



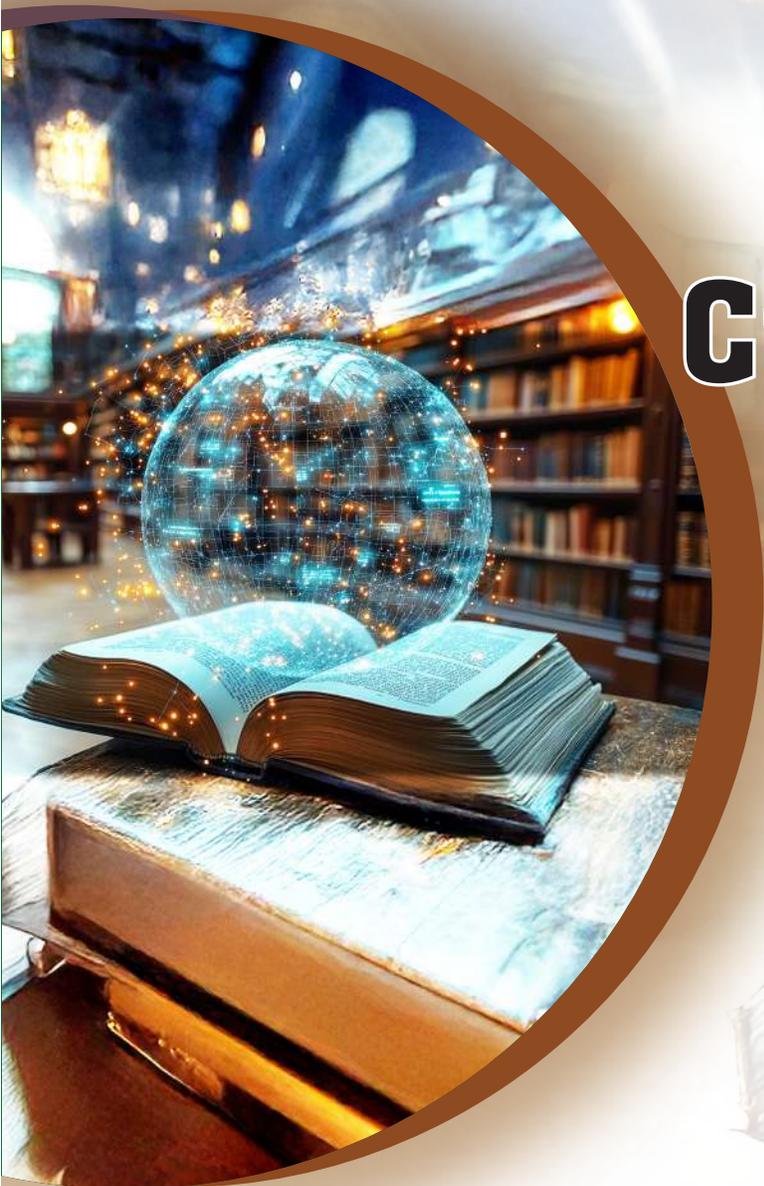
# CURRENT AFFAIRS

## MCQ CONSOLIDATION

### October

### 2025

### PART-II



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641, Mukherjee Nagar,  
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Pusa Road,  
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New Delhi



Tashkent Marg,  
Civil Lines,  
Prayagraj,  
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Tonk Road,  
Vasundhra Colony,  
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## Practice Question

### History, Art & Culture

**1. Consider the following statements about Rani Chennamma of Kittur:**

1. She was associated with the Lingayat community.
2. She led an armed resistance during the Revolt of 1857.
3. Her rebellion was crushed by the British under Colonel Deacon.

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

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

**2. Consider the following statements regarding Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:**

1. He was chosen by Mahatma Gandhi as his deputy commander to lead the Kheda Satyagraha in 1918.
2. He earned the title "Sardar" after his leadership in the Bardoli Satyagraha.
3. He played a key role in creating the All India Services under Article 312 of the Constitution.

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

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

### Geography

**3. Madagascar is bordered by which of the following regions:**

1. Mozambique Channel
2. Botswana
3. Comoros
4. Réunion islands
5. Mauritius

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**4. Consider the following statements about the Northeast Monsoon in India:**

1. It is also called the retreating monsoon.
2. Winds during this monsoon blow from land to sea and are called northeasterlies.
3. It mainly affects northern and western India.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

**5. Iceland's geographic and environmental features are significant because it is the place on Earth where one can directly observe:**

- A. The formation of ocean trenches due to convergent plate boundaries
- B. The seafloor spreading process along a divergent plate boundary
- C. The subduction of continental crust under oceanic crust
- D. The origin of mid-ocean ridges beneath tectonic plates

**6. The Ombai and Wetar Straits serve as a critical migration corridor for marine species. These straits connect which two major oceans?**

- A. Atlantic Ocean and Indian Ocean
- B. Pacific Ocean and Indian Ocean
- C. Southern Ocean and Pacific Ocean
- D. Arctic Ocean and Atlantic Ocean

### Polity & Governance

**7. Which of the following statements regarding the Finance Commission of India is NOT correct?**

- A. The Finance Commission is constituted by the President under Article 280 of the Constitution every five years or earlier.
- B. The Chairman must have experience in public affairs, while other members can have expertise in law, finance, administration, or economics.
- C. Its members hold office for a fixed term of five years as specified in the Constitution.
- D. The Finance Commission submits its report to the President, who places it before both Houses of Parliament.

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8. With reference to the Ayushman Bharat–Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), consider the following statements:

1. Private hospitals form the majority of empanelled institutions under the scheme.
2. Private hospitals account for more than half of total hospitalisations and nearly two-thirds of the total treatment cost.

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

9. With reference to leprosy control in India, consider the following statements:

1. India attained national leprosy elimination status (prevalence rate  $<1/10,000$ ) in 2005 and sustained it.
2. Nikusth Portal is used for tracking leprosy patients.

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

10. Which of the following is/are key services provided by the Digital Public Platforms (DPPs)?

1. Aadhaar
2. Unified Payments Interface
3. DigiLocker

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

11. Consider the following statements regarding Municipalities in India:

1. Reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Municipalities is proportional to their population in that area.
2. If a Municipality is dissolved before the expiry of its term, elections for a new body must be completed within one year.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

12. With reference to Bhashini, consider the following statements:

1. It is implemented by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) under the National Language Translation Mission (NLTM).
2. It provides real-time AI-based translation, speech recognition, and language understanding services in 22 Scheduled Languages.

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

13. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a government food aid initiative often seen in the news. It is associated with which of the following countries?

- A. United Kingdom
- B. United States of America
- C. Canada
- D. Australia

14. Consider the following statements :

1. Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 requires political parties to adhere to the principles of internal democracy and explicitly defines the term “democracy.”
2. The 255th Law Commission Report recommended that the ECI be empowered to de-register political parties for non-compliance with internal democracy provisions.
3. The National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (NCRWC) suggested amending the Constitution to include internal democracy as a Fundamental Right of party members.

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

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

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15. With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM), consider the following statements:

1. The mission aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals-3.
2. It is being implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

16. Consider the following pairs:

Judicial Cases	Subject Matter
1. Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India (2018)	Decriminalisation of adultery
2. Indian Young Lawyers Association v. State of Kerala (2018)	Gender equality and women's entry into Sabarimala Temple
3. Joseph Shine v. Union of India (2018)	Decriminalisation of same-sex relations

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

- A. Only one  
B. Only two  
C. All three  
D. None of the above

### Social Issues

17. Consider the following statements:

**Statement I:** The term "Six-Pocket Syndrome" originated during China's one-child policy era (1979–2015) and refers to a child being doted on by six adults.

**Statement II:** The Six-Pocket Syndrome reflects the shift from a right-based society to a responsibility-based society.

Which one of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- A. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement I  
B. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I  
C. Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect  
D. Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

18. Consider the following statements regarding the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI):

1. It complements income-based poverty measures by assessing deprivations across health, education, and standard of living.
2. In its computation, the 'Standard of Living' dimension carries a higher weight than the 'Health' or 'Education' dimensions.
3. A household is identified as multidimensionally poor if its deprivation score is one-third or higher.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. Only one                      B. Only two  
C. All three                      D. None

19. Consider the following statements about the PM-SHRI Scheme:

1. The scheme is a central sector initiative fully funded by the Centre for all states and UTs.
2. It aims to develop select schools as model institutions implementing the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
3. Experiential, inquiry-driven, and learner-centred pedagogy is a key feature of PM-SHRI schools.

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

- A. Only One                      B. Only Two  
C. All Three                      D. None

20. Consider the following statements :

**Statement I:** 17 foreign universities, mainly from the UK and Australia, have received approval to set up campuses in India under UGC's 2023 regulations.

**Statement II:** The UGC's 2023 regulations, aligned with NEP 2020, permit top-ranked Foreign Higher Educational Institutions (FHEIs) to establish campuses in India.

**Statement III:** Eligible FHEIs must be ranked within the top 1000 QS World University rankings.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- A. Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I  
B. Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I  
C. Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I  
D. Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

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## Agriculture & Allies Sector

21. Which one of the following bodies is responsible for recommending the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for specified agricultural crops to the Government of India?
- Food Corporation of India
  - Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
  - Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices
  - NITI Aayog

## Environment & Ecology

22. Consider the following statements about the SAIME Model in the Sundarbans:

- It integrates 5–30% mangrove cover in aquaculture ponds.
- Mangrove litter is used as natural fodder for Black Tiger Shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*).
- It focuses exclusively on shrimp farming without promoting climate-adaptive practices.

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

- Only One
- Only Two
- All Three
- None

23. With reference to Green Crackers consider the following statements:

- They are designed to achieve at least 30% reduction in particulate matter (PM) compared to conventional crackers.
- Only those crackers certified by NEERI and PESO can be sold and used.
- The composition of green crackers completely eliminates sulphur and barium salts.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

24. Consider the following statements:

- The Green Fuels Alliance India (GFAI) is a collaborative initiative between India and Denmark focused primarily on the development of green hydrogen.

- The Global Biofuels Alliance was launched during the G20 Summit in New Delhi with founding members including India, the USA, and Brazil.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

25. It is a shrub native to the shola forests of the Western Ghats, blooms once every 12 years, is classified as Vulnerable on the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species, and holds cultural significance among the Muthuvas and Todas tribes. Which plant best fits this description?

- Malabar Ironwood
- Sarpagandha
- Neelakurinji
- Pitcher Plant

26. Consider the following statements:

- They are currently found across India and Pakistan.
- They are adapted to arid and semi-arid open habitats such as grasslands and scrublands.
- They are listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- They are set to be recognised as a new and distinct species by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Which of the following species best matches the above description?

- Indian Wolf
- Great Indian Bustard
- Caracal
- Desert Cat

27. Consider the following characteristics:

- It is located in the northeastern part of Raipur district and is named after the Bar and Nawapara forest villages situated at its centre.
- It features undulating terrain with numerous low and high hillocks, forming an ideal natural landscape for diverse wildlife.
- Several tributaries of the Mahanadi River flow through it, with the Balamdehi River forming its western boundary and the Jonk River defining its northeastern edge.

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4. It is characterised by well-stocked teak, sal, and mixed forests, providing a rich habitat for species such as Indian bison (Gaur), Cheetal, Sambhar, Nilgai, and Wild boar.

**Which of the following locations best matches the above description?**

- A. Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary  
B. Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary  
C. Udanti-Sitanadi Wildlife Sanctuary  
D. Kanger Valley National Park

**28. With reference to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), consider the following statements:**

1. FAO is one of the founders of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC).
2. FAO is headquartered in Rome, Italy.
3. The World Food Prize was started by FAO to honor individuals with contributions in the field of agriculture.

**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

**29. Consider the following statements regarding the International Solar Alliance (ISA):**

1. It was jointly launched by India and France during the UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris.
2. It is the first international intergovernmental organization headquartered in India.

**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

**30. Consider the following statements:**

**Statement I:** The # 23for23 campaign encourages people to dedicate 23 minutes of physical activity to honour the snow leopard.

**Statement II:** The snow leopard is listed under Appendix II of CITES and classified as Endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature in 2017.

**Which one of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?**

- A. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement I  
B. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I  
C. Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect  
D. Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

## Economy

**31. Consider the following statements regarding the World Trade Organization (WTO):**

1. The national treatment principle under WTO requires that imported goods be treated no less favorably than domestically produced goods once they enter the market.
2. The Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (ASCM) under WTO prohibits subsidies that are conditional on the use of domestic goods instead of imported ones.

**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

**32. Consider the following statements:**

1. The World Bank has set the International Poverty Line at \$3 per day.
2. In India, the Lakdawala Committee (1993) recommended a calorie consumption-based approach for poverty estimation.
3. The National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) in India is measured by the NITI Aayog.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**33. With reference to Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement, consider the following statements:**

1. This agreement is an initiative of UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

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2. This agreement has been led and supported by India.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 only                      B. 2 only  
C. Both 1 and 2              D. Neither 1 nor 3

**34. Consider the following statements regarding the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) in India:**

- EPF is a social security scheme functioning under the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- EPF coverage applies to all establishments in India, irrespective of the number of employees.
- Both employers and employees contribute around 12% of wages, and funds earn interest declared annually by the Government of India.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**35. With reference to the eligibility criteria for Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), consider the following statements:**

- A CPSE must have Navratna status and be listed on an Indian stock exchange to qualify for Maharatna status.
- To be eligible for Navratna status, a CPSE must have earned profits for the last three consecutive years and have a positive net worth.

**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

**36. Consider the following pairs regarding GI-tagged items in India:**

List-I (GI Product)	List-II (Region / State)
---------------------	--------------------------

- |                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Indi Lime         | Karnataka   |
| 2. Puliyanakudi Lime | Tamil Nadu  |
| 3. Bhadoli Jamun     | Maharashtra |

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

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

**37. Which of the following components form part of India's Foreign Exchange Reserves?**

- Foreign Currency Assets (FCA)
- Bank recapitalisation bonds
- Gold Reserves
- Special Drawing Rights (SDRs)
- Reserve Position with IMF

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**38. Consider the following statements regarding the India Infrastructure Project Development Fund (IIPDF) Scheme:**

- The IIPDF Scheme is implemented by the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) under the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- The scheme provides financial assistance for the development and structuring of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects by covering transaction adviser/consultant costs.

**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

**39. Consider the following statements regarding Small Finance Banks (SFBs):**

- Small Finance Banks must allocate at least 75% of their Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) to Priority Sector Lending (PSL).
- Small Finance Banks are not required to maintain Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) and Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) with the RBI.
- At least 25% of the branches of Small Finance Banks must be located in unbanked rural centres.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

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## Defence & Security

40. Consider the following statements:

**Statement I:** Maoism seeks to capture state power through armed insurgency, mass mobilization, and strategic alliances.

**Statement II:** The Communist Party of India (Maoist) was formed in 2004 and is the largest and most violent Maoist formation in India.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I
- Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I
- Statement I is correct Statement II is not correct
- Statement I is not correct but Statement II is correct

41. Consider the following statements:

- The Shaurya missile is an example of the cruise missile.
- The path of a ballistic missile depends on external factors like gravity and coriolis force.
- Cruise missiles can carry only conventional warheads.

How many of the statements given above are *not* correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- All are correct

## Science & Tech

42. With reference to Quantum Technology, consider the following statements:

- It is based on the principles of superposition and entanglement, where particles can exist in multiple states simultaneously and exhibit strong correlations.
- Quantum phenomena can be used to produce true random numbers, increasing encryption strength and security.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

43. Recently seen in the news, which of the following best describes the phenomenon of GPS Spoofing?

- A technique that blocks the reception of authentic GPS signals by broadcasting noise on the same radio frequency.
- A cyber-attack that involves broadcasting counterfeit GPS signals to deceive a receiver into calculating an incorrect position or time.
- A method to enhance the accuracy of GPS signals by using ground-based stations to correct errors in satellite data.
- A natural phenomenon where solar flares disrupt the transmission of signals from GPS satellites to Earth-based receivers.

44. Consider the following statements:

- The Moon's atmosphere is extremely dense and classified as an exosphere, where gas atoms and molecules frequently collide.
- The Chandrayaan-2 lunar orbiter has, for the first time, detected the effects of the Sun's Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) on the Moon's exosphere.
- A Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) is one of the largest forms of solar activity and a major driver of space weather.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 1, 2 and 3

45. Consider the following statements:

**Statement I:** Atomic stenciling is a technique that allows researchers to precisely apply polymer patches onto specific regions of microscopic gold nanoparticles.

**Statement II:** Chloride atoms are used as an "atomic stencil" or mask in this process.

Which one of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement I
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

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46. Consider the following pairs:

Cloud Computing Models	Definition
1. SaaS (Software as a Service)	Software delivered over the Internet
2. PaaS (Platform as a Service)	Platform for developers to build, deploy, and manage apps without managing underlying hardware
3. IaaS (Infrastructure as a Service)	Virtualized computing resources provided on-demand

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None of the above

47. With reference to the Cloud Seeding, consider the following statements:

1. Cloud seeding creates clouds if there is sufficient moisture present.
2. Cloud seeding is only used to reduce air pollution.

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

48. Consider the following pairs:

Initiative	Description
1. Vishvasya	A sandbox environment for Blockchain startups and researchers to Stack
2. NBFLite	An indigenous, modular platform for developing blockchain-based governance applications.
3. Praamaanik	A solution to verify the authenticity and source of mobile applications using blockchain.

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

49. Consider the following pairs:

Quantum Concept	Description
1. Quantum Advantage	A point where quantum computer outperforms classical supercomputers on certain tasks
2. Quantum Superposition	The ability of a quantum system to exist in multiple states at once
3. Quantum Interference	Process of reinforcing correct answers and cancelling wrong ones using the wave-like nature of qubits

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

50. Cell2Sentence-Scale 27B (C2S-Scale), recently seen in the news, can be best described as:

- A. A quantum computing chip developed for genetic data analysis
- B. A large language model trained to understand gene expression as a language
- C. A supercomputer used for cancer genome sequencing
- D. A cloud-based platform for drug testing and simulation

51. With reference to the 6G technology introduction in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Bharat 6G Mission aims to make India a global co-creator and leader in 6G technologies by the year 2027.
2. 6G technology is expected to be around 1,000 times faster than 5G.
3. The Bharat 6G Mission is implemented by the Department of Space under the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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**52. With reference to Biosimilars, consider the following statements:**

1. Biosimilars and generics are the same type of drugs as both are identical copies of original medicines.
2. Biosimilars are made from living sources such as bacteria or yeast.

**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

### International Relations & Current Affairs

**53. Consider the following military and maritime exercises:**

1. Samudra Shakti
2. Garuda Shakti
3. Mitra Shakti

**How many of the above exercises are conducted between India and Indonesia?**

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

**54. Consider the following statements about the India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC):**

1. IMEC is a multi-modal connectivity initiative launched at the G20 Summit 2020, Riyadh.
2. Its Eastern Corridor connects the Gulf region to Europe.
3. Its signatories include India, US, UAE, Saudi Arabia, France, Germany, Italy, and the EU.

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

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

**55. With reference to Mongolia, consider the following statements:**

1. Other than China, the Gobi Desert lies only within the territory of Mongolia.

2. Mongolia is a member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

3. Nomadic Elephant is a joint military exercise conducted between India and Mongolia.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**56. Consider the following statements:**

1. India has been elected as the Co-Chair of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP) for the 2025-2028 term.

2. In 2011, the ECOSOC forum concluded with the acceptance of the Seoul Declaration on Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM).

**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

**57. With reference to MERCOSUR, consider the following statements:**

1. Chile is not a member of MERCOSUR.

2. India and MERCOSUR signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in 2018.

3. MERCOSUR was established by the Treaty of Asunción.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**58. Regarding the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), consider the following statements:**

1. World Food Day marks the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organisation on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1945.

2. The Theme for 2025 World Food Day: “Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future”,

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emphasises global cooperation to transform agrifood systems.

- India has been a member of the FAO since 1945, while the FAO is the only global body that the European Union has not joined as a member.

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

- Only One
- Only Two
- All Three
- None

**59. Consider the following International Organizations:**

- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Red Cross Society
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- World Trade Organisation
- International Labour Organization (ILO)

**Which of the organisations mentioned above is/are specialised organisations under the United Nations?**

- 1, 2 and 4 only
- 1, 3 and 5 only
- 2 and 4 only
- 2 and 3 only

**60. Consider the following statements regarding India-Germany relations:**

- Germany was India's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest trading partner in 2024–25 and the 9<sup>th</sup> largest foreign direct investor in India as of 2025.
- The Make in India Mittelstand (MIIM) Programme supports German Mittelstand and family-owned businesses to invest in India.
- Germany is a member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), launched in 2015 by India and France.

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

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

**61. Consider the following pairs:**

Country	Wildlife Diplomacy
1. China	Panda Diplomacy
2. Australia	Koala Diplomacy
3. Malaysia	Orangutan Diplomacy

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

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

**62. Consider the following statements about the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime (UNCC):**

- It is the first global criminal justice treaty to enhance cooperation against crimes committed through information and communications technology systems.
- The UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) serves as the secretariat for the Convention.
- India is a signatory to the UNCC and played a leading role in drafting its implementation framework.

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

- Only One
- Only Two
- All Three
- None

**63. Consider the following statements about the Ayni Airbase:**

- It was India's first overseas military base, established after the Farkhor base was shut down.
- Its strategic significance was partly derived from its proximity to Afghanistan's Wakhan Corridor.
- India used this base to conduct combat air missions in support of the Northern Alliance in Afghanistan.

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

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

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**Miscellaneous**

64. With reference to the International Convention Against Doping in Sport, consider the following statements:

1. It is a treaty formulated by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).
2. It is a legally binding international treaty.
3. India has ratified this treaty.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

65. With reference to the Commonwealth Games (CWG), consider the following statements:

1. The Commonwealth Games are the world's 2<sup>nd</sup>-largest multi-sport event after the Olympic Games.
2. The first edition of the Games, then known as the British Empire Games, was held in 1930 in Hamilton, Canada.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

**Answers**

1.	(B)	12.	(C)	23.	(A)	34.	(A)	45.	(C)	56.	(C)
2.	(C)	13.	(B)	24.	(C)	35.	(A)	46.	(C)	57.	(B)
3.	(C)	14.	(A)	25.	(C)	36.	(D)	47.	(D)	58.	(B)
4.	(B)	15.	(C)	26.	(A)	37.	(B)	48.	(A)	59.	(B)
5.	(B)	16.	(A)	27.	(A)	38.	(C)	49.	(C)	60.	(A)
6.	(B)	17.	(C)	28.	(A)	39.	(A)	50.	(B)	61.	(C)
7.	(C)	18.	(B)	29.	(C)	40.	(A)	51.	(A)	62.	(B)
8.	(B)	19.	(B)	30.	(C)	41.	(B)	52.	(B)	63.	(A)
9.	(C)	20.	(C)	31.	(C)	42.	(C)	53.	(B)	64.	(B)
10.	(D)	21.	(C)	32.	(D)	43.	(B)	54.	(A)	65.	(C)
11.	(A)	22.	(A)	33.	(D)	44.	(B)	55.	(C)		

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## Explanation

### History, Art & Culture

1.  
Ans: B

Exp:  
Rani Chennamma

- 💡 **Early Life:** Rani Chennamma was born on **23<sup>rd</sup> October 1778**, in **Kakati village** (Belagavi district, Karnataka) to a **Lingayat family**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
  - ✘ She was trained in **horse riding, sword fighting, and archery** from a young age.
  - ✘ She married **Raja Mallasarja of Kittur** and later became queen after his death in **1816**.
- 💡 **Revolt of Kittur (1824):** After her husband and son's death, she adopted **Shivalingappa** as heir to the Kittur throne.
  - ✘ The **British East India Company** refused to recognize the adoption, attempting to **annex Kittur**, an early instance of what later became the **Doctrine of Lapse**.
  - ✘ Rani Chennamma refused to surrender and led an **armed rebellion** against British officer **John Thackery**, defeating him in the first battle.
  - ✘ However, the British retaliated with a larger force under **Colonel Deacon**, captured the fort, and imprisoned her at **Bailhongal Fort**, where she died in 1829. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.
- 💡 **Legacy:** She is one of **India's earliest freedom fighters**, preceding the **Revolt of 1857 by over three decades**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
  - ✘ Rani Chennamma is revered as a **symbol of courage, justice, and women-led resistance against colonial rule** in Karnataka and beyond.
  - ✘ Her story lives on through **folk songs (Janapada), ballads, and theatre**, along with the annual **Kittur Rani Chennamma Utsav**.

2.  
Ans: C  
Exp:

- 💡 Born on **31<sup>st</sup> October 1875** in Nadiad, Gujarat, Vallabhbhai Patel, a lawyer by profession, was chosen by **Mahatma Gandhi** as his deputy commander to lead the **Kheda Satyagraha in 1918**, marking his entry into public service. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.

- 💡 His leadership during the **Bardoli Satyagraha (1928)** against unjust tax hikes earned him the title "**Sardar**," a recognition of his role as a leader of the masses. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- 💡 Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel played a key role in creating the **All India Services (AIS)** under **Article 312** to ensure administrative unity and efficiency. He called the AIS the "**Steel Frame of India**", crucial for maintaining national integrity in a federal setup. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

### Geography

3.  
Ans: C  
Exp:

**Madagascar's armed forces** have taken control of the government, ousting the **incumbent President** following a **youth (Gen Z) led rebellion over economic crises and governance failures**. It has experienced **frequent military-backed power shifts since 1960**, with the last major unrest in 2009.

- 💡 It is an **island nation** in the **Indian Ocean**, bordered by the **Mozambique Channel** to the west and neighbouring **Comoros, Réunion islands, and Mauritius**.
- 💡 It is the **4<sup>th</sup>-largest island** in the world, it features **lush rainforests, dry deserts, grassy plains, and coastal coral reefs and mangrove forests**.
  - ✘ **Botswana** is a **landlocked country in Southern Africa**, bordered by Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Zambia. It **does not share any maritime boundary with Madagascar** or lie in the Indian Ocean.



💡 Hence, option C is correct.

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4.

Ans: B

Exp:

- 💡 The Northeast Monsoon, also known as the **retreating monsoon**, sets in India from **October to December**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- 💡 By October, in India the **land starts to cool faster than the ocean**. This creates a **high-pressure area over the Indian subcontinent and a low-pressure area over the surrounding seas**. The direction of wind flow reverses and winds blow from land to sea. These are called **northeasterlies**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
  - ✦ Since these winds pass over the **Bay of Bengal before reaching the southeastern coast**, they pick up some moisture.
  - ✦ As they reach Tamil Nadu, south Andhra Pradesh and parts of Sri Lanka, they provide abundant moisture for rainfall activity.
- 💡 The Northeast Monsoon primarily affects southeastern India bringing rainfall, influencing regional temperatures, and It supports **rabi crops** and replenishes reservoirs in the southern peninsula. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.
- 💡 Hence, **option B is correct**.

5.

Ans: B

Exp:

- Iceland is situated on the **Mid-Atlantic Ridge**, a **divergent plate boundary** between the North American and Eurasian plates. Here, **seafloor spreading** and **volcanic activity** can be directly observed on land — a rare global phenomenon.
- Hence, **option B is correct**.

6.

Ans: B

Exp:

- 💡 The **Ombai and Wetar Straits**, stretching along the **northern coast of Timor**, connect the **Pacific Ocean** with the **Indian Ocean**.
- 💡 These **deep-water passages** serve as a vital **migration corridor for cetaceans** such as **blue whales, melon-headed whales, short-finned pilot whales, and pantropical spotted dolphins**.
- 💡 Recognised by the **IUCN's Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force**, the **Ombai-Wetar Strait** is often described as a **"whale and dolphin superhighway"** due to its ecological significance.
- 💡 Hence, **option B is correct**.

## Polity & Governance

7.

Ans: C

Exp:

- 💡 The Finance Commission is **constituted by the President of India** under **Article 280 of the Constitution** every **five years** or earlier.
- 💡 The **Constitution** empowers **Parliament** to establish the **qualifications** for **Finance Commission members**.
  - ✦ Under the **Finance Commission Act, 1951**, the **Chairman** must have **experience in public affairs**. The **four other members** are selected from those with expertise as a **High Court judge, in government finance and accounts, financial administration, or economics**.
- 💡 Its members **hold office** for the period **specified by the President (not specified in the Constitution)** and are **eligible for reappointment**.
- 💡 The Finance Commission **submits its report** to the **President**, who places it before both **Houses of Parliament**.
- 💡 Hence, **option C is correct**.

8.

Ans: B

Exp:

- 💡 According to a recent report by National Health Authority, out of the 31,005 hospitals empanelled under **AB-PMJAY**, **only 45% are private**, therefore they do not constitute the majority. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- 💡 However, these **private hospitals account for 52% of total hospitalisations and receive 66% of the overall treatment expenditure**, reflecting their greater role in service delivery despite being fewer in number. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- 💡 Hence, **option B is correct**.

9.

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- 💡 **Leprosy (Hansen's disease)** is a chronic infectious disease caused by *Mycobacterium leprae*. It affects the skin, nerves, eyes, and respiratory tract, leading to ulcers, deformities, and disability if untreated.
- 💡 It spreads through droplets from the nose and mouth during close contact with untreated individuals.

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India attained national leprosy elimination status (prevalence rate <math><1/10,000</math>) in 2005 and sustained it. As of 2025, PR is 0.57 nationally, and Grade 2 disability has declined to 1.88 per million. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

National Strategic Plan and Roadmap for Leprosy (2023-2027), interrupt transmission and achieve zero indigenous cases by 2030.

Nikusth 2.0 Portal is a digitized system for patient tracking and district monitoring. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Hence, option C is correct.

10.

Ans: D

Exp:

Digital Public Platforms (DPPs):

DPPs are open, interoperable digital infrastructure solutions providing key public services, including:

- ✦ Digital identity (e.g., Aadhaar)
- ✦ Digital payments (e.g., UPI)
- ✦ Data exchange frameworks (e.g., DigiLocker, Account Aggregator).

Core Features:

- ✦ **Open Architecture:** Encourages innovation by both private and public players.
- ✦ **Interoperability:** Supports seamless integration across sectors.
- ✦ **Scalability:** Manages large user volumes efficiently and cost-effectively

India's Global Positioning in DPPs: India is recognised as a global leader in DPP innovation and implementation, with systems like UPI being studied or adopted by countries including France, Singapore, and Sri Lanka etc.

- ✦ A 1% increase in UPI transaction volume correlates with a 0.03% rise in GDP growth.

Hence, option D is correct.

11.

Ans: A

Exp:

The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 (Article 243T) provides for the reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in every Municipality in proportion to their population in that municipal area. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

If a municipality is dissolved before the expiry of its five-year term, the elections must be completed within six months, not one year, as per Article 243U of the Constitution. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

12.

Ans: C

Exp:

Bhashini is implemented by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) under the National Language Translation Mission (NLTM). It aims to bridge the language divide in India by enabling access to digital services and information in native languages. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Bhashini uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) for real-time translation, speech recognition, and natural language understanding.

- ✦ It currently supports 22 Scheduled Languages and several tribal languages, promoting linguistic inclusivity in governance, education, and digital platforms. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Hence option C is correct.

13.

Ans: B

Explanation:

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

The SNAP, formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

- ✦ It is the largest US food aid program, offering reloadable debit cards for grocery purchases in supermarkets and online platforms. Over 40 million people depend on SNAP. Hence, option (b) is correct.

Recently, millions of Americans are expected to lose SNAP benefits as the U.S. government faces funding shortages and policy shifts, leading to the halting of certain aid measures.

14.

Ans: A

Exp:

Internal Party Democracy

About: It refers to the organization, structure, and functioning of political parties in alignment with democratic values, directly influencing how candidates are chosen, leaders are elected, policies are formulated, and finances are managed.

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💡 **Legal and Institutional Framework:**

- ✦ **Representation of the People Act, 1951: Section 29A** mandates that all political parties must commit to the principles of **secularism, socialism, and democracy**—with “democracy” understood to imply **internal democracy**, though it remains undefined. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- ✦ **Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968:** The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** settles disputes between rival party factions during a split, usually giving the **party symbol** to the group with majority support from **elected legislators and office-bearers**, rather than to heirs of political dynasties.
- ✦ **255<sup>th</sup> Law Commission Report:** It stresses **internal democracy** through rules on **party structure, elections, and candidate selection**, empowering the ECI to **de-register parties for non-compliance**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- ✦ **National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (NCRWC):** It called for a **comprehensive law** to regulate the **registration and functioning of political parties and alliances** in India, rather than amending the Constitution to make it a Fundamental Right. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

15.

Ans: C

Exp:

PM-ABHIM

- 💡 The PM-ABHIM is one of the **largest nationwide health initiatives**, aims to build a resilient, accessible, and self-reliant public health system capable of responding effectively to current and future health emergencies.
- 💡 The mission **advances universal health coverage goals and aligns with SDG-3 targets** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
  - ✦ It aims to bridge the service delivery gaps between urban and rural areas.
  - ✦ It operates under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) component, and focuses on strengthening health infrastructure at all levels- from primary and secondary to tertiary - during FY 2021–22 to FY 2025–26. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

16.

Ans: A

Exp:

- 💡 In *Naz Foundation v. NCT of Delhi (2009)* and later reaffirmed in *Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India (2018)*, the SC held that constitutional morality must prevail over societal prejudice and **decriminalised consensual same-sex relations**. **Hence, pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- 💡 In *Indian Young Lawyers Association v. State of Kerala (Sabarimala, 2018)*, the SC **struck down the ban on the entry of women into the Sabarimala Temple**, holding that gender equality and liberty outweigh discriminatory religious customs. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- 💡 In *Joseph Shine v. Union of India (2018)*, the Court **decriminalised adultery** by striking down **Section 497 of the IPC**, reaffirming gender equality and recognising women’s autonomy within marriage. **Hence, pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

### Social Issues

17.

Ans: C

Exp:

Six-Pocket Syndrome

- 💡 **About:** The Six-Pocket Syndrome, a term from **China’s one-child policy era (1979-2015)**, describes how **one child was doted on by six adults** (two parents and four grandparents) who poured all their affection and resources into them. **Hence, statement I is correct.**
  - ✦ This overindulgence fostered **entitlement and a sense that every wish deserves to be fulfilled**, leaving little room for discipline, patience, or empathy.
- 💡 **Indian Context:** In India, the Six-Pocket Syndrome is common in **urban middle-class families**, where working parents and indulgent grandparents shower children with attention, gifts, and leniency.
  - ✦ This overcompensation fosters a belief in **the right to demand and be rewarded instantly**, without understanding effort, boundaries, or consequences.
- 💡 **Sociological Perspective:** Reflects the shift from a **responsibility-based society** (where children contribute and adapt) to a **right-based society** (where

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children feel entitled to comfort and attention). Hence, statement II is not correct.

- Therefore, option C is correct because Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.

18.

Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)** complements **income-based poverty measures** (like the **USD 3.00/day** benchmark) by offering a detailed view of **non-monetary deprivations** in **health, education, and standard of living**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The three core **dimensions—Health, Education, and Standard of Living**—are balanced, with each receiving an equal **weight** of **1/3** of the total. No single **dimension** has a higher **weight**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- A **person** or **household** is identified as **multidimensionally poor** if their **deprivation score** is **one third (33.3%)** or higher. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

19.

Ans: B

Exp:

The PM-SHRI Scheme

- About:** The **PM-SHRI Scheme**, launched in 2022, is a **centrally sponsored initiative**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
  - It aimed at upgrading over **14,500 existing schools** to serve as model institutions showcasing the implementation of the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
  - The scheme runs from **2022–23 to 2026–27**, after which the responsibility for maintenance lies with the respective states and UTs.
- Key Features of PM-SHRI Schools:**
  - Modern, well-equipped **Smart Classrooms, Computer Labs, Integrated Science Labs, and Atal Tinkering Labs**.
  - Focus on **competency-based learning** and **real-life application** of knowledge.
  - Promotion of **green initiatives** such as water conservation, solar energy use, and waste recycling.
  - Experiential, inquiry-driven, and learner-centred pedagogy. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

Funding Pattern:

- General States/UTs with legislature:** 60:40 (Centre: State/UT)
- Northeastern and Himalayan States, J&K:** 90:10
- UTs without legislature:** 100% Central funding

20.

Ans: C

Exp:

**17 foreign universities**, mainly from the **UK and Australia**, have received approval to set up campuses in **India** under **UGC's 2023 regulations**. This move aligns with the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** and comes amid growing demand for quality higher education in India. Hence, **statement I is correct**.

**India Advancing Global Partnership in Higher Education**

- NEP 2020 Vision:** Guided by the principles of **Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability, and Accountability**, **NEP 2020** aims to establish India as a **global education hub**.
  - It allows the **top 100 global universities to operate in India**, fostering **international collaboration, student and faculty mobility**, and **academic credit transfer** to elevate the entire education ecosystem to **global standards**.
- UGC's Regulations 2023:** To operationalise the **NEP 2020's vision**, **UGC's (Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India) Regulations 2023** were enacted, permitting **top-ranked Foreign Higher Educational Institutions (FHEIs)** to establish campuses in **India**. Hence, **statement II is correct**.
  - Eligible FHEIs must be ranked within the **top 500 QS World University rankings**. Hence, **statement III is not correct**.
- Hence, **option C is correct** because **only one of the Statements II and III is correct** and that explains **Statement I**.

## Agriculture & Allies Sector

21.

Ans: C

Exp:

- Minimum Support Price (MSP)** is the price at which the **government procures crops directly from farmers**, offering them assured income and protection from market volatility.

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- ⚡ MSPs are recommended by the **Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)** — an attached office under the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**, established in **1965**.
- ⚡ The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)**, chaired by the **Prime Minister**, gives the final approval.
- ⚡ Hence, option C is correct.

## Environment & Ecology

22.

Ans: A

Exp:

- ⚡ Sustainable Aquaculture in Mangrove Ecosystems (SAIME) model is a community-based initiative in the Sundarbans, West Bengal, that aims to balance **mangrove conservation** with aquaculture-based livelihoods.
- ⚡ Under this model, **5–30% of aquaculture pond areas** are kept under **mangrove cover**, protecting the ecosystem while supporting fish and shrimp farming. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- ⚡ Farmers use **mangrove litter as natural fodder** for the **Black Tiger Shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*)**, a high-value species traditionally farmed in the region, thereby **reducing dependence on chemical inputs**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- ⚡ The approach promotes **climate-adaptive aquaculture**, helping farmers increase profits and strengthen **coastal resilience** against sea-level rise and erosion. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.
- ⚡ Hence, option A is correct.

23.

Ans: A

Exp:

- ⚡ **Green crackers** are specially designed to **reduce emissions by at least 30% in particulate matter or 20% PM reduction along with 10% reduction in gaseous emissions (SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>) compared to traditional fireworks**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- ⚡ They are allowed only if **certified by the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) and the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO)**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

- ⚡ However, barium salts are banned, but other **materials like sulphur are reduced, not fully eliminated**. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.
- ⚡ Hence, option A is correct.

24.

Ans: C

Exp:

- ⚡ Denmark launched **Green Fuels Alliance India (GFAI)** to strengthen cooperation on **sustainable energy solutions** and advance the shared goal of **carbon neutrality**, focusing on development of **green fuels like green hydrogen**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- ⚡ **Global Biofuels Alliance** was launched in **2023** at the **G20 Summit in New Delhi** by **India** and leaders from the **USA, Brazil, Italy, Argentina, Singapore, Bangladesh, Mauritius, and the UAE** to promote **sustainable biofuels**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

25.

Ans: C

Exp:

- ⚡ **Neelakurinji** is a shrub native to the **shola forests of the Western Ghats**. It is found in abundance in the **Kodaikanal region of Tamil Nadu**.
- ⚡ The plant blooms once every **12 years** and is classified as **Vulnerable** on the **IUCN Red List**. The **Nilgiris ("Blue Mountains")** get their name from its **blue flowers**.
- ⚡ In local mythology, the **Kurinji flower is associated with Lord Muruga**. Among the **Muthuvas and Todas tribes**, Kurinji symbolizes **love and passion**.
- ⚡ Hence, option C is correct.

26.

Ans: A

Exp:

Indian Wolf:

- ⚡ The **Indian wolf (*Canis lupus pallipes*)**, currently found across India and Pakistan, is set to be recognised as a **new and distinct species** by the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**.
- ⚡ The Indian wolf was earlier grouped under the **umbrella genus of the grey wolf (*Canis lupus*)**, but genetic studies reveal that the Indian wolf's lineage diverged, making it the most ancient extant lineage among wolves globally.
- ⚡ Unlike forest-dwelling species, Indian wolves are adapted to arid and semi-arid open habitats such as

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grasslands and scrublands, often misclassified as “wastelands” in land use policy.

💡 **Conservation Status of Indian Wolf:**

- ✦ IUCN Red List: **Vulnerable (likely to be).**
- ✦ **Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**

💡 Hence, option A is correct.

27.

Ans: A

Exp:

**Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary:**

- 💡 The sanctuary is located in the northeastern part of **Raipur district, Chhattisgarh**, and is named after the Bar and Nawapara forest villages at its centre.
- 💡 It features undulating terrain with numerous low and high hillocks, forming an ideal natural landscape for diverse wildlife.
- 💡 Several tributaries of the Mahanadi River flow through the sanctuary. The **Balamdehi River** forms its western boundary, while the Jonk River marks its northeastern edge.
- 💡 The sanctuary has **well-stocked teak, sal**, and mixed forests, providing a rich habitat for various species.
- 💡 Commonly sighted animals include **Indian bison (Gaur), Cheetal**, Sambhar, Neelgai, and Wild boar.
- 💡 Hence, option A is correct.

28.

Ans: (a)

Exp:

**Food and Agriculture Organization:**

- 💡 FAO is a specialised agency of the **United Nations** that leads international efforts to defeat hunger.
- 💡 World Food Day is celebrated every year around the world on 16th October. The day is celebrated to mark the anniversary of the founding of the FAO in 1945.
- 💡 The **Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)** is a joint body established by the **FAO and the World Health Organization (WHO)** in 1963. It sets international food standards, guidelines, and codes of practice. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- 💡 The FAO's global headquarters is located in **Rome, Italy**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- 💡 The **World Food Prize** was conceived by **Dr. Norman E. Borlaug**, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, and established in 1986 with support from the General Foods Fund. It is not an initiative of the FAO. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct.**

- ✦ The prize honors individuals who have advanced human development by improving the quality, quantity, or availability of food worldwide.

29.

Ans: C

Exp:

- 💡 The International Solar Alliance (ISA) was **jointly launched by India and France during the UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris in 2015**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- 💡 It is **the first international intergovernmental organization headquartered in India**, with its Secretariat located in Gurugram, Haryana, symbolizing India's leadership in global solar diplomacy. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- ✦ It currently has **125 Member and Signatory Countries**, working together to expand access to clean, affordable, and reliable solar energy worldwide.
- ✦ ISA aims to **enhance global energy access and security** by promoting **solar power** as a key driver of the world's transition to a sustainable energy future.

30.

Ans: C

Exp:

**International Snow Leopard Day**

India marked **International Snow Leopard Day** with the **'#23for23' campaign** to raise awareness about **snow leopard conservation**.

- 💡 In 2024, the **United Nations** designated **23<sup>rd</sup> October as International Snow Leopard Day** to promote cooperation for snow leopard conservation and ecosystem protection.
- 💡 **#23for23:** The campaign, initiated by the **Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP)** and the **Snow Leopard Trust worldwide**, to dedicate 23 minutes of physical activity for honouring the snow leopard. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- 💡 **Snow Leopard:** The **snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*)**, often called the **'ghost of the mountains'**, is an elusive big cat found across high mountain regions of Asia, including India, Nepal, Bhutan, China, and several Central Asian countries.

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- ✦ It is **ecologically significant** and listed under **Appendix I of CITES, and Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals.**
- ✦ It is classified as **Vulnerable by IUCN (2017)**, the species faces major threats from **habitat loss, prey depletion, poaching, illegal trade, and climate change.** Hence, **statement II is not correct.**

💡 Therefore, **option C is correct because Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.**

## Economy

31.

Ans: C

Exp:

- 💡 The World Trade Organization (WTO), established in 1995, is a global body that sets and implements rules for international trade. It promotes free trade, settles disputes, and helps governments and producers manage international trade.
- 💡 The **national treatment principle** is a core WTO principle that prohibits a country from discriminating against imported goods, services, and intellectual property in favor of domestic ones once they have entered the market. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- 💡 The WTO's Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (ASCM) prohibits subsidies that are contingent on the use of domestic goods over imported ones, known as local content subsidies. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - ✦ These are one of two categories of "prohibited subsidies" because they are seen as directly interfering with trade.
- 💡 Hence, **option C is correct.**

32.

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- 💡 **Poverty:** According to the World Bank, poverty is "pronounced deprivation in well-being." The poor are those who do not have sufficient income or consumption to rise above an adequate minimum threshold.
- 💡 The World Bank raised the International Poverty Line from USD 2.15/day (2017 Purchasing power parity (PPP)) to **USD 3.00/day (2021 PPP).** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**

## Poverty Estimation in India:

- 💡 **Post-Independence:** The Planning Commission (1962) initiated an official poverty assessment.
- 💡 Later committees like **Alagh Committee (1979)** and **Lakdawala Committee (1993)** refined the methodology, focusing on **consumption expenditure and calorie norms respectively.** Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- 💡 **Tendulkar Committee (2009):** Shifted from calorie-based norms, recommended a uniform all-India Poverty Line Basket (PLB), and adopted **Mixed Reference Period (MRP)** consumption data.
- 💡 It estimated the 2011–12 poverty line at Rs 816 (rural) and Rs 1,000 (urban) per capita per month.
- 💡 **Rangarajan Committee (2014):** Formed after criticism of the Tendulkar method, it reverted to separate rural and urban PLBs, estimating Rs 972 (rural) and Rs 1,407 (urban) per capita per month.
- 💡 **National Multidimensional Poverty Index (NMPI):** NITI Aayog uses National Family Health Survey (NFHS) to measure the NMPI. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

33.

Ans: (d)

Exp:

- 💡 **Investment Facilitation for Development (IFD) Agreement** is a plurilateral initiative **under the WTO** aimed at simplifying bureaucratic procedures, improving transparency, and enhancing cooperation to attract global Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- 💡 Key Features:
  - ✦ **Plurilateral Agreement:** Applies only to members that accept it and will be part of Annex 4 of the 1994 Marrakesh Agreement.
  - ✦ **Most-Favoured-Nation (MFN) Treatment:** Benefits or concessions granted to one signatory's investors must be extended to all others.
  - ✦ **Open for Accession:** Any WTO member can join voluntarily.
- 💡 **Participation:** Supported by 127 WTO members, including 90 developing and 27 LDCs, reflecting strong backing from the Global South.
- 💡 **India's Stand:** India has opposed the move, calling it a non-mandated, non-multilateral issue, warning it undermines the consensus-based, member-driven nature of the WTO. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

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34.

Ans: A

Exp:

- Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) is a **social security and retirement savings scheme** for salaried employees in India. It is administered by the **Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)** under the **Ministry of Labour and Employment**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- EPF coverage applies to **establishments employing 20 or more persons**, not all employees. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- Employers and employees **both contribute around 12% of wages** in contribution accounts. **Funds earn interest** declared annually by the Government of India. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

35.

Ans: A

Exp:

- For a **Maharatna CPSE**, it is mandatory to already possess **Navratna status**, be **listed on an Indian stock exchange**, and maintain prescribed public shareholding as per SEBI norms. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- To be eligible for Navratna status, a CPSE must have earned profits for the **last Five consecutive years and have a positive net worth**. However, the criterion of "profit in the last three years with positive net worth" applies to Miniratna CPSEs, not Navratna ones. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- Hence, **option A is correct**.

36.

Ans: D

Exp:

- Indi Lime** – from **Vijayapura district**, Karnataka. Hence, **pair 1 is correctly matched**.
- Puliyankudi Lime (Kadayam variety)** – from **Tenkasi district, Tamil Nadu**. It received its GI tag in April 2025, recognizing its distinct nutritional and regional attributes. Hence, **pair 2 is correctly matched**.
- Bahadoli Jamun** is from **Maharashtra**, specifically from the village of Bahadoli in the **Palghar district**. Hence, **pair 3 is correctly matched**.
- Hence, **option D is correct**.

37.

Ans: B

Exp:

**India's Foreign Exchange Reserve**

- Foreign Currency Assets (FCA)** are held in currencies such as the US dollar, euro, pound sterling, and Japanese yen.
- The reserves of gold maintained by the Reserve Bank of India.
- The Reserve Bank's financial holdings with the International Monetary Fund.
- Special Drawing Rights (SDR)**, a reserve asset created by the IMF to enhance the reserve assets of its member countries, earning interest.
- Reserve Tranche Position (RTP)**: The difference between a member's IMF quota and the IMF's holdings of the member's currency, which can be withdrawn without stringent conditions.
- Total Reserves: India's foreign exchange reserves stand at USD 702.28 billion as of October 2025.**
- Composition of Reserves:
  - Foreign Currency Assets (FCA): USD 570.411 billion.
  - Gold Reserves: USD 108.546 billion
  - Special Drawing Rights (SDRs): USD 18.722 billion.
  - Reserve Position with IMF: USD 4.602 billion

**Bank Recapitalisation Bonds**

- Bank Recapitalisation Bonds** are domestic financial instruments issued by the Government of India to infuse capital into public sector banks (PSBs).
  - These bonds are **not part of Foreign Reserve Assets**.
- Hence, **option B is correct**.

38.

Ans: C

Exp:

- The IIPDF Scheme is a central sector scheme that is implemented by the **Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) under the Ministry of Finance**, Government of India. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The scheme provides funding support to project sponsoring authorities (PSAs) for PPP projects, specifically for **project development costs including transaction advisers and consultants**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- Hence, **option C is correct**.

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39.

Ans: A

Exp:

- 💡 **Small Finance Banks (SFBs)** are private institutions created to enhance **financial inclusion** in India. They offer **basic banking facilities**, including deposits and credit, to **unserved and underserved groups** like small farmers, micro industries, and informal sector enterprises.
- 💡 SFBs are required to allocate **75% of their Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) to Priority Sector Lending (PSL)**, and ensure that **at least 50% of loans** are of **value up to Rs 25 lakh**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- 💡 SFBs operate as **full-fledged banks** (unlike Payments Banks) and adhere to the **RBI's prudential norms**, including **Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)** and **Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)** requirements. They are **regulated under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949** and **supervised by the RBI**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- 💡 SFBs can operate **anywhere** but must open **25% of their branches** in **unbanked rural areas**. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

## Defence & Security

40.

Ans: A

Exp:

- 💡 Maoism is a form of communism developed by **Mao Tse Tung**. It seeks to capture state power through **armed insurgency, mass mobilization, and strategic alliances**, supported by propaganda and misinformation against state institutions. Hence, **statement I is correct**.
- 💡 The largest and the most violent Maoist formation in India is the **Communist Party of India (Maoist)** formed in 2004. The CPI (Maoist) and its front organizations were banned under the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967**. Hence, **statement II is correct**.
- 💡 Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I.
- 💡 Hence, **option A is correct**.

41.

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

There are two main types of missiles based on their flight characteristics and range: **cruise missiles and ballistic missiles**.

### Trajectory:

- ✦ Cruise missiles follow a comparatively straight and controlled path, maintaining precision throughout their flight.
- ✦ In contrast, ballistic missiles travel in a projectile path, where gravity, air resistance, and the Coriolis force determine their curved trajectory. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

### Flight Path:

- ✦ A cruise missile remains within the Earth's atmosphere for its entire journey, flying at low altitudes to avoid radar detection.
- ✦ Ballistic missiles, however, exit the Earth's atmosphere after launch and re-enter it during the terminal phase of flight.

### Range and Warhead:

- ✦ Cruise missiles generally possess a shorter operational range, suitable for tactical missions and precision strikes.
- ✦ Ballistic missiles, on the other hand, are designed for long-range strategic targets, capable of traveling thousands of kilometers.
- ✦ Both missiles are capable of carrying **nuclear as well as conventional warheads**. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.

### Indian Examples:

- ✦ India's cruise missiles include BrahMos, Nirbhay, and LRLACM, while its ballistic missile arsenal features Prithvi I & II, the Agni series, Dhanush, Shaurya, K-15 (Sagarika), and K-4 (submarine-launched). Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.

## Science & Tech

42.

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

### Quantum Technology

- 💡 Quantum Technology exploits the principles of quantum mechanics to enable **advanced computing, communication**, and sensing that classical technologies cannot achieve efficiently.
- 💡 It is based on following phenomena:
- 💡 **Superposition:** Quantum particles (like electrons or photons) can exist in multiple states simultaneously until measured. This allows quantum computers to process large amounts of information in parallel.

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💡 **Entanglement:** Two or more particles can become strongly correlated, so the state of one instantaneously affects the other, even across distances. This principle underlies secure quantum communication and teleportation. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

💡 **Quantum Tunneling & Coherence:** Particles can pass through energy barriers and maintain a delicate quantum state, enabling precise computation and sensing.

#### True Random Numbers (TRNs):

💡 TRNs are sequences of numbers generated by measuring the inherently unpredictable behavior of quantum particles,

💡 Essential for encryption, cryptography, and high-security communication as they provide truly unpredictable numbers. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

💡 **Hence, option C is correct.**

43.

Ans: B

Exp:

💡 **GPS Spoofing** is a **cyberattack** in which **fake or counterfeit GPS signals** are sent to receivers, causing them to compute **incorrect position, navigation, or time information.**

💡 Attackers use **ground-based transmitters** to broadcast **strong counterfeit GPS signals** that override genuine satellite signals.

✦ The GPS receiver locks onto these fake signals, producing **incorrect location or time readings.**

💡 It differs from jamming, which blocks or disrupts signals, as spoofing **feeds false data** to receivers.

💡 **Hence, option B is correct.**

44.

Ans: B

Exp:

💡 The Moon's atmosphere is **extremely thin** and classified as an exosphere, where gas atoms and molecules **rarely collide.** **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

✦ Its surface forms the **lower boundary** of this exosphere.

✦ The lunar exosphere contains gases such as **helium, argon, and neon**, with traces from radioactive decay, solar wind, and meteoroid impacts.

💡 India's **Chandrayaan-2 lunar orbiter** has made a path-breaking scientific observation - for the **first time ever**,

it has detected the effects of the **Sun's Coronal Mass Ejection (CME)** on the **Moon's exosphere.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

✦ The findings were obtained using **CHACE-2 (Chandra's Atmospheric Composition Explorer-2)**, one of the principal scientific instruments onboard the orbiter.

💡 A **Coronal Mass Ejection (CME)** is a massive, violent expulsion of plasma (**a superheated gas of protons and electrons**) and magnetic fields from the Sun's outer atmosphere, the corona, that erupts outward into the solar system.

✦ It is one of the largest forms of solar activity and a major driver of space weather. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

45.

Ans: C

Exp:

Researchers have developed an **atomic stenciling** technique to precisely **apply polymer patches** onto microscopic **gold nanoparticles**, allowing unprecedented **control over their structure.** **Hence, statement I is correct.**

💡 **Process:** The process has **two key steps:**

✦ **Atomic Stenciling (The Masking):** The researchers use **iodide atoms** as an "atomic stencil" or mask. These atoms are engineered to selectively bond and stick only to specific, flat crystal faces of the gold nanoparticle. **Hence, statement II is not correct.**

✦ **Polymer Painting (The Patching):** A polymer solution is then introduced. The polymer material only bonds to the unmasked, exposed gold surfaces, forming a precise patch exactly where intended.

📎 The **patches** so formed are so **uniform** that the **nanoparticles** could spontaneously **self-assemble** into highly ordered **3D crystals (superlattices)**, representing a major milestone in **nanomaterials science** that was previously largely theoretical.

💡 **Benefits:** The method allows for **atomic-level control** over the **patch's size, shape, and location**, enabling the creation of over **20 distinct types of patterned nanoparticles** (e.g., **corner patches, face patches, web designs**).

💡 **Therefore, option C is correct because Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.**

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46.

Ans: C

Exp:

**Cloud Computing**

💡 **Definition:** Cloud computing is a model for delivering **information technology services** where computing

💡 **Cloud Computing Models:**

Model	Definition	Example	Remarks
<b>SaaS (Software as a Service)</b>	Software delivered over the Internet; no installation or maintenance required.	Google Docs, Hotmail, Microsoft Office 365	Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.
<b>PaaS (Platform as a Service)</b>	Platform for developers to build, deploy, and manage apps without managing underlying hardware or OS.	Google App Engine	Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.
<b>IaaS (Infrastructure as a Service)</b>	Virtualized computing resources (servers, storage, networking) provided on-demand.	Amazon Web Services, Microsoft Azure	Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.
<b>XaaS (Anything/Everything as a Service)</b>	Comprehensive model combining multiple cloud services, including software, platforms, and infrastructure.	Cloud service bundles from major providers	
<b>FaaS (Function as a Service)</b>	Event-driven serverless computing; runs code only when triggered, no server management required.	Google Cloud Functions	

resources such as storage, processing power, databases, and applications are provided **over the Internet** instead of being hosted on local servers.

✦ Users can access these resources **on-demand**, without owning or managing the physical infrastructure.

47.

Ans: (d)

Exp:

**Cloud Seeding:**

💡 **Cloud seeding**, a weather modification technique, enhances precipitation by dispersing chemicals like silver iodide, potassium iodide, or dry ice into clouds, which serve as nuclei for water droplet formation, leading to rainfall.

💡 Cloud seeding cannot create clouds, but works only when there are naturally formed clouds with sufficient moisture. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

💡 **Applications of the Technique:**

- ✦ Cloud seeding is also used to enhance winter snowfall and increase mountain snowpack.
- ✦ Cloud seeding can also be done to prevent hailstorms, dissipate fog, induce rainfall in drought-prone regions, or reduce air pollution. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

48.

Ans: A

Exp:

💡 National Blockchain Framework (NBF) is India's **indigenous platform** to boost **blockchain-based public services**, providing a **unified architecture** for **secure, transparent, and scalable solutions** across **government sectors**.

💡 NBF's core components include **Vishvasya Blockchain Stack, NBFLite, Praamaanik, and the National Blockchain Portal**.

- ✦ **Vishvasya Blockchain Stack:** It is an **indigenous, modular platform** providing the **technical foundation** for developing and deploying **blockchain-based governance applications**. **Hence, pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- ✦ **NBFLite:** A **sandbox version** of the **blockchain stack** for **startups, academia, and researchers** to **prototype applications** in a **controlled environment**. **Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**

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- ✦ **Praamaanik:** An innovative solution that uses **blockchain** to verify the **authenticity** and **source of mobile applications**, protecting users from **fraud**. Hence, **pair 3 is correctly matched**.

💡 Hence, option A is correct.

49.

Ans: C

Exp:

💡 **Quantum Advantage** marks the stage where quantum processors outperform classical ones for specific problems. Google's quantum processor, "Willow," has achieved the **first-ever verifiable quantum advantage**. Hence, **pair 1 is correctly matched**.

💡 **Quantum Superposition** allows qubits to exist in multiple states (0 and 1) simultaneously, enabling exponential processing power. Hence, **pair 2 is correctly matched**.

💡 **Quantum Interference** uses the wave nature of qubits to amplify correct outcomes and cancel out wrong ones in quantum algorithms. Hence, **pair 3 is correctly matched**.

💡 Hence, option C is correct.

50.

Ans: B

Exp:

💡 **Cell2Sentence-Scale 27B (C2S-Scale)** is a large language model (LLM) built on Google's Gemma-2 architecture, trained to understand **gene expression** as a language.

💡 With **27 billion parameters**, the model can capture subtle relationships among **genes, cells, and tissues**, reflecting AI "**scaling laws**"—where larger models gain **emergent abilities** that smaller models lack.

💡 It translates **single-cell RNA sequencing (scRNA-seq) data** and interprets biological functions as '**cell sentences**', learning patterns from **millions of cells** to understand **cellular functions**.

💡 Hence, option B is correct.

51.

Ans: A

Exp:

💡 **Bharat 6G Mission:** Aims to make India a **global co-creator and leader** in 6G technologies by **2030**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.

- ✦ Focuses on **indigenous innovation, capacity building, and skills development**.

- ✦ Emphasizes **sustainability, security, and inclusivity** in telecom development.

- ✦ Seeks to ensure that **6G innovation originates in India** and benefits both national and global communities.

- ✦ The mission is being implemented by the **Department of Telecom under the Ministry of Communications**. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.

💡 **6G (Sixth-Generation)**

- ✦ It is the successor to 5G cellular technology. 6G will use higher radio frequencies to deliver data with near-zero delay, enabling speeds up to **1,000 times faster than 5G**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

- ✦ The 6G Technology has been named 'International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) 2030' by International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the specialised agency for Information and Communication Technologies of the United Nations.

- ✦ 6G will power real-time applications like remote surgery, smart robotics, and immersive virtual experiences, while AI integration will make networks smarter, faster, and more efficient.

52.

Ans: (b)

Exp:

**Biosimilar**

- 💡 A biosimilar is a **biologic medication** that is highly similar to an already approved **biologic**, known as the reference product.

- 💡 A **biosimilar is not a generic drug**; unlike generics, which are simple chemical copies, biosimilars are complex proteins made from living cells, highly similar but not identical to the original biologic. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.

- 💡 Both biosimilars and their reference biologics are made from living sources such as **cells, tissues, microorganisms (bacteria or yeast)**, or combinations of natural materials like proteins and sugars. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

- 💡 Biosimilars are typically available at a lower cost than the original biologics, improving patient access to affordable treatments.

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## International Relations & Current Affairs

53.

Ans: B

Exp:

### Exercise Samudra Shakti :

- ✦ The Indian Navy is hosting the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of Indo-Indonesian bilateral maritime exercise, “Samudra Shakti-2025,” at Visakhapatnam.
- ✦ Exercise Samudra Shakti was initiated in 2018 as a bilateral naval exercise between India and Indonesia under India’s Act East Policy.
- ✦ The exercise focuses on complex maritime operations including Military Interdiction Operations (MIO), Cross Deck Landings, and Air Defence drills.
- ✦ It also involves Practice Weapon Firings, Replenishment Approaches, and Tactical Manoeuvres, enhancing operational interoperability between the two navies.

### Other Military Exercises between India and Indonesia:

- ✦ **Garuda Shakti:** Conducted between the Armies of both nations, focusing on counter-terrorism and jungle warfare training.
- ✦ **IND-INDO CORPAT:** A coordinated naval patrol to ensure security and surveillance in the Andaman Sea and the Malacca Strait.

✦ **Exercise Mitra Shakti** is an annual, 14-day bilateral military exercise between the Indian and Sri Lankan armies focused on counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations.

✦ Hence, option B is correct.

54.

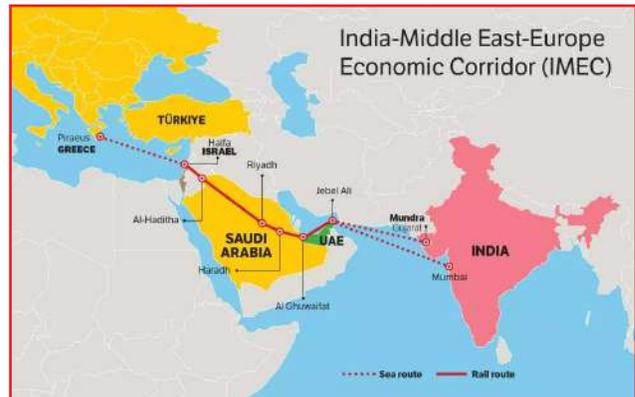
Ans: A

Exp:

### India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC):

- ✦ **About:** IMEC is a strategic multi-modal connectivity initiative launched through a MoU at the G20 Summit 2023, New Delhi. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- ✦ It has two corridor segments **Eastern Corridor** (connects India to the Gulf region) and **Northern Corridor** (connects the Gulf region to Europe). Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- ✦ IMEC signatories include India, US, Saudi Arabia, UAE, France, Germany, Italy, and the EU. It is part of the G7’s Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII, 2021). Hence, statement 3 is correct.

- ✦ The IMEC emerged in 2023 amid favourable geopolitics, supported by the Abraham Accords and improving India-UAE, Saudi Arabia, and US ties. It aims to link Israel’s Haifa port with Jordanian railways and Gulf ports.



55.

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

### Mongolia

✦ **Location:** Mongolia is a vast, landlocked country in Asia, situated between Russia to the north and China to the south.

✦ **Climate:** It is one of the driest nations in the world, receiving only around 4 inches of rainfall annually.

✦ **Terrain:** Southern Mongolia is dominated by the Gobi Desert, a unique cold desert that extends partly into China. Apart from China, the Gobi lies exclusively within Mongolia. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

✦ **Identity:** Often referred to as the “Land of the Eternal Blue Sky” for its clear weather and the “Land of the Horse” for its equestrian heritage.



### Modern Relations with India

✦ **Strategic Ties:** India and Mongolia share a strong cultural and diplomatic relationship rooted in Buddhist heritage and strategic cooperation.

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- 💡 **Military Cooperation:** The two nations conduct the annual joint military exercise 'Nomadic Elephant', aimed at enhancing interoperability and counter-insurgency capabilities. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- 💡 **Multilateral Engagement:** While Mongolia is an observer in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), it actively participates in regional dialogues and partnerships. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

56.

**Answer - C****Explanation**

- 💡 India has been elected as the **Co-Chair of the [United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific \(UN-GGIM-AP\)](#)** for the **2025-2028 term**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - ✦ Geospatial data is **time-based data** that is related to a specific location on the Earth's surface. It can provide insights into relationships between variables and reveal patterns and trends.
- 💡 The Co-Chair election reflects India's rising influence in **geospatial innovation, capacity building, and regional cooperation across Asia-Pacific nations**.
- 💡 India will focus on **secure digital transformation, good governance, and data-driven decision-making** under the **UN-GGIM Strategic Framework**.
- 💡 **About UN-GGIM:** The UN-GGIM aims at playing a leading role in setting the agenda for the development of global geospatial information and to promote its use to address key global challenges.
  - ✦ It works towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to keep the promise to leave no one behind.
  - ✦ In 2009, the United Nations Statistics Division, convened in New York, an informal consultative meeting with geospatial information experts from different regions of the world.
  - ✦ In 2010, the United Nations Secretariat was requested to initiate discussion and prepare a report for the approval of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on global coordination of geospatial information management, including the consideration of the possible creation of a United Nations Forum on GGIM.
  - ✦ In 2011, the ECOSOC forum concluded with the acceptance of the Seoul Declaration on Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- 💡 **Hence, option C is correct.**

57.

**Ans: (b)****Explanation:****MERCOSUR**

- 💡 MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market) is a regional trading bloc in Latin America, initially established by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, and subsequently joined by Venezuela and Bolivia. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- 💡 It was established in **1991** under the **Treaty of Asuncion** with the goal of promoting free movement of goods, services, capital, and people among member states. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- 💡 The bloc's **headquarters** are in **Montevideo, Uruguay**, and its official languages are Portuguese and Spanish.
- 💡 **India - MERCOSUR PTA:** India signed a Framework Agreement in 2003 to facilitate trade negotiations through reciprocal tariff preferences, followed by a PTA in 2004, which was implemented in 2009 in accordance with World Trade Organization (WTO). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- 💡 **Hence, option B is correct.**

58.

**Ans: B****Exp:****Food and Agriculture Organisation:**

- 💡 World Food Day marks the founding of the **UN's FAO on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1945**. It was first observed in 1981 with the theme **"Food Comes First"** and officially endorsed by the **UN in 1984**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- 💡 **The Theme for 2025 World Food Day: "Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future"**, emphasises global cooperation to transform agrifood systems. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- 💡 Headquartered in Rome, **FAO has 194 countries and the EU** as members and aims to achieve **food security for all**. India has been a **FAO member since 1945**, demonstrating successful international collaboration to reduce hunger. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

59.

**Ans: B****Exp:**

- 💡 The United Nations has several **Specialised Agencies** that are autonomous organizations working with the UN through cooperative agreements. These include:
  - ✦ **World Health Organization (WHO)** – focuses on global health.

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- ✦ **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** – deals with agriculture and food security.
- ✦ **International Labour Organization (ILO)** – works on labor standards and rights.

💡 **Not a UN Specialised Agency:**

- ✦ **Red Cross Society** – an independent humanitarian organization.
- ✦ **World Trade Organization (WTO)** – governs international trade independently.

💡 Hence, option B is correct.

60.

Ans: A

Exp:

- 💡 Germany was the **8<sup>th</sup> largest trading partner for India in 2024-25**. It is the **9<sup>th</sup> largest foreign direct investor in India** with a cumulative FDI of USD 15.11 billion from April 2000 to March 2025. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- 💡 The **Make in India Mittelstand (MIIM) Programme** helps German Mittelstand (refers to the many small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs)) and family-owned businesses to invest in India, as of 2025 MIIM facilitated **241 companies** with a total investment of **USD 2.2 billion**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- 💡 Germany is a member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), which was launched in 2015 by India and France to promote solar energy as a sustainable solution for energy access and climate change. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
  - ✦ Headquartered in India, the ISA is the first international organization established in the country.

61.

Ans: C

Exp:

- 💡 **China's Panda Diplomacy began in 1957** when China gifted pandas to the Soviet Union, later sending them to the US in 1972. Over time, this evolved into **long-term leasing arrangements** linked to conservation and scientific research collaborations. Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.
- 💡 Australia's koala diplomacy uses **koalas (arboreal herbivorous marsupial native to Australia)** as goodwill ambassadors to promote the country's image and strengthen ties, notably seen during events like the

G20 summit, where leaders posed with koalas to foster cultural and diplomatic connections. Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.

- 💡 Malaysia has launched "**Orangutan Diplomacy**" to address sustainability concerns about palm oil-linked deforestation affecting orangutans. Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.

💡 Hence, option C is correct.

62.

Ans: B

Exp:

- 💡 The **United Nations Convention against Cybercrime (UNCC)**, developed by the **UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)** and adopted in December 2024 under UNGA Resolution 79/243, is the **first global criminal justice treaty** aimed at strengthening international cooperation to combat crimes committed through information and communications technology (ICT) systems. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- 💡 The **UNODC** acts as the **secretariat** for the Convention, providing technical support, training, and assistance for its implementation through its Global Programme on Cybercrime. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- 💡 **India has not signed the UNCC as of October 2025**, despite being an active participant in its drafting. Earlier India also declined to sign the **Budapest Convention on Cybercrime**. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

63.

Ans: A

Exp:

- 💡 **Ayni was India's 2<sup>nd</sup> overseas base** after the **Farkhor base (1998–2008)**. The Farkhor base was shut down around 2008, and the **Ayni base was established**. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- 💡 A major aspect of **Ayni's strategic importance** was its **location** — about **20 km from Afghanistan's Wakhan Corridor** — providing **India with strategic leverage over Pakistan and direct access to Central Asia**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- 💡 It was built to **support the Northern Alliance** against the **Taliban** through **logistics, aerial support, and intelligence**, complemented by **India's Farkhor Military Hospital**. It was **never used for combat missions**, with **no permanent presence of fighter aircraft**. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

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## Miscellaneous

64.

Ans: (b)

Exp:

### International Convention Against Doping in Sport

- 💡 The International Convention Against Doping in Sport is a **UNESCO multilateral treaty**. It is not formulated by the **World-Anti Doping Agency (WADA)**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- ✦ It has been ratified by **192 States Parties, including India**, making it UNESCO's second most ratified treaty. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.
- 💡 The treaty is the only **legally binding international instrument** aimed at harmonizing and strengthening

national and global efforts to **prevent and eliminate doping** in sport. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

- 💡 Its objective is to ensure a level and safe playing field for athletes worldwide.

65.

Ans: C

Exp:

- 💡 Commonwealth Games (CWG) is the **world's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest multi-sports event (after Olympic Games)**, bringing together athletes from **71 nations and territories** and celebrating the diversity and unity of the Commonwealth. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- 💡 CWG was first held in **1930 in Hamilton, Canada** as the **British Empire Games**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.



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