been eradicated by human effort.

Polio: While the WHO continues with its efforts to eradicate the disease, it has been eliminated in India. The South-East Asia region was certified polio-free in March 2014, also marking polio-free existence for 80 percent of the global population. The last polio case in India was recorded in West Bengal in 2011.

Yaws: Yaws is a kind of chronic bacterial infection which mostly affects tribal population that inhabits remote, hilly and forest areas. It targets skin, bones and joints and was eliminated from India in September 2006.

In July 2016, India received official citation from WHO and UNICEF for being free of the disease. This milestone was reached before the WHO global target of eradicating the disease by 2020.

Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus: Along with official citation for Yaws, India was felicitated by the global health organisations for Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus (MNT) as well in July 2016. In case of deliveries in unhygienic circumstances, mothers and babies are often left vulnerable to MNT which severely affects mortality rates. Tetanus killed as many as 160,000 young children in India in 1988, according to UNICEF. However, the disease, which can be prevented by hygienic practices, has been eliminated in India. Its elimination was officially announced in August 2015.

Q73. Which of the following is/are the best description of 'Mount Vinson' that was in the news recently?

1. It is the highest peak in Antarctica.
2. Under Mission Seven Summits Indian Air Force has successfully scaled it.

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

Answer: C

Exp: The Indian Air Force (IAF) has scaled seven highest peaks in every continent as part of its mountaineering expedition Mission Seven Summits. With this it became first organisation in India to achieve this unique feat. The feat was achieved after a team comprising five IAF mountaineers, led by Gp Capt RC Tripathi successfully scaled Mount Vinson in Antarctica, thus completing the assigned Mission. Mt Vinson is located 120 km from the South Pole. It is the highest peak in Antarctica at 4,892 metres and one of the renowned "Seven Summits." It is 21 km long and 13 km wide and lies within the Sentinel Range of the Ellsworth Mountains.

Q74. With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga project, consider the following statements:

1. The project is being implemented by the state-run gas utility GAIL.
2. Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga project originates at Mumbai, Maharashtra.

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

Answer: A

Exp: The ambitious 2,655 km long JHBDPL project also known as 'Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga' project originates at Jagdishpur (Uttar Pradesh). The main trunk of pipeline ends at Haldia (West Bengal) and Dhamra (Odisha). The pipeline passes through Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Odisha. The total cost of project is Rs. 12,940 crore and is targeted to be completed by 2019. The project is being implemented by state-run gas utility GAIL.

Q75. With reference to the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The objective of NAFCC is to assist Island countries that are particularly vulnerable to adverse effects of climate change in meeting the cost of adaptation.
2. Ministry of External Affairs in collaboration with the State Bank of India is responsible for implementation of adaptation projects under NAFCC.

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

Answer: D

Exp: National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) is a flagship Scheme of Union Government launched in 2015 to provide 100% central grant to the State Governments for implementing climate change adaptation projects. The Scheme has been designed to fulfill objectives of National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) and operationalize State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs). The objective of NAFCC is to assist states/UTs that are particularly vulnerable to adverse effects of climate change in meeting the cost of adaptation. Under it, Union Government encourages States to come up with innovative and scalable projects to develop resilience against climate change and mainstream it in the planning processes. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is National Implementing Entity (NIE) responsible for implementation of adaptation projects under NAFCC.

Q76. With reference to 'e-HRMS', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is a project for transmitting high-quality educational content through 32 Direct-to-Home channels.
2. Ministry of Human Resource Development has launched the scheme on the occasion of Good Governance Day.

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

Answer: D

Exp: The Union Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions launched the electronic-Human Resource Management System (e-HRMS) on the occasion of Good Governance Day (25 December). The e-HRMS was launched as a step towards the ease of governance and is in lines with Government's goal of minimum government maximum governance. e-HRMS is an online platform for central government employees to apply for leave and access their service-related information. It will enable these employees to see all their details with respect to service book, leave, salary GPF, etc. and also apply for different kind of claims and reimbursements, loan and advances, leave, leave encashment, LTC advances, tour etc. on a single platform. The system is designed in such a way to obtain all management-related inputs and reports through its dashboard. It will enable senior authorities to check all pendency of data updating as well as claims, which will in turn instill more responsibility and accountability among all government servants. The launch of e-HRMS is in the direction of fully automated human resource management system with target to bring all government employees on employee portal. Such automated system will take care of all processes of personnel management from hiring to retiring on digital platform and dispense manual system of management.

Q77. What is 'AG600', that was in the news recently?

- A. It is the world's largest amphibious aircraft made by China.
- B. It is a solar-powered two-seater aircraft designed by Japan.
- C. It is a new solar energy device developed by India that captures maximum of Sun's energy.

D. It is the first comprehensive cell atlas or map of human cells designed by Sweden.

Answer: A

Exp: China's home-grown AG600, also known as 'Kunlong', the world's largest amphibious aircraft took off from the southern city of Zhuhai. Its successful maiden flight makes China among the world's few countries capable of developing a large amphibious aircraft. It also further strengthens China's rapidly modernising military. The AG600 amphibious aircraft can land and take off from water. It has wingspan of 38.8 metres. It is powered by four turboprop engines. It has been designed and built by China's state-owned manufacturer Aviation Industry Corp of China. Its flight capabilities put all of China's artificial island-building projects in disputed South China Sea (SCS) well within its range.

Q78. With reference to 'DARPAN Project', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It aims at realizing financial inclusion of un-banked rural population.
2. The Project will increase the rural reach of the Department of Posts.

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

Answer: C

Exp: The Minister of Communications has launched DARPAN – “Digital Advancement of Rural Post Office for A New India” Project to improve the quality of service, add value to services and achieve “financial inclusion” of un-banked rural population. The goal of the IT modernization project with an outlay of Rs. 1400 Crore is to provide a low power technology solution to each Branch Postmaster (BPM) which will enable each of approximately 1.29 Lakhs Branch Post Offices (BOs) to improve the level of services being offered to rural customers across all the states. The Project shall increase the rural reach of the Department of Posts and enable BOs to increase traffic of all financial remittances, savings accounts, Rural Postal Life Insurance, and Cash Certificates; improve mail operations processes by allowing for automated booking and delivery of accountable article; increase revenue using retail post business; provide third party applications; and make disbursements for social security schemes such as MGNREGS.

Q79. Talley Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, a wildlife sanctuary as well as a bio-diversity hot spot which was in the news recently, is located in which one of the following states?

- A. Assam
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Mizoram
- D. Manipur

Answer: B

Exp: Talley Valley Wildlife Sanctuary is a wildlife sanctuary as well as a bio-diversity hot spot located in Arunachal Pradesh. It is situated at the altitude of 2400 metres with rivers like Pange Sipu, Karing and Subansiri flowing through the Reserved Forest and Sanctuary. It mainly comprises sub-tropical and alpine forests and has variety of flora and fauna, many of which are endangered. Talley is plateau with dense forest of silver fir trees, pine clad plateau of beautiful grandeur, and vast wasteland. It is home to highly endangered species like clouded leopard. Pleioblastus simone is a bamboo variety found only in Talley Valley.

Q80. Recently the Government of India has proposed to set up India's first ever National Rail and Transport University (NRTU) in which one of the following city?

- A. Gurugram

- B. Bhopal
- C. Kolkata
- D. Vadodara

Answer: D

Exp: The Union Cabinet has approved proposal of Ministry of Railways to set up first ever National Rail and Transport University (NRTU) in Vadodara to skill its human resources and build capability. The University will be set up as Deemed to Be University under de novo category as per UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2016.

Q81. For the first time in our country the NITI Aayog is planning to set up Methanol Economy Fund worth Rs 4,000-5,000 crore to promote production and use of Methanol. In this context consider the following statements:

1. Methanol is the simplest alcohol and does not have carbon-carbon bond.
2. It does not emit particulate matter (PM) which causes pollution.
3. The high ash content coal and stranded gas can be converted into methanol.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. None of the above

Answer: C

Exp: Methanol is a clean burning drop in fuel which can replace both petrol & diesel in transportation & LPG, Wood, Kerosene in cooking fuel. It can also replace diesel in Railways, Marine Sector, Gensets, Power Generation and Methanol based reformers could be the ideal compliment to Hybrid and Electric Mobility. Methanol Economy is the “Bridge” to the dream of a complete “Hydrogen based fuel systems”. Methanol burns efficiently in all internal combustion engines, produces no particulate matter , no soot , almost nil SOX and NOX emissions (NEAR ZERO POLLUTION). The gaseous version of Methanol – DME can be blended with LPG and can be an excellent substitute for diesel in Large buses and trucks. Methanol can be produced from Natural Gas , Indian High Ash Coal , Bio-mass, MSW , stranded and flared gases and India can achieve (through right technology adaptation) to produce Methanol @ Rs.19 a litre from Indian coal and all other feedstock. The first coal-based methanol plant will be set up in West Bengal by world’s largest coal miner Coal India Ltd (CIL). China is currently world’s largest producer of methanol.

Q82. In the context of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It was approved by UN member states in March 2015 at the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Japan.
2. It is a binding and obligatory treaty which recognizes that a UN member State has primary role to reduce disaster risk.
3. It has a 15-year framework from 2015 to 2030 and is a successor of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

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

Answer: C

Exp: Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-30 is an international Treaty that was approved by UN member states in March 2015 at Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai, Japan. It is voluntary and non-binding treaty

which recognizes that UN member State has a primary role to reduce disaster risk. It has framework for 15-year (2015 to 2030). It calls for sharing the responsibility with other stakeholders including local government, the private sector and other stakeholders. It is successor of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005–2015), which had been the most encompassing international accord on disaster risk reduction. It sets of common standards, a comprehensive framework with achievable targets, and a legally-based instrument for disaster risk reduction. It calls for adopting integrated and inclusive institutional measures for preventin vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery and strengthen resilience.

Q83. With reference to 'Wassenaar Arrangement (WA)', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. All permanent members of the UN Security Council are its members.
2. It is an elite club on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use of Goods and Technologies.
3. India is a member of Wassenaar Arrangement but not the Missile Technology Control Regime.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 3 only

Answer: B

Exp: Elite export control regime Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) has recently admitted India as its new member. India is the Arrangement's 42nd participating state. The Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies, commonly known as the Wassenaar Arrangement is a multilateral export control regime (MECR). It is an elite club of countries subscribing arms controls similar to NSG and MTCR. It was established in 1996 to contribute to regional and international security and stability by promoting transparency and greater responsibility in transfers of conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies, thus preventing destabilizing accumulations. It is headquartered in Vienna, Austria. It has 42 participating states including India. All permanent members of UN Security Council except China are its members.

Q84. Buenos Aires Declaration which was in the news recently is associated with:

- A. United Nations Development Programme
- B. World Trade Organization
- C. United Nations Environment Programme
- D. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Answer: B

Exp: 119 of 164 members of World Trade Organisation (WTO) have backed Buenos Aires Declaration on Women and Trade at 11th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC11) held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Buenos Aires Declaration on Women and Trade is a non-binding declaration that sought women's economic empowerment by speedily removing barriers to their participation in trade. India voted against declaration. India held that it strongly supports gender equality and is very much in favour of promoting gender issues but it cannot concur with view that gender is trade-related issue. WTO is purely trade-related body and not a forum to discuss gender, so gender-related discussions should take place at appropriate fora.

Q85. With reference to 'the Raisina Dialogue', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is a Conference held biennially in New Delhi.
2. It is designed on the lines of Shangrila Dialogue in Singapore.
3. It is India's premier foreign policy Conference.
4. The 2018 Conference is the seventh edition of the dialogue.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B

Exp: Held annually in New Delhi, it is India's premier foreign policy conference. Launched by MEA and top think tank ORF in 2016, the forum is designed on the lines of Shangrila Dialogue in Singapore. Since its inception in 2016, the conference has emerged as India's flagship conference on geopolitics and geo-economics. The conference is structured as a multi-stakeholder, cross-sectoral discussion, involving a variety of global policymakers including heads of state, cabinet ministers and local government officials. In addition, The Dialogue also welcomes major private sector executives, as well as members of the media and academia. The name "Raisina Dialogue" comes from Raisina Hill, an elevation in New Delhi that is home to the Government of India, as well as the Presidential Palace of India, Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Q86. In the context of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity from India, consider the following statements:

1. Mudiyyett is a theatre ritual of Kerala.
2. Kalbelia is an amalgamated form of folk songs and dances of Karnataka.
3. Ramman is a religious festival and ritual theatre of Garhwal Himalayas.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 3 only

Answer: C

Exp: Recently the Intergovernmental Committee for Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage under UNESCO has inscribed 'KumbhMela' on UNESCO's Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity from India are:

Koodiyattam: Sanskrit Theatre of Kerala.

Mudiyyett: Theatre ritual of Kerala.

Kalbelia: folk songs and dance form of Rajasthan.

Ramlila: Traditional Performance of the Ramayana.

Sankirtana: singing, drumming and dancing ritual of Manipur.

Ramman: religious festival and ritual theatre of Garhwal Himalayas.

Traditional brass and copper craft of utensil of Thatheras: Punjab.

Chhau dance: classical Indian dance originated in the eastern Indian states.

Buddhist chanting of Ladakh: recitation of sacred Buddhist texts Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir.

Q87. With reference to the Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate, which of the following statements is correct?

- A. It is the rate at which the RBI lends to its clients generally against government securities.
- B. It is the rate at which banks lend funds to the RBI.

C. It is the rate at which Scheduled banks can borrow funds overnight from the RBI against government securities.

D. It is the rate charged by Central bank for lending funds to the Commercial banks.

Answer: C

Exp: Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate is a rate at which scheduled banks can borrow funds overnight from RBI against government securities. It is very short term borrowing scheme for scheduled banks.

Q88. With reference to the World Bank's recently released Doing Business (DB) Report 2018, consider the following statements:

1. India is the only country in BRICS economies to feature among most improved economies of the DB Report this year.

2. Out of 10 indicators, the highest improvement India has achieved is in enforcing a contract segment.

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

Answer: A

Exp: The World Bank released the Doing Business (DB) Report, 2018. India ranked 100 among 190 countries assessed by the World Bank, a quantum leap of 30 notches over its rank of 130 last year.

The DB Report is an assessment of 190 economies and covers 10 indicators which span the lifecycle of a business. India has improved its rank in 6 out of 10 indicators and has moved closer to international best practices (Distance to Frontier score). According to the World Bank, New Zealand is the easiest place to do business, followed by Singapore, Denmark, South Korea and Hong Kong. The US and the UK are ranked 6th and 7th on the list. Significant improvements have been made in areas such as resolving insolvency, paying taxes, protecting minority investors and getting credit. India stands out this year as one of the 10 economies that improved the most in areas measured. India still lags in areas such as starting a business, Enforcing Contracts, and in dealing with construction permits.

Q89. In the context of Indian economy which of the following agency decides the interest rates on small savings schemes in India?

A. Reserve Bank of India

B. Securities and Exchange Board of India

C. Ministry of Finance

D. None of the above

Answer: C

Exp: The Finance Ministry sets the interest rates for the small savings schemes. Small savings schemes like the Public Provident Fund (PPF), post office schemes, Senior Citizens' Scheme, etc. provide subsidised higher interest rates to savers and have a unique structure. Being 'Treasury Banking Operations' of the central government, these schemes are outside the regulatory jurisdiction of SEBI and the RBI.

Q90. Consider the following statements:

1. The United States has decided to withdraw from the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). This is its 2nd withdrawal from this body.

2. US will maintain its presence at UNESCO as an observer state.

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

Answer: C

Exp: None

Q91. Consider the following statements regarding Ease of Doing Business report for 2018:

1. India improved its ranking on six out of the 10 parameters becoming the only large economy to do so.
2. India is among the top 30 nations in three categories — getting electricity, securing credit and protecting minority investors..

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

Answer: C

Exp: The country improved its ranking on six out of the 10 parameters becoming the only large economy to do so.

Q92. Consider the following statements regarding schemes under Skill India Mission:

1. STRIVE, a centrally sponsored scheme (funded directly by Central Ministries and implemented by States or their agencies), sets up national bodies for accreditation and certification where the national bodies shall regulate assessment and certification in both long and short term vocational education and training (VET).
2. SANKALP, a central sector scheme (funded and implemented by the Central Government machinery), aims to modernize 500+ ITIs through outcomes and reform linked funding.

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

Answer: D

Exp: • SANKALP, a centrally sponsored scheme (funded directly by Central Ministries and implemented by States or their agencies), sets up national bodies for accreditation and certification. The bodies shall regulate assessment and certification in both long and short term vocational education and training (VET).

• STRIVE, a central sector scheme (funded and implemented by the Central Government machinery), aims to modernize 500+ ITIs through outcomes and reform linked funding.

Q93. Consider the following statements regarding Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) for the operation of Drones in India by DGCA:

1. The DCGA has divided the drones into five categories based on their Maximum Take-Off Weight (MTOW)
2. Drones in Micro category — greater than 250 grams and less than or equal to 2 kg— and those operated by government agencies would not require any permit.

Which of the statement/s given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Exp: • Drones in nano category — weighing up to 250 grams — and those operated by government agencies would not require any permit.

Q94. Consider the following:

1. Stone sculptures of Mamallapuram
2. Etikoppaka toys.
3. Bangla rosogulla (West Bengal).
4. Tulaipanji rice (West Bengal)

Which of the above are granted GI Tag by the Geographical Indication (GI) registry?

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: D

Exp: None

Q95. Consider the following regarding the Air Quality Index (AQI):

Colour	AQI Values
1. Yellow -	101-150
2. Red -	151-200
3. Maroon -	301-500
4. Purple -	201-300

Which of the above is/are correctly matched?

- A. 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3 only
- D. 2, 3 and 4 only

Answer: D

Exp: None

Q96. What is 'NISAR', which was recently in the news?

1. It will be the first radar imaging satellite to use dual frequency
2. It will be the world's most expensive earth-imaging satellite till date
3. It aims to study global environmental change and natural disasters

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. None of the above

Answer: C

Exp: Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) of NASA are jointly working on the development of NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR), a Dual Frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar Imaging Satellite. NISAR is a dual frequency (L & S Band) Radar Imaging Satellite. It will be the first radar imaging satellite to use dual frequency. It will be the world's most expensive earth-imaging satellite till date, costing around \$1.5 billion. It aims to study global environmental change and natural disasters. The L-band Synthetic Aperture Radar is being developed by JPL, while ISRO is developing S-band Synthetic Aperture Radar. The L and S band microwave. ISRO will be also responsible for design and development Spacecraft Bus ,data transmission system, spacecraft integration & testing. It will be launched using GSLV in year 2021. It will have

mission life of 3 years. It is planned to be launched into a Sun-synchronous dawn to dusk orbit.

Q97. Consider the following statements with respect to Personal Rapid Transit (RPT) also known as pod-cars or pod-taxis.

1. It travels in a point-to-point basis, with no intermediate stops or transfers
2. India's first driver-less pod taxi system is going to be launched in Mumbai
3. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has been mandated to execute this project

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

Answer: A

Exp: Personal Rapid Transit (PRT) or pod taxi is an advanced public transport using automated electric pod cars to provide taxi-like demand responsive feeder and shuttle services for small groups of travelers. It is a green mode of uninterrupted transportation. The pilot project will be taken up on design, build, finance, operate and transfer (DBFOT) basis i.e. on PPP (public-private partnership) basis. It is meant for a 12.3-km stretch from Delhi-Haryana border on NH 8 (near Ambience Mall) to Badshahpur via Rajiv Chowk, IFFCO and Sohna Road. The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has been mandated to execute this project. The model is in place in London's Heathrow airport, Morgantown and Masdar city.

Q98. Which of the following is the best description of 'Mission SAMPARK' that was in the news recently?

- A. To provide nutritious food to pregnant women in BPL families
- B. To create awareness about family planning in the districts with high total fertility rate (TFR)
- C. To trace the HIV patients who are left to follow up and bring them under antiretroviral therapy (ART)
- D. To trace the patients of Tuberculosis who are not taking regular DOTS therapy

Answer: C

Exp: Government of India has launched the Mission "SAMPARK", to trace those who are Left to Follow Up and are to be brought under ART services. Presently, about 11.5 lakh People Living with HIV (PLHIVs) are taking free ART through 536 ART centres in the country. It is a big challenge to trace those who are Left to Follow Up and needed to be brought under ART services.

Q99. With reference to 'the UN Global Compact on Migration', consider the following statements:

1. It originated from the Vienna Declaration for Refugees and Migrants
2. It is the first inter-governmentally negotiated agreement prepared under the auspices of the United Nations

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

Answer: B

Exp: Recently the United States has pulled out of UN Global Compact on Migration. The global compact for migration is the first, inter-governmentally negotiated agreement,

prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, to cover all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner. In September 2016, 193 members of the UN General Assembly unanimously adopted a non-binding political declaration, the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, pledging to uphold the rights of refugees, help them resettle and ensure they have access to education and jobs.

Q100. Recently the Combined Military exercise 'Ajeya Warrior- 2017' has been conducted between India and which one of the following countries?

- A. USA
- B. Israel
- C. France
- D. UK

Answer: D

Exp: The Combined Military exercise 'Ajeya Warrior- 2017' between India and the UK was held at Mahajan Field Firing Range near Bikaner of Rajasthan. It was third joint military exercise between India and UK. The first exercise was conducted in 2013 at Belgaum, Karnataka and second exercise was held in 2015 in UK.

