



Current Affairs Reverse Engineering (CARE)

MAY - 2026

UPSC & APPSC PRELIMS (EM)

MCQs with Explanations

CARE MCQs

1) Consider the following statements about the Panchayati Raj system in India:

1. The Panchayati Raj system was first recommended by the **Balwant Rai Mehta Committee (1957)**.
2. It is generally organized as a **three-tier system** consisting of village, intermediate (block), and district levels.
3. The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992** provides for the establishment of a **Gram Sabha** in every village.
4. Panchayati Raj Institutions receive funds **directly from the Union Finance Commission**.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct:

The **Balwant Rai Mehta Committee (1957)** recommended the establishment of Panchayati Raj institutions to promote **democratic decentralization**.

Statement 2 is correct:

The system is structured as a **three-tier system**—

- Gram Panchayat (village)
- Panchayat Samiti (block/intermediate)
- Zila Parishad (district)

Statement 3 is correct:

The **73rd Amendment** mandates a **Gram Sabha**, comprising all registered voters in a village, as the foundation of rural self-governance.

Statement 4 is incorrect:

PRIs do **not receive funds directly** from the Union Finance Commission. Funds are devolved through **State Governments**, based on recommendations of both **Central and State**

Finance Commissions.

2) Which of the following Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) directs the State to organize village panchayats and endow them with powers of self-government?

- A. Article 40
- B. Article 42
- C. Article 43
- D. Article 44

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Article 40 of the Constitution directs the State to **organize village panchayats** and endow them with necessary powers to function as units of **self-government**.

3) Consider the following statements about Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs):

1. PRIs were given constitutional status by the **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992**.
2. A **three-tier system is mandatory for all states**, irrespective of their population size.
3. The **Gram Sabha** consists of all registered voters in a village.
4. Reservation of seats for **Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes** in PRIs is in proportion to their population.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct:

- The **73rd Amendment (1992)** provided constitutional status to PRIs.

Statement 2 is incorrect:

- The three-tier system is **not mandatory for states with a population below 20 lakhs**, where a two-tier system may exist.

Statement 3 is correct:

- The **Gram Sabha** includes **all registered voters**

in the village and acts as the basic deliberative body.

Statement 4 is correct:

- Reservation for **SCs and STs** in Panchayats is provided **in proportion to their population** in the area.

4) Consider the following challenges faced by Panchayati Raj Institutions in India:

1. Inadequate financial resources
2. Political interference at the local level
3. Lack of professional training among elected representatives
4. Insufficient devolution of functions, funds, and functionaries

How many of the above are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. Only three
- D. All four

Answer: D

Explanation:

All the listed factors are **well-recognized structural challenges** affecting the effective functioning of PRIs:

- Limited financial autonomy
- Political interference (MPs/MLAs, local elites)
- Capacity gaps among representatives
- Incomplete devolution of the **3Fs (Functions, Funds, Functionaries)**

5) Consider the following statements about the powers and functions of Panchayats:

1. Panchayats are responsible for preparing plans for economic development and social justice.
2. Infrastructure creation in areas like health and education is exclusively the responsibility of State Governments.
3. Panchayats have the authority to levy and collect taxes, duties, tolls, and fees as assigned by the State.
4. Implementation of schemes related to agriculture and animal husbandry falls within the domain of Panchayats.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct:

- Panchayats are mandated to prepare plans for **economic development and social justice** under the 73rd Amendment.

Statement 2 is incorrect:

- Panchayats **do play a role** in infrastructure creation (health, education, sanitation, etc.), as per the **Eleventh Schedule**.

Statement 3 is correct:

- They are empowered to **levy and collect local taxes**, subject to State laws.

Statement 4 is correct:

- Sectors like **agriculture, irrigation, and animal husbandry** fall within Panchayat function

6) With reference to the “Women and Men in India 2025” report, consider the following statements:

1. It is published by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
2. It shows that female Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education is higher than that of males.
3. It reports that all women in India have access to health screening services.

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct:

- The report “**Women and Men in India**” is an annual publication brought out by the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)**. It compiles gender-

disaggregated data across sectors such as education, health, employment, and decision-making.

Statement 2 is correct:

- Recent editions of the report highlight that the **female Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education has marginally exceeded that of males**, reflecting improving gender parity in education.

Statement 3 is incorrect:

- The report does not claim **universal access** to health screening services for all women. While access has improved, **significant gaps remain**, particularly across regions and socio-economic groups. Hence, this statement is incorrect.

7) India’s Female Labour Force Participation Rate (FLFPR) remains relatively low. Which of the following is considered a primary structural driver of this phenomenon?

- A. Higher educational attainment among women leading to preference for non-market activities
- B. Disproportionate burden of unpaid care and domestic work on women
- C. Legal restrictions barring women from employment in most sectors
- D. Decline in employment opportunities in the agricultural sector

Answer: B

Explanation:

- The **low Female Labour Force Participation Rate (FLFPR)** in India is primarily driven by **structural and socio-cultural factors**, among which the **unequal burden of unpaid care work** is the most significant.
- Women in India spend a disproportionately large amount of time on **household chores, childcare, and elder care**, which limits their ability to participate in **paid employment**.

Option (a) is incorrect:

- While higher education may delay entry into the workforce, it generally **enhances employability** and cannot explain persistently low participation rates.

Option (b) is correct:

- The **unequal distribution of unpaid domestic responsibilities** is widely recognized as the **key constraint** on women's labour force participation.

Option (c) is incorrect:

- There are **no broad legal prohibitions** preventing women from working in most sectors. Restrictions are limited to specific hazardous occupations.

Option (d) is incorrect:

- Although structural shifts in agriculture affect employment, they impact **both men and women**. This is not the primary reason for low female participation.

8) Consider the following statements regarding recessionary trends in an economy:

Statement-I: During a recession, the labour force participation rate always declines as discouraged workers exit the labour market.

Statement-II: Recessions invariably lead to deflation, with a sustained fall in general price levels.

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 but Statement-II is incorrect
- Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is incorrect

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement-I is incorrect:

- Although labour force participation may decline during recessions due to **discouraged workers**, it is **not always the case**. Participation rates may remain stable or even increase depending on economic necessity and demographic factors.

Statement-II is incorrect:

- Recessions do not always lead to deflation. In some cases, economies experience **stagflation**, where **inflation coexists with economic stagnation**. Hence, deflation is not inevitable.

9) Consider the following statements regarding the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS):

- PLFS is conducted by the **National Statistical Office (NSO)**.
- It provides estimates of unemployment and labour force participation at both national and state levels.
- The survey follows a **rotating panel design**, where households are revisited multiple times.
- It replaced the earlier **quinquennial Employment and Unemployment Surveys (EUS)**.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect:

- PLFS is conducted by the **National Statistical Office (NSO)**, not NSSO (which has been merged into NSO). The wording must be precise; hence the statement is considered incorrect.

Statement 2 is correct:

- PLFS provides **labour force indicators** such as unemployment rate and participation rate at both **national and state levels**.

Statement 3 is correct:

- It uses a **rotating panel design**, especially in urban areas, allowing tracking of employment trends over time.

Statement 4 is correct:

- PLFS replaced the earlier **quinquennial Employment and Unemployment Surveys**, enabling more **frequent and timely labour**

market data.

10) Which of the following statements regarding El Nino is/are correct?

1. El Nino was first recognized by Spanish explorers as the warming of the coastal surface waters near Peru.
2. It was named El Nino by Spanish immigrants, meaning "the little boy" in Spanish.
3. El Nino follows a fixed and predictable cycle of occurrence.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** El Nino was first recognized by Peruvian fishermen, not Spanish explorers.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The term El Nino, meaning "the little boy" in Spanish, was given by Spanish immigrants.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** El Nino is not a regular cycle; it occurs irregularly at intervals of two to seven years.

11) Which of the following statements correctly describes a chemical property of Diammonium Phosphate (DAP)?

- A. It is highly insoluble in water, contributing to its slow-release characteristic.
- B. When dissolved in water, it typically forms a solution with a pH below 7.
- C. It primarily supplies nitrogen in the form of nitrates to plants.
- D. When dissolved in water, it typically forms a slightly alkaline solution.

Answer: D

- When DAP dissolves in water, it releases ammonium ions, which can lead to the formation of a slightly alkaline solution (pH >

7) initially. This is a key chemical property of DAP.

12) How does the Coriolis Force affect the movement of winds in the Northern Hemisphere?

- A. It deflects winds to the right
- B. It deflects winds to the left
- C. It increases the wind speed
- D. It decreases the wind speed

Answer: A

Explanation:

The Coriolis Force, resulting from the Earth's rotation, causes moving air and water to turn to the right in the Northern Hemisphere and to the left in the Southern Hemisphere. This deflection is to the right in the Northern Hemisphere, affecting the direction of the winds.

13) Which of the following is a significant impact or unintended consequence related to the implementation of the Fertiliser Control Order (FCO) in India, particularly regarding its influence on agricultural productivity?

- A. It has often led to an imbalanced application of nutrients by farmers, particularly favoring nitrogenous fertilizers, due to distorted pricing mechanisms.
- B. It has significantly reduced the overall consumption of chemical fertilizers across the country, encouraging a shift towards organic alternatives.
- C. It has completely eliminated the black marketing and adulteration of fertilizers, ensuring 100% quality supply to farmers.
- D. It has primarily focused on promoting the export of indigenous fertilizers, thereby reducing their domestic availability for farmers.

Answer: A

Explanation:

- The Fertiliser Control Order (FCO) regulates the quality, pricing, and distribution of fertilizers. While its primary aim is to ensure

the availability of quality fertilizers to farmers, one of its significant unintended consequences, especially when combined with government subsidy policies (which often disproportionately subsidize urea/nitrogenous fertilizers), has been the distorted pricing mechanism. This distortion leads farmers to apply excessive amounts of nitrogenous fertilizers (like urea) compared to phosphatic and potassic fertilizers, resulting in an imbalanced nutrient application. This imbalance negatively impacts soil health, reduces nutrient use efficiency, and can, in the long run, diminish agricultural productivity despite increased fertilizer use. It does not primarily aim to reduce overall chemical fertilizer consumption or promote organic farming directly. While it aims to curb black marketing and adulteration, it has not completely eliminated these issues. Its focus is on domestic regulation and supply, not primarily export promotion.

14) Consider the following statements regarding the Fertiliser Control Order (FCO) in India:

1. The Fertiliser Control Order (FCO) is issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, and primarily aims to regulate the quality, price, and distribution of fertilizers.
2. Urea, a major nitrogenous fertilizer, is classified as a complex fertilizer under the provisions of the FCO.
3. The FCO specifies quality standards for both primary nutrient fertilizers (N, P, K) and various micronutrient fertilizers.
4. All types of organic manures, including vermicompost and farmyard manure, are subject to stringent quality control and pricing mechanisms specified directly by the Fertiliser Control Order.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. Only three

D. None of the above

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: The Fertiliser Control Order (FCO), 1985, is issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Its primary objectives include regulating the quality, price, and distribution of fertilizers to ensure their availability to farmers at fair prices and of specified quality.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: Urea is a single or 'straight' fertilizer, providing only nitrogen (N). Complex fertilizers, as defined under the FCO, contain two or more primary plant nutrients (N, P, K) chemically combined (e.g., Diammonium Phosphate (DAP), NPK complexes).
- Statement 3 is correct: The FCO indeed specifies quality standards for a wide range of fertilizers. This includes primary nutrient fertilizers (like Urea, DAP, Muriate of Potash), secondary nutrients (like Calcium, Magnesium, Sulphur), and various micronutrient fertilizers (like Zinc, Boron, Iron, Manganese, Copper).
- Statement 4 is incorrect: While the FCO regulates various chemical and fortified fertilizers, it does not directly subject 'all types of organic manures' like vermicompost and farmyard manure to its stringent quality control and pricing mechanisms in the same manner as chemical fertilizers. Organic manures are generally promoted through different schemes and standards, often falling under broader organic farming guidelines rather than the specific regulatory framework of the FCO that primarily targets chemical fertilizer quality and price control.

15) Which of the following statements correctly describes a chemical property of Diammonium Phosphate (DAP)?

- A. It is highly insoluble in water, contributing to its slow-release characteristic.
- B. When dissolved in water, it typically

forms a solution with a pH below 7.

- C. It primarily supplies nitrogen in the form of nitrates to plants.
- D. When dissolved in water, it typically forms a slightly alkaline solution.

Answer: D

Explanation:

- Diammonium Phosphate (DAP), with the chemical formula $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$, is a highly soluble salt. When dissolved in water, the phosphate ion (HPO_4^{2-}) undergoes hydrolysis to produce hydroxide ions (OH^-), while the ammonium ion (NH_4^+) undergoes hydrolysis to produce hydrogen ions (H^+). However, the basic hydrolysis of the phosphate ion is stronger than the acidic hydrolysis of the ammonium ion in this context, resulting in an overall slightly alkaline solution. The pH of a 1% DAP solution is typically in the range of 7.5 to 8.0. Furthermore, the nitrogen in DAP is in the ammoniacal (NH_4^+) form, not nitrate (NO_3^-) form, and its high solubility makes it a readily available nutrient source rather than a slow-release one.

16) Which of the following best describes the main objective of the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)?

- A. To collect taxes from all imports into the EU
- B. To reduce carbon emissions and prevent carbon leakage by imposing a carbon price on imported carbon-intensive goods
- C. To increase European export competitiveness through import subsidies
- D. To harmonise VAT rates across the EU

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Option (a) is incorrect because CBAM is not a general import tax but a **carbon pricing mechanism**. Option (b) is correct as CBAM aims to **reduce emissions** and **prevent carbon leakage** by ensuring imported goods face

similar carbon costs as EU-produced goods. Option (c) is incorrect since CBAM does not provide subsidies. Option (d) is unrelated as VAT harmonisation is a separate fiscal matter.

17) Which of the following methods contribute to carbon sequestration?

1. Afforestation and reforestation
2. Ocean fertilization to enhance phytoplankton growth
3. Urbanization and land development for industrial purposes
4. Carbon capture and storage (CCS) in underground rock formations

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Afforestation and reforestation help to sequester carbon by increasing the amount of carbon stored in trees and soil.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Ocean fertilization involves adding nutrients to the ocean to enhance the growth of phytoplankton, which absorb CO_2 through photosynthesis and eventually sequester it in the ocean.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Urbanization and land development for industrial purposes generally increase carbon emissions rather than sequester carbon, as these activities involve deforestation and land use changes that release CO_2 .
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Carbon capture and storage (CCS) is a method where CO_2 is captured from industrial processes and stored in deep underground geological formations, preventing it from entering the atmosphere.

18) The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) primarily affects which of the following sectors?

- A. Agricultural exports from developing

- countries
- B. Carbon-intensive sectors like steel, aluminium, cement, and fertilisers
 - C. Digital services and e-commerce
 - D. Intellectual property related to green hydrogen

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Option (b) is correct because CBAM targets **carbon-intensive industries** such as steel, aluminium, cement, fertilisers, electricity, and hydrogen, where emissions are high. These sectors are required to **account for embedded carbon emissions**. Other options are unrelated to CBAM's scope.

19) Which of the following Northeastern Indian states share a border with Bangladesh?

- A. Assam, Nagaland, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh
- B. West Bengal, Tripura, Mizoram, Meghalaya
- C. Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram
- D. Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim

Answer: C

Explanation:

- The states sharing a border with Bangladesh are **Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram**. West Bengal also shares a border but is not part of the Northeast. Nagaland, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, and Sikkim do not border Bangladesh.

20) Consider the following statements about carbon-neutral cement:

1. Carbon-neutral cement production aims to reduce carbon emissions by incorporating industrial by-products such as fly ash and slag.
2. Limestone Calcined Clay Cement (LC3) is a widely recognized form of carbon-neutral cement that reduces clinker usage.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Carbon-neutral cement production reduces carbon emissions by using industrial by-products such as fly ash and slag, which help lower the amount of clinker required. Clinker is a major contributor to carbon emissions during cement production, so substituting it with these by-products is one way to reduce the carbon footprint.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Limestone Calcined Clay Cement (LC3) is indeed a widely recognized form of carbon-neutral cement. LC3 reduces the amount of clinker used in cement production by replacing a portion of it with calcined clay and limestone, leading to a substantial reduction in carbon emissions.

21) Which of the following historical contexts primarily influenced the drafting and adoption of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty (OST)?

- A. The Cold War rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union, marked by the Space Race and concerns over the weaponization of outer space.
- B. The rise of commercial space tourism and private ventures, necessitating international regulations to ensure safety and fair access.
- C. Efforts by newly independent developing nations to ensure equitable access to space resources and technology.
- D. The need to establish a framework for international cooperation on Mars exploration missions after the first successful probes.

Answer: A

Explanation:

- The Outer Space Treaty (OST) was a direct

outcome of the Cold War Space Race between the United States and the Soviet Union. Following the launch of Sputnik 1 in 1957, there were growing international concerns about the potential militarization of outer space and the spread of nuclear weapons beyond Earth. Both superpowers, while competing, recognized the mutual benefit of preventing an arms race in space and ensuring its peaceful exploration. This led to negotiations within the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) and ultimately the treaty's opening for signature in 1967. The other options describe developments or concerns that either emerged much later or were not the primary driving forces behind the original treaty.

22) Consider the following statements regarding collaborations and initiatives of National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) with other space agencies:

1. NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA) jointly developed and operate the James Webb Space Telescope.
2. NASA collaborated with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on the NISAR mission, which aims to study Earth's land and ice surfaces.
3. NASA partnered with Roscosmos, the Russian space agency, on the International Space Station until the suspension of cooperation in 2022.
4. NASA's Artemis Accords are a set of guidelines open to any country willing to adhere to them for the peaceful and cooperative exploration of outer space, including the Moon.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The James Webb Space Telescope is an international collaboration between NASA, the European Space Agency (ESA), and the Canadian Space Agency (CSA). **Statement 2 is correct:** The NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) is a joint Earth-observing mission to study changes in Earth's land and ice surfaces using advanced radar imaging.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Despite geopolitical tensions in 2022, the core operational partnership between NASA and Roscosmos on the International Space Station (ISS) was not suspended; it was maintained to ensure crew safety and continued station operations. **Statement 4 is correct:** The Artemis Accords are a set of non-binding principles to guide civil space exploration, open to any nation willing to adhere to them for peaceful and cooperative purposes.

23) Consider the following statements regarding the Outer Space Treaty (1967):

1. It prohibits the national appropriation of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies.
 2. It mandates that States shall not place in orbit around the Earth any objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction.
 3. It establishes a binding framework for all States to share space technology and data with developing nations for peaceful purposes.
 4. It declares astronauts as 'envoys of mankind' and requires their assistance in case of distress.
- A. Only one
 - B. Only two
 - C. Only three
 - D. All four

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Article II of the Outer

Space Treaty explicitly states that outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, is not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty, by means of use or occupation, or by any other means.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Article IV of the Treaty prohibits States Parties from placing in orbit around the Earth any objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction, installing such weapons on celestial bodies, or stationing such weapons in outer space in any other manner.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** While the Treaty promotes international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space (Article I, Article IX), it does not establish a specific 'binding framework for all States to share space technology and data with developing nations' as a direct, explicit, legally binding provision within the treaty itself. Such detailed provisions are typically found in subsequent, more specific agreements or resolutions.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Article V of the Treaty designates astronauts as 'envoys of mankind' and requires States to render them all possible assistance in the event of accident, distress, or emergency landing on the territory of another State Party or on the high seas.

24) Consider the following statements regarding Endothelin Receptor Antagonists (ERAs) used in pharmacotherapy:

1. Bosentan is a non-selective endothelin receptor antagonist, blocking both ET-A and ET-B receptors.
2. Ambrisentan is primarily an ET-B selective endothelin receptor antagonist.
3. Macitentan is characterized by a more sustained receptor binding compared to bosentan, which contributes to its therapeutic efficacy.
4. Endothelin-1 primarily exerts its potent vasoconstrictive effects by binding to ET-B receptors.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: Bosentan is a non-selective endothelin receptor antagonist (ERA), meaning it blocks both ET-A and ET-B receptors. It was the first oral ERA approved for pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH).
- Statement 2 is incorrect: Ambrisentan is an ET-A selective endothelin receptor antagonist. It specifically blocks the ET-A receptor, which is primarily responsible for vasoconstriction and cell proliferation, with potentially less impact on ET-B mediated effects like vasodilation and endothelin clearance.
- Statement 3 is correct: Macitentan is a newer non-selective ERA. It has a distinct pharmacological profile characterized by more sustained receptor binding and a longer duration of action compared to bosentan, which contributes to its improved efficacy and safety profile, including reduced liver toxicity.
- Statement 4 is incorrect: Endothelin-1 (ET-1) primarily exerts its potent vasoconstrictive effects by binding to ET-A receptors. ET-B receptors, while also binding ET-1, have more complex roles including mediating vasodilation (via nitric oxide and prostacyclin release) and facilitating the clearance of ET-1. Therefore, blocking ET-A receptors is crucial for reducing ET-1 mediated vasoconstriction.

25) Which of the following statements accurately describes the primary mechanism of action of Endothelin Receptor Antagonists (ERAs) used in conditions like Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension?

- A. They directly inhibit the enzyme responsible for the synthesis of Endothelin-1.
- B. They block the binding of Endothelin-1

to its ETA and/or ETB receptors, preventing vasoconstriction and cell proliferation.

- C. They enhance the degradation of circulating Endothelin-1 by promoting liver and kidney clearance.
- D. They stimulate the production of vasodilatory substances like nitric oxide and prostacyclin in the endothelium.

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Endothelin Receptor Antagonists (ERAs) are a class of drugs that work by blocking the action of endothelin, a potent vasoconstrictor peptide. Endothelin exerts its effects by binding to specific receptors, primarily Endothelin A (ETA) and Endothelin B (ETB) receptors, located on vascular smooth muscle cells and other cell types. By blocking these receptors, ERAs prevent endothelin-1 from inducing vasoconstriction (narrowing of blood vessels) and cell proliferation (excessive growth of cells), which are key pathological processes in diseases like Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH). Some ERAs are selective for ETA receptors (e.g., Ambrisentan), while others are non-selective, blocking both ETA and ETB receptors (e.g., Bosentan, Macitentan)

26) Consider the following statements regarding biopharmaceutical production:

Statement 1: The production of complex recombinant therapeutic proteins, such as monoclonal antibodies, often necessitates expression in mammalian cell cultures rather than prokaryotic systems for optimal pharmacological activity.

Statement 2: Prokaryotic expression systems lack the sophisticated post-translational modification machinery, particularly for complex glycosylation, which is crucial for the correct folding, stability, and biological activity of many eukaryotic proteins, preventing aggregation and reducing immunogenicity in human patients.

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

- A. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct and Statement 2 is the correct explanation for Statement 1
- B. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct and Statement 2 is not the correct explanation for Statement 1
- C. (c)Statement 1 is correct but Statement 2 is incorrect
- D. Statement 1 is incorrect but Statement 2 is correct

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: Complex biopharmaceuticals like monoclonal antibodies require intricate post-translational modifications (PTMs), especially glycosylation, for proper folding, stability, and biological function.
- Statement 2 is correct : It provides the direct explanation for Statement 1. Prokaryotic systems (like bacteria) are simpler and lack the cellular machinery to perform these complex eukaryotic PTMs. As a result, proteins produced in prokaryotic systems may be misfolded, aggregated, inactive, or highly immunogenic in humans, necessitating the use of more complex mammalian cell culture systems despite higher production costs and complexity.

27) Which of the following statements best describes a primary regulatory challenge specific to advanced biopharmaceuticals (e.g., gene therapies, cell therapies) compared to traditional small-molecule chemical drugs?

- A. Ensuring consistent product quality and manufacturing reproducibility due to their complex biological origin and inherent variability.
- B. The requirement for large-scale, multi-country Phase III clinical trials to demonstrate efficacy and safety.
- C. The rapid development of resistance

mechanisms in target pathogens, necessitating frequent updates to formulations.

- D. The high capital investment required for research and development before regulatory submission.

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Advanced biopharmaceuticals, such as gene and cell therapies, are derived from living systems or complex biological processes. This inherent complexity leads to significant challenges in ensuring consistent product quality, purity, potency, and manufacturing reproducibility from batch to batch. Regulators must establish robust frameworks to assess and monitor these aspects throughout the product lifecycle, which is fundamentally different and often more complex than regulating the chemical synthesis and consistency of small-molecule drugs.

28) Which of the following rights are granted under the Forest Rights Act, 2006?

- Title rights to ownership of land cultivated by forest dwellers up to a maximum of 4 hectares.
- Rights to collect and use Minor Forest Produce (MFP), such as bamboo, honey, and medicinal plants.
- The right to clear forest land for cultivation beyond the existing limit of 4 hectares if approved by the Gram Sabha.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: The FRA provides title rights, allowing ownership of land actively cultivated by forest dwellers, subject to a

maximum limit of 4 hectares.

- Statement 2 is correct: The FRA grants use rights to collect Minor Forest Produce (MFP), which includes resources like bamboo, tendu leaves, honey, and medicinal plants. These are crucial for the livelihood of forest-dwelling communities.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: The FRA does not allow forest dwellers to clear forest land for cultivation beyond the 4-hectare limit, even with Gram Sabha approval. The Act emphasizes conservation and sustainable use of forest resources.

29) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Gram Sabha?

- It consists of all the voters residing in the jurisdiction of a Gram Panchayat.
- It is the decision-making body for local self-governance at the village level.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- The Gram Sabha consists of all the registered voters residing in the jurisdiction of a Gram Panchayat and serves as the decision-making body for local self-governance at the village level.

30) Consider the following statements about Gram Sabha:

- It is the primary body of the Panchayati Raj system and consists of all registered voters in the area of a Panchayat.
- The Gram Sabha must meet at least twice a year.
- The decisions of the Gram Sabha are not binding on the Gram Panchayat.

How many of the Statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two

- C. All three
D. None

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: As per Article 243(b) of the Constitution, the Gram Sabha is a body consisting of all persons registered in the electoral rolls relating to a village comprised within the area of a Panchayat at the village level. It is the foundation of the Panchayati Raj System.
- Statement 2 is correct: While the Constitution does not specify the number of meetings, most State Panchayati Raj Acts mandate that the Gram Sabha must meet at least twice a year. The statement reflects this common statutory requirement.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: The powers of the Gram Sabha, including whether its decisions are binding on the Gram Panchayat, are determined by the respective State Legislatures as per Article 243A. Many State Acts have provisions that make the recommendations or decisions of the Gram Sabha in specific matters (like approval of plans and selection of beneficiaries) binding on the Gram Panchayat. Therefore, the absolute statement that its decisions are 'not binding' is incorrect.

31) With reference to the concept of “Ecocide”, consider the following statements:

1. The Rome Statute currently recognizes ecocide as a separate international crime.
2. The term “ecocide” first gained prominence in the context of environmental destruction during the Vietnam War.
3. The Environmental Modification Convention prohibits hostile use of environmental modification techniques.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 2 and 3 only

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The **Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC)** does not currently recognize **ecocide** as an independent international crime. Discussions and campaigns are ongoing to include it alongside genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and aggression.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The term **ecocide** became widely associated with the large-scale environmental destruction caused during the **Vietnam War**, particularly due to the use of chemical defoliants such as Agent Orange.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The **Environmental Modification Convention (ENMOD), 1977** prohibits the hostile use of environmental modification techniques having widespread, long-lasting, or severe effects.

32) Consider the following statements regarding the crimes under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC):

Statement 1: The Rome Statute, in defining the crime of genocide, specifically enumerates national, ethnical, racial, and religious groups as protected categories, thereby explicitly excluding 'political groups' from its scope.

Statement 2: The International Criminal Court's jurisdiction over the crime of aggression is restricted to acts committed by persons in a position effectively to exercise control over or to direct the political or military action of a State.

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

- A. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct and Statement 2 is the correct explanation for Statement 1
B. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct and Statement 2 is not the correct explanation for Statement 1
C. Statement 1 is correct but Statement 2

is incorrect

- D. Statement 1 is incorrect but Statement 2 is correct

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: Article 6 of the Rome Statute defines genocide by specifying 'national, ethnical, racial or religious group' as protected categories, consistent with the 1948 Genocide Convention. It does not include 'political groups', which has been a point of debate but is the established legal definition within the Statute.
- Statement 2 is also correct: Article 8 bis of the Rome Statute, concerning the crime of aggression, specifies that it can only be committed by a person in a position effectively to exercise control over or to direct the political or military action of a State. This reflects the leadership nature of this crime. Both statements are factually correct details about different crimes defined by the Rome Statute.
- However, Statement 2, which describes the specific perpetrator requirement for the crime of aggression, does not explain why 'political groups' are excluded from the definition of genocide in Statement 1. They are distinct, albeit related, legal provisions within the Rome Statute.

33) Which one of the following principles best describes the relationship between the International Criminal Court and national jurisdictions, as established by the Rome Statute?

- A. The ICC exercises universal jurisdiction over all crimes irrespective of nationality or location
- B. The ICC operates on the principle of complementarity, intervening only when national courts are unwilling or unable to prosecute
- C. National courts must automatically defer all relevant cases to the ICC
- D. The ICC and national courts

simultaneously prosecute the same crimes under concurrent jurisdiction

Answer: B

Explanation:

- The Rome Statute is based on the principle of **complementarity**, meaning the ICC acts as a **court of last resort**. It intervenes only when national judicial systems are **unwilling or genuinely unable** to investigate or prosecute serious international crimes.

34) With reference to the Supreme Court of India, consider the following statements:

1. Parliament has the power to increase the number of Supreme Court judges.
2. The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956 was enacted under Article 124 of the Constitution.
3. The President independently appoints Supreme Court judges without judicial consultation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Article 124 of the Constitution empowers **Parliament** to regulate and increase the strength of judges in the Supreme Court through legislation.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The **Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956** was enacted under the provisions of **Article 124** to determine the sanctioned strength of Supreme Court judges.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Although judges are formally appointed by the **President**, the appointment process involves **judicial consultation through the Collegium System**, and the President does not act independently in this matter.

35) Consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Justice of India (CJI) is not required to be a part of a Constitution Bench.
2. The largest Constitution Bench in the history of the Supreme Court of India was in the A.K Gopalan case, 1950.
3. Supreme Court has an exclusive jurisdiction over disputes related to the election of the President.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Statement A is correct: The Chief Justice of India (CJI) is not required to be a part of a Constitution Bench. The CJI is the Master of the Roster and has the sole discretion to decide which cases will be heard by a Constitution Bench. The Constitution Benches have decided many of India's most important Supreme Court cases, including: Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala and A. K. Gopalan v. State of Madras.
- Statement B is incorrect: The largest Constitution Bench in the history of the Supreme Court of India was the 13-judge bench in the Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala case(1973).
- Statement C is correct: According to Article 71 of the Constitution, all doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with the election of a President or Vice-President shall be inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court.

36) Regarding the removal of a judge of the Supreme Court or a High Court in India, which of the following statements is correct?

- A. The resolution for removal must be passed by a simple majority of the total membership of each House of

Parliament.

- B. The President can issue the removal order based on a recommendation from the Chief Justice of India after an internal inquiry.
- C. An address passed by each House of Parliament, supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting, is required.
- D. The grounds for removal are 'violation of the Constitution' or 'gross misconduct', as determined by the Supreme Court collegium.

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Article 124(4) of the Indian Constitution specifies the procedure for the removal of a Supreme Court judge, which also applies to High Court judges (Article 217). A judge can be removed by an order of the President only after an address by Parliament has been presented to him in the same session for such removal. This address must be supported by a special majority in each House of Parliament, meaning a majority of the total membership of that House AND a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting. The grounds for removal are 'proved misbehaviour' or 'incapacity'. The Judges Inquiry Act, 1968, regulates the procedure for the investigation and presentation of an address for the removal of a judge.

37) Consider the following statements regarding the tenure and conditions of service for various constitutional functionaries in India:

1. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India holds office for a term of six years or until he attains the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
2. The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners hold

office for a fixed term of six years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier, and all can be removed only through a process similar to the removal of a Supreme Court Judge.

3. The Attorney General of India holds office during the pleasure of the President and his remuneration is fixed by the Parliament.
4. A Governor can be removed from office by the President on the grounds of proven misbehavior or incapacity, following an impeachment process by the State Legislature.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India is appointed for a term of six years or until he attains the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. This is provided by the CAG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971, which is enacted under Article 148(3) of the Constitution.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: While the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and other Election Commissioners (ECs) do hold office for a fixed term of six years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier, the removal process is different for the CEC and ECs. The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed from office in the same manner and on the same grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court. However, other Election Commissioners cannot be removed from office except on the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner. The statement incorrectly claims that "all can be removed

only through a process similar to the removal of a Supreme Court Judge."

- Statement 3 is incorrect: The Attorney General of India (AG) holds office during the pleasure of the President, as stipulated in Article 76(4) of the Constitution. However, his remuneration is determined by the President, not by the Parliament. Article 76(4) states that the Attorney General shall receive such remuneration as the President may determine.
- Statement 4 is incorrect: A Governor holds office during the pleasure of the President (Article 156(1)). There are no specific grounds mentioned in the Constitution for the removal of a Governor, nor is there an impeachment process by the State Legislature for their removal. The President can remove a Governor at any time without assigning any reason or following any specific procedure like impeachment.

38) With reference to modern warfare and India's Nuclear Doctrine, consider the following statements:

1. India follows a policy of No First Use of nuclear weapons.
2. Grey zone warfare includes cyberattacks, proxy warfare, and information operations below the threshold of conventional war.
3. India's Nuclear Doctrine authorizes nuclear retaliation exclusively under civilian political control.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation

- Statement 1 is correct: India officially follows the No First Use policy under its Nuclear Doctrine.

- Statement 2 is correct: Grey zone warfare refers to hostile actions below the threshold of open conventional conflict, including cyber operations and proxy warfare.
- Statement 3 is correct: Nuclear retaliation in India can only be authorized by the civilian political leadership through the Nuclear Command Authority.

39) With reference to India's Nuclear Command Authority (NCA), consider the following statements:

1. The Political Council of the Nuclear Command Authority, responsible for authorizing the use of nuclear weapons, is chaired by the President of India.
 2. The Executive Council, which provides inputs for decision-making and executes the directives of the Political Council, is chaired by the National Security Advisor.
 3. India's 'No First Use' policy implies that the decision to use nuclear weapons rests solely with the Chiefs of Staff Committee, independent of political oversight.
- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

Explanation:

- The Nuclear Command Authority (NCA) is India's decision-making body for nuclear weapons. It comprises a Political Council and an Executive Council.
- Statement 1 is incorrect: The Political Council, which is responsible for authorizing the use of nuclear weapons, is chaired by the Prime Minister of India, not the President.
- Statement 2 is correct: The Executive Council provides inputs to the Political Council and is responsible for executing its directives. It is chaired by the National Security Advisor.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: India's 'No First Use' (NFU) policy is a core tenet of its nuclear

doctrine, but it does not imply that the decision to use nuclear weapons rests solely with the Chiefs of Staff Committee. The ultimate authority for authorizing the use of nuclear weapons resides with the Political Council, chaired by the Prime Minister, ensuring civilian control over the nuclear arsenal.

40) Regarding India's Nuclear Command Authority (NCA), which of the following statements is correct?

- A. The Political Council, chaired by the Prime Minister, is the sole body authorized to sanction the use of nuclear weapons.
- B. The Executive Council, chaired by the Chief of Defence Staff, holds the final authority for nuclear strike decisions.
- C. The National Security Advisor is primarily responsible for the development and testing of nuclear warheads under the NCA's purview.
- D. The NCA was established by an Act of Parliament to oversee India's civilian nuclear energy program.

Answer: A

Explanation:

- India's Nuclear Command Authority (NCA) consists of a Political Council and an Executive Council. The Political Council, chaired by the Prime Minister, is the ultimate decision-making body that authorizes the use of nuclear weapons.
- The Executive Council, chaired by the National Security Advisor, provides inputs for the Political Council and carries out its directives. The NCA was established by a Cabinet Committee on Security decision in 2003, not an Act of Parliament, and its mandate is related to nuclear weapons, not the civilian nuclear energy program.
- The development and testing of nuclear warheads are primarily under the domain of scientific agencies like DRDO and DAE, though

coordinated by the broader security establishment.

41) With reference to the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), consider the following statements:

1. The IBCA was launched by India in 2023.
2. The alliance focuses only on tiger conservation in Asia.
3. The proposed Delhi Declaration emphasizes transboundary cooperation and habitat connectivity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: The International Big Cat Alliance was launched by India in 2023.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: The alliance focuses on seven big cat species globally, including lions, leopards, snow leopards, cheetahs, jaguars, and pumas in addition to tigers.
- Statement 3 is correct: The Delhi Declaration is expected to focus on habitat connectivity and transboundary cooperation for conservation.

42) Consider the following big cats and their conservation status:

1. Cheetah - Vulnerable
2. Snow Leopard - Endangered
3. Jaguar - Near Threatened
4. Puma - Vulnerable

How many of the above are correctly matched with their IUCN status?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. Only three
- D. All four

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Cheetah - Vulnerable: Correct. The cheetah is

listed as Vulnerable under the IUCN Red List and included in Appendix I of CITES.

- Snow Leopard - Endangered: Incorrect. The snow leopard is listed as Vulnerable, not Endangered, under the IUCN Red List.
- Jaguar - Near Threatened: Correct. The jaguar is listed as Near Threatened on the IUCN Red List and included in Appendix I of CITES.
- Puma - Vulnerable: Incorrect. The puma is listed under Appendix II of CITES and categorized as Least Concern by the IUCN.

43) Consider the following statements about global conservation efforts:

1. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List is a critical indicator of the health of the world's biodiversity.
2. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) aims to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.
3. The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is an international non-governmental organization working on issues regarding the conservation, research, and restoration of the environment, founded in 1961.
4. The Paris Agreement, adopted in 2015, is a legally binding international treaty on climate change, with a key goal to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is Correct: The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species is a comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of biological species, serving as a critical indicator of the world's biodiversity health.
- Statement 2 is Correct: The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is a multilateral treaty whose primary aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.
- Statement 3 is Correct: The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is a major international non-governmental organization founded in 1961, dedicated to wilderness preservation and reducing human impact on the environment.
- Statement 4 is Incorrect: The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change, but it is not the first. The Kyoto Protocol, adopted in 1997, was the first legally binding global climate treaty that set emission reduction targets for developed countries.

44) With reference to ENSO, consider the following statements:

1. ENSO has three phases: El Niño, La Niña and Neutral.
2. El Niño is linked with unusual warming of surface waters in the eastern Pacific Ocean.
3. La Niña generally weakens the Indian southwest monsoon.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** ENSO has three phases: El Niño, La Niña and Neutral.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** El Niño is associated

with unusual warming of eastern Pacific surface waters.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** La Niña generally supports a stronger Indian southwest monsoon, though extreme rainfall may also cause floods.

Additional Information:

- ENSO is one of the most important global climate phenomena affecting monsoon, rainfall and temperature patterns.

45) With reference to heat waves in India, consider the following statements:

1. A heat wave may be considered when the maximum temperature reaches at least 40°C in plains.
2. A severe heat wave may be declared when the actual maximum temperature reaches or exceeds 47°C.
3. Wet bulb temperature ignores humidity and considers only dry air temperature.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** In plains, a heat wave may be considered when maximum temperature reaches at least 40°C.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** A severe heat wave may be declared when actual maximum temperature reaches or exceeds 47°C.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Wet bulb temperature considers humidity and shows how effectively the body can cool itself through evaporation.

Additional Information:

- High humidity increases heat stress because sweat does not evaporate easily, making the body feel hotter than the actual temperature.

46) With reference to the Mission for Cotton Productivity, the Government of India's 5F

Vision refers to which of the following?

- A. Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign
- B. Farmer to Food to Factory to Finance to Foreign
- C. Farm to Fertiliser to Fibre to Fashion to Finance
- D. Fibre to Farm to Factory to Fashion to Foreign

Answer: A

Explanation:

- The **Mission for Cotton Productivity** aligns with the Government of India's **5F Vision**.
- The correct sequence of the **5F Vision** is:
Farm → Fibre → Factory → Fashion → Foreign
- It represents the complete textile value chain:
 - **Farm:** Cotton cultivation by farmers
 - **Fibre:** Conversion of cotton into fibre
 - **Factory:** Textile manufacturing
 - **Fashion:** Garment and apparel production
 - **Foreign:** Export to global markets

Additional Information

- The Mission for Cotton Productivity has an outlay of **₹5,659.22 crore** for the period **2026–27 to 2030–31**. It aims to improve cotton productivity, develop disease and pest-resistant **HYV seeds**, reduce contamination in cotton supply, and promote high-quality cotton exports.

47) With reference to the Supreme Court's judgment in Anoop Baranwal vs Union of India, consider the following statements:

1. The Court included the Chief Justice of India in the interim selection committee.
2. The Court described the Election Commission as a guardian of democracy.
3. The Court held that the right to vote has no connection with freedom of expression.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The interim committee included the Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition and Chief Justice of India.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Court described the Election Commission as a guardian of democracy.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Court held that casting a vote is part of freedom of expression under Article 19(1)(a).

48) With reference to the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners Act, 2023, consider the following statements:

1. The Selection Committee includes the Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister.
2. The Search Committee is headed by the Chief Justice of India.
3. The Selection Committee can consider names beyond the shortlist prepared by the Search Committee.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The 2023 Act provides for a Selection Committee with the Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the PM.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Search Committee is headed by the Law Minister, not the Chief Justice of India.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Selection Committee can consider persons outside the shortlist.

Additional Information:

- This provision gives wide discretion to the

Selection Committee.

49) Veer Hamirji Gohil is associated with the defence of which one of the following temples?

- A. Kedarnath Temple
- B. Jagannath Temple
- C. Somnath Temple
- D. Brihadeeswara Temple

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Veer Hamirji Gohil is remembered in regional tradition for defending the **Somnath Temple** during the invasion of **Zafar Khan in 1299 AD**.

Additional Information:

- Somnath Temple is located in **Gujarat**
- It is regarded as the **first Jyotirlinga** of Lord Shiva
- Veer Hamirji Gohil is associated with the idea of **Rajadharma**

50) With reference to Pumped Hydro Storage, consider the following statements:

1. It stores energy by pumping water to a higher reservoir.
2. It releases water downhill through turbines to generate electricity.
3. It stores electricity only through chemical batteries.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** PHS uses surplus power to pump water uphill.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Stored water is released downhill to generate electricity.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Chemical storage refers to batteries, not pumped hydro.

Additional Information:

- PHS is generally suitable for longer-duration

energy storage.

51) With reference to the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, consider the following statements:

1. They replaced the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
2. They came into effect from April 1, 2026.
3. They exclude rural local bodies from waste-management responsibilities.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The 2026 Rules replaced the 2016 Rules.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** They came into effect from April 1, 2026.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Rural local bodies are also covered under the Rules.

Additional Information:

- Rural implementation requires simpler and locally suitable waste-management models.

52) With reference to the Liberalised Remittance Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. Overseas travel spending forms a major part of outward remittances under LRS.
2. LRS outflows can affect India's foreign exchange position.
3. LRS is related only to domestic cash transactions.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Foreign travel accounts for a large share of LRS outflows.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Outward remittances

involve foreign exchange outflows.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** LRS deals with remittances abroad, not only domestic cash transactions.

Additional Information:

- The Prime Minister urged citizens to avoid non-essential foreign travel for a year to conserve foreign exchange.

53) Which one of the following initiatives was associated with the approval of road projects benefiting backward habitations during the launch of PMGSY-IV?

- A. PM-KUSUM
- B. PM Gati Shakti
- C. PM-JANMAN
- D. PM MITRA

Answer:

Explanation:

- During the launch of **PMGSY-IV**, road projects covering backward habitations were approved under the **PM-JANMAN initiative**.
- These projects aim to improve last-mile rural connectivity and inclusion.

Additional Information:

- PMGSY stands for **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana**
- PMGSY focuses on all-weather rural road connectivity
- PM-JANMAN targets development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) and backward habitations

54) With reference to the Bharat Forecast System, consider the following statements:

1. It is an indigenously developed high-resolution weather prediction model.
2. It was developed by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology.
3. It works at a 6-km resolution.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Bharat Forecast System is an indigenously developed high-resolution weather prediction model.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It was developed by the **Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune**.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It works at a **6-km resolution**, which helps provide more localised forecasts.

Additional Information:

- The Bharat Forecast System supports short- and medium-range forecasts and improves local-level weather prediction.

55) With reference to the PM-SHRI scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It was launched in 2022.
2. It aims to upgrade more than 14,500 existing schools.
3. It is linked with implementation of NEP 2020.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** PM-SHRI was launched in 2022.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It aims to upgrade more than 14,500 schools.

Statement 3 is correct: These schools are expected to showcase NEP 2020 implementation

56) Consider the following in the context of India's pharmaceutical sector:

1. Biopharma Shakti
2. Production Linked Incentive Scheme
3. SUGAM Portal
4. Jan Aushadhi Kendras

Which of the above are associated with strengthening India's pharmaceutical and healthcare ecosystem?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

1. **Biopharma Shakti:** Supports biopharmaceutical innovation and research infrastructure.
2. **PLI Scheme:** Encourages domestic production of APIs and pharmaceutical components.
3. **SUGAM Portal:** Supports digital regulatory processes and faster approvals.
4. **Jan Aushadhi Kendras:** Improve access to affordable medicines.

Additional Information:

- India's pharma strategy combines global competitiveness with domestic affordability.

57) Consider the following diseases in the context of zoonotic diseases:

1. Rabies
2. Nipah
3. Ebola
4. Brucellosis

Which of the above are examples of zoonotic diseases?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

1. **Rabies** – Correct. Rabies is a zoonotic disease transmitted between animals and humans.
2. **Nipah** – Correct. Nipah is also an example of a zoonotic disease.
3. **Ebola** – Correct. Ebola is included among zoonotic diseases.
4. **Brucellosis** – Correct. Brucellosis is another zoonotic disease mentioned in the content.

Additional Information:

- Zoonotic diseases are **infectious diseases transmitted between animals and humans**. They can be caused by:

- **bacteria**
- **viruses**
- **parasites**
- **fungi**

- The given content also notes that **climate change** and **land-use changes** increase human-animal interaction and raise the risk of zoonotic spillovers.

58) Consider the following technologies in the context of modern warfare:

1. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
2. Artificial Intelligence-enabled decision-making tools
3. Counter-UAV systems
4. Quantum technologies

Which of the above are important for future warfare preparedness?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- **1 is correct:** UAVs have become important in recent conflicts.
- **2 is correct:** AI-enabled tools improve decision-making and battlefield awareness.
- **3 is correct:** Counter-UAV systems are needed to protect military assets from drone attacks.
- **4 is correct:** Quantum technologies are emerging as important areas in defence research.

Additional Information:

Future wars will depend on both traditional military power and advanced technologies.

59) With reference to Foreign Direct Investment in India's defence sector, consider the following statements:

1. The FDI cap in defence was increased to 74% under the automatic route in 2020.
2. FDI reforms are expected to promote joint ventures and technology partnerships.
3. FDI reforms alone can ensure complete

defence self-reliance.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The FDI cap was increased to 74% under the automatic route in 2020.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** FDI reforms can encourage joint ventures between Indian and foreign companies.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** FDI alone cannot ensure self-reliance. India also needs R&D, skilled talent, procurement reforms and real technology transfer.

Additional Information:

- Foreign investment is useful only when it supports domestic capacity-building and technological learning.

60) The word "sugar" is derived from which of the following Sanskrit terms?

- A. Sakkara
- B. Sarkara
- C. Ikshu
- D. Guda

Answer: B

Explanation:

- The word "sugar" is derived from the Sanskrit term **sarkara**.
- This shows the deep cultural and historical roots of sugarcane cultivation and sweetener production in India. Sugarcane cultivation was known in India from ancient times, and jaggery is widely regarded as an **indigenous Indian product**.

Additional Information:

- Early references to sugarcane cultivation are found in Indian texts from around **1400–1000 BCE**.
- Sugarcane cultivation was closely linked with the **Vedic period**.
- In **647 AD**, a Chinese mission travelled to

Magadha to learn sugarcane processing techniques.

- Jaggery is traditionally produced by concentrating sugarcane juice without chemical refining.

61) SMILE Mission, recently seen in the context of space science, is a joint mission of:

- A. NASA and ISRO
- B. ESA and Chinese Academy of Sciences
- C. JAXA and Roscosmos
- D. ISRO and CNES

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **SMILE** stands for **Solar wind Magnetosphere Ionosphere Link Explorer**.
- It is a joint space science mission of the **European Space Agency (ESA)** and the **Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)**.
- The mission will study how the **solar wind** interacts with Earth's **magnetosphere**.

Why other options are incorrect:

- **A** → NASA and ISRO are associated with missions like NISAR.
- **C** → JAXA and Roscosmos are not partners in SMILE.
- **D** → ISRO and CNES are not associated with this mission.

Additional Information:

- Launch Vehicle: **Vega-C rocket**
- Launch Site: **Europe's Spaceport, French Guiana**
- Mission Life: About **3 years**

62) The recent Ebola outbreak in Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo is associated with which one of the following strains?

- A. Zaire strain
- B. Sudan strain
- C. Bundibugyo strain
- D. Reston strain

Answer: C

Explanation:

- The recent Ebola outbreak in **Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo** is linked to the

Bundibugyo strain of Ebola virus.

- This strain is considered dangerous because there is **no specific approved vaccine** available for it at present.

Additional Information:

- Ebola is caused by viruses of the **Orthoebolavirus** group.
- The disease spreads through direct contact with bodily fluids of infected persons.
- Common control measures include **isolation, contact tracing, rapid testing and safe burials.**

63) With reference to the recent U.S.–China agricultural trade agreement, consider the following statements:

1. China agreed to increase imports of U.S. agricultural products for 2026, 2027 and 2028.
2. The agreement includes products such as beef and poultry.
3. The agreement completely resolved the Taiwan issue between the U.S. and China.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** China agreed to increase imports of U.S. agricultural products for three years: 2026, 2027 and 2028.
- **Statement 2 is correct:**The agreement includes products such as beef and poultry.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:**The agreement is related to agricultural trade. It does not resolve the Taiwan issue.

Additional Information

- U.S.–China relations include both cooperation and competition. Trade cooperation may improve, but strategic issues such as Taiwan remain sensitive.

64) With reference to the India-Netherlands Strategic Partnership, consider the following statements:

1. The Roadmap of India-Netherlands Strategic Partnership covers the period 2026–2030.
2. Water, Agriculture and Health are among the core pillars of India-Netherlands cooperation.
3. The Netherlands is India's largest merchandise export destination in Europe.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** India and the Netherlands adopted the **Roadmap of India-Netherlands Strategic Partnership for 2026–2030** during the Prime Minister's official visit to the Netherlands.
- **Statement 2 is correct: Water, Agriculture and Health (WAH)** are important pillars of cooperation between India and the Netherlands. These include areas such as water management, agri-tech innovation, public health, One Health and anti-microbial resistance.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Netherlands is India's **largest merchandise export destination in Europe.** India also enjoys a substantial trade surplus with the Netherlands.

Therefore, all three statements are correct.

65) With reference to the BCCI and the RTI Act, consider the following statements:

1. The CIC held in 2026 that the BCCI is not a public authority under Section 2(h) of the RTI Act.
2. The BCCI is registered under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975.

3. The BCCI receives substantial government grants for its regular functioning.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The CIC held that the BCCI does not fall under the definition of public authority under Section 2(h) of the RTI Act.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The BCCI is registered as a society under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The CIC noted that the BCCI does not receive substantial government grants. It earns mainly through media rights, sponsorships, broadcasting agreements and ticket sales.

Additional Information:

A body does not become a public authority merely because it performs important public functions. It must satisfy the conditions under Section 2(h) of the RTI Act.

66) Consider the following in the context of energy storage systems:

1. Pumped Hydro Storage
2. Battery Energy Storage Systems
3. Compressed-air energy storage systems
4. Flywheel energy storage systems

Which of the above are types of energy storage systems?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

1. **Pumped Hydro Storage** – Correct. It stores energy by pumping water from a lower

reservoir to a higher reservoir and releases it through turbines when demand rises.

2. **Battery Energy Storage Systems** – Correct. These systems store electricity chemically and discharge it when needed.
3. **Compressed-air energy storage systems** – Correct. These systems use excess electricity to compress air and store it for later power generation.
4. **Flywheel energy storage systems** – Correct. They store electricity as rotational energy by spinning a rotor at very high speed.

Additional Information:

Other storage systems mentioned in the content include:

- **Concentrating solar-thermal storage systems**
- **Gravity energy storage systems**
- The content also notes that **Pumped Hydro Storage (PHS)** and **Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)** are currently the most widely used technologies.

67) With reference to Paddy Dwarfing Disease, consider the following statements:

1. It is linked to the Southern Rice Black-Streaked Dwarf Virus.
2. It is transmitted by the white-backed plant hopper.
3. It can be completely cured after the virus enters the plant.

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Paddy dwarfing disease is linked to the **Southern Rice Black-Streaked Dwarf Virus**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The virus is transmitted by the **white-backed plant hopper**, which acts as the insect vector.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Once the virus enters the plant, there is **no direct curative**

treatment. Prevention and early vector control are the main strategies.

Additional Information:

- The disease was first reported in Punjab in **2022** and has since reappeared in several districts.

68) With reference to Indian federalism, consider the following statements:

- The term **“Federation”** is explicitly mentioned in the Indian Constitution.
- Article 1(1)** describes India as a **“Union of States.”**
- Indian federalism is often described as **quasi-federal** because it combines a strong Centre with constitutionally autonomous States.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is incorrect:** The term **“Federation”** is not mentioned in the Indian Constitution.
- Statement 2 is correct:** **Article 1(1)** states that **“India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States.”**
- Statement 3 is correct:** Indian federalism is called **quasi-federal** because it has federal features such as division of powers, written Constitution and independent judiciary, but also has a strong Centre.

Additional Information

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar used the term **“Union”** to show that India is not the result of an agreement among States and that States do not have the right to secede. India is therefore described as an **indestructible Union of destructible States**.

69) With reference to the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Rules, 2026, consider the following statements:

- The Rules were framed under Section 19 of the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025.
- The Rules establish the Online Gaming Authority of India as an attached office of MeitY.
- The Rules allow online money games to be registered as e-sports.

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct:** Section 19 of the Act empowers the Central Government to make rules for carrying out the provisions of the Act.
- Statement 2 is correct:** The Online Gaming Authority of India is constituted as an attached office of MeitY.
- Statement 3 is incorrect:** Online money games cannot be recognised or registered as e-sports.

Additional Information:

- The Rules aim to distinguish between prohibited online money games and permissible online social games or e-sports.

70) Project Prahelika, recently mentioned in the context of indigenous educational technology, was developed by

- IIT Delhi
- IIT Kharagpur
- IISc Bengaluru
- IIT Madras

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Project Prahelika** is an initiative of **IIT Kharagpur**. It uses **logic puzzles** to stimulate cognitive reasoning among students. It also includes a **24/7 digital tutor** that tracks student delays and provides localized hints in **Hindi and Bengali**.

Additional Information:

- Project Prahelika represents a **logic-first architecture** in educational technology. Such models help in building a **personalized learning profile** of students by identifying recurring misconceptions and supporting step-by-step learning.

71) Consider the following items in the context of factors that may weaken the rupee:

1. Rise in crude oil imports
2. Foreign portfolio investors withdrawing money from India
3. Increase in dollar demand by importers
4. Strong rise in India's exports without rise in imports

Which of the above can weaken the rupee?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Item 1 is correct:** Crude oil imports require dollars. Higher oil imports raise dollar demand.
- **Item 2 is correct:** When foreign investors withdraw money, they sell rupees and buy dollars.
- **Item 3 is correct:** Higher dollar demand by importers puts pressure on the rupee.
- **Item 4 is incorrect:** A strong rise in exports increases dollar inflows and may support the rupee.

Additional Information:

- The rupee is influenced by both the **current account** and the **capital account** of the Balance of Payments.

72) Which of the following best explains "import cover"?

- A. The value of India's exports compared to its imports
- B. The number of months for which foreign exchange reserves can pay for imports
- C. The difference between fiscal deficit and revenue deficit

- D. The amount of foreign investment entering the stock market

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Import cover shows how many months of imports can be financed using a country's foreign exchange reserves.

Additional Information:

- A higher import cover gives confidence that the country can manage external payments during global uncertainty.

73) With reference to Kerala's ageing population, consider the following statements:

1. Kerala is one of India's most rapidly ageing States.
2. Kerala's Total Fertility Rate is below the replacement level.
3. Outmigration of working-age people has contributed to elderly isolation in Kerala.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Kerala has a high and rapidly increasing share of elderly population.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Kerala's TFR is below the replacement level of 2.1.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Migration of working-age people has left many elderly parents living alone.
- **Additional Information:** Kerala's ageing profile is similar to some East Asian and European societies, where low fertility and high life expectancy have increased the elderly population.

74) Consider the following initiatives in the context of elderly welfare in Kerala:

1. Vayomithram
2. Samayaprabha
3. Kerala Care Palliative Grid

4. Smruthipadham

Which of the above are related to elderly care or support?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Vayomithram** provides mobile medical care and support to elderly persons.
- **Samayaprabha** is a daycare initiative for senior citizens.
- **Kerala Care Palliative Grid** supports palliative care services.
- **Smruthipadham** is linked to dementia care and awareness.

Additional Information:

- Elderly welfare requires a mix of healthcare, social security, community support and legal protection

75) With reference to the Quad, consider the following statements:

1. Quad consists of India, the United States, Japan and Australia.
2. Quad was first shaped politically by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007.
3. Quad has a collective defence clause similar to NATO.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Quad includes India, the US, Japan and Australia.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Shinzo Abe gave political shape to the Quad in 2007.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Quad does not have a collective defence clause like NATO.

Additional Information:

- Quad is a flexible strategic grouping. It has no permanent secretariat or binding military commitment.

76) Consider the following initiatives announced or discussed in the context of the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting:

1. Quad Ports of the Future Partnership
2. Quad Critical Minerals Framework
3. Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness Initiative
4. Article 5 Collective Defence Mechanism

Which of the above are associated with Quad cooperation?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Items 1, 2 and 3 are correct:** These are linked with Quad cooperation in port infrastructure, critical minerals and maritime domain awareness.
- **Item 4 is incorrect:** Article 5 collective defence is associated with NATO, not Quad.

Additional Information:

- Quad is not a military alliance. It focuses on coordination in areas such as maritime security, technology, critical minerals and supply chains.

77) With reference to the Padma Awards, consider the following statements:

1. Padma Vibhushan is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service.
2. Padma Bhushan is awarded for distinguished service of high order.
3. Padma Shri is awarded for distinguished service in any field.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Padma Vibhushan is given for exceptional and distinguished service.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Padma Bhushan is given for distinguished service of high order.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Padma Shri is given for distinguished service in any field.

78) With reference to the High-Level Committee on Demographic Change, consider the following statements:

1. It has been constituted by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. It will study demographic changes arising from illegal immigration and other abnormal reasons.
3. It has been directed to submit its report within one year.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The committee has been constituted by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It will study demographic changes linked with illegal immigration and abnormal reasons.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It has been directed to submit its report within one year.

79) With reference to VB-G RAM G, consider the following statements:

1. It increases guaranteed workdays from 100 to 150 days.
2. It replaces MGNREGA.
3. It provides a 60-day pause during peak agricultural seasons.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** VB-G RAM G increases guaranteed workdays to 125.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It replaces MGNREGA.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It provides for a 60-day pause during peak sowing and harvesting seasons.

APPSC MCQs

80) Consider the following statements regarding beach sand minerals:

1. Monazite contains thorium and rare earth elements.
2. Andhra Pradesh has the largest reserves of ilmenite in India.
3. These minerals are formed due to coastal and riverine processes.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

81) Which of the following geological regions is NOT primarily associated with Carboniferous coal deposits?

- A. Appalachian Basin, USA
- B. Donets Basin (Donbas), Ukraine
- C. South Wales Coalfield, UK
- D. Deccan Traps, India

Answer: D

Explanation:

- The **Deccan Traps** are volcanic basalt formations formed during the **Cretaceous–Eocene period**, and are **not associated with Carboniferous coal deposits**.

82) Which of the following statements is correct regarding the distribution of mineral resources in India?

- A. Iron ore is predominantly found in the state of Rajasthan
- B. Mica, a key mineral used in the electronics industry, is mainly found in Jharkhand and Bihar
- C. Kerala is the leading producer of bauxite in India

- D. Diamond mines are extensively located in the state of Punjab

Answer: B

Explanation:

- India is one of the leading producers of **mica**, and its major deposits are concentrated in the **Koderma–Gaya–Hazaribagh belt**, covering parts of **Jharkhand and Bihar**. This region has historically been known for high-quality mica used in electrical and electronic industries.

83) Consider the following statements regarding Cobalt:

1. Cobalt is primarily used in the production of rechargeable batteries for electric vehicles and portable electronic devices.
2. The Democratic Republic of Congo is the world's leading producer of cobalt.
3. Cobalt is a critical mineral due to its importance in various industrial applications and limited sources of supply.
4. Cobalt is always found in its pure, metallic form in nature.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. Only three
- D. All four

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** A significant portion of global cobalt production is utilized in rechargeable batteries, which are essential for powering electric vehicles, laptops, smartphones, and various other portable electronic devices.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) holds the position of the world's leading cobalt producer, accounting for a substantial share of the global supply. **Statement 3 is correct:** Cobalt is classified as a critical mineral due to its widespread use in various industries and the

concentrated nature of its supply sources, with limited geographical distribution.

- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** Cobalt is typically not found in its pure, metallic form in nature. Instead, it is usually obtained as a byproduct of mining nickel and copper ores, where it occurs in chemically combined forms.

84) With reference to the 'Ponna Kaluva Utsavam', consider the following statements:

1. It is associated with temple traditions in Andhra Pradesh.
2. It involves ritual processions linked to sacred water bodies and channels.
3. It is primarily a harvest festival celebrated across North India.

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct because **Ponna Kaluva Utsavam** is a temple-linked ritual observed in Andhra Pradesh, particularly connected with sacred traditions of certain temples.
- Statement 2 is correct as the festival involves ceremonial activities around **water channels (kaluva)** symbolizing purification and ritual significance.
- Statement 3 is incorrect because it is not a North Indian harvest festival but a localized religious-cultural observance in South India.

85) Consider the following pairs of festivals and their correct associations in Andhra Pradesh:

1. Tirupati Brahmotsavam – Celebrated at Tirumala Temple
2. Ugadi – Telugu New Year festival
3. Sammakka Saralamma Jatara – Coastal Andhra fishing community festival
4. Ponna Kaluva Utsavam – Ritual associated with temple water channels

Which of the pairs given above are correctly

matched?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Pair 1 is correct:

- **Tirupati Brahmotsavam** is a major annual festival held at the **Tirumala Venkateswara Temple**, one of the most important religious events in Andhra Pradesh.

Pair 2 is correct:

- **Ugadi** marks the **Telugu New Year** and is widely celebrated across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Pair 3 is incorrect:

- **Sammakka Saralamma Jatara** is primarily a tribal festival of **Telangana (Medaram)**, not a coastal Andhra fishing community festival.

Pair 4 is correct:

- **Ponna Kaluva Utsavam** is associated with **temple rituals involving sacred water channels**, particularly in Andhra Pradesh traditions.

86) Consider the following pairs of festivals and their correct associations in Andhra Pradesh:

1. Sankranti – Associated with harvest celebrations and cattle worship
2. Lepakshi Utsavam – Celebrated at the Veerabhadra Temple in Anantapur district
3. Bonalu – Major state festival of Andhra Pradesh
4. Deccan Festival – Cultural festival organized in coastal Andhra

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Pair 1 is correct:

- **Sankranti** is a major **harvest festival** in Andhra Pradesh, marked by celebrations such as cattle worship, rangoli (muggu), and community feasts.

Pair 2 is correct:

- **Lepakshi Utsavam** is held at the **Veerabhadra Temple in Lepakshi (Anantapur district)** and showcases cultural heritage, dance, and art.

Pair 3 is incorrect:

- Bonalu is primarily a Telangana festival, especially celebrated in Hyderabad, not a major festival of Andhra Pradesh.

Pair 4 is incorrect:

- The Deccan Festival is associated with Hyderabad (Telangana), not coastal Andhra Pradesh.

87) Consider the following statements:

1. Submarine cables carry the majority of global internet traffic.
2. Deemed DISCOM allows industries to procure and manage electricity independently.
3. Capital-intensive industries necessarily generate high employment.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Submarine fibre-optic cables laid under oceans transmit more than 95% of global internet data. They provide high-speed and low-latency communication, making them the backbone of international connectivity.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under the Deemed DISCOM concept, large industries (such as data centres) can independently generate or procure electricity and manage its distribution for their own use. This ensures reliable power supply and operational efficiency.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Capital-intensive industries depend more on machines and technology rather than labour. Hence, they do not necessarily generate high employment; instead, they create limited direct jobs but may generate indirect employment.

88) Which of the following best explains the key advantage of Air-Independent Propulsion (AIP) in conventional submarines?

- A. Enables submarines to achieve supersonic speeds underwater
- B. Allows submarines to remain submerged for longer durations without surfacing
- C. Eliminates the need for any onboard fuel
- D. Makes submarines detectable by radar systems

Answer: B

Explanation:

- AIP allows non-nuclear submarines to **stay underwater for extended periods (up to ~2 weeks)** without surfacing, enhancing stealth and endurance.

89) Which of the following correctly distinguishes SSBN submarines from other types?

- A. They are primarily used for coastal defence and reconnaissance
- B. They operate only on diesel-electric propulsion
- C. They are designed to carry and launch submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs)
- D. They cannot remain submerged for long durations

Answer: C

Explanation:

- SSBNs are **nuclear-powered submarines equipped with ballistic missiles**, forming a key component of nuclear deterrence.

90) Which of the following Indian submarine classes is indigenously developed under Project 75?

- A. Shishumar class
- B. Sindhughosh class

- C. Kalvari class
- D. Akula class

Answer: C

Explanation:

- The **Kalvari class submarines** are indigenously built in India under **Project 75**, based on Scorpene design with technology transfer from France.

91) Consider the following statements:

1. India follows a conclusive land titling system.
2. Pattadar passbooks serve as conclusive proof of ownership.
3. The State Emblem of India (Prohibition of Improper Use) Act, 2005 regulates the use of official symbols.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** India follows a **presumptive land titling system**, where ownership is not guaranteed by the state and land records are subject to legal disputes.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** **Pattadar passbooks** are only **record-of-rights documents** and serve as evidence of possession/claims, but they are **not conclusive proof of ownership**.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The **State Emblem of India (Prohibition of Improper Use) Act, 2005** regulates the use of the national emblem and prevents its misuse.

92) With reference to water rights and river disputes involving Andhra Pradesh, consider the following statements:

1. The Krishna River water dispute is adjudicated by a tribunal constituted under the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act.
2. Andhra Pradesh has no share in the

Godavari River waters as most of the river flows through other states.

3. The Polavaram Project has been declared a national project by the Government of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The **Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT)** was constituted under the **Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956** to allocate water among riparian states including Andhra Pradesh.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Andhra Pradesh has a **significant share in the Godavari River waters**, especially in its delta region; hence the statement is factually incorrect.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The **Polavaram Project** has been declared a **national project**, with the Central Government bearing the major cost, recognizing its importance for irrigation and water management.

93) With reference to constitutional and statutory rights of Andhra Pradesh after bifurcation (2014), consider the following statements:

1. The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 provides for special financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Act mandates the establishment of a separate High Court for Andhra Pradesh.
3. The Act guarantees Special Category Status (SCS) to Andhra Pradesh as a constitutional right.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct:

- The Act provides for **financial support and special assistance measures** to Andhra Pradesh to compensate for revenue loss after bifurcation.

Statement 2 is correct:

- The Act provides for the **establishment of a separate High Court**, which later came into existence in Andhra Pradesh.

Statement 3 is incorrect:

- **Special Category Status (SCS)** is not a constitutional or statutory right under the Act; it is a **policy decision of the Central Government**, and not guaranteed in the legislation.

94) Consider the following statements regarding Japan's Specified Skilled Worker (SSW) system:

1. It was introduced to address labour shortages in selected sectors.
2. Workers under the SSW system are completely prohibited from changing employers.
3. Manufacturing sector jobs are covered under the SSW framework.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Japan introduced the **Specified Skilled Worker (SSW)** visa system in 2019 to address **acute labour shortages** in sectors facing workforce constraints.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Workers under the SSW framework are **not completely prohibited from changing employers**. They may change employers within the same

eligible sector, subject to immigration and contractual conditions.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** The **manufacturing sector** is one of the sectors covered under the SSW system, along with industries such as nursing care, construction, agriculture, and food services.

95) Consider the following statements regarding the APSSDC–Japan FVCC partnership:

1. The collaboration primarily targets managerial roles in Japan's automobile companies.
2. The partnership focuses on shop-floor technical roles such as machinists, welders, and industrial workers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The APSSDC–Japan FVCC partnership is **not primarily aimed at managerial or white-collar positions**. Instead, it focuses on addressing labour shortages in Japan's industrial and manufacturing sectors through skilled technical manpower.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The programme mainly targets **shop-floor and factory-level technical jobs** such as machinists, welders, fitters, assembly-line operators, and other manufacturing-related occupations under Japan's skilled worker framework. These sectors face significant labour shortages due to Japan's ageing population and shrinking workforce.
- The initiative aims to create structured employment pathways for Andhra Pradesh youth under Japan's **Specified Skilled Worker (SSW)** and related visa categories.

96) With reference to automobile sector employment in Japan, consider the following statements:

1. Aichi Prefecture is one of Japan's major automobile manufacturing regions.
2. Toyota City is associated with large automobile production clusters.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Aichi Prefecture is one of Japan's most important industrial regions and serves as a major hub of the country's automobile manufacturing industry. It hosts numerous automobile assembly plants, component manufacturers, and engineering facilities.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Toyota City developed around the operations of Toyota Motor Corporation and is globally recognized as a prominent automobile production cluster with extensive supplier networks and manufacturing infrastructure.

97) Consider the following statements regarding hyperscale data centres:

1. Hyperscale data centres require advanced thermal management systems.
2. Submarine fibre-optic cables carry a major share of global internet traffic.
3. Chillers are used in data centres primarily for electricity generation.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Hyperscale data centres house thousands of servers and

networking systems that generate enormous amounts of heat. Therefore, they require advanced thermal management and cooling systems such as liquid cooling, air-conditioning systems, and precision temperature controls to maintain operational efficiency and prevent hardware damage.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Submarine fibre-optic cables form the backbone of global digital communication and carry the vast majority of international internet and data traffic. These undersea cables enable high-speed transmission of data between continents and are critical for cloud computing, global finance, and internet connectivity.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Chillers in data centres are primarily used for **cooling purposes**, not electricity generation. They remove excess heat generated by servers and maintain stable operating temperatures. Electricity generation in data centres is usually handled through external power grids and backup generators such as diesel gensets or battery systems.

98) Andhra Pradesh is emerging as a major hub for which sector in India?

- A. Textile manufacturing
- B. Data centre infrastructure
- C. Ship recycling
- D. Coal mining

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Andhra Pradesh is rapidly emerging as a major data centre and digital infrastructure hub in India. The State government is promoting large-scale investments in Artificial Intelligence (AI), cloud computing, data storage and digital connectivity infrastructure. Visakhapatnam has become an important centre for proposed hyperscale data centres due to its strategic coastal location, availability of land, renewable energy potential and submarine cable connectivity. Major companies have also shown interest in establishing AI and data infrastructure

projects in the State.

99) Visakhapatnam is being developed mainly as a hub for:

- A. Tea exports
- B. Artificial Intelligence and data centres
- C. Cotton textile production
- D. Diamond cutting

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Visakhapatnam is being developed as an important Artificial Intelligence and data centre hub in India. The city is attracting investments in digital infrastructure, cloud computing facilities and AI-based industrial ecosystems. Its coastal location provides access to submarine internet cables, which are essential for high-speed global digital connectivity. The city is also being promoted under port-led industrial development and advanced technology sectors, making it a key centre for future digital economy projects in Andhra Pradesh.

100) The “Deemed DISCOM” policy introduced by Andhra Pradesh is related to:

- A. Fisheries management
- B. Independent power procurement by industries
- C. Crop insurance reforms
- D. Tourism promotion

Answer: B

Explanation:

- The “Deemed DISCOM” policy allows industries and large industrial parks to independently procure, distribute and manage electricity within their operational areas. This reduces dependence on traditional electricity distribution companies (DISCOMs) and helps industries obtain reliable and cost-effective power supply. The policy is particularly important for energy-intensive sectors such as data centres, semiconductor manufacturing and advanced industrial clusters, where uninterrupted electricity supply is essential for operations.

101) With reference to the ‘Mee Intiki – Mee Doctor’ project, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to provide primary healthcare services at the doorstep.
2. It targets 5 lakh poor families in inaccessible areas.
3. It will be implemented for a period of three years.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The project aims to provide doorstep primary healthcare services.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It targets **5 lakh poor families** in inaccessible areas.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It will be implemented over **three years**.
- **Additional Information:** The project gives special focus to pregnant women, children aged **0–6 years**, and bedridden persons.

102) With reference to Andhra Pradesh’s proposed incentive scheme for third and fourth child, consider the following statements:

1. Mothers giving birth to a third child may receive ₹30,000.
2. Mothers giving birth to a fourth child may receive ₹40,000.
3. The scheme has already received final approval from the Council of Ministers.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The proposal provides

₹30,000 for the birth of a third child.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The proposal provides ₹40,000 for the birth of a fourth child.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The proposal has not yet received final approval. It will be taken up after public consultation.

Additional Information:

- If approved, the scheme is expected to be implemented from August 15, 2026.

103) With reference to the proposed NIELIT Innovation & Skilling Centre, consider the following statements:

1. It will focus on Quantum Computing and Artificial Intelligence.
2. It will also cover Quantum Communication and Semiconductor technologies.
3. It is related to student skilling and innovation.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Quantum Computing and AI are major focus areas.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Quantum Communication and Semiconductor technologies are also included.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The centre aims to empower students, researchers and innovators.

Additional Information:

NIELIT is linked with skill development and capacity building in electronics and information technology.

104) With reference to Andhra Pradesh's chilli exports, consider the following statements:

1. Andhra Pradesh accounts for 40% to 45% of India's chilli exports.

2. The revival of the AP–China chilli trade corridor was proposed for Guntur chillies.

3. FPOs are expected to handle procurement, grading and quality standardisation.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Andhra Pradesh accounts for a major share of India's chilli exports.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The revival was proposed to provide a new market for Guntur chillies.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** FPOs would handle procurement, grading and quality standardisation.

Additional Information:

- The CIC is expected to help connect buyers and provide export finance.

105) With reference to Andhra Pradesh's MICE vision, consider the following statements:

1. MICE stands for Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions.
2. Andhra Pradesh plans to study Singapore's Suntec City model.
3. MICE development is unrelated to tourism and services.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** MICE refers to Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Andhra Pradesh plans to study the Suntec City model.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** MICE is closely linked to tourism, hospitality, transport and services.

Additional Information:

- Andhra Pradesh is formulating a new MICE policy.

106) Consider the following items in the context of the Amended Bharat Net Programme in Andhra Pradesh:

1. Upgradation of Phase I Gram Panchayats from linear to ring topology
2. Coverage of Phase II Gram Panchayats
3. On-demand connectivity to villages
4. Replacement of all private telecom operators by a single government operator

Which of the above are part of the programme?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Item 1 is correct:** Phase I Gram Panchayats will be upgraded from **linear to ring topology**.
- **Item 2 is correct:** Phase II Gram Panchayats are included in the programme.
- **Item 3 is correct:** Villages will receive connectivity on an **on-demand basis**.
- **Item 4 is incorrect:** The programme does not aim to replace private telecom operators.

Additional Information:

- Ring topology improves network resilience by providing alternate routes for data flow.

107) Consider the following pairs regarding tourism destinations in Andhra Pradesh:

| Destination | Associated Tourism Type |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Tirumala | Spiritual tourism |
| 2. Gandikota | Adventure tourism |

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 3. Arasavalli | Coastal tourism |
|---------------|-----------------|

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correctly matched:** Tirumala is a major spiritual tourism destination.
- **Pair 2 is correctly matched:** Gandikota is being promoted as an adventure tourism destination.
- **Pair 3 is incorrectly matched:** Arasavalli is mainly associated with spiritual tourism, not coastal tourism.

Additional Information:

- Andhra Pradesh is promoting spiritual circuits connecting **Tirumala, Srisailem, Vijayawada and Arasavalli**.
- Tourism is a labour-intensive sector and can create jobs even in rural and semi-urban regions.

108) Consider the following items in the context of the Amaravati Quantum Valley initiative:

1. Quantum communication hardware
2. Photonic and optical systems
3. Encryption technologies
4. Next-generation cyber defence solutions

Which of the above are associated with the proposed Quantum-Secure Communications Test Bed?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

All the four areas are associated with the proposed test bed.

- **Quantum communication hardware** will help develop secure communication systems.

- **Photonic and optical systems** are important for advanced communication technologies.
- **Encryption technologies** are central to secure data transfer.
- **Cyber defence solutions** are needed to protect digital infrastructure from threats.

Additional Information:

- Such test beds help convert scientific research into practical technologies for real-world use.

109) With reference to the recent irrigation action plan of Andhra Pradesh, consider the following statements:

1. The State government has planned to complete 36 irrigation projects between 2026 and 2028.
2. The plan includes both pending projects and newly identified projects.
3. The Water Calendar will specify irrigation water release dates for farmers.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Andhra Pradesh has prepared a plan to complete **36 irrigation projects between 2026 and 2028.**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The plan includes **25 pending projects** and **11 newly identified projects.**
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The **Water Calendar** will mention water release dates for major deltas and ayacut regions.

Additional Information:

- A Water Calendar helps farmers plan sowing, crop choice and other agricultural activities in advance.

110) With reference to Bharat Forge's proposed Marine Gas Turbine facility in Andhra Pradesh, consider the following statements:

1. It will be India's first private-sector Marine Gas Turbine repair and development facility.
2. The facility will be located in Visakhapatnam.
3. It will be co-located near the Eastern Naval Command and INS Eksila.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The facility is India's first private-sector Marine Gas Turbine repair, overhaul and indigenous development facility.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It will be established at **Visakhapatnam** in Andhra Pradesh.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The facility will be located close to **INS Eksila** and the **Eastern Naval Command**, which are important naval institutions.

Additional Information

- The project is part of India's effort to reduce dependence on foreign suppliers in critical naval propulsion systems.

111) With reference to the Andhra Model of Education, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to achieve 100% school enrolment in Andhra Pradesh.
2. The State government plans to introduce Chromebooks for Class IX students.
3. Smart kitchens introduced in Kadapa schools will be expanded across the State.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The government has set a goal of achieving **100% school enrolment**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Chromebooks are proposed for **Class IX students** to improve classroom learning.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Smart kitchens, already introduced in **Kadapa**, will be expanded across the State.
- **Additional Information:** The reforms aim to improve enrolment, reduce dropouts, strengthen learning outcomes and modernise government schools.

112) With reference to the school education reforms in Andhra Pradesh, consider the following pairs:

| Reform | Purpose |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Star-rating system | Assessment of school infrastructure |
| 2. GFLN programme | Foundational literacy and numeracy |
| 3. LEAP app | Monitoring and transparency |

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- Only one
- Only two
- All the three
- None

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correctly matched:** The star-rating system assesses facilities such as buildings, toilets, drinking water and classrooms.
- **Pair 2 is correctly matched:** GFLN focuses on **Foundational Literacy and Numeracy**.
- **Pair 3 is correctly matched:** The LEAP app and dashboard aim to improve monitoring and transparency.
- **Additional Information:** These reforms combine infrastructure development, learning improvement and technology-based governance.

113) With reference to Operation Clean Sweep, consider the following statements:

1. It is a cleanliness campaign launched by the Andhra Pradesh government across all Urban Local Bodies.
 2. It will be implemented from May 23 to June 20, 2026.
 3. It focuses only on cleaning public toilets.
- 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

Answer: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Operation Clean Sweep will be implemented across all **123 Urban Local Bodies** in Andhra Pradesh.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The campaign will run from **May 23 to June 20, 2026**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The campaign does not focus only on public toilets. It also includes removal of garbage black spots, drain cleaning, waste segregation, and monitoring of bulk waste generators.

Additional Information

- Operation Clean Sweep is linked with the **Swarna Andhra–Swachh Andhra** programme and follows a mission-mode approach.

114) With reference to Garimella Balakrishna Prasad, consider the following statements:

1. He is known for popularising Annamacharya Sankeerthanams.
2. He was associated with the TTD Annamacharya Project.
3. He received Padma Shri 2026 in the field of Literature and Education.

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Garimella Balakrishna Prasad played a major role in popularising **Annamacharya Sankeerthanams**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** He joined the **TTD Annamacharya Project** in **1978**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** He received Padma Shri in the field of **Art**, not Literature and Education.

Additional Information:

- He composed music for over **1,000 Annamacharya Sankeerthanams** and performed more than **6,000 concerts**.

115) With reference to the Andhra Pradesh MSME Parks Initiative, consider the following statements:

1. The initiative aims to develop one MSME park in every Assembly constituency.
2. It is linked with the idea of “One Family – One Entrepreneur.”
3. The Yalluru MSME park will be developed by APIIC.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The initiative aims to develop MSME parks in every Assembly constituency of Andhra Pradesh.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The initiative aligns with the government’s idea of “**One Family – One Entrepreneur.**”
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Yalluru MSME park will be developed under the aegis of **APIIC**.

Additional Information:

- MSME parks are expected to provide industrial plots and common infrastructure such as roads, water supply, drainage and

electricity to support small industries.

116) With reference to the Andhra Pradesh government’s loan initiative for DWCRA women, consider the following statements:

1. DWCRA women can avail loans up to ₹10 lakh without collateral.
2. The loans are meant only for women who are already running enterprises.
3. The initiative aims to support women-led MSME businesses.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** DWCRA women can avail loans up to **₹10 lakh** without collateral.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The loans are available both for existing enterprises and for women planning to start new MSME units.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The initiative aims to strengthen rural livelihoods and support women-led MSME businesses.

Additional Information: Collateral-free credit is important because many rural women may not own land or property in their names.

117) Consider the following sectors:

1. Mushroom farming
2. Honey production
3. Solar drying units
4. Fisheries

Which of the above have been identified as priority areas under the AP collateral-free loan initiative for DWCRA women?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Mushroom farming, honey production, solar drying units and fisheries** are among the

suggested areas under the initiative.

- These sectors have strong relevance to rural economies and agriculture-allied livelihoods.

Additional Information:

- Agriculture-allied enterprises can help rural women earn regular income without moving away from their villages.

118) With reference to India's first indigenous Super Pressure Balloon mission, consider the following statements:

1. It was launched from Vijayawada.
2. It was developed by Red Balloon Aerospace.
3. It is designed to operate in the deep ocean region.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** India's first indigenous Super Pressure Balloon mission was launched from Vijayawada.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It was developed by Red Balloon Aerospace.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** It is designed to operate in the stratosphere, not in the deep ocean region.

Additional Information:

- Super Pressure Balloons are high-altitude platforms useful for communication, observation and scientific research.