

"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 2024 PAPER**

- TEAM VISION IAS

General Observations of 2024 UPSC Prelims

- This year's paper as compared to previous UPSC general studies paper has **drawn the attention towards preparing in a wholistic and balanced manner.**
- Many **conventional and static subjects have been given due weightage.**
- The focus in the paper was more on **testing the aspirants on the basic facts surrounding the core concepts** in most of the subjects which has made the **paper more doable!** Thus overall difficulty was more on moderate level.
- The **good news was that "Elimination skills" made a come back in the paper.**
- **Current Affairs** and related issues still holds good in terms of being an inspiration behind many static questions.
- In terms of subject weightage, **Geography has come with a bang!** Almost 20 questions came alone from geography and with environment and ecology clubbing with it, it dominated this year's paper.
- **Polity & Governance was conventional** and was more on the easier side.
- In **History** section, the weightage of modern history is declining but the questions asked were doable and conventional. Art & Culture was more driven by current affairs. And when it comes to ancient and medieval, less questions were asked as compared to last year.
- **Science & Technology** questions were tilted towards using latest technology and the questions topics were less complicated.
- This time, **defence and security questions were also seen after a long time.**
- **International relations** questions were on the expected lines.
- **Economics questions** were both conceptual and news oriented.

Learnings and Suggestions for preparation ahead

- The **biggest take-away** from this year's paper is that **doing the basics and building the foundation is very important!**
- **Equally focusing on every static subject** should be the strategy to increase the attemptability in the UPSC Prelims is the key because as this year Geography saw a come back, next year it could be some other subject. So the students can not discriminate any subject in their overall preparation.
- **This years' paper is reinstating the idea that "practice is the key"**. So the students have to practice the test papers for prelims.

Note: On the basis of the 'Estimation Survey for GS Paper I' filled by the students who appeared in 2024 Prelims Exam.



VisionIAS' Analysis | Expected Cutoff UPSC CSE 2024 Prelims: 95-100

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

EM = Essential material like basic books etc.

RM = Reference material

EN = Essential News/Current Affairs

RR = Random Read like random website

Difficulty Level

E = Easy

M = Medium

D = Difficult

QN	Section	Questions	Answer	Explanation	Motivation / Current Affairs	Level	Nature	Source	Source Type	VisionIAS Test Series/Sandhan/PT 365/Open Test/Abhyaas
1	Polity & Governance	How many Delimitation Commissions have been constituted by the Government of India till December 2023? (a) One (b) Two (c) Three (d) Four	D	<p>Delimitation literally means the act or process of fixing limits or boundaries of territorial constituencies in a country or a province having a legislative body. The job of delimitation is assigned to a high power body. Such a body is known as Delimitation Commission or a Boundary Commission.</p> <p>In India, such Delimitation Commissions have been constituted 4 times – in 1952 under the Delimitation Commission Act, 1952, in 1963 under Delimitation Commission Act, 1962, in 1973 under Delimitation Act, 1972 and in 2002 under Delimitation Act, 2002. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.</p> <p>The Delimitation Commission in India is a high power body whose orders have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court. These orders come into force on a date to be specified by the President of India in this behalf. The copies of its orders are laid before the House of the People and the State Legislative Assembly concerned, but no modifications are permissible therein by them.</p>	Delimitation in J&K was in news	E	F	M Laxmikant Chapter on Parliament	EM	<p>PT 365 2024 Polity: Article 7.2 DELIMITATION COMMISSION; News Today: Nov 25, 2023 Supreme Court(SC) asks Centre to set up a fresh Delimitation Commission</p> <p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following statements regarding the Delimitation Commission: 1. It demarcates the boundaries of both the Parliamentary Constituencies and Assembly constituencies. 2. Till now, there have been only 10 delimitation commissions constituted so far. 3. It is chaired by the sitting or a retired Judge of the Supreme Court. Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <p>VisionIAS All India Test Series (2024) Test 4127: Consider the following statements: 1. The Election Commission of India is empowered to</p>

								<p>determine the manner in which Lok Sabha seats are allotted to each state.</p> <p>2. The 87th Amendment Act of 2003 provided for the delimitation of constituencies on the basis of the 1991 census.</p> <p>Explanation: After every census, a readjustment is to be made in the allocation of seats in the Lok Sabha to the states, and the division of each state into territorial constituencies. Parliament is empowered to determine the authority and the manner in which it is to be made. Hence statement 1 is not correct. Accordingly, the Parliament enacted the Delimitation Commission Acts in 1952, 1962, 1972, and 2002 for this purpose.</p>		
2	Polity & Governance	<p>The Constitution (71st Amendment) Act, 1992 amends the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution to include which of the following languages?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Konkani 2. Manipuri 3. Nepali 4. Maithili <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below :</p>	A	<p>The 71st Amendment, enacted in 1992, included three more languages, i.e. Konkani, Meitei (Manipuri) and Nepali. The 92nd Amendment, added Bodo, Dogri, Santhali and Maithali in 2003, raising the total number of languages to 22. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.</p>	<p>Demand for the inclusion of KUI language in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution</p>	M	F	M Laxmikant Chapter on official Language	E M	<p>VisionIAS All India Test Series (2024) Test 4136:</p> <p>With reference to the official languages, which of the amendment did not add a new language/s to the eighth schedule?</p> <p>(a) 21st amendment Act, 1967 (b) 42nd amendment Act, 1976 (c) 71st amendment Act, 1992 (d) 92nd amendment Act, 2003</p>

		<p>(a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 1, 2 and 4 (c) 1, 3 and 4 (d) 2, 3 and 4</p>					<p>VisionIAS All India Test Series (2024) Test 4140: With reference to the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, consider the following statements: 1. Parliament can add a language to the Eighth Schedule by a simple majority. 2. Kannada, Konkani, and Malayalam were among the fourteen languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the original Constitution. 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</p> <p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which of the following languages were added through an amendment to the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution? 1. Santhali 2. Sindhi 3. Maithili 4. Konkani Select the correct answer using the code given below</p> <p>PT 365 2024 Polity: Article 1.8 8th Schedule of Constitution</p> <p>News Today: Jul 12, 2023 INCLUSION OF KUI LANGUAGE IN 8TH SCHEDULE OF CONSTITUTION</p>
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3	Post Independence	<p>Consider the following pairs :</p> <p><i>Party Its Leader</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bhartiya Jana Sangh Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee 2. Socialist Party C. Rajagopalachari 3. Congress for Democracy Jagjivan Ram 4. Swatantra Party Acharya Narendra Dev <p>How many of the above are correctly matched?</p> <p>(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four</p>	<p>B The Bharatiya Jana Sangh was an Indian nationalist political party. This party was established on 21 October 1951 in Delhi, that existed from 1951 to 1977. Its three founding members were Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, Balraj Madhok and Deendayal Upadhyaya. Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.</p> <p>C. Rajagopalachari was the founder of the Swatantra Party, not the Socialist Party. The Socialist Party was associated with leaders like Ram Manohar Lohia and Jayaprakash Narayan. Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.</p> <p>The Congress for Democracy (CFD) was an Indian political party founded in 1977 by Jagjivan Ram. It was formed after Jagjivan Ram, Hemavati Nandan Bahuguna, and Nandini Satpathy left the Indian National Congress of Indira Gandhi and denounced her rule during the Indian Emergency. Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.</p> <p>The Swatantra Party was an Indian classical liberal political party that existed from 1959 to 1974. It was founded by C. Rajagopalachari in reaction to what he felt was the Jawaharlal Nehru-dominated Indian National Congress's increasingly socialist and statist outlook. Hence pair 4 is not correctly matched. Hence option (b) is the correct answer.</p>		D F	NCERT CLASS XII Politics in India since Independence Page no 34, 39, 119	<p>E M</p> <p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>With reference to the 'Swatantra Party', consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It strongly supported the socialistic pattern of society in opposition to a market-based economy for India. 2. It emerged as the second largest party in the Lok Sabha after the fourth general elections of 1967. 3. It was merged with the Bharatiya Janata Party in 1974. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>EXPLANATION: Swatantra Party was founded in the year 1959 by leaders opposing the socialistic policies of the Congress government. Some of the prominent leaders of the time including C Rajagopalachari, Minoo Masani and N G Ranga collaborated to form a liberal and conservative party. The party stood for a market-based economy and the dismantling of the license raj</p> <p>All India 2024 Prelims Test Series: Test 4139</p> <p>Consider the following statements regarding the Congress Socialist Party (CSP):</p>
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								<p>1. The first annual session of the All India Congress Socialist Party was held in 1936 alongside the All India Kisan Sabha.</p> <p>2. The Meerut thesis related to organizational changes in the Congress was given by the CSP.</p> <p>EXPLANATION: Ultimately they came together and formed the Congress Socialist Party (CSP) at Bombay in October 1934 under the leadership of Jayaprakash Narayan, Acharya Narendra Dev and Minoo Masani. The first annual session of the All-India Congress Socialist Party was held in Bombay in October 1934 under the presidency of Sampurnananda.</p>
4	Polity & Governance	<p>Which of the following statements are correct about the Constitution of India?</p> <p>1. Powers of the Municipalities are given in Part IX A of the Constitution.</p> <p>2. Emergency provisions are given in Part XVIII of the Constitution.</p> <p>3. Provisions related to the amendment of the Constitution are given in Part XX of the</p>	<p>D Indian constitution is the world's lengthiest written constitution had 395 articles in 22 parts and 8 schedules at the time of commencement. Now the Constitution of India has 448 articles in 25 parts and 12 schedules.</p> <p>Part IX-A of the Indian constitution deals with municipalities, its composition, powers, etc. It was added by the 74th amendment act of the Indian Constitution. The 74th amendment act was introduced in 1992. It came into force on 1st June 1993. Hence, statement 1 is correct.</p> <p>Part XVIII of the Indian constitution envisages the following three emergencies: General Emergency (also called national emergency) Breakdown of constitutional machinery in the states -(also called state emergency) Financial Emergency. Hence, statement 2 is correct.</p>		E	F	M Iaxmikant Chapter on Salient Features of the Constitution	E M PT 365 2024 Polity: 2.6 DEMOCRATIC DECENTRALISATION IN INDIA (1st statement); PT 365 2024 Polity: Article 1.8 Article 355(2nd statement)

		<p>Constitution. Select the answer using the code given below :</p> <p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>	<p>The procedure of amendment in the constitution is laid down in Part XX (Article 368) of the Constitution of India. Hence, statement 3 is correct.</p>					<p>(c)The Panchayats (d)Elections</p> <p>Explanation: The Constitution of India at present has 25 parts: Part IX-A The Municipalities (Articles 243-P to 243-ZG) Part XV Elections (Articles 324 to 329- A) Part XVI Special Provisions relating to Certain Classes (Articles 330 to 342- A) Part XVII Official Language (Articles 343 to 351- A) Part XVIII Emergency Provisions (Articles 352 to 360) Part XX Amendment of the Constitution (Article 368) Part XXII Short title, Commencement, Authoritative Text in Hindi and Repeals (Articles 393 to 395)</p>	
5	Polity & Governance	<p>Which one of the following statements is correct as per the Constitution of India?</p> <p>(a) Inter-State trade and commerce is a State subject under the State List. (b) Inter-State migration is a State subject under the State List. (c) Inter-State quarantine is a Union subject under the</p>	<p>C The Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India under Article 246 specifies the allocation of powers and functions between the Union and the State legislatures. Presently, the Union List contains 98 subjects (originally 97), the State List contains 59 subjects (originally 66) and the Concurrent List contains 52 subjects (originally 47). Inter-State trade and commerce finds itself in the Union list of the seventh schedule. Inter-state migration as entry 42. Entry 81 of the Union List mentions Inter-State migration and inter-State quarantine. Corporation Tax is entry 85 in the Union List. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.</p>		M	F	M Laxmikant Appendix II Subjects of Union, State and Concurrent Lists	E M	<p>PT 365 2024 Update 2: Article 1.1 FISCAL FEDERALISM(1st statement)</p> <p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which among the following subjects is/are under Union List of Constitution of India? 1. Population control and family planning 2. Interstate quarantine 3. Post Office Savings bank</p>

		Union List. (d) Corporation tax is a State subject under the State List.							Explanation: The constitution of India under Art 246 provides for three-fold division of legislative subjects between the centre and state in the seventh schedule. They are:– The Union List (List I) The State List (List II) The Concurrent List (List III) The Parliament has exclusive powers to make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in the Union List. At present, it contains 100 subjects. Some of the subjects mentioned in Union List are – Defence, banking, foreign affairs , Interstate quarantine , Post office Saving Banks etc. Hence options 2 and 3 are correct.
6	Polity & Governance	Under which of the following Articles of the Constitution of India, has the Supreme Court of India places the Right to Privacy? (a) Article 15 (b) Article 16 (c) Article 19 (d) Article 21	D The Supreme Court of India in Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd) vs Union of India has declared that the Right to Privacy is a fundamental right under Article 21. In doing so, the Supreme Court has overruled verdicts given in the M.P. Sharma case in 1958 and the Kharak Singh case in 1961, both of which said that the right to privacy is not protected under the Indian constitution. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.	Delhi High Court granted protection to personality rights of a famous Bollywood actor	E	F	M Laxmikant Chapter on Fundamental Rights	E M	PT 365 2024 Polity: Article 1.5 PERSONALITY RIGHTS News Today: May 20, 2024 Delhi High Court granted protection to personality rights of a famous Bollywood actor Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which Article of the Constitution of India safeguards one's right to privacy? (a) Article 19 (b) Article 21 (c) Article 25 (d) Article 29

7	<p>Current Affairs (Polity & Governance)</p>	<p>What are the duties of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) as Head of the Department of Military Affairs?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permanent Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee. 2. Exercise military command over the three Service Chiefs. 3. Principal Military Advisor to Defence Minister on all tri-service matters. <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</p> <p>(a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1 and 3 only</p>	<p>D The duties and functions of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) include the following:</p> <p>To head the Department of Military Affairs in Ministry of Defence and function as its Secretary.</p> <p>To act as the Principal Military Advisor to Hon'ble Raksha Mantri on all Tri-Service matters.</p> <p>To function as the Permanent Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee</p> <p>To administer the Tri-Service organizations/agencies/commands.</p> <p>To be a member of Defence Acquisition Council chaired by Hon'ble Raksha Mantri.</p> <p>To function as the Military Advisor to the Nuclear Command Authority.</p> <p>To bring about jointness in operation, logistics, transport, training, support services, communications, repairs and maintenance, etc of the three Services.</p> <p>To ensure optimal utilisation of infrastructure and rationalise it through jointness among the Services.</p> <p>To implement Five-Year Defence Capital Acquisition Plan and Two-Year roll-on Annual Acquisition Plans, as a follow up of Integrated Capability Development Plan.</p> <p>To assign inter-services prioritisation to capital acquisition proposals based on the anticipated budget.</p> <p>To bring about reforms in the functioning of three Services with the aim to augment combat capabilities of the Armed Forces by reducing wasteful expenditure.</p> <p>The CDS does not exercise military command over the three services. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.</p>		M FCA	<p>https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=198899 / https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/lt-general-anil-chauhan-appointed-as-new-cds/article65946805.ece</p>	E N	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>With reference to the Chief of Defence Staff in India, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. He enjoys command authority over all the three forces namely army, navy and the air force. 2. He is the ex-officio Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Military Affairs. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>With reference to the recently announced post of Chief of Defence Staff, consider the following statement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. He will act as the single-point advisor to the Government of India on matters related to all the three services. 2. Senior-most among the three service chiefs will be designated as the Chief of Defence Staff. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p>
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8	Current Affairs/International Security	Operations undertaken by the Army towards upliftment of the local population in remote areas to include addressing of their basic needs is called : (a) Operation Sankalp (b) Operation Maitri (c) Operation Sadbhavana (d) Operation Madam	C Operation SADBHAVANA', is an initiative of the Indian Army to support various welfare activities in the Union Territory of Ladakh. The Army is undertaking multiple welfare activities such as the running of Army Goodwill Schools, Infrastructure Development Projects, Education Tours, etc. for the children living in remote areas of the Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh. The aim is to improve the standard of education and ensure the provision of quality education. Under the program, women in remote areas of Ladakh are being empowered through various training programs in Vocational Training Centres, Women Empowerment Centres, and Computer Centres. In addition, training classes are being organized for various activities i.e., Pashmina Shawl Weaving, Wool Knitting, Extraction of Apricot Oil, Yak Cheese Making, and Yak Cheese Baking. Further, 'Kargil Ignited Minds' an initiative exclusively for girl students of Kargil is launched for preparation for various competitive examinations for admissions into various professional colleges and institutions in India. Overall, the funds are being utilized for various activities like Human Resource/Skill Development, Sports, Healthcare, National Integration, Infrastructure Development, Ecology, Environment, and Education. Hence option (c) is the correct answer.	Operation Sadbhavan a remain in news often	E	FCA	https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/videos/news/indian-armys-operation-sadbhavana-initiative-20-youth-embark-on-10-day-national-unity-journey/video-show/103349210.cms	E N	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which of the following statements is correct regarding Operation Sadbhavana? (a) It is an initiative of Indian Army to support various welfare activities in the Union Territory of Ladakh. (b) It is an ongoing search and rescue operation initiated by the Government of India to aid Syria and Turkey, after the earthquake in 2023. (c) It was a naval operation as part of the national effort to bring home Indian citizens from overseas during the Covid-19 pandemic. (d) It is a humanitarian initiative undertaken by the Indian government to provide COVID-19 vaccines to countries around the world
9	Geography	The longest border between any two countries in the world is between : (a) Canada and the United States of America (b) Chile and Argentina (c) China and India (d) Kazakhstan and Russian Federation	A Canada's border with the United States is the world's longest international border, at 8,890 km. This compares with the 6,846-km boundary between Russia and Kazakhstan and the 5,308-km frontier between Chile and Argentina. India shares 3488 Km of border with China that runs along the Union Territory of Ladakh, States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.	News related to illegal migrants was seen in the news.	E	F	https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/chandigarh/canada-calling-of-illegal-migrants-from-us-indian-students-in-fake-colleges-	R M	

							and-jagmeets-tik-tok-loss-8479577/		
10	Current Affairs (Polity & Governance)	<p>Which of the following statements about the Ethics Committee in the Lok Sabha are correct?</p> <p>1. Initially it was an ad-hoc Committee. 2. Only a Member of the Lok Sabha can make a complaint relating to unethical conduct of a member of the Lok Sabha. 3. This Committee cannot take up any matter which is sub-judice.</p> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below :</p> <p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>	<p>C The Ethics Committee of the Lok Sabha and its History:</p> <p>The genesis of the formation of the Ethics Committee in Parliament can be traced to a resolution adopted at the Presiding Officers Conference held in New Delhi in October 1996 which desired the legislatures to explore the possibility of constituting an Ethics Committee. It is in pursuance of this resolution that the endeavour for setting up of the Ethics Committee in Indian Legislatures began in earnest.</p> <p>Then Vice President (and Rajya Sabha Chairman) K R Narayanan constituted the Ethics Committee of the Upper House on March 4, 1997, and it was inaugurated that May to oversee the moral and ethical conduct of members and examine cases of misconduct referred to it. The Rules applicable to the Committee of Privileges also apply to the ethics panel.</p> <p>In the case of Lok Sabha, a study group of the House Committee of Privileges, after visiting Australia, the UK, and the US in 1997 to look into practices pertaining to the conduct and ethics of legislators, recommended the constitution of an Ethics Committee, but it could not be taken up by Lok Sabha. The Committee of Privileges finally recommended the constitution of an Ethics Committee during the 13th Lok Sabha. The late Speaker, G M C Balayogi, constituted an ad hoc Ethics Committee in 2000, which became a permanent part of the House only in 2015. Hence, statement 1 is correct.</p> <p>Any person can complain against a Member through another Lok Sabha MP, along with evidence of the alleged misconduct, and an affidavit stating that the complaint is not “false, frivolous, or vexatious”. If the Member himself complains, the affidavit is not needed. The Speaker can refer to the Committee any complaint against an MP. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.</p>	Recently, a Lok Sabha MP was accused of cash for query scam and the Lok Sabha Ethics Committee took up the investigation against the MP.	M	FCA	https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/ls-ethics-committee-its-constitution-members-8999613/ https://loksabhadocs.nic.in/LSSCOMMITTEE/Ethics/Introduction/Introduction%20Ethics%20Committee.pdf	EN	<p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4145</p> <p>Consider the following statements regarding the Ethics Committees of the Parliament which was in the news recently:</p> <p>1. Its origins lie in the report of the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution. 2. Any person may directly complain against a member of parliament to the ethics committee.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>This committee was constituted in Rajya Sabha before its constitution in Lok Sabha. It enforces the code of conduct of members of Parliament. It examines the cases of misconduct and recommends appropriate action. Thus, it is engaged in maintaining discipline and decorum in Parliament.</p>

				The Committee does not entertain complaints based only on media reports or on matters that are sub judice. The Committee makes a prima facie inquiry before deciding to examine a complaint. It makes its recommendations after evaluating the complaint. Hence, statement 3 is correct.					Which of the following parliamentary committees is being described in the passage given above? (a) Committee of Privileges (b) Rules Committee (c) House Committee (d) Ethics Committee	
11	Polity & Governance	Who was the Provisional President of the Constituent Assembly before Dr. Rajendra Prasad took over ? (a) C. Rajagopalachari (b) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar (c) T.T. Krishnamachari (d) Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha	D	The Constituent Assembly held its first meeting on December 9, 1946. The Muslim League boycotted the meeting and insisted on a separate state of Pakistan. The meeting was, thus, attended by only 211 members. Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha, the oldest member, was elected as the temporary/provisional President of the Assembly, following the French practice. Later, Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as the President of the Assembly. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.		E	F	M Laxmikant Chapter: Making of the Constitution	E M	PT 365 Culture: Article 5.12.4 SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA (1871-1950) News today: November 18, 2023 Personality in news VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4140 Which of the following statements is not correct about the Constituent Assembly? (a) H.C. Mukherjee and V.T. Krishnamachari were elected as the Vice-Presidents of the Constituent Assembly. (b) The idea of a Constituent Assembly was first proposed by J.L. Nehru. (c) It held its first meeting on 9th December 1946, and elected Dr Sachchidanand Sinha as the temporary President of the Assembly. (d) In the Assembly, seats allocated to each British province were divided among the Muslims, Sikhs and general in proportion to their population.

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Consider the following statements regarding the constituent assembly:

1. Dr. Sachchidanand Sinha was elected as a provisional president of the constituent assembly.
2. V.T Krishnamachari was the only vice-president of the constituent assembly.
3. Muslim League was never a part of the constituent assembly.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

"YOU ARE AS STRONG AS YOUR FOUNDATION"

FOUNDATION COURSE

GS 2025, 2026 & 2027 PRELIMS CUM MAINS

DELHI : 14 JUNE, 9 AM | 20 JUNE, 5 PM | 26 JUNE, 9 AM

📍 GTB Nagar | 28 JUNE, 8:30 AM

हिन्दी माध्यम : 11 जून, 9 AM | 14 मई, 9 AM

LIVE / ONLINE CLASSES ALSO AVAILABLE

AHMEDABAD	BENGALURU	BHOPAL	CHANDIGARH	HYDERABAD	JAIPUR	JODHPUR	LUCKNOW	PUNE
20 JUNE 9:30 AM	18 JUNE 5 PM	25 JUNE 9 AM	20 JUNE 5 PM	5 JUNE 8 AM & 4 PM	20 JUNE 7:30 AM & 5 PM	20 JUNE 7:30 AM & 5 PM	20 JUNE 1 PM	5 JULY 8 AM & 4 PM

12	Modern History	<p>With reference to the Government of India Act, 1935, consider the following statements :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It provided for the establishment of an All India Federation based on the union of the British Indian Provinces and Princely States. 2. Defence and Foreign Affairs were kept under the control of the federal legislature. Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>A The Government of India Act of 1935 was a significant piece of legislation passed by the British Parliament that laid the groundwork for the political structure of independent India. Here are some of its key provisions:</p> <p>Establishment of an All-India Federation: The Act proposed the creation of a “Federation of India” that would include both British Indian territories and princely states. However, the federation never materialized due to a lack of support from the required number of princely states.</p> <p>Division of Powers: The Act divided powers between the center and the provinces into three lists - Federal, Provincial, and Concurrent.</p> <p>Provincial Autonomy: The Act abolished the diarchy system introduced by the Government of India Act of 1919 and granted a large measure of autonomy to the provinces.</p> <p>Introduction of Dyarchy at the Center: The Act introduced the concept of dyarchy at the center. Defence, External Affairs, Ecclesiastical Affairs, and the administration of Tribal Areas were reserved in the hands of the Governor-General.</p> <p>Bicameral Legislature: The Act established a bicameral federal legislature consisting of the Council of State and the Federal Assembly.</p> <p>Extension of Franchise: The Act extended the franchise, increasing the size of the legislatures.</p> <p>Establishment of a Federal Court: The Act provided for the establishment of a Federal Court.</p> <p>Safeguards for Minorities: The Act included provisions safeguarding the rights of minorities.</p>		E	F	Spectrum	E M	<p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4126</p> <p>Consider the following statements regarding the Government of India Act of 1935:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It provided for the establishment of an All-India Federation consisting of provinces and princely states as units. 2. It introduced bicameralism in all the provinces. <p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4156</p> <p>Consider the following statements regarding the Government of India Act of 1935:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It divided the powers between the centre and provinces into two lists that is, transferred and reserved. 2. It established a bicameral federal legislature. <p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Which of the following was/were the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It proposed an All India Federation. 2. It provided for the abolition of dyarchy at the
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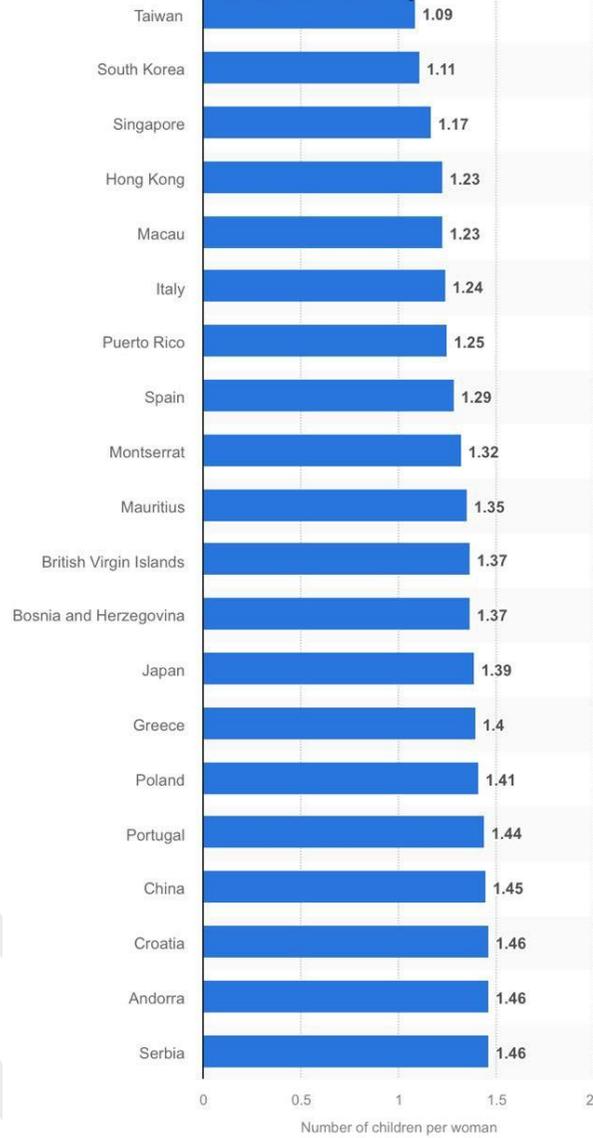
				Restructuring of Provinces: The Act partially restructured provinces, for instance, separating Sindh from Bombay, splitting Bihar and Orissa Province into separate provinces of Bihar and Orissa, and completely separating Burma from India.					provincial level. 3. It provided residuary powers to the Viceroy. Select the correct answer using the code given below.
13	Art & Culture	Which one of the following is a work attributed to playwright Bhasa ? (a) <i>Kavyalankara</i> (b) <i>Natyashastra</i> (c) <i>Madhyamavyayoga</i> (d) <i>Mahabhashya</i>	C	Bhāsa was the earliest known Sanskrit dramatist , many of whose complete plays have been found. There is no consensus regarding when the play was written, and it has been dated variously from 475 BCE to the 11th century CE. The Sanskrit poet Nannaya, who lived around 400 CE, has mentioned Bhasa in his works, and this suggests Bhasa may have lived around 350 CE. Bhasa was an ancient Indian playwright who is considered one of the earliest known dramatists in Sanskrit literature. He was the author of works such as the Madhyamavyayoga, DutaGhatotkacha, Dutavakya, Balacharita and Charudatta.		D F	Upinder Singh: A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century	R M	VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4150 Consider the following pairs: Sanskrit Literature Author 1. Meghaduta : Kalidasa 2. Mrichchhakatika : Shudraka 3. Kirartarjuniya : Bhasa EXPLANATION: Bhasa was an ancient Indian playwright who is considered one of the earliest known dramatists in Sanskrit literature. He was the author of works such as the Madhyamavyayoga, DutaGhatotkacha, Dutavakya, Balacharita and Charudatta.
14	Art & Culture	Sanghabhuti, an Indian Buddhist monk, who travelled to China at the end of the fourth century AD, was the author of a commentary on : (a) <i>Prajnaparamita Sutra</i> (b) <i>Visuddhimagga</i> (c) <i>Sarvastivada Vinaya</i> (d) <i>Lalitavistara</i>	C	India developed cultural relations with China through the propagation of Buddhism there. In the first century B.C. the Buddhist monks, Dharmaratna and Kasyapa Matanga, went to China and spent the rest of their lives there translating Buddhist texts into Chinese and preaching Buddhism among the people. By the third or the fourth century A.D., Buddhism became a widely popular religion in China. Afterwards too many Buddhist missionaries like Kumarajiva, Sangabhuti . Gyanabhadra, Buddhbhadra, Jiva Gupta, Dharma Gupta, Prabhakaramitra, Sudhakarasingha, etc., went to China. The same way,		D F	Upinder Singh: A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century	R M	

			many Chinese pilgrims came to India, the most important of them being Fa-Hien, Hiuen-Tsang and I-tsing.						
			Sangabhuti was the author of the commentary on the Sarvastivada Vinaya.						
15	Current Affairs (Art & Culture)	Consider the following properties included in the World Heritage List released by UNESCO : 1. Shantiniketan 2. Rani-ki-Vav 3. Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas 4. Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodhgaya How many of the above properties were included in 2023 ? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four	B World Heritage List UNESCO • Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodh Gaya (2002) • Rani-ki-Vav (the Queen's Stepwell) at Patan, Gujarat (2014) • Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas (2023) • Santiniketan (2023) Hence option (b) is the correct answer.	Recently Shantiniketan and Sacred Ensembles of Hoysalas were included in the World Heritage List released by UNESCO in the year 2023	E	FCA	https://whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/in	RM	PT 365 Culture: Article 1.1 UNESCO RECOGNITION VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4141 Recently Santiniketan has been designated as the 41st UNESCO World Heritage Site (WHS) of India. In this context, consider the following statements: 1. Its design has been predominantly inspired from Greek and Roman architecture. 2. It is the only world heritage site in Bengal. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? VisionIAS Abhyaas Test 4364 With reference to the Sacred Ensembles of Hoysalas which has been declared as the 42nd UNESCO World Heritage Site (WHS), consider the following statements: 1. The patron rulers of Hoysala temples were contemporaries of Badami Chalukyas of Vatapi.

								2. Hoysala temple architecture is based on both Nagara and Dravidian style. 3. Temples follow a stellate (star) plan and were built on a raised platform called adhisthana.
16	Polity & Governance	As per Article 368 of the Constitution of India, the Parliament may amend any provision of the Constitution by way of : 1. Addition 3. Variation 3. Repeal Select the correct answer using the code given below : (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3	D Article 368 (1) states that, 'Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, Parliament may in exercise of its constituent power amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any provision of this Constitution in accordance with the procedure laid down in this article.' Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.		E F	M Laxmikant Chapter: Amendment of the Constitution	E M	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which of the following statements is correct about the Fifth Schedule of the Indian Constitution? (a) A Tribes Advisory Council can be constituted only in a State having Scheduled Areas. (b) The Governor of the State can increase the area of any Scheduled Area in the State. (c) Currently, no States of North-East India have Fifth Schedule Areas. (d) Its amendment is considered an amendment of the Constitution for the purposes of Article 368. Explanation: Amendment of the Fifth Schedule: Parliament may from time to time by law amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any of the provisions of this Schedule and, when the Schedule is so amended, any reference to this Schedule in this

									Constitution shall be construed as a reference to such Schedule as so amended. However, no such law shall be deemed to be an amendment of this Constitution for the purposes of Article 368.
17	Geography	<p>Consider the following countries :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Italy 2. Japan 3. Nigeria 4. South Korea 5. South Africa <p>Which of the above countries are frequently mentioned in the media for their low birth rates, or ageing population of declining population ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 1, 2 and 4 (b) 1, 3 and 5 (c) 2 and 4 only (d) 3 and 5 only 	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan's population will more than halve, from a peak of 128 million in 2017 to less than 53 million by the end of the century. Japan already has the world's oldest population and the highest rate of people over the age of 100. • The Italian population is also expected to more than halve, from 61 million in 2017 to 28 million by the end of the century. Like Japan, Italy is known for its ageing population. More than 23% of people there were over the age of 65 in 2019, according to World Bank data. • Nigeria and other countries in Africa are bucking the trend of population decline. Nigeria will become the world's second most populous country, with 791 million people. The new study predicts that Nigeria will have one of the largest working-age populations in the world by 2100 and see big increases in GDP. • South Korea's demographic crisis has become the top risk to economic growth and the social welfare system, with the country's population of 51 million on track to halve by the end of this century. South Korea has previously projected its fertility rate is likely to fall further to 0.68 in 2024. <p>Hence option (a) is the correct answer.</p>	ews related to ageing population levels in many countries is frequently seen in the news.	D	CA	https://www.bbc.com/news/world-53424726	EN

The 20 countries with the lowest fertility rates in 2023:



18	Polity & Governance	<p>Which of the following statements are correct in respect of a Money Bill in the Parliament?</p> <p>1. Article 109 mentions special procedure in respect of Money Bills. 2. A Money Bill shall not be introduced in the Council of States. 3. The Rajya Sabha can either approve the Bill or suggest changes but cannot reject it. 4. Amendment to a Money Bill suggested by the Rajya Sabha have to be accepted by the Lok Sabha.</p> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below :</p> <p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) 1, 3 and 4</p>	<p>C Article 109 provides for the Special procedure in respect of Money Bills. Hence, statement 1 is correct. The provisions mentioned in Article 109 are as follows:</p> <p>A Money Bill shall not be introduced in the Council of States. Hence, statement 2 is correct.</p> <p>After the House of the People has passed a Money Bill it shall be transmitted to the Council of States for its recommendations and the Council of States shall within a period of fourteen days from the date of its receipt of the Bill return the Bill to the House of the People with its recommendations. The Rajya Sabha can either approve the Bill or suggest changes but cannot reject it. Hence, statement 3 is correct.</p> <p>The House of the People may thereupon either accept or reject all or any of the recommendations of the Council of States. If the House of the People accepts any of the recommendations of the Council of States, the Money Bill shall be deemed to have been passed by both Houses with the amendments recommended by the Council of States and accepted by the House of the People.</p> <p>If the House of the People does not accept any of the recommendations of the Council of States, the Money Bill shall be deemed to have been passed by both Houses in the form in which it was passed by the House of the People without any of the amendments recommended by the Council of States. Hence, statement 4 is not correct.</p> <p>If a Money Bill passed by the House of the People and transmitted to the Council of States for its recommendations is not returned to the House of the People within the said period of fourteen days, it shall be deemed to have been passed by both Houses at the expiration of the said period in the form in which it was passed by the House of the People.</p>		E	F	M Laxmikant chapter on parliament	E M	<p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4157</p> <p>Consider the following statements:</p> <p>1. A money bill is a financial bill certified by the President. 2. All Finance bills that are not money bills must include recommendations of the Rajya Sabha.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>Explanation: Article 110 defines a “Money Bill” as one containing provisions dealing with taxes, regulation of the government’s borrowing of money, and expenditure or receipt of money from the Consolidated Fund of India, among others, whereas Article 109 delineates the procedure for the passage of such a Bill and confers an overriding authority on the Lok Sabha in the passage of Money Bills.</p> <p>A major difference between money and Financial Bills is that while the latter has the provision of including the Rajya Sabha’s (Upper House) recommendations, the former does not make</p>
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								their inclusion mandatory. The role of the Rajya Sabha in passing Money Bills is restricted. Such Bills can originate only in the Lok Sabha. After being passed by the Lok Sabha, Money Bills are sent to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations. Within 14 days, the Upper House must submit the Bill back to the Lower House with its non-binding recommendations. If the Lok Sabha rejects the recommendations, the Bill is deemed to have passed by both Houses in the form in which it was passed by the Lok Sabha without the recommendations of the Rajya Sabha. The Lok Sabha has the right to reject the Rajya Sabha's recommendations when it comes to Money Bills.																																	
19	Miscellaneous (General Awareness)	Which of the following is/are correctly matched in terms of equivalent rank in the three services of Indian Defence forces ? <i>Army : Airforce : Navy</i> 1. Brigadier : Air Commodore : Commander 2. Major General : Air Vice Marshal : Vice Admiral	D	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Indian Army</th> <th>Indian Air Force</th> <th>Indian Navy</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Field Marshal</td> <td>Marshal of the Air Force</td> <td>Admiral of the fleet</td> </tr> <tr> <td>General</td> <td>Air Chief Marshal</td> <td>Admiral</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lt. General</td> <td>Air Marshal</td> <td>Vice Admiral</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Major General</td> <td>Air Vice Marshal</td> <td>Rear Admiral Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brigadier</td> <td>Air Commodore</td> <td>Commodore Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Colonel</td> <td>Group Captain</td> <td>Captain</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lt. Colonel</td> <td>Wing Commander</td> <td>Commander</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Major</td> <td>Squadron Leader</td> <td>Lt. Commander Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Captain</td> <td>Flight Lieutenant</td> <td>Lieutenant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lieutenant</td> <td>Flying Officer</td> <td>Sub Lieutenant Hence pair 4 is not correctly matched.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Indian Army	Indian Air Force	Indian Navy	Field Marshal	Marshal of the Air Force	Admiral of the fleet	General	Air Chief Marshal	Admiral	Lt. General	Air Marshal	Vice Admiral	Major General	Air Vice Marshal	Rear Admiral Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.	Brigadier	Air Commodore	Commodore Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched.	Colonel	Group Captain	Captain	Lt. Colonel	Wing Commander	Commander	Major	Squadron Leader	Lt. Commander Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.	Captain	Flight Lieutenant	Lieutenant	Lieutenant	Flying Officer	Sub Lieutenant Hence pair 4 is not correctly matched.		M F	India Year Book 2024 Chapter Defence	RR
Indian Army	Indian Air Force	Indian Navy																																							
Field Marshal	Marshal of the Air Force	Admiral of the fleet																																							
General	Air Chief Marshal	Admiral																																							
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	<p>3. Major Squadron Leader : Lieutenant Commander</p> <p>4. Lieutenant Colonel : Group Captain : Captain</p> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below :</p> <p>(a) 1 and 4</p> <p>(b) 1 and 3</p> <p>(c) 2, 3 and 4</p> <p>(d) 3 only</p>							
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फाउंडेशन कोर्स

सामान्य अध्ययन

2025, 2026 & 2027 प्रारंभिक एवं मुख्य परीक्षा

DELHI: 11 JUNE, 9 AM | 14 MAY, 9 AM

BHOPAL 23 JUL , 9 AM	JAIPUR 20 JUN, 7:30 AM & 4 PM	JODHPUR 20 JUN, 7:30 AM & 4 PM	LUCKNOW 18 JUL , 9 AM
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20	Polity & Governance	<p>The North Eastern Council (NEC) was established by the North Eastern Council Act, 1971. Subsequent to the amendment of NEC Act in 2002, the Council comprises which of the following members ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Governor of the Constituent State Chief Minister of the Constituent State Three Members to be nominated by the President of India The Home Minister of India <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1, 2 and 3 only 1, 3 and 4 only 2 and 4 only 1, 2, 3 and 4 	<p>A The NEC Act, 1971 was amended by the Parliament in 2002 (Act No. 68 of 2002). The 'North Eastern Areas' now means the area comprising the States of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Mizoram. The Council now has as its members the Governors of the States mentioned above, the Chief Ministers of the said States and three Members nominated by the President. The President will nominate the Chairman of the Council and he need not be nominated from amongst the other Members. The North Eastern Council (Amendment) Act, 2002 enjoined the NEC to act as a 'regional planning body'. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.</p>	Meeting of NEC was held recently	M	F	<p>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/manipur-cm-skips-north-eastern-council-meeting-chaired-by-amit-shah-in-shillong/article67756438.ece</p> <p>https://necouncil.gov.in/sites/default/files/about-us/Amendment%20Act%202002.pdf</p>	EN	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>With reference to the North-Eastern Council (NEC), which of the following statements is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> It comprises both Governors and Chief Ministers of all North Eastern States as its members. The Union Minister of Home Affairs is the Vice Chairman of NEC. <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</p>
21	Current Affairs (Polity & Governance)	<p>Consider the following statements regarding 'Nari Shakti Vandana Adhiniyam' :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provisions will come into effect from the 18th Lok Sabha. This will be in force for 15 years after becoming an Act. There are provisions for the reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes Women within 	<p>C The Constitution (106th Amendment) Act, 2023, also known as 'Nari Shakti Adhiniyam' reserves one-third of all seats for women in Lok Sabha, State legislative assemblies, and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, including those reserved for SCs and STs.</p> <p>Key Provisions: Within the 33% reservation for women, there will be sub-reservations for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in line with their proportion in the population. Hence, statement 3 is correct. The reservation will be in effect for a period of 15 years from the date of commencement of the legislation. The</p>	Recently Parliament passed NARI SHAKTI VANDANA [CONSTITUTION (106TH AMENDMENT)] ACT, 2023	E	CA	<p>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/womens-reservation-bill-gets-presidents-assent/article67361561.ece</p> <p>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/womens-</p>	EN	<p>PT 365 2024 Polity: Article 6.1 NARI SHAKTI VANDANA [CONSTITUTION (106TH AMENDMENT)] ACT, 2023</p> <p>VisionIAS /Open test/Abhyaas : Test 4359</p> <p>Recently, the Parliament passed the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act, 2023, to provide for one-third reservation to women. This act provides women</p>

		<p>the quota reserved for the Scheduled Castes. Which of the statements given above are correct ?</p> <p>(a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1 and 3 only</p>	<p>duration can be extended by Parliament if deemed necessary. Hence, statement 2 is correct.</p> <p>The bill does not propose any reservation for women in the Rajya Sabha (the upper house of India's Parliament) or the state legislative councils.</p> <p>The reservation will come into effect after the completion of the first delimitation exercise undertaken after the commencement of the bill, ensuring that constituencies are redrawn to reflect the population changes. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.</p>			<p>reservation-bill-govt-introduces-nari-shakti-vandan-adhinyam-in-lok-sabha/article67322055.ece</p>	<p>reservation in which of the following legislative bodies?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rajya Sabha 2. Lok Sabha 3. State Legislative assembly 4. State Legislative council <p>Explanation: The Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2023 was introduced in Lok Sabha on September 19, 2023. The Bill seeks to reserve one-third of the total number of seats in Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies for women. The Bill received the assent of the President and was published in the gazette. It is now known as the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act, 2023. Key features of the Act: Reservation for women: The Act reserves, as nearly as may be, one-third of all seats for women in Lok Sabha, state legislative assemblies, and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi. This will also apply to the seats reserved for SCs and STs in Lok Sabha and state legislatures. Hence options 1 and 4 are not correct options 2 and 3 are correct.</p>
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									<p>Commencement of reservation: The reservation hall come into effect after an exercise of delimitation is undertaken for this purpose after the relevant figures for the first census taken after commencement of the Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023. Based on the census, delimitation will be undertaken to reserve seats for women. The reservation will be provided for a period of 15 years. However, it shall continue till such date as determined by a law made by Parliament.</p> <p>Rotation of seats: Seats reserved for women will be rotated after each delimitation, as determined by a law made by Parliament.</p>
22	Current Affairs (Internal Security)	<p>Which of the following statements about 'Exercise Mitra Shakti-2023' are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This was a joint military exercise between India and Bangladesh. 2. It commenced in Aundh (Pune). 3. Joint response during counter-terrorism operations 	<p>D</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The exercise was conducted between India and Sri Lanka from 16th to 29th November 2023. The Indian contingent, of 120 personnel, was represented mainly by troops from the MARATHA LIGHT INFANTRY Regiment. The Sri Lankan side was represented by personnel from 53 Infantry Division. Hence statement 1 is not correct. • The ninth edition of Joint Military exercise "Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2023" commenced in Aundh (Pune). Hence statement 2 is correct. • The aim of the exercise is to jointly rehearse conduct of Sub Conventional operations under Chapter VII of United Nations Charter. The Scope of the exercise 	<p>Exercise Mitra Shakti was conducted between India and Sri Lanka from 16th to 29th November 2023.</p>	M	CA	<p>https://pib.gov.in/PressRelease.aspx?PRID=1977339#:~:text=The%20ninth%20edition%20of%20Joint,the%20MARATHA%20LIGHT%20INFANTRY%20Regiment.</p>	E N	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Which of the following training exercises is/are conducted between India and France?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mitra Shakti 2. Garuda 3. Yudh Abhyas

	<p>was a goal of this operation.</p> <p>4. Indian Air Force was a part of this exercise. Select the correct answer using the code given below :</p> <p>(a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 1, 2 and 4 (c) 1, 3 and 4 (d) 2, 3 and 4</p>	<p>includes synergising joint responses during counter-terrorist operations. Both sides will practice tactical actions such as raid, search and destroy missions, heliborne operations, etc. Hence statement 3 is correct.</p> <p>• 15 personnel from Indian Air Force and five personnel from Sri Lankan Air Force are also participated in the exercise. Exercise MITRA SHAKTI – 2023 also involved employment of Drones and Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems besides helicopters. Drills to secure helipads and undertake casualty evacuation during counter-terrorist operations also be rehearsed jointly by both sides. Hence statement 4 is correct.</p> <p>Hence option (d) is the correct answer.</p>						
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ENGLISH MEDIUM 2025: **30 JUNE**
हिन्दी माध्यम 2025: **30 जून**



23	Polity & Governance	<p>A Writ of Prohibition is an order issued by the Supreme Court or High Courts to :</p> <p>(a) a government officer prohibiting him from taking a particular action.</p> <p>(b) the Parliament/ Legislative Assembly to pass a law on Prohibition.</p> <p>(c) the lower court prohibiting continuation of proceedings in a case.</p> <p>(d) the Government prohibiting it from following an unconstitutional policy.</p>	<p>C A writ of prohibition is issued by a Court to prohibit the lower courts, tribunals and other quasi-judicial authorities from doing something beyond their authority. It is issued to direct inactivity and thus differs from mandamus which directs activity.</p> <p>The writ of prohibition can be issued only against judicial and quasijudicial authorities. It is not available against administrative authorities, legislative bodies, and private individuals or bodies. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.</p>		E	F	M Laxmikant chapter on Fundamental Rights	E M	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>With reference to the writs of certiorari and prohibition, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Both the writs can be issued against only judicial and quasi-judicial bodies. Both the writs are both preventive as well as curative. Unlike the writ of prohibition, the writ of certiorari can be sought by the aggrieved person. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p>
24	Polity & Governance	<p>Consider the following statements :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> It is the Governor of the State who recognizes and declares any community of that State as a Scheduled Tribe. A community declared as a Scheduled Tribe in a State need not to be so in another State. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 2 nor 2</p>	<p>B 342(1) states that the President may with respect to any State or Union Territory, and where it is a State, after consultation with the Governor thereof, by a public notification, specify the tribes or tribal communities or part of or groups within tribes or tribal communities as Scheduled Tribe in relation to that State or Union Territory as the case may be. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.</p> <p>Clause (2) of the Article 342 empowers the Parliament to pass a law to include in or exclude from the List of Scheduled Tribes, any tribe or tribal community or parts of these. The List of Scheduled Tribes is State/UT specific and a community declared as a Scheduled Tribe in a state need not be so in another state/UT. Hence, statement 2 is correct.</p>	Rajya Sabha Passes Bills to Modify SC, ST list in States	M	F	https://ncst.nic.in/content/frequently-asked-questions#:~:text=342(1)%20Scheduled%20Tribes%20%2D%2D%2D,Scheduled%20Tribe%20in%20relation%20to	RR	<p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4159</p> <p>Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The list of scheduled tribes is state-specific. Criteria adopted for specification of a community as a scheduled tribe are spelt out in the Constitution of India. There are over 700 tribes as notified under Article 342 of the Constitution of India. A person who is a member of scheduled tribe will lose his/her ST status if he/she marries a person who does not belong to a

									<p>scheduled tribe. How many of the above statements are correct? EXPLANATION: In terms of Article 342(1), the President may, with respect to any state or union territory, and where it is a state, after consultation with the Governor thereof, notify tribes or tribal communities or parts thereof as scheduled tribes. Any further amendment in the list is to be done through an Act of Parliament (Article 342(2)). Parliament may, by law, include in or exclude from the list of scheduled tribes, any tribe or tribal community or parts thereof. The list of scheduled tribes is state-specific. In other words, a community declared as a scheduled tribe in one state need not be so in another. Hence statement 1 is correct.</p> <p>The criteria generally adopted for specification of a community as a scheduled tribe are: (a) indications of primitive traits; (b) distinctive culture; (c) shyness of contact with the community at large; and (d) geographical isolation, i.e.,</p>
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backwardness. These are not spelt out in the Constitution but have become well established. They take into account the definitions in the 1931 Census, the reports of the first Backward Classes Commission (Kalelkar Committee), 1955, the Advisory Committee on Revision of SC/ST lists (Lokur Committee), 1965 and the Joint Committee of Parliament on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Bill, 1967 (Chanda Committee), 1969. Hence statement 2 is not correct.

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हिन्दी माध्यम 2025: 30 जून



25	Polity & Governance	<p>With reference to Union Budget, consider the following statements :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Union Finance Minister on behalf of the Prime Minister lays the Annual Financial Statement before both the Houses of Parliament. 2. At the Union level, no demand for a grant can be made except on the recommendation of the President of India. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2 	<p>B Article 112 of the Indian Constitution says that every year “the President of India shall cause to be laid before both the houses of the parliament” the “Annual Financial Statement”. The Union Finance Minister presents the budget on behalf of the President and not the Prime Minister. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.</p> <p>Article 113 (3) prescribes that no demand for grants can be presented in the Lok Sabha without the President of India's prior approval. Hence, statement 2 is correct.</p>		E	F	M Laxmikant Chapter on Parliament	E M	<p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4159</p> <p>Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The list of scheduled tribes is state-specific. 2. Criteria adopted for specification of a community as a scheduled tribe are spelt out in the Constitution of India. 3. There are over 700 tribes as notified under Article 342 of the Constitution of India. 4. A person who is a member of scheduled tribe will lose his/her ST status if he/she marries a person who does not belong to a scheduled tribe. <p>How many of the above statements are correct?</p> <p>EXPLANATION: In terms of Article 342(1), the President may, with respect to any state or union territory, and where it is a state, after consultation with the Governor thereof, notify tribes or tribal communities or parts thereof as scheduled tribes. Any further amendment in the list is to be done through an Act of Parliament (Article 342(2)). Parliament may, by law, include in or exclude from the list of scheduled tribes,</p>
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								<p>any tribe or tribal community or parts thereof. The list of scheduled tribes is state-specific. In other words, a community declared as a scheduled tribe in one state need not be so in another. Hence statement 1 is correct.</p> <p>The criteria generally adopted for specification of a community as a scheduled tribe are: (a) indications of primitive traits; (b) distinctive culture; (c) shyness of contact with the community at large; and (d) geographical isolation, i.e., backwardness. These are not spelt out in the Constitution but have become well established. They take into account the definitions in the 1931 Census, the reports of the first Backward Classes Commission (Kalelkar Committee), 1955, the Advisory Committee on Revision of SC/ST lists (Lokur Committee), 1965 and the Joint Committee of Parliament on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Bill, 1967 (Chanda Committee), 1969. Hence statement 2 is not correct.</p>
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26	Miscellaneous (General Awareness)	Who of the following is the author of the books "The India Way" and "Why Bharat Matters"? (a) Bhupendra Yadav (b) Nalin Mehta (c) Shashi Tharoor (d) Subrahmanyam Jaishankar	<p>D • Why Bharat Matters is a 2024 non-fictional book written by Indian politician and author S. Jaishankar. Jaishankar was the incumbent Minister of External Affairs of the Government of India in the Second Modi ministry at the time of publishing. In this work, Jaishankar discusses India's foreign policy and emphasises the importance of Bharat, i.e. India, with its ever-growing role on the global stage as a potential superpower.</p> <p>• 'The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World,' by Dr S Jaishankar, presently the Union Minister of External Affairs, is a book that attracts much attention and curiosity. Firstly, because it is written by a career diplomat with four decades of experience, and hence with a vantage perspective. Secondly, because he has now graduated to a more powerful policy-making, strategy-defining role, and getting an insight into his thinking would be gratifying.</p> <p>Hence option (d) is the correct answer.</p>	Various articles were published in leading newspapers on the book "Why India Matters"	E	CA	https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/jaishankar-new-book-questions-nehru-foreign-policy-sparks-debate-9093256/	E N	
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27	Current Affairs (International Relations)	Consider the following pairs : Country Reason for being in the news 1. Argentina Worst economic crisis 2. Sudan War between the country's regular and paramilitary forces 3. Turkey Rescinded its membership of NATO How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched? (a) Only one pair (b) Only two pairs (c) All three pairs (d) None of the pairs	B <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Argentina is facing its worst economic crisis. Prices in Argentina have surged so dramatically in recent months that the government has multiplied the size of its biggest bank note in circulation by five — to 10,000 pesos, worth about \$10. Hence pair 1 is correctly matched. Sudan is suffering one of the worst humanitarian crises in recent history after nearly a year of war. Fighting between the army, headed by General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF), led by Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, since last April has killed tens of thousands of people, as the threat of famine looms amid international inaction. Hence pair 2 is correctly matched. No, Turkey has not Rescinded its membership of NATO. But some countries think turkey can be a Trojan horse for NATO and block consensus on every decision until NATO members meet his price. Turkey today is a liability. There is no mechanism within NATO to expel a wayward member. In the past, countries withdrew voluntarily. Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched. Hence option (b) is the correct answer. 	In recent time, Argentina faced worsed economic crisis. Sudan was news due to War between the country's regular and paramilitary forces. Turkey is a member of NATO.	M	CAA	https://www.thehindu.com/business/mess-i-of-finance-argentina-economy-chief-faces-world-cup-of-crises/article67611139.ece https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/why-is-sudan-still-at-war-a-year-on-explained/article68057098.ece#:~:text=What%20triggered%20the%20violence%3F,Khartoum%20on%20April%2015%2C%202023.	EN	PT 365 2024 International Relations 2.7 Africa News Today: Apr 17, 2024 Sudan Conflict Page 23 Monthly Current Affairs (March 2024) 2.3. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) VisionIAS /Open test/Abhyaas : Test 4364 In recent years, Niger, Burkina Faso, and Sudan caught international attention for which of the following reasons, common to all of them? (a) Discovery of new oil reserves (b) Occurrence of massive forest fires (c) Attaining observer status at the BRICS summit (d) Military coups
28	Current Affairs (International Relations)	Consider the following statements : Statement-I : Sumed pipeline is a strategic route for Persian Gulf oil and natural gas shipments to Europe. Statement-II : Sumed pipeline connects the Red Sea with the Mediterranean Sea.	A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Suez Canal, the SUMED pipeline, and the Bab el-Mandeb Strait are strategic routes for Persian Gulf oil and natural gas shipments to Europe and North America. Total oil shipments via these routes accounted for about 12% of total seaborne-traded oil in the first half of 2023, and liquefied natural gas (LNG) shipments accounted for about 8% of worldwide LNG trade. Hence statement I is correct The Suez Canal and SUMED pipeline are located in Egypt and connect the Red Sea with the Mediterranean Sea. The SUMED pipeline transports crude oil north through Egypt and has a capacity of 2.5 million barrels per day. Hence statement II is correct 		M	CAA	https://www.thehindu.com/data/attacks-in-the-red-sea-by-the-houthis-may-hit-indias-oil-trade-data/article67704710.ece https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail	EN	

			<p>it may not be entirely correct to say that no water enters the Red Sea from rivers. Hence statement 2 is not correct.</p>					<p>water in the world, owing to high evaporation and low precipitation; no significant rivers or streams drain into the sea, and its southern connection to the Gulf of Aden, an arm of the Indian Ocean, is narrow. Its average salinity is 40 ppt. (Average salinity for the world's seawater is ~35 ppt.)</p>
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30	Current Affairs (Environment)	According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which one of the following is the largest source of sulphur dioxide emissions ? (a) Locomotives using fossil fuels (b) Ships using fossil fuels (c) Extraction of metals from ores (d) Power plants using fossil fuels	D EPA's national ambient air quality standards for SO ₂ are designed to protect against exposure to the entire group of sulfur oxides (SO _x). According to EPA, the largest source of SO₂ in the atmosphere is the burning of fossil fuels by power plants and other industrial facilities. Smaller sources of SO ₂ emissions include: industrial processes such as extracting metal from ore; natural sources such as volcanoes; and locomotives, ships and other vehicles and heavy equipment that burn fuel with a high sulfur content. Hence option (d) is the correct answer. About EPA: The Environmental Protection Agency is an independent agency of the United States government tasked with environmental protection matters.	Recently India was ranked as the largest emitter of Sulphur dioxide in the world	E	F	https://www.epa.gov/so2-pollution/sulfur-dioxide-basics#what%20is%20so2	R M	News Today: June 2023, Only 5% of india's coal-based thermal power capacity meets so2 emissions norms: centre for science and environment (cse) Report Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Recently India has been ranked as the largest emitter of Sulphur dioxide in the world. Which of the following contributes to Sulphur dioxide pollution in the atmosphere? 1. Coal based thermal power plant. 2. Aluminium smelting. 3. Geothermal springs 4. Forest fires Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
31	Current Affairs (Economics)	Consider the following statements : Statement-I : If the United States of America (USA) were to default on its debt, holders of US Treasury Bonds will not be able to exercise their claims to receive payment. Statement-II :	A As the national debt has soared, the U.S. Treasury Department has had to borrow more money to pay for government spending by revoking the Debt ceiling. The debt ceiling sets the maximum amount of outstanding federal debt the U.S. government can incur. Raising or suspending the debt ceiling by US Congress becomes necessary when the government needs to borrow more money to pay its debts than is federally authorized. If Congress fails to lift the debt ceiling before the due date when the Treasury will run out of	Recent context: In 2023, The U.S. Senate passed legislation that lifts the government's \$31.4 trillion debt	M	FCA	https://www.morningstar.com/markets/what-happens-if-debt-ceiling-isnt-raised https://www.ft.com/content/e4639f71-	R M	

		<p>The USA Government debt is not backed by any hard assets, but only by the faith of the Government.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?</p> <p>(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I</p> <p>(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I</p> <p>(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct</p>	<p>cash—the federal government will not be able to pay its obligations. Further, if United States of America (USA) were to default on its debt, holders of US Treasury Bonds will not be able to exercise their claims to receive payment. Hence statement-I is correct.</p> <p>Further, the Currencies like US dollars are fiat currency. Fiat money is a government-issued currency that is not backed by a physical commodity, such as gold or silver, but rather by the government that issued it. The value of fiat money is derived from the relationship between supply and demand and the stability of the issuing government, rather than the worth of a commodity backing it. Furthermore, if people lose faith in a nation's currency, the money will no longer hold value. So, Treasury Bonds issued by US government are not backed by any hard assets but based on only faith of the government and if government fails to repay the debt taken, then bond holders would not have right to exercise their claims to receive payment. Hence statement- II is correct and it is the correct explanation of statement-I.</p>	<p>ceiling, averting what would have been a US debt default.</p>		<p>b69f-4d99-867d-dffd1733779d</p> <p>https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/18/business/default-debt-what-happens-next.html</p> <p>https://www.investopedia.com/terms/f/fiatmoney.asp</p>		
32	Current Affairs (Economics)	<p>Consider the following statements :</p> <p>Statement-I : Syndicated lending spreads the risk of borrower default across multiple lenders.</p> <p>Statement-II : The syndicated loan can be a fixed amount/lump sum of funds, but cannot be a credit line.</p> <p>Which one of the</p>	<p>C Recent Context: In 2023, Country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) concluded a \$1 billion syndicated social loan facility. Shriram Finance raised multi-currency loan of \$468 million via ECB in January, 2024. This is the largest widely syndicated loan transaction for a private NBFC from India in recent years. A syndicated loan is a form of financing that is offered by a group of lenders. Syndicated loans arise when a project requires too large a loan for a single lender or when a project needs a specialized lender with expertise in a specific asset class. Syndicating allows lenders to spread risk and take part in financial opportunities that may be too large for their individual capital base. Syndicated loans involve large sums, which allows the risk to be spread out among several</p>	<p>In 2023, State Bank of India (SBI) concluded a \$1 billion syndicated social loan facility. Further, in 2024, Shriram Finance raised multi-</p>	M	FCA	<p>https://www.investopedia.com/terms/s/syndicatedloan.asp#:~:text=Lenders%20are%20referred%20to%20as,a%20combination%20of%20the%20two.</p> <p>https://www.thehindu.com/business/shrir</p>	RM

		<p>following is correct in respect of the above statements ?</p> <p>(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I</p> <p>(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I</p> <p>(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct</p>		<p>financial institutions to mitigate the risk in case the borrower defaults. Lenders are referred to as a syndicate, which works together to provide funds for a single borrower. Hence statement-I is correct. The borrower can be a corporation, a large project, or a sovereign government. The loan can involve a fixed amount of funds, a credit line, or a combination of the two. Hence statement-II is not correct.</p>	<p>currency loan of \$468 million, largest widely syndicated loan transaction for a private NBFC from India in recent years.</p>		<p>am-finance-raises-multi-currency-loan-of-468-mn-via-ecb/article68246175.ece</p> <p>https://indianexpress.com/article/business/market/sbi-concludes-1-bn-syndicated-social-loan-8472172/</p>		
33	Current Affairs (Economics)	<p>Consider the following statements in respect of the digital rupee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is a sovereign currency issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in alignment with its monetary policy. 2. It appears as a liability on the RBI's balance sheet. 3. It is insured against inflation by its very design. 4. It is freely convertible against commercial bank money and cash. <p>Which of the statements given above are correct ?</p>	<p>D Reserve Bank of India defines CBDC as the legal tender issued by a central bank in a digital form. It is the same as a sovereign currency and is exchangeable one-to-one at par (1:1) with the fiat currency. While money in digital form is predominant in India—for example in bank accounts recorded as book entries on commercial bank ledgers—a CBDC would differ from existing digital money available to the public because a CBDC would be a liability of the Reserve Bank, and not of a commercial bank.</p> <p>The features of CBDC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBDC is sovereign currency issued by Central Banks in alignment with their monetary policy. Hence statement 1 is correct. • It appears as a liability on the central bank's balance sheet. Hence statement 2 is correct. • Must be accepted as a medium of payment, legal tender, and a safe store of value by all citizens, enterprises, and government agencies. • Freely convertible against commercial bank money and cash. Hence statement 4 is correct. 	<p>In April 2024, the Reserve Bank of India had proposed that CBDC (Central Bank Digital Currency) or, the eRupee, to be accessible to broader sectors of customers by enabling non-bank payment system</p>	E	FCA	<p>https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/PublicationReport/Pdfs/CONCEPTNOTEACB531172E0B4DFC9A6E506C2C24FFB6.PDF</p> <p>https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/wealth/save/digital-rupee-rbi-widens-scope-of-cbdc-non-banking-payment-companies-to-facilitate-</p>	R M	<p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4152</p> <p>Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a pilot project on Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) or 'eRupee'. Consider the following statements with respect to Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A person who holds the CBDC needs to have a bank account. 2. CBDC appears on the assets side of the RBI's balance sheet. 3. CBDC can be transferred directly to someone else's

	<p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2 and 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fungible legal tender for which holders need not have a bank account • Expected to lower the cost of issuance of money and transactions <p>CBDC like the physical currency is not inherently insured against inflation. However, the data collected through CBDCs has the potential to be paired with strict reserve requirements for commercial banks, creating a theoretical framework for inflation control. Hence statement 3 is not correct.</p>	<p>operators to offer CBDC wallets.</p>	<p>transactions/articleshow/109054759.cms?from=mdr</p>	<p>bank account.</p> <p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4154</p> <p>Consider the following statements regarding the Indian Central Bank Digital Currency in India:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Currently it is being used in the settlement of secondary market transactions in government securities. 2. It is banned in interbank transactions. <p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Union Government in the Budget 2022-23 has proposed introduction of Digital Rupee by the Reserve Bank of India. Which of the following statements is/are not correct regarding the Digital Rupee?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is the same as a fiat currency. 2. It will lead to cheaper currency management system. 3. It will appear as an asset on a central bank's balance sheet.
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34	Ancient India	<p>With reference to ancient India, Gautama Buddha was generally known by which of the following epithets ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nayaputta 2. Shakyamuni 3. Tathagata <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) None of the above are epithets of Gautama Buddha 	<p>B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surviving early Jain and Buddhist literature uses several names (or epithets) for Mahavira, including Nayaputta, Muni, Samana, Nigantha, Brahman, and Bhagavan. • Shakyamuni: This epithet refers to Gautama Buddha as the "Sage of the Shakyas," indicating his association with the Shakya clan. • Tathagata: This is a Pali and Sanskrit term used by Gautama Buddha to refer to himself or other Buddhas, meaning "'Thus-come', one who has come from Thusness " <p>Hence option (b) is the correct answer.</p>		M F	Upinder Singh: A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century	R M	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>With reference to Buddhism, which of the following statements is not correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) There are three principal elements in Buddhism: Buddha, dhamma, and sangha. (b) Buddhism rejects the authenticity of the Vedas. (c) Tipitakas have been written in prakrit language. (d) In various Buddhist texts, Buddha is also known as Tathagata and Sakyamuni. <p>EXPLANATION: The Three Jewels (Triratna) embraced under Buddhism are :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buddha - The enlightened one Dhamma - Teachings of Buddha (doctrine) Sangha - The monastic order <p>Out of the three jewels or triratnas, the concept of Sangha (the Order) was initiated by Buddha at the time of giving the first sermon. These 5 companions along with Buddha became a Sangha (a group).</p>
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								contemporary for a major part of his life to King Bimbisara and for the last few years to Ajatashatru of the Haryanka Dynasty. Buddha is known in various Buddhist texts also as Tathagata and Sakyamuni. The predecessor of Buddha under Buddhism was Kassapa Buddha and his successor will be Maitreya.	
35	Ancient India	Consider the following information : Archaeological Site State Description 1. Chandraketugarh Odisha Trading Port town 2. Inamgaon Maharashtra Chalcolithic site 3. Mangadu Kerala Megalithic site 4. Salihundam Andhra Pradesh Rock-cut cave shrines In which of the above rows is given information correctly matched ? (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3 (c) 3 and 4 (d) 1 and 4	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chandraketugarh, located in the Ganges Delta, is actually consists of a cluster of villages in the 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, about 35 kilometres (22 mi) north-east of Kolkata. Hence row 1 is not correctly matched. Inamgaon is a chalcolithic settlement located in the state of Maharashtra, India. Inamgaon is located in the Bhima river valley and was inhabited during the Chalcolithic period (c. 3300-1300 BCE). The settlement is believed to have been home to several thousand people. Hence row 2 is correctly matched. Mangadu, in Kerala is a newly discovered prehistoric site where megaliths are found in large numbers. The date of the Mangadu megaliths is approximately from 1000 B.C. to 100 B.C. Hence row 3 is correctly matched. Salihundam in Andhra Pradesh, India is known for its shrines dating back to the Buddhist era. The complex consists of monuments like mahastupas (large stupas), chaityas (prayer halls), viharas (monasteries), mandapas (pavilion halls), and votive stupas (smaller stupas). There is no rock-cut cave shrines here. Hence row 4 is not correctly matched. <p>Hence option (b) is the correct answer.</p>		D F	Upinder Singh: A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century	R M	VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4140 Which of the following is not correct regarding the Chalcolithic period? (a) Black and Red ware was the widely prevalent pottery in this period. (b) People in this period knew the art of spinning and weaving. (c) It saw very low infant mortality which was unique for a pre-historic period. (d) The chalcolithic people also used microliths i.e. small sized stone tools. EXPLANATION: The important non-Harappan chalcolithic cultures lay mainly in western India and Deccan. These include Banas culture (2600BC–1900 BC) in south-east

Rajasthan, with Ahar near Udaipur and Gilund as its key sites; Kayatha culture (2100BC–2000 BC) with Kayatha in Chambal as its chief site in Madhya Pradesh; Malwa Culture (1700BC–1400BC) with Navdatoli in Western Madhya Pradesh as an important site, and **Jorwe culture (1400BC– 700BC) with Inamgaon and Chandoli near Pune in Maharashtra as its chief centers.**

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36	Medieval India	<p>Who of the following rulers of medieval India gave permission to the Portuguese to build a fort at Bhatkal ?</p> <p>(a) Krishnadevaraya (b) Narasimha Saluva (c) Muhammad Shah III (d) Yusuf Adil Shah</p>	<p>A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Krishna Deva Raya was from the Tuluva dynasty of the Vijaynagar Empire and became ruler from 1509-1530. He is considered to be the greatest ruler of the Vijaynagar Empire. Krishna Deva Raya had very friendly relations with the Portuguese. He gave them many concessions because he gained by the import of horses and other things. In 1510 Albuquerque, the Portuguese Governor, asked for permission to build a fort at Bhatkal and the same was granted. Hence option (a) is the correct answer. 		M	F	Spectrum book (A Brief History of Modern India) Page no 56	E M	<p>VisionIAS /Open Test/Abhyaas : Test 4360</p> <p>With reference to contribution of Portuguese's Governor, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Francisco De Almeida defeated the combined Egyptian and Gujarat navies in the later half of fifteenth centuries. 2. Alfonso de Albuquerque started the cartaz system. 3. The island of Bassein was ceded to the Portuguese under the governorship of Nino da Cunha. <p>How many of the statements given above are correct?</p> <p>EXPLANATION: Albuquerque was the real founder of Portuguese empire in India. He also acquired Goa from the Sultan of Bijapur in 1510. He encouraged Portuguese to settle in India and get married here. He also tried to abolish sati. Under him new crops like coconut, cashew nuts, pineapple etc in India. He captured a place Bhatkal from Krishna Deva Raya. In 1529, Nino De Cunha assumed governor office in India till 1538. He shifted</p>
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									the headquarter of the Portuguese government in India from Cochin to Goa
37	Modern History	<p>With reference to revenue collection by Cornwallis, consider the following statements :</p> <p>1. Under the Ryotwari Settlement of revenue collection, the peasants were exempted from revenue payment in case of bad harvests or natural calamities.</p> <p>2. Under the Permanent Settlement in Bengal, if the Zamindar failed to pay his revenues to the state, on or before the fixed date, he would be removed from his Zamindari.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the Ryotwari Settlement, peasants were directly responsible for paying land revenue to the British government. However, there was no general provision for exemption from revenue payment in case of bad harvests or natural calamities. Farmers were forced to pay the revenue even during famines. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect. • Under the Permanent Settlement in Bengal, introduced by Lord Cornwallis in 1793, if a Zamindar failed to pay his revenues to the state on or before the fixed date, their land would be auctioned off. Hence statement 2 is correct. <p>Hence option (b) is the correct answer.</p>		E	F	A Brief History of Modern India page no 558	E M	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>In the context of the proposal of introducing the ryotwari system in the south and southwestern India, what were the reasons behind implementing the ryotwari system over the zamindari system in these areas?</p> <p>1. In these regions there were no zamindars present with a large estate with whom land settlement could be made.</p> <p>2. Under the permanent settlement the company was the ultimate financial loser as it had to share revenue with zamindars.</p> <p>3. It was a continuation of the state of affairs related to land revenue that had existed in the past for these areas.</p> <p>Select the correct answer using code given below.</p>
38	Art & Culture	<p>Consider the following statements :</p> <p>1. There are no parables in Upanishads.</p> <p>2. Upanishads were composed earlier than the Puranas.</p> <p>Which of the</p>	<p>B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Upanishads contain several parables and stories that are used to explain philosophical concepts and teachings. Hence statement 1 is not correct. • The Upanishads are considered part of the Vedic literature and were composed during the later Vedic period, while the Puranas were composed much later, starting around the early centuries of the common era. Hence statement 2 is correct. <p>Hence option (b) is the correct answer.</p>	Recently, newspaper editorials and articles were covering the relevance of	M	FA		R M	<p>Vision IAS June Monthly Current Affairs Quiz</p> <p>Consider the following statements:</p> <p>Statement-I: Upanishads are also known as Vedanta.</p> <p>Statement-II: Upanishads constitute the concluding portions of the Vedas.</p>

	statements given above is/are correct ? (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2		Upanishads		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 Statement-II is incorrect. (d) Statement-I is incorrect Statement-II is correct.
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39	International Relations	<p>Consider the following statements :</p> <p>1. India is a member of the International Grains Council.</p> <p>2. A country needs to be a member of the International Grains Council for exporting or importing rice and wheat.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The International Grains Council is an intergovernmental organization established in 1949, originally aimed at promoting cooperation in the global grains trade. India is a member of the International Grains Council (IGC). Hence statement 1 is correct. • Being a member of the International Grains Council is not a requirement for a country to export or import rice and wheat. The IGC operates through a system of member states, currently comprising major grain-producing and consuming countries. These members collaborate through regular meetings and consultations, where they discuss market conditions, policy challenges, and potential areas for collective action. Hence statement 2 is not correct. <p>Hence option (a) is the correct answer.</p>		E CA	https://www.igc.int/en/about/aboutus.aspx	R M	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>With reference to the International Grains Agreement (IGA), 1995, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is part of the WTO agreement. 2. It includes individual countries' commitments to lower customs tariffs on food grains. 3. India has been included in IGA as an importing member. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>EXPLANATION: The International Grains Agreement (IGA), which replaced the International Wheat Agreement in 1995, comprises of:</p> <p>Grains Trade Convention (GTC) - It provides for information-sharing, analysis, and consultations on grain market and policy developments.</p> <p>Food Aid Convention (FAC) - Under it, donor countries pledge to provide annually specified amounts of food aid to developing countries in the form of grain suitable for human consumption, or cash to buy suitable grains in recipient countries.</p>
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									<p>The IGA is administered by the International Grains Council (IGC), an intergovernmental forum of exporting and importing countries for cooperation in wheat and coarse grain matters.</p> <p>The International Grains Agreement does not contain any mechanisms for stabilizing supplies, prices, or trade. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.</p> <p>India is a signatory to the International Grains Agreement (IGA), 1995 and its Grain Trade Convention (GTC), 1995 which is effective from 1995. IGC has two types of members—importing and exporting members. India has been included in the category of exporting member in July, 2003. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.</p> <p>IGA is not associated with WTO and is not a part of it. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.</p>
40	Current Affairs (Art & Culture)	<p>Which one of the following was the latest inclusion in the Intangible Cultural Heritage List of UNESCO ?</p> <p>(a) Chhau dance (b) Durga Puja (c) Garba dance</p>	<p>C Garba, a traditional dance form from Gujarat, was the latest inclusion in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage list in December 2023 Hence option (c) is the correct answer.</p>	<p>Recently, 'Garba of Gujarat' has been inscribed in the Representative List of Intangible</p>	E	CA	https://ich.unesco.org/en/state/india-IN?info=elements-on-the-lists	E N	<p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4156</p> <p>Recently, 'Garba of Gujarat' has been inscribed in the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of Humanity by the United Nations Educational,</p>

	(d) Kumbh mela			Cultural Heritage (ICH) of Humanity by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).		Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Consider the following statements about Garba: 1. Garba showcases the infinite nature of birth, death and reincarnation. 2. It is exclusively performed only during Navratri. 3. In Garba dance, dancers hold sticks in both their hands and strike them together on the beats of the musical instruments. How many of the statements given above are correct?
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41	International Relations	<p>Consider the following statements :</p> <p>Statement-I : There is instability and worsening security situation in the Sahel region.</p> <p>Statement-II : There have been military takeovers/coups d'etat in several countries of the Sahel region in the recent past.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?</p> <p>(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I</p> <p>(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I</p> <p>(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct</p>	<p>A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sahel suffers from a long history of political instability, armed rebellions (especially in Mali and Niger), and bad governance. Since gaining independence in the 1960s, countries in the region have faced challenges of state- and nation-building. These countries inherited governing institutions and redefined territories that have proven difficult to manage. Hence statement 1 is correct. • In January 2023, the head of the UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel warned that armed conflicts have worsened human suffering and forced millions to flee. Roughly 2.7 million people have been displaced and 1.6 million children are malnourished. Multiple military coups have occurred in the region since 2020: two each in Burkina Faso and Mali, one in Chad, and another in neighbouring Guinea. Hence statement 2 is correct. <p>Both statements are correct, and Statement II does directly explain Statement I.</p> <p>Hence option (a) is the correct answer.</p>		M	CA	<p>https://carnegieendowment.org/2023/02/28/russia-growing-footprint-in-africa-s-sahel-region-pub-89135</p> <p>https://arabcenterdc.org/resource/the-coups-detat-of-the-sahel-region-domestic-causes-and-international-competition/</p>	E N	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Recently, there is a crisis in the Sahel belt of Africa. The G5 Sahel Force was set up in 2017 for fighting the growing terrorist threat in the vast Sahel region. The Force is represented by which of the following countries?</p> <p>(a) Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Egypt, Sudan.</p> <p>(b) Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Mozambique.</p> <p>(c) Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Somalia, Eritrea.</p> <p>(d) Chad, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Mauritania.</p>
42	Current Affairs (Economics)	<p>Consider the following statements :</p> <p>Statement-I : India does not import apples from the United States of America.</p>	<p>D</p> <p>In February, 2024, US lawmakers and apple growers celebrated the export of apples to India this year, which is 16 times more than last year after India decided to drop the 20 per cent retaliatory tariff put in 2019 on American products. Earlier in 2019, in retaliation for the then-Trump Administration's</p>	<p>Recent context: The import of US apples increased</p>	M	CA	<p>https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147678</p>	R M	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Consider the following statements with reference to regulation of Genetically</p>

		<p>Statement-II : In India, the law prohibits the import of Genetically Modified food without the approval of the competent authority. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?</p> <p>(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I</p> <p>(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I</p> <p>(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct</p>		<p>decision to revoke India's trade benefits under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) programme in March 2019, India imposed several retaliatory tariffs on American products, including Apple. Hence statement-I is not correct.</p> <p>As per the import policy of Genetically Modified Food, Feed, Genetically Modified Organism (GMOs) and Living Modified Organisms (LMOs), import of GM food requires prior approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) constituted by the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change. Import of food products is also regulated under the Food Safety and Standards Act (FSSAI), 2006. Indian Customs can clear food products including Genetically Modified(GM) food products only after necessary approval/No Objection Certificate(NOC) by FSSAI. Hence statement-II is correct.</p>	<p>16 times more than last year as India decided to drop retaliatory tariffs by 20 percent on American products like Apple.</p>		<p>https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agribusiness/imports-of-us-apples-rise-40-times-in-3-months-as-india-scrap-retaliatory-duty/article67631576.ece#:~:text=In%20entire%202022%2D23%20(September,5%20million%20boxes%2C%20have%20added.</p>	<p>Modified Organisms (GMO) levels in imported consumables:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> At present, food crops with a threshold of GMO levels at one percent can be imported into India. Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) is responsible for regulating GMO levels in imported goods. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>(a) 1 only</p> <p>(b) 2 only</p> <p>(c) Both 1 and 2</p> <p>(d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <p>Explanation: The task of regulating GMO levels in imported consumables was initially with Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) under the Union environment ministry. Its role in this was diluted with the enactment of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and FSSAI was asked to take over approvals of imported goods."</p>		
43	Polity & Governance	<p>With reference to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, consider the following statements :</p> <p>While any resolution for the removal of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha is under</p>	A	<p>When a resolution for the removal of the Speaker is under consideration of the House, he cannot preside at the sitting of the House, though he may be present. However, he can speak and take part in the proceedings of the House at such a time and vote in the first instance, though not in the case of an equality of votes. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.</p>		E	F	M Laxmikant Chapter on Parliament	E M	<p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4135</p> <p>Consider the following statements:</p> <p>Statement I: The Speaker can not vote in the first instance but he can exercise</p>

		<p>consideration 1. He/She shall not preside. 2. He/She shall not have the right to speak 3. He/She shall not be entitled to vote on the resolution in the first instance. Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>					<p>a casting vote in the case of equality of votes. Statement II: The absence of a vote in the first instance will make the position of the Speaker impartial. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative 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.</p> <p>Explanation: When a resolution for the removal of the Speaker is under consideration of the House, he cannot preside at the sitting of the House, though he may be present.</p>
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									However, he can speak and take part in the proceedings of the House at such a time and vote in the first instance, though not in the case of an equality of votes. Whenever the Lok Sabha is dissolved, the Speaker does not vacate his office and continues till the newly-elected Lok Sabha meets.	
44	Polity & Governance	<p>With reference to the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses on its dissolution. 2. A bill passed by the Lok Sabha and pending in the Rajya Sabha lapses on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. 3. A bill in regard to which the President of India notified his/her intention to summon the Houses to a joint sitting lapses on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 (c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 only 	B	<p>When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, all business including bills, motions, resolutions, notices, petitions and so on pending before it or its committees lapse. They (to be pursued further) must be reintroduced in the newly-constituted Lok Sabha. However, some pending bills and all pending assurances that are to be examined by the Committee on Government Assurances do not lapse on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. The position with respect to lapsing of bills is as follows:</p> <p>A bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses (whether originating in the Lok Sabha or transmitted to it by the Rajya Sabha). Hence, statement 1 is correct.</p> <p>A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha lapses. Hence, statement 2 is correct.</p> <p>A bill not passed by the two Houses due to disagreement and if the president has notified the holding of a joint sitting before the dissolution of Lok Sabha, does not lapse. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.</p> <p>A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha does not lapse.</p> <p>A bill passed by both Houses but pending assent of the president does not lapse.</p> <p>A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the president for reconsideration of Houses does not lapse.</p>		E	F	M Laxmikant Chapter on Parliament	E M	<p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4127</p> <p>Which of the following bills lapses on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha 2. A bill passed by both houses but pending the assent of the President 3. A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</p> <p>Explanation: The position with respect to lapsing of bills is as follows: A bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses (whether originating in the Lok Sabha or transmitted to it by the Rajya Sabha). A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha lapses. Hence</p>

								option 1 is correct. A bill not passed by the two Houses due to disagreement and if the president has notified the holding of a joint sitting before the dissolution of Lok Sabha, does not lapse. A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha does not lapse. Hence option 3 is not correct. A bill passed by both Houses but pending assent of the President does not lapse. Hence option 2 is not correct. A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the president for reconsideration of Houses does not lapse
45	Polity & Governance	With reference to the Parliament of India, consider the following statements : 1. Prorogation of a House by the President of India does not require the advice of the Council of Ministers. 2. Prorogation of a House is generally done after the House is adjourned sine die but there is no bar to the President of India prorogating the House	C Under Article 85(2) of the Constitution, the President may from time to time prorogue Houses or either House of Parliament. Such prorogation requires the advice of the council of ministers. Hence, statement 1 is not correct. Termination of a session of the House by an Order by the President under the above constitutional provision is called 'prorogation'. Prorogation normally follows the adjournment of the sitting of the House sine die. But the president can prorogue when the house is in session too. Hence, statement 2 is correct. Dissolution of the Lok Sabha is done by the President of India who, save in exceptional circumstances, does so on the advice of the Council of Ministers. The President may on his discretion, look for alternate government formation if the present government cannot prove a majority. Hence, statement 3 is correct.		E F	M Laxmikant Chapter on Parliament	E M	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative With respect to the Prorogation of the House during the parliamentary proceedings in India, consider the following statements: 1. It results in the termination of sitting as well as a session of the houses. 2. The Constitution authorises the President to prorogue the houses. 3. On prorogation of the house, all pending bills and

		<p>which is in session.</p> <p>3. Dissolution of the Lok Sabha is done by the President of India who, save in exceptional circumstances, does so on the advice of the Council of Ministers.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 (c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 only</p>						<p>notices lapse.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <p>Explanation: "Prorogation" means the termination of a Session of the House without dissolution of the house. The Prorogation of the House may take place any time, even while the House is sitting. It results in termination of the sitting and the session of the house. Hence statement 1 is correct.</p> <p>Usually, prorogation follows adjournment sine die which means terminating a sitting of Parliament for an indefinite period which is called by the presiding officer of the houses.</p> <p>Article 85(2) in The Constitution of India states that</p> <p>The President may from time to time prorogue the Houses or either House; dissolve the House of the People.</p>
46	Current Affairs (Environment)	<p>Consider the following statements :</p> <p>Statement-I : The European Parliament approved The Net-Zero Industry Act recently.</p> <p>Statement-II : The European Union</p>	C	<p>Statement I is correct: Recently the European Parliament approved the Net-Zero industry Act to bolster EU production in technologies needed for decarbonisation. The "Net-Zero industry Act" sets a target for Europe to produce 40% of its annual deployment needs in net-zero technologies by 2030, based on National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) and to capture 15% of the global market value for these technologies.</p>	E	CA	<p>https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20240419IPR20568/meps-adopt-plans-to-boost-europe-</p>	RR

		<p>intends to achieve carbon neutrality by 2040 and therefore aims to develop all of its own clean technology by that time.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?</p> <p>(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I</p> <p>(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I</p> <p>(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct</p>		<p>Statement II is not correct: The EU aims to be climate-neutral by 2050 – an economy with net-zero greenhouse gas emissions.</p>			<p>s-net-zero-technology-production</p> <p>https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/climate-strategies-targets/2050-long-term-strategy_en#:~:text=The%20EU%20aims%20to%20be,t%20the%20European%20Climate%20Law%20</p>		
47	<p>Current Affairs (Economic s)</p>	<p>Consider the following statements :</p> <p>Statement-I : Recently, Venezuela has achieved a rapid recovery from its economic crisis and succeeded in preventing its people from fleeing/emigrating to other countries.</p> <p>Statement-II :</p>	<p>D With an exodus of more than 7.72 million people since 2014, the refugee crisis in Venezuela is the largest displacement crisis in Latin America and one of the largest in the world. Several root causes generate this unprecedented flow of migrants and refugees, including a deep economic crisis, repression and democratic breakdown in Venezuela. With the sometimes tumultuous changes in governments in Latin America, Venezuelans prefer to leave receiving countries rather than go through another national crisis. Since these elements will remain throughout the year, migration flows are expected to continue and even increase in 2024. Hence</p>	<p>Despite sitting on the world's largest proven oil reserves, Venezuela battles fuel shortages ,frequent blackouts, etc fuelling economic</p>	M	CA	<p>https://www.eia.gov/international/analysis/country/VEN</p> <p>https://www.unrefugees.org/news/venezuela-crisis-explained/#:~:text=to%20be%20done%3F-</p>	<p>R</p> <p>M</p>	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More than half of the world's oil reserves are located in the Middle East. 2. Venezuela has the second-largest amount of oil reserves in the world after Saudi Arabia. 3. Ghawar is the world's biggest conventional

		<p>Venezuela has the world's largest oil reserves.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?</p> <p>(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I</p> <p>(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I</p> <p>(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct</p>	<p>statement-I is not correct.</p> <p>Venezuela has the world's largest proven crude oil reserves accounting for approximately 17% of global reserves. Despite the sizeable reserves, Venezuela produced 0.8% of total global crude oil in 2023. Hence statement-II is correct.</p>	<p>crisis.</p>		<p>,Why%20are%20Venezuelans%20fleeing%3F,have%20left%20millions%20extremely%20vulnerable</p>	<p>onshore oil field located in Kuwait.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>Explanation: Oil is a natural resource formed by the decay of organic matter over millions of years. And like many other natural resources, oil cannot be produced, only extracted where it already exists. Unlike every other natural resource, oil is the lifeblood of the global economy. Global oil reserves are not distributed evenly across the globe. More than half of the world's proven oil reserves are located in the Middle East. Following the Middle East are Canada and the United States, Latin America, Africa, and the region occupied by the former Soviet Union. Each of those regions contains less than 15 percent of the world's proven reserves.</p> <p>Hence statement 1 is correct.</p> <p>Venezuela has the largest amount of oil reserves in the world with more than 300 billion barrels in reserve. Saudi Arabia has the second-largest amount of oil reserves in the world with 297.5 billion barrels. Although Venezuela has the</p>
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								<p>most oil reserves in the world, most of its oil is offshore or far underground and is considered to be dense. As such, the cost of extracting the oil in Venezuela's reserves using the technology currently available is too high to be profitable. Saudi Arabia's oil reserves, on the other hand, are close to the surface and on land, which makes the oil much more accessible and the extraction process vastly more cost-effective. This, in turn, makes Saudi Arabia's oil sector significantly more profitable. Hence statement 2 is not correct.</p> <p>The Ghawar oilfield, located about 100km southwest of Dhahran in the Al Hasa Province of Saudi Arabia, is the world's biggest conventional oil field both by oil reserves and production. The Ghawar field currently produces about 3.8 million barrels of oil and 2.5 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day. It is by far the biggest oil-producing field and is one of the world's six fields producing more than one million barrels of oil per day. Ghawar is estimated to account for about 6% of the</p>
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									world's total daily crude oil output. The field's production peaked at 5.7 million barrels per day in 1981 and later slipped below the five million. Hence statement 3 is not correct.	
48	Economics	With reference to the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme, consider the following statements : 1. To implement the scheme, the Central Government provides 100% funding. 2. Under the Scheme, Cadastral Maps are digitized. 3. An initiative has been undertaken to transliterate the Records of Rights from local language to any of the languages recognized by the Constitution of India. 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	D	Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (erstwhile National Land Record Modernization Programme) was revamped and converted as a Central Sector Scheme with effect from 1st April, 2016 with 100% funding by the Centre. The objective of DILRMP is to develop a modern, comprehensive and transparent land record management system with the aim to develop an Integrated Land Information Management System. Hence statement 1 is correct. The basic components of the programme include Computerization of Land Records, digitization of Cadastral Maps , Computerization of Registration Offices, Integration of Sub Registrar offices(SROs) with Land Records etc. Hence statement 2 is correct. Some innovative initiatives under DILRMP: Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) or Bhu-Aadhar Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) system is a 14 digit Alpha–numeric unique ID for each land parcel based on Geo-coordinates of vertices of the parcel which is of international standard and complies with Electronic Commerce Code Management Association (ECCMA) standard and Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) standard, is being implemented across the country. Transliteration of Land Records in all languages of Schedule VIII in all States/UTs In order to address the problem of linguistic barriers in land governance, the Government with the technical support of Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) Pune, has undertaken an initiative to transliterate the Records of Rights available in local	In 2023, the union government had informed that cadastral maps of 35% of over six lakh villages in the country have so far been geo-referenced under the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP).	M	CAA	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1989671	R M	VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4126 Consider the statements regarding the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP): 1. It is a central sector scheme under the Ministry of Rural Development. 2. It aims to achieve computerization of land records. 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 Explanation Recent Context: The union government has informed that cadastral maps of 35% of over six lakh villages in the country have so far been geo-referenced under the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP).

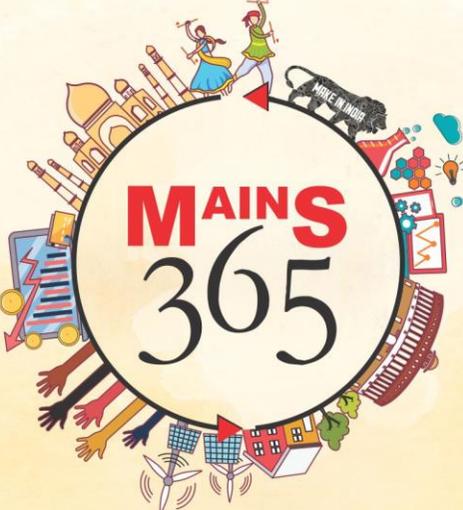
			language to any of the 22 Schedule VIII languages of the Constitution. Hence statement 3 is correct.						Cadastral Maps are a digital form of land records that show all boundaries of different parts of land pieces based on their length, area, and direction. DILRMP is implemented by the Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development. It is a Central Sector scheme to complete its original targets as well as expand its ambit with a slew of new schemes. Hence statement 1 is correct. Its three major components: Computerization of land record, Survey/re-survey, Computerization of Registration. Hence statement 2 is correct."
49	Current Affairs (Social Schemes)	With reference to the 'Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan', consider the following statements : 1. This scheme guarantees a minimum package of antenatal care services to women in their second and third trimesters of pregnancy and six months post-delivery health care service in any government health facility.	B The Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA) is introduced to ensure quality Antenatal care to over 3 crore pregnant women in the country. Under the campaign, a minimum package of antenatal care services would be provided to the beneficiaries on the 9th day of every month at the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Clinics to ensure that every pregnant woman receives at least one checkup in the 2nd or 3rd trimester of pregnancy by a doctor. If the 9th day of the month is a Sunday/ a holiday, then the Clinic should be organized on the next working day. Hence, statement 1 is not correct. OBGY specialists/ Radiologist/physicians from private sector would be encouraged to provide voluntary		M	CA	https://pmsma.mohfw.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Pradhan_Mantri_Surakshit_Matritva_Abhiyan-2.pdf	R M	Government Scheme 2024 (Comprehensive Part II) 1.2. Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (ABHIM)

	<p>2. Under this scheme, private sector health care providers of certain specialities can volunteer to provide services at nearby government health facilities.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>services at public health facilities where government sector practitioners are not available or inadequate.</p> <p>Hence, statement 2 is correct.</p>					
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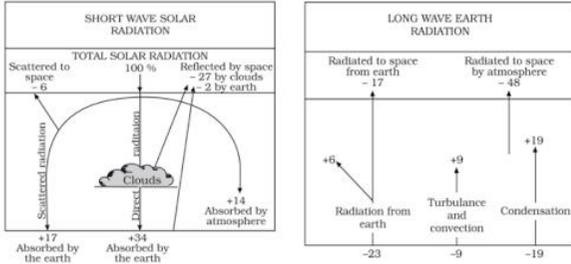
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केवल **60 घंटे**

16 जुलाई | 5 PM

50	Current Affairs (Social Schemes)	<p>With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) Yojana, consider the following statements :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The entry age group for enrolment in the scheme is 21 to 40 years. 2. Age specific contribution shall be made by the beneficiary. 3. Each subscriber under the scheme shall receive a minimum pension of Rs. 3000 per month after attaining the age of 60 years. 4. Family pension is applicable to the spouse and unmarried daughters. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 1, 3 and 4 (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 4 	<p>B Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM):</p> <p>The scheme is meant for old age protection and social security of Unorganised Workers (UW) who are mostly engaged as rickshaw pullers, street vendors, mid-day meal workers, head loaders, brick kiln workers, cobblers, rag pickers, domestic workers, washer men, home-based workers, own account workers, agricultural workers, construction workers, beedi workers, handloom workers, leather workers, audio-visual workers or in similar other occupations.</p> <p>It is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme, under which the subscriber would receive a minimum assured pension of Rs 3000/- per month after attaining the age of 60 years and if the subscriber dies, the spouse of the beneficiary shall be entitled to receive 50% of the pension as family pension. Family pension is applicable only to spouse. Hence, statement 3 is correct and statement 4 is not correct.</p> <p>A person to be eligible for the scheme should be an unorganised worker (UW) of age between 18 and 40 years and with Monthly Income Rs 15000 or below. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.</p> <p>According to the enrolment age, age specific contributions should be made by the beneficiary. Hence, statement 2 is correct.</p>	<p>Recent Context: Completion of 5 years of this scheme</p>	M	F	<p>https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/pension-scheme-for-unorganised-sector-logs-5mn-subscribers-in-5-years-124042800487_1.html</p> <p>https://www.epfindia.gov.in/site_docs/PDFs/MiscPDFs/Scheme_PM-SYM.pdf</p>	RR	<p>PT 365 2024: Government Scheme in News: 14.1.2. Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan Dhan (PM-SYM)</p> <p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4159</p> <p>Consider the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All unorganised workers 2. Person of age group 18-60 3. Person should not be covered under New Pension Scheme 4. Person should be a income tax payer <p>How many of the above are the eligibility criteria under PM Shram Yogi Maan Dhan Yojana?</p> <p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) Yojana?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for unorganized workers to ensure old-age protection. 2. It guarantees a minimum assured pension of Rs 5,000 per month to the subscriber after attaining the age of 60 years.
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								<p>3. The spouse is entitled to the same amount of pension as a family pension after the subscriber's death. Select the correct answer using the code given below.</p> <p>Which of the following statements is not correct about Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Yojana (PM-SYM)?</p> <p>(a) The scheme is for unorganized sector workers only.</p> <p>(b) Subscribers to the scheme are assured of a monthly pension of Rs. 6000 per month after they reach 60 years age.</p> <p>(c) Equal contribution is made by the subscriber and the Central Government.</p> <p>(d) The contributions from workers per month will change depending on the applicant's age.</p>
51	Geography	<p>Consider the following statements :</p> <p>Statement-I : The atmosphere is heated more by incoming solar radiation than by terrestrial radiation.</p> <p>Statement-II : Carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are good</p>	<p>D The atmosphere is largely transparent to short wave solar radiation. The incoming solar radiation passes through the atmosphere before striking the earth's surface. Within the troposphere water vapour, ozone and other gases absorb much of the near infrared radiation.</p> <p>The insolation received by the earth is in short waves forms 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.</p>		E F	NCERT, Class XI::Fundamental of Physical Geography, Page No. 68-69	E M	<p>News Today (28 May 2024)</p> <p>- NASA Launches Small Climate Satellite to measure heat lost from Earth's poles</p>

		<p>absorbers of long wave radiation.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?</p> <p>(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I</p> <p>(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I</p> <p>(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct</p>	<p>The long wave radiation is absorbed by the atmospheric gases particularly by carbon dioxide and the other green house gases. Thus, the atmosphere is indirectly heated by the earth's radiation.</p> <p>Hence Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.</p> <p>Heat Budget of Earth - explained with an example</p>  <p>The diagram illustrates the Earth's heat budget. On the left, 'SHORT WAVE SOLAR RADIATION' shows 100% of incoming radiation. 6% is scattered to space, 27% is reflected by clouds, and 2 by the earth. 17% is absorbed by the earth, 34% is absorbed by the earth, and 14% is absorbed by the atmosphere. On the right, 'LONG WAVE EARTH RADIATION' shows 17% radiated to space from the earth, 48% radiated to space by the atmosphere, 6% radiation from the earth, 9% from turbulence and convection, and 19% from condensation.</p>					
52	Geography	<p>Consider the following statements :</p> <p>Statement-I Thickness of the troposphere at the equator is much greater as compared to poles.</p> <p>Statement-II : At the equator, heat is transported to great heights by strong convectional currents.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?</p> <p>(a) Both Statement-I</p>	<p>A The <i>troposphere</i> is the lowermost layer of the atmosphere. Its average height is 13 km and extends roughly to a height of 8 km near the poles and about 18 km at the equator.</p> <p>Thickness of the troposphere is greatest at the equator because heat is transported to great heights by strong convectional currents. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.</p> <p>This layer contains dust particles and water vapour. All changes in climate and weather take place in this layer. The temperature in this layer decreases at the rate of 1°C for every 165m of height. This is the most important layer for all biological activity.</p> <p>The zone separating the troposphere from stratosphere is known as the <i>tropopause</i>. The air temperature at the tropopause is about minus 80°C over the equator and</p>	E	F	NCERT, Class XI: Fundamentals of Physical Geography, Page No. 65	E M	<p>VisionIAS All India Prelims Test Series (2024): Test 4141</p> <p>Consider the following statements regarding the troposphere:</p> <p>The temperature in the troposphere changes at a positive lapse rate.</p> <p>All weather phenomena like cyclones, rainfall, fog and hailstorms, etc. are confined to this layer.</p> <p>The temperature at the tropopause is nearly constant.</p> <p>How many statements given above are correct?</p>

	<p>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 incorrect (d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct</p>	<p>about minus 45°C over the poles. The temperature here is nearly constant, and hence, it is called the tropopause.</p>				<p>(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None Explanation: The troposphere is the lowermost layer of the atmosphere. Its average height is 13 km and extends roughly to a height of 8 km near the poles and about 18 km at the equator. The thickness of the troposphere is greatest at the equator because heat is transported to great heights by strong convective currents.</p>
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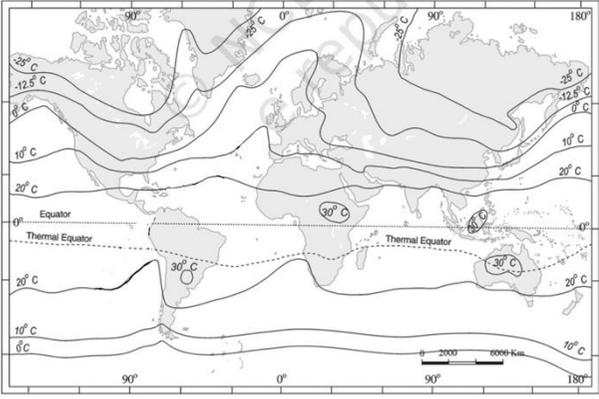
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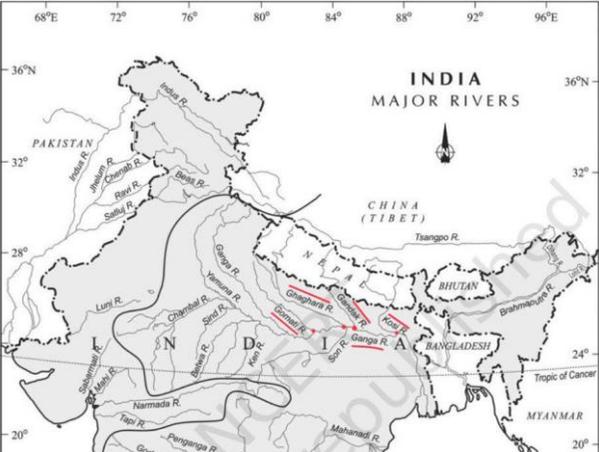
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53	Geography	<p>Consider the following :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pyroclastic debris 2. Ash and dust 3. Nitrogen compounds 4. Sulphur compounds <p>How many of the above are products of volcanic eruptions ?</p> <p>(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four</p>	<p>D A volcano is a place where gases, ashes and/or molten rock material – lava – escape to the ground. A volcano is called an active volcano if the materials mentioned are being released or have been released out in the recent past. The layer below the solid crust is mantle. It has higher density than that of the crust. The mantle contains a weaker zone called asthenosphere. It is from this that the molten rock materials find their way to the surface.</p> <p>The material in the upper mantle portion is called magma. Once it starts moving towards the crust or it reaches the surface, it is referred to as lava. The material that reaches the ground includes lava flows, pyroclastic debris, volcanic bombs, ash and dust and gases such as nitrogen compounds, sulphur compounds and minor amounts of chlorine, hydrogen and argon.</p> <p>Hence option (d) is the correct answer.</p>		E F	NCERT, Class XI: Fundamentals of Physical Geography, Page No. 23	E M	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Which of the following statements is correct regarding volcanic eruptions?</p> <p>(a) Composite Volcanoes are the largest of all the volcanoes on the earth. (b) Deccan Traps formations in the Indian peninsula is an example of caldera volcanoes. (c) Batholiths are a large mass of magmatic material that cools on the earth surface. (d) Volcanic eruptions do not typically occur at transform boundaries.</p>
54	Geography	<p>Which of the following is/are correct inference/inferences from isothermal maps in the month of January ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The isotherms deviate to the north over the ocean and to the south over the continent. 2. The presence of cold ocean currents. Gulf Stream and North Atlantic Drift make the North Atlantic Ocean colder and the isotherms bend towards the north. 	<p>A The Isotherms are lines joining places having equal temperature.</p> <p>Figure given below shows the distribution of surface air temperature in the month of January. 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.</p> <p>In January the isotherms deviate to the north over the ocean and to the south over the continent. This can be seen on 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</p>		E F	NCERT, Class XI: Fundamentals of Physical Geography, Page No. 71	E M	<p>All India 2024 Prelims Test Series: Test 4141</p> <p>Consider the following statements regarding Isotherms:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The spacing of isotherms depicts the temperature gradient across a portion of the Earth's surface. 2. Widely spaced isotherms indicate a small change in temperature over distance and closely spaced isotherms indicate large changes in temperature. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>(a) 1 only</p>

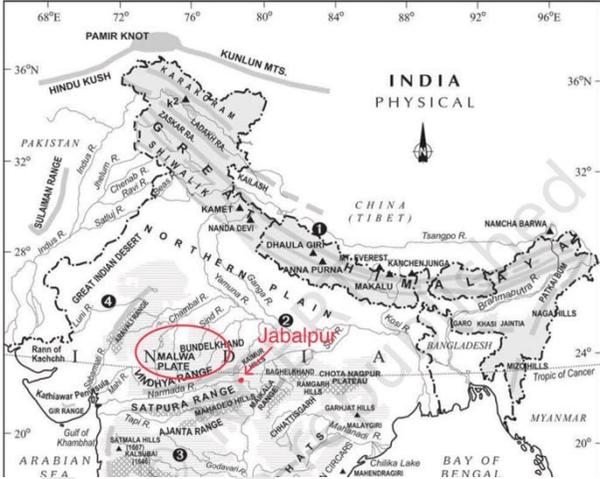
		<p>Select the answer using the code given below :</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>the temperature decreases sharply and the isotherms bend towards south in Europe. It is much pronounced in the Siberian plain. Hence statement 1 is correct and statement 2 is not correct.</p> <p>The mean January temperature along 60° E longitude is minus 20° C both at 80° N and 50° N latitudes. The mean monthly temperature for January is over 27° C, in equatorial oceans over 24° C in the tropics and 2° C - 0° C in the middle latitudes and -18° C to -48° C in the Eurasian continental interior.</p> <p>The effect of the ocean is well pronounced in the southern hemisphere. Here the isotherms are more or less parallel to the latitudes and the variation in temperature is more gradual than in the northern hemisphere. The isotherm of 20° C, 10° C, and 0° C runs parallel to 35°S, 45° S and 60° S latitudes respectively.</p>  <p>Figure 9.4 (a) : The distribution of surface air temperature in the month of January</p>				<p>(b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>
55	<p>Current Affairs (Geography)</p>	<p>Which of the following countries are well known as the two largest cocoa producers in the world ?</p> <p>(a) Algeria and Morocco (b) Botswana and</p>	<p>C Cocoa, a native to the Americas, was a valuable crop in the earliest South American cultures. The term cocoa originated from the Nahuatl word “cacahuatl”. Many believe that the plant first grew in the Amazon and upper Orinoco basins but the Mayans and the Aztecs eventually developed techniques to cultivate cocoa successfully. The plant was considered as a symbol of wealth for these civilizations and its beans were used as currency. Cocoa beans are the main</p>		M FCA	<p>https://www.statista.com/statistics/263855/cocoa-bean-production-worldwide-by-region/</p>	<p>R M Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Consider the following pairs Plantation crop : Top producer</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Banana : India 2. Rubber : Congo 3. Cocoa : Brazil

		<p>Namibia (c) Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana (d) Madagascar and Mozambique</p>	<p>ingredient for making chocolate. Cocoa beans are produced in tropical zones around the Equator, where climate conditions are well suited for growing cocoa trees. About 70 percent of the world's cocoa beans come from four West African countries: Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria and Cameroon. The Ivory Coast and Ghana are by far the two largest producers of cocoa, accounting for more than 50 percent of the world's cocoa. In 2021, the Ivory Coast alone produced approximately 2.1 million metric tons of cocoa beans. Hence option (c) is the correct answer.</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Global cocoa bean production from 2020/21 to 2023/24, by country (in 1,000 metric tons)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Côte d'Ivoire</th> <th>Ghana</th> <th>Ecuador</th> <th>Cameroon</th> <th>Nigeria</th> <th>Indonesia</th> <th>Brazil</th> <th>Papua New Guinea</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2020/2021</td> <td>2,248</td> <td>1,047</td> <td>365</td> <td>292</td> <td>290</td> <td>72</td> <td>200</td> <td>42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/2022</td> <td>2,121</td> <td>683</td> <td>365</td> <td>292</td> <td>280</td> <td>80</td> <td>220</td> <td>42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/2023*</td> <td>2,241</td> <td>654</td> <td>354</td> <td>292</td> <td>280</td> <td>80</td> <td>220</td> <td>41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023/2024**</td> <td>1,800</td> <td>580</td> <td>430</td> <td>300</td> <td>270</td> <td>160</td> <td>220</td> <td>42</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Côte d'Ivoire	Ghana	Ecuador	Cameroon	Nigeria	Indonesia	Brazil	Papua New Guinea	2020/2021	2,248	1,047	365	292	290	72	200	42	2021/2022	2,121	683	365	292	280	80	220	42	2022/2023*	2,241	654	354	292	280	80	220	41	2023/2024**	1,800	580	430	300	270	160	220	42				<p>Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched? (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>
Year	Côte d'Ivoire	Ghana	Ecuador	Cameroon	Nigeria	Indonesia	Brazil	Papua New Guinea																																												
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2022/2023*	2,241	654	354	292	280	80	220	41																																												
2023/2024**	1,800	580	430	300	270	160	220	42																																												
56	Geography	<p>With reference to the Himalayan rivers Joining the Ganga downstream of Prayagraj from West to East, which one of the following sequences is correct ? (a) Ghaghara - Gomati - Gandak - Kosi (b) Gomati - Ghaghara - Gandak - Kosi (c) Ghaghara - Gomati - Kosi - Gandak (d) Gomati - Ghaghara - Kosi - Gandak</p>	<p>B The Gomti is an alluvial river that originates from the Gomat Taal, otherwise called Fulhaar Jheel, found near the Madho Tanda in Pilibhit district in Uttar Pradesh, India. After flowing through an incised valley southwards through the districts of Sitapur, Lucknow, Barabanki, Sultanpur, and Jaunpur, it joins River Ganga near Varanasi. The Ghaghara originates in the glaciers of Mapchachungo. After collecting the waters of its tributaries – Tila, Seti and Beri, it comes out of the mountain, cutting a deep gorge at Shishapani. The river Sarda (Kali or Kali Ganga) joins it in the plain before it finally meets the Ganga at Chhapra. The Gandak comprises two streams, namely Kaligandak and Trishulganga. It rises in the Nepal Himalayas</p>		M	F	NCERT, Class XI: India Physical Environment, Page No. 18	E M	<p>VisionIAS /Open Test/Abhyaas : Test 4360 In the map shown, rivers labelled 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 respectively are (a) Ghaghara, Ganga, Gandak, Yamuna and Kosi (b) Rapti, Gomti, Kosi, Ramganga and Mahananda (c) Rapti, Ghaghara, Gandak, Sharda and Kosi (d) Ghaghara, Sharda, Kosi, Gomti and Teesta Monthly Current Affairs, March 2024 , Article 5.6. Ganga River Dolphin</p>																																											

			<p>between the Dhaulagiri and Mount Everest and drains the central part of Nepal. It enters the Ganga plain in Champaran district of Bihar and joins the Ganga at Sonpur near Patna.</p> <p>The Kosi is an antecedent river with its source to the north of Mount Everest in Tibet, where its main stream Arun rises. After crossing the Central Himalayas in Nepal, it is joined by the Son Kosi from the West and the Tamur Kosi from the east. It forms Sapt Kosi after uniting with the river Arun. The Kosi river joins Ganga in the Katihar district of Bihar.</p> <p>Hence option (b) is the correct answer.</p> 						
57	Geography	<p>Consider the following statements :</p> <p>Statement-I: Rainfall is one of the reasons for weathering of rocks.</p> <p>Statement II: Rain water contains carbon dioxide in solution.</p> <p>Statement-III: Rain water contains</p>	<p>A Chemical weathering is the basic process by which denudation proceeds. It is the extremely slow and gradual decomposition of rocks due to exposure to air and water. Air and water contain chemical elements, which though they may be in small quantities, are sufficient to set up chemical reactions in the surface layers of exposed rocks. Such reactions may weaken or entirely dissolve certain constituents of the rock, thus loosening the other crystals and weakening the whole surface.</p> <p>There are three major chemical weathering processes:</p> <p>1. Solution: Many minerals are dissolved by water,</p>		M	F	<p>NCERT, Class XI: Fundamentals of Physical Geography, Page No. 40-41</p> <p>Certificate Geography by GC Leong, Page No. : 28-</p>	E	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Consider the following statements about the weathering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A very little or no motion of materials takes place in weathering. 2. Carbonation is a common process of breaking down feldspars and carbonate

		<p>atmospheric oxygen. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?</p> <p>(a) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct and both of them explain Statement-I</p> <p>(b) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement-I</p> <p>(c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement-I</p> <p>(d) Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is correct</p>	<p>especially when, as with rain-water, it contains enough carbon dioxide to make it a weak acid. Solution is the most potent weathering process in limestone regions because the rain-water attacks and dissolves the calcium carbonate of which the rock is chiefly formed. The dissolved calcium carbonate is carried away by the water, joints and cracks in the rock are quickly widened and whole systems of caves and passages are worn out. Limestone, however, is by no means the only rock to suffer from solution. All rocks are subject to solution to some extent, though the process is much slower than with limestone. Hence Statement II is correct and explains Statement I.</p> <p>2. Oxidation: Dissolved oxygen is present in all rainwater and surface supplies due to contact with the atmosphere. Oxidation is the reaction of oxygen in air or water with minerals in the rock. For example, most rocks contain a certain amount of iron, which when it comes in contact with air is changed to iron oxide, familiar brownish crust or rust. Iron oxide crumbles easily and is far more easily eroded than the original iron. It is thus removed, loosening the overall structure of the rocks and weakening them. Hence Statement III is correct and explains Statement I.</p> <p>3. Decomposition by Organic acids: Within the soil which covers most rocks are bacteria which thrive on decaying plant or animal material. These bacteria produce acids which, when dissolved in water, help to speed up the weathering of the underlying rocks. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.</p>			29	<p>minerals.</p> <p>3. Physical weathering processes are caused by thermal expansion and pressure release. Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <p>(a) 1 and 3 only</p> <p>(b) 1, 2 and 3</p> <p>(c) 2 and 3 only</p> <p>(d) 1 and 2 only</p> <p>Explanation: Carbonation is the reaction of carbonate and bicarbonate with minerals and is a common process helping the breaking down of feldspars and carbonate minerals. Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and soil air is absorbed by water, to form carbonic acid that acts as a weak acid. Calcium carbonates and magnesium carbonates are dissolved in carbonic acid and are removed in a solution without leaving any residue resulting in cave formation.</p>	
58	Geography	<p>Consider the following countries :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finland 2. Germany 3. Norway 4. Russia <p>How, many of the above countries have a border with the North Sea ?</p>	<p>B North sea in northern Europe is part of the Atlantic ocean. It is bordered by the United Kingdom and Norway to the west, Denmark to the south, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, and France to the east, and the Faroe Islands and Norway's Svalbard archipelago to the north. The North Sea connects to the Atlantic Ocean via the English Channel in the southwest and the Baltic Sea in the east via the Kattegat and Skagerrak straits. Hence</p>		M F	Standard Atlas	E M	PT 365 News through Maps, Section 1.2. Map of UK in Section

		(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four	<p>option (b) is the correct answer.</p> 					
59	Geography	<p>Consider the following information</p> <p><i>Waterfall : Region : River</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dhuandhar : Malwa : Narmada 2. Hundru : Chota Nagpur : Subarnarekha 3. Gersoppa : Western Ghats : Netravati <p>In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched ?</p> <p>(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>	<p>A Information given in row 1 is not correctly matched: The Dhuandhar Falls is a waterfall in Jabalpur district in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh, it is created by river Narmada. Jabalpur is not located in the Malwa region. It is located in the Mahakoshal region. The Vindhya Range forms the northern boundary of the Mahakoshal region; north of the Vindhya Range lie the regions of Malwa to the northwest, Bundelkhand to the north, and Bagelkhand to the northeast. Chhattisgarh state lies to the east, and the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state lies to the south across the Satpura Range.</p> <p>Information given in row 2 is correctly matched: The Hundru Falls Ranchi, Jharkhand is created on the course of the Subarnarekha River, where it falls from a height of 320 feet creating the highest waterfalls of the state. It is the 34th highest waterfall in India.</p> <p>The Subarnarekha originates from the Ranchi Plateau in Jharkhand Forming the boundary between West Bengal and Odisha in its lower course. It joins the Bay of Bengal forming an estuary between the Ganga and Mahanadi deltas. Its total length is 395 km.</p>	D	FA	<p>Standard Atlas</p> <p>https://ranchi.nic.in/tourist-place/hundru-waterfall/#:~:text=The%20Hundru%20Falls%20Ranchi%20is%20created%20on%20the%20course%20of%20water%20falls%20of%20the%20state.</p> <p>https://karnatakaturism.org/must-visit-waterfalls-in-karnataka/</p>	EM	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Consider the following pairs:</p> <p>Waterfall : River</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dhuandhar : Narmada River 2. Shivasamudram : Cauvery River 3. Kanchenjunga water falls : Tista river <p>How many pairs given above are correctly matched?</p> <p>(a) Only one pair (b) Only two pairs (c) All three pairs (d) None of the pairs</p>

			<p>Information given in row 3 is not correctly matched: Gersoppa waterfall is created by the Sharavathi River falling from a height of 253 m (830ft), making it the second-highest plunge waterfall in India. Located near Sagara, Shimoga District of Karnataka state. It is also called by alternative names of Gerusoppa falls, Gersoppa Falls and Jogada Gundi. The Sharavathi River basin is situated in the central part of the Western Ghats. It originates at Ambuthirtha and flows towards west for about 132 km before joining the Arabian Sea at Honnavar.</p> 				<p>Consider the following pairs: City : River 1. Mangalore: Netravati 2. Nagpur: Nag 3. Vadodara: Mahisagar Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>															
60	Geography	<p>Consider the following information : <i>Region Name of the mountain range Type of mountain</i> 1. Central Asia Vosges Fold mountain 2. Europe Alps Block mountain 3. North America Appalachians Fold mountain</p>	<p>B</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="685 1043 1285 1358"> <thead> <tr> <th>Region</th> <th>Name of the mountain range</th> <th>Type of Mountain</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1 Europe</td> <td>Vosges</td> <td>Block mountain</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 Europe</td> <td>Alps</td> <td>Fold mountain</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 North America</td> <td>Appalachians</td> <td>Fold mountain</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 South America</td> <td>Andes</td> <td>Fold mountain</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Hence information given in row 1 is not correctly matched. Hence information given in row 2 is not correctly matched.</p>	Region	Name of the mountain range	Type of Mountain	1 Europe	Vosges	Block mountain	2 Europe	Alps	Fold mountain	3 North America	Appalachians	Fold mountain	4 South America	Andes	Fold mountain	M	FA	<p>Standard Atlas Certificate Geography by GC Leong, Page No. 15-16</p>	<p>E M</p> <p>All India Test Series: Test Code: 4141</p> <p>Consider the following mountain ranges : 1. Alps 2. Andes 3. Sierra Nevada 4. Appalachian Mountains How many of the above mountain ranges are fold mountains?</p>
Region	Name of the mountain range	Type of Mountain																				
1 Europe	Vosges	Block mountain																				
2 Europe	Alps	Fold mountain																				
3 North America	Appalachians	Fold mountain																				
4 South America	Andes	Fold mountain																				

	4. South America Andes Fold mountain In how many of the above rows is the information correctly matched ? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four								(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four
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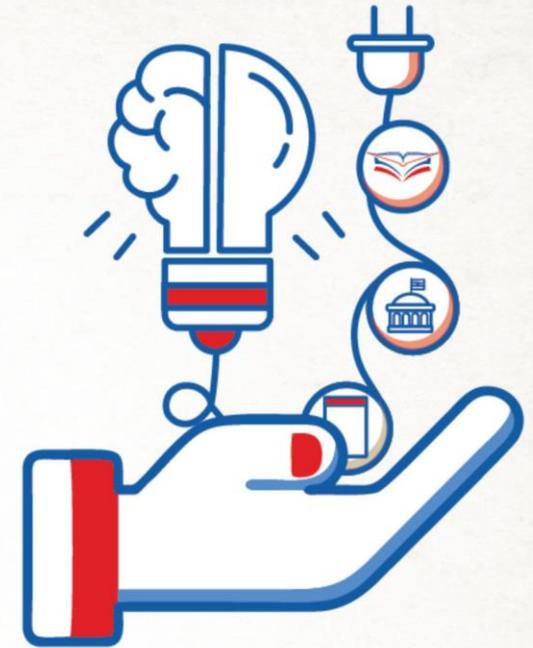
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61	Environment	<p>The organisms "Cicada, Frog hopper and Pond skater" are :</p> <p>(a) Birds (b) Fish (c) Insects (d) Reptiles</p>	<p>C Cicadas are members of the superfamily Cicadoidea and are physically distinguished by their stout bodies, broad heads, clear-membraned wings, and large compound eyes. Several cultures regarded these insects as powerful symbols of rebirth due to their unusual life cycles. There are more than 3,000 species of cicadas, which fall into roughly two categories: annual cicadas, which are spotted every year, and periodical cicadas, which spend most of their lives underground and only emerge once every decade or two.</p> <p>The froghoppers, or the superfamily Cercopoidea, are a group of hemipteran insects in the suborder Auchenorrhyncha. Adults are capable of jumping many times their height and length, giving the group their common name, but many species are best known for their plant-sucking nymphs which produce foam shelters, and are referred to as "spittlebugs"</p> <p>Pond skaters are predatory bugs/insects that mainly go around picking off the dead and unfortunate animals that fall onto the water surface and are trapped there.</p> <p>Hence option (c) is the correct answer</p>	<p>Cicadas spend most of their life cycle underground. In 2024, two of the biggest broods will emerge in the U.S. this spring.</p> <p>Also Hint: A stunning new species of cicada, informally dubbed the "Butterfly Cicada", was discovered in Meghalaya, by scientists.</p> <p>(https://thehill.com/news/2024/03/29/new-species-of-cicada-discovered-in-meghalaya/)</p>	<p>M CAA</p>	<p>https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/wildlife-explorer/invertebrates/bugs/common-pond-skater</p>	<p>R M</p> <p>Monthly Current Affairs, April 2024, Article 4.8.15. Butterfly Cicada News Today (July 18, 2023) News Today (April 1, 2024)</p> <p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>With reference to the Cicadas, consider the following statements: 1. They are protozoans which cause diseases in humans and animals. 2. They spend most of their lives underground and emerge from the soil mainly to mate. 3. They are endemic to the Western Ghats in India. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>
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62	Environment	<p>Consider the following statements :</p> <p>Statement-I : Many chewing gums found in the market are considered a source of environmental pollution.</p> <p>Statement-II: Many chewing gums contain plastic as gum base.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?</p> <p>(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I</p> <p>(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I</p> <p>(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect</p> <p>(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct</p>	<p>A Statement I is correct: Modern chewing gum is made up of four groups of ingredients that give gum its distinction flavor, texture, and bounce:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fillers, such as talc and calcium carbonate, bulk out the gum and give it satisfying heft. 2. Polymers give gum their stretch. These are polymers such as polyvinyl acetate, along with other materials that make up the "gum base." 3. Emulsifiers are chemicals that help mix flavors and colors and reduce stickiness. 4. Softeners, such as vegetable oil, are added to the gum base to keep it chewy rather than stiff. <p>Statement II is correct: Regular chewing gum has a substance called PVA (polyvinyl acetate), which is used to make tyres and glue. The gums that we consume are plastic based, and PVA, in fact also damages public property.</p> <p>A Research Gate report states, "Each year, chewing gum generates more than 105 tonnes of 'plastic' garbage. Thus, the discarded non-biodegradable residue of the gum produces plastic pollution." This waste is hard to collect or track and ends up living and polluting the earth for thousands of years. Hence statement II is the correct explanation of statement I.</p>	<p>Two Bengaluru-based brothers, launched their startup Gud Gum to provide a biodegradable and healthier alternative to regular chewing gum, which pollutes the earth with plastic.</p> <p>https://www.thebetterindia.com/314893/bengaluru-startup-biodegradable-gud-chewing-gum-helps-cut-plastic-pollution/#google_vignette</p>	M	CAA	<p>https://www.thebetterindia.com/314893/bengaluru-startup-biodegradable-gud-chewing-gum-helps-cut-plastic-pollution/</p> <p>https://www.reehugger.com/is-chewing-gum-biodegradable-5187955#:~:text=Many%20of%20the%20ingredients%20in,another%20significant%20source%20of%20pollution.</p>	RR	
63	Environment	<p>Consider the following pairs :</p> <p><i>Country Animal found in its natural habitat</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brazil Indri 2. Indonesia Elk 	<p>D Option 1 is not correct: The indri also called the babakoto, is one of the largest living lemurs. It is endemic to Madagascar, and it is losing its rainforest habitat for fuel, timber, and slash-and-burn agriculture.</p>		D	FCA	<p>https://animaldiversity.org/accounts/Indri_indri/</p>	RR	

		<p>3. Madagascar Bonobo How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched ?</p> <p>(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>		<p>Option 2 is not correct: The elk is the second largest species within the deer family, Cervidae, and one of the largest terrestrial mammals in its native range of North America and Central and East Asia.</p> <p>Option 3 is not correct: The bonobo also historically called the pygmy chimpanzee (less often the dwarf chimpanzee or gracile chimpanzee), is an endangered great ape. The bonobo is found in a 500,000 km² area within the Congo Basin of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Central Africa.</p>			<p>https://animals.sandiegozoo.org/animals/bonobo#:~:text=HABITAT%20AND%20DIET&text=Bonobos%20live%20in%20the%20rainforests,for%20of%20trees%20each%20evening.</p>		
64	International Relations	<p>Consider the following statements regarding World Toilet Organization :</p> <p>1. It is one of the agencies of the United Nations. 2. World Toilet Summit, World Toilet Day and World Toilet College are the initiatives of this organization, to inspire action to tackle the global sanitation crisis. 3. The main focus of its function is to grant funds to the least developed countries and developing countries to achieve the end of open defecation. Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?</p> <p>(a) 2 only</p>	A	<p>Statement 1 is not correct: Founded on 19 November 2001, World Toilet Organization (WTO) is a global non-profit committed to improving toilet and sanitation conditions worldwide. WTO empowers individuals through education, training and building local marketplace opportunities to advocate for clean and safe sanitation facilities in their communities.</p> <p>Statement 2 is correct: WTO established World Toilet Day and the World Toilet Summit in 2001; this was followed by the World Toilet College in 2005. Through its various initiatives, WTO continues to provide an international platform for toilet associations, governments, academic institutions, foundations, UN agencies and corporate stakeholders to exchange knowledge and leverage media and corporate support in an effort to promote clean sanitation and public health policies.</p> <p>Statement 3 is not correct: Its main function is not to grant funds to the LDCs and Developing countries. World Toilet Organization was granted consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council in 2013.</p>	World Toilet Day was covered in leading newspapers.	D	CAA	<p>https://worldtoilet.org/web-agency-gb-about-us/</p>	RM

		(b) 3 only (c) 1 and 2 (d) 2 and 3								
65	Environment	Consider the following statements : 1. Lions do not have a particular breeding season. 2. Unlike most other big cats, cheetahs do not roar. 3. Unlike male lions, male leopards do not proclaim their territory by scent marking. 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	A	Statement 1 is correct: Lions have no particular breeding season, and often synchronize breeding, especially after a pride takeover, raising the cubs communally. Statement 2 is correct: The bones of the cheetah's voice box form a fixed structure, with divided vocal cords that vibrate with both in and out breaths. This structure is the same for all the 'small' cats. While this design enables these cats to purr continuously, it limits the range of other sounds and prevents them from being able to roar. Cheetahs produce a variety of sounds including growls, purrs that generally denote contentment, chirps (between a mother and her cubs), and an "explosive yelp". Statement 3 is not correct: Leopards are territorial and mark their territory with faeces, urine and cheek-rubbing on trees. They can also leave scrape markings on the ground, trees or logs. This communicates to other leopards passing through that the territory they are in is occupied.	Launch of the International Big Cat Alliance by India	E	FA	https://www.discoverwildlife.com/animal-facts/mammals/why-can-only-big-cats-roar	RM	PT 365 Environment - Article 3.2.4. Project Cheetah
66	Current Affairs (Environment)	Which one of the following is the correct description of "100 Million Farmers" ? (a) It is a platform for accelerating the transition towards food and water systems that are net-zero (carbon), nature-positive and that aims to increase farmer resilience. (b) It is an international alliance and a network of individuals and farming organisations	A	100 Million Farmers is a platform supporting private and public leaders to position food and farmers as central pillars on the global climate and nature agenda, and accelerate collective action to scale climate-and nature-friendly agricultural practices. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.	100 Million Farmers is a platform launched by the World Economic Forum.	M	CA	https://initiativeweforum.org/100-million-farmers/home	RR	

		<p>interested in supporting and strengthening the development of the organic animal husbandry.</p> <p>(c) It is a digital platform fully integrated with service providers and built on blockchain that lets buyers, sellers and third parties trade fertilizers quickly and securely.</p> <p>(d) It is a platform with the mission of encouraging the farmers to form Farmer Product Organisations or Agribusiness Consortiums, thus facilitating the access to global open markets to sell their products.</p>						
67	Environment	<p>Consider the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Battery storage 2. Biomass generators 3. Fuel cells 4. Rooftop solar photovoltaic units <p>How many of the above are considered "Distributed Energy Resources"</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four 	<p>D Distributed energy resources (DER) refers to often smaller generation units that are located on the consumer's side of the meter. Examples of distributed energy resources that can be installed include: roof top solar photovoltaic units. wind generating units. battery storage. Any small-scale device that can produce energy convertible into electricity qualifies as a DER, including the following:</p> <p>Rooftop solar panels Wind-powered generators</p> <p>Biomass generators Gas and diesel power generators Combined heat and power (CHP) systems</p>		E	FA	https://evchargingsummit.com/blog/what-are-distributed-energy-resources-der-and-how-do-they-work/	RM

				Waste heat recovery systems Micro-hydropower schemes Hydrogen fuel cells EV and other power storage batteries					
				Hence option (d) is the correct answer.					
68	Environment	Which one of the following shows a unique relationship with an insect that has coevolved with it and that is the only insect that pollinate this tree ? (a) Fig (b) Mahua (c) Sandalwood (d) Silk cotton	A	In many species of fig trees, there is a tight one-to-one relationship with the pollinator species of wasp. It means that a given fig species can be pollinated only by its 'partner' wasp species and no other species. The wasp pollinates the fig inflorescence while looking for suitable egg-laying sites. In return for the favour of pollination, the fig offers the wasp some of its developing seeds as food for the developing wasp larvae. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.		E F	Page 202, Unit X Ecology, Class XII Biology NCERT.	E M	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following pairs: Interspecific interactions Example 1. Commensalism : Interaction between fig tree and wasp 2. Amensalism : Interaction between cattle egret and grazing cattle 3. Mutualism : Interaction between lion and deer 4. Parasitism : Interaction of lice and human Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched? (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 1, 2 and 4 only (c) 2 and 4 only (d) 4 only
69	Environment	Consider the following : 1. Butterflies 2. Fish 3. Frogs How many of the above have poisonous species among them ? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None	C	Option 1 is correct: Papilio antimachus, also called African giant swallowtail, is the most poisonous butterfly in the world. It contains a lot of cardiac steroid toxins. The toxin in a male Papilio antimachus can poison 20 cats. The males have narrow forewings with a maximum wingspan of 25cm, ranking first among all the male butterflies. Option 2 is correct: Venomous fish are species of fish which produce strong mixtures of toxins harmful to humans which they deliberately deliver by means of a bite, sting, or stab, resulting in an envenomation. The		M FCA	https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/can-frogs-be-venomous.html	RR	

			<p>Reef Stonefish is the most venomous fish in the world. It has thirteen stout spines in the dorsal fin which can inject a highly toxic venom.</p> <p>Option 3 is correct: Many species of frog are known to be poisonous, such as the often colourful poison dart frogs. There are currently only two species of frog known to be venomous: Bruno's casque-headed frog (<i>Aparasphenodon brunoi</i>) and Greening's frog (<i>Corythomantis greeningi</i>).</p> <p>Both are found in Brazil and produce skin secretions like other poisonous frogs - but these species have spiny bone protrusions that make their poison venom.</p>					
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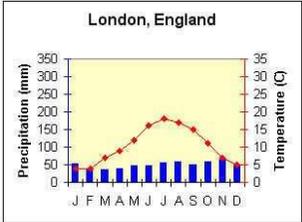
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Mode: Online/Hybrid

70	Environment	Consider the following: 1. Cashew 2. Papaya 3. Red sanders How many of the above trees are actually native to India? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None	A Option 1 is not correct: The cashew is native to northeastern Brazil. Portuguese missionaries took it to East Africa and India during the late 16th century, where it became abundant at low altitudes near the seacoast. Option 2 is not correct: Papaya cultivation had its origin in South Mexico and Costa Rica. Total annual world production is estimated at 6 million tonnes of fruits. India leads the world in papaya production with an annual output of about 3 million tonnes. Option 3 is correct: As a native species to Andhra Pradesh, Red Sanders (also known as Red Sandalwood) use and trade are regulated by the State.	Red Sanders is often seen in the news.	D	FCA	https://www.britannica.com/plant/cashew https://nhb.gov.in/Horticulture%20Crops/Papaya/Papaya1.htm#:~:text=Papaya%20cultivation%20had%20its%20origin,of%20about%203%20million%20tonnes. https://www.traffic.org/publications/reports/factsheet-on-indias-red-sanders-in-illegal-wildlife-trade/#:~:text=As%20a%20native%20species%20to,are%20regulated%20by%20the%20State.	RR	PT 365 Environment- Article 3.2.9 Export Policy and Red Sanders Woods News Today (November 14, 2023); Red Sanders News Today (November 25, 2023); (October 13, 2023): Cashew Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following statements regarding Red Sanders: It is listed as vulnerable in the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List. It is endemic to Western Himalayas. It is used for making furniture, woodcraft and musical instruments. It is listed under Appendix II of CITES. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 and 4 only (c) 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
71	Current Affairs (Economics)	Consider the following airports: 1. Donyi Polo Airport 2. Kushinagar International Airport 3. Vijayawada International Airport In the recent past,	A Government of India has formulated a Greenfield Airports (GFA) Policy, 2008 for development of new Greenfield airports in the country. As per the policy, if any developer including the State Government desires to develop an airport, they are required to identify a suitable site and get the Pre-feasibility Study conducted for construction of airport and submit a proposal to the Central Government for 'Site Clearance' followed by 'In-	In July 2023, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation gave	D	FCA	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseframePage.aspx?PRID=1943211#:~:text=Out%20of%20these%2C%2011%20Gre	RM	

		<p>which of the above have been constructed as Greenfield projects ?</p> <p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>	<p>Principle' approval.</p> <p>Government of India has accorded 'In-Principle' approval for setting up of 21 new Greenfield Airports namely, Mopa in Goa, Navi Mumbai, Shirdi and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra, Kalaburagi, Vijayapura, Hassan and Shivamogga in Karnataka, Dabra (Gwalior) in Madhya Pradesh, Kushinagar and Noida (Jewar) in Uttar Pradesh, Dholera and Hirasar in Gujarat, Karaikal in Puducherry, Dagadarthi, Bhogapuram and Orvakal (Kurnool) in Andhra Pradesh, Durgapur in West Bengal, Pakyong in Sikkim, Kannur in Kerala and Hollongi also known as Donyi Polo (Itanagar) in Arunachal Pradesh across the country.</p> <p>Vijayawada Internatioanal Airport is not a Greenfield airport.</p> <p>Hence option (a) is the correct answer.</p>	<p>written reply to a question asked in Lok Sabha about Greenfields airports in India.</p>		<p>enfield,and%20Shivamogga%20have%20been%20operationalised.</p> <p>https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1906346</p>	
72	Geography	<p>With reference to "water vapour", which of the following statements is/are correct ?</p> <p>1. It is a gas, the amount of which decreases with altitude.</p> <p>2. Its percentage is maximum at the poles.</p> <p>Select the answer using the code given below :</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>A Water vapour is also a variable gas in the atmosphere, which decreases with altitude. In the warm and wet tropics, it may account for four per cent of the air by volume, while in the dry and cold areas of desert and polar regions, it may be less than one per cent of the air. Hence statements 1 is correct and 2 is not correct.</p> <p>Water vapour also decreases from the equator towards the poles. It also absorbs parts of the insolation from the sun and preserves the earth's radiated heat. It thus, acts like a blanket allowing the earth neither to become too cold nor too hot. Water vapour also contributes to the stability and instability in the air.</p>		E F	<p>NCERT, Class XI: Fundamentals of Physical Geography, Page No.64</p>	<p>E M</p> <p>All India 2024 Prelims Test Series: Test 4145</p> <p>Consider the following statements: Statement 1: The content of water vapour increases from the equator to poleward and the content of vapour increases upward. Statement II: The content of water vapour depends on the temperature. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement-1 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</p>

								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
73	Geography	<p>Consider the following description :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Annual and daily range of temperatures is low. Precipitation occurs throughout the year. Precipitation varies between 50 cm – 250 cm. <p>What is this type of climate ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Equatorial climate China type climate Humid subtropical climate Marine West coast climate 	<p>D The marine west coast climate (British type) is found along a relatively narrow strip of coastal Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, and southern Alaska in North America. It is likewise found along coastal Chile in South America. The marine west coast climate extends further inland into northwest Europe than in North America due to the orientation of mountains. This climate is also found on the southeast coast of Australia and New Zealand.</p> <p>The marine west coast is noted for its mild summers and winters and, as a result, a small annual temperature range. Its location on the west coast of a continent in the midlatitudes places the climate in the path of the Westerlies. In this situation, the climate receives a constant influx of oceanic air throughout the year. The mild temperatures are a direct result of the moderating influence of ocean bodies on air temperatures. This is especially true for those situations where a warm ocean current borders the continent, like the North Atlantic Drift's effect on northwestern Europe. Temperature ranges increase as one moves away from the coast.</p> <p>The marine west coast climate is dominated by cyclonic activity embedded in the Westerlies. Frequent cyclonic storms bring prolonged periods of rain, drizzle and fog to these west coast locations. In some locations it is not uncommon to receive as much as 250 cm (100 in) of precipitation in a year. Hence option (d) is the correct answer.</p>	E	FA	Certificate eography by GC Leong Chapter 22	E M	<p>VisionIAS /Open Test/Abhyaas : Test 4361</p> <p>The above-given graph is indicative of which one of the following climatic zones of the world?</p>  <p>(a) Temperate marine (b) Warm Temperate Western Margin (c) Temperate grassland (d) Mid-latitude deserts</p> <p>All India 2024 Prelims Test Series: Test 4128</p> <p>Consider the following statements regarding the British type or The Cool Temperate Western Margin type climate :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> These are under the permanent influence of westerlies all round year. It has adequate rainfall throughout the year with a tendency towards a light summer.

									3. There are four distinct seasons in this climate. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
74	Geography	<p>With reference to "Coriolis force", which of the following statements is/are correct ?</p> <p>1. It increases with increase in wind velocity.</p> <p>2. It is maximum at the poles and is absent at the equator.</p> <p>Select the answer using the code given below :</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>C</p> <p>The rotation of the earth about its axis affects the direction of the wind. This force is called the Coriolis force after the French physicist who described it in 1844. It deflects the wind to the right direction in the northern hemisphere and to the left in the southern hemisphere. The deflection is more when the wind velocity is high. Hence statement 1 is correct.</p> <p>The Coriolis force is directly proportional to the angle of latitude. It is maximum at the poles and is absent at the equator. Hence statement 2 is correct.</p> <p>The Coriolis force acts perpendicular to the pressure gradient force. The pressure gradient force is perpendicular to an isobar. The higher the pressure gradient force, the more is the velocity of the wind and the larger is the deflection in the direction of wind. As a result of these two forces operating perpendicular to each other, in the low-pressure areas the wind blows around it.</p> <p>At the equator, the Coriolis force is zero and the wind blows perpendicular to the isobars. The low pressure gets filled instead of getting intensified. That is the reason why tropical cyclones are not formed near the equator</p>		E	F	NCERT, Class XI: Fundamentals of Physical Geography, Page No. 78-79	E M	<p>All India 2024 Prelims Test Series: Test 4141</p> <p>Consider the following statements regarding forces affecting the movement of wind:</p> <p>1. In the movement of wind the Coriolis force acts parallel to the direction of the pressure gradient force.</p> <p>2. When there is no friction and the pressure gradient force is balanced by the Coriolis force, the resultant wind is known as the geostrophic wind.</p> <p>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</p>

			<p style="text-align: center;">Fig. Deflection of Winds by Coriolis Force</p>					
75	Geography	<p>On June 21 every year, which of the following latitude(s) experience(s) a sunlight of more than 12 hours ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Equator 2. Tropic of Cancer 3. Tropic of Capricorn 4. Arctic Circle <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) 3 and 4 (d) 2 and 4 	<p>D The axis of the earth which is an imaginary line, makes an angle of $66\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ with its orbital plane. The plane formed by the orbit is known as the orbital plane. The earth receives light from the sun. Due to the spherical shape of the earth, only half of it gets light from the sun at a time. The portion facing the sun experiences day while the other half away from the sun experiences night.</p> <p>On 21st June, the Northern Hemisphere is tilted towards the sun. The rays of the sun fall directly on the Tropic of Cancer. As a result, these areas receive more heat. The areas near the poles receive less heat as the rays of the sun are slanting. The North Pole is inclined towards the sun and the places beyond the Arctic Circle experience continuous daylight for about six months. Since a large portion of the Northern Hemisphere is getting light from the sun, it is summer in the regions north of the equator. The longest day and the shortest night at these places occur on 21st June. At this time in the Southern Hemisphere all these conditions are reversed. It is winter season there. The nights are longer than the days. This position of the earth is called the Summer Solstice. Hence option (d) is the correct answer.</p>	E	F	NCERT, Class VI Geography, Chapter 3	E M	<p>All India 2024 Prelims Test Series: Test 4141</p> <p>Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sun is vertically overhead at the equator only on two days each year. 2. The longest day in the northern and southern hemispheres falls on the 22nd of December and 21st of June in summer solstices respectively. 3. The Arctic and Antarctic circles mark the limits of the overhead sun. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

									News Today (December 22, 2023) Partial
76	Environment	<p>One of the following regions has the world's largest tropical peatland, which holds about three years worth of global carbon emissions from fossil fuels; and the possible destruction of which can exert detrimental effect on the global climate. Which one of the following denotes that region ?</p> <p>(a) Amazon Basin (b) Congo Basin (c) Kikon Basin (d) Rio de la Plata Basin</p>	<p>B The Congo Basin is home to the world's largest tropical peatlands, along with Brazil and Indonesia. The peat swamp forest of the Congo Basin stores around 29 billion tons of carbon – approximately equivalent to three years' worth of global greenhouse gas emissions – while the Basin as a whole absorbs nearly 1.5 billion tons of carbon dioxide a year . The Basin stretches across six countries- Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon.</p> <p>“The Congo Basin is one of the world’s last regions that absorbs more carbon than it emits. Hence option (b) is the correct answer.</p>	<p>In Feb 2023, UNEP published a report on "Critical ecosystems : Congo Basin peatlands". UPSC has taken the paragraph given in the question from the above report. Also in the same month, leaders from across Africa and Asia gathered in Gabon for an international summit</p>	M	CAA	https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/critical-ecosystems-congo-basin-peatlands#:~:text=The%20Congo%20Basin%20is%20home,along%20with%20Brazil%20and%20Indonesia.	RM	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative (UPSC PYQ 2023)</p> <p>Which one of the following is a part of the Congo Basin?</p> <p>(a) Cameroon (b) Nigeria (c) South Sudan (d) Uganda</p> <p>Explanation: The Congo Basin is home to the world's largest tropical peatlands, along with Brazil and Indonesia</p>

				on the state of the world's tropical forests, and many of the discussions focused on the Congo Basin, which stores more planet-warming carbon than the Amazon but is disappearing.						
77	Environment	With reference to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) that are used in making many consumer product, consider the following statements : 1. PFAS are found to be widespread in drinking water, food and food packaging material. 2. PFAS are not easily degraded in the environment. 3. Persistent exposure to PFAS can lead to bioaccumulation in	D	<p>Statement 1 is correct: Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are synthetic chemicals found in many products, such as clothing, carpets, fabrics for furniture, adhesives, paper packaging for food, and heat-resistant/non-stick cookware.</p> <p>Statement 2 is correct: They are also present in fire-fighting foams (or aqueous film forming foam; AFFF) used by both civilian and military firefighters. Also known as the "forever chemicals", PFAS are persistent (i.e., they do not break down) in the environment, and since they are used in the manufacturing of so many products, they are widespread internationally.</p> <p>Statement 3 is correct: People may encounter different PFAS chemicals in various ways. Over time, people may take in more of the chemicals than they excrete, a process that leads to bioaccumulation in bodies.</p>	In April 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency published regulations related to PFAS in drinking water for the first time	E	FCA	https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/chennai-lakes-contaminated-with-forever-chemicals-linked-to-cancer-and-liver-damage/artheshow/108993106.cms?from=mdr https://www.publichealth.v	R M	<p>All India 2024 Prelims Test Series: Test 4145</p> <p>Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are also known as forever chemicals. In this context, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. They are a large, naturally occurring chemical family which can be produced synthetically. 2. They are used to make fluoropolymer coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water 3. They can be found in

	<p>animal bodies. 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</p>			<p>a.gov/exposures/pfas.asp#:~:text=Perfluoroalkyl%20and%20polyfluoroalkyl%20substances%20(PFAS, resistant%2F non%2Dstick%20cookware</p> <p>https://www.niehs.nih.gov/health/topics/agents/pfc</p>	<p>human blood too because of their wide use. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 3 only</p> <p>News Today (April 07, 08 2024) Also in News</p>
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Optional

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78	Environment	<p>Consider the following :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carabid beetles 2. Centipedes 3. Flies 4. Termites 5. Wasps <p>Parasitoid species are found how many of the above kind of organisms?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Only two (b) Only three (c) Only four (d) All Five 	<p>B In evolutionary ecology, a parasitoid is an organism that lives in close association with its host at the host's expense, eventually resulting in the death of the host. Parasitoidism is one of six major evolutionary strategies within parasitism, distinguished by the fatal prognosis for the host, which makes the strategy close to predation.</p> <p>Option 1 is correct: Several genera of carabid beetles are ectoparasitoids as larvae. The parasitoid habit is uncommon in beetles; only eleven beetle families include parasitoid species. The best-known genera of parasitoid carabids are <i>Brachinus</i>, <i>Lebia</i>, and <i>Lebistina</i>. <i>Brachinus</i>, the celebrated bombardier beetle, emits a directed, explosive spray of boiling-hot quinone solution, which is considered the most highly evolved defensive secretion of the many types documented in the Carabidae.</p> <p>Options 3 and 5 are correct: Most parasitoids are either wasps and bees (Hymenoptera) or flies (Diptera), although a few species of beetles, twisted wing insects, moths, and other insects have been identified as parasitoids.</p> <p>Option 2 is not correct: Centipedes are predatory arthropods. Centipedes are predominantly generalist predators, which means they are adapted to eat a broad range of prey. Common prey items include lumbricid earthworms, dipteran fly larvae, collembolans, and other centipedes.</p> <p>Option 4 is not correct: Termites are primarily detritivores, consuming dead plants at any level of decomposition. They also play a vital role in the ecosystem by recycling waste material such as dead wood, faeces and plants.</p>		D	FCA	https://extension.umd.edu/resource/parasitoids	RR	
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79	Environment	<p>Consider the following plants</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Groundnut 2. Horse-gram 3. Soybean <p>How many of the above belong to the pea family ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None 	<p>C The Fabaceae or Leguminosae, commonly known as the legume, pea, or bean family, are a large and agriculturally important family of flowering plants. It includes trees, shrubs, and perennial or annual herbaceous plants, which are easily recognized by their fruit and their compound, stipulate leaves.</p> <p>Option 1 is correct: The peanut belongs to the botanical family Fabaceae (or Leguminosae), commonly known as the legume, bean, or pea family.</p> <p>Option 2 is correct: Macrotyloma uniflorum is a legume native to tropical southern Asia, known for its distinct taste and texture, widely used legume in many cuisines. It also belongs to the family Fabaceae.</p> <p>Option 3 is correct: The soybean, soy bean, or soya bean is a species of legume native to East Asia, widely grown for its edible bean, which has numerous uses. It also belongs to the family Fabaceae.</p>		M FA	<p>https://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/kebo112.pdf</p> <p>https://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/kebo105.pdf</p>	E M	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>With reference to the commonly produced bio-fertilizers in India, consider the following pairs:</p> <p>Bio-fertilizer : Suitable Crop</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rhizobium : Soybean and Groundnut 2. Azospirillum : Cereals and Millets 3. Azolla : Paddy <p>Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?</p> <p>The explanation to the question mentions legumes like pulses, groundnut, soybean.</p>
80	Current Affairs (Environment)	<p>Consider the following statements</p> <p>Statement-I: The Indian Flying Fox is placed under the "vermin" category in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.</p> <p>Statement-II: The Indian Flying Fox feeds on the blood of other animals.</p> <p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement- 	<p>C Statement I is correct: The nectar and fruit-eating flying fox (<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>) is generally considered a vermin as they raid orchards. It had a similar official status under Schedule V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972 until it was put on the Schedule II list entailing a higher degree of protection.</p> <p>Statement II is not correct: As a keystone species causing seed dispersals of many plants in tropical systems, the flying fox has fascinated zoologists over the years. The Indian flying fox is vermin because they believe that it "poaches" ripe fruit from orchards. A study in India found that of all orchard crops, Indian flying foxes did the most damage to mango and guava crops.</p>		M CAA	<p>https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/flying-fox-bats-for-vigilance-while-roosting/article67184575.ece</p>	R M	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Which of the following animals are included in the Schedule V of the Wildlife Protection Act (WPA) of 1972?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mice 2. Rats 3. Common crows 4. Flying foxes (fruit-eating bats) <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</p> <p>News Today : 21st and 22nd January 2024</p>

	<p>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 incorrect (d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.</p>							
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Performance and Progress Analysis

81	Geography	<p>The total fertility rate in a economy is defined as :</p> <p>(a) the number of children born per 1000 people in the population in a year.</p> <p>(b) the number of children born to couple in their lifetime in a given population.</p> <p>(c) the birth rate minus death rate.</p> <p>(d) the average number of live births a woman would have by the end of her child-bearing age.</p>	<p>D The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is the average number of children born to a woman over her lifetime if she were to experience the current age-specific fertility rates, and if she lived from birth until the end of her reproductive life. . In India, the TFR has experienced a significant decline, from nearly 6.2 children per woman in 1950 to just under 2 children per woman in 2021. Hence option (d) is the correct answer.</p> <p>TFR of about 2.1 children per woman is called Replacement-level fertility. TFR lower than 2.1 children per woman — indicates that a generation is not producing enough children to replace itself, eventually leading to an outright reduction in population.</p>		E F	https://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/lesy102.pdf	<p>E M</p> <p>News Today: 22nd March_2024 PT365 Updated 1- 5.1. Declining Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in India</p> <p>All India 2024 Prelims Test Series: Test 4142 With reference to National Family Health Survey-5, consider the following states: 1. Uttar Pradesh 2. Jharkhand 3. Maharashtra How many of the above states have a Total Fertility Rate more than the national Total Fertility Rate? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>
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82	Economic s	<p>Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In India, Non-Banking Financial Companies can access the Liquidity Adjustment Facility window of the Reserve Bank of India. In India, Foreign Institutional Investors can hold the Government Securities (G-Secs). In India, Stock Exchanges can offer separate trading platforms for debts. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) 2 and 3 only</p>	<p>D LAF is a facility extended by RBI to the scheduled commercial banks (excluding RRBs) and Primary Dealers (PDs) to avail of liquidity in case of requirement or park excess funds with RBI in case of excess liquidity on an overnight basis against the collateral of G-Secs including SDLs. Basically, LAF enables liquidity management on a day to day basis. The operations of LAF are conducted by way of repurchase agreements (repos and reverse repos) with RBI being the counterparty to all the transactions. All Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks) and Primary Dealers (PDs) having Current Account and SGL Account with RBI, Mumbai will be eligible to participate in the Repo and Reverse Repo auctions. Only some specified NBFCs form part of PDs and major NBFCs not part of PDs remain outside the preview of accessing LAF window of RBI. Hence statement 1 is not correct.</p> <p>FIs who obtain specific approval from SEBI have been permitted to invest 100% of their portfolios in debt securities. Such investment may be in listed or to be listed corporate debt securities or in dated government securities, and is treated to be part of the overall limit on external commercial borrowing. Hence statement 2 is correct.</p> <p>With an aim to develop corporate debt market in the country, Sebi allowed creation of a separate debt segment on stock exchanges, wherein banks are allowed to become trading members of the bourses and trade in this market. NSE became the first to unveil a separate trading platform for debts. Hence statement 3 is correct.</p>		D F	<p>https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewBulletin.aspx?Id=20441</p> <p>https://www.business-standard.com/article/markets/nse-launches-separate-debt-trading-platform-113051300554_1.html</p> <p>https://www.sebi.gov.in/sebi_data/commondocs/pt1b5_h.html#:~:text=FIs%20who%20obtain%20specific%20approval,limit%20on%20external%20commercial%20borrowing.</p>	R M	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Which of the following institutions is/are permitted to participate in the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) of RBI?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Scheduled commercial banks Regional Rural Banks Scheduled Urban Cooperative Banks <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</p> <p>With reference to Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI), consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> It is regulated by the Reserve Bank of India. It was harmonized by the merger of the Foreign Institutional Investor ('FII') and Qualified Foreign Investor ('QFI') mode of investment. FPIs can invest in Government Securities in India. <p>Which of the statements given above are correct?</p>
83	Economic s	<p>In India, which of the following can trade in Corporate Bonds and Government Securities?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Insurance Companies 	<p>D A Government Security (G-Sec) is a tradeable instrument issued by the Central Government or the State Governments. It acknowledges the Government's debt obligation. Such securities are short term (usually called treasury bills, with original maturities of less than one year) or long term (usually called Government bonds or dated securities with original maturity of one</p>	Through Retail Direct scheme, retail investors can now	E F	<p>https://www.rbi.org.in/commoperson/English/Scripts/FAQs.aspx?Id=711#9</p>	R M	<p>All India 2024 Prelims Test Series: Test 4154</p> <p>Consider the following statements regarding Indian Financial Markets:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Indian stock market

		<p>2. Pension Funds 3. Retail Investors Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>	<p>year or more). Major players in the G-Secs and Corporate Bond market include commercial banks and PDs besides institutional investors like insurance companies. PDs play an important role as market makers in G-Secs market. A market maker provides firm two way quotes in the market i.e. both buy and sell executable quotes for the concerned securities. Other participants include co-operative banks, regional rural banks, mutual funds, provident and pension funds. Through the Retail Direct scheme, individual investors can invest in Government bonds. In this scheme, individuals must register with the RBI for a Gilt Securities Account, called RDG or Retail Direct Gilt. RDG account holders can partake in the primary issuance of SG/CG/SGB/T-bill. One can directly invest In Corporate Bonds through apps like Zerodha etc. Hence option (d) is the correct answer.</p>	<p>buy and sell government securities.</p>		<p>https://rbiretaildirect.org.in/#/about_scheme</p>	<p>is the world's second-largest stock market in terms of market capitalization. 2. The Retail Direct Scheme was introduced by SEBI to allow individual investors to subscribe to government securities. 3. Listed large corporates have to mandatorily meet 25 % of their financing needs through the issuance of debt securities. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>Consider the following statements regarding the 'Retail Direct scheme' launched by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) :</p> <p>1. This scheme facilitates a person to directly open an account with RBI for purchasing government securities. 2. Under this scheme access to primary issuance of government securities will be given to the account holders. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p>
84	Economics	<p>Consider the following: 1. Exchange-Traded Funds (ETF) 2. Motor vehicles 3. Currency swap Which of the above</p>	<p>D A financial instrument is a real or virtual document representing a legal agreement involving any kind of monetary value. Financial instruments may also be divided according to an asset class, which depends on whether they are debt-based or equity-based. Foreign exchange instruments comprise a third, unique type of</p>		E F	<p>https://www.investopedia.com/terms/f/financialinstrument.asp https://www.r</p>	<p>E M VisionIAS / Open Test/Abhyaas : Test 4360 Consider the following financial instruments: 1. Non-convertible debentures</p>

		is/are considered financial instruments? (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) 1 and 3 only		financial instrument. Debt-based instruments are essentially loans made by an investor to the owner of the asset. Short-term debt-based financial instruments last for one year or less. Securities of this kind come in the form of Treasury bills (T-bills) and commercial paper. Equity-based instruments represent ownership of an asset. Securities that trade under the banner of equity-based financial instruments are most often stocks, which can be either common stock or preferred shares. Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) and mutual funds may also be equity-based instruments. Foreign exchange (forex, or FX) instruments include derivatives such as forwards, futures, and options on currency pairs, as well as contracts for difference (CFDs). Currency swaps are another common form of forex instrument. Motor vehicles are tangible physical assets. They can be owned, bought, and sold, but they do not represent a financial claim or contractual agreement in the way that financial instruments do. While motor vehicles can be financed through loans or leases (which are financial instruments), the vehicles themselves are not classified as such. Hence option (d) is the correct answer.			bi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewBulletin.aspx?Id=17042	2. Treasury bills 3. Shares 4. Commercial Papers How many of the above are debt instruments? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Which of the following financial instruments gives the buyer the right to buy and the seller the obligation to sell? (a) Call Option (b) Put Option (c) Swap (d) Futures contract Explanation: A swap is a derivative contract through which two parties exchange the cash flows or liabilities from two different financial instruments.	
85	Economics	With reference to the sectors of the Indian economy, consider the following pairs: <i>Economic activity Sector</i> 1. Storage of agricultural produce Secondary 2. Dairy farm Primary 3. Mineral exploration Tertiary	C	Occupation wise an economy is broadly divided into primary, secondary and tertiary sectors. Primary sector includes production units producing goods by exploiting natural resources. Some examples are farming, mining, fishing, dairy farming etc. Most of such economic activities are usually carried out in rural areas. Hence pair 2 is correctly matched. The secondary sector covers activities in which natural products are changed into other forms through ways of manufacturing that we associate with industrial activity. Some examples are production of bicycles, scooters, spinning and weaving etc. Most of these		M	F	https://ncert.nic.in/textbook/pdf/jess202.pdf	E M All India 2024 Prelims Test Series: Test 4154 Which of the following could be termed secondary activities? 1. Retail sales 2. Textile 3. Shipbuilding 4. Tourism 5. Energy utilities Select the correct answer using the code given below.

		<p>4. Weaving cloth Secondary How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four</p>	<p>activities are carried out in a factory or mill. Hence pair 4 is correctly matched.</p> <p>The tertiary sector includes units producing only services like banks, transport shops, insurance government department, domestic servants, etc. These are activities that help in the development of the primary and secondary sectors. These activities, by themselves, do not produce a good but they are an aid or a support for the production process. For example, goods that are produced in the primary or secondary sector would need to be transported by trucks or trains and then sold in wholesale and retail shops. At times, it may be necessary to store these in godowns.</p> <p>Transport, storage, communication, banking, trade are some examples of tertiary activities. Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched.</p> <p>Further, Mineral exploration (different from mining) is a complex activity representing high end research and development for exploration of minerals. It also involves specialists and consultants for prospecting of minerals skill and knowledge based economy. Though activities involving R&D, specialists and consulting form part of Quaternary and Quinary sector, it has been historically been covered under Tertiary sector. So, in context of 3 major sectors of Indian economy (Primary, Secondary, tertiary), we can say that mineral exploration should form part of Tertiary sector per se. Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.</p>				<p>Explanation: Primary Sector The primary sector involves companies that participate in extracting and harvesting natural products from the Earth. Primary sector companies are typically engaged in economic activity that utilizes the Earth's natural resources, which are sold to consumers or commercial businesses. Companies involved in the processing and packaging of raw materials are also categorized within the primary sector. Primary sector business activities include the following: Mining and quarrying, Fishing, Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting Secondary Sector The secondary sector consists of processing, manufacturing, and construction companies. The secondary sector produces goods from the natural products within the primary sector. The secondary sector includes the following business activities: Automobile production, Textile, Chemical engineering</p>
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								<p>Aerospace space, Shipbuilding Energy utilities, Tertiary Sector</p> <p>The tertiary sector is comprised of companies that provide services, such as retailers, entertainment firms, and financial organizations.</p> <p>The tertiary sector provides services to businesses and consumers by selling the goods that are manufactured by companies in the secondary sector. The types of services provided by the tertiary sector include: Retail sales, Transportation and distribution, Restaurants, Tourism, Insurance and banking, Healthcare services, Legal services"</p>
86	Environment	<p>Consider the following materials:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agricultural residues 2. Corn grain 3. Wastewater treatment sludge 4. Wood mill waste <p>Which of the above can be used as feedstock for producing Sustainable Aviation Fuel?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 and 4 only (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4 	<p>C SAF is a liquid fuel currently used in commercial aviation which reduces CO2 emissions by up to 80%. It can be produced from a number of sources (feedstock) including waste oil and fats, green and municipal waste and non-food crops.</p> <p>An estimated 1 billion dry tons of biomass can be collected sustainably each year in the United States, enough to produce 50–60 billion gallons of low-carbon biofuels. These resources include:</p> <p>Corn grain Oil seeds Algae Other fats, oils, and greases</p>		M	CAA	https://www.energy.gov/energy-research-and-development/bioenergy/sustainable-aviation-fuels	<p>R M</p> <p>All India 2024 Prelims Test Series: Test 4144</p> <p>Consider the following pairs: Alternative fuel Produced from</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Renewable Gasoline Cellulose material 2. Renewable Diesel Fats and oil 3. Sustainable Aviation Fuel Woody biomass <p>How many pairs given above are correctly</p>

		(d) 1, 3 and 4 only		<p>Agricultural residues Forestry residues</p> <p>Wood mill waste Municipal solid waste streams</p> <p>Wet wastes (manures, wastewater treatment sludge) Dedicated energy crops.</p>					<p>matched? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p> <p>Explanation: SAF can be produced from non-petroleum-based renewable feedstocks including, but not limited to, the food and yard waste portion of municipal solid waste, woody biomass, fats/greases/oils, and other feedstocks.</p>
87	Economic s	<p>With reference to physical capital in Indian economy, consider the following pairs: <i>Items Category</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Farmer's plough Working capital Computer Fixed capital Yarn used by the weaver Fixed capital Petrol Working capital <p>How many of the above pairs are correctly matched? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four</p>	<p>B In the intricate realm of business finance, fixed capital and working capital stand as crucial pillars, each playing a distinct yet complementary role in shaping an enterprise's financial structure.</p> <p>Fixed capital represents the long-term assets that contribute to a company's foundation and growth. These assets, including buildings, machinery, and equipment, are not intended for immediate turnover but serve as the infrastructure necessary for sustained operations over an extended period. Farmer's plough and computer are classified as fixed capital because they are long term assets that provide benefit over multiple production cycles. Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched and pair 2 is correctly matched.</p> <p>Conversely, working capital addresses the short-term financial needs essential for day-to-day operational activities. Both petrol and yarn are raw materials consumed within a single production cycle and are essential for the day to day operations of their respective businesses. Hence they are categorised under working capital. Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched and pair 4 is correctly matched.</p>		E	F	https://ncert.nic.in/ncerts/l/lebs209.pdf	E M	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Which of the following are considered as investment expenditures in an economy?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Production of fixed capital assets Production of consumer goods and services Purchase of shares Production of inventory <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below. Explanation: The main examples of fixed capital assets are building, machines, furniture, transport vehicles and other permanent fixtures. Inventory includes stocks of raw materials, semi-finished goods and finished goods.</p>

									Expenditure on making an addition to these assets in a year is termed investment expenditure or simply investment."	
88	Current Affairs (S&T)	Which one of the following words/phrases is most appropriately used to denote "an interoperable network of 3D virtual worlds that can be accessed simultaneously by millions of users, who can exert property rights over virtual items"? (a) Big data analytics (b) Cryptography (c) Metaverse (d) Virtual matrix	C	The metaverse is a loosely defined term referring to virtual worlds in which users represented by avatars interact, usually in 3D and focused on social and economic connection. The metaverse often gets conflated with the virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) technology used to experience a shared 3D world. Hence option (c) is the correct answer.	Metaverse has been in the news for the last two and a half years especially after the re-naming of Facebook to Meta.	E	CA	https://www.thehindu.com/education/what-is-the-metaverse-and-how-does-it-work/article65330151.ece https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/technology/internet/five-ways-in-which-companies-are-using-the-metaverse/article65193021.ece	EN	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative With reference to the metaverse, consider the following statements: 1. It is a computer-generated highly immersive virtual world. 2. It is a place where people can gather to socialise, play and work. 3. Non-fungible tokens (NFTs) can be used to hold digital assets in the metaverse. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
89	Economics	With reference to the rule/rules imposed by the Reserve Bank of India while treating foreign banks, consider the following statements: 1. There is no minimum capital requirement for wholly owned banking subsidiaries in India. 2. For wholly owned	B	RBI allows foreign banks to operate in India either through branch presence or they can set up a wholly owned subsidiary (WOS) with near national treatment. The foreign banks have to choose one of the above two modes of presence and shall be governed by the principle of single mode of presence. The initial minimum paid-up voting equity capital for a WOS shall be 5 billion. The newly set up WOS of the foreign bank would be required to bring in the entire amount of initial capital upfront, which should be funded by free foreign exchange remittance from its parent. Hence statement 1 is not correct.		D	F	https://m.rbi.org.in/Scripts/bs_viewcontent.aspx?Id=2758	RR	

	<p>banking subsidiaries in India, at least 50% of the board members should be Indian nationals. 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</p>	<p>The composition of the board of directors of WOS should meet the following requirements: a) not less than 51 percent of the total number of members of the board of directors shall consist of persons as defined under Section 10A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949; b) not less than two-third of the directors should be non-executive directors; c) not less than one-third of the directors should be independent of the management of the subsidiary in India, its parent and any subsidiary or other associate of the foreign bank parent; d) not less than 50 per cent directors should be Indian nationals/NRIs/PIOs subject to the condition that one-third of the directors are Indian nationals resident in India. Hence statement 2 is correct.</p>					
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AIR 10



AISHWARYAM PRAJAPATI

90	Economic s	<p>With reference to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) rules in India, consider the following statements:</p> <p>1. CSR rules specify that expenditures that benefit the company directly or its employees will not be considered as CSR activities.</p> <p>2. CSR rules do not specify minimum spending on CSR activities.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>A A company satisfying any of the following criteria during the immediately preceding financial year is required to comply with CSR provisions specified under section 135(1) of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the Companies (CSR Policy) Rules, 2014 made thereunder:</p> <p>(i) net worth of rupees five hundred crore or more, or (ii) turnover of rupees one thousand crore or more, or (iii) net profit of rupees five crore or more.</p> <p>Section 135 of the Companies Act 2013 (Act), mandates that certain companies must allocate at least 2% of their average net profits from the preceding three financial years towards CSR activities. Hence statement 2 is not correct.</p> <p>Under the Companies (CSR Policy) Rules, 2014, any activity benefitting employees of the company shall not be considered as eligible CSR activity. As per the rule, any activity designed exclusively for the benefit of employees shall be considered as an “activity benefitting employees” and will not qualify as permissible CSR expenditure. Hence statement 1 is correct.</p>	<p>CSR is frequently in news. Also, recently Sebi board consider proposal allowing employees to donate on social stock exchange.</p>	M	F	<p>https://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/pdf/FAQ_CSR.pdf</p>	R M	<p>All India 2024 Prelims Test Series: Test 4147</p> <p>With reference to the Companies Act 2013, in which of the following cases do the provisions of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) apply to a company?</p> <p>1. Net worth of more than Rs.500 crore 2. Turnover of more than Rs.1000 crore 3. Net annual profit of more than Rs.1 crore</p> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p> <p>Explanation: The Board of Directors of every company for which the CSR provisions apply must ensure that the company spends in every financial year at least 2% of its average net profits made during the immediately preceding three financial years as per its CSR policy.</p> <p>Sandhan VisionIAS Initiative Which of the following statements is not correct with respect to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)</p>
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								<p>in India?</p> <p>(a) CSR provisions are applicable to both private and public companies.</p> <p>(b) The list of activities permitted under CSR is prescribed by the Companies Act, 2013.</p> <p>(c) All the expenses towards CSR are exempted from taxation.</p> <p>(d) Expenditure to build a hospital in Saudi Arabia for the welfare of Indians living there is not counted in CSR.</p> <p>Explanation: CSR projects and programme undertaken in India only consider as CSR activity. The following expenses are not covered under CSR: Activity undertaken outside India. CSR projects or programs or activities that benefit only the employees of the company and their families shall not be considered as CSR activities Contribution of any amount directly or indirectly to any political party One-off events such as marathons/ awards/ charitable contribution/ advertisement/ sponsorships of TV programmes etc."</p>
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91	Current Affairs (S&T)	<p>With reference to radioisotope thermoelectric generators (RTGs), consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RTGs are miniature fission reactors. 2. RTGs are used for powering the onboard systems of spacecrafts. 3. RTGs can use Plutonium-238, which is a by-product of weapons development <p>Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>	<p>B Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generators (RTGs) are lightweight, compact spacecraft power systems that are extraordinarily reliable. RTGs provide electrical power using heat from the natural radioactive decay of plutonium-238, in the form of plutonium oxide. The large difference in temperature between this hot fuel and the cold environment of space is applied across special solid-state metallic junctions called thermocouples, which generates an electrical current using no moving parts.</p> <p>Elimination technique could have been used if statement 3 was difficult especially because of its second part.</p> <p>Statement 1 is not correct as the principles are different. Thus, options (a), (c) and (d) are incorrect.</p> <p>Statement 2 is correct as its use in the spacecrafts has been its primary applications. NASA has been using the technology since the 1960s.</p> <p>Statement 3 is correct: Pu-238 is used due to its low half-life.</p>	ISRO and BARC have started working towards using nuclear energy for space programmes.	M	FCA	https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/science/isro-barc-join-hands-to-develop-nuclear-engines-for-rockets/article67087008.ece https://www.financialexpress.com/business/defence-atom-for-space-nuclear-propulsion-for-interstellar-navigation-3396514/ https://science.nasa.gov/mission/cassini/radioisotope-thermoelectric-generator/	EN	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Recently, ISRO has started the development of a Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generator (RTG). In this context, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RTG is a type of Nuclear-based power system that converts electrical energy to thermal energy through thermocouples. 2. Plutonium-238 is used as fuel in RTG. 3. It is used for deep space missions. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>
92	S&T	<p>Consider the following statements:</p> <p>Statement-I: Giant stars live much longer than dwarf stars.</p> <p>Statement-II: Compared to dwarf stars, giant stars have a greater rate of nuclear reactions.</p>	<p>D Giant Stars: Giant stars have masses from eight times to as much as 100 times that of the mass of our sun. These massive stars have hotter and denser cores than dwarf stars (stars that are smaller than five times the mass of our sun). Therefore, giant stars have a greater rate of the nuclear reactions that light up stars. Massive stars also use up the hydrogen fuel in their core faster, despite starting out with much more of it, meaning they live much shorter lives than dwarf stars. A giant star will also end its life in a spectacular fashion, via a</p>	The theme is static in nature but developments related to space exploration are always in the news.	M	FA	https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/genesismission/gm2/mission/pdf/Giantstars.pdf	RM	

		<p>Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?</p> <p>(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-I Statement-II explains (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 incorrect (d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct</p>	<p>supernova explosion, leaving behind a strange object such as a neutron star or an even more bizarre black hole.</p> <p>Statement 1 is not correct and statement 2 is correct: Giant stars are short-lived due to the faster rates of nuclear reactions. Hence option (d) is the correct answer.</p>					
93	Basic Science	<p>Which one of the following is synthesised in human body that dilates blood vessels and increases blood flow?</p> <p>(a) Nitric oxide (b) Nitrous oxide (c) Nitrogen dioxide (d) Nitrogen pentoxide</p>	<p>A Nitric oxide (NO) is produced naturally by the human body and is one of the most important molecules for blood vessel health. It's a vasodilator, meaning it relaxes the inner muscles of your blood vessels, causing the vessels to widen. In this way, nitric oxide increases blood flow and lowers blood pressure. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.</p>	<p>Although the source we have shared is a newspaper. This theme is static in nature but owing to lifestyle related disease, especially cardiovascular diseases, newspapers have covered that.</p>	D	F	<p>https://indianexpress.com/article/lifestyle/health/boost-blood-flow-6-nutrient-rich-foods-beetroots-leafy-greens-onions-garlic-8677470/</p>	E N

94	S&T	<p>Consider the following activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identification of narcotics on passengers at airports or in aircraft 2. Monitoring of precipitation 3. Tracking the migration of animals <p>In how many of the above activities can the radars be used?</p> <p>(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None</p>	<p>B Radar, electromagnetic sensor used for detecting, locating, tracking, and recognizing objects of various kinds at considerable distances. It operates by transmitting electromagnetic energy toward objects, commonly referred to as targets, and observing the echoes returned from them.</p> <p>Option 1 is not correct: At the airports scanners use X-ray machines and metal detectors and not radar-based detectors (which use long-wave radiations; radiowaves) are generally used. At the same time, millimetre wave radar applications have also been used for airport surface movement control and foreign object detection, but the same cannot be called conventional radar. Thus option 1 is not correct.</p> <p>Option 2 is correct: Weather radars can be used to monitor the weather of a particular place.</p> <p>Option 3 is correct: Using radar has allowed researchers to examine migration altitude, speed, and wing beat frequency of birds, bats, and even insects during migration.</p>	<p>RADAR in the field of defence has been always in the news. Hence one can expect questions on its other/varied applications</p>	M	FCA	<p>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/entire-kerala-to-be-brought-under-doppler-weather-radars/article67177051.ece</p> <p>https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/5307189</p> <p>https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/earth-and-planetary-sciences/meteorological-radar#:~:text=Weather%20radar%20observation%20can%20be,radar%20observation%20(Figure%202010).</p> <p>https://www.nec.com/en/global/techrep/journal/g21/n01/210121.html</p>	R M	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Consider the following statements regarding Coastal Surveillance Radar (CSR):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The primary aim of CSR design is to detect and track small fishing vessels for coastal surveillance applications. 2. It is capable of detecting subs 20-meter boats such as county boats, dinghies, and fishing vessels in heavy sea clutter environments in all weather conditions. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2</p>
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95	Current Affairs (S&T)	Consider the following aircraft: 1. Rafael 2. MiG-29 3. Tejas MK-1 How many of the above are considered fifth generation fighter aircraft? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None	D Fifth generation fighters are the most technologically advanced jets ever built. They were designed to operate with the help of digital programs and fly-by-wire to counter the threats they counter on the battlefield. Sophisticated avionics, stealth technology and super maneuverability are just a few advantages over older jets that gives them domination in the sky. Being invisible to the enemies is a priority for the engineers, but it is also an extremely hard task for them. The stealth technology is a complex and advanced range of techniques which makes the aircraft (or any other vehicle) less visible to the opponent's radars, and therefore reduces the chance of being detected. Option 1 is not correct: Rafael is often dubbed 4+ or 4.5. Option 2 is not correct: The Mikoyan MiG-29 (NATO reporting name: Fulcrum) is a 4th-generation jet fighter aircraft designed in the Soviet Union for an air superiority role. Option 3 is not correct: The Tejas Mark-1A is an indigenously designed, developed and manufactured modern 4-plus generation fighter aircraft with more than 65 per cent indigenous components.	Defence related developments are frequently covered in the newspapers.	M	CA	https://indianexpress.com/article/explain-ed/india-indigenous-fifth-gen-fighter-jet-amca-9204814/ https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/mighty-flawed-dragon-iaf-rafales-outclass-overhyped-chinese-j-20-fighter-jet/articleshow/108858255.cms?from=mdr https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/t10-march-29-2024/4-can-this-new-tejas-boost-iafs-combat-capability/articleshow/108858910.cms	E N	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative In the context of the Indian defense sector, consider the following statements regarding Tejas Mark-2: 1. It is a single-engine, hypersonic fighter jet. 2. It is the first aircraft to have 100 percent indigenization. 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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96	Current Affairs (S&T)	<p>In which of the following are hydrogels used?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Controlled drug delivery in patients 2. Mobile air-conditioning systems 3. Preparation of industrial lubricants <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below:</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>	<p>D Hydrogels have been in the news for their diverse applications. Recently, hydrogels were in the news for their application in developing glucose-measuring technique in smartphones. Hydrogels are cross-linked polymeric networks swollen in biological fluid. They are widely used in the field of medicine. However, their uses are varied. This class of materials is used for local drug delivery because they provide high biocompatibility, drug protection, spatiotemporal control of the drug release, and physicochemical tailorability.</p> <p>Option 1 is correct: Hydrophilic polymeric networks that are capable of imbibing huge volumes of water and undergoing swelling and shrinkage suitably to facilitate controlled drug-release are called hydrogels. Their porosity and compatibility with aqueous environments make them highly attractive bio-compatible drug delivery vehicles.</p> <p>Option 2 is correct: Due to its water-absorbing properties hydrogels may be used to cool down electronic items.</p> <p>Option 3 is correct: Researches show hydrogels can be used as lubricants because of their excellent anti-friction and anti-wear properties.</p>	Even though hydrogels are mostly in the news for their applications in the field of medicine, their uses in air-conditioning systems and as industrial lubricants are not very popular themes.	D	F	<p>https://www.mdpi.com/2310-2861/9/7/523#:~:text=Polymer%2Dbased%20hydrogels%20are%20hydrophilic,unique%20physicochemical%20properties%20and%20biocompatibility.https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0360544221011944https://www.researchgate.net/publication/380857859_Hydrogels_for_Lubrication_Synthesis_Properties_Mechanism_and_Challenges</p>	R M	
97	Environment	<p>Which one of the following is the exhaust pipe emission from Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles, powered by hydrogen?</p> <p>(a) Hydrogen peroxide (b) Hydronium (c) Oxygen (d) Water vapour</p>	<p>D Fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) are powered by hydrogen. They are more efficient than conventional internal combustion engine vehicles and produce no harmful tailpipe emissions—they only emit water vapor and warm air. Hence option (d) is the correct answer.</p>	IndianOil unveils India's first green hydrogen-run bus that emits just water	E	F	<p>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/indianoil-unveils-indias-first-green-hydrogen-run-bus-that-emits-just-water/article6</p>	R M	<p>Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative</p> <p>Consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Green Hydrogen Policy has been introduced to enable India to become energy independent by 2047.

							7344306.ece		<p>2. Green Hydrogen is pure hydrogen generated by using renewable energy such as solar power and wind energy.</p> <p>3. India's first pure green hydrogen plant has been commissioned in Odisha. Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p> <p>Explanation: Green Hydrogen is pure hydrogen generated by using renewable energy such as solar power and wind energy. The by products are water and water vapour."</p> <p>PT365 Environment 4.4.4.1. GREEN HYDROGEN FUEL CELL</p>
98	Current Affairs (Environment)	Recently, the term "pumped-storage hydropower" is actually and appropriately discussed in the context of which one of the following? (a) Irrigation of terraced crop fields (b) Lift irrigation of cereal crops	C	Pumped storage hydropower (PSH) is a type of hydroelectric energy storage. It is a configuration of two water reservoirs at different elevations that can generate power as water moves down from one to the other (discharge), passing through a turbine. Hence option (c) is the correct answer.		E F	https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/centre-approves-nearly-12-gw-pumped-storage-hydropower-projects-12401180089	E M	PT365 Science and Technology 5.1. BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS)

		(c) Long duration energy storage (d) Rainwater harvesting system					4_1.html https://ncert.nic.in/textbook/pdf/jesc114.pdf		
99	Current Affairs (Environment)	"Membrane Bioreactors" are often discussed in the context of: (a) Assisted reproductive technologies (b) Drug delivery nanotechnologies (c) Vaccine production technologies (d) Wastewater treatment technologies	D	Membrane bioreactor (MBR) is a new type of wastewater treatment technology combining membrane separation process with conventional activated sludge (CAS) treatment process. Due to the fact that the membrane pore size may be below 0.1µm, MBR can effectively produce a high-quality clarified effluent. Hence option (d) is the correct answer.	UPSC had last year asked a question on Biofilters.	E	CA https://www.pcmembranes.com/articles/membrane-bioreactors-mbr-for-wastewater-treatment/	RR	Sandhan Vision IAS Prelims Test Series Initiative Consider the following In-situ bioremediation technique: Types Process adopted 1. Biosparging : injection of air under pressure below the water table to enhance the rate of biological degradation. 2. Bioventing : introduction of a genetically engineered strain to treat contaminated soil or water. 3. Bioaugmentation : biodegradation of any aerobically degradable compounds by providing oxygen to the existing soil microorganisms. Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched? (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 1 only (d) 2 and 3 only

100	Economic s	With reference to the Indian economy, "Collateral Borrowing and Lending Obligations are the instruments of: (a) Bond market (b) Forex market (c) Money market (d) Stock market	C Collateral Borrowing and Lending Obligations (CBLO) is a money market instrument that represents an obligation between a borrower and a lender. The instrument works like a bond where the lender buys the CBLO and a borrower sells the money market instrument with interest. The term, the interest rate, and the specifics of the CBLO are often all negotiable between the two parties. In India, CBLOs are operated by the Clearing Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIL) and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Hence option (c) is the correct answer.		E	F	https://www.investopedia.com/terms/c/cblo.asp# : https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_CircularIndexDisplay.aspx?Id=2388 "	E M	
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PHILOSOPHY

OPTIONAL CLASSES

by Anoop Sir & Experts

Offline Classes @

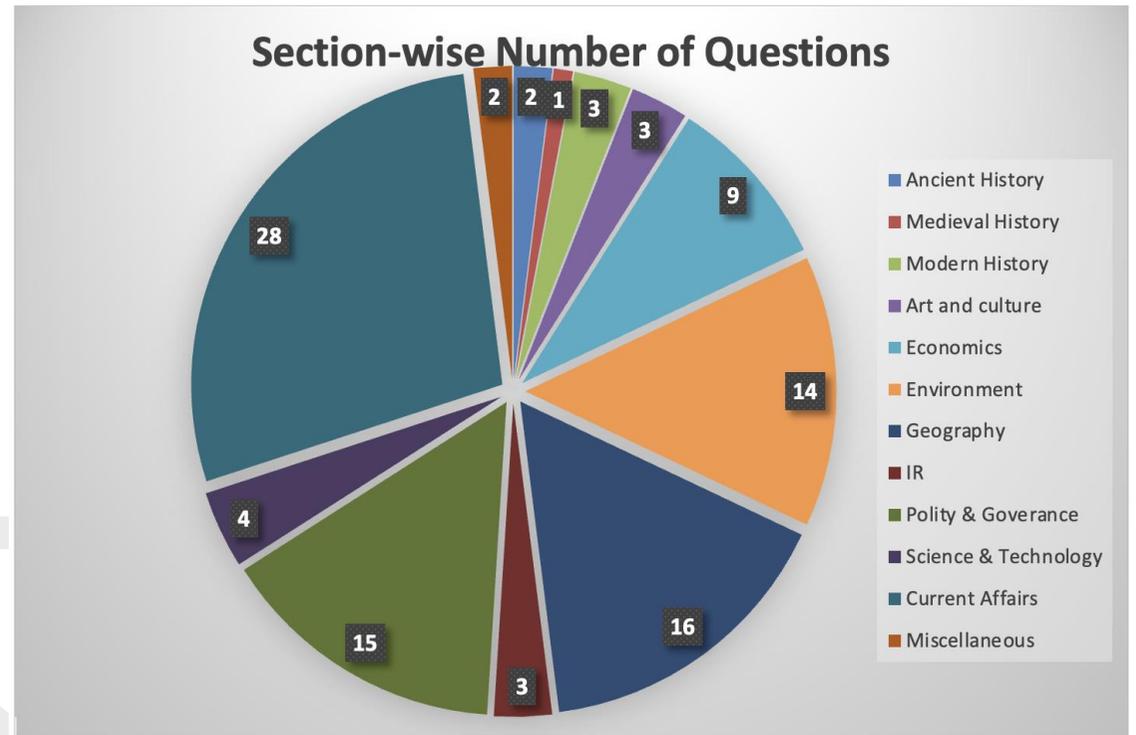
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SUBJECTS

Section	Section-wise Number of Questions
Ancient History	2
Medieval History	1
Modern History	3
Art and culture	3
Economics	9
Environment	14
Geography	16
IR	3
Polity & Governance	15
Science & Technology	4
Current Affairs	28
Miscellaneous	2



SUBJECTWISE OBSERVATIONS

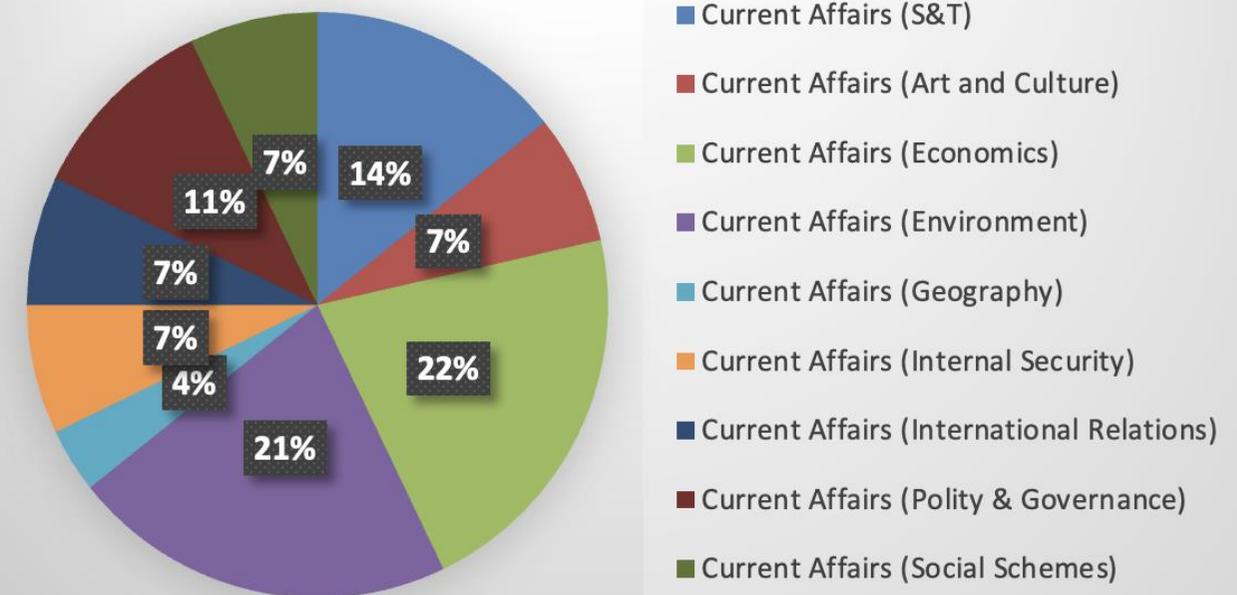
- **Geography:** Geography made a strong comeback in this year's paper, with nearly 20 questions dedicated to the subject. This included a substantial focus on environment and ecology, indicating the growing importance of these areas in the UPSC Prelims. The questions were designed to test both factual knowledge and conceptual understanding, reinforcing the need for thorough preparation in physical, human, and environmental geography.
- **Polity & Governance:** The Polity & Governance section was relatively easier, with questions based on conventional topics. The paper tested candidates' knowledge of fundamental principles, constitutional provisions, and important governance mechanisms. This trend suggests that aspirants should continue to prioritize understanding the Constitution, key amendments, and landmark judgments.
- **Environment and Ecology:** This section was a good balance of questions from various topics such as Basic ecology, Pollution, Biodiversity and Climate Change. Many themes were repeated from previous year papers such as Bioreactors, Leguminous plants, Fuel Cells etc. Unlike last year, the questions were not ambiguous but were more inspired from international initiatives (100 million farmers, EU's Net Zero Industry Act, EPA etc.).
- **History:** In the History section, the weightage of modern history showed a decline. However, the questions asked were conventional and doable, focusing on key events, personalities, and movements. Art & Culture was more influenced by current affairs, with questions linking historical events to contemporary issues. Ancient and medieval history saw fewer questions compared to last year, but the ones asked required a good grasp of significant events and cultural developments.
- **Science & Technology:** There was a drop in the number of questions and themes from biotechnology, a recurring and prominent topic, were skipped altogether. Science & Technology questions this year leaned towards cutting-edge technologies, with topics that were less complex but required an understanding of recent advancements. This indicates that aspirants should stay updated with the latest developments in science and technology, particularly those with practical applications and societal impact.
- **Defence and Security:** Defence and security-related questions made a notable appearance, highlighting the increasing importance of these areas. The questions were designed to test knowledge of recent developments, strategic policies, and key initiatives in national security.
- **Economics:** The Economics section included both conceptual and news-oriented questions. Aspirants were tested on fundamental economic principles as well as recent economic trends and policies. This dual focus underscores the need for a solid understanding of economic theory and current economic affairs.

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.

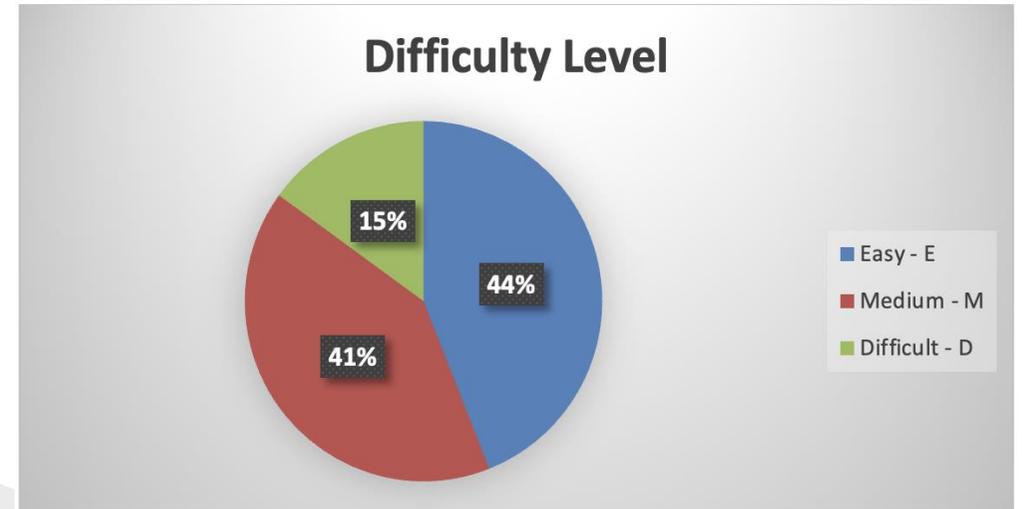
Current Affairs (28 Questions)	Number of Questions
Current Affairs (S&T)	4
Current Affairs (Art and Culture)	2
Current Affairs (Economics)	6
Current Affairs (Environment)	6
Current Affairs (Geography)	1
Current Affairs (Internal Security)	2
Current Affairs (International Relations)	2
Current Affairs (Polity & Governance)	3
Current Affairs (Social Schemes)	2

Number of Questions from Current Affairs



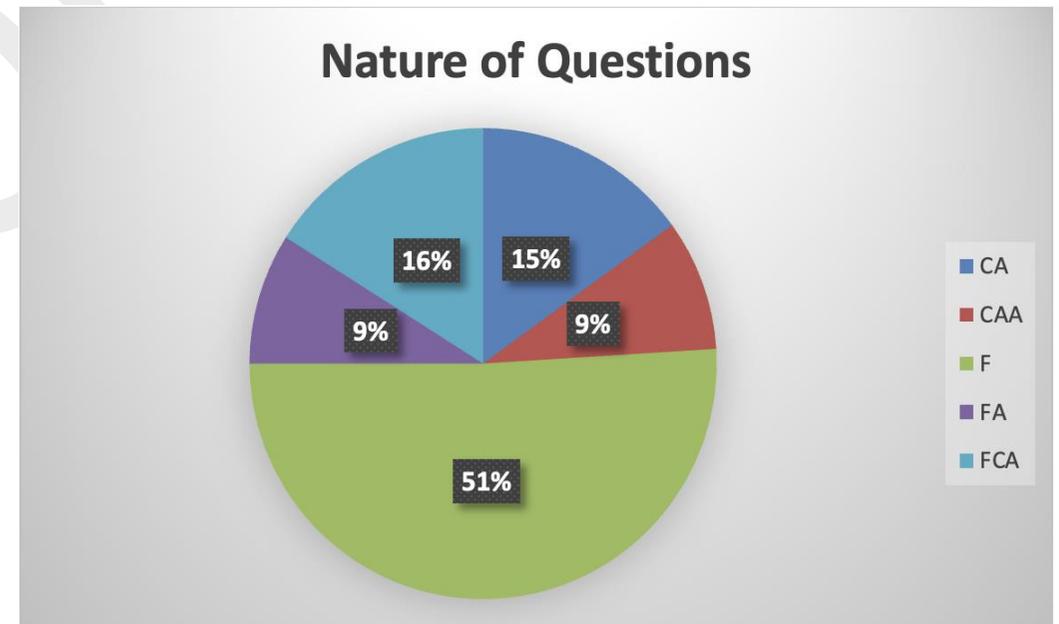
DIFFICULTY

Difficulty Level	Number of Questions
Easy - E	44
Medium - M	41
Difficult - D	15



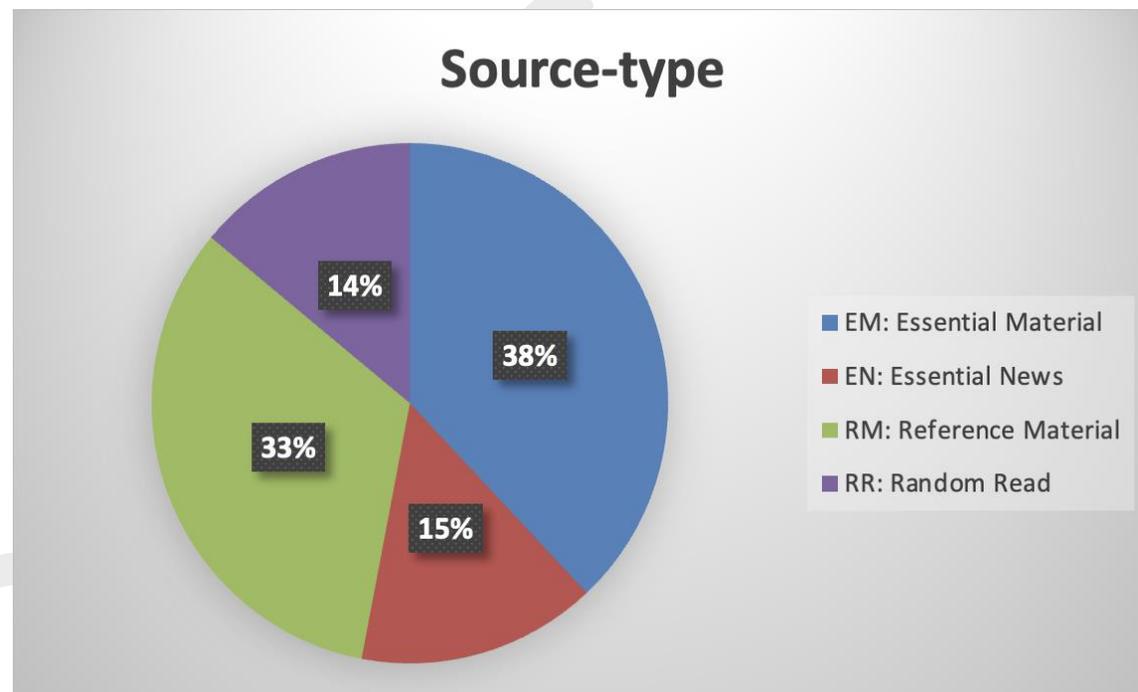
NATURE

Nature	Number of Questions
CA	15
CAA	9
F	51
FA	9
FCA	16



SOURCE TYPE

Source Type	Number of Questions
EM: Essential Material	38
EN: Essential News	15
RM: Reference Material	33
RR: Random Read	14



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