

"The significant problems we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them." - Albert Einstein

ANALYSIS / APPROACH / SOURCE / STRATEGY: GENERAL STUDIES **PRE 2025 PAPER**

- TEAM VISION IAS

General Observations of 2025 UPSC Prelims

- This year the paper appeared to be on **moderately tougher side**. Questions in almost all the subjects ranged from easy to medium to difficult level. **The paper in almost all sections touched upon core, basic and fundamental themes having current affairs in focus. This made the paper more relevant and current affairs dominated.**
- **The format of the options in the questions was twisted as instead of numerals, Roman settings was used for e.g. (d) I, II and III. Assertion-reason type questions have seen an increase this year, with some being presented using three statements. These questions typically consist of an assertion followed by two reasons.**
- Many questions though framed on a single topic demanded **in-depth knowledge of multiple facts** from the students.
- **Static portions** like Geography, Environment, Economics, S&T, Polity & Ancient & Modern History etc. were **given due weightage**. And on the other hand, sections like Art & Culture and Medieval History saw a dip.
- This year's International Relations section underscored the significance of consistently engaging with newspapers and current affairs magazines, alongside regular mapping practice. The IR questions were on the expected lines, featuring a dynamic mix with an emphasis on regional groupings (e.g., BIMSTEC, BRICS), memberships (e.g., NATO), and UN-declared years.
- In the **Polity section**, UPSC has asked in-depth core questions necessitating a fundamental and precise understanding from the candidates on topics such as Anti-defection, Pardoning powers, Ordinances etc. As a departure from last year, no direct questions on political philosophy, Preamble etc. were asked.

- In the **Governance section**, questions focused on specific ministries and organizations, assessing candidates' understanding of their functions and roles. For instance, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) were highlighted, emphasizing their mandates in enforcing economic laws and combating financial crimes. Additionally, questions addressed boards such as the National Automotive Board, testing candidates' knowledge of regulatory bodies and their impact on respective sectors.
- In the **History section**, questions from Ancient and Modern History were given more weightage over Art & Culture and Medieval History which signifies a pattern change. However, the topics asked in these sections saw inclination towards asking core static themes using standard sources and few questions linked with Current Affairs like Rajendra-I - Srivijaya invasion inspired from the news related to renaming of Port Blair to Sri Vijaya Puram, Gandhi Peace Prize etc.
- Geography and Environment remain pivotal sections in the examination. Geography questions spanned from foundational topics in the NCERTs—such as isotherms and the International Date Line—to more tricky ones like the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) and time zones.
- Conversely, the Environment section placed a stronger focus on contemporary issues, emphasizing emerging technologies like Direct Air Capture and artificial rainfall, alongside pressing concerns related to climate change. Notably, there was a shift from the traditional emphasis on species and behavioral studies.
- The number of questions from **Economics** was close to the average taken over the last 10 years. The **themes ranged from fiscal policy (union budget) to agriculture**. Two questions from digital payment systems also featured. Surprisingly, there was **no direct question from National Income Accounting** and two similar questions with an element of calculation (basic arithmetic) featured from the section Government revenue & expenditure. **Financial market did get a substantial space**, as questions on AIF, stock market featured in this year's CSE.
- As regards to **S&T and Basic Science**, the questions were reasonable in number. In S&T, questions featured from all the important topics like space sector, defense, IT, biotech and cutting edge technologies. Except the two basic science questions, all the questions were based on current affairs. Surprisingly, there were two questions related to Electric Vehicles. And the difficulty level of the questions was moderate to difficult.
- **Tips & Key Takeaways for the students:**
 - Regardless of the different pattern adopted by UPSC this year by changing the options and limiting the elimination techniques, the students should focus on intentional and observational acquisition of knowledge rather than superficial studying.
 - Standard text books and holistic coverage will remain the key to success in almost all the patterns adopted by UPSC.
 - They should read the newspapers and prepare current affairs comprehensively as the inspiration to ask even the static questions has been current affairs.
 - General awareness themes like sports and international years etc. cannot be ignored completely. Though the focus in this section also continues to be on news inspired and current affairs oriented.

Note: On the basis of the 'Estimation Survey for GS Paper I' filled by the students who appeared in 2025 Prelims Exam.



VisionIAS' Analysis | Expected Cutoff UPSC CSE 2025 Prelims: 80-86

For further details please refer to the following article:

<https://visionias.in/blog/prelims/upsc-prelims-2025-expected-cut-off>

Nature of Question		
F: Fundamental, Conventional and conceptual question which is easily available in commonly recommended books. If a current affairs source is mentioned then it indicates that you had one more reason to prepare this.		
FA: Fundamental Applied question is an analytical question which requires information + application of mind. Answer to these questions are from commonly recommended books but not so obvious to find.		
CA: Current Affair question which can be answered almost completely using given source alone.		
CAA: Current Affair Applied question needs information from more than one source to answer AND/OR application of mind (common sense and overall understanding) of aspirant. This is why source for these questions may not be answering the question completely.		
FCA: Fundamental + Current affair. This is a F or FA question supplemented with current affairs or a current affairs question that needs background information for complete answer. Source to these questions might not answer the questions in entirety.		
U (Unconventional Question): Unconventional Question means the question that is distantly related to syllabus provided by UPSC. It is neither present in even reference sources (in addition to recommended books) nor prominently in news.		

Source Type	Difficulty Level
EM = Essential material like basic books etc.	E = Easy
RM = Reference material	M = Medium
EN = Essential News/Current Affairs	D = Difficult
RR = Random Read like random website	

Q.N.	Section	Questions	Answer	Explanation	Motivation / Current Affairs	Level	Nature	Source	Source Type	VisionIAS Test Series/Sandhan/PT 365/Open Test/Abhyaas
1	S&T	Consider the following types of vehicles: I. Full battery electric vehicles II. Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles III. Fuel cell-electric hybrid vehicles How many of the above are considered as alternative powertrain vehicles? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	C	A powertrain is the system in a vehicle that generates power and delivers it to the wheels, allowing the vehicle to move. It typically includes the engine, transmission, and drivetrain (including axles, differentials, and drive shafts). Cars and buses have powertrains. All the three types of vehicles are alternative powertrain vehicles because they use non-conventional propulsion systems compared to traditional internal combustion engines (ICE). I. Full battery electric vehicles (BEVs): These are powered entirely by electricity stored in batteries and use non-ICE systems. Hence option I is correct. II. Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles (FCEVs): Use hydrogen fuel cells to generate electricity to power electric motors. Hence it has an alternative powertrain. Hence option II is correct. III. Fuel cell-electric hybrid vehicles: Combine a fuel cell and a battery or other electric storage system. Thus it is an alternative powertrain. Hence option III is correct.	Although the word 'powertrain' is not often taken by laymen, alternative energy systems and substitutes for Internal Combustion Engines (ICE) are always in the news. Additionally, the flagging-off of Green Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus from Kartavya Path, New Delhi in 2023 is one more reason.	M	CA	https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1960481 https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/indianoil-unveils-indias-first-green-hydrogen-run-bus-that-emits-just-water/article67344306.ece	RM	PT 365 2025 SnT: Article 9.3. Electric Vehicles News today (22nd December 2023): Parliamentary Committee submitted report on Promotion of Electric Vehicles (EVs) in the Country
2	Current Affairs (S&T)	With reference to Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), consider the following statements: I. All types of UAVs can	D	Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), often referred to as drones, are aircraft that operate without a human pilot on board. They can be controlled remotely or autonomously, and are used for a wide variety of purposes including surveillance, delivery, and even military operations.	Uses of drones and UAVs have always been in the news; more	E	CAA	"https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/watch-demo-of-	EN	Monthly Current Affairs January 2024: Article 4.3. Drones and Security News today (10 May 2024): Kamikaze Drones

		do vertical landing. II. All types of UAVs can do automated hovering. III. All types of UAVs can use battery only as a source of power supply. How many of the statements given above are correct? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	Vertical Landing and Take-Off: Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), often referred to as drones, are aircraft that operate without a human pilot on board. They can be controlled remotely or autonomously, and are used for a wide variety of purposes including surveillance, delivery, and even military operations. A type of drone known as fixed-wing drone is an aerial vehicle that utilizes rigid wings, a fuselage, tails, a propeller, and a motor to cover long distances at high speeds. Unlike other drones, they cannot hover or land at specific points, requiring a runway or a net for landing. Thus all drones (for example fixed-wing drones) cannot do vertical landing. A fixed-wing drone is an aerial vehicle that utilizes rigid wings, a fuselage, tails, a propeller, and a motor to cover long distances at high speeds. Unlike other drones, they cannot hover or land at specific points, requiring a runway or a net for landing. Thus all drones (like fixed wing drones) cannot do vertical landing. Hence statement I is not correct. Automated Hovering: Again, unlike other drones, traditional fixed wing drones cannot hover or land at specific points, requiring a runway or a net for landing. Hence statement I is not correct. Battery Usage: UAVs come in many configurations, including: Multirotors (e.g., quadcopters) Fixed-wing UAVs Hybrid VTOLs High-endurance military UAVs (e.g., Predator drones) Many of these cannot rely solely on batteries due to power and endurance limitations. Energy density of batteries is lower than fuel: For long-range UAVs, especially fixed-wing or military UAVs, batteries cannot provide sufficient power or duration. Hence statement-III is not correct.	recently during Operation Sindoor (although this event was too recent to have been taken into consideration)		hydrogen-powered-vertical-take-off-and-landing-aircraft/article68814570.ece https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhrapradesh/flying-car-takes-off-guntur-startup-successfully-tests-pilot-less-evtol-prototype/article69372820.ece https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/computer-science/fixed-wing-drone https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0306261919315107				
3	S&T	In the context of electric vehicle batteries, consider the following elements: I. Cobalt	C	A lithium-ion battery typically has: a cathode (positive electrode), an anode (negative electrode) and electrolyte.		D	FCA	https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/technology/ev-batteries-under-the	EN	PT 365 2025 Science and Technology: 7.2. BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS)

		II. Graphite III. Lithium IV. Nickel How many of the above usually make up battery cathodes? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All the four	I. Cobalt: It is commonly used in cathodes of batteries like Lithium Cobalt Oxide (LCO), NMC (Nickel Manganese Cobalt), and NCA (Nickel Cobalt Aluminum). Cobalt improves energy density and battery life. Thus option I is correct. II. Graphite: It is used in the anodes, not the cathode. Furthermore, it's the most common anode material in lithium-ion batteries. This option II is not correct. III. Lithium: It is present in both cathodes and electrolyte. In the cathode, it forms compounds like LiCoO_2, LiFePO_4, LiNiMnCoO_2, etc. Thus option III is correct. IV. Nickel: Nickel is used in cathodes like NMC and NCA. Enhances energy density and storage capacity. Thus option IV is correct. Hence option (c) is the correct answer.				hood/article67772028.ece	News today (23 Apr 2024): South Korean scientists develop sodium ion battery that can be charged in seconds Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following statements: 1. This is a dark-coloured mineral and is also known by the name plumbago. 2. Tamil Nadu has the highest reserves of this mineral. 3. The mineral is used in Lithium-ion batteries and nuclear reactors. Which of the following minerals has been described in the statements given above? (a) Lignite (Brown Coal) (b) Lead (c) Graphite (d) Pyrite (Fool's Gold)
4	Environment & Ecology	Consider the following: I. Cigarette butts II. Eyeglass lenses III. Car tyres How many of them contain plastic? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	Option 1 is correct: Cigarette butts are a persistent form of toxic plastic pollution. Tobacco product waste also contains over 7000 toxic chemicals, including known human carcinogens. Cigarette filters are made of cellulose acetate and therefore also contribute significantly to plastic pollution Option 2 is correct: Many eyeglass lenses are made of plastic. CR-39, also known as Columbia resin #39, is a common plastic material used in lenses. Other plastics like polycarbonate and Trivex are also used, each with	Plastic Pollution is a major environmental issue often seen in the news. Nanoplastic pollution due to tyres	M	CAA	https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/article/tires-unseen-plastic-polluter#:~:text=Today%20tires%20consist%20of%20about,major%20tire%20	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following statements: Statement I: Pollution from the tyres of vehicles is on the rise on account of increasing number of electric vehicles. Statement II: Extra weight of electric vehicles, due to their

			its own properties. Plastic lenses offer advantages like being lightweight and less prone to shattering compared to traditional glass lenses. Option 3 is correct: Tyre particles are a significant but often-overlooked contributor to microplastic pollution. They account for 28% of microplastics entering the environment globally. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.	was frequently seen in the news.		makers%20as%20members. https://theconversation.com/car-tyres-shed-a-quarter-of-all-microplastics-in-the-environment-urgent-action-is-needed-244132 https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-climate/tyre-particles-how-evs-are-a-climate-solution-with-pollution-problem-10025113/	batteries, leads to more abrasion releasing many toxic and carcinogenic chemicals such as 6PPD. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I. (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I. (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect (d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.		
5	Environment & Ecology	Consider the following substances: I. Ethanol II. Nitroglycerine III. Urea Coal gasification technology can be used in the production of how many of them? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	B Coal gasification is a process that converts coal into a gaseous fuel called syngas (synthesis gas), primarily composed of carbon monoxide (CO) and hydrogen (H₂). This syngas can then be used as a fuel for various applications, including electricity generation, and as a feedstock for chemical production. Option 1 is correct: Syn Gas produced from Coal gasification can be usable in producing Synthetic Natural Gas (SNG), energy fuel (methanol & ethanol), ammonia for fertilizers and petro-chemicals. Synata Bio has designed an advanced syngas to ethanol technology to ferment syngas. The plant design includes utilization of	Coal Gasification is often seen in the news. Recently, Government of India approved two such projects in West Bengal and Odisha.	D	FCA	https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1889360#:~:text=TFL%20has%20been%20mandated%20by,Ton%20per%20annum%20(LMTPA).&text=Coal%20gasification%20plants%20are%20strate	RR	PT 365 2025 Environment: Article 4.4.6. Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) Monthly Current Affairs June 2024: Article 5.4. Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) News today (06 Feb 2025): Ministry of Coal announced applicants under Category-II of the Financial Incentive Scheme (FIS)

			unique and proprietary anaerobic microorganisms which provides higher hydrogen uptake and increases overall yield to ethanol. The production reactors produce a liquid product stream, “broth”, containing the dilute ethanol product (about 2.5%-3% w/v) in water that is distilled and dehydrated to produce the desired high purity thanol, prior to being sent to the finished product tanks. Option 3 is correct: Coal gasification based fertilizer plant at Talcher (Odisha): Talcher Fertilizer Ltd. (a joint venture of CIL, GAIL, RCF and FCIL) is engaged in setting up of an integrated coal gasification based urea plant wherein high ash coal from nearby Talcher coalfields blended with Pet-coke shall be utilized to produce 1.27 Million Metric Tonnes Per Annum (MMTPA) neem-coated Urea. Currently, construction activities are underway. Option 2 is not correct: Nitroglycerin, which was originally synthesized by Ascanio Sobrero, was used by Alfred Nobel to manufacture dynamite. It was in Nobel's dynamite factories in the late 1860s that the antianginal effect of nitroglycerin was discovered. Nitroglycerine, therefore, is a vasodilatory drug used primarily to provide relief from anginal chest pain. It is not produced using coal gasification. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.				gically,to%20start%20by%20September%202024. https://coal.gov.in/sites/default/files/ncgm/ncgm21-09-21.pdf			
6	Current Affairs (S&T)	What is the common characteristic of the chemical substances generally known as CL-20, HMX and LLM-105, which are sometimes talked about in media? (a) These are alternatives to hydro-fluorocarbon refrigerants	B	CL-20, HMX, and LLM-105 are high-energy explosives, primarily used in military and defense applications. Hence option (b) is the correct answer. CL-20 (Hexanitrohexaazaisowurtzitane) is one of the most powerful non-nuclear explosives known to science. Developed in the 1980s by the U.S. Navy, CL-20 belongs to a class of cage-structured nitramines. However, it is also extremely sensitive to shock and friction, which limits its widespread deployment and demands highly controlled handling and storage.	SEBEX 2 is based on high-melting explosives (HMX) and was in the news	E	CA	https://m.economictimes.com/news/defence/what-is-sebex-2-indias-new-explosive-that-is-one-of-the-most-powerful-bomb/articleshow/111400988.cms	EN	PT 365 2025 SnT: Article 8.7.1. SEBEX 2

		(b) These are explosives in military weapons (c) These are high-energy fuels for cruise missiles (d) These are fuels for rocket propulsion	HMX (High Melting Explosive or Octogen) is a widely used nitroamine explosive known for its high detonation velocity and pressure. Chemically more stable than CL-20, HMX is frequently used in military-grade plastic explosives, rocket propellants, and shaped charges. It is more powerful than RDX but less energetic than CL-20. LLM-105 (2,6-diamino-3,5-dinitropyrazine-1-oxide) is a newer class of energetic material developed with the goal of enhancing safety without significantly compromising explosive power. Unlike CL-20 and HMX, LLM-105 is classified as an "insensitive high explosive," meaning it has low sensitivity to shock, heat, or friction, making it much safer for transport and handling.					
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FOUNDATION COURSE

GS 2026, 2027 & 2028 PRELIMS CUM MAINS

DELHI : 29 MAY, 8 AM | 6 JUNE, 11 AM | 12 JUNE, 8 AM | 17 JUNE, 5 PM | 20 JUNE, 11 AM | 23 JUNE, 2 PM | 30 JUNE, 8 AM

हिन्दी माध्यम : 27 MAY, 11 AM

GTB Nagar 27 MAY, 6 PM | 14 JUNE, 8 AM | 23 JUNE, 5 PM

AHMEDABAD 7 JUN, 9:30 AM	BENGALURU 28 MAY, 5 PM	BHOPAL 26 MAY, 5 PM	CHANDIGARH 18 JUNE, 5 PM	HYDERABAD 11 JUNE, 8 AM & 3:30 PM	JAIPUR 18 MAY, 5 PM 4 JUNE, 7:30 AM & 5 PM	JODHPUR 15 MAY, 8 AM	LUCKNOW 19 MAY, 5 PM	PUNE 8 MAY, 8 AM & 4 PM
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7	Current Affairs (S&T)	Consider the following statements: I. It is expected that Majorana I chip will enable quantum computing. II. Majorana I chip has been introduced by Amazon Web Services (AWS). III. Deep learning is a subset of machine learning. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III	C	Statement I is correct: The Majorana I (Majorana-based) chip refers to an approach using Majorana fermions — exotic quantum particles — for topological quantum computing, which promises greater stability and reduced error rates. This is a research frontier in quantum computing. Statement II is not correct: AWS (Amazon Braket) is working on quantum computing, but the Majorana-based chip is being developed by Microsoft, in collaboration with researchers at Station Q. Statement III is correct: Deep learning is a specialized field within machine learning that uses multi-layered neural networks. It's a subset used for tasks like image recognition, natural language processing, etc.	Majorana was in the news and extensively covered	E	CA	https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/technology/microsoft-creates-chip-it-says-shows-quantum-computers-are-years-not-decades-away/article69241156.ece https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/iit-m-launches-btech-in-ai-and-data-analytics-from-this-academic-year/article68289158.ece	EN	PT 365 2025 Update Part 1: Article 6.2.1.1. Majorana 1 News today (01 May 2024): Case registered against alleged Deepfake Video of the Union Home Minister in Maharashtra (21 Feb 2025): Microsoft launched Majorana 1 Quantum Chip 2025 All India Test Series Test Code - 4731 Consider the following Pairs: Quantum Computing Chip Associated Company 1. Ocelot Amazon 2. Majorana 1 Microsoft 3. Sycamore Google How many of the above are correctly matched with their respective companies?
8	Current Affairs (S&T)	With reference to monoclonal antibodies, often mentioned in news, consider the following statements: I. They are man-made proteins. II. They stimulate immunological function due to their ability to bind to specific antigens. III. They are used in treating viral infections	D	Monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) are laboratory-engineered proteins that mimic the immune system's natural ability to fight harmful pathogens. Hence statement I is correct. Produced from a single clone of B-cells, they are designed to bind to specific antigens such as those found on viruses, bacteria, or cancer cells. This targeted action allows them to neutralize threats, mark infected or malignant cells for destruction, or block harmful biological processes. Hence statement II is correct.	In the context of immune system, many of the cutting-edge developments in biotechnology have been in the news	M	FCA	https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/nipah-virus-outbreak-kerala-what-are-monoclonal-antibodies/article67330401.ece https://www.bu-	EN	PT 365 2025 SnT: Article 1.1.7.1. Recombinant Proteins Monthly Current Affairs July 2024: Article 7.5.6. Monoclonal Antibodies News today (15 July 2024): Monoclonal Antibodies Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative

		like that of Nipah virus. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III		mAbs are widely used in treating cancers, autoimmune disorders, and viral infections like COVID-19, Ebola, and Nipah. Their precision makes them powerful tools in both therapy and diagnostics. In India, the monoclonal antibody from Australia has been used on some individuals around the world. Its use was found to be safe. Hence statement III is correct.			standard.com/health/kerala-s-lab-develops-non-infectious-nipah-virus-like-particles-1240603008151.html https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/bio-similars-and-the-need-for-a-policy-prescription/art	Consider the following statements regarding monoclonal antibodies: 1. They are artificial antibodies that mimic the activity of our immune systems. 2. They have been used in the treatment of various diseases, including cancer and autoimmune disorders. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2	
9	Basic Science	Consider the following statements: I. No virus can survive in ocean waters. II. No virus can infect bacteria. III. No virus can change the cellular transcriptional activity in host cells. How many of the statements given above are correct? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	D	A virus is a submicroscopic infectious agent that replicates only inside the living cells of an organism. Viruses infect all life forms, from animals and plants to microorganisms, including bacteria and archaea. Viruses are found in almost every ecosystem on Earth and are the most numerous type of biological entity. Statement I is not correct: Viruses are abundant and active in ocean waters. Marine viruses, particularly bacteriophages (viruses that infect bacteria), are the most numerous biological entities in the ocean. They play a crucial role in regulating microbial populations and nutrient cycles. Studies have shown that viruses can survive in seawater for extended periods, depending on environmental conditions. Statement II is not correct: This statement is inaccurate. Bacteriophages, or phages, are viruses that specifically infect and replicate within bacterial cells. They are ubiquitous in environments where bacteria are present, including soil, water, and the human body. Phages play	Bacteriophages were in the news during the Mahakumbh Mela	E	F	https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/uttar-pradesh/up-govt-quotes-scientist-to-debunk-doubts-about-ganga-waters-purity-at-maha-kumbh/article69245735.ece https://www.downtoearth.org.in/science-technology/international-day-for-biological-diversity-2020-why-viruses-	RR Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative: Consider the following statements regarding Viruses: 1. All viruses contains both RNA and DNA. 2. Bacteriophages (viruses that infect the bacteria) are usually single-stranded DNA viruses 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

			a significant role in controlling bacterial populations and have been explored as alternatives to antibiotics in phage therapy. Statement III is not correct: Viruses can and often do alter the transcriptional activity of their host cells. Upon infection, many viruses manipulate the host's gene expression machinery to favor viral replication and suppress host defenses. For instance, certain viral proteins can interact with host transcription factors, leading to changes in gene expression that facilitate viral propagation			are-necessary-71305 https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC145303/ https://academic.oup.com/nar/article/52/9/5016/7627474?				
10	Environment & Ecology	Consider the following statements: Statement I: Activated carbon is a good and an attractive tool to remove pollutants from effluent streams and to remediate contaminants from various industries. Statement II: Activated carbon exhibits a large surface area and a strong potential for adsorbing heavy metals. Statement III: Activated carbon can be easily synthesized from environmental wastes with high carbon content. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?	A	Activated carbon is a popular and effective method for removing pollutants from water, particularly in wastewater treatment and industrial processes. Activated carbon is produced from environmental wastes with high carbon content. Lignocellulosic and coal materials have been used as raw materials planned for manufacturing of activated carbons. There are two approaches for preparing activated carbon that can be used in water purification processes: physical activation and chemical activation. Activated carbon has good potential for adsorbing heavy metals because of its greater surface area, microporous ability, and chemical complexity of its external area. Activated carbon can be made relatively easily at home using materials like coconut shells or wood and is therefore an attractive tool to remove pollutants. Hence, Both statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I.	Recently, a research team in Kerala has engineered activated carbon from coconut rachis. It is also frequently seen in the news.	M	FCA	https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/new-method-to-transform-coconut-rachis-into-high-performance-carbon-material/article69545286.ece	EN	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which of the following are the uses of activated charcoal? 1. For curing drug overdose 2. Water filtration 3. Cheesemaking 4. Purifying air Select the correct answer code given below. (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2, 3 and 4 only (c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

	(a) Both statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I (b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I (c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct.						
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लाइव / ऑनलाइन
कक्षाएं भी उपलब्ध

फाउंडेशन कोर्स

सामान्य अध्ययन

2025, 2026 & 2027 प्रारंभिक एवं मुख्य परीक्षा

DELHI: 27 MAY, 11 AM

JAIPUR	JODHPUR
4 JUNE, 3:30 PM	15 MAY, 4 PM

11	Environment & Ecology	Consider the following statements: Statement I: Studies indicate that carbon dioxide emissions from cement industry account for more than 5% of global carbon emissions. Statement II: Silica-bearing clay is mixed with limestone while manufacturing cement. Statement III: Limestone is converted into lime during clinker production for cement manufacturing. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I (b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I (c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct	A	The high-temperature process for manufacturing cement, the all-important glue that binds the components of concrete, accounts for roughly 8% of the world's anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions and consumes 2–3% of the global energy supply, according to the International Energy Agency. The method calls for heating powdered limestone, a widely available, inexpensive material, and clay to roughly 1,450 °C in a kiln. The high-temperature process, known as calcination (clinker production), converts calcium carbonate (CaCO₃), the principal component of limestone, to calcium oxide (CaO), or lime, releasing CO₂. That simple reaction, which is key to making cement, is the source of about half the CO₂ emissions in cement manufacturing. Also, mixing silica-based clay with limestone during cement production leads to the release of CO₂. This occurs because there is use of energy for this process and it releases CO₂ gas. Hence, Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I.	Industries with high CO ₂ emissions are an important topic under Global Warming	D	FA	https://techxplore.com/news/2025-01-sustainable-cement-electrochemical-neutralize-industry.html https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/15/21/15407 https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/gp/bgp/3_1_Cement_Production.pdf	RR	News today (24 May 2024): Zero Carbon Cement
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12	Current Affairs (Environment & Ecology)	Consider the following statements: Statement I: At the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28), India refrained from signing the 'Declaration on Climate and Health'. Statement II: The COP 28 Declaration on Climate and Health is a binding declaration; and if signed, it becomes mandatory to decarbonize health sector. Statement III: If India's health sector is decarbonized, the resilience of its health-care system may be compromised. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I (b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of the them explains Statement I (c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains	C	India has refused to sign the COP28 Declaration on Climate and Health. The declaration, aimed at addressing the critical intersection between climate change and global health, emphasises the need for swift and substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Hence, statement I is correct. However, a sticking point emerged as the draft outlined a commitment to reducing greenhouse gases for cooling applications within healthcare infrastructure - a measure India finds difficult to comply with. The declaration, aimed at addressing the critical intersection between climate change and global health, emphasises the need for swift and substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. The COP28 Declaration on Climate and Health is a non-binding, non-negotiated call to action and collective commitment that reflects the concerns and common position of countries on the importance of health within climate discourse and in the COP process. Hence, statement II is not correct. India expressed concerns that greenhouse gas reduction for cooling in the health sector could hinder its ability to meet the growing demands for medical services, particularly in remote and underserved areas. The decarbonization may hamper the resilience of healthcare sector of India. Hence, statement III correctly explains the statement I.	COP 28 and COP 29 of UNFCCC were frequently seen in the news.	M	CA	https://healthpolicy-watch.news/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/COP28-Health-Declaration-En-FIN.pdf https://www.livemint.com/news/india/india-refuses-to-sign-cop28-declaration-on-climate-and-health-heres-why-11701618953067.html	EN	PT 365 2024 Environment: Article 1.2.1. 28th Conference of the Parties (CoP28) Monthly Current Affairs December 2023: Article 5.1. COP28 2025 All India Test Series - Test 4719: In the context of the Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (ATACH), consider the following statements: 1. ATACH is to realize the ambition set at COP26 to build climate resilient and sustainable health system. 2. ATACH includes participation from both governmental and non-governmental organizations. 3. It is a distinct legal entity and it derives its legal status from WHO. How many of the statements given above are correct? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None
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		Statement I (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct								
13	Environment & Ecology	Consider the following statements: Statement I: Scientific studies suggest that a shift is taking place in the Earth's rotation and axis. Statement II: Solar flares and associated coronal mass ejections bombarded the Earth's outermost atmosphere with tremendous amount of energy. Statement III: As the Earth's polar ice melts, the water tends to move towards the equator. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statements II and III are correct and both of them explain Statement I (b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I (c) Only one of the Statement II and III is	B	Recently, researchers used more than 120 years of data to decipher how melting ice, dwindling groundwater, and rising seas are nudging the planet's spin axis and lengthening days. Days on Earth are growing slightly longer, and that change is accelerating. The reason is connected to the same mechanisms that also have caused the planet's axis to meander by about 30 feet (10 meters) in the past 120 years. The findings come from two recent NASA-funded studies focused on how the climate-related redistribution of ice and water has affected Earth's rotation. In recent decades, the faster melting of ice sheets has shifted mass from the poles toward the equatorial ocean. This redistribution occurs when ice sheets and glaciers melt more than they grow from snowfall and when aquifers lose more groundwater than precipitation replenishes. These resulting shifts in mass cause the planet to wobble as it spins and its axis to shift location — a phenomenon called polar motion. They also cause Earth's rotation to slow, measured by the lengthening of the day. Both have been recorded since 1900. This flattening causes Earth to decelerate and the day to lengthen, similar to when an ice skater lowers and spreads their arms to slow a spin. Although solar flares, and associated coronal mass ejections, can bombard Earth's outermost atmosphere with tremendous amounts of energy, most of that energy is reflected back into space by the Earth's magnetic field. While the energy doesn't decisively affect earth's rotation and axis, it causes heating and expansion of the thermosphere, disrupts radio communications, and affects satellites and power grids. Auroras, or the northern and southern lights, are also a	Recently, it was reported that the Earth's rotation speed was slowing down due to glacial melt.	E	CAA	https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/melting-polar-ice-is-slowing-earth-s-rotation-lengthening-days-says-study-1240716006521.html https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/nasa-funded-studies-explain-how-climate-is-changing-earths-rotation/ https://www.climate.gov/news-features/climate-qa/do-solar-storms-cause-heat-waves-earth#:~:text=Although%20solar%20flares%2C%20and%20associated,measurable%20influence%20on%20surfa	EN	PT 365 2025 Environment: 6.5.4. NEGATIVE LEAP SECOND SnT: 5.2.2. Solar Storm (Geomagnetic Storm) Monthly Current Affairs May 2024: Article 7.2. Solar Storm (Geomagnetic Storm) News today (30 April 2024): According to a study, climate change has slowed Earth's rotation and could affect timekeeping

		correct and that explains Statement I (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct		direct result of these interactions. Hence, Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I.				ce%20temperat ure.		
14	Environment & Ecology	Consider the following statements: Statement I: Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on climate change is frequently discussed in global discussions on sustainable development and climate change. Statement II: Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on climate change sets out the principles of carbon markets. Statement III: Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on climate change intends to promote inter-country non-market strategies to reach their climate targets. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I	A	Article 6 of the Paris Agreement enables international cooperation to tackle climate change and to unlock financial support for developing countries. There are three components to Article 6: Article 6.2: Provides accounting and reporting guidance for Parties to use internationally transferred mitigation outcomes towards their nationally determined contributions (NDCs). Article 6.4: Establishes a new UNFCCC mechanism which can be used to trade high-quality carbon credits. Article 6.8: Provides opportunities for non-market-based cooperation for enhancing climate action. In essence, Article 6 aims to facilitate international collaboration and enhance climate ambition by enabling countries to work together to reduce emissions and achieve their climate goals. It's a crucial part of the Paris Agreement, allowing for flexibility and cooperation in implementing the treaty's commitments. Hence, Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I.	Recently, the United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties (COP) of the UNFCCC, COP29 was held which marked the adoption of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement after nine years of negotiations .	E	CA	https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/cooperative-implementation#:~:text=Article%20of%20the%20Paris%20Agreement%20enables%20international%20cooperation%20to,cooperation%20for%20enhancing%20climate%20action.	EN	PT 365 2025 Environment: Article 2.2.4. Article 6 Monthly Current Affairs November 2024: Article 5.2. Carbon Trading and Market 2025 All India Test Series Test 4719: Recently, the United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties (COP) of the UNFCCC, COP29 was held which marked the adoption of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement after nine years of negotiations. The conference was held at (a) Geneva, Switzerland (b) Baku, Azerbaijan (c) Dubai, United Arab Emirates (d) Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt

		production and in food processing. III. In aviation, it can be a source of carbon for combining with hydrogen to create synthetic low-carbon fuel. Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) I and II only (b) III only (c) I, II and III (d) None of the above statements is correct	production of cement, plastics, carbon fibers, and other industrial applications. This helps keep carbon stored in the infrastructure, preventing its release into the atmosphere for extended periods. DAC-captured CO₂ can be used for applications like carbonation in beverages and as a food preservative. Hence, statement II is correct. Direct air capture (DAC) can be a source of carbon for combining with hydrogen to create synthetic low-carbon fuels, a technology that is increasingly being explored for decarbonizing aviation. This process, also known as Power-to-Liquid (PtL) or e-fuel production, uses renewable electricity to split water into hydrogen and oxygen, then combines the hydrogen with CO₂ captured from the atmosphere via DAC to produce synthesis gas, which is further processed into synthetic jet fuel. Hence, statement III is correct.			,Direct%20air%20capture%20(DAC)%20technologies%20extract%20CO2%20directly%20from%20the,do%20we%20need%20to%20go? https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsmaterials.3c00061#:~:text=The%20captured%20CO2%20can,the%20atmosphere%20for%20extended%20periods.https://www.airbus.com/en/newsroom/stories/2022-07-direct-air-carbon-capture-and-storage-for-aviation-explainedhttps://www.iaata.org/contentassets/5499da2b3b7d46b3b13be4dad54a9689/dac-and-dacs-publication-10022023.pdf	News Today (15 May 2025): India Unveils First Cluster of Five Carbon Capture and Utilisation (CCU) Testbeds for Cement Sector" 2025 All India Test Series Test 4719: Which of the following processes is/are associated with the function of carbon sinks? 1. Direct air capture (DAC) 2. Ocean Iron fertilization 3. Soil carbon sequestration 4. Ocean Alkalinity Enhancement Select the correct answer using code given below. (a) 1 and 4 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
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17	Current Affairs (Environment & Ecology)	Regarding Peacock tarantula (Gooty tarantula), consider the following statements: I. It is an omnivorous crustacean. II. Its natural habitat in India is only limited to some forest areas. III. In its natural habitat, it is an arboreal species. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I only (b) I and III (c) II only (d) II and III	D	The Gooty tarantula is also known as the peacock tarantula or metallic tarantula because of its attractive iridescent colouration. Peacock tarantulas are carnivorous, meaning they primarily eat other animals, specifically insects. They have vibrant blue coloration and are critically endangered. Hence, statement I is not correct. The species is primarily found in a limited area within the deciduous forests of Andhra Pradesh, India. Specifically, its habitat is a small, disturbed reserve forest of less than 100 square kilometers. While it's been sighted in other forest areas, it's generally considered endemic to this specific region. Hence, statement II is correct. It is an arboreal species, meaning it lives in trees in its natural habitat. In Andhra Pradesh, India, where they dwell in holes of tall trees. Hence, statement III is correct.	Species in News	M	FCA	https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/rare-tarantula-sighted-in-villupuram-district/article29272058.ece https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/etimes/trending/peacock-spiders-a-look-at-their-habitat-diet-and-extinction-risks/articleshow/114312138.cms	RR	
18	Environment & Ecology	Consider the following statements: I. Carbon dioxide (CO ₂) emissions in India are less than 0.5 t CO ₂ /capita. II. In terms of CO ₂ emissions from fuel combustion, India ranks second in Asia-Pacific region. III. Electricity and heat producers are the largest source of CO ₂ emissions in India. Which of the statements given above is/are	C	In 2022, India's per capita CO₂ emissions rose to 2 tonnes, representing a 5% increase, but remained less than half the global average. The United States topped the per capita emissions chart with 14.9 tonnes, followed by Russia (11.4), Japan (8.5), China (8), and the European Union (6.2), according to the Global Carbon Project. The global average was 4.7 tonnes. Hence, statement I is not correct. In terms of CO₂ emissions from fuel combustion, India ranks second in Asia-Pacific region. Hence, statement II is correct. Electricity and heat producers are the largest source of CO₂ emissions in India. Hence, statement III is correct.	India's carbon emissions are frequently discussed in the news.	D	CAA	https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/coal/indias-per-capita-emissions-less-than-half-of-global-average-in-2022-report/105751832#:~:text=The%20data%20provided%20by%20the,US%20(14%20per%20cent).,https://www.ie	RR	

		correct? (a) I and III only (b) II only (c) II and III only (d) I, II and III					a.org/countries/india/emissions		
19	Basic Science	Consider the following pairs: Plant Description I. Cassava : Woody shrub II. Ginger : Herb with pseudostem III. Malabar spinach : Herbaceous climber IV. Mint : Annual shrub V. Papaya : Woody shrub How many of the above pairs are correctly matched? (a) Only two (b) Only three (c) Only four (d) All the five	B	Cassava (<i>Manihot esculenta</i>) is a woody shrub native to South America, cultivated primarily for its starchy tuberous roots, which serve as a major source of carbohydrates in tropical and subtropical regions. It is also known as tapioca in parts of India. Hence pair I is correctly matched. Ginger (<i>Zingiber officinale</i>), originally from Southeast Asia, is a perennial herb that produces a pseudostem made up of tightly packed leaf bases. Its rhizome is widely used in cooking and traditional medicine. Hence pair II is correctly matched. Malabar spinach (<i>Basella alba</i>) is a fast-growing herbaceous climber native to South Asia. It thrives in hot, humid climates and is valued for its edible, mucilaginous leaves and stems, which are rich in nutrients. Hence pair III is correctly matched. Mint (<i>Mentha species</i>) is a vigorous perennial herb It spreads rapidly through underground rhizomes and is known for its aromatic leaves, which are widely used in culinary, cosmetic, and medicinal applications. Hence pair IV is not correctly matched. Finally, papaya (<i>Carica papaya</i>) is a tropical plant that appears tree-like but is actually a large herb with a soft, non-woody stem. Native to Central America, it is grown for its sweet, nutritious fruit and has several traditional medicinal uses. Despite its size, papaya’s structure classifies it botanically as an herb, not a woody shrub. Hence pair V is not correctly matched.	Not current affairs-derived, but mint, ginger, papaya are commonly known plants	D	F	https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC10571719/#:~:text=The%20cassava%20plant%20is%20a%20perennial%20woody,up%20to%20three%20meters%20in%20tropical%20regions.&text=It%20is%20described%20as%20a%20dicotyledonous%20plant,t%20throughout%20Africa%2C%20Asia%2C%20Central%20and%20South%20America.https://spiisry.in/product/dry-ginger/#:~:text=Description,are%20used%20in%20food%20processing.https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/articles/malabar-spinach-basella-alba/	RR

https://nhb.gov.in/Horticulture%20Crops/Mint/Mint1.htm#:~:text=3.4%20Economic%20Importance,to%20high%20cost%20of%20production.
https://www.britannica.com/plant/papaya

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20	Environment & Ecology	With reference to the planet Earth, consider the following statements: I. Rain forests produce more oxygen than that produced by oceans. II. Marine phytoplankton and photo-synthetic bacteria produce about 50% of world's oxygen. III. Well-oxygenated surface water contains several folds higher oxygen than that in atmospheric air. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I and II (b) II only (c) I and III (d) None of the above statements is correct	B	Scientists estimate that roughly half of the oxygen production on Earth comes from the ocean. The majority of this production is from oceanic plankton — drifting plants, algae, and some bacteria that can photosynthesize. One particular species, Prochlorococcus, is the smallest photosynthetic organism on Earth. But this little bacteria produces up to 20% of the oxygen in our entire biosphere. That's a higher percentage than all of the tropical rainforests on land combined. Hence, statement I is not correct. More than half of the oxygen we breathe comes from marine photosynthesizers, like phytoplankton and seaweed. Both use carbon dioxide, water and energy from the sun to make food for themselves, releasing oxygen in the process. Hence, statement II is correct. Oxygen content is highest at the surface. As depth increases, dissolved oxygen declines, reaching a minimum between a few hundred meters and 1000 m deep, the aptly-named oxygen minimum layer. It should be noted that even though dissolved oxygen is highest at the surface, there is still far less oxygen in the water than is found in the air. Well-oxygenated surface water may only contain around 8 mg O₂/l, while the air contains 210 mg O₂/l. Hence, statement III is not correct.		E	FA	https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/ocean-oxygen.html https://ocean.si.edu/ocean-life/plankton/every-breath-you-take-thank-ocean#:~:text=That's%20right%E2%80%94more%20than%20half,do%20it%20in%20the%20ocean.	RM	
21	Modern History	Consider the following statements about Raja Ram Mohan Roy: I. He possessed great love and respect for the traditional philosophical systems of the East. II. He desired his countrymen to accept the rational and scientific approach and the principle of human	C	Raja Ram Mohan Roy (22 May 1772 – 27 September 1833) was an Indian reformer and writer who was one of the founders of the Brahmo Sabha in 1828, the precursor of the Brahmo Samaj, a socio-religious reform movement in the Indian subcontinent. He has been dubbed the "Father of Indian Renaissance." He was given the title of Raja by Mughal emperor Akbar II (r. 1806–1837.) Raja Ram Mohan Roy was moved by deep love for his people and country and worked hard all his life for their social, religious, intellectual and political regeneration.	Under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM), the Ministry of Culture commemorated the 250th Birth Anniversary	M	F	Spectrum "A Brief History of Modern India": Chapter "A General Survey of Socio-Cultural Reform Movements"	EM	

		dignity and social equality of all men and women. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I only (b) II only (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II	Raja Ram Mohan Roy possessed great love and respect for the traditional philosophic systems of the East; but, at the same time, he believed that modern culture alone would help regenerate Indian society. In particular, he wanted his countrymen to accept the rational and scientific approach and the principle of human dignity and social equality of all men and women. He also wanted the introduction of modern capitalism and industry in the country. Hence statements 1 and 2 are correct. Raja Ram Mohan Roy represented a synthesis of the thought of East and West. In 1814, he set up the Atmiya Sabha (or Society of Friends) in Calcutta to propagate the monotheistic ideals of the Vedanta and to campaign against idolatry, caste rigidities, meaningless rituals, and other social ills. Strongly influenced by rationalist ideas, he declared that Vedanta is based on reason and that, if reason demanded it, even a departure from the scriptures is justified. He said the principles of rationalism applied to other sects also, particularly to the elements of blind faith in them. In his Precepts of Jesus (1820), he tried to separate the moral and philosophical message of the New Testament, which he praised, from its miracle stories. He earned the wrath of missionaries over his advocacy to incorporate the message of Christ into Hinduism.	of Shri Raja Ram Mohan Roy from 22nd May 2022 to 22nd May 2023.						
22	Modern History	Consider the following subjects with regard to Non-Cooperation Programme: I. Boycott of law-courts and foreign cloth II. Observance of strict non-violence III. Retention of titles and honours without	C	The Non-Cooperation Movement (NCM) was the first nationwide movement launched by Gandhiji in 1920 during British rule. It emerged as a powerful and fervent response to a culmination of grievances and disillusionment that had been building up among the Indian populace. Rowlatt Act and the brutal Jaliawala Bagh Massacre were the immediate causes for launching the movement.		E	FA	Spectrum "A Brief History of Modern India": Chapter " Non-Cooperation Movement & Khilafat Movement"	E M	2025 All India Test Series - Test 4714 Consider the following statements with respect to the activities during the Non-Cooperation Movement: 1. The Indian National Congress was committed to

		using them in public IV. Establishment of Panchayats for settling disputes How many of the above were parts of Non-Cooperation Programme? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All the four	Congress, at its special session of Calcutta in September 1920, approved the Non-Cooperation movement, which was later endorsed by the Nagpur session of Congress in December 1920. The movement saw tremendous participation of masses throughout the country. The Nagpur session made changes in the constitution of the Congress. - Provincial Congress Committees were reorganised on the basis of linguistic areas. - The Congress was now to be led by a Working Committee of 15 members, including the president and the secretaries. This would enable the Congress to function as a continuous political organisation and would provide it with the machinery for implementing its resolutions. - Congress membership was thrown open to all men and women of the age of 21 or more o'n payment of 4 annas as annual subscription. In 1921 the age limit for membership was reduced to 18. The programmes of the Non-Cooperation Movement were unfolded in stages: - Surrender of titles and honorary positions. Hence option 3 is not correct. - Resignation of membership from the local bodies. - Boycott of foreign goods; Courts, Government functions and legal practise; government schools and colleges and elections held in accordance with the provisions of the 1919 Act; Hence option 1 is correct. - Thousands of volunteers went from house to house, trying to persuade people of the importance of adopting Swadeshi. The foreign-made clothing was gathered and set ablaze. - Boycott of legislative councils (There were differences over boycott of councils). The boycott movement against liquor and toddy shops - National schools, colleges, and private panchayat courts were established. Kashi Vidyapeeth, Bihar Vidyapeeth, and Jamia Millia Islamia were established.				a program of constitutional mass action 2. The Congress Working Committee passed a resolution asking members of the armed forces to sever their connection with the repressive government 3. The British Government declared the Volunteer Group Illegal and arrested all those who claimed to be its members 4. The Congress had sanctioned non-payment of rent and questioned the rights of zamindars Which of the following statements given above are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 3 and 4 only (d) 1 and 4 only Test Series - 4715 In which of the following movements for the Indian National Congress appealed directly to the masses for the first time and membership was thrown open to all men and women of the age of 21? (a) Swadeshi movement (b) Non-Cooperation movement (c) Civil disobedience movement (d) Quit India movement
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				Hence option 4 is correct. - Popularising Swadeshi goods and Khadi. - It Marked the first time the Indian National Congress appealed directly to the masses, leading to a significant increase in membership. - Maintenance of Hindu-Muslim unity and practice of strict nonviolence. - Promotion of Charkha and Khadi and Jail Bhara Andolan by Congress volunteers. - Tilak Swaraj Fund was announced by Gandhi, which aimed at collecting Rs 1 crore to aid constructive work.						
23	Ancient History	The irrigation device called 'Araghatta' was (a) a water bag made of leather pulled over a pulley (b) a large wheel with earthen pots tied to the outer ends of its spokes (c) a larger earthen pot driven by bullocks (d) a large water bucket pulled up by rope directly by handara	B	The 'ara-ghatta' originates from the blend of the words "ara" which means talked and "ghatta" which means pot. There is confirmation to contend that this arrangement of lifting water from open wells was presumably designed in the India of the past.		M	F	Upinder Singh's - "A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India"	R M	UPSC Previous Year 2016 With reference to the economic history of medieval India, the term "Araghatta" refers to (a) bonded labour (b) land grant made to military officers (c) waterwheel used in the irrigation of land (d) wasteland converted to cultivated land
24	Ancient History	Who among the following rulers in ancient India had assumed the titles 'Mattavilasa', 'Vichitrachitta' and 'Gunabhara'? (a) Mahendravarman I (b) Simhavishnu (c) Narasimhavarman I (d) Simhavarman	A	King Mahendravarman I. He was a Pallava king who ruled from 600 A.D to 630 A.D. He assumed many titles such as 'Mattavilasa', 'Vichitrachitta' and 'Gunabhara'. He was a great builder of cave temples. The Mandagappattu inscription hails him as Vichitrachitta who constructed a temple for Brahma, Vishnu and Siva without the use of bricks, timber, metal and mortar. He built rock-cut temples in a number of places like Vallam, Mahendravadi, Dalavanur, Pallavaram, Mandagappattu and Tiruchirappalli. Mahendravarman I was also a great scholar in the Sanskrit language. He wrote the satirical drama Mattavilasa Prahasanam in Sanskrit. His title Chitrakarapuli reveals his talents in painting. He was an expert in playing Veena known as Parivathini.		E	F	Class 11th NCERT - Introduction To Indian Art Part-I Chapter 5 - Later Mural Traditions	E M	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative "This ruler was given a title of 'Vichitrachitta', which is a sanskrit word meaning unique thoughts or weird thoughts. He was pioneer in building temples with stones. Cave temples were also his contribution. His interests also included music, painting and writing books."

				The music inscription at Kudumianmalai is ascribed to him.					The above passage describes which of the following rulers? (a) Rajaraja Chola I (b) Mahendravarman I (c) Harihara I (d) Prataprudra II	
25	Ancient History	Fa-hien (Faxian), the Chinese pilgrim, travelled to India during the reign of (a) Samudragupta (b) Chandragupta II (c) Kumaragupta I (d) Skandagupta	B	The reign of Chandragupta II saw the high watermark of the Gupta Empire. Chandragupta II adopted the title of Vikramaditya. An important incident that took place during his reign was the visit of Fa-Hien, a Chinese pilgrim, who came to India in search of Buddhist texts. Numerous scholars adorned the court of Chandragupta II at Ujjain. Hence option (b) is the correct answer.		E	F	Old NCERT RS Sharma- Class 11th - Chapter 20 - "Rise & Growth of The Gupta Empire"	E M	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which of the following personalities were associated with the reign of Gupta king Chandragupta II? 1. Fa-Hien 2. Kalidasa 3. Amarasimha 4. Hieun Tsang Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 2, 3 and 4 only (b) 1, 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 3 and 4 only (d) 2 and 4 only
26	Medieval History	Who among the following led a successful military campaign against the kingdom of Srivijaya, the powerful maritime State, which ruled the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Java and the neighbouring islands? (a) Amoghavarsha (Rashtrakuta) (b) Prataparudra (Kakatiya) (c) Rajendra I (Chola)	C	Rajendra Chola I, often referred to as Rajendra the Great, and also known as Gangaikonda Chola, and Kadaram Kondan was a Chola Emperor who reigned between 1014 and 1044 CE. He succeeded his father Rajaraja Chola I to the throne in 1014 CE. He continued the policy of expansion with the annexation of the southern provinces of the Chalukyas (the region of modern Hyderabad). Campaigns against Ceylon and Kerala were also renewed. But Rajendra's ambitions had turned northwards, even as far as the Ganges valley. An expedition set out and, marching through Orissa, reached the banks of the Ganges, from where it is said the water of the sacred river was taken to the Chola capital. Even more ambitious was Rajendra's overseas campaign involving both his army		E	F	History Of Medieval India by Satish Chandra Chapter 3 - South India: The Chola Empire (900-1200 A.D.)27	E M	PT 365 Culture: Article 7.8.1. PORT BLAIR RENAMED AS SR VIJAYA PURAM Monthly Current Affairs September 2024: Article 8.2. PORT BLAIR RENAMED AS SR VIJAYA PURAM News Today (November 25th 2024): Personality in News: Raja Raja Chola Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative

		(d) Vishnuvardhana (Hoysala)	and his navy against the kingdom of Srivijaya in south-east Asia, Indonesia and southern Thailand. He continued to maintain and improve commercial relations with China, started off by his father. Hence option (c) is the correct answer.				Consider the following statements regarding Rajendra Chola I: 1. The Cholas undertook military expeditions to Sri Lanka and Srivijaya during his reign. 2. Pallippadai was a Vaishnava monastic establishment built by him. 3. Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni was a contemporary of Rajendra I. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
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27	Ancient History	With reference to ancient India (600–322 BC), consider the following pairs: Territorial Region River flowing in the region I. Asmaka : Godavari II. Kamboja : Vipas III. Avanti : Mahanadi IV. Kosala : Sarayu How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All the four	B	Pair 1: Asmaka - Godavari: The Asmaka (or Assaka) kingdom was one of the sixteen Mahajanapadas. It was located in South India, on the banks of the Godavari river. Hence pair 1 is correctly matched. Pair 2: Kamboja - Vipas: The Kamboja region was located in the northwestern part of the Indian subcontinent, roughly corresponding to parts of modern-day Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Kashmir. The Vipas river, also known as the Beas, flows through the Punjab region. While both are in the northwest, the core area of Kamboja is generally placed further west than the main course of the Vipas river. Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched. Pair 3: Avanti - Mahanadi: The Avanti kingdom was located in West-Central India, in the Malwa region of present-day Madhya Pradesh. Its capital was Ujjain. The Mahanadi river flows through Central and Eastern India, primarily in modern-day Chhattisgarh and Odisha. Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched. Pair 4: Kosala - Sarayu: The Kosala kingdom was located in the Awadh region of present-day Uttar Pradesh. Its capital cities were Ayodhya and Sravasti. The Sarayu river flows through this region, passing by Ayodhya. Hence pair 4 is correctly matched.		M	FA	RS SHARMA NCERT Class 12th Upinder Singh's - "A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India"	E M	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following pairs: <table><tr><td>Mahajanpada</td><td>Capital</td></tr><tr><td>1. Vatsa</td><td>Kausambhi</td></tr><tr><td>2. Shurasena</td><td>Mathura</td></tr><tr><td>3. Asmaka</td><td>Shravasti</td></tr><tr><td>4. Malla</td><td>Kusinara</td></tr></table> How many pairs given above are correctly matched? (a) Only one pair (b) Only two pairs (c) Only three pairs (d) All four pairs	Mahajanpada	Capital	1. Vatsa	Kausambhi	2. Shurasena	Mathura	3. Asmaka	Shravasti	4. Malla	Kusinara
Mahajanpada	Capital																			
1. Vatsa	Kausambhi																			
2. Shurasena	Mathura																			
3. Asmaka	Shravasti																			
4. Malla	Kusinara																			
28	Art & Culture	The first Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, a music training school, was set up in 1901 by Vishnu Digambar Paluskar in: (a) Delhi (b) Gwalior (c) Ujjain (d) Lahore	D	Vishnu Digambar Paluskar (18 August 1872 – 21 August 1931) was a Hindustani musician. He sang the original version of the bhajan Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram. He is also credited with arranging India's national song, Vande Mātaram, as it is heard today. The first Gandharva Mahavidyalaya was established by him on 5 May 1901 at Lahore. Gandharva Mahavidyalaya New Delhi is an institution established in 1939 to popularize Indian classical music and dance. The Mahavidyalaya (school) came into being to perpetuate the memory of Pandit Vishnu Digambar Paluskar, the great reviver of Hindustani	To commemorate 150th Birth Anniversary of VD Paluskar in 2023	D	F	https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/entertainment/events/chandigarh/a-classical-music-concert-that-regaled-the-city/articleshow/103536987.cms	RR											

				classical music, and to keep up the ideals set down by him.				https://www.se ntinelassam.co m/north-east- india- news/assam- news/birth- anniversary-of- pandit-vishnu- digambar- pulaskar- marked-with- an-exceptional- concert-of- indian-classical- music-at- nagaon		
29	Ancient History	Ashokan inscriptions suggest that the 'Pradeshika', 'Rajuka' and 'Yukta' were important officers at the: (a) village-level administration (b) district-level administration (c) provincial administration (d) level of the central administration	B	According to the Arthashastra, the smallest unit of administration was the village. A few villages were grouped as one district, and a collection of districts formed a province. At the village level, the most important functionary was the village headman, who was accountable to the district accountant and tax collector. At the district level, the officials listed were Pradeshika, Rajuka and Yukta. - Pradeshika was the overall in-charge of the district. - The Yukta was a junior officer giving secretarial kind of assistance to the other two. The officials fulfilled the following duties: survey and assessment of land; tours and inspections; revenue collection; and maintaining law and order. At times the king was in direct touch with these officers. Each district was to have an accountant to maintain records of boundaries, registered land and deeds as well as kept a census of population and a record of the livestock. There was also a tax collector for every district, responsible for various types of revenue.		M	F	https://egyanko sh.ac.in/bitstrea m/123456789/6 4794/1/Unit16. pdf	E M	Monthly Current Affairs March 2025: Ashokan Edict Sites https://visionias.in/current-affairs/monthly-magazine/2025-04-16/art-and-culture/ashokan-edict-sites-2 Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative With reference to the administrative system of the Mauryan Empire, consider the following statements: 1. The administrative system involved the division of the empire into provinces each under the direct governance of a Pradeshika. 2. Gopa was responsible for looking after the goods that

									were manufactured in the empire. 3. The decision of the council of ministers of the Mauryan Empire was final in all respects. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?	
30	Modern History	Consider the following statements in respect of the Non-Cooperation Movement: I. The Congress declared the attainment of 'Swaraj' by all legitimate and peaceful means to be its objective. II. It was to be implemented in stages with civil disobedience and non-payment of taxes for the next stage only if 'Swaraj' did not come within a year and the Government resorted to repression. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I only (b) II only (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II	C	In Dec 1920, at a regular annual session of the Congress @ Nagpur (presided by V. Ragahavachariar) - officially the resolution of NCM was adopted. Also, Gandhiji declared that: - if within a year Swaraj is not achieved or if the govt resorted to suppression of the revolt, then civil disobedience movement along with non-payment of taxes would be launched. - Also, the govt has to take back Rowlatt act and - should adopt a lenient and sympathetic attitude towards the people of Turkey and restore the position of Sultan of Turkey. - The NCM was marked by hindu-muslim unity, popularisation of charkha and khadi, participation by lawyers, govt servants, students etc - who stopped their cooperation with the govt - either by giving up their practice, leaving schools and colleges, leaving their services - the women started to picket liquor shops etc. Hence both the statements are correct.		E	F	https://ncert.nic.in/textbook/pdf/jess302.pdf	E M	2025 All India Test Series Test-4706 With reference to the developments during the Non-Cooperation Movement, consider the following statements: 1. Mahatma Gandhi promised Swaraj could be achieved within one year if the program of non-cooperation was implemented completely. 2. At the Nagpur session of 1920, the Congress was hesitant to initiate a program of extra-constitutional mass action. 3. The Congress decided to use and popularise local languages instead of Hindi. How many of the statements given above are correct?
31	Economics	With reference to investments, consider the following: I. Bonds II. Hedge Funds III. Stocks	B	In recent times, there is growing popularity of funds which pool-in resources from Ultra High- Networth Individual, or Institutional Investors and invest in Non-public Markets –i.e., markets for securities which are not listed on stock exchanges and invest in instruments which are of complex nature and hence carry high risk.	As per the SEBI, about 20% of AIF money used to	M	F	https://www.thehindu.com/industry/about-20-of-aif-money-used-to-circumvent-	EN	PT 365 2025 Economy: Article 8.2 India's Start Up ecosystem Monthly Current Affairs July 2024: Article 3.2. Angel Tax

		IV. Venture Capital How many of the above are treated as Alternative Investment Funds? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All the four		Such funds are collectively called Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs). Alternative Investment Funds play an important role in the financial market by providing investment opportunities to investors who are seeking higher returns or diversification beyond traditional investment options such as stocks and bonds. SEBI (Alternative Investment Funds) Regulations, 2012 provide a legal framework for the pooled investment funds in India such as venture capital, real estate, private equity, hedge funds etc., other than Mutual Funds. Category I AIF: AIF which invests in start-up or early-stage ventures or social ventures or SMEs or Infrastructure or Distressed assets. Ex: Venture Capital Funds, SME Funds, Social Venture Funds Infrastructure Funds, Special Situations Funds etc. Category II AIF: AIF which does not fall in category I &III, and which does not undertake leverage other than to meet day-to-day operations as permitted by SEBI Regulations. Ex: Private Equity Fund Category III AIF: AIF which employs diverse / complex trading strategies and may employ leverage through investment in listed or unlisted derivatives. Ex: Hedge Funds. Hence option (b) is the correct answer.	circumvent laws			laws-says-sebis-ananth-narayan/article68996033.ece https://www.sebi.gov.in/sebi_data/attachdocs/1471519155273.pdf https://cleartax.in/s/alternative-investment-fund-registration# https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/101207/3/Unit%2013.pdf		Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which of the following are considered as Alternative Investment Funds in India as per the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)? 1. Angel Funds 2. Social Venture Funds 3. Hedge Funds 4. Mutual Funds Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 2, 3 and 4 only (c) 1, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2 and 4 only
32	Economics	Which of the following are the sources of income for the Reserve Bank of India? I. Buying and selling Government bonds II. Buying and selling foreign currency III. Pension fund management	D	The RBI earns money in a variety of ways. Open market operations, wherein a central bank purchases or sells bonds (including government bonds) in the open market in order to regulate money supply in the economy, are a major source of income for the RBI. Apart from the interest received from these bonds, the RBI may also profit from favourable changes in bond prices. Dealings in the foreign exchange market that the RBI engages in may also contribute to the bank's	Basic facts related to the RBI functions of the RBI are important	D	F	https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/AnnualReport/PDFs/OANNUALREPORT202324_FULLDF549205FA214F62A2441C5320D64A29.PDF - Page 225	R M	PT 365 2025 Economy: Article 1.4 RBI Surplus Transfer Monthly Current Affairs June 2024: Article 3.2 RBI Surplus Transfer News today (24 May 2025): RBI Board Approves Transfer of Rs 2.69 Lakh Crore

		IV. Lending to private companies V. Printing and distributing currency notes Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) I and II only (b) II, III and IV (c) I, III, IV and V (d) I, II and V		profits. The RBI, for instance, may buy dollars cheaply and sell them dear in the future to pocket profits. RBI also earns income by printing currency which is called seigniorage - since notes cost less to produce than their face value. RBI does not manage pension funds as a source of income. It is generally done by entities like EPFO or PFRDA in India. RBI does not lend directly to private companies. It lends to commercial banks and other financial institutions, as part of its monetary policy operations. Hence option (D) is the correct answer.			https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/where-do-the-rbis-earnings-come-from/article29310531.ece	Surplus to Centre for 2024-25 Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which of the following form the sources of income of Reserve Bank of India? 1. Interest on government bonds held for conducting open market operations. 2. Fees from governments market borrowing programmes. 3. Income from investments in foreign currency assets. Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3		
33	Polity & Governance	With reference to the Government of India, consider the following information: Organization Some of its functions It works under I. Directorate of Enforcement Enforcement of the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 Internal Security Division-I, Ministry of Home Affairs II. Directorate of	A	Row I: Directorate of Enforcement The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) is responsible for enforcing the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018, as per the Ministry of Finance. It operates under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, not the Ministry of Home Affairs. Hence row I is not correctly matched. Row II: Directorate of Revenue Intelligence The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) enforces the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962, and over fifty other allied Acts, including the Arms Act, NDPS Act, COFEPOSA, Wildlife Act, and Antiquities and Art Treasures Act. It functions under the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), which is part of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance. Hence		D	FA	https://enforcementdirectorategov.in/ https://dri.nic.in/ https://old.icegate.gov.in/About_DG_systems.html https://www.reference.in/general_information/DG_ARM.aspx	RR	

		correct? (a) I only (b) II only (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II						and-sustainability-reporting-by-listed-entities_50096.html		(a) RBI (b) SEBI (c) FICCI (d) ASSOCHAM
35	Economics	Consider the following statements: Statement I: In India, income from allied agricultural activities like poultry farming and wool rearing in rural areas is exempted from any tax. Statement II: In India, rural agricultural land is not considered a capital asset under the provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is not correct (d) Statement I is not	D	Agricultural income is specifically defined under the Income Tax Act, and agricultural income is exempted from Income Tax. The following are some the examples of agricultural income: Income from the sale of seeds and replanted trees, Interest on capital received by a partner from a firm engaged in agricultural operations, Income from growing flowers and creepers, Rent received for agricultural land etc. Below are some examples of non-agricultural income : Income from poultry farming, dairy farming and bee hiving, Any dividend paid from an organization's agriculture income etc. It is not exempted from taxation. Hence statement I is not correct. Under the Income-tax Act, 1961 of India, rural agricultural land is not considered a "capital asset", and hence any gain arising from its sale is not taxable as capital gains. Under section 2(14), the term "capital asset" excludes: "Agricultural land in India, which is not situated: within the jurisdiction of a municipality or cantonment board with a population of not less than 10,000; or within 2 km from such a municipality/cantonment (population 10,001–1,00,000), within 6 km (population 1,00,001–10,00,000), within 8 km (population more than 10,00,000)." On the other hand, urban agricultural land, which lies within specified municipal limits, is treated as a capital asset and is taxable when sold. Hence statement II is correct.	Taxing agricultural income has always been in the news	D	F	https://cleartax.in/s/agricultural-income# https://www.buinesstoday.in/personal-finance/tax/story/income-tax-bill-2025-heres-how-taxation-of-agricultural-income-farmland-has-been-tweaked-464590-2025-02-13	R M	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Q. Capital gains tax in India will be applicable if: 1. a rural agricultural land, held for five years, is sold at a profit. 2. equity shares of a listed company, held for more than one year, are sold at a loss. 3. a house purchased 5 years ago, is sold at a profit. Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 2 and 3 only (b) 3 only (c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 Q. A family has three male members, a man and his two sons. All three of them are employed. The father is a poultry farmer. The elder son owns a wine shop and the younger son sells newspapers. Assuming that each of them has only one occupation, consider the following statements: 1. Only the commodities sold by the father and the

		correct but Statement II is correct						younger son are subject to the application of GST (Goods and Services Tax). 2. The Central Government can levy and retain tax on the sales of the elder son. 3. The father (a poultry farmer) is exempted from paying income tax under the Income Tax Act, 1961. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 3 only (b) 2 only (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) None
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2 PM

36	Economics	Consider the following statements: I. India has joined the Minerals Security Partnership as a member. II. India is a resource-rich country in all the 30 critical minerals that it has identified. III. The Parliament in 2023 has amended the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 empowering the Central Government to exclusively auction mining lease and composite license for certain critical minerals. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III	C	India has become 14th member of the Mineral Security Partnership (MSP) in June 2023. The other member countries are United States, Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the European Commission. MSP seeks to bolster critical minerals supply chains to support economic prosperity and climate objectives. Hence, statement 1 is correct. India's Ministry of Mines identified a list of 30 critical minerals in November 2022. However, India has not yet proven domestic reserves for all 30 and remains dependent on imports for many such as lithium, cobalt, nickel, and vanadium. Hence, statement 2 is not correct. The MMDR Amendment Act, 2023 has empowered the Central Government to exclusively auction Mining Leases (ML) and Composite Licences (CL)(prospecting licence-cum-mining lease) in respect of any 'critical and strategic mineral' specified in Part D of the First Schedule of the MMDR Act. Hence, statement 3 is correct.	India exploring and acquiring critical minerals from resource rich countries was in news.	E	CA	https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseFramePage.aspx?PRID=1946416&utm_source=detailm.aspx?PRID=2114466&utm_source=detailm.aspx?PRID=2114466	EN	"PT 365 2025 SnT: Article 9.4. Critical Minerals Monthly Current Affairs July 2024: Article 1.5.6. Supreme Court's Judgment on Mineral Taxation September 2024: Article 3.8. Minerals Security Partnership Finance Network News today (17 Mar 2025): India launches first exploration license (EL) auction for critical minerals under EL regime " VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2025): Test 4720 Consider the following statements: Statement-I: India joined the US-led Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) Finance Network to secure sustainable supply chains for critical minerals. Statement- II: The USA is responsible for more than 60 percent of global production of critical minerals. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement-I and Statement- II are correct and Statement- II is the correct explanation for Statement-I (b) Both Statement-I and
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											Statement- II are correct and Statement- II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement- II is incorrect (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement- II is correct
37	Economics	Consider the following statements: Statement I: As regards returns from an investment in a company, generally, bondholders are considered to be relatively at lower risk than stockholders. Statement II: Bondholders are lenders to a company whereas stockholders are its owners. Statement III: For repayment purpose, bondholders are prioritized over stockholders by a company. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I (b) Both Statement I and	A	Statement I is correct: Bondholders have fixed interest payments and are paid before shareholders, making their investments less risky. Statement II is correct: Bondholders lend money to the company (debt), while stockholders own equity (a share in ownership). Statement III is correct: For repayment purpose, bondholders are prioritized over stockholders by a company. In liquidation or bankruptcy, bondholders are paid before shareholders. Since both II and III are correct, and both explain why bondholders are at lower risk (Statement I), the correct answer is: (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I	Financial Market has always been an important topic.	M	F	https://www.investopedia.com/terms/s/stock.asp https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/voices/is-your-investment-safe-with-bonds/	R M	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following statements: 1. Shares are debt instruments issued by a company with a fixed rate of interest. 2. Shareholders do not get any right to vote in company's general meetings. 3. Shares are considered riskier investments compared to the debentures. How many of the above statements are correct? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None	

		Statement II are correct and Statement I explains Statement II (c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct								
38	Economics	Consider the following statements: I. India accounts for a very large portion of all equity option contracts traded globally thus exhibiting a great boom. II. India's stock market has grown rapidly in the recent past even overtaking Hong Kong's at some point of time. III. There is no regulatory body either to warn the small investors about the risks of options trading or to act on unregistered financial advisors in this regard. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III	A	Statement I is correct: India has emerged as a dominant player in the global equity options market. In the first quarter of 2024, over 84% of all equity options traded globally were on Indian exchanges, a significant increase from just 15% a decade earlier. ICICI Direct Statement II is correct: In January 2024, the combined value of shares listed on Indian exchanges reached \$4.33 trillion, surpassing Hong Kong's \$4.29 trillion, making India the world's fourth-largest stock market. Statement III is not correct: India has an active regulatory body, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), which oversees the securities market. SEBI has taken several measures to protect investors, including issuing warnings to unregistered investment advisors and implementing regulations to curb speculative trading in derivatives	Recently, the growth in the Indian financial market was covered in the news.	E	FCA	https://www.icidirect.com/research/equity/finance/indias-global-turnover-of-fno-trading https://www.thehindu.com/business/markets/india-overtakes-hong-kong-to-become-fourth-largest-stock-market/article67767916.ece https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/technology/sebi-warns-public-against-unregistered-platforms-offering-unlisted-debt-securities/articleeshow/1160131	EN	PT 365 2025 Economy: Article 3.3 SEBI Monthly Current Affairs January 2024: Article 3.8.1. India Becomes Fourth-Largest Stock Market News Today (15 Feb 2024): INDIA BECOMES FOURTH-LARGEST STOCK MARKET (03 Sep 2024): Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) 2025 All India Test Series - 4707 Consider the following statements regarding the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI): 1. It is a statutory body. 2. It regulates all intermediaries in stock exchanges like share brokers, underwriters and mutual funds. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

								00.cms?from=mdr		(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2 Explanation: Functions of SEBI Regulation of capital market (Primary as well as secondary market). To register and regulate all intermediaries in stock exchanges like share brokers, underwriters, Mutual Fund etc. Hence statement 2 is correct. To check malpractices in stock exchanges. To protect investor's interest and to promote investors education and awareness. Regulating substantial acquisition of shares and take over of companies
39	Environment & Ecology	Consider the following statements: Statement I: Circular economy reduces the emissions of greenhouse gases. Statement II: Circular economy reduces the use of raw materials as inputs. Statement III: Circular economy reduces wastage in the production process. Which one of the following is correct in	A	Circular economy strategies (like recycling, reuse, repair) reduce emissions by lowering energy use and avoiding emissions from raw material extraction and waste management. Statement I is correct. A key aim of the circular economy is to retain the value of products and materials in use for as long as possible. This key aim would reduce the demand for virgin materials and the GHGs emitted during their extraction and processing. In addition, the energy-intensive parts of the circular economy should be powered by renewable energy. The reuse and recycling of materials directly cut down the need for virgin/raw materials. Statement II is correct.	Circular Economy is a term often seen in the news.	E	F	https://indianexpress.com/article/india/shun-take-make-dispose-attitude-to-move-towards-circular-economy-bhupender-yadav-9842277/ https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/captu	E M	PT 365 2025 Update Part 2: Article 3.14.25 Jaipur Declaration on Circular economy News today (04 March 2025): Twelfth Regional 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) and Circular Economy Forum in Asia & the Pacific starts in Jaipur Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following statements with respect to

	respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I (b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I (c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct	Circular models aim to design out waste, improving efficiency. Statement III is correct.			ring-the-climate-change-mitigation	the India Plastic Pact, recently in news: 1. It is jointly developed by the World Wide Fund India (WWF) and Confederation of Indian Industries (CII). 2. It aims to promote a circular economy for plastics. 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
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40	Economics	Consider the following statements: I. Capital receipts create a liability or cause a reduction in the assets of the Government. II. Borrowings and disinvestment are capital receipts. III. Interest received on loans creates a liability of the Government. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III	A	The government receives money by way of loans or from the sale of its assets. Loans will have to be returned to the agencies from which they have been borrowed. Thus they create liability. Sale of government assets, like sale of shares in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) which is referred to as PSU disinvestment, reduce the total amount of financial assets of the government. All those receipts of the government which create liability or reduce financial assets are termed as capital receipts. Hence statements I and II are correct. Non-tax revenue receipts of the central government mainly consist of interest receipts on account of loans by the central government, dividends and profits on investments made by the government, fees and other receipts for services rendered by the government. They do not create liability. Hence statement III is not correct.	Union Budget (Fiscal Policy) is an important topic.	M	F	https://ncert.nic.in/textbook/pdf/leec105.pdf	E M	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which of the following are the main items of capital receipts? 1. Market borrowings 2. Profits of public enterprises 3. National Savings Certificate 4. Provident funds Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1, 2, and 4 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 3, and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4 Explanation: Capital Receipts: The main items of capital receipts are loans raised by the government from the public which are called market borrowings, borrowing by the government from the Reserve Bank and commercial banks and other financial institutions through the sale of treasury bills, loans received from foreign governments and international organizations, and recoveries of loans granted by the central government. Other items include small savings (Post-Office Savings Accounts, National Savings Certificates, etc), provident funds, and
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									net receipts obtained from the sale of shares in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). Hence option (c) is the correct answer. Note: Revenue receipts are current income receipts from all sources such as taxes, profits of public enterprises, grants, etc. Revenue receipts neither create any liability nor cause any reduction in the assets of the government. Capital receipts, on the other hand, are the receipts of the government that either create liability or cause any reduction in the assets of the government. e.g., borrowings, recovery of loans,s and disinvestment, etc.	
41	Current Affairs (International Relations)	Consider the following countries: I. Austria II. Bulgaria III. Croatia IV. Serbia V. Sweden VI. North Macedonia How many of the above are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization? (a) Only three (b) Only four (c) Only five (d) All the six	B	Recent context: In 2024, Sweden became the 32nd NATO member, earlier Finland joined NATO in 2023 Sweden, making entire Nordic region the part of NATO. NATO is a transatlantic political and military alliance established by the North Atlantic Treaty (Washington Treaty), 1949 with Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium. 12 Founding member countries: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, UK and USA. Since 1949, NATO’s membership has increased from 12 to 32 countries through 10 rounds of enlargement. Bulgaria became member of NATO in 2004.	In 2024, Sweden became the 32nd NATO member.	D	CA	https://www.nato.int/content/membership-map https://visionias.in/current-affairs/news-today/2024-03-11/international-relations/sweden-has-officially-become-the-32nd-member-	EN	PT 365 2025 IR: Article 1.19. NATO Monthly Current Affairs March 2024: Article 2.3. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) News today (11 March 2024): Sweden has officially become the 32nd member of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2025): Test 4710 Consider the following: 1. France

				Croatia became member of NATO in 2009. North Macedonia became member of NATO in 2020. Austria and Serbia are not members of NATO currently. Hence option (b) is the correct answer.				of-nato-north-atlantic-treaty-organization		2. Sweden 3. Denmark 4. Ukraine How many of the above countries joined NATO on the 75th anniversary?
42	Geography	Consider the following countries: I. Bolivia II. Brazil III. Colombia IV. Ecuador V. Paraguay VI. Venezuela Andes mountains pass through how many of the above countries? (a) Only two (b) Only three (c) Only four (d) Only five	C	The Andes Mountains, the world's longest mountain range, extend through seven South American countries: Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina. The Andes stretch for a total length of 7,000 km (4,350 miles). Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.	To test the fundamental Mapping Skills of students. UPSC has asked similar questions before on Himalayas and Western Ghats.	E	FA	https://www.britannica.com/place/Andes-Mountains	RM	
43	Geography	Consider the following water bodies: I. Lake Tanganyika II. Lake Tonlé Sap III. Patos Lagoon Through how many of them does the equator pass? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	D	Lake Tanganyika is the second largest of the lakes of eastern Africa. It is the longest freshwater lake in the world (660 km) and the second deepest (1,436 metres) after Lake Baikal in Russia. Comparatively narrow, varying in width from 16 to 72 km, it covers about 32,900 square km and forms the boundary between Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and part of the boundary between Burundi and the DRC as well as part of the boundary between Tanzania and Zambia. It occupies the southern end of the Western Rift Valley, and for most of its length the land rises steeply from its shores. Tonle Sap is natural floodplain reservoir, central Cambodia. The lake is drained during the dry season by the Sab River (Tônle Sap) across the Véal Pôc plain southeastward to the Mekong River.		D	FA		RR	

				Patos Lagoon is shallow lagoon in Rio Grande do Sul estado (state), extreme southeastern Brazil. It is the largest lagoon in Brazil and the second largest in South America. Equator does not pass through any of the three mentioned water bodies. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.						
44	Geography	Consider the following statements about turmeric during the year 2022–23: I. India is the largest producer and exporter of turmeric in the world. II. More than 30 varieties of turmeric are grown in India. III. Maharashtra, Telangana, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are major turmeric producing States in India. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III	D	Statement I is correct: India is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of turmeric in the world. India has more than 62% share of world trade in turmeric. Statement II is correct: More than 30 varieties of Turmeric are grown in India and it is grown in over 20 states in the country. Statement III is correct: The largest producing states of Turmeric are Maharashtra, Telangana, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.	Recently Government of India constituted the National Turmeric Board	E	CA	https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1964083	R M	PT 365 Updated 2025 Part 1: Article 3.6.1 National Turmeric Board Monthly Current Affairs Feb 2025: Article 6.5 National Turmeric Board News Today (15 January 2025): Union Minister for Commerce and Industry launches National Turmeric Board 2025 All India Test Series Test 4723: With reference to the National Turmeric Board, consider the following statements: 1. It is a statutory body. 2. It has members from both central and state governments. 3. It is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 2 only (d) 1 and 3 only

45	Geography	Which of the following are the evidences of the phenomenon of continental drift? I. The belt of ancient rocks from Brazil coast matches with those from Western Africa. II. The gold deposits of Ghana are derived from the Brazil plateau when the two continents lay side by side. III. The Gondwana system of sediments from India is known to have its counterparts in six different landmasses of the Southern Hemisphere. Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) I and III only (b) I and II only (c) I, II and III (d) II and III only	C	Evidences of Continental Drift Theory: The radiometric dating methods developed in the recent period have facilitated correlating the rock formation from different continents across the vast ocean. The belt of ancient rocks of 2,000 million years from Brazil coast matches with those from western Africa. The earliest marine deposits along the coastline of South America and Africa are of the Jurassic age. This suggests that the ocean did not exist prior to that time. Hence, statement I is correct. The Gondwana system of sediments from India is known to have its counterparts in six different landmasses of the Southern Hemisphere. At the base, the system has thick tillite indicating extensive and prolonged glaciation. Counterparts of this succession are found in Africa, Falkland Island, Madagascar, Antarctica and Australia. Overall resemblance of the Gondwana-type sediments clearly demonstrates that these landmasses had remarkably similar histories. The glacial tillite provides unambiguous evidence of palaeoclimates and also of drifting of continents. Hence, statement II is correct. The occurrence of rich placer deposits of gold in the Ghana coast and the absolute absence of source rock in the region is an amazing fact. The gold bearing veins are in Brazil and it is obvious that the gold deposits of the Ghana are derived from the Brazil plateau when the two continents lay side by side. Hence, statement III is correct.	Fundamental Knowledge covered in Geography NCERT	E	F	https://ncert.nic.in/textbook/pdf/kegy204.pdf	E M	2025 All India Test Series Test 4716: With reference to continental drift theory, consider the following statements: 1. It was proposed by German geophysicist Alfred Wegener. 2. All continents were once part of a single supercontinent called Panthalassa. 3. The interaction of gravity, pole-fleeing force, and tidal forces contributed to the movement of continents. 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
46	Geography	Consider the following statements: Statement I: The amount of dust particles in the atmosphere is more in subtropical and temperate areas than in equatorial and polar	C	Dust particles are generally concentrated in the lower layers of the atmosphere; yet, convectional air currents may transport them to great heights. The higher concentration of dust particles is found in subtropical and temperate regions due to presence of dry winds in comparison to equatorial and polar regions. Statement I is correct but Statement II is not correct.	To test the fundamental Knowledge of the candidates	E	F	https://ncert.nic.in/textbook/pdf/kegy207.pdf	E M	2025 All India Test Series Test 4716 In the context of trade winds, consider the following statements: 1. Trade Winds blow from the subtropical high-pressure

		regions. Statement II: Subtropical and temperate areas have less dry winds. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is not correct (d) Statement I is not correct but Statement II is correct							belts toward the equatorial low-pressure zone. 2. Trade Winds blow from the southeast direction in the Northern Hemisphere. 3. Trade Winds are stronger over land compared to the oceans. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a)1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 2 only	
47	Geography	Consider the following statements: Statement I: In January, in the Northern Hemisphere, the isotherms bend equatorward while crossing the landmasses, and poleward while crossing the oceans. Statement II: In January, the air over the oceans is warmer than that over the landmasses in the Northern Hemisphere.	A	In general the effect of the latitude on temperature is well pronounced on the map, as the isotherms are generally parallel to the latitude. The deviation from this general trend is more pronounced in January than in July, especially in the northern hemisphere. In the northern hemisphere the land surface area is much larger than in the southern hemisphere. Hence, the effects of land mass and the ocean currents are well pronounced. In January the isotherms deviate to the north over the ocean and to the south over the continent. This can be seen in the North Atlantic Ocean. The presence of warm ocean currents, Gulf Stream and North Atlantic drift, make the Northern Atlantic Ocean warmer and the isotherms bend towards the north. Over the land the temperature decreases sharply and the	To test the fundamenta l Knowledge of the candidates	E	F	https://ncert.nic.in/textbook/pdf/kegy208.pdf	E M	2025 All India Test Series test 4716: In the context of isotherms, consider the following statements: 1. Isotherms are lines drawn on a map connecting places with the same temperature. 2. Isotherms shift southwards during summer in the Northern Hemisphere. 3. In the Southern Hemisphere, isotherms are generally more parallel to

	Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is not correct (d) Statement I is not correct but Statement II is correct	isotherms bend towards south in Europe. Hence, Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I..Hence, Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I.					latitude than in the Northern Hemisphere. How many of the statements given above are correct? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None
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5 PM**

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48	Geography	Consider the following statements: Statement I: In the context of effect of water on rocks, chalk is known as a very permeable rock whereas clay is known as quite an impermeable or least permeable rock. Statement II: Chalk is porous and hence can absorb water. Statement III: Clay is not at all porous. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I (b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I (c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct	C	Permeable Rocks: These rocks allow water to pass through them because they have interconnected pore spaces, which create pathways for water flow. Impermeable Rocks: These rocks restrict water movement because their pore spaces are not well-connected or are very small, making it difficult for water to infiltrate. Chalk is generally considered a very permeable rock, meaning water can easily pass through it, while clay is known for being quite impermeable or having a low permeability, meaning water has difficulty passing through it. Hence, statement I is correct. Chalk is composed of tiny shells, leaving behind a porous structure with many interconnected spaces. This porous structure allows water to easily seep through the chalk, making it a good aquifer for groundwater storage. Hence, statement II is correct and it explains statement I correctly. Clay is made of very small, tightly packed particles. The small size and tight packing create a low porosity with very little interconnected pore space, which makes it difficult for water to flow through. This low permeability can lead to water accumulating on top of clay layers or being diverted around them. Hence, statement III is not correct.	To test the fundamental Knowledge of the candidates	M	FA	https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/~media/shared/documents/education%20and%20careers/Resources/Presentations%20and%20activity%20sheets/Rock%20Cycle/Rock%20properties%20activity%20sheet%20KS2%20answer%20sheet.pdf?la=en https://deq.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/Water/DWPP_for_kids_and_educators/Porosity_and_Permeability.pdf	EM	2025 All India Test Series Test 4722: With reference to artesian wells, consider the following statements: 1. Groundwater is trapped in the artesian wells between layers of impermeable rocks. 2. The water trapped in artesian well is under low pressure and has to be pumped out. 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
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49	Geography	Consider the following statements: I. Without the atmosphere, temperature would be well below freezing point everywhere on the Earth's surface. II. Heat absorbed and trapped by the atmosphere maintains our planet's average temperature. III. Atmosphere's gases, like carbon dioxide, are particularly good at absorbing and trapping radiation. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) I and III only (b) I and II only (c) I, II and III (d) II and III only	C	The atmosphere is a mixture of gases that surrounds the Earth. It helps make life possible by providing us with air to breathe, shielding us from harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation coming from the Sun, trapping heat to warm the planet, and preventing extreme temperature differences between day and night. Without the atmosphere, temperatures would be well below freezing everywhere on Earth's surface. This is because the atmosphere plays a crucial role in trapping heat through the natural greenhouse effect, preventing much of the outgoing infrared radiation from escaping into space. Hence, statement I is correct. The heat absorbed and trapped by our atmosphere keeps our planet's average surface temperature at a balmy 15°C (59°F). Some of the atmosphere's gases, like carbon dioxide, are particularly good at absorbing and trapping radiation. Changes in the amounts of these gases directly affect our climate. Hence, statements II and III are correct.	To test the fundamental Knowledge of the candidates	E	F	https://scied.ucar.edu/learning-zone/atmosphere/what-is-atmosphere	E M	2025 All India Test Series Test 4703: Which of the following is mainly responsible for transmitting heat from Earth to Atmosphere? (a) Shortwave solar radiation (b) Short wave terrestrial radiation (c) Long wave terrestrial radiation (d) Scattered Solar Radiation Explanation: The insolation received by earth is in short waves form and heats up its surface. The earth after being heated itself becomes a radiating body and it radiates energy to the atmosphere in long wave form. This energy heats up the atmosphere from below. This process is known as terrestrial radiation. The long wave radiation is absorbed by the atmospheric gasses particularly by carbon dioxide and the other greenhouse gases. Thus the atmosphere is indirectly heated by the earth's radiation. The atmosphere in turn radiates and transmits heat to space. Finally the amount of heat received from the sun is returned to space, thereby maintaining constant temperature at the
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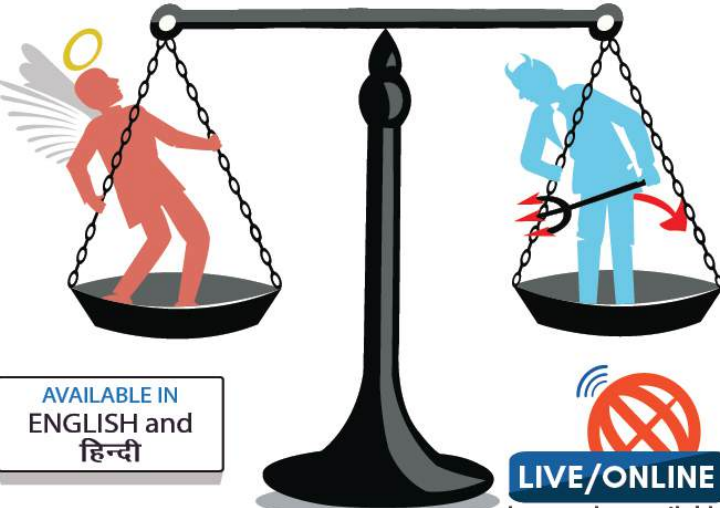
									earth's surface and in the atmosphere.	
50	Government Schemes	Consider the following statements about the Rashtriya Gokul Mission: I. It is important for the upliftment of rural poor, as majority of low producing indigenous animals are with small and marginal farmers and landless labourers. II. It was initiated to promote indigenous cattle and buffalo rearing and conservation in a scientific and holistic manner. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I only (b) II only (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II	C	"The Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM) is being implemented for development and conservation of indigenous bovine breeds. Scheme is crucial for upliftment of rural poor as more than 80% low producing indigenous animals are with small and marginal farmers and landless labourers. Hence, statement 1 is correct. Objectives • To enhance productivity of bovines and increasing milk production in a sustainable manner using advance technologies. • To propagate use of high genetic merit bulls for breeding purposes. • To enhance Artificial insemination coverage through strengthening breeding network and delivery of Artificial insemination services at farmers doorstep. • To promote indigenous cattle & buffalo rearing and conservation in a scientific and holistic manner. Hence, statement 2 is correct.	The scheme plays a vital role in sustainable indigenous cattle breed development, aligning with Atma Nirbhar Bharat.	M	CA	https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseFramePage.aspx?PRID=2080135 https://agri.gujarat.gov.in/Home/gldb/RashtriyaGokulMission	EN	"PT 365 2025 Update Part 2: Article 8.1. RASHTRIYA GOKUL MISSION PT 365 2025 Government Schemes Comprehensive Part 1: Article 19.5. RASHTRIYA GOKUL MISSION" VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2025): Test 4730 With reference to the "Rashtriya Gokul Mission", consider the following statements: 1. It seeks to improve indigenous livestock breeds through crossbreeding with foreign breeds. 2. It provides subsidized credit to promote the setting up of modern dairy farms. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
51	Polity & Governance	Consider the following statements: I. Panchayats at the intermediate level exist in all States. II. To be eligible to be a Member of a Panchayat at the intermediate level, a person should attain the age of thirty years. III. The Chief Minister of a State constitutes a commission to review	D	Statement I: Panchayats at the intermediate level exist in all States. This statement is not entirely consistent with the constitutional framework. Article 243B of the Constitution of India, inserted through the 73rd Amendment Act, 1992, provides for a three-tier system of Panchayati Raj—comprising the village, intermediate, and district levels. However, the provision includes a clear exception: States with a population not exceeding twenty lakhs (2 million) are not obligated to establish Panchayats at the intermediate level. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.		M	F	The Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act, 1992 (Part IX - The Panchayats): https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/constitution-india/amendments/constitution	RR	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following statements regarding the three-tier Panchayat system: 1. It is mandatory for states with a population of 20 lakh or more at all three levels. 2. States with populations below 20 lakh can opt out of the intermediate level. Each tier focuses on local governance.

		the financial position of Panchayats at the intermediate levels and to make recommendations regarding the distribution of net proceeds of taxes and duties, leviable by the State, between the State and Panchayats at the intermediate level. Which of the statements given above are not correct? (a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III	Statement II: To be eligible to be a Member of a Panchayat at the intermediate level, a person should attain the age of thirty years. This statement misstates the constitutional age requirement. As per Article 243F(1)(a) of the Constitution, a person shall not be disqualified from being chosen as a member of a Panchayat if they have attained the age of twenty-one years. There is no constitutional requirement stipulating the age of thirty for eligibility. Therefore, the minimum age for becoming a member at any level of the Panchayati Raj system, including the intermediate level, is 21 years. Hence statement 2 is not correct. Statement III: "The Chief Minister of a State constitutes a commission to review the financial position of Panchayats at the intermediate levels and to make recommendations regarding the distribution of net proceeds of taxes and duties." This statement inaccurately attributes the authority for setting up the State Finance Commission. Article 243-I of the Constitution mandates the Governor of a State—not the Chief Minister—to constitute a Finance Commission at the end of every five years (or earlier if deemed necessary). The commission is tasked with reviewing the financial position of the Panchayats at all levels and recommending the distribution of the State's financial resources accordingly. Hence statement 3 is not correct.			-india-seventy-third-amendment-act-1992 (See specifically Articles 243B, 243F, and 243-I) Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India: https://www.panchayat.gov.in/ (Provides overarching information on the Panchayati Raj system in India). Finance Commission India (State Finance Commissions - Article 243-I & 243-Y): https://fincomindia.nic.in/archive/ShowContentOne.aspx?id=16&Section=1 (Explains the role and constitution of State Finance Commissions).	Which of the statements given above is/are correct? Q.2. 73rd constitutional amendment act has identified separately the compulsory and voluntary provisions under part IX of the constitution. Which of the following is/are of compulsory provisions? 1. Organisation of Gram Sabha in a village or group of villages. 2. Indirect elections to the post of chairperson of panchayats at the intermediate and district levels. 3. Constitution of a State Finance Commission after every five years. Select the correct answer using the code given below.
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52	International Relations	Consider the following statements in respect of BIMSTEC : I. It is a regional organization consisting of seven member States till January 2025. II. It came into existence with the signing of the Dhaka Declaration, 1999. III. Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Nepal are founding member States of BIMSTEC. IV. In BIMSTEC, the subsector of 'tourism' is being led by India. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I and II (b) II and III (c) I and IV (d) I only	D	The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional organization that was established on 06 June 1997 with the signing of the Bangkok Declaration. Hence, statement 2 is not correct. Initially known as BIST-EC (Bangladesh-India-Sri Lanka-Thailand Economic Cooperation), the organisation is now known as BIMSTEC and comprises seven Member States with the admission of Myanmar on 22 December 1997, and Bhutan and Nepal in February 2004. On 06 June 1997, representatives of the Governments of Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, and Thailand came together in Bangkok, and signed the 'Declaration on the Establishment of the Bangladesh-India-Sri Lanka-Thailand Economic Cooperation (BIST-EC)'. Hence, statements 1 is correct and 3 is not correct. BIMSTEC had initially focused on six sectors in 1997 to include trade, technology, energy, transport, tourism, and fisheries and expanded in 2008 to incorporate agriculture, public health, poverty alleviation, counterterrorism, environment, culture, people-to-people contact, and climate change. Subsequently, following steps to rationalise and reorganise sectors and sub-sectors, cooperation was reorganised in 2021 under the following sectors and sub-sectors led by the respective Member States: Bangladesh: Trade, Investment and Development Bhutan : Environment & Climate Change India: Security; Sub-sectors: Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime, Disaster Management, Energy Myanmar : Agriculture and Food Security ; Sub-sectors : Agriculture, Fisheries & Livestock Nepal: People-to-People Contact, Sub-sectors: Culture, Tourism, People-to-People Contact (forums of think tanks, media etc.) Sri Lanka : Science, Technology & Innovation, Sub-sectors : Technology, Health, Human Resource	BIMSTEC important regional organization enhancing India's economic, security ties around Bay of Bengal.	M	CA	https://bimstec.org/tourism https://bimstec.org/history https://indiafoundation.in/articles-and-commentaries/bimstec-indias-leadership-in-the-bridge-of-regional-connectivityprosperity-security/	EN	"PT 365 2025 International Relation; 1.9 BIMSTEC Monthly Current Affairs (April 2025); 6th BIMSTEC Summit https://visionias.in/current-affairs/monthly-magazine/2025-05-17/international-relations/6th-bimstec-summit" VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2025): Test 4734 Consider the following statements with respect to the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC): 1. It came into being through the Bangkok Declaration. 2. The BIMSTEC secretariat is located in Kathmandu, Nepal. 3. India leads the security and counter-terrorism sector under the BIMSTEC priority areas of cooperation. How many of the statements given above are correct? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None
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			Development Thailand: Connectivity						
			Nepal, as the Lead Country of 'Tourism' has circulated a draft of "Plan of Action on Tourism" updating on the earlier plans, which has to be discussed and finalized during the upcoming meetings of tourism Sub-sector. Hence, statement 4 is not correct.						
53	Current Affairs (Art & Culture)	Who amongst the following are members of the Jury to select the recipient of 'Gandhi Peace Prize'? I. The President of India II. The Prime Minister of India III. The Chief Justice of India IV. The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) II and IV only (b) I, II and III (c) II, III and IV (d) I and III only	C Gandhi Peace Prize is an award instituted by Government of India in 1995, on the occasion of 125th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi as a tribute to the ideals espoused by Mahatma Gandhi. The award is open to all persons regardless of nationality, race, language, caste, creed or gender. In 2023, Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021 was conferred to Gita Press, Gorakhpur The jury for the Gandhi Peace Prize is composed as follows: • Prime Minister of India – Chairperson • Chief Justice of India • Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha • Two eminent persons	It was in the news as Gita Press, Gorakhpur returned the cash prize Rs 1 crore to be used for humanitarian purposes.	M	CA	https://www.indiaculture.gov.in/sites/default/files/awards/Code_of_Procedure_GPP_21_03_2022.pdf https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseframePage.aspx?PRID=1933252	EN	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following statements regarding Gandhi Peace Prize (GPP): 1. It is an annual award given by Ministry of Culture. 2. It is open to all persons regardless of nationality. 3. Nominations are approved by a committee headed by Prime Minister. Which of the statements given above are correct?
54	S&T	GPS-Aided Geo Augmented Navigation (GAGAN) uses a system of ground stations to provide necessary augmentation. Which of the following statements is/are correct in respect of GAGAN? I. It is designed to provide additional	D The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and the Airports Authority of India (AAI) have implemented the GAGAN project as a Satellite Based Augmentation System for the Indian Airspace. The primary objective of GAGAN is to establish a certifiable satellite based augmentation system for safety-of-life applications. Statement I is correct: GAGAN is designed to enhance the accuracy and integrity of GPS signals over the Indian airspace. It improves positioning accuracy from about 20 meters to 1–2 meters. Statement II is correct: GAGAN improves navigation	The topic is important as GAGAN and NAVIC always have a high chance to feature in the UPSC CSE	M	F	https://www.ursc.gov.in/navigation/gagan.jsp https://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/indigo-becomes-first-airline-to-land-aircraft-using-	RR	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following statements regarding the GPS-aided GEO augmented navigation (GAGAN): 1. It is an Indian Satellite Based Augmentation System jointly developed by the

	accuracy and integrity. II. It will allow more uniform and high quality air traffic management. III. It will provide benefits only in aviation but not in other modes of transportation. Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) I, II and III (b) II and III only (c) I only (d) I and II only	reliability, allowing for more uniform and efficient air traffic management, especially in complex or busy airspace. Statement III is not correct: Although developed primarily for aviation, GAGAN also benefits other sectors like railways, road transport, maritime navigation, agriculture, and disaster management.			indigenous-navigation-system-gagan/article65362965.ece	Airports Authority of India and the ISRO. 2. India is the only country to have such a space based augmented navigation system. 3. It will allow aircrafts to land in low-visibility scenarios. Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?
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Daily Class assignment and discussion

ENGLISH MEDIUM | **12 JUNE 5:30 PM**

हिन्दी माध्यम | **12 जून 2 PM**

55	Current Affairs (S&T)	Consider the following statements regarding AI Action Summit held in Grand Palais, Paris in February 2025: I. Co-chaired with India, the event builds on the advances made at the Bletchley Park Summit held in 2023 and the Seoul Summit held in 2024. II. Along with other countries US and UK also signed the declaration on inclusive and sustainable AI. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I only (b) II only (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II	A	Statement I is correct: The AI Action Summit held at the Grand Palais in Paris on February 10–11, 2025, was co-chaired by France and India. It built upon the progress made at the Bletchley Park Summit in 2023 and the Seoul Summit in 2024, aiming to advance global cooperation on AI governance and development. Statement II is not correct: While the summit introduced a declaration on "inclusive and sustainable" AI, the United States and the United Kingdom declined to sign it. Their refusal was based on concerns over national security and the belief that the declaration did not adequately address global AI governance.	The event took place recently and was co-hosted by India	E	CA	https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/technology/india-57-others-sign-paris-joint-statement-on-inclusive-sustainable-ai/article69207937.ece https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/indias-opportunity-at-the-ai-action-summit/article69199145.ece https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2101570	EN	"PT 365 Updated Part : Article 2.2.3. INDIA-FRANCE PT 365 Updated Part : Article 4.10.8. COALITION FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE AI Daily News Summary, Date-13-02-2025- One Size Won't Fit All, Find Common Ground"
56	Current Affairs (International Relations)	Consider the following pairs : I. International Year of the Woman Farmer : 2026 II. International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism : 2027 III. International Year of Peace and Trust : 2025 IV. International Year of Asteroid Awareness and Planetary Defence : 2029	D	The International Year of the Woman Farmer will be celebrated in 2026. This initiative, declared by the UN General Assembly, aims to highlight the crucial role of women in agrifood systems and address gender inequalities in agriculture. It will serve as a platform to promote gender equality, empower women farmers, and foster a global commitment to ensuring their rights and role in food security.Hence pair 1 is correctly matched. The United Nations declared 2027 as the "International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism". This year is intended to promote actions at all levels, including through international cooperation, to support sustainable and resilient tourism as a means of	Assesses attention to UN-declared international years.	D	CA	https://www.fao.org/newsroom/detail/fao-welcomes-the-celebration-of-the-international-year-of-the-woman-farmer-in-2026/en https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/4039870?ln=en	RR	

		How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All the four		promoting and accelerating sustainable development. Hence pair 2 is correctly matched. The General Assembly has adopted a resolution to declare 2025 as the International Year of Peace and Trust. The resolution calls on the international community to resolve conflicts through inclusive dialogue and negotiation in order to ensure the strengthening of peace and trust in relations between UN member states as a value that promotes sustainable development, peace and security, and human rights. Hence pair 3 is correctly matched. In 2024, the General Assembly declared 2029 the International Year of Asteroid Awareness and Planetary Defence to take advantage on the close approach of 99942 Apophis and raise global awareness about asteroids. This initiative aims to highlight the collaborative efforts of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in mitigating potential hazards from near-Earth objects, while also providing an opportunity for a global educational campaign. Hence pair 4 is correctly matched.				https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/4043298?ln=en https://www.un.org/en/observances/asteroid-awareness-year		
57	Current Affairs (International Relations)	Consider the following statements with regard to BRICS; I. 16th BRICS Summit was held under the Chairship of Russia in Kazan. II. Indonesia has become a full member of BRICS. III. The theme of the 16th BRICS Summit was Strengthening Multiculturalism for Just Global Development and Security. Which of the statements given above is/are	A	The 16th BRICS Summit, and the First Summit with expanded BRICS membership took place in Kazan, from October 22–24, 2024, with Russia as the chair. Hence statement 1 is correct. Indonesia has officially joined BRICS, becoming the first Southeast Asian member. This move was announced by Brazil, the 2025 BRICS presidency holder. Indonesia's entry was endorsed by BRICS leaders at the 2023 Johannesburg summit. Hence statement 2 is correct. The actual theme was “Strengthening Multilateralism for Just Global Development and Security.” The word was multilateralism, not multiculturalism. Hence statement 3 is not correct.	16th BRICS Summit was the first summit with expanded BRICS membership .	M	CA	https://visionias.in/current-affairs/monthly-magazine/2024-11-14/international-relations/16th-brics-summit https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/brics-summit-at-kazan-the-takeaways-for-	EN	"IR PT365; 1.6. BRICS PT365 UPDATED I: BRICS Monthly Current Affairs, OCT, 2024: 16th BRICS Summit https://visionias.in/current-affairs/monthly-magazine/2024-11-14/international-relations/16th-brics-summit News today (07 Jan 2025): BRICS"

		correct? (a) I and II (b) II and III (c) I and III (d) I only					india-russia-and-china-9636422/			
58	Current Affairs (Polity & Governance)	Consider the following statements about Lokpal : I. The power of Lokpal applies to public servants of India, but not to the Indian public servants posted outside India. II. The Chairperson or a Member shall not be a Member of the Parliament or a Member of the Legislature of any State or Union Territory, and only the Chief Justice of India, whether incumbent or retired, has to be its Chairperson. III. The Chairperson or a Member shall not be a person of less than forty-five years of age on the date of assuming office as the Chairperson or Member, as the case may be. IV. Lokpal cannot inquire into the allegations of corruption against a sitting Prime Minister of India. Which of the statements	A	I. The power of the Lokpal applies to public servants of India, but not to Indian public servants posted outside India. This assertion misrepresents the scope of the Lokpal’s jurisdiction. Section 14(1)(f) of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013 expressly includes within its ambit any individual who is or has been a director, manager, secretary, or other officer of a society, association of persons, or trust (whether registered or not) receiving substantial foreign contributions or domestic donations—regardless of where they are located. Additionally, the Act covers all categories of public servants as defined, including those serving under the Union Government, whether posted within India or abroad. Hence statement I is not correct. II. The Chairperson or a Member shall not be a Member of Parliament or a Member of the Legislature of any State or Union Territory, and only the Chief Justice of India, whether incumbent or retired, has to be its Chairperson. This statement is partially correct but ultimately flawed. Section 3(3)(a) of the Act indeed bars Members of Parliament and State/UT Legislatures from serving as the Chairperson or Members of the Lokpal. However, the second part of the statement is overly restrictive. According to Section 3(2)(a), the Chairperson can be a current or former Chief Justice of India, a former Supreme Court Judge, or an eminent person of impeccable integrity with at least 25 years of experience in areas such as anti-corruption policy, public administration, law, or management. Hence statement II is not correct. III. The Chairperson or a Member shall not be a person of less than forty-five years of age on the date of	Lokpal of India celebrates 1st Foundation Day on 16th January, 2025	D	FCA	https://lokpal.gov.in/ https://dopt.gov.in/sites/default/files/Lokpal_Lokayukta_Act_2013_0.pdf (Official text of the Act, see Sections 3, 14). PRS Legislative Research - The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011 (Analysis leading to the Act): https://prsindia.org/billtrack/the-lokpal-and-lokayuktas-bill-2011-2139 (Provides background and analysis, including jurisdiction over the Prime Minister). https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/sc-	EN	"Monthly Current Affairs: January 2025: 1.3 Lokpal and Lokayukta https://visionias.in/current-affairs/monthly-magazine/2025-02-22/polity-and-governance/lokpal-and-lokayukta

		given above is/are correct? (a) III only (b) II and III (c) I and IV (d) None of the above statements is correct		assuming office as the Chairperson or Member, as the case may be. This statement is accurate. As per Section 3(3)(c) of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013 , a person must be at least 45 years old on the date of assuming office to be eligible for appointment as either the Chairperson or a Member of the Lokpal. Hence statement III is correct. IV. Lokpal cannot inquire into the allegations of corruption against a sitting Prime Minister of India. The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013 does bring the Prime Minister under its jurisdiction. However, Section 14(1)(a) lays down specific exceptions and procedural safeguards. Inquiries cannot be made into allegations related to international relations, national security (both external and internal), public order, atomic energy, or space. Moreover, any such inquiry must be conducted in camera and can proceed only with the approval of the full bench of the Lokpal, with at least two-thirds of its members consenting. Despite these limitations, the Lokpal is empowered to inquire into allegations against a sitting Prime Minister. Hence statement IV is not correct.				sets-july-to-hear-matter-over-lokpals-jurisdiction-in-examining-complaints-against-judges/article69509511.ece Lokpal of India (Official Website):		
59	Current Affairs (Art & Culture)	Consider the following statements in respect of the first Kho Kho World Cup: I. The event was held in Delhi, India. II. Indian men beat Nepal with a score of 78-40 in the final to become the World Champion in men category. III. Indian women beat Nepal with a score of 54-36 in the final to become the World Champion in women category.	A	The Kho Kho World Cup 2025 concluded in New Delhi with India claiming the men's and women's titles after beating Nepal in both finals at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium on January 19. Hence statement 1 is correct. In the men's division, India outplayed Nepal by a 54-36 scoreline in the summit clash, while the women's title decider finished 78-40 in the hosts' favour. Hence statement 2 and 3 are not correct. This was the inaugural edition of the World Kho Kho Competition, backed by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), and featured 20 men's and 19 women's teams.	Kho Kho World Cup 2025 concluded in New Delhi with India claiming the men's and women's titles.	D	CA	https://www.thehindu.com/sport/other-sports/kho-kho-world-cup-after-women-indian-mens-team-also-crowned-champion/article69117372.ece https://ddnews.gov.in/en/first-ever-kho-kho-world-cup-	EN	

		Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III						2025-draws-historic-global-participation-with-24-countries/		
60	Current Affairs (Art & Culture)	Consider the following statements : I. In the finals of the 45th Chess Olympiad held in 2024, Gukesh Dommaraju became the world's youngest winner after defeating the Russian player Jan Nepomniachtchi II. Abhimanyu Mishra, an American chess player, holds the record of becoming world's youngest ever Grandmaster. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I only (b) II only (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II	B	Indian contingent won Gold in both open and women's category at the 45th International Chess Federation (FIDE) Olympiad by defeating Slovenia. Hence statement 1 is not correct. However, History was made on the small island of Sentosa in Singapore on December 12, 2024, as D. Gukesh became the youngest world chess champion ever after defeating Ding Liren of China in the World Chess Championship . The 18-year-old from Chennai broke the record held by the Russian Garry Kasparov for nearly four decades. H Abhimanyu Mishra became the youngest chess grandmaster in history on Jul 4, 2021, who achieved the title at the age of 12 years, 4 months, and 25 days. He earned his title in 2021. The 12-year-old player from New Jersey scored his third GM norm in Budapest, having already crossed the required 2500 Elo rating barrier. Hence statement 2 is correct.	Indian contingent won Gold in both open and women's category at the 45th International Chess Federation (FIDE) Olympiad.	D	CA	https://visionias.in/current-affairs/news-today/2024-09-23/also-in-news https://www.thehindu.com/sport/other-sports/indias-gukesh-becomes-youngest-world-chess-champion/article68977631.ece https://www.chess.com/news/view/abhimanyu-mishra-youngest-grandmaster-in-chess-history	EN	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following statements regarding the FIDE Chess Olympiad: 1. The 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad took place for the first time in India. 2. Indian Contingent won Gold in both open and women's categories in the 45th edition. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
61	S&T	Consider the following statements: Statement I: Some rare earth elements are used in the manufacture of flat television, screens and computer monitors, Statement II:	A	Rare earth elements (REEs) are a group of 17 metallic elements, including the lanthanides, scandium, and yttrium, known for their unique properties like magnetism, luminescence, and conductivity. These elements are crucial components in various technologies, from consumer electronics to clean energy and medical devices. While relatively abundant in the Earth's crust, they are often dispersed and difficult to extract in concentrated quantities, hence the	REE is an important topic. The US-China trade war made this topic even more important as	D	F	https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c1drqeev36qo	RR	

		given above are not correct? (a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III		tracks. These installations allow the system to monitor and manage train movements, ensuring safe operations. o RFID Tag Installation: Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags are placed throughout the entire track length to enable the Kavach system to track train positions and detect any potential safety issues along the route. Hence, statement 3 is correct. "				com/business/india-business/in-a-a-first-indian-railways-allows-mnacs-to-deploy-indigenous-kavach-anti-train-collision-system-on-network/article/show/105611337.cms		
63	S&T	Consider the following space missions : I. Axiom-4 II. SpaDeX III. Gaganyaan How many of the space missions given above encourage and support micro-gravity research? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	C	Recently, India has shortlisted 2 astronaut-designates for the upcoming Axiom-4 mission to the International Space Station. Axiom Mission 4 (Axiom-4): A private spaceflight mission to the International Space Station (ISS) operated by Axiom Space. Axiom-4: A private mission to the International Space Station (ISS), Axiom-4 supports microgravity research by carrying experiments related to medicine, materials science, and biology in space conditions. Hence option I is correct. SpaDeX (Space Docking Experiment): An Indian mission to demonstrate autonomous docking. While its primary goal is technological, microgravity effects are often studied during such missions, especially in maneuvering and system validation in orbit. Hence option II is correct. Gaganyaan: India's first human spaceflight program. It aims to send humans into space, where microgravity research is a key scientific objective, especially in life sciences and space medicine. Hence option III is correct.	All the three missions have been in the news	D	CA	https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/india-selects-two-astronaut-designates-for-upcoming-axiom-4-mission-to-international-space-station/article68477978.ece https://www.isro.gov.in/Indian_microgravity_research_Axiom_4_mission.html https://www.isro.gov.in/Gaganyaan.html https://www.isro.gov.in/POEM	RR	"PT 365 2025 SnT: Article 5.1.2. Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) News Today (30 Nov 2024): Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4)"

							4 Payloads spadex.html		
64	S&T	With reference to India's defence, consider the following pairs: Aircraft type : Description I. Dornier-228 : Maritime patrol aircraft II. IL-76 : Supersonic combat aircraft III. C-17 Globe- : Military transport aircraft master III How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	B	I. Dornier-228 – Maritime patrol aircraft I is correct: The Dornier-228 aircraft is used by the Indian Navy and Coast Guard for maritime surveillance and patrol. The Dornier 228 is a versatile, twin-engine turboprop aircraft, known for its short takeoff and landing (STOL) capabilities and multi-mission utility. Manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in India and Dornier Flugzeugwerke in Germany, it's used for various roles including passenger transport, cargo, surveillance, and research. II is not correct: The IL-76 is a strategic airlifter, not a supersonic combat aircraft. It is used for heavy cargo and troop transport. The Ilyushin IL-76 is a Russian-designed, four-engine turbofan strategic airlifter, primarily used as a heavy-lift cargo aircraft. It was initially developed in the late 1960s for commercial cargo transport and later adapted for military roles. The IL-76 is known for its robust design and ability to carry heavy payloads over long distances. III. C-17 Globemaster III – Military transport aircraft III is correct: The C-17 is a large military transport aircraft used by the Indian Air Force for strategic and tactical airlift missions. The Boeing C-17 Globemaster III is a large military transport aircraft developed by McDonnell Douglas for the United States Air Force. It is a versatile airlifter capable of strategic and tactical missions, including cargo and troop transport, aeromedical evacuation, and airdrop operations.	All the three aircrafts were in the news in the last 6-7 months in the context of India	D	CA	https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/c-17-aircraft-lands-at-kargil-in-a-major-boost-to-strategic-airlift-capabilities/articleshow/118765295.cms https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/medium-transport-aircraft-to-be-procured-will-replace-an-32-and-il-76-fleets-of-iaf/article68722466.ece https://m.economictimes.com/news/defence/india-targets-global-defence-market-with-dornier-228-offer-for-malaysian-coast-guard-including-tech-transfer/articleshow/117309015.cms	EN

65	Environment & Ecology	Artificial way of causing rainfall to reduce air pollution makes use of (a) silver iodide and potassium iodide (b) silver nitrate and potassium iodide (c) silver iodide and potassium nitrate (d) silver nitrate and potassium chloride	A	Artificial rain (cloud seeding) is commonly done using silver iodide (AgI) and sometimes potassium iodide (KI). These substances act as cloud condensation or ice nuclei, helping water droplets form and precipitate. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.	To test fundamental concepts	E	F	https://www.livemint.com/news/india/delhi-air-pollution-benefits-disadvantages-cost-of-artificial-rains-all-you-need-to-know-11699886905784.html	E M	SANDHAN: Consider the following statements regarding the cloud seeding: 1. It works only when there is enough pre-existing clouds in the atmosphere. 2. It can be done from ground-based generators or aircraft. 3. Only silver iodide or dry ice can be used in the process to aid in the formation of ice crystals. How many statements given above are correct? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None
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66	Current Affairs (Polity & Governance)	Consider the following statements with regard to pardoning power of the President of India : I. The exercise of this power by the President can be subjected to limited judicial review. II. The President can exercise this power without the advice of the Central Government. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I only (b) II only (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II	A	I. The exercise of this power by the President can be subjected to limited judicial review. Although the pardoning power conferred upon the President under Article 72 of the Constitution is an executive function, it is not beyond the reach of judicial scrutiny. The Supreme Court, in landmark rulings such as Maru Ram v. Union of India (1980) and Epuru Sudhakar v. Government of Andhra Pradesh (2006), has made it clear that this power is not absolute. Judicial review is permissible if it is alleged that the decision was taken arbitrarily, in bad faith, without proper application of mind, or influenced by irrelevant or extraneous considerations. However, such review is limited to assessing the legality and constitutionality of the decision-making process; the judiciary does not evaluate the merits of the decision itself or substitute its judgment for that of the President. Hence statement I is correct. II. The President can exercise this power without the advice of the Central Government. Under Article 74(1) of the Constitution, the President is constitutionally bound to act in accordance with the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers, headed by the Prime Minister. The pardoning power under Article 72 is no exception, as it is an executive function exercised on behalf of the Union Government. In practice, the Ministry of Home Affairs processes mercy petitions and forwards its recommendations to the President. Therefore, the President does not exercise this power independently but acts on the advice of the Central Government, in conformity with constitutional provisions. Hence statement II is not correct.	Former U.S. President Joe Biden recently made history by becoming the first American president to pardon his own son, sparking widespread debate over the use of presidential clemency powers. The news has been widely covered in Indian media outlets. https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/power-of-pardon-india-keeps-it-rare-the-us-does-it-more/article-show/115930561.cms?from=mdr	E	FCA	https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/constitution-india/constitution-india-full-text Supreme Court Judgment (Epuru Sudhakar & Anr. vs. Govt. of A.P. & Ors., 2006) Constitution of India (Article 72 - Pardoning Power & Article 74 - Aid and Advice): https://indiankaanoon.org/doc/1744675/	E M	VisionIAS Sandhan Initiative Q. 1. Consider the following statements : 1. The President can exercise his pardoning powers on advice of the union cabinet. 2. Exercise of pardoning power by President is subject to judicial review. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? Q.2. Which of the following statements is not correct about the pardoning power of the President? (a) He acts on his discretion while exercising this power. (b) His decision is subject to the Judicial review. (c) The petitioner for mercy has no right to an oral hearing. (d) He is not bound to give reasons for his order. Explanation: Under Article 72 of the constitution, the president can grant pardons to Persons who have been tried and convicted of any offence in all cases where: Punishment or sentence is for an offence against union law, or, It is by a court-martial, or, a sentence is a sentence of death. The pardoning power of President includes:- Pardon,
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									Commutation, Remission, Respite, Reprieve Following principles are laid down by the Supreme court after examining the pardoning power of the President under different cases : The petitioner for mercy has no right to an oral hearing. The Power is to be exercised by the President on the advice of the Union Cabinet (and not at his discretion). Hence option (a) is not correct. The President can examine the evidence afresh and take a view different from the view taken by the court. The President is not bound to give reasons for his order. The president can afford relief not only from a sentence that he regards as unduly harsh but also from the evident mistake. The exercise of power by the President is subject to Judicial Review where the decision is arbitrary, irrational, malafide or discriminatory. Where the earlier petition for mercy has been rejected by the president, a stay cannot be obtained by filing another petition.
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67	Polity & Governance	Consider the following statements: I. On the dissolution of the House of the People, the Speaker shall not vacate his/her office until immediately before the first meeting of the House of the People after the dissolution. II. According to the provisions of the Constitution of India, a Member of the House of the People on being elected as Speaker shall resign from his/her political party immediately. III. The Speaker of the House of the People may be removed from his/her office by a resolution of the House of the People passed by a majority of all the then Members of the House, provided that no resolution shall be moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III	C	I. Upon the dissolution of the House of the People, the Speaker does not vacate their office until immediately before the first meeting of the newly constituted House of the People. This statement aligns with the second proviso to Article 94 of the Constitution of India. It ensures continuity in the functioning of the Speaker's office even after the Lok Sabha has been dissolved. The Speaker remains in office and continues to discharge their duties until just before the new Lok Sabha holds its first session, typically presided over by a Speaker protem until a new Speaker is elected. Hence statement I is correct. II. The Constitution of India requires a Member of the House of the People, upon being elected as Speaker, to resign from their political party. The Constitution imposes no such requirement. While the office of the Speaker is expected to function with neutrality and impartiality—drawing from the conventions of the Westminster parliamentary system—there is no constitutional or legal mandate that requires resignation from the political party. In fact, the Tenth Schedule (Anti-Defection Law) expressly exempts the Speaker (as well as the Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman) from disqualification in the event they voluntarily give up membership of their political party after assuming office. This provision enables them to act impartially, but resignation remains a matter of convention rather than compulsion. Hence statement II is not correct. III. The Speaker of the House of the People can be removed from office by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the House, provided a minimum of fourteen days' notice has been given before moving such a resolution. This statement accurately reflects the procedure under Article 94(c) of the Constitution. The Speaker may be removed by a resolution passed by an effective majority—i.e., a majority of the total current		M	F	https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/constitution-india/constitution-india-full-text (Search for Article 94) Constitution of India (Tenth Schedule - Anti-Defection Law) Constitution of India (Article 94 - Vacation and Resignation/Removal of Speaker): https://www.mea.gov.in/Images/pdf1/Tenth_Schedule.pdf Lok Sabha - Office of the Speaker (Official Website): https://speakerloksabha.nic.in/	E	M	PT 365 2025 Polity: Article 2.2. ANTI-DEFECTION LAW VisionIAS Sandhan Initiative Q. Which of the following statements is correct about the Speaker of the Lok Sabha? (a) He can be removed by a resolution passed by the effective majority of all the members of the Parliament. (b) He resigns by writing to the President of India. (c) When a resolution for his removal is under consideration of the house, he can not take part in the proceedings of the house. (d) Whenever the Lok Sabha is dissolved, the Speaker does not vacate his office and continues till the newly-elected Lok Sabha meets.
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				membership of the Lok Sabha (excluding vacancies). Additionally, a procedural safeguard is built into the process: no such resolution can be brought forward unless at least 14 days' prior notice has been given, allowing for adequate deliberation. Hence statement III is correct.						
68	Current Affairs (Polity & Governance)	Consider the following statements: I. If any question arises as to whether a Member of the House of the People has become subject to disqualification under the 10th Schedule, the President's decision in accordance with the opinion of the Council of Union Ministers shall be final. II. There is no mention of the word 'political party' in the Constitution of India. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I only (b) II only (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II	D	I. If a question arises as to whether a Member of the House of the People has incurred disqualification under the Tenth Schedule, the President's decision—based on the advice of the Council of Ministers—is final. This statement misrepresents the constitutional procedure. Under Paragraph 6(1) of the Tenth Schedule (Anti-Defection Law) , the authority to decide on such disqualifications lies with the Speaker of the Lok Sabha (or the Chairman in the case of the Rajya Sabha), not the President. The decision of the Speaker or Chairman is deemed final within the context of the Schedule. However, in the landmark Kihoto Hollohan v. Zachillhu (1992) case, the Supreme Court clarified that while the decision is final under the Schedule, it is still subject to judicial review on grounds such as mala fides or violation of constitutional principles. The President's role in disqualification matters arises only in cases under Article 102, and even then, only on receiving the opinion of the Election Commission, not the Council of Ministers. Hence statement 1 is not correct. II. The Constitution of India does not contain the term 'political party'. While the original Constitution of 1950 did not mention the term “political party,” the term was explicitly introduced by the Fifty-second Amendment Act, 1985, through the insertion of the Tenth Schedule, which deals with disqualification due to defection. This Schedule contains multiple references to "political party"—for example, in Paragraph 2, which outlines the conditions under which a member is deemed to have	In September 2024, the Supreme Court dismissed a plea challenging the constitutional validity of the anti-defection law. The issue has remained in the news due to ongoing political defections in Telangana and other states, prompting UPSC to test candidates' understanding of this important constitutional provision. https://econ	D	FCA	Constitution of India (Tenth Schedule - Anti-Defection Law): https://www.mea.gov.in/Images/pdf1/Tenth_Schedule.pdf (See Paragraph 6 for Deciding Authority and multiple references to "political party"). Constitution of India (Article 103 - Decision on questions as to disqualifications of members): https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/constitution-india/full-text (Illustrates the President's role in other	R M	PT 365 2025 Polity: Article 2.2. ANTI-DEFECTION LAW VisionIAS Sandhan Initiative Which of the following statements is correct in the context of the Tenth Schedule of the Indian Constitution? (a) The provisions of Tenth Schedule are not applicable to the members of Rajya Sabha. (b) A member disqualified under Tenth Schedule will not be eligible to contest the by-elections. (c) The decision of the deciding authority about disqualification under the Tenth Schedule is final and can not be subject to judicial review. (d) The question of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule is decided by the Presiding officer of the House.

			defected from their party. Therefore, in its amended form, the Constitution clearly contains and defines the term “political party.” Hence statement 2 is not correct.	omictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/sc-dismisses-plea-against-anti-defection-law/articleshow/113530444.cms?from=mdr		disqualification cases). Kihoto Hollohan vs Zachillhu And Others (1992) - Supreme Court Judgment: https://indiankaanoon.org/doc/1491876/ (Discusses the role of the Speaker and judicial review under the Tenth Schedule).	
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MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

REVISION 2026

GS PRELIMS + MAINS

English Med
20 MAY, 2 PM

हिन्दी माध्यम
27 MAY, 2 PM

Live/Online & Offline Classes

69	Current Affairs (Polity & Governance)	Consider the following statements: Statement I: In India, State Governments have no power for making rules for grant of concessions in respect of extraction of minor minerals even though such minerals are located in their territories. Statement II: In India, the Central Government has the power to notify minor minerals under the relevant law. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is not correct (d) Statement I is not correct but Statement II is correct	D	Statement I: Under Section 15(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act), State Governments are empowered to make rules for the grant of concessions related to minor minerals within their territories. Hence, statement I is not correct. Statement II: As per Section 3(e) of the MMDR Act, the Central Government has the authority to notify any mineral as a "minor mineral" via official notification. Hence, statement II is correct. Hence Statement I is not correct, while Statement II is correct.	Government of India launched the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM)1 in 2025 to establish a robust framework for self-reliance in the critical mineral sector.	M	FCA	The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957: https://www.mines.gov.in/write/readdata/UploadFile/MMDR%20ACT%201957%20(as%20amended%20upto%2018.12.2023).pdf (Refer to Section 3(e) for the definition and power to notify minor minerals, and Section 15 for the power of State Governments to make rules for minor minerals). https://swarajyamag.com/news-brief/barytes-felspar-mica-and-quartz-now-classified-as-major-minerals-in-india-what-it-means https://www.mines.gov.in/	RR	"PT 365 Update Part 2 -3.11 - MAJOR AND MINOR MINERALS News Today (22-02-2025) - Ministry of Mines reclassifies Barytes, Felspar, Mica, and Quartz as Major Minerals." VisionIAS Sandhan Initiative With reference to Indian laws on Minor Minerals, consider the following statements: 1. Minor minerals are those with limited availability in India. 2. The central government has the power to notify minor minerals. 3. The power to frame policy and legislation relating to minor minerals is entirely delegated to the State Governments. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
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70	Current Affairs (Environment & Ecology)	Which organization has enacted the Nature Restoration Law (NRL) to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss? (a) The European Union (b) The World Bank (c) The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (d) The Food and Agriculture Organization	A	The EU's first continent-wide legislation for the long-term recovery of nature, the EU Nature Restoration Law, came into force in August 2024. The EU Nature Restoration Law is a comprehensive piece of legislation aimed at restoring degraded ecosystems across the European Union. It sets legally binding targets for restoring 20% of EU land and sea by 2030 and all ecosystems in need by 2050. The law also includes specific targets for restoring habitats like forests, grasslands, and wetlands, as well as increasing pollinator populations and restoring urban green spaces. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.	The EU Nature Restoration Law came into force in August 2024.	E	CA	https://iucn.org/news/202408/eu-nature-restoration-law-came-force-yesterday#:~:text=The%20EU's%20first%20continent%2Dwide,by%20the%20end%20of%202026	EN	"PT 365 Environment: 1.2.4.3. EU'S Nature Restoration Plan (NRP) News Today (18 June 2024): EU's Natural Restoration Plan https://visionias.in/current-affairs/news-today/2024-06-18/also-in-news#eus-nature-restoration-plan-nrp "
71	Economics	Suppose the revenue expenditure is Rs.80,000 crores and the revenue receipts of the Government are Rs.60,000 crores. The Government budget also shows borrowings of Rs.10,000 crores and interest payments of Rs.6,000 crores. Which of the following statements are correct? I. Revenue deficit is Rs.20,000 crores. II. Fiscal deficit is Rs.10,000 crores. III. Primary deficit is Rs.4,000 crores. Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III	D	I. Revenue Deficit = Revenue Expenditure – Revenue Receipts = 80,000 – 60,000 = ₹20,000 crores. Option I is correct. II. Fiscal Deficit = Total Expenditure – (Revenue Receipts + Non-debt Capital Receipts) Here, borrowings = ₹10,000 crores → this indicates fiscal deficit is ₹10,000 crores. Option II is correct. III. Primary Deficit = Fiscal Deficit – Interest Payments = 10,000 – 6,000 = ₹4,000 crores Option III is correct.	Union Budget is a basic yet important topic.	E	F	https://ncert.nic.in/textbook/pdf/leec105.pdf	E M	"PT 365 Update Part 1 - 3.2.1.1. - STATE FINANCES: A STUDY OF BUDGETS OF 2024-25 REPORT Union Budget 2025-26: Glossary: Primary Deficit https://visionias.in/current-affairs/budget/2025/annexure/glossary-1" 2025 Test Series - 4707: Consider the following: 1. Gross Fiscal Deficit is obtained by excluding both revenue receipts and non-debt creating capital receipts from total expenditure. 2. The primary deficit is gross fiscal deficit minus gross interest liabilities. 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

72	Geography	India is one of the founding members of the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC), a multimodal a transportation corridor, which will connect (a) India to Central Asia to Europe via Iran (b) India to Central Asia via China (c) India to South-East Asia through Bangladesh and Myanmar (d) India to Europe through Azerbaijan	A	Recently, Cargo from Gujarat's Mundra port takes INSTC's Eastern route to reach Kazakhstan. It reached Kazakhstan after traversing Iran, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, bolstering India's efforts to tap the eastern route of INSTC for undertaking trade with central Asia. The International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is an important initiative taken by India, Russia and Iran by signing an Inter-Governmental Agreement on 12th September 2000, to enhance trade and transport connectivity among countries along its route. At present, there are 13 Members of INSTC, namely- India, Iran, Russia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, Belarus, Oman and Syria. Bulgaria has joined as an Observer State. The INSTC is a multi-modal, cost and time effective from India to Northern and Western Europe. It has the potential to enhance India's connectivity with Central Asia and Eurasian Region and vice versa, taking into account the geo-strategic and economic importance of all the involved countries. The eastern corridor connects Russia to India through the Central Asian countries of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan. Iran and Russia are essential links in the corridor, not just Azerbaijan. Hence option (a) is the correct answer. Note: Although option (a) is the most accurate choice, there is a possibility that UPSC could also consider option (d) as correct, since the corridor passes through Azerbaijan as well—particularly along its western branch, which runs from Iran to Azerbaijan, then to Russia, and onward to Europe.	Chabhar Port and INSTC was in news.	M	CAA	https://www.mea.gov.in/lok-sabha.htm?dtl/37388/question+no1085+international+northsouth+transport+corridor https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/cargo-from-gujarat-port-takes-instcs-eastern-route-to-reach-kazakhstan/articleshow/118717425.cms?from=mdr https://www.raifreight.com/corridors/2024/08/22/instc-enriched-with-two-new-routes-on-its-western-and-eastern-side/?gdpr=accept https://russiaspivottoasia.com/eastern-section-of-the-north-south-	EN	"PT 365 (International Relations): Article 4.1 - Chabahar Port News Today (Feb 03, 2025): International North South Transport Corridor https://visionias.in/current-affairs/news-today/2025-02-03/also-in-news#international-north-south-transport-corridor-instc News Today (29 Jun 2024): INSTC Sees First Russian Coal Trains Bound for India https://visionias.in/current-affairs/news-today/2024-06-29/international-relations/instc-sees-first-russian-coal-trains-bound-for-india" Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative With reference to International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC), consider the following statements: 1. It is a multi-modal transport corridor that combines road, rail and maritime routes connecting Russia and India via Central Asia and Iran. 2. It is an outcome of the Ashgabat Agreement. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only
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							transport- corridor- volumes- increased- threefold-in- 2024/	(b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
73	Environment & Ecology	Consider the following statements : Statement I: Of the two major ethanol producers in the world, i.e., Brazil and the United States of America, the former produces more ethanol than the latter. Statement II: Unlike in the United States of America where corn is the principal feedstock for ethanol production, sugarcane is the principal feedstock for ethanol production in Brazil. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is not	D	The US produced significantly more ethanol than Brazil in 2024, with the US producing approximately 16.1 billion gallons and Brazil producing 8.8 billion gallons. Together, the United States and Brazil produce 80% of the world's ethanol. The vast majority of U.S. ethanol is produced from corn, while Brazil primarily uses sugarcane. Hence, Statement I is not correct but Statement II is correct.	Ethanol production is often seen in the news	M	CAA https://afdc.energy.gov/data/10331#:~:text=The%20United%20States%20is%20the,while%20Brazil%20primarily%20uses%20sugarcane.https://www.statista.com/statistics/281606/ethanol-production-in-selected-countries/	EN PT 365 Updated II 2025: 4.6 Biofuels Monthly Current Affairs: March: 6.1 Biofuels https://visionias.in/current-affairs/monthly-magazine/2025-04-16/environment/biofuels

		correct (d) Statement I is not correct but Statement II is correct								
74	Environment & Ecology	The World Bank warned that India could become one of the first places where wet-bulb temperatures routinely exceed 35°C. Which of the following statements best reflect(s) the implication of the above-said report? I. Peninsular India will most likely suffer from flooding, tropical cyclones and droughts. II. The survival of animals including humans will be affected as shedding of their body heat through perspiration becomes difficult. Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) I only (b) II only (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II	C	In a November 2022 report, the World Bank warned that India could become one of the first places in the world where wet-bulb temperatures could increase beyond the survivability threshold of 35°C. The World Bank report suggests that increased heat stress and difficulty in shedding body heat through perspiration will negatively impact the survival of animals, including humans. This is due to the fact that sweating, a crucial mechanism for cooling the body, becomes less effective in hot and humid conditions. When the air is already saturated with moisture, sweat cannot evaporate efficiently, and the body struggles to regulate its temperature. The impact will also be the increased rainfall during monsoon seasons, that could exacerbate flooding risks in the Indian peninsula. Also, there is a rising risk of frequent tropical cyclones in the region and droughts. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.	In a November 2022 report, the World Bank warned that India could become one of the first places in the world where wet-bulb temperatures could increase beyond the survivability threshold of 35°C.	D	CAA	https://www.economist.com/asia/2023/04/02/global-warming-is-killing-indians-and-pakistanis https://www.livemint.com/minit-lounge/business-of-life/explained-is-india-at-risk-of-wet-bulb-temperatures-11680173072716.html	RR	
75	Economics	A country's fiscal deficit stands at Rs.50,000 crores. It is receiving Rs.10,000 crores through non-debt creating capital receipts. The country's interest	A	Fiscal Deficit = Total Expenditure – (Revenue Receipts + Non-debt Capital Receipts) Gross Primary Deficit = Fiscal Deficit – Interest Payments Thus Gross Primary Deficit = Rs 50,000 crores - Rs 1,500 crores = Rs 48,500 crores	Union Budget is a basic yet important topic.	E	F	https://ncert.nic.in/textbook/pdf/leec105.pdf	EM	Union Budget 2025-26: Glossary: Primary Deficit https://visionias.in/current-affairs/budget/2025/annexure/glossary-1

		liabilities are Rs.1,500 crores. What is the gross primary deficit? (a) Rs.48,500 crores (b) Rs.51,500 crores (c) Rs.58,500 crores (d) None of the above							2025 All India Test Series - 4707: Consider the following: 1. Gross Fiscal Deficit is obtained by excluding both revenue receipts and non-debt creating capital receipts from total expenditure. 2. The primary deficit is gross fiscal deficit minus gross interest liabilities. 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
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OPTIONAL SUBJECT CLASSES

- » Geography » Sociology
 » Political Science and International Relations

20 JUNE, 2 PM

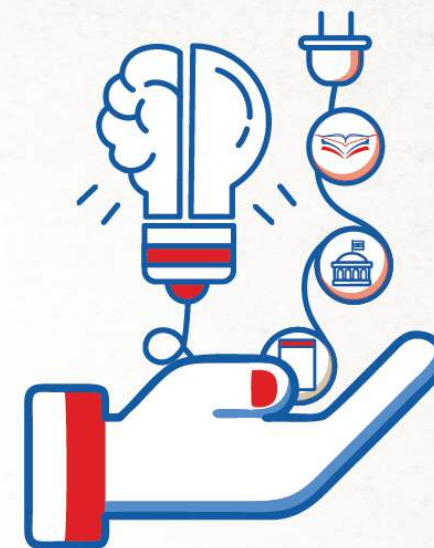
- » Physics **15 JULY**

- » Public Administration
 » Anthropology » Hindi Literature

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76	Economics	Which of the following statements with regard to recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission of India are correct? I. It has recommended grants of ₹ 4,800 crores from the year 2022-23 to the year 2025-26 for incentivizing States to enhance educational outcomes. II. 45% of the net proceeds of Union taxes are to be shared with States. III. ₹ 45,000 crores are to be kept as performance-based incentive for all States for carrying out agricultural reforms. IV. It reintroduced tax effort criteria to reward fiscal performance. Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) I, II and III (b) I, II and IV (c) I, III and IV (d) II, III and IV	C	Statement I is correct: XVFC has recommended grants of Rs. 4,800 crore (Rs. 1,200 crore each year) from 2022-23 to 2025-26 for incentivizing the States to enhance educational outcomes. Statement II is not correct: In order to maintain predictability and stability of resources, especially during the pandemic, XVFC has recommended maintaining the vertical devolution at 41 per cent – the same as in our report for 2020-21. It is at the same level of 42 per cent of the divisible pool as recommended by FC-XIV. However, it has made the required adjustment of about 1 per cent due to the changed status of the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir into the new Union Territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir. Statement III is correct: XVFC has recommended that Rs. 45,000 crore be kept as performance-based incentive for all the States for carrying out agricultural reforms. Statement IV is correct: XVFC has re-introduced tax effort criterion to reward fiscal performance.	It was in the news and recommendations of FC have been asked in the past as well	M	CA	https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1693868	EN	Monthly Current Affairs Jan 2024 – Article 3.8.4 - 16TH FINANCE COMMISSION https://visionias.in/current-affairs/monthly-magazine/2024-02-15/economics-(indian-economy)/news-in-shorts#16th-finance-commission Open Test, 2025 - 5238 Consider the following: 1. Tax and fiscal efforts 2. Forest cover 3. Demographic performance Which of the criteria for horizontal tax devolution given above were introduced exclusively by the 15th Finance Commission and were not part of the 14th Finance Commission's framework? (a) 2 and 3 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which of the following criterias are used by the 15th Finance Commission for horizontal devolution and determining the share of states? (a) Income distance, Population, Demographic
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										performance, Tax effort and Forest & ecology (b) Income distance, Fiscal discipline, Infrastructure index, Tax effort and Forest & ecology (c) Fiscal discipline, Population, Demographic performance, Tax effort and Area (d) Fiscal discipline, Poplulation, Demographic performance, Area and Forest & ecology Explanation: The share of States from the divisible pool (vertical devolution) stands at 41% as per the recommendation of the 15th FC.
77	Economics	Consider the following statements in respect of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) : I. It provides loans and guarantees to middle income countries. II. It works single-handedly to help developing countries to reduce poverty. III. It was established to help Europe rebuild after the World War II. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) I and II only (b) II and III only	C	Statement I is correct: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) is a global development cooperative owned by 189 member countries. As the largest development bank in the world, it supports the World Bank Group’s mission by providing loans, guarantees, risk management products, and advisory services to middle-income and creditworthy low-income countries , as well as by coordinating responses to regional and global challenges Statement II is not correct: They work closely with all institutions of the World Bank Group and the public and private sectors in developing countries to reduce poverty and build shared prosperity. Statement III is correct: It was created in 1944 to help Europe rebuild after World War II, IBRD joins with IDA,	WB and IMF are important bodies.	E	F	https://www.worldbank.org/en/who-we-are/ibrd	R M	PT 365 2025 Economy : Article 4.4.2 World Bank All India Test Series - 2025 - 4728: Consider the following statements regarding the World Bank Group: 1. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) raises funds in the world's financial markets. 2. Contributions from the richer member countries primarily fund the International Development Association (IDA).

		(c) I and III only (d) I, II and III		our fund for the poorest countries, to form the World Bank.						3. World Bank helps the member countries in tackling the balance of payments crisis. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 only (d) 2 and 3 only
78	Economics	Consider the following statements in respect of RTGS and NEFT : I. In RTGS, the settlement time is instantaneous while in case of NEFT, it takes some time to settle payments. II. In RTGS, the customer is charged for inward transactions while that is not the case for NEFT. III. Operating hours for RTGS are restricted on certain days while this is not true for NEFT. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I only (b) I and II (c) I and III (d) III only	A	Statement I is correct: The acronym 'RTGS' stands for Real Time Gross Settlement, which can be explained as a system where there is continuous and real-time settlement of fund-transfers , individually on a transaction-by-transaction basis (without netting). NEFT is an electronic fund transfer system in which the transactions received up to a particular time are processed in batches . Contrary to this, in RTGS, the transactions are processed continuously on a transaction-by-transaction basis throughout the day. Statement II is not correct: With a view to rationalise the service charges levied by banks for offering funds transfer through RTGS system, a broad framework of charges has been mandated as under: a) Inward transactions – Free, no charge to be levied. b) Outward transactions – ₹ 2,00,000/- to 5,00,000/-: not exceeding ₹ 25/- (exclusive of tax, if any) Above ₹ 5,00,000/-: not exceeding ₹ 50 (exclusive of tax, if any) Statement III is not correct: RTGS is available 24x7x365 with effect from December 14, 2020.	Digital Payment Ecosystems are important. Previously asked.	D	F	https://www.rbi.org.in/commo nman/english/S cripts/FAQs.aspx?Id=275 https://www.thehindu.com/business/banks-to-provide-beneficiary-account-name-look-up-facility-in-neft-rtgs-by-april-1/article69044676.ece	R M	VisionIAS Abhyaas - 2025 - 5239 Consider the following statements regarding National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT): 1. It is a centralised payment system owned and operated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). 2. There is no levy of charges by RBI from banks for funds transfer or receipt. 3. There is no limit imposed by the RBI for funds transfer through NEFT system. 4. It can be used to transfer funds from/to Non-Resident External (NRE) and Non-Resident Ordinary (NRO) accounts in the country. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 4 only (c) 1, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

									Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which of the following are classified as the Centralised Payment Systems (CPS)? 1. Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) 2. Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) 3. National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) 4. Cheque Truncation System (CTS) Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 2 and 4 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
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Optional TEST SERIES

OFFLINE / ONLINE

79	Economics	Consider the following countries : I. United Arab Emirates III. France III. Germany IV. Singapore V. Bangladesh How many countries amongst the above are there other than India where international merchant payments are accepted under UPI? (a) Only two (b) Only three (c) Only four (d) All the five	B	UPI stands for Unified Payments Interface, a system developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) that enables instant money transfers between any two bank accounts using a smartphone. List of countries where international merchant payments are accepted at select merchant outlets: Bhutan, France, Mauritius, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates.	It was in the news.	M	CA	https://www.npci.org.in/what-we-do/upi-global/upi-global-acceptance/live-members https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/payment-international-upi-feature-nepal-mauritius-uae-france-singapore-bhutan-9677800/	EN	PT 365 (Economy): Article 3.2 - Unified Payment Interface (UPI) Monthly Current Affairs, SEPT, 2024: India-Singapore Relations News today (05 Feb 2025): Unified Payments Interface (UPI) launched at the iconic Eiffel Tower in France Vision IAS Abhyaas 2- 2025 - Test 6591: As of March 2025, Unified Payments Interface (UPI) from India has been officially accepted or operationalized for use in which of the following countries? 1. France 2. Singapore 3. United Arab Emirates (UAE) 4. United Kingdom Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 2, 3 and 4 only (b) 1, 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2 and 4 only
80	Current Affairs (Government Schemes)	Consider the following statements about 'PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana' : I. It targets installation of one crore solar rooftop panels in the residential sector. II. The Ministry of New	D	"The Government of India has approved the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana on 29th February, 2024 to increase the share of solar rooftop capacity and empower residential households to generate their own electricity. The PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, the world's largest domestic rooftop solar initiative, is transforming India's energy landscape with a bold vision to supply solar power to one crore households by March 2027. The scheme provides	In 2024, Government of India approved the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.	M	CA	https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2081250&utm_source=s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd	EN	"PT 365 (Schemes in News): Article 17.1.3 - PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana Mothly Magazine (October 2024): PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana https://visionias.in/current-affairs/monthly-magazine/2024-11-

		and Renewable Energy aims to impart training on installation, operation, maintenance and repairs of solar rooftop systems at grassroot levels. III. It aims to create more than three lakhs skilled manpower through fresh skilling, and up-skilling, under scheme component of capacity building. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) I and II only (b) I and III only (c) II and III only (d) I, II and III		households with free electricity through the installation of subsidized rooftop solar panels, significantly reducing their energy costs. Hence statement 1 is correct. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) intends to impart training on installation, operation, maintenance and repairing of solar roof top systems at grass root level. Specific training and skills are crucial to build capable local skilled workforce for installation of solar roof top systems throughout the country. Hence statement 2 is correct. Aims and Objectives a) To create more than 3 lakh skilled manpower, through fresh skilling, and up-skilling, under scheme component of capacity building, out of which at least 1,00,000 will be Solar PV Technicians. Hence statement 3 is correct. b) To undertake capacity building of DISCOMs, REDAs, Financial Institutions as well as officials, field units and stakeholders of other Ministries/Departments at the Centre and State levels, through constructive convergence of efforts"				17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/07/202407181728251154.pdf		14/environment/news-in-shorts#pm-surya-ghar-muft-bijli-yojana-1 News Today (Feb 04, 2025): PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSGMBY) crosses milestone of 10 lakh installations https://visionias.in/current-affairs/news-today/2025-02-04/schemes-in-news/union-budget-2025-increased-allocation-for-pm-surya-ghar-muft-bijli-yojana-by-80-to-20000-crore "
81	Polity & Governance	Which reference to the Indian polity, consider the following statements : I. An Ordinance can amend any Central Act. II. An Ordinance can abridge a Fundamental Right. III. An Ordinance can come into effect from a back date. Which of the statements given above are correct?	C	An Ordinance issued under Article 123 (by the President) or Article 213 (by the Governor) has the same force and effect as an Act of Parliament or State Legislature. It can amend or repeal existing laws, subject to constitutional limits and legislative competence. Hence, statement I is correct. Ordinances are "law" under Article 13 and must conform to the Fundamental Rights enshrined in Part III. Since Article 13(2) prohibits the State from making laws that infringe Fundamental Rights, an Ordinance cannot violate them. Hence, statement II is not correct. Legislative power, whether through an Act or an	In recent years, frequent power tussles between the elected Delhi government and the Lieutenant Governor led to significant	M	F	Constitution of India (Articles 13, 20, 123): https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/constitution-india/full-text D.C. Wadhwa & Ors vs State Of Bihar & Ors (1987) -	E M	VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2025): Test 4702 Consider the following statements with reference to the ordinance-making power of the President: 1. It cannot be issued retrospectively. 2. It cannot alter or amend a tax law. 3. It cannot be issued to amend the Constitution. How many of the above

		(a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III		Ordinance, generally includes the power of retrospective legislation—except in the case of criminal laws, where Article 20(1) prohibits retrospective penalties. The Supreme Court has affirmed that the Ordinance-making power is co-extensive with legislative power. Hence, statement III is correct.	constitutional debates. After the Supreme Court ruled in favor of Delhi’s control over services, the Central Government issued an ordinance (and later a law) limiting that power, raising concerns about federalism, separation of powers, and the misuse of ordinance-making authority.			https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1351608/ (Discusses ordinance power)	statements are correct? Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Q.1. An ordinance issued by the President of India: cannot contravene Fundamental Rights any more than an act of Parliament can repeal an act of the Parliament on a subject in the Concurrent list of the seventh schedule of the constitution can have a maximum life of six months in case of non-approval by the Parliament Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 2 and 3 only	
82	Polity & Governance	Consider the following pairs : State Description I. Arunachal Pradesh : The capital is named after a fort, and the State has two National Parks II. Nagaland : The State came into existence on the basis of	B	Ita Fort in Itanagar town, is one of the most important historical sites in the state of Arunachal Pradesh, India. The name literally means “Fort of bricks”(brick being called “Ita” in the Assamese language). It also lends its name to the city Itanagar, the capital of Arunachal Pradesh. Arunachal Pradesh has two national parks: Namdapha National Park and Mouling National Park. Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched. The state of Nagaland came into existence with the State of Nagaland Act, 1962 . However, at the same time the Constitution (Thirteenth Amendment) Act,		D	F	https://itanagar.nic.in/tourist-place/ita-fort/ https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/constitution-india/amendments/constitution-india-thirteenth-	R M	VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2025): Test 4709 Consider the following events related to the reorganisation of the states: 1. Dadra and Nagar Haveli was converted into a Union Territory of India. 2. Arunachal Pradesh became a full fledged state. 3. The State of Punjab was bifurcated to create Haryana

		a Constitutional Amendment Act III. Tripura : Initially a Part 'C' State, it became a centrally administered territory with the reorganization of States in 1956 and later attained the status of a full-fledged State. How many of the above pairs are correctly matched? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	1962 was introduced to introduce Article 371 A which grants special status to Nagaland, protecting its unique religious, social, customary, and land-related practices from interference by the Indian Parliament without the state's Legislative Assembly's consent. Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched. The Royal history of Tripura ended when it acceded to the Indian Union on October 15, 1949. The regent signed the merger agreement with India, making Tripura a Part 'C' State. In November 1956, during state reorganization, Tripura became a Union Territory with an Advisory Committee for the Chief Commissioner. The Tripura Territorial Council was dissolved on July 1, 1963, and a Legislative Assembly was formed with existing members. Tripura became a full-fledged State on January 21, 1972, through the North Eastern Areas (Reorganization) Act, 1971. Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.			amendment-act-1962 https://thc.tripura.gov.in/history.html	4. The state of Nagaland was formed. Arrange the above events in a chronological order, starting from the earliest. (a) 1-4-3-2 (b) 4-2-3-1 (c) 1-2-3-4 (d) 4-1-2-3 Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Q. Arrange the following states based on their formation in chronological order : 1. Nagaland 2. Tripura 3. Mizoram 4. Sikkim Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 2-1-3-4 (b) 1-2-4-3 (c) 3-4-1-2 (d) 1-2-3-4 Explanation: In 1963, the State of Nagaland was formed by taking the Naga Hills and Tuensang area out of the state of Assam. In 1972, the political map of Northeast India underwent a major change. Thus, the two Union Territories of Manipur and Tripura and the Sub-State of Meghalaya got statehood and the two union
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								territories of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh (originally known as North-East Frontier Agency—NEFA) came into being. With this, the number of states of the Indian Union increased to (Manipur 19th, Tripura 20th and Meghalaya 21st). In 1987, three new States of Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Goa came into being as the 23rd, 24th and 25th states of the Indian Union respectively.
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83	Current Affairs (Polity & Governance)	With reference to India, consider the following : I. The Inter-State Council II. The National Security Council III. Zonal Councils How many of the above are established as per the provisions of the Constitution of India? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	A	Inter-State Council: Established under Article 263 of the Constitution, the Inter-State Council is a constitutional body created to foster coordination between States and between the Centre and the States. Hence option I is correct. National Security Council (NSC): The NSC was formed by an executive order of the Government of India. As it finds no mention in the Constitution, it functions as an executive body. Hence option II is not correct. Zonal Councils: These were set up under the States Reorganisation Act, 1956—an Act of Parliament. Since they are not created by any constitutional provision, they are classified as statutory bodies. Hence option III is not correct.	Recently the Inter-State Council, which is mandated to investigate and advise on disputes between states, has been reconstituted with Prime Minister as its chairman and nine Union Ministers and all Chief Ministers as its members.	E	FCA	Constitution of India (Article 263): https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/constitution-india/full-text States Reorganisation Act, 1956: https://www.indiacode.nic.in/	R M	"PT 365 2025 Updated Part 1: Article 1.18.5. INTER-STATE COUNCIL (ISC) Monthly Current Affairs: November 2024: 1.10.6: ISC VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2025): Test 4731 Consider the following statements with respect to the Inter-State Council and the Zonal Councils: 1. The Inter-State Council is a Constitutional body, whereas the Zonal Councils are statutory bodies. 2. The Prime Minister of India is the chairperson of both the Inter-State Council and the Zonal Councils. 3. The recommendations of the Inter-State Council on the inter-state disputes are binding on States, whereas the recommendations of the Zonal Councils are advisory in nature. Which of the following statements given above are not correct? VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2025): Test 4728 Consider the following statements regarding the National Security Council: 1. It is an apex advisory body headed by the National
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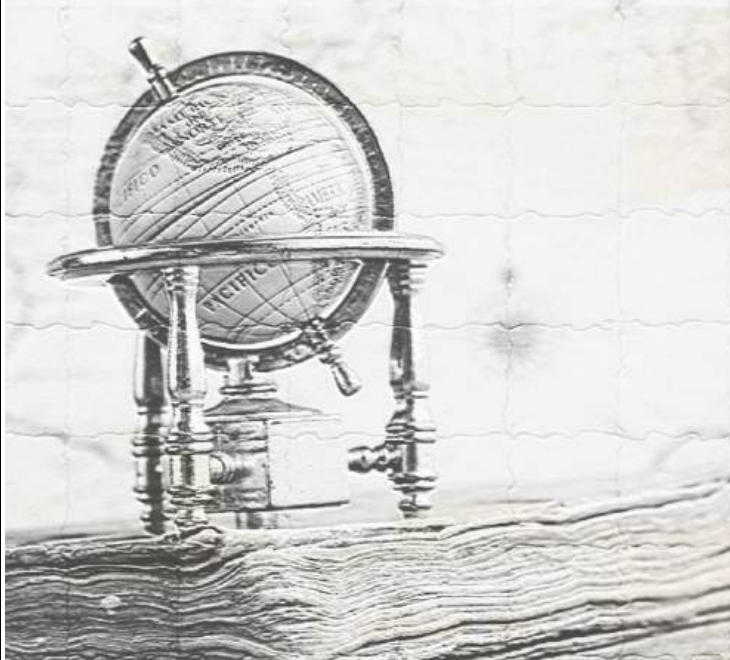
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		the public services of the State : The Directive Principles of the State Policy II. Valuing and preserving of the rich heritage of our composite culture : The Fundamental Duties III. Prohibition of employment of children below the age of 14 years in factories : The Fundamental Rights How many of the above pairs are correctly matched? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	services of the State." This directive serves as a foundational guideline for ensuring judicial independence in the governance structure. Hence pair I is correctly match. II. Valuing and Preserving the Rich Heritage of Our Composite Culture — Fundamental Duties Article 51A, located in Part IVA of the Constitution, outlines the Fundamental Duties of citizens. Specifically, Clause (f) of this Article emphasizes that it is the duty of every citizen "to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture.Hence pair II is correctly match. III. Prohibition of Employment of Children Below the Age of 14 Years in Factories — Fundamental Rights Article 24, which is part of Part III of the Constitution under Fundamental Rights, prohibits the employment of children under the age of fourteen in factories, mines, or any other hazardous occupations. It affirms the State's commitment to protecting children from exploitation. Hence pair III is correctly match.			text (Refer to Article 50 for DPSP, Article 51A(f) for Fundamental Duties, and Article 24 for Fundamental Rights).	the judiciary from the executive? (a) Article 43A (b) Article 42 (c) Article 51 (d) Article 50 (4701) Q. How many of the following are envisaged as the Right against Exploitation in the Constitution of India? 1. Protection against arrest and detention 2. Prohibition of employment of children in factories. 3. Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour Select the correct answer using the code given below. Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative With reference to the Indian Constitution, which of the following find mention among the Fundamental Duties under Part IVA? 1. To safeguard public property 2. To preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture 3. To promote international peace and security Select the correct answer using the code given below.
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86	Current Affairs (Polity & Governance)	Consider the following statements : With reference to the Constitution of India, if an area in a State is declared as Scheduled Area under the Fifth Schedule I. the State Government loses its executive power in such areas and a local body assumes total administration II. the Union Government can take over the total administration of such areas under certain circumstances on the recommendations of the Governor Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I only (b) II only (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II	D	I. The State Government loses its executive power in such areas and a local body assumes total administration. Paragraph 2 of the Fifth Schedule affirms that the State's executive power extends to Scheduled Areas. While the Governor has special powers—such as modifying laws (Paragraph 5) and establishing a Tribes Advisory Council (Paragraph 4)—these do not nullify the State's authority. Even under PESA, which empowers Gram Sabhas and local bodies, the State continues to exercise its executive functions within the framework of the Fifth Schedule. Hence statement I is not correct. II. The Union Government can take over the total administration of such areas under certain circumstances on the recommendations of the Governor. Paragraph 3 of the Fifth Schedule allows the Union to issue directions to the State regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas but does not permit it to take over total administration. Such a takeover would require invocation of Article 356 (President's Rule), which is a separate constitutional mechanism and not a provision under the Fifth Schedule. Hence statement II is not correct.	The Fifth and Sixth Schedules of the Indian Constitution are increasingly in focus amid rising demands for inclusion by various regions. For example: Ladakh and parts of the North-East have sought inclusion under the Sixth Schedule to secure greater autonomy and protection of tribal rights. In Uttarakhand, there are demands to bring certain tribal-dominated areas under the Fifth	D	FA	https://www.mea.gov.in/Images/pdf1/Schedules5-12.pdf (See Fifth Schedule, specifically Paragraphs 2, 3, and 5). The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA): https://tribal.nic.in/PESA.aspx (Provides details on the powers devolved to local bodies in Scheduled Areas, illustrating their role within the broader administrative framework).	R M	PT 365 : Polity: 4.3. SIXTH SCHEDULE Monthly Current Affairs: March 2024: 1.6 SIXTH SCHEDULE https://visionias.in/current-affairs/monthly-magazine/2024-04-15/polity-and-governance/sixth-schedule
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				Schedule to safeguard land rights and cultural identity. These developments underscore shifting dynamics in tribal governance and Indian federalism, making it important for UPSC aspirants to understand the distinctions, significance, and the rationale behind such demands.						
87	Polity & Governance	With reference to India, consider the following pairs : Organization Union Ministry I. The National Automotive Board : Ministry of Commerce and Industry II. The Coir Board : Ministry of Heavy	D	The National Automotive Board (NAB) is set up to promote and develop the automotive sector in India. It falls under the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, not the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Hence, Pair I is not correctly matched. The Coir Board is a statutory body established for the promotion and development of coir and coir products in India. It works under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), not the Ministry of Heavy		D	F	https://www.commerce.gov.in/international-trade/trade-promotion-programmes-and-schemes/trade-promotion-programme-focus-cis/trade-	RR	

	Industries III. The National Centre for Trade Information : Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises How many of the above pairs are correctly matched : (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	Industries. Hence, Pair II is not correctly matched. The National Centre for Trade Information (NCTI) is an autonomous institution that provides trade information and market intelligence. It functions under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry , not the Ministry of MSME. Hence, Pair III is not correctly matched.				<u>promotion-measures/</u>	
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88	Polity & Governance	Consider the following subjects under the Constitution of India : I. List I-Union List, in the Seventh Schedule II. Extent of the executive power of a State III. Conditions of the Governor's office For a constitutional amendment with respect to which of the above, ratification by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States is required before presenting the bill to the President of India for assent? (a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III	A	I. Union List – List I of the Seventh Schedule This subject clearly falls within the scope of the proviso to Article 368(2) of the Constitution. The proviso explicitly mandates that any constitutional amendment affecting the "Lists in the Seventh Schedule" must be ratified by at least half of the State legislatures. Since the Union List (List I) is one of these, any amendment to it would alter the distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the States—an essential feature of Indian federalism—and thus requires such ratification. Hence option I is correct. II. Extent of the Executive Power of a State Amendments related to this matter also require ratification by the States. The proviso to Article 368(2) specifically includes changes to Articles 73 and 162, which define the extent of the executive power of the Union and the States, respectively. Alterations to these articles would directly impact the functional division between the Centre and the States, making State ratification a constitutional necessity. Hence option II is correct. III. Conditions of the Governor's Office This subject does not require State ratification. The conditions of the Governor's office are primarily governed by Article 158 and the Second Schedule of the Constitution. These provisions are not mentioned in the proviso to Article 368(2), and amendments to them are not considered to affect the federal structure in a way that would necessitate ratification by the States. Therefore, such changes can be enacted by Parliament through a special majority alone. Hence option III is not correct.		M	F	Constitution of India (Article 368 - Power of Parliament to amend the Constitution and procedure therefor): https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/constitution-india/full-text (Search for Article 368 and refer to the proviso in clause 2). Constitution of India (Article 162 & Seventh Schedule): https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/constitution-india/full-text Constitution of India (Article 158): https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/constitution-india/full-text	E M	VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2025): Test 4709 Amendment to which of the following provisions of the Constitution of India require consent of half of the state legislatures by simple majority? 1. Election of the President and its manner 2. Any of the lists in the Seventh Schedule 3. Power of Parliament to amend the Constitution 4. Directive Principles of State Policy Select the correct answer using the code given below. Explanation: Those provisions of the Constitution which are related to the federal structure of the polity can be amended by a special majority of the Parliament and also with the consent of half of the state legislatures by a simple majority. If one or some or all the remaining states take no action on the bill, it does not matter; the moment half of the states give their consent, the formality is completed. There is no time limit within which the states should give their consent to the bill. The following provisions can be amended in this way:
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							india/constitution-india-full-text (Verify that this is not listed under Article 368(2)) Election of the President and its manner. Hence option 1 is correct. Extent of the executive power of the Union and the states. Supreme Court and high courts. Distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the states. Goods and Services Tax Council. Any of the lists in the Seventh Schedule. Hence option 2 is correct. Representation of states in Parliament. Power of Parliament to amend the Constitution and its procedure (Article 368 itself). Hence option 3 is correct. The majority of the provisions in the Constitution need to be amended by a special majority of the Parliament, that is, a majority of the total membership of each House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of each House present and voting. The provisions which can be amended by this way includes: Fundamental Rights; Directive Principles of State Policy. Hence option 4 is not correct.
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									All other provisions which are not covered by the first and third categories.	
89	Polity & Governance	With reference to the Indian polity, consider the following statements : I. The Governor of a State is not answerable to any court for the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of his/her office. II. No criminal proceedings shall be instituted or continued against the Governor during his/her term of office. III. Members of a State Legislature are not liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said within the House. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) I and II only (b) II and III only (c) I and III only (d) I, II and III	D	I. The Governor of a State is not answerable to any court for the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of their office. Under Article 361(1) of the Constitution, the Governor enjoys personal immunity from judicial scrutiny for official acts. This ensures the Governor can discharge constitutional duties without fear of personal litigation. However, actions of the government remain open to judicial review. Hence statement I is correct. II. No criminal proceedings shall be instituted or continued against the Governor during their term of office. Article 361(2) provides absolute immunity to the Governor from criminal proceedings while in office. This safeguard preserves the dignity and uninterrupted functioning of the constitutional post. Hence statement II is correct. III. Members of a State Legislature are not liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said within the House. Article 194(2) grants members of State Legislatures complete freedom of speech within the House and its committees. This protection ensures legislators can speak and vote without fear of legal consequences, fostering uninhibited legislative debate.Hence statement III is correct.	In July 2024, the Supreme Court agreed to examine the scope of Article 361 of the Constitution , which grants Governors immunity from criminal prosecution. The move came in response to a plea by a contractual woman employee accusing West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose of molestation. The case has raised critical questions about the extent and	D	F	Constitution of India (Article 361 - Protection of President and Governors): https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/constitution-india/constitution-india-full-text (Search for Article 361) Constitution of India (Article 194 - Powers, privileges., https://www.india.gov.in/my-government/constitution-india/constitution-india-full-text (Search for Article 194) https://prsindia.org/theprsblog/parliamentary-privileges-what-you-need-know	E M	VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2025): Test 4715 Which of the following immunities are available to the President and the Governors under Article 361 of the Indian Constitution? 1. They will not be answerable to any court for the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of his office. 2. No criminal proceedings can be instituted or continued against them. 3. There will be no civil proceedings which can be carried against them for their acts. Select the correct answer using the code given below. Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative: Q. Which of the following statements are correct regarding exceptions to Article 14? 1. Laws made by the State for implementing the Directive Principles contained in Articles 39 (b) and (c). 2. The Members of the

					limitations of constitutional immunity, making Article 361 a key area of interest for UPSC. Also Article 194 was in news -A seven-Judge Bench of Supreme Court unanimously held that a lawmaker does not enjoy immunity under Articles 105(2) and 194(2) of the Constitution against bribery.					Parliament and the State Legislatures respectively are not held liable for anything which they say within the House. 3. The President and the Governors are not liable to any court for any act which is done by them in exercising their power and duties of the office. Select the correct answer using the code given below.
90	Economics	Consider the following activities : I. Production of crude oil II. Refining, storage and distribution of petroleum III. Marketing and sale of petroleum products IV. Productions of	B	The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) was constituted under The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006, notified via Gazette Notification dated 31st March 2006. The Act provide for the establishment of Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board to protect the interests of consumers and entities engaged in specified activities relating to petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas and to promote competitive markets and for	It was in the news.	D	FCA	https://pngrb.gov.in/english-web/story.html https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/regulator-proposes-	EN	"News Today (04 december 2024): Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024 passed in Rajya Sabha https://visionias.in/current-affairs/news-today/2024-12-04/economics-(indian-economy)/oilfields-

		natural gas How many of the above activities are regulated by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board in our country? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All the four		matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Further as enshrined in the act, the board has also been mandated to regulate the refining, processing, storage, transportation, distribution, marketing and sale of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas excluding production of crude oil and natural gas so as and to ensure uninterrupted and adequate supply of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas in all parts of the country. Hence option (b) is the correct answer.				tweak-in-pipeline-tariffs-cng-and-piped-gas-to-be-charged-lowest-rate/article69395735.ece	regulation-and-development-amendment-bill-2024-passed-in-rajya-sabha" SANDHAN Consider the following statements regarding the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB): 1. It is a statutory body established under the Petroleum Act, 1934. 2. It is mandated to regulate the production, refining, and distribution of crude oil and natural gas in India. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2	
91	Modern History	"Sedition has become my religion" was the famous statement given by Gandhiji at the time of (a) the Champaran Satyagraha (b) publicly violating Salt Law at Dandi (c) attending the Second Round Table Conference in London (d) the launch of the Quit India Movement	B	The Civil Disobedience Movement was started by Gandhi on 12th March, 1930 with his famous Dandi March. Together with 78 chosen followers, Gandhi walked nearly 375 Kms from Sabarmati Ashram to Dandi, a village on the Gujarat sea-coast. Day after day, newspapers reported his progress, his speeches and the impact on the people. Hundreds of village officials on his route resigned their jobs. On 6th April, Gandhi Ji reached Dandi, picked up handful of salt and broke the salt law as a symbol of the Indian People's refusal to live under British-made laws and therefore under British rule. Gandhi Ji declared : "The British rule in India has brought about moral, material, cultural and spiritual ruination of this great country. I regard this rule as a curse. I am ought to		E	F	Old NCERT Class 12th Bipan Chandra's "History of Modern India" - Chapter The Struggle for Swaraj: 1927-1947	E M	

				destroy this system of Government. ... Sedition has become my religion. Ours is a non-violent battle. We are not to kill anybody but it is our dharma to see that the curse of this Government is blotted out.					
92	Art & Culture	The famous female figurine known as 'Dancing Girl', found at Mohenjo-daro, is made of (a) carnelian (b) clay (c) bronze (d) gold	C	The Dancing Girl of Mohenjodaro is one of the most iconic artifacts from the Indus Valley Civilization, representing the sophisticated artistic and metallurgical achievements of this ancient urban culture that flourished approximately 4,500 years ago. The Dancing Girl: This small bronze figurine (approximately 4 inches tall) discovered in Mohenjodaro depicts a female figure standing in a confident posture with one arm on her hip and the other arm adorned with bangles. The statue was created using the lost-wax casting process, demonstrating advanced knowledge of metallurgy	E	F	Class 11th NCERT - Introduction to Indian Art - Chapter 2 - Arts of Indus Valley	E M	PT 365 2025 Culture: Article 3.5. HARAPPAN CIVILISATION PT 365 2025Updated Part 2: Article 7.10.3. DOKRA ARTWORK Monthly Current Affairs: Sept 2024: 100 years of Discovery of Harappan Civilisation https://visionias.in/current-affairs/monthly-magazine/2024-10-17/art-and-culture/100-years-of-discovery-of-harappan-civilisation Vision IAS Test Series - Test 4705 Consider the following pairs: Artefacts Indus Valley Site 1. Red Sandstone male torso Mohenjo-Daro 2. Bearded priest Harappa 3. Bronze figure of Bull Kalibangan How many of the above pairs are correctly matched? EXPLANATION Mohenjo-Daro (Pakistan) - On the banks of the river Indus.

										The citadel, the great bath, the great granary, and post cremation burial. Sculpture: Bearded priest and the famous bronze statue of the Dancing Girl. Pashupati seal. Bronze figure of BULL.
93	Modern History	Who provided legal defence to the people arrested in the aftermath of Chauri Chaura incident? (a) C. R. Das (b) Madan Mohan Malaviya and Krishna Kant (c) Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew and Khwaja Hasan Nizami (d) M. A. Jinnah	B	In 1909, Malaviya, who was a lawyer, became the president of the Congress party. In 1918, he was elected to the Municipal Corporation of Allahabad, followed by an election to the Provincial Legislative Council, where he served for nearly three decades. Malaviya was a champion of education for women and stood against the practice of dowry. When he founded the BHU in 1916, Malaviya managed a difficult feat — a donation from the tight-fisted Nizam of Hyderabad. Even though he quit law practice when he joined politics, he returned to it in 1922 to defend those wrongly accused in the Chauri Chaura incident of 1919. A total of 225 people were brought to trial at Gorakhpur Sessions Court of Judge H. E. Holmes, on charges of “rioting and arson” in conjunction with the Chauri Chaura affair. Of these, six died while in police custody, two were sentenced to 2 years’ imprisonment, while 170 were sentenced to death by hanging and 47 were acquitted on 9 January 1923, following conviction in a trial which lasted eight months. After the 8 month-long trial, 172 people were sentenced to death, he managed to get 153 acquitted.		D	F	https://theprint.in/theprint-profile/remembling-madan-mohan-malaviya-the-moderate-hindu-mahamana-who-founded-bhu/168856/ https://www.lawandbusinessnews.com/famous-trials-from-british-era-chauri-chaura-case/	RR	
94	Modern History	Subsequent to which one of the following events, Gandhiji, who consistently opposed untouchability and appealed for its	A	In September 1932, Gandhi went on fast in Pune’s Yerwada Jail in opposition to separate electorates for the Depressed Classes (which Ambedkar supported). When Gandhi’s health began to fail, Ambedkar was made to yield, signing a compromise agreement increasing the number of seats in legislatures reserved		M	F	Spectrum "A Brief History of Modern India" - Chapter " Civil Disobedience Movement &	EM	Vision IAS All India 2025 Test Series Test 4725 Which of the following were included in the 11-point demands presented by Mahatma Gandhi before the

		eradication from all spheres, decided to include the upliftment of 'Harijans' in his political and social programme? (a) The Poona Pact (b) The Gandhi-Irwin Agreement (Delhi Pact) (c) Arrest of Congress leadership at the time of the Quit India Movement. (d) Promulgation of the Government of India Act, 1935	for the Depressed Classes, but as part of a joint electorate of all Hindus. After the signing of this 'Poona Pact', Gandhi increasingly referred to the untouchables as 'Harijans', a term meaning 'Children of God'. He thought it less pejorative than 'Untouchable', less patronizing than the colonial coinage, 'Depressed Classes', and more indigenous-sounding than his own earlier alternative, 'suppressed classes'. The term 'Harijan' had first been used by the medieval poet-saint Narsinh Mehta, whom Gandhi had long admired (Mehta's 'Vaishnava Jana To' was one of his favourite hymns). In adopting this term for the Depressed Classes, Gandhi remarked: 'Not that the change of name brings about any change of status, but one may at least be spared the use of a term which is itself one of reproach'. Gandhi edited a weekly newspaper named Young India. In 1933 he renamed this weekly Harijan, because he believed that the campaign to abolish untouchability was as vital as winning political freedom. Shortly before he went on fast in September 1932, Gandhi had formed an 'Anti-Untouchability League', vesting the responsibility for running it in the hands of two of his close associates, the industrialist G. D. Birla and the social worker A. V. Thakkar. After the fast had ended and the Poona Pact was signed, this organization was renamed the Harijan Sewak Sangh, which we may translate into English as the 'Servants of Untouchables Society'. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.			Round Table Conferences"	launch of the Civil Disobedience Movement (1930)? 1. Lower exchange rate between rupee and sterling to support Indian industries 2. Reduction in military expenditure 3. Grant of Dominion Status to India 4. Changes in the Arms Act to allow Indians to bear arms for self-defense 5. Abolition of the untouchability practice by law Select the correct answer using the codes given below. EXPLANATION The 11-point demands did not include Dominion Status. At this stage, Gandhi and the Congress demanded basic civil rights and economic relief, not Dominion Status. The demand for Purna Swaraj (Complete Independence) had already been declared in the Lahore Session (1929). Gandhi strongly opposed untouchability, but this was not one of the 11 demands. His major push for untouchability abolition came later, especially during the Poona Pact (1932) and through Harijan upliftment campaigns.
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95	Modern History	Consider the following fruits : I. Papaya II. Pineapple III. Guava How many of the above were introduced in India by the Portuguese in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	C The European ‘discovery’ of America was followed by the dissemination of American food crops to different parts of the world. The Portuguese, being the earliest European nation to arrive in India, became the agents for introducing several American crops like maize, sweet potato and capsicums in the country. The Portuguese also introduced many ‘New World’ fruits like the pineapple, Papaya, Sapodilla, and the Guava which found acceptance and became part of Indian food culture. Pineapple, a crop found in the Americas was brought by the Portuguese to India during the sixteenth century. The Dutch traveler Linschoeten, who was in India during the 1580s, provides a brief account of the introduction of pineapple in India. The Portuguese brought the fruit from Brazil to India. It was initially an expensive fruit but the rapid spread of pineapple cultivation in the country led to reduction in prices. Abul Fazl’s Ain-i-Akbari, written in the 1590s, mentions the pineapple as one of the many ‘sweet’ fruits grown in India. Describing the fruit, Abul Fazl writes: Pineapples are also called Kathal-i-Safari or Jackfruit for travels because young plants, put into a vessel, may be taken on travels, and will yield fruits. In color and shape they resemble an oblong orange and in taste and smell, a mango. Another fruit introduced in India was the Papaya. Linschoeten, who describes the fruit, wrote that the papaya came to India by way of Philippines and Malacca. It was initially highly regarded but it soon lost its novelty. Since Abul Fazl does not mention the fruit, it is certain that the papaya was not available in North India in the late sixteenth century. In 1623, the Italian traveler Pietro Della Valle came across the papaya in Portuguese Daman. He characterized it as being similar in taste and appearance to European melons but much sweeter		M	F	Spectrum "A Brief History of Modern India": Chapter "Advent of the Europeans in India"	E M	
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				Guavas (Psidium guajava) are native to Central America and are believed to have been introduced to India by Portuguese traders in the early 17th century						
96	Geography	Consider the following countries : I. United Kingdom II. Denmark III. New Zealand IV. Australia V. Brazil How many of the above countries have more than four time zones? (a) All the five (b) Only four (c) Only three (d) Only two	C	The UK itself (mainland) uses one time zone. However, due to overseas territories (like Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands, Pitcairn Islands, etc.), the UK spans across 9 time zones. Mainland Denmark Adheres to a single time zone, Central European Summer Time, throughout most year. Faroe Islands nad Greenland which are part of the Danish realm have separate time zones. Faroe has one distinct time zone and Greenland has three time zones. Hence, it has more than four time zones. New Zealand has three time zones. New Zealand's two main islands, North Island and South Island, both lie in the same time zone. The Chatham Islands, located about 860 kilometers (534 miles) east of Christchurch, have a separate time zone, which is 45 minutes ahead of mainland New Zealand. Tokelau, an archipelago in the Pacific and a dependency of New Zealand, brings the total to three time zones. Tokelau, an archipelago in the Pacific and a dependency of New Zealand, brings the total to three time zones. There are 6 time zones in Australia. Adding the country's 3 dependencies brings the total to 9 time zones. Australia's mainland states and territories are divided into 5 standard time zones. As Western Australia, Queensland, and the Northern Territory don't use Daylight Saving Time (DST), there are only 3 corresponding DST time zones. There are four standard time zones in Brazil. They are, from west to east: Acre Time (ACT), Amazon Time	Time Zones and Daylight saving are basic concepts and also often seen in the news.	D	FA	https://www.worldatlas.com/time-zones/10-countries-with-the-most-time-zones.html	RR	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative With reference to Longitudes and Standard Time Zones, consider the following statements: 1. The entire world is divided into fifteen time zones. 2. All countries have adopted their standard time from the central meridian of their countries. 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

				(AMT), Brasília Time (BRT), and Fernando de Noronha Time (FNT). Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.						
97	Geography	Consider the following statements : I. Anadyr in Siberia and Nome in Alaska are a few kilometers from each other, but when people are waking up and getting set for breakfast in these cities, it would be different days. II. When it is Monday in Anadyr, it is Tuesday in Nome. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) I only (b) II only (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II	A	The time difference between Anadyr and Nome, Alaska, is 20 hours. Nome is 20 hours behind Anadyr. Hence, roughly, when people are waking up and getting set for breakfast in these cities, it would be different days. Thus, statement I is correct. The international date line (IDL) is an imaginary line that runs along the Earth's surface from the North Pole to the South Pole in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. When you cross it, you either gain or lose a day depending on which way you are traveling. If you are traveling westward, you gain a day, and if you are traveling eastward, you lose a day. Alaska lies in the west of International Date Line and Anadyr lies in the East. Hence, when it is Monday in Anadyr, it is Sunday in Nome and not Tuesday. Thus, Statement II is not correct.		E	FA	https://www.worldatlas.com/time-zones/10-countries-with-the-most-time-zones.html	E M	All India Open Test 5239: If everything remains the same, only the earth's direction of rotation is reversed, what should be the standard time at the 82.5° W longitude when it is 15th January noon at the Indian Standard Time (IST)? (a) 1:00 AM, 15th January (b) 12:00 AM,14th January (c) 11:00 PM,15th January (d) 12:00 AM, 16th January Sandhan Test Series: Consider the following statements about the International Date Line (IDL): 1. It is an imaginary straight line which is diametrically opposite to the Greenwich Meridian. 2. A ship crossing the IDL from east to west gains a day. 3. It has no legal international status. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 3 only (b) 2 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1 and 2 only
98	Modern History	Who among the following was the founder of the ‘Self-Respect Movement’? (a) ‘Periyar’ E. V.	A	E.V. Ramasamy Periyar (1879–1973): A radical social reformer and politician from Tamil Nadu, known as the father of the Dravidian movement. o Periyar was a vocal critic of the caste system and Brahminical dominance. He advocated for the rights of	To test the fundamental Knowledge of the candidates	E	F	Spectrum "A Brief History of Modern India": Chapter " A General Survey	E M	PT 365: Culture: : 7.4.1. VAIKOM SATYAGRAHA https://visionias.in/current-affairs/monthly-magazine/2024-05-21/art-

		Ramaswamy Naicker (b) Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (c) Bhaskarrao Jadhav (d) Dinkarrao Javalkar	non-Brahmins and women and was a staunch atheist who opposed religious orthodoxy. o He founded the Self-Respect Movement in 1925, which sought to empower the Dravidian people and challenge the dominance of the Brahmins in South India. His ideas influenced the Dravidian political parties that later dominated Tamil Nadu's political landscape.				of Socio-Cultural Reform Movements"	and-culture/vaikom-satyagraha Monthly Current Affairs April 2024: Article 8.3. VAIKOM SATYAGRAHA Vision IAS Test Series - Test 4714 Consider the following statements regarding Periyar E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker: 1. He participated in the Vaikom Satyagraha demanding temple entry rights for the untouchables in Kerala. 2. He started the "Self-Respect Movement". 3. He was in favour of communal representation. 4. He was against inter-caste marriage. How many of the above statements are correct?
99	Geography	Consider the following pairs : Country Resource-rich in I. Botswana : Diamond II. Chile : Lithium III. Indonesia : Nickel In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	C "Botswana is one of the largest producers of diamond, and its 30 percent gross domestic product and 80 percent of exports depend on the gem. Recently, the second-largest diamond in the world has been uncovered in a mine in Botswana which is rough 2,492-carat stone by Canadian firm Lucara Diamond. Major lithium reserves are concentrated in South America's 'Lithium Triangle'—encompassing parts of Bolivia, Argentina, and Chile. Chile is a key target as it is the world's biggest supplier of copper and the second-biggest producer of lithium, which are essential for electric vehicle batteries and renewable energy systems in the push away from fossil fuels.	In 2024, the world's second-largest diamond ever found was discovered in Botswana. According to the Global Critical Minerals	D	F	https://indianexpress.com/article/world/worlds-second-largest-diamond-with-2492-carat-discovered-in-botswana-9528239/ https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-to-send-teams-to-chile-	EN All India Test Series Test 4720: With reference to the global distribution of critical minerals, consider the following statements: 1. Argentina produces two-thirds of the world's platinum. 2. Indonesia produces about half of all the world's nickel. Which of the statements given above is/are not correct? (a) 1 only

				As part of India's drive to explore overseas for mineral assets, state firms National Aluminium Company, Hindustan Copper and unlisted Mineral Exploration and Consultancy have set up a company called Khanij Bidesh India (KABIL). Indonesia is home to the world's largest nickel reserves, accounting for nearly 30 per cent of the global supply and is the world's largest producer of nickel."	Outlook 2024 by the International Energy Agency, Indonesia produced over 50% of the world's nickel. Lithium triangle is often seen in the news.			seeking-lithium-and-copper-assets-source-says/article68001835.ece https://www.downtoearth.org.in/mining/booming-indonesian-nickel-industry-faces-challenges-ahead	(b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) neither 1 nor 2 PT 365 2025 SnT: Article 9.4.1. LITHIUM Monthly Current Affairs January 2024: Article 7.5. Lithium News Today (20 Feb 2024): Nickel" Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which of the following countries is not a part of Lithium triangle? (a) Chile (b) Bolivia (c) China. (d) Argentina	
100	Geography	Consider the following pairs : Region Country I. Mallorca : Italy II. Normandy : Spain III. Sardinia : France In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All the three (d) None	D	Majorca is an island province and autonomous community in Spain. Majorca is the largest of the Balearic Islands, which lie in the western Mediterranean Sea. Hence, pair I is not correctly matched. Normandy is a region of northern France, bordering the English Channel. In June, 2024, Veterans and world leaders have gathered in Normandy, France, to mark the 80th anniversary of the June 6, 1944 D-Day landings, when more than 150,000 Allied soldiers arrived in the country by sea and air to drive out the forces of Nazi Germany. Hence, pair II is not correctly matched. Sardinia, island and region of Italy is second in size only to Sicily among the islands of the western Mediterranean. It lies 120 miles (200 km) west of the mainland of Italy, 7.5 miles (12 km) south of the neighbouring French island of Corsica, and 120 miles	In 2024, Puerto Alcudia, a prominent port town and major tourist destination in Majorca, Spain, experienced a mini-tsunami, also known as a meteo tsunami. In 2024, ceremonies took place in	D	CAA	https://www.britannica.com/place/Sardinia-island-Italy https://www.britannica.com/place/Majorca https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/6/6/world-leaders-veterans-mark-d-days-80th-anniversary-in-france	RR	

			(200 km) north of the coast of Africa. Hence, pair III is not correctly matched.	Normandy to mark the 80th anniversary of the June 6, 1944 D-Day landings. It was reported in 2022 that Sardinia is paying people almost \$15,000 to move to the Italian city.					
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All India Test Series, Abhyas,
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AIR 6
KOMAL PUNIA
All India Test Series,
Interview Guidance


AIR 7
AAYUSHI BANSAL
All India Test Series, Abhyas
Interview Guidance,
Sociology Test Series

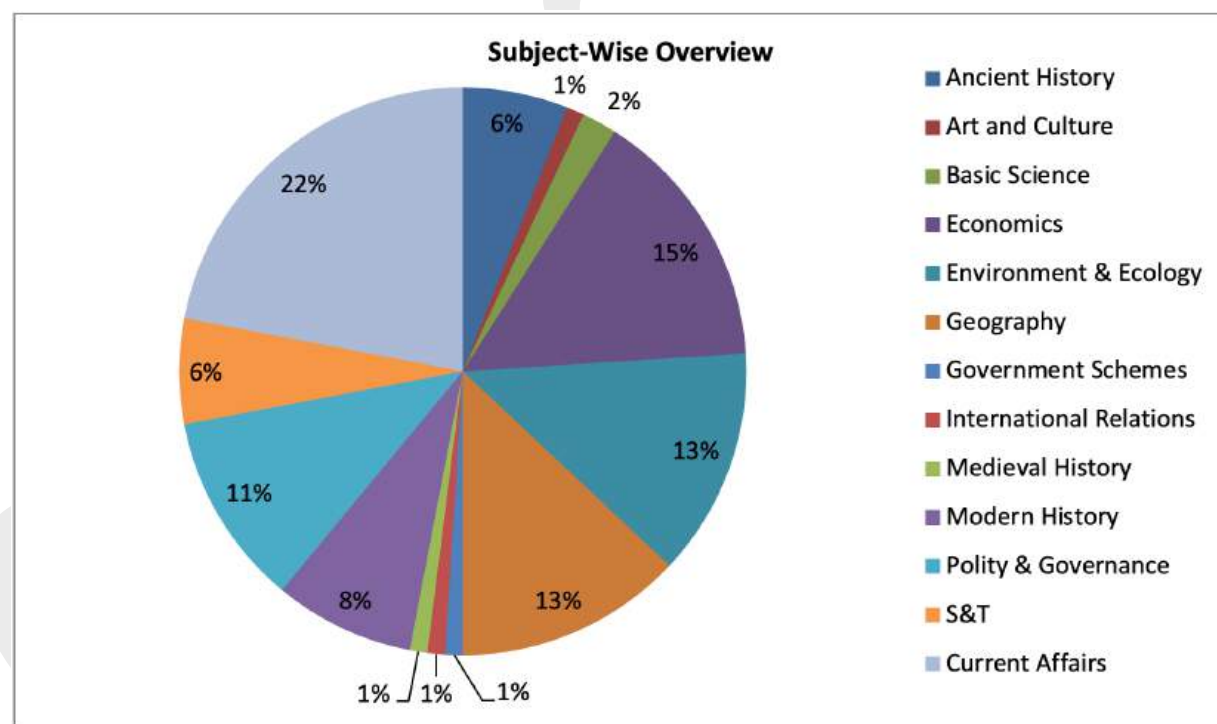

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Interview Guidance

SUBJECTS

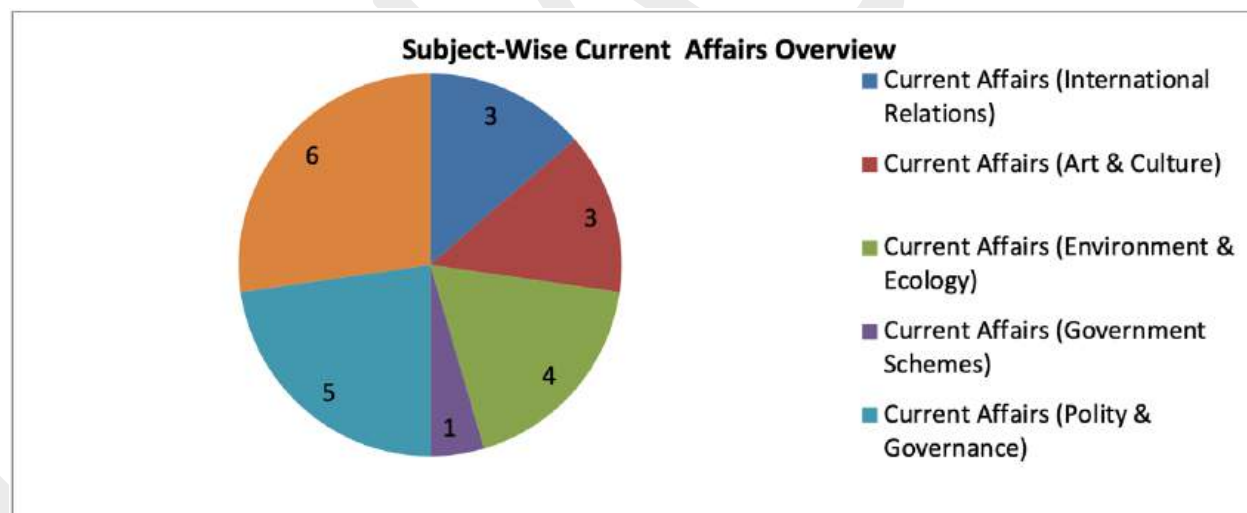
Subject	Number of Questions
Ancient History	6
Art and Culture	1
Basic Science	2
Economics	15
Environment & Ecology	13
Geography	13
Government Schemes	1
International Relations	1
Medieval History	1
Modern History	8
Polity & Governance	11
S&T	6
Current Affairs	22



CURRENT AFFAIRS SUBJECTWISE

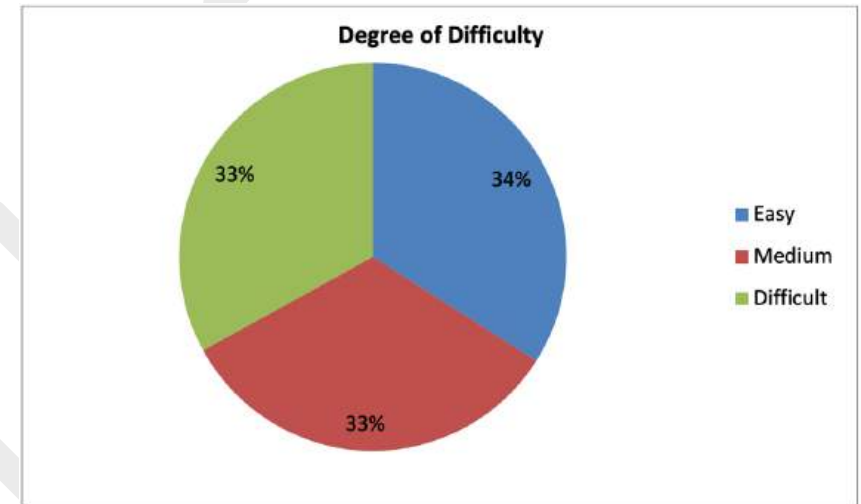
Current Affairs: Current Affairs continued to be a significant component, inspiring many static questions. The paper demonstrated the integration of current events with static topics, emphasizing the importance of regular newspaper reading and staying updated with ongoing national and international developments.

Topic	Number of Questions
Current Affairs (International Relations)	3
Current Affairs (Art & Culture)	3
Current Affairs (Environment & Ecology)	4
Current Affairs (Government Schemes)	1
Current Affairs (Polity & Governance)	5
Current Affairs (S&T)	6



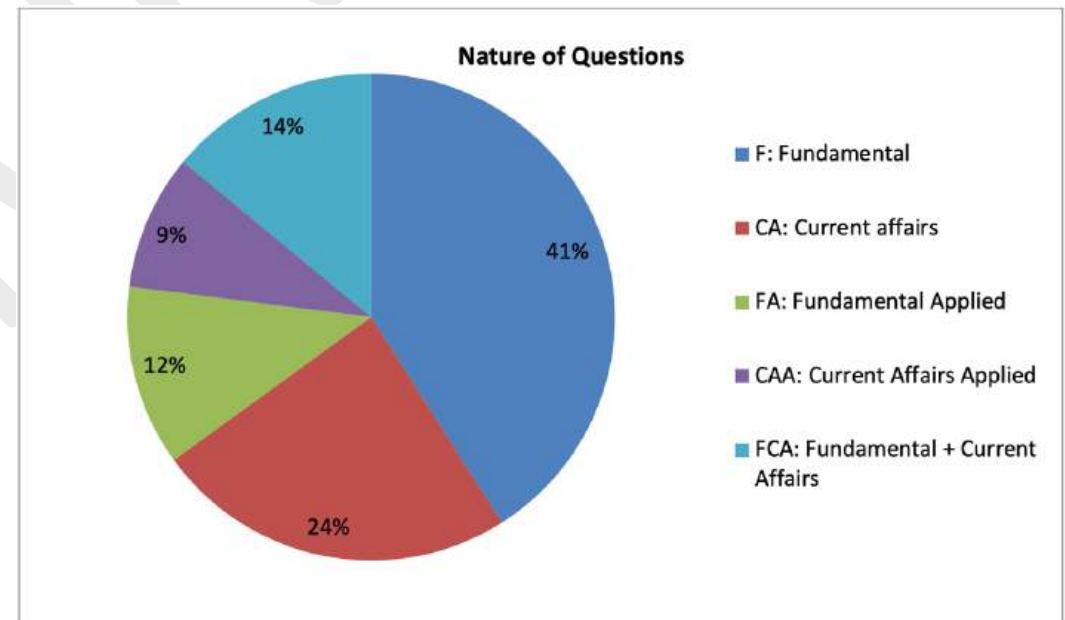
DIFFICULTY

Difficulty Level	Number of Questions
Easy - E	34
Medium - M	33
Difficult - D	33



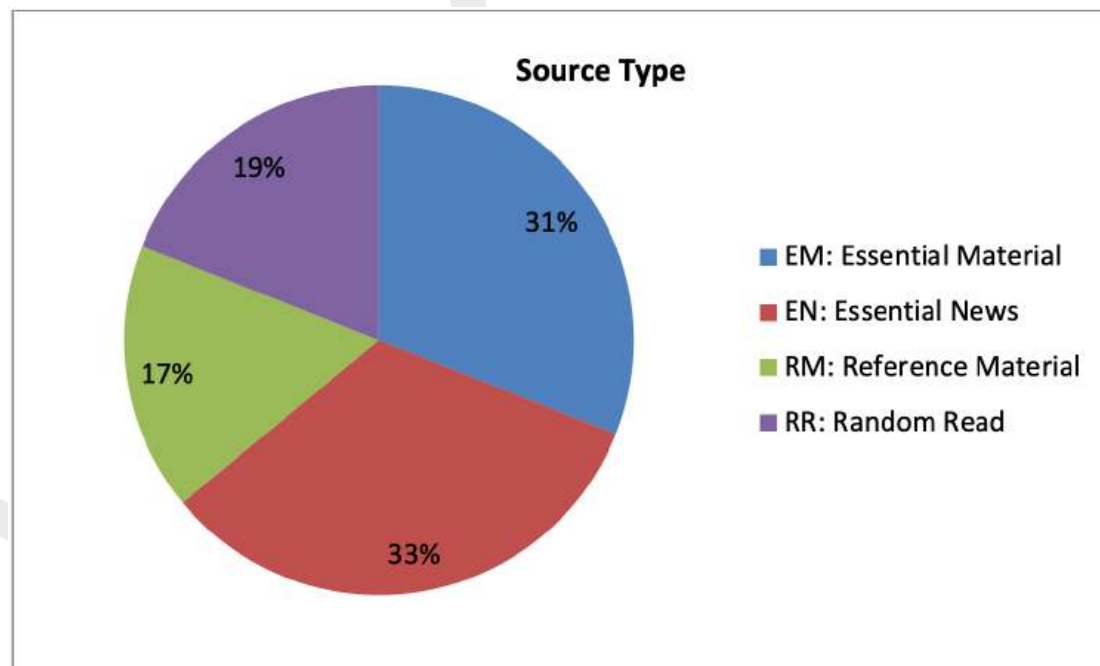
NATURE

Nature	Number of Questions
F: Fundamental	41
CA: Current affairs	24
FA: Fundamental Applied	12
CAA: Current Affairs Applied	9
FCA: Fundamental + Current Affairs	14



SOURCE TYPE

Source Type	Number of Questions
EM: Essential Material	31
EN: Essential News	33
RM: Reference Material	17
RR: Random Read	19



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