



drishti

## Prelims Refresher Programme: Day 14-Test 4

### QUESTION 1:

With reference to Chandrayaan-2 mission, consider the following statements:

1. Chandrayaan-2 is an integrated spacecraft consisting of an Orbiter, Lander and Rover.
2. It was ISRO's first attempt to land on any extraterrestrial surface.
3. It was intended to land a rover on the far side of the moon.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

### Explanation

**Chandrayaan-2 was India's second lunar exploration mission after Chandrayaan-1 of 2008.**

- It was launched in July 2019, as an integrated 3-in-1 spacecraft consisting of an Orbiter of the Moon, Vikram, the lander and Pragyan, the rover, all equipped with scientific instruments to study the moon. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Chandrayaan-2 intended to soft-land a spacecraft on the Moon. It was India's first attempt to land on any extraterrestrial surface. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Chandrayaan-2 was to make a landing near the south pole of the Moon, but not on the far side of the moon. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
  - The Lunar South pole is chosen because the lunar surface here remains in shadow much larger than that at the North Pole.
  - There could be a possibility of the presence of water in permanently shadowed areas around it. In addition, the South Pole region has craters that are cold traps and contain a fossil record of the early Solar System.

### QUESTION 2:

With reference to Lagrange Points, consider the following statements:

1. These are positions where the gravitational pull of two large masses nearly balances each other.
2. These can be used by spacecraft to reduce fuel consumption needed to remain in position.
3. Aditya- L1 satellite will be placed around the Lagrangian point 1 (L1) of the sun-earth system.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

### Explanation

- A Lagrange point is a location in space where the combined gravitational forces of two large bodies, such as Earth and the sun or Earth and the moon, equal the centripetal force felt by a much smaller third body. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**

- The interaction of the forces creates a point of equilibrium where a spacecraft may be “parked” to make observations. Thereby, any small mass placed at that location will remain at constant distances relative to the large masses. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
- There are **five Lagrange points (L1, L2, L3, L4, L5)** around major bodies such as a planet or a star.
  - Three of them lie along the line connecting the two large bodies. In the Earth-sun system, for example, the first point, L1, lies between Earth and the sun at about 1 million miles from Earth.
  - L1 gets an uninterrupted view of the sun, that’s why Aditya- L1 mission (India’s first solar mission) will be placed around the Lagrangian point 1 (L1) of the sun-earth system. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**

### QUESTION 3:

Which of the following best describes the term ‘Gravitational Lensing’?

- (A) It is a phenomenon observed in the stratosphere that enhances ozone levels.
- (B) It has been recently detected by Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory.
- (C) It is a gravitational field created by huge matter in space that distorts and magnifies the light from objects behind it.
- (D) The phenomenon is utilised by Remote sensing satellites to access the particular location.

**Answer: C**

### Explanation

- The phenomenon of **Gravitational Lensing** occurs when a huge amount of matter, such as a massive galaxy, **cluster of galaxies or a black hole, creates a gravitational field that distorts and magnifies the light from objects behind it.** It is based on **Einstein’s theory** of general relativity (Mass bends light).
- USA’s space agency NASA is planning to launch the **James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) in 2021**, which will use the natural phenomenon of “gravitational lensing” to carry out astronomical observations. **Hence, option C is correct.**

### QUESTION 4:

The term ‘Tamil Yeoman’, sometimes mentioned in the news is related to

- (A) Biodiversity Conservation
- (B) Organic Farming
- (C) Butterfly species
- (D) Shifting Cultivation

**Answer: C**

### Explanation

- Tamil Yeoman (*Cirrochroa thais*) is, a butterfly species **endemic to the Western Ghats**. It has been declared as the state butterfly of Tamil Nadu.
  - The tawny-coloured creature with a dark brown outer ring is among the 32 butterfly species found in the Western Ghats.
  - Also known as Tamil Maravan, which means warrior, these butterflies could be found mainly in hilly areas.
- Butterflies are significant for the environment as they play the main role in pollination and food chain.
  - For many other species like birds and reptiles, butterflies become prey.

- Tamil Nadu is the **fifth state in the country** to announce its state butterfly and **Maharashtra was the first** in the country to announce its state butterfly (Blue Mormon) followed by Uttarakhand (Common Peacock), Karnataka (the Southern Birdwing) and Kerala (Malabar banded peacock or buddha butterfly).
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

#### QUESTION 5:

The term 'Ploonets', sometimes mentioned in the news are -

- (A) Orphaned moons
- (B) Shooting stars
- (C) Asteroids
- (D) CubeSats

**Answer: A**

- Astronomers have defined a new class of celestial objects called "Ploonets," which are orphaned moons that have escaped the bonds of their planetary parents.
- The researchers explain that the angular momentum between the planet and its moon results in the moon escaping the gravitational pull of its parent.
  - A new study suggests that the moons of gas-giant exoplanets may break away into their own orbits.
  - As the gas giants move inward toward their suns, the orbits of their moons are often disrupted, according to new computer models. **Hence, option A is correct.**

#### QUESTION 6:

Consider the following statements with reference to the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI):

1. It is The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), a statutory body. has been recently brought under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
2. It is The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has recently launched a new portal LADIS for cargo owners and logistics operators to access real-time data on the availability of vessels.
3. Its LADIS portal provides cargo owners and logistics operators access to real-time data on the availability of vessels.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: A**

#### Explanation:

- The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) is a **statutory body** under the Ministry of Shipping which was established in 1986 for development and regulation of inland waterways for shipping and navigation. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The portal **LADIS (Least Available Depth Information System)** was launched to ensure that real-time data on least available depths is disseminated for ship/barge and cargo owners. While, in 2018, the IWAI also launched a portal known as **Forum of Cargo Owners and Logistics Operators (FOCAL)** for cargo owners and logistics operators to access real-time data on the availability of vessels. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

### QUESTION 7:

Which one of the following statements does not apply to the system of Subsidiary Alliance introduced by Lord Wellesley? (2018)

- (A) To maintain a large standing army at others expense
- (B) To keep India safe from Napoleonic danger
- (C) To secure a fixed income for the Company
- (D) To establish British paramountcy over the Indian States

**Answer: C**

- The **Subsidiary Alliance system** was introduced by Lord Wellesley, who was Governor-General from 1798-1805. Actually, it was the French Governor Dupleix who first employed a similar system under which the local Indian kingdoms were promised protection in lieu of a payment. But Wellesley developed it as a policy and applied it very systematically to contain the French influence as well as increase British power.
- **Key Features**
  - Under the system, the allying Indian States ruler was compelled to accept the permanent stationing of a British force within his territory and to pay for its maintenance.
  - Indian ruler had to agree to the posting of a British Resident in his court.
  - Indian rulers could not employ any European in his service without the prior approval of the British.
  - Indian ruler could not negotiate with any other Indian ruler without consulting the Governor-General.
  - The British would defend the ruler from his enemies and adopt a policy of non-interference in the internal matters of the allied State.
  - From the above points, it is clear that statement (A), (B) and (D) apply to the system of Subsidiary Alliance. **Hence, option C is correct.**

### QUESTION 8:

Who among the following was/were associated with the introduction of Ryotwari Settlement in India during the British rule? (2017)

1. Lord Cornwallis
2. Alexander Read
3. Thomas Munro

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

### Explanation:

- The land settlements introduced in India by the English East India Company were as follows:
- **Permanent Settlement (1793)**
  - It was introduced by **Lord Cornwallis**.
  - The Rajas and Taluqdars were recognised as zamindars and asked to collect rent from the peasants and pay revenue to the Company.
  - The amount to be paid was fixed permanently.

■ **Mahalwari Settlement (1822)**

- It was devised by **Holt Mackenzie in the North Western Provinces** (region of Agra, Oudh and Punjab).
- Collectors went from village to village, inspecting the land, measuring the fields, and recording the customs and rights of different groups.
- The estimated revenue of each plot within a village was added up to calculate the revenue that each village (Mahal) had to pay.
- This demand was to be revised periodically.
- The charge of collecting revenue and paying it to the Company was given to the village headman, rather than the zamindar.

■ **Ryotwari System (1820)**

- It was started in South India by **Alexander Reed and Thomas Munro**.
- This system allowed the government to deal directly with the peasant (ryots) for revenue collection, and gave the peasant freedom to give up or acquire new land for cultivation. **Hence, option (C) is correct.**

**QUESTION 9:**

Consider the following pairs: (2017)

**Personalities**

1. Radhakanta Deb
2. Gazulu Lakshminarasu Chetty
3. Surendranath Banerjee

**Organizations**

- First President of the British Indian Association
- Founder of the Madras Mahajana Sabha
- Founder of the Indian Association

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (A) 1 only  
(B) 1 and 3 only  
(C) 2 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B**

**Explanation**

- Radhakanta Deb (1784-1867) was a scholar and a leader of the Calcutta conservative Hindu society. Between 1822 and 1856, he published Shabda Kalpadruma, a dictionary of Sanskrit language in eight volumes. On the establishment of the British Indian Association in 1851, Radhakanta Deb was elected its president and remained in the post till his death. **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- **Madras Mahajana Sabha was founded by M. Veeraraghavachariar, G. Subramania Iyer and P. Anand Charlu** in May 1884. The objective of the organization was to integrate various regional organizations working for the freedom struggle. **Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- Sir **Surendranath Banerjee founded the Indian Association** in July 1876 which was intended to be the centre of an all – India political movement. The first session of the National Conference was held in Calcutta on December 28th-30th 1883, and was attended by more than a hundred delegates from different parts of India. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

**QUESTION 10:**

Consider the following statements: (2017)

1. The Factories Act, 1881 was passed with a view to fix the wages of industrial workers and to allow the workers to form trade unions.
2. N.M. Lokhande was a pioneer in organizing the labour movement in British India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: B**

- The first **Indian Factories Act of 1881** only provided for the regulation of children below 12 years of age in factories and was meant to apply only to those factories employing 100 or more people and using mechanical power. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Narayan Meghaji Lokhande** was a co-worker of Mahatma Jotiba Phule and was a pioneer in the organization of the labour movement during the colonial era. He organized various conferences and led a signature campaign for labour reforms. He was the first to work towards modern trade unionism in India. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

### QUESTION 11:

With reference to the land revenue system of Akbar, consider the following statements:

1. Under the Dahsala system, taxes were calculated on the basis of local productivity and local prices.
2. Under the Batai system, peasants were required to pay taxes in cash only.
3. Under the Nasaq system, the tax rate was calculated strictly on the basis of a fixed rate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1 and 3 only

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

#### Land Revenue System of Akbar

##### ***Dahsala System***

The Dahsala or Zabti System was introduced by Akbar in the year 1580 in order to put a check on the problems that were arising due to fixing prices each year and revenue settlement of the last year.

- It was basically developed by Raja Todarmal, the finance minister during the Mughal Empire. Therefore, it was also called Todarmal's Bandobast settlement system.
- The tax was calculated on the **average prices** and **produces** during the **last ten years**.
- Under the system, the land was properly measured.
- **One-third** of the average crop production was given to the state.
- The peasants were required to pay taxes in cash.
- The peasants were required to pay taxes on the basis of the local productivity as well as local prices. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The system prevailed from Allahabad to Lahore and in the provinces of Gujarat and Malwa.

##### ***Batai System/ Ghalla Bakshi***

**Batai System:** Under this system, the crop was stacked after harvest into various heaps of equal quantity and then heap was taken by the government officials in proportion to the state demand.

- **Khet Batai:** Under this system the fields, after they had been sown or while the crop was still standing unripe were divided by marking.

- **Lang Batai:** It was a system in which the division was made after the grain was separated from the chaff and made into equal heaps in the same manner as it was done for Batai proper.
- The peasants were given the choice of paying in cash or in kind, though the state preferred cash.
  - In the case of cash crops like cotton, indigo, oil seeds, sugarcane etc., the state demand was invariably in cash. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

#### **Nasaq System/ Kankut System**

Under this system, the cultivators and the government officials arrived at a general estimate of the produce by mutual agreement.

- In the Hindi language, '**Kan**' signifies grain and '**Kut**' refers to an estimate.
- It is the rough calculation of the amount payable by the peasant of what he had been paying in the past. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

#### **QUESTION 12:**

Consider the following pairs:

Officier	Role
1. Barids	Reporter
2. Waqia-Navis	Intelligence officers
3. Mir Saman	In-charge of the imperial household

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

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 3 only

**Answer: D**

#### **Explanation:**

Various Officers under Mughal Administration

- **Quanungos:** Hereditary land-holders as well as local officers
- **Faujdar:** In-charge of law and order
- **Amalguzar:** Assessment and collection of land revenue
- **Wazir:** Head of Revenue Department
- **Mir Bakhshi:** Head of Military Department
- **Barids:** Intelligence Officer/Spies
- **Waqia-Navis:** Reporter
- **Mir Saman:** Incharge of Imperial-household

#### **QUESTION 13:**

Consider the following statements regarding Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES):

1. It is caused by the Japanese Encephalitis virus.
2. It is characterized by high fever and inflammation of the brain.
3. Hypoglycaemia is a major cause of death among young children due to AES.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: D**

- **Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES)** is a broad term involving several infections and affects young children. The syndrome can be caused by viruses, bacteria or fungi. In India, the most common cause is the virus that causes Japanese Encephalitis (JE). **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Acute encephalitis syndrome is a severe case of encephalitis transmitted by mosquitoes and is characterized by high fever and inflammation of the brain. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Hypoglycaemia (Low blood sugar)** is a commonly seen sign among patients of AES, and the link has been the subject of research over the years. Low blood sugar among young children with fever is the reason behind the deaths of young children. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 14:

Carbon Quantum Dots, recently in the news is related to?

- (A) Desalination of salt water technique.
- (B) Process used in chimneys to filter pollutants in air.
- (C) Diagnostic tool for detection of cancerous cells in the human body.
- (D) Device used in LED television screen for better visual effects.

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

- A team of scientists in Council of Scientific & Industrial Research-North East Institute of Science and Technology (**CSIR-NEIST**), Assam has developed a chemical process that turns 'dirty' coal into a **biomedical 'dot' to help detect cancer cells.**
- They have applied for a patent for their chemical method of producing **Carbon Quantum Dots (CQDs)** from cheap, abundant, low-quality and high-sulphur coals.
- CQDs are carbon-based nanomaterials whose size is less than 10 nm, or nanometre.
- Carbon-based nanomaterials are used as diagnostic tools for bio-imaging, especially in detecting cancer cells, for chemical sensing and optoelectronics. The CQDs that the CSIR-NEIST team developed emit a bluish colour with high-stability. **Hence, option C is correct.**

#### QUESTION 15:

Which among the following best describes the 'AWaRe tool'?

- (A) It is a campaign launched by the government to tackle anti-terrorist activities through community participation.
- (B) An initiative to raise awareness about Non Communicable dDiseases.
- (C) It is an anti-corruption drive started by the government to check corruption in government offices.
- (D) It is a tool developed by the WHO to contain rising antibiotic resistance.

**Answer: D**

#### Explanation:

- The **AWaRe tool was developed by the WHO Essential Medicines List** to contain rising resistance and make antibiotic use safer and more effective by providing guidelines (over the effective use of antibiotics) to the policy-makers and health workers.
- AWaRe makes it easier for policy-makers, prescribers and health workers to select the right antibiotic at the right time, and to protect endangered antibiotics.
- It classifies antibiotics into three groups:
  - **Access**— antibiotics used to treat the most common and serious infections.
  - **Watch**— antibiotics available at all times in the healthcare system.

- **Reserve**— antibiotics to be used sparingly or preserved and used only as a last resort. **Hence, option D is correct.**

#### QUESTION 16:

Regarding the E-way bill system, consider the following statements:

1. It is applicable only for inter-state movement of goods.
2. Consignment having a minimum monetary value of Rs. 5,00,000 is required to have the e-way bill.
3. Both transporters and individuals can generate e-way bill from GST portal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 2 only  
(C) 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3 only

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

**E-way Bill System** has been introduced nation-wide for **inter-State movement of goods** with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 while the States were given the option to choose any date till 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2018 for the introduction of the E-way bill system for **intra-State supplies**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

#### Objectives of E-Way Bill System

- Single and unified E-way bill for inter-State and intra-State movement of goods for the whole country in self-service mode,
- Enabling the paperless and fully online system to facilitate seamless movement of goods across all the States,
- Improve service delivery with the quick turnaround time for the entire supply chain and provide anytime anywhere access to data/services,
- To facilitate the hassle-free movement of goods by abolishing inter-State check posts across the country.

#### Conditions for Generating E-way Bill

- E-Way bill will be generated when there is a movement of goods in a vehicle/ conveyance of value more than **Rs. 50,000**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

#### Who can Generate E-Way Bill?

- **Registered Person:** E-Way bill must be generated when there is a movement of goods of more than Rs 50,000 in value to or from a Registered Person.
  - A Registered person or the transporter may choose to generate and carry E-Way bill even if the value of goods is less than Rs 50,000.
- **Unregistered Person:** Unregistered persons are also required to generate e-Way Bill. However, where a supply is made by an unregistered person to a registered person, the receiver will have to ensure all the compliances are met as if they were the supplier.
- **Transporter:** Transporters carrying goods by road, air, rail, etc. also need to generate E-Way Bill if the supplier has not generated an E-Way Bill. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 17:

Consider the following statements: (2019)

1. In the revenue administration of Delhi Sultanate, the in-charge of revenue collection was known as 'Amil'.

2. The Iqta system of Sultans of Delhi was an ancient indigenous institution.
3. The office of 'Mir Bakshi' came into existence during the reign of Khalji Sultans of Delhi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only  
(B) 1 and 2 only  
(C) 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- In the Delhi Sultanate, the task of collecting revenue directly from peasants and measurement of land rested on Amils. **Hence, statement 1 is correct**
- Iqta system **evolved in West Asia**, particularly in Persia under the Buyid dynasty, which formalized the system and ruled during the 10th and 11th century.
  - In India, the system was provided an institutional status by Iltutmish (Mamluk dynasty). Under the Iqta system, the land of the empire was divided into various tracts of land called Iqta which were assigned to officers known as 'Iqtadars' **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Ghiyas ud-din Balban (1266 -1287) had setup a military department called 'Diwan-i-arz', under which 'Arizi- mamalik' was responsible for the organization and maintenance of the royal army.
  - Alauddin Khalji introduced 'Dagh' system (i.e. branding of horses) to improve horse quality as well as eliminate fake numbering to further enhance efficiency of Diwan-i-arz department. In contrast,
  - Mir Bhakshi was the head of the military department during Mughal India. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

**QUESTION 18:**

Consider the following:

The arrival of Babur into India led to the (2015)

1. Introduction of gunpowder in the subcontinent
2. Introduction of the arch and dome in the region's architecture
3. Establishment of Timurid dynasty in the region

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 3 only  
(C) 1 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

- **The Mongol invasion of India in the 13th century introduced gunpowder technology in India from China.**
  - 'Tarikh-i-Firishta', a 17th century chronicle, records that in 1258 AD, the envoy of the Mongol ruler Hulegu Khan was accompanied with a dazzling pyrotechnics (fireworks) display upon his arrival in Delhi. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Mamluk Sultans first introduced arches and domes in the Indian subcontinent as evident from Qutb Complex in Delhi. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

- The Mughal Empire was founded by Babur (1526– 1530), who descended from the Turco-Mongol conqueror Timur (the founder of the Timurid Empire). Thus, he established the Timurid dynasty in the region. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 19:

Regarding the taxation system of Krishna Deva, the ruler of Vijayanagar, consider the following statements: (2016)

1. The tax rate on land was fixed depending on the quality of the land.
2. Private owners of workshops paid an industries tax.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

- The Vijayanagara Empire dominated India south of the Vindhyas for more than 200 years. It was founded by Harihara Rai and Bukka Rai, feudatories of Kakatiyas of Warangal in 1336 AD. It was ruled by four dynasties namely, Sangama, Saluva, Tuluva and Aravidu. Krishna Deva Raya (1509-1530) belonged to the Tuluva dynasty.
- The **tax rate on land** during Krishna Deva Raya was **based upon the quality of land**. A careful study of the inscriptions of the period shows that it was the policy of the Vijayanagar Kings to base assessment on the fertility and regional location of the land. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Industries tax was prevalent in Vijayanagara Empire and private owners of workshops paid an industries tax. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 20:

What was the immediate reason for Ahmad Shah Abdali to invade India and fight the Third Battle of Panipat? (2010)

- (A) He wanted to avenge the expulsion by Marathas of his viceroy Timur Shah from Lahore.
- (B) The frustrated governor of Jullundhar Adina Beg Khan invited him to invade Punjab.
- (C) He wanted to punish Mughal administration for non-payment of the revenues of the Chahar Mahal (Gujarat, Aurangabad, Sialkot & Pasrur).
- (D) He wanted to annex all the fertile plains of Punjab up to the borders of Delhi to his kingdom.

**Answer: A**

#### Explanation:

- In 1758, the Maratha forces under Raghunath Rao crossed into the Punjab and drove out Prince Timur, son of Ahmad Shah Abdali whom the latter had left as the governor of the Punjab, and appointed Adina Beg Khan as its governor. Abdali took up the Maratha's expansion as a challenge to his authority.
- As a result, the Third Battle of Panipat was fought between Marathas and Ahmad Shah in 1761, which resulted in Afghan victory and ceasure of Maratha's dream of unifying India under their rule. **Therefore, option A is the correct.**

### QUESTION 21:

Which of the following was/were the cause of the decline of the Mughal Empire?

1. Weak rulers
2. Wars of succession
3. Religious policies
4. Foreign invasion

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

### Explanation:

#### Causes of the decline of the Mughal Empire:

- **Weak Successors of Aurangzeb:** The successors of Aurangzeb were weak and became victims of the intrigues and conspiracies of the faction-ridden nobles. They were inefficient generals and incapable of suppressing revolts. The absence of a strong ruler, an efficient bureaucracy and a capable army had made the Mughal Empire weak.
- **Wars of Succession:** The Mughals **did not follow any law of succession** like the law of primogeniture. Consequently, each time a ruler died, a war of succession between the brothers for the throne started. This weakened the Mughal Empire, especially after Aurangzeb. The nobles, by siding with one contender or the other, increased their own power.
- **Aurangzeb's religious Policies:** The Mughal Empire had started **disintegrating in the life time of Aurangzeb himself. Aurangzeb attempted to make India Darul Islam, that is, a place for the people believing in the Islamic faith.** His policy gave a severe jolt to the policy of Akbar to build India as Sulah-i-Kul, that is, a place of religious toleration.
  - Aurangzeb failed to realise that the vast Mughal Empire depended on the willing support of the people. He lost the support of the Rajputs who had contributed greatly to the strength of the Empire. They had acted as pillars of support, but Aurangzeb's policy turned them to bitter foes.
  - The wars with the Sikhs, the Marathas, the Jats and the Rajputs had drained the resources of the Mughal Empire.
- **Empty Treasury:** Shah Jahan's zeal for construction had depleted the treasury. Aurangzeb's long wars in the south had further drained the exchequer.
- **Size of the Empire and Challenge from Regional Powers:** The Mughal Empire had become too large to be controlled by any ruler from one centre i.e. Delhi. The Great Mughals were efficient and exercised control over ministers and army, but the later Mughals were poor administrators. As a result, the distant provinces became independent. The rise of independent states led to the disintegration of the Mughal Empire.
- **Invasions:** Foreign invasions sapped the remaining strength of the Mughals and hastened the process of disintegration. The **invasions of Nadir Shah and Ahmad Shah Abdali** resulted in further drainage of wealth. These invasions shook the very stability of the empire.
- Thus, all the given points were the causes of the decline of Mughal Empire. **Hence, option D is correct.**

### QUESTION 22:

With reference to Paika rebellion, consider the following statements:

1. Paika were the peasant militias of the Gajapati rulers of Odisha.
2. The rebellion was not supported by other sections of society.
3. Baxi Jagabandhu was the hereditary chief of the militia army.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 3 only  
(B) 2 only  
(C) 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- Paikas were essentially the **peasant militias of the Gajapati rulers of Odisha** who rendered military service to the king during times of war while taking up cultivation during times of peace. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The English Company's conquest of Odisha in 1803, and the dethronement of the Raja of Khurda had greatly reduced the power and prestige of the Paikas. Further, the extortionist land revenue policy of the Company caused resentment among zamindars and peasants alike.
- The Paikas attacked British symbols of power, setting ablaze police stations, administrative offices and the treasury during their march towards Khurda.
- The Paikas were **supported by the rajas, zamindars, village heads and ordinary peasants**. The rebellion quickly spread to different parts of the province. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Paikas under the leadership of **Baxi Jagabandhu, the hereditary chief of the militia army of the Gajapati King of Khurda** (a kingdom near Puri), rose in rebellion in March 1817, taking support of tribals and other sections of society.
- The Paikas retreated into the thick jungles of Odisha and carried out guerrilla warfare for several years. After successive defeats, the Paika leader, Bakshi Jagabandhu, surrendered to the British in 1825 and lived as a prisoner in Cuttack till his death in 1829. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

**QUESTION 23:**

Consider the following pairs:

Movements	Region
1. Moplah Uprisings	Kerala
2. Khond Uprisings	West Bengal
3. Singphos Rebellion	Assam
4. Bhil Revolts	Chhota Nagpur Plateau

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

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

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

- **Moplah Uprisings:** It was due to the hike in revenue demand and reduction of field size, coupled with the oppression of officials. It resulted in widespread peasant unrest among the **Moplahs of Malabar**. Twenty-two rebellions took place between 1836 and 1854. None, however, proved successful.

- The second Moplah uprising occurred after the Moplahs came to be organised by the Congress and the Khilafat supporters during the Non-cooperation Movement. But Hindu-Muslim differences distanced the Congress and the Moplahs from each other. **Hence, pair 1 is correct.**
- **Khond Uprisings:** From 1837 to 1856, the Khonds of the hilly tracts extending from Odisha to the Srikakulam and Visakhapatnam districts of **Andhra Pradesh** revolted against Company rule.
  - Chakra Bisnoi, a young raja, led the Khonds who were joined by the Ghumsar, Kalahandi and other tribals to oppose the suppression of human sacrifice, new taxes, and the entry of zamindars into their areas.
  - With Chakra Bisnoi's disappearance, the uprising came to an end.
  - A later Khond rebellion in 1914 in the Orissa region was triggered by the hope that foreign rule would end and they could gain an autonomous government. **Hence, pair 2 is not correct.**
- **Singphos Rebellion:** The rebellion of the **Singphos in Assam** in early 1830 was immediately quelled but they continued to organise revolts. An uprising in 1839 saw the death of the British political agent. Chief Nirang Phidu led an uprising in 1843, which involved an attack on the British garrison and the death of many soldiers. **Hence, pair 3 is correct.**
  - Some of the smaller movements were those of the Mishmis (in 1836); the Khampti rebellion in Assam between 1839 and 1842; the Lushais' revolt in 1842 and 1844, when they attacked villages in Manipur.
- **Bhil Revolts:** The Bhils who lived in the **Western Ghats controlled the mountain passes between the north and the Deccan**. They revolted against Company rule in 1817-19, as they had to face famine, economic distress and misgovernment.
  - The British used both force and conciliatory efforts to control the uprising. However, the Bhils revolted again in 1825, 1831 and in 1846.
  - Later, a reformer, Govind Guru helped the Bhils of south Rajasthan (Banswara, Sunth states) to organise themselves to fight for a Bhil Raj by 1913. **Hence, pair 4 is not correct.**

#### QUESTION 24:

The term 'Izaradars' used during British administration in India, refers to?

- (A) The spies of the government residing in Presidencies of British India.
- (B) The British Resident living in the various princely states.
- (C) The contractor who has right to collect revenue from a particular area.
- (D) The sharecroppers who were given the right to cultivate directly on the lands.

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

- **Izaredari system was introduced in 1773** by Warren Hastings in Bengal, whereby he assumed that all land belongs to the State. This was the **first land tenure system** implemented in India by British. Under this system, the right right of collecting revenue of a particular area was auctioned to the highest bidder.
  - In order to meet the war expenses against the Marathas and Mysore, he made a plan to earn money by involving English officers as **izaradars (revenue farmers) in Awadh**.
  - The peasants, shopkeepers and merchants had to pay their taxes to the Izaredar who eventually was also the highest bidder to the company.
  - It was a secret experiment by the Company to see for itself just how much surplus money was accessible in practice.
- Warren Hastings involved **Major Alexander Hannay**, who was well acquainted with the region, as an izaradar in 1778. Hannay secured the izara of Gorakhpur and Bahraich to the amount of 22 lakh rupees for one year. The zamindars and cultivators rose against the unbearable exactions in 1781. **Hence, option C is correct**

### QUESTION 25:

With reference to the Revolt of 1857, consider the following statements:

1. The Revolt of 1857 was the first sepoy mutiny against the British rule.
2. The Sikh ruler's had shown allegiance towards the British administration.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: B**

### Explanation:

- The most important mutinies which broke out during the **pre-1857 period** are the following:
  - The mutiny of the sepoys in Bengal in 1764.
  - The Vellore mutiny of 1806 when the sepoys protested against interference in their social and religious practices and raised a banner of revolt unfurling the flag of the ruler of Mysore.
  - The mutiny of the sepoys of the 47th Native Infantry Unit in 1824.
  - The revolt of the Grenadier Company in Assam in 1825.
  - The mutiny of an Indian regiment at Sholapur in 1838.
  - The mutinies of the 34th Native Infantry (N.I.), the 22nd N.I., the 66th N.I. and the 37th N.I. in 1844, 1849, 1850 and 1852 respectively. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Educated Indians viewed 1857 revolt as backward looking, **supportive of the feudal order and as a reaction of traditional conservative forces to modernity**; these people had high hopes that the British would usher in an era of modernisation.
- **Most Indian rulers refused to join, and often gave active help to the British.** Rulers who did not participate included the **Sindhia of Gwalior, the Holkar of Indore, the rulers of Patiala, Sindh and other Sikh chieftains** and the **Maharaja of Kashmir**. Indeed, by one estimate, not more than one-fourth of the total area and not more than one-tenth of the total population was affected. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

### QUESTION 26:

Consider the following pairs:

GI Tag Product	State
1. Kandagi Saree	Telangana
2. Tawlhlohpuan	Mizoram
3. Tirur Vettala	Kerala

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 and 3 only

**Answer: C**

### Explanation:

**Kandagi Saree:** It is manufactured in Karaikudi taluk in Sivaganga district of **Tamil Nadu**.

- They display brilliant colours like bright yellow, orange, red and a minimal black in the traditional pattern of stripes or checks with broad borders woven in coarse cotton.

- Kandangi saree is manually made using a winding machine, loom, shuttle and bobbin. **Hence, pair 1 is not correctly matched.**

**Tawhlhlopuan:** It is a medium to heavy, compactly woven, good quality fabric from **Mizoram**.

- It is known for warp yarns, warping, weaving & intricate designs that are made by hand.
- **Tawhlhloh**, in Mizo language, means ‘**to stand firm or not to move backward**’.
- It is produced throughout the state of Mizoram, **Aizawl** and **Thenzawl** town being the main centre of production. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**

**Tirur Vettla:** It is a type of betel leaf which is grown in Tirur and nearby areas of Malappuram district of **Kerala**.

- Tirur Vettla is unique for its significantly high content of total chlorophyll and protein in fresh leaves.
- Tirur vettla possesses some special biochemical characters like unique flavour and aroma.
  - Eugenol is the major essential oil in Tirur betel leaf contributing to its pungency.
- The leaves are nutritive and contain anticarcinogens, showing future opportunities in anticancer drugs
- Betel vine was reported to have immunosuppressive activity and antimicrobial property. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

#### Other Products that received GI Tags

**Palani Panchamirtham:** It is one of the main religious offerings to Lord Dhandayuthapani Swamy, the presiding deity of Arulmigu Dhandayuthapani Swamy Temple, situated in palani hills in Dindigul District of **Tamil Nadu**.

- It is a combination of five natural substances, namely, bananas, jaggery sugar, cow ghee, honey and cardamom in a definite proportion.
- This is the first time a temple ‘prasadam’ from Tamil Nadu has been bestowed with the GI tag.

**Dindigul Locks:** They are famous throughout the world for their superior quality and durability. Dindigul is located in **Tamil Nadu** and popularly known as **Lock City**.

**Mizo Puanchei:** It is a colourful **shawl/textile** from **Mizoram**. It is considered the most colourful among the Mizo textiles.

- It is an essential possession for every Mizo lady and an important marriage outfit in the state.
- The weavers insert the designs and motifs by using supplementary yarns while weaving to create this beautiful and alluring textile.

#### QUESTION 27:

Which of the following is/ are the consequences of ‘Revolt of 1857’?

1. The transfer of power from a trading company to a sovereign power of Britain.
2. The treaties and agreements entered into by the East India Company with rulers of the Indian states cease to exist.
3. The strength of Indian soldiers in the army was reduced.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 2 only  
(C) 1 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

- The revolt of 1857 marks a turning point in the history of India. It led to far-reaching changes in the system of administration and the policies of the British government.

- The British Parliament, on August 2, 1858, passed the Government of India Act of 1858 for the Better Government of India.
- The Act declared Queen Victoria as the sovereign of British India. The **direct responsibility for the administration of the country was assumed by the British Crown** and **Company rule was abolished**.
  - The most significant result of the mutiny was the transfer of power from a trading company to a sovereign power of Britain by the Government of India Act of 1858. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Other salient features of Government of India Act of 1858
  - This Act of 1858 completed the process initiated by the Charter Act of 1853. In the place of the President of the Board of Control, the Secretary of State for India was appointed.
  - The **Secretary of State for India** was assisted and helped by a **15-member body of India Council**.
  - Out of the fifteen, eight were appointed by the crown and the rest were to be appointed by the court of directors.
  - The designation of the **Governor General of India was changed to Viceroy**.
  - In case of the rulers of the Indian states, the crown made categorical announcement that all the treaties and agreements entered into by the East India Company will be honoured and respected and made it clear that no renewal was necessary. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Army, which was at the forefront of the outbreak, was thoroughly reorganised and British military policy came to be dominated by the idea of **"division and counterpoise"**.
  - The British no longer were dependent on Indian loyalty, so the **number of Indian soldiers was drastically reduced** even as the number of European soldiers was increased.
  - The concept of **divide and rule** was adopted with separate units being created on the basis of caste/community/region.
  - Recruits were to be drawn from the 'martial' races of Punjab, Nepal, and north-western frontier who had proved loyal to the British during the Revolt. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 28:

Consider the following events:

1. Wood's Despatch
2. The Sarda Act
3. Abolition of Sati
4. Widows' Remarriage Act

Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the above events?

- (A) 4-3-2-1
- (B) 2-3-4-1
- (C) 3-1-4-2
- (D) 2-3-1-4

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

- **Abolition of Sati:** Influenced by the frontal attack launched by the enlightened Indian reformers led by Raja Rammohan Roy, the government declared the practice of sati illegal and punishable by criminal courts as culpable homicide.
  - The **regulation of 1829** (Regulation XVII, A.D. 1829 of the Bengal Code) was applicable in the first instance to Bengal Presidency alone, but was extended in slightly modified forms to Madras and Bombay Presidencies in 1830.

- **Wood's Despatch:** In 1854, Charles Wood prepared a despatch on an educational system for India. It is considered as the “**Magna Carta of English Education in India**”, this document was the first comprehensive plan for the spread of education in India.
- **Widow Remarriage:** The Brahmo Samaj had the issue of widow remarriage high on its agenda and did much to popularise it. But it was mainly due to the efforts of Pandit **Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar (1820-91)**, the principal of Sanskrit College, Calcutta, that the Hindu **Widows' Remarriage Act, 1856**, was passed; it legalised marriage of widows and declared issues from such marriages as legitimate. Vidyasagar cited Vedic texts to prove that the Hindu religion sanctioned widow remarriage.
- **Controlling Child Marriage:** The **Native Marriage Act (or Civil Marriage Act), 1872** signified legislative action in prohibiting child marriage. It had a limited impact, as the Act was not applicable to Hindus, Muslims and other recognised faiths.
- The relentless efforts of a Parsi reformer, B.M. Malabari, were rewarded by the enactment of the Age of Consent Act (1891) which forbade the marriage of girls below the age of 12.
  - **The Sarda Act (1930)** further pushed up the marriage age to 18 and 14 for boys and girls, respectively. In free India, the Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act, 1978 raised the age of marriage for girls from 15 to 18 years and for boys from 18 to 21.
- Hence, option C is correct.

#### QUESTION 29:

Consider the following pairs:

Intangible Heritage	State
1. Ramman	Maharashtra
2. Kutiyattam	Kerala
3. Mudi yettu	Karnataka
4. Sankirtana	Manipur

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

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 3 and 4 only
- (D) 2 and 4 only

**Answer: D**

#### Explanation:

A total of **13 Intangible cultural heritage (ICH)** elements from India have been inscribed on the **UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity**, which are listed below:

1. Tradition of Vedic chanting (2008)
2. Ramlila (2008)
3. Kutiyattam (2008)
4. Ramman (2009)
5. Mudi yettu (2010)
6. Kalbelia (2010)
7. Chhau Dance (2010)
8. Buddhist chanting of Ladakh (2012)
9. Sankirtana (2013)
10. Traditional brass and copper craft of utensil making among the Thatheras (2014)
11. Yoga (2016)

12. Nowruz (2016)

13. Kumbh Mela (2017)

- **Ramman:** It is a religious festival and ritual theatre, celebrated by the **Hindu Community** in the Saloor-Dungra villages of the Painskhanda Valley (Garhwal region) in the Chamoli district of **Uttarakhand**. Hence, pair 1 is not correct.
  - It is celebrated in honour of the tutelary god, **Bhumiya Devta**, a local divinity whose temple houses most of the festivities.
  - It combines theatre, music, historical reconstructions, and traditional oral and written tales.
- **Kutiyattam:** Kutiyattam, Sanskrit theatre, which is practised in the **province of Kerala**, is one of India's oldest living theatrical traditions. Kutiyattam represents a synthesis of Sanskrit classicism and reflects the local traditions of Kerala. Hence, pair 2 is correct.
  - In its stylized and codified theatrical language, **neta abhinaya** (eye expression) and **hasta abhinaya** (the language of gestures) are prominent. They focus on the thoughts and feelings of the main character.
  - It is traditionally performed in theatres called Kuttampalams, which are located in Hindu temples.
  - **Mizhavu** is the major musical instrument used here.
- **Mudiyettu:** It is a ritual dance, drama **from Kerala** based on the mythological tale of a battle between the **goddess Kali** and the **demon Darika**. Hence, pair 3 is not correct.
  - It is performed after the summer harvest season.
  - It provides an opportunity to enhance mutual cooperation through collective participation of each caste in the ritual, strengthening their common identity and bonding.
- **Sankirtana:** It encompasses an array of arts performed to mark religious occasions and various stages in the life of the Vaishnava people of the **Manipur plains**.
  - It is performed in the centre of the temple. In this, the performers narrate the lives and deeds of **Lord Krishna** through song and dance.
  - The musical instruments mainly used are **Cymbals and Drums**. Hence, pair 4 is correct.

### QUESTION 30:

Which of the following organisation (s) is/ are involved in the preservation and propagation of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of India (ICH)?

1. Anthropological Survey of India
2. National School of Drama
3. Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2, and 3

**Answer: D**

### Explanation:

- **Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)** includes traditions or living expressions inherited from ancestors and passed on to our descendants, such as oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature or the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts.
- The Ministry of Culture makes regular Schemes, as well as organisations, make efforts towards preservation, protection and promotion of **intangible cultural heritage** in the country. Some of the major organisations involved in the preservation and propagation of ICH are named below:

- Sahitya Akademi, Lalit Kala Akademi, Sangeet Natak Akademi
- Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts
- National School of Drama
- Centre for Cultural Resources & Training
- Zonal Cultural Centres (seven in number)
- Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya
- Anthropological Survey of India

Hence, 1, 2 and 3 are involved in the preservation and propagation of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of India (ICH). Hence, option D is correct.

### QUESTION 31:

With reference to 'Amara-nayaka system', consider the following statements:

1. The system originated in the Vijayanagara Empire.
2. Amara-nayakas were part of civil administration.
3. They collected taxes and other dues from peasants, craftspersons and traders.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 3 only  
(B) 2 only  
(C) 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A

### Explanation:

- The **Amara-nayaka system** was a major political innovation of the **Vijayanagara Empire**. It is likely that many features of this system were derived from the **iqta system** of the Delhi Sultanate. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The Amara-nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern by raya. The rulers of Vijayanagara called themselves rayas. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- The functions of Amara-nayakas are:
  - They **collected taxes and other dues from peasants, craftspersons and traders** in the area. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.
  - They retained part of the revenue for personal use and for maintaining a stipulated contingent of horses and elephants.
  - These contingents provided the Vijayanagara kings with an effective fighting force with which they brought the entire southern peninsula under their control.
  - Some of the revenue was also used for the maintenance of temples and irrigation works.
- The Amara-nayakas sent tribute to the king annually and personally appeared in the royal court with gifts to express their loyalty. Kings occasionally asserted their control over them by transferring them from one place to another.
  - However, during the course of the seventeenth century, many of these nayakas established independent kingdoms. This hastened the collapse of the central imperial structure.

### QUESTION 32:

Consider the following pairs:

- | Taxation | Purpose                  |
|----------|--------------------------|
| 1. Jizya | Protection of non-muslim |

- |          |                   |
|----------|-------------------|
| 2. Zakat | Charitable causes |
| 3. Ushr  | Sand tax          |

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

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

Following were the few important taxes charged by Turkish Sultans of India in the medieval period:

- **Zakat:** It is an Islamic finance term referring to the **obligation that an individual** has to donate a certain proportion of wealth each year to **charitable causes**. Zakat is a mandatory process for Muslims and is regarded as a form of worship. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- **Jizya:** It was levied on **non-Muslims in return for the protection of life and property** and exemption from military service. Women, children, indigent and the Brahmanas were exempted from it. **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- **Sharaf:** It was the **irrigation tax charged at the rate of 1/10th of the produce**. This was imposed by Firoz Tughlaq.
- **Kharaj:** It was the **tax charged on the lands owned** by the Hindus and it varied from one-tenth to one-half.
- **Ushr:** It was the **Sand tax** charged on the lands held by the Muslims. It was usually one-tenth of the total produce. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

**QUESTION 33:**

Consider the following statements:

1. The sale and purchase of slaves were prevalent in Delhi sultanate.
2. The iqta was the land granted to military commanders.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- The consolidation of a kingdom as vast as the Delhi Sultanate needed reliable governors and administrators. Rather than appointing aristocrats and landed chieftains as governors, the early Delhi Sultans, especially Iltutmish, favoured their **special slaves purchased for military service**, called **bandagan in Persian**.
  - **Bandagan** were carefully trained to man some of the most important political offices in the kingdom. Since they were totally dependent upon their master, the Sultan could trust and rely upon them. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The **Khaljis and Tughluqs** continued to use bandagan and also raised people of humble birth, who were often their clients, to high political positions. They were appointed as generals and governors. However, this also introduced an element of political instability.
  - Slaves and clients were loyal to their masters and patrons, but not to their heirs. New Sultans

had their own servants. As a result, the accession of a new monarch often saw conflict between the old and the new nobility.

- The **Khalji and Tughluq monarchs** appointed military commanders as governors of territories of varying sizes. These lands were called iqta and their holder was called **iqtadar or muqti**. The duty of the muqtis was to lead military campaigns and maintain law and order in their **iqtas**.
  - In exchange for their military services, the muqtis collected the revenues of their assignments as salary. They also paid their soldiers from these revenues. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 34:

‘Pampa, Ponna and Ranna’ are associated with which of the following Dravidian literature?

- (A) Tamil literature
- (B) Telugu literature
- (C) Kannada literature
- (D) Malayalam literature

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

- The period of 10<sup>th</sup> century AD in Kannada literature was dominated by the “three gems” of **Jaina literature, Pampa, Ponna, and Ranna**, as well as by **Nagavarma I**, a 10th-century **Kannada grammarian**.
- **Pampa** was the adikavi (“first of poets”), having attained that stature with two great epics: **Vikramarjuna Vijaya and Adipurana**. The former is a rendering of the Mahabharata, with the hero, Arjuna, identified with the poet’s royal patron, **Chalukya Arikesari**.
- Pampa’s Adipurana tells the story of the Jaina hero-saint Purudeva, his previous life, his life from birth to marriage to holy death, as well as the lives of his sons, Bharata and Bahubali.
- **Ponna and Ranna** have written **Shanti purana and Ajith purana** respectively. These two poets were attached to the court of **Rashtrakuta king, Krishna III**. **Hence, option C is correct.**

#### QUESTION 35:

Consider the following statements:

1. Alvar were the shaivite saint poets in tamil speaking region.
2. Andal was one of the Alvar saints in the tamil region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

- In South India, the Vaishnavite movement was very strong and it reigned till the end of the 13th century. These saints, called **Alvars**, were devotees of **Vishnu** and they sang songs which were collected and made into prabhandas. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - Another powerful group in the South was the **Shaivites or those who worshipped Shiva**. The saints who followed this were called ‘**Nayanars**’.
- **Andal** was a 10th century Tamil poet who is revered as a saint in the southern parts of India. She is considered as one of the **twelve Alvars (saints)** and the only woman Alvar (saint) of Vaishnavism (a cult devoted to Lord Vishnu). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

### QUESTION 36:

With reference to Vedanta Desikan, consider the following statements:

1. He was the contemporary of Krishnadeva Raya.
2. He was the propagator of Shaiva tradition in southern India.
3. His philosophy was based on the principle of inclusion where people from all caste were welcomed.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 1 and 3 only  
(C) 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C

### Explanation:

The Vice President released a **postage stamp** to commemorate the **750th birth anniversary** of **Sri Vedanta Desikan**.

- **Sri Vedanta Desikan** was born in **1268** and died in **1369**. He was not the contemporary of Krishna Deva Raya, as Krishna Deva Raya ruled the Vijayanagara Empire from 1509 to 1529 AD. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- He is one of the most prominent preceptors in the **Sri Vaishnava tradition** and one of the most effulgent luminaries of South India. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- He followed the philosophy of Ramanuja's Vishishtadvaita.
- Much more than a spiritual teacher, he was a multi-faceted personality-- a scientist, a logician, a mathematician, a literary genius, a linguist, a military strategist and much more.
- He was celebrated as '**sarva-tantra-svatantra**' master of all arts and crafts; awarded the title '**kavi-tarkika-kesari**' the lion amongst poets and logicians; and glorified as '**ramanuja-daya-patram**' the recipient of Ramanuja's blessings.
- He had authored brilliant poems, prose, drama, epics, commentaries, scientific texts and philosophical treatises in Sanskrit, Tamil, Prakrit and Manipravalam.
  - He mastered the Vedas, the Vedangas, the **4000 Divya Prabhanda** (collection of 4,000 Tamil verses) and all the existing schools of Indian philosophy such as **Nyaya, Vaisheshika, Purva Mimamsa, Yoga and Sankhya** by the age of twenty.
- He also expressed his genius in the field of arts and sciences through other works such as:
  - **Aahaara Niyamam** that detailed how different food items help in maintaining a healthy mind and a disease-free life.
  - **Subhashita Neevi** contains a fund of moral and ethical advice which is relevant and practical.
  - **Silpartha-saram**-a treatise on sculpture.
  - **Bhugola-nirnayam**-a research text on geography.
- His philosophy was **based on inclusion**, where anyone irrespective of caste and creed could join the Sri Vaishnava fold. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

### QUESTION 37:

Which one of the following best describes the term 'Mutazila'?

- (A) Rationalist Islamic Philosophy  
(B) Pilgrimage Tradition of Islam  
(C) Octagonal-shaped Tomb  
(D) System of inheritance in Islamic Society

Answer: A

**Explanation:**

In Islamic philosophy, '**Mutazila**' was referred to as the **rationalist school of philosophy**. They professed strict monotheism.

- According to them, God is just and has nothing to do with man's evil actions. Men are endowed with free will and are responsible for their own actions.
- They were variously maligned as free thinkers and heretics.
- They stressed the absolute unity or oneness (tawḥīd) of God.
  - From this, it was logically concluded that the Quran could not be technically considered the word of God (the orthodox view), as God has no separable parts, and so had to be created and was not co-eternal with God.
- The Mutazila posited that God desires only the best for man, but **through free will**, man chooses between good and evil and thus becomes ultimately responsible for his actions.
  - While the orthodox were concerned with the awful will of God to which each individual must submit himself without question.
- The tenth-century is important in Islamic history as it marks the end of the domination of the **Mutazila** or **rationalist philosophy** and the rise of orthodox schools based on the Quran and Hadis and of the Sufi mystic orders. **Hence, option A is correct.**

**QUESTION 38:**

With reference to Dnyaneshwar, consider the following statements:

1. He was the follower of Veerashaiva tradition.
2. He has written a commentary on the Bhagavad Gita.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

**Explanation:**

Vice-President of India inaugurated the **world's largest dome** at the Maharashtra Institute of Technology (MIT)'s World Peace University (MIT-WPU) on the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The dome is named after the 13th-century poet-saint and philosopher **Dnyaneshwar**.

- Dnyaneshwar, also known as Jnaneshwar (1275–1296), was a **13th century Marathi saint and philosopher**.
- He was a worshipper of **Vithoba (Vitthala)** who is considered a manifestation of **Vishnu**. He was a follower of Nath Yogi Tradition. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- He also drew inspiration from the Upanishads and Bhagavad Gita. He authored **Dnyaneshwari**, a commentary on the **Bhagavad Gita** and Amrutanubhav. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The Virshaivas are a Shaivite sect in Hinduism that emerged in the 12th Century AD in Karnataka during the reign of Kalachuri dynasty. They opposed the elaborate rituals prescribed by Hindu priests. They also rejected the caste system and various social practices of Hindus.
  - It was initiated by Basavanna. They wanted a more egalitarian society and greater individual freedom. The followers are called Virshaiva (heroes of Shiva) or the Lingayats (wearers of Shivalinga).

### QUESTION 39:

Consider the following statements:

1. Suhrawadi Silsilah believed in leading the life of austerities.
2. Nizamuddin Auliya belonged to Ba-shara Sufi order and laid great emphasis on yogic breathing exercises.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: B**

### Explanation:

The Sufi orders were broadly divided into two types:

- **Ba-shara:** Ba-shara were those orders that **followed the Islamic Law** (Sharia) and its directives such as namaz and roza. The main ba-shara silsilah were the **Chishti, Suhrawardi**, Firdawsi, Qadiri and Naqshbandi silsilahs.
- **Be-shara:** The be-shara silsilahs were **not bound by the Sharia**. The Qalandars belonged to this group.

**Suhrawardi Silsilah:** The silsilah was founded by Sheikh Shihabuddin Suhrawardi. It was established in India by Sheikh Bahauddin Zakariya (1182-1262).

- They accepted the royal patronage and amassed a lot of property, and therefore discarded the life of austerities. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- They believed that a Sufi should own the three attributes of **property, knowledge** and **hal** (mystical enlightenment). They observed religious rituals and advocated fusion of **mysticism** and **'ilm'** (scholarship)
- They became popular in **Punjab, Sindh, Kashmir and parts of Bengal**. It reached its zenith under Sheikh Ruknuddin (1335 AD). Other notable Suhrawardi saints are Saiyid Nuruddin Mubarak, etc.

**Chisti Silsilah:** The Chishti order was founded in a village called Khwaja Chishti (near Herat). In India, the Chishti silsilah was founded by **Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti**. (They usually stayed away from State powers.

- They led an austere, simple life, and conversed with people in their dialect i.e Hindawi or Hindi.
- Their philosophy was based on the concept of **"pantheistic monoism" ie Wahadat-ul-wajud**, which is very similar to the Vedantic philosophy.
- **Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti** was born in 1142 and came to India around 1192 and died in 1236.
  - He believed that serving mankind was the best form of devotion and therefore he worked amongst the downtrodden.
  - He made Ajmer the main centre for his teaching.
- **Nizamuddin Auliya** was a great Chishti Saint, born in Badayun, Uttar Pradesh.
  - He was the disciple of **Baba Farid Ganjshakar** (disciple of Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki).
  - He propagated the message of universal brotherhood and peace. He showed the path of love and respect, irrespective of age, religion and status.
  - His famous disciple was **Amir Khusrow**.
  - He adopted **yogic breathing exercises**, so much so that the yogis called him **'sidh'** or **'perfect'**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 40:

Consider the following statements:

1. Amir Khusrau was the originator of Khayal and Tarana style of Hindustani music.
2. Malik Mohammad Jaisi was credited for the invention of sitar.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: A**

#### Explanation:

Amir Khusrau of Delhi was one of the greatest poets of medieval India.

- He wrote in both Persian, the courtly language of his time, and Hindavi, the language of the masses.
  - The same Hindavi later developed into two beautiful languages called Hindi and Urdu.
- He was a disciple of famous Sufi saint Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya.
- He is remembered as a founder of the **Ganga-Jamuni Tehzeeb** or the Indian culture “which is a synthesis of Muslim and Hindu elements.”
- Khusrau is sometimes referred to as the “**voice of India**” or “**Parrot of India**” (*Tuti-e-Hind*).
- Khusrau is regarded as the “**father of qawwali**” (a devotional music form of the Sufis in the Indian subcontinent) and introduced the ghazal style of a song into India
- He also composed the ‘**Tughlaq Namah**’.
- **Khayal** and **Tarana**, two popular forms of Hindustani classical music, are believed to have been discovered by him. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

#### Malik Mohammad Jaisi

Malik Muhammad Jayasi was an Indian Sufi poet who preferred to write in Awadhi, the language favoured by the common folk in the 15th century.

- Jayasi’s most famous work remains **Padmavat**, the story of the historic siege of Chittor by Alauddin Khalji.
- He was not credited with the invention of Sitar, it was invented by Amir Khusrau. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

#### QUESTION 41:

Consider the following statements with reference to Artificial Intelligence (AI):

1. AI refers to the simulation of human intelligence in machines.
2. AI is synonymous to the concept of Robotic automation.
3. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) is mandated to establish ‘National Program on AI’.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only  
(B) 1 and 2 only  
(C) 1 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- AI refers to the **simulation of human intelligence in machines** that are programmed to think like humans and mimic their actions. The term may also be applied to any machine that exhibits traits associated with a human mind such as learning and problem-solving. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- AI is different from hardware-driven robotic automation. Robotic automation refers to software that can be easily programmed to do basic, repetitive tasks across applications.
  - Robots carry out different functions based on preloaded programmable chips and do not have their own learning abilities. But AI enables any machine to think, learn and act like humans and can imitate human intelligence. **Hence, Statement 2 is not correct.**
  - However, recently Artificially Intelligent robots are the merge of Artificial Intelligence and robotics, where Artificial Intelligence programs are embedded onto Robot systems. Artificial Intelligence plays a key role in making robots intelligent.
- The Government has mandated **NITI Aayog to establish the National Program on AI**, with a view to guiding the research and development in new and emerging technologies. **Hence, Statement 3 is not correct.**

**QUESTION 42:**

Consider the following statements with reference to electrical superconductivity:

1. It is a phenomenon in which electrical resistance of certain materials completely vanishes.
2. The state of superconductivity can be achieved at a very high temperature.
3. It can save huge amounts of energy as power consumption in devices is drastically reduced.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- Superconductivity refers to the state whereby the electrical resistance of certain materials completely vanishes at low temperatures. The electrical resistance is a property that restricts the flow of electricity.
  - In 1911 Kamerlingh Onnes discovered the phenomenon of superconductivity while studying the resistance of metals at low temperatures. He studied mercury because very pure samples could easily be prepared by distillation.
  - Since that time, superconductivity has been found to occur in many metallic elements and intermetallic compounds. And more recently has been found even in organometallic compounds, semiconductors and ceramics. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- Currently, superconductivity is observed at very low temperatures, somewhere close to what is called absolute zero ( $0^{\circ}\text{K}$  or  $-273.15^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). However, recently scientists of the Institute of Science (IISc), have confirmed superconductivity at room temperature. Their finding, now under review, will be a breakthrough if verified. **Hence, Statement 2 is not correct.**
- Unlike the more familiar conductors such as copper or steel, a superconductor can carry a current indefinitely without losing any energy. Due to the low resistance offering, the devices have low power dissipation, high operating speed, and extreme sensitivity. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**

**QUESTION 43:**

‘Microdots Technology’, sometimes mentioned in the news is related to

- (A) Vehicles Identification
- (B) Pollution Control
- (C) Laser Printers
- (D) Precision Drug Delivery

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- Recently, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has issued a draft notification to make microdots mandatory in vehicles. Microdots are a globally proven technology to ensure originality in spare parts of machines and components, including in the automobile sector. The microdot technology involves spraying thousands of microscopic dots onto vehicles or other assets to form a unique identification. **Hence, option A is correct.**

**QUESTION 44:**

Which of the following statements is/ are correct with reference to neutrinos?

1. These are subatomic particles having a negative electric charge similar to an electron.
2. Radioactive decay of elements within the earth is the natural source of neutrinos.
3. It participates in the strong nuclear force.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- Neutrinos are subatomic particles that are **very similar to an electron** but have **no electrical charge** and very small mass, which might even be zero. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Neutrinos are one of the most abundant particles in the universe. Because they have very little interaction with matter, they are difficult to detect.
- Nuclear forces **treat electrons and neutrinos identically**; neither participate in the strong nuclear force, but **both participate equally** in the weak nuclear force. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- Natural sources of neutrinos include the **radioactive decay of primordial elements** within the earth, radioactivity in sun, cosmic interactions in atmosphere and others. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

**QUESTION 45:**

The ‘mCessation Programme’, sometimes mentioned in the news is related to

- (A) Tobacco control
- (B) Institutional Delivery
- (C) Child Labour
- (D) Population control

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- The **World Health Organization's (WHO)** report on the global tobacco epidemic, launched in July 2019 makes a special reference about **mCessation programme of India** for helping smokers quit. India launched mCessation using text messages in 2016 as part of the government's Digital India initiative.
- It is an initiative using mobile technology for tobacco cessation.
- India launched mCessation using text messages in 2016 as part of the government's Digital India initiative. It uses two-way messaging between the individual seeking to quit tobacco use and programme specialists providing them with dynamic support.
- The **National Tobacco Control Programme and the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, with support from the WHO and the International Telecommunication Union's 'Be He@lthy, Be mobile' initiative, implemented the programme.
- **Hence, option A is correct.**

#### QUESTION 46:

The 'Island of Komodo' located in Indonesia was recently seen in the news for

- (A) Volcanic eruptions in the region.
- (B) Violent ethnic clashes among the inhabitants.
- (C) Relocation of residents to conserve rare species..
- (D) Incidents of forest fire causing habitat destruction of key species.

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

- The **Indonesian government** ordered the relocation of **the residents of an island in eastern Indonesia called the island of Komodo** in a bid to conserve rare Komodo dragons.
- The Komodo dragon is the largest living species of lizard. It is listed as vulnerable by the IUCN. The dragon has venom glands, which are loaded with toxins that lower blood pressure, cause massive bleeding, prevent clotting, and induce shock. They bite down with serrated teeth and pull back with powerful neck muscles. **Hence, Option C is correct.**

#### QUESTION 47:

The Congress ministries resigned in the seven provinces in 1939, because: (2012)

- (A) the Congress could not form ministries in the other four provinces
- (B) the emergence of a left-wing in the Congress made the working of the ministries impossible
- (C) there were widespread communal disturbances in their provinces
- (D) None of the statements (A), (B) and (C) given above is correct

**Answer: D**

- Provincial elections were held in British India in the winter of 1936-37 as mandated by the Government of India Act 1935. Elections were held in eleven provinces – Madras, Central Provinces, Bihar, Orissa, United Provinces, Bombay Presidency, Assam, NWFP, Bengal, Punjab and Sindh. The final results of the elections were declared in February 1937. Indian National Congress emerged in power in eight of the provinces – the three exceptions being Bengal, Punjab, and Sindh. All-India Muslim League failed to form the government in any province. **Hence, option (A) is not correct.**
- The Congress Government was formed in 8 provinces. However, after 28 months of rule the Congress ministries resigned in 1939, in protest against the **Viceroy Lord Linlithgow's action of declaring India to be a belligerent in the Second World War without consulting the Indian people.** **Hence, option (B) and (C) are not correct.**

**QUESTION 48:**

Who among the following were official Congress negotiators with Cripps Mission? (2010)

- (A) Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel
- (B) Acharya J. B. Kripalani and C. Rajagopalachari
- (C) Pandit Nehru and Maulana Azad
- (D) Dr. Rajendra Prasad and Rafi Ahmed Kidwai

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- In March 1942, a mission headed by Stafford Cripps was sent to India with constitutional proposals to seek Indian support for World War II. From Congress, **Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Maulana Azad** were the official negotiators to deal with this Mission.
- The Cripps Mission sought to provide Indian Union with a dominion status as well as a Constituent Assembly to frame a new Constitution, after the war.
- Congress objected to the offer of dominion status instead of a provision for complete independence. Thus, it failed to satisfy the Indian nationalists to the extent that Gandhi termed the Cripps proposal 'a post-dated cheque drawn on a failing bank'. **Hence, option C is correct.**

**QUESTION 49:**

During the Indian Freedom Struggle, who of the following raised an army called 'Free Indian Legion'? (2008)

- (A) Lala Hardayal
- (B) Rashbehari Bose
- (C) Subhas Chandra Bose
- (D) V.D. Savarkar

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- The Free Indian Legion was an infantry regiment formed by Indian volunteers. The legion was made up of Indian prisoners of war and expatriates in Europe.
- The Indian Independence leader, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose formed this legion with the help of the German Government to fight against the British.
- The legion is also known as "Tiger Legion". **Hence, option C is correct.**

**QUESTION 50:**

Which one of the following suggested the reconstitution of the Viceroy's Executive Council in which all the portfolios including that of War Members were to be held by the Indian leaders? (2008)

- (A) Simon Commission
- (B) Simla Conference
- (C) Cripps Proposal
- (D) Cabinet Mission

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

- The Viceroy's Executive Council was the cabinet of the government of British India headed by the Viceroy of India. It was transformed from an advisory council into a cabinet, run by the portfolio system through the Indian Council Act, 1861.

- On Lord Wavell's initiative, **the Simla Conference** was held to discuss the proposal of a new Executive Council (reconstitution of Executive Council) and a new Constitution for India after the war. **Hence, option B is correct.**
- **The Simon Commission** was constituted in 1927 and the purpose was to suggest constitutional reform in British India. It was constituted to study and report on reforms regarding Government of India Act, 1919.
- **The Cripps Mission (1942)** was headed by Sir Stafford Cripps, who sought to negotiate an agreement with Indian leaders. The proposal of the Cripps Mission was that "India would be a dominion associated with the United Kingdom".
- **The Cabinet Mission (1946)** came to India with an aim to discuss the transfer of power from the British Government to the Indian leadership and granting it independence. According to the scheme recommended by the Cabinet Mission, members of the Constituent Assembly were to be chosen by indirect election by the members of the Provincial Legislative Assemblies.

#### QUESTION 51:

Which of the following best describes "Homa Farming"?

- (A) It is a technique in which the atmosphere is used as a source of nutrition for plants.
- (B) Farming technique which uses organic nutrients for plant growth.
- (C) An artificial method of fish rearing.
- (D) A water efficient technique for sugarcane production.

**Answer: A**

#### Explanation:

- Homa Organic Farming is the application of **Homa Therapy to organic agriculture.**
- The main difference between Homa organic farming and other organic farming techniques is that **Homa farming regards the atmosphere as the most important source of nutrition**, whereas in any other farming practices today the atmosphere is almost totally neglected. The ancient science of **Homa Therapy** states that more than 75% of nutrition to plants and soil comes through the atmosphere. **Hence, option A is correct.**

#### QUESTION 52:

With reference to "Zero Budget Natural Farming," consider the following statements:

1. It aims to reduce the cost of growing and harvesting plants.
2. This technique can improve both water use efficiency and soil fertility.
3. The ingredients required for the growth of plants are available around the root zone of the plants.

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

**Answer: D**

#### Explanation:

- Zero Budget Natural Farming(ZBNF), as the name implies, is a method of farming where the **cost of growing and harvesting plants is zero.**
- This means that farmers **need not purchase fertilizers and pesticides** in order to ensure the healthy growth of crops. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- In the Zero Budget Natural Farming, **nothing has to be purchased from the outside.**
- All things required for **the growth of the plant are available around the root zone of the plants.**
- There is no need to add anything from outside. Organic and natural farming techniques including Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) can improve **both water use efficiency and soil fertility.** Hence, **statement 2 and 3 are correct.**

#### QUESTION 53:

The “Energy Transition Index” is released by which of the following:

- (A) The World Bank
- (B) World Economic Forum
- (C) International Renewable Energy Agency
- (D) International Energy Agency

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

- The Energy Transition Index published by the **World Economic Forum**
- India has moved up two places to rank **76th in 2019 on the global energy transition index**, which has ranked 115 economies on how well they are able to balance energy security and access with environmental sustainability and affordability. **Hence, option B is correct.**

#### QUESTION 54:

With reference to the service sector, consider the following statements:

1. This sector contributes to more than half of India’s Gross Value Added (GVA).
2. The expansion of the service sector in recent decades has been unable to generate proportionate employment.
3. The flow of Foreign Direct Investment(FDI) is maximum in the service sector.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 3 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: D**

#### Explanation:

- The services sector accounts for 54 per cent of India’s Gross Value Added (GVA).
  - Its growth rate moderated to 7.5 per cent in 2018-19 from 8.1 per cent in 2017- 18, according to the Economic Survey 2018-19. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The services sector expansion in recent decades has been unable to generate proportionate employment, especially in the formal sector. Services share in employment is 34 per cent in 2017. India’s services sector does not generate jobs in proportion to its share in GVA. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- FDI equity inflows towards the services sector accounted for more than 60 per cent of the total FDI equity inflows in India. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 55:

With reference to Bhuvan, consider the following statement:

1. It is a geo-portal of ISRO providing visualisation services and earth observation data to users in public domain.
2. It doesn't provide services in local languages.
3. It provides both domestic and international disaster support services.

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

Answer: C

**Explanation:**

- ISRO's Geo-portal, **Bhuvan** is providing visualisation services and Earth observation data to users in public domain. Besides, the portal also services several users for their remote sensing application needs. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Bhuvan is a web mapping service which allows users to explore a 2D/3D representation of the surface of the Earth. The browser is **specifically tailored to view India, offering the highest resolution in this region and providing content in four local languages.** Hence statement 2 is not correct.
- Apart from visualization, Bhuvan provides **timely disaster support services (domestic and international)**, free satellite data and products download facility and rich thematic datasets. Bhuvan is using a crowdsourcing approach to enrich its maps and collect point of interest data. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

**QUESTION 56:**

With reference to Human Development Index (HDI), consider the following statements:

1. HDI is released by the United Nation Development Programme.
2. India's position is highest in Asian and developing economies group.
3. HDI emphasises solely on economic growth for assessing the development of a country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only  
(B) 2 and 3 only  
(C) 1 and 2 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A

**Explanation:**

- **Human Development Index (HDI)** was developed by Pakistani economist Mahbub ul Haq, with help from Gustav Ranis of Yale University and Meghnad Desai of the London School of Economics, and was further used to measure a country's development by the **United Nations Development Program (UNDP)**'s Human Development Report Office. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- India's HDI (Human Development Index) has improved significantly over the years between 1990 and 2019. The country's **HDI value increased from 0.427 to 0.647**, but its position is **still lowest among its peer countries (Asian and developing economies)**. As per the UNDP Human Development Index (HDI)- **2019, India is ranked 129 among 189 countries.** Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- The HDI was created to emphasize that people and **their capabilities should be the ultimate criteria for assessing the development of a country**, not economic growth alone. The HDI can also be used to question national policy choices, asking how two countries with the same level of GNI per capita can end up with different human development outcomes.



- The Human Development Index (HDI) is a summary measure of average achievement in key dimensions of human development: **a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and having a decent standard of living. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

#### QUESTION 57:

With reference to BharatNet, consider the following statements:

1. It is a flagship mission to connect gram panchayats with broadband .
2. This project is funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

- BharatNet is a flagship mission to connect 250,000 gram panchayats with broadband being implemented by Bharat Broadband Network Ltd (BBNL), a special purpose vehicle set up under the Department of telecommunication ( DoT) in February 2012. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The project is being funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). This fund was established with the object of improving telecom services. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN)** which was launched in October, 2011 was renamed as Bharat Net Project in 2015.

#### QUESTION 58:

Which one of the following best describes the LaQshya initiatives?

- (A) It aims to improve the quality of education at primary level in government schools.
- (B) It is an initiative to improve the quality of care in the labour room and maternity operation theatre.
- (C) It is a programme launched to reduce the number of accidental deaths in India.
- (D) It is a commitment to improving air quality by reducing particulate matters.

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has recently announced the launch of program 'LaQshya', aimed at improving the quality of care in the labour room and maternity Operation Theatre (OT).
- The Program will improve the quality **of care for pregnant women in labour room, maternity Operation Theatre and Obstetrics Intensive Care Units (ICUs) and High Dependency Units (HDUs).**
- The LaQshya program is being implemented at all Medical College Hospitals, District Hospitals and First Referral Unit (FRU), and Community Health Centres (CHCs) and will benefit every pregnant woman and new-born delivering in public health institutions. **Hence, option B is correct.**

#### QUESTION 59:

Consider the following statements:

1. Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) is the ratio of the number of maternal deaths per lakh live birth during the given time period.
2. MMR in India has declined to 130 per lakh live births in the year 2014-16.

3. Sustainable Development Goals(SDG) targets to reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per lakh live births.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

- The maternal mortality ratio (MMR) is the ratio of the number of maternal deaths during a given time period per 100,000 live births during the same time period. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) of India has declined by 37 points from 167 per lakh live births in 2011-13 to 130 per lakh live births in 2014-16, in a span of three years. Between 1990 and 2015, MMR in India has declined by 77 per cent as compared to 44 per cent decline in the global average. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- SDG Goal-3 and target, 3.1 targets to reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100 000 live births. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

**QUESTION 60:**

The “‘JANANI’ scheme” was launched by which state?

- (A) Uttar Pradesh
- (B) Madhya Pradesh
- (C) Kerala
- (D) Gujrat

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- ‘JANANI’ scheme of the Government of Kerala has popularised the system of homoeopathy treatment for infertility in public health facilities. It was a pilot project. The number of cases of infertility in the Kannur district was less than 100. However, over time there has been exponential growth in the number of infertility cases being registered and treated at Kannur District Homeopathy Hospital. **Hence, option c is correct.**

**QUESTION 61:**

Which of the following are enlisted in UNESCO’s Creative City Network?

- 1. Jaipur
- 2. Varanasi
- 3. Hyderabad
- 4. Mumbai
- 5. Ahmedabad

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

Recently, **the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** has included Mumbai and Hyderabad in its network of 'Creative Cities' among the 66 cities selected on the occasion of World Cities Day 2019 (31st October).

The UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) aims to achieve **Sustainable Development Goals** through innovative thinking and action.

- It was created in 2004.
- **Currently (2019), 246 cities make up this network** which aims towards a common objective of placing creativity and cultural industries at the heart of their development plans at the local level and cooperating actively at the international level.
- The 7 categories for recognition under UCCN are as follows-
  - crafts and folk arts
  - media arts
  - film
  - design
  - gastronomy
  - literature
  - music
- UNESCO has designated Mumbai as a member of UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) in the field of **FILM** and **Hyderabad** in the field of **GASTRONOMY**.
- Previously, 3 Indian cities were recognized as members of UCCN, namely-
  - Jaipur-Crafts and Folk Arts (2015)
  - Varanasi-Creative city of Music (2015)
  - Chennai-Creative city of Music (2017)

**QUESTION 62:**

With reference to 'Bhaona art form', consider the following statements:

1. It is the traditional art form of Bihar.
2. Sankardeva is credited for its creation.
3. It is performed in the Bhojpuri language.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3 only

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

**Bhaona** is a traditional form of entertainment in **Assam**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.

- It involves play, dialogues, songs, and dances.
- It usually involves 40-50 performers wearing costumes and ornaments including those playing heavy drums and cymbals.
- The actors who perform it are known as **Bhaoriya**.
- It was the creation of saint-reformer **Sankardeva** to convey religious messages to villagers through entertainment. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.



- It is performed in the **Brajavali** language. Recently, It was performed in English in Abu Dhabi, UAE to promote it internationally.
  - According to linguistic researchers, **Sankardeva** needed to connect with his Assamese masses, who did not expect the divine characters of his plays to speak in the common man's language. So he created the **Brajavali**, a literary language limited to theatrical usage. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

#### QUESTION 63:

Which one of the following best describes Redactive Pricing Audit?

- (A) Appraisal of efficiency of expenditure and outcome of a project.
- (B) Appraisal of justification behind the policy/program.
- (C) Appraisal of the outcome by the intended beneficiary of the project.
- (D) Removal of sensitive information from the audit report prior to publication.

**Answer: D**

#### Explanation:

- The Supreme Court's observations in connection with the **Rafale fighter aircraft** deal by citing the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) report on **redacted pricing** has brought back into the spotlight the issue of redactive pricing audit.
- **Redaction** is the selection or adoption by '**obscuring or removing sensitive information** from a document prior to publication.
- Under **redactive pricing audit**, CAG withheld **full commercial details** and blackened the figures on the procurement deal on security concerns.

#### QUESTION 64:

'Sheath blight' which was recently seen in the news is related to?

- (A) It is a fungal disease that harms the rice plant.
- (B) It is a newly discovered species of mouse endemic to Nilgiri hills.
- (C) It is an air to air missile system that is successfully tested by DRDO.
- (D) It is a newly introduced variety of rice that consumes less water.

**Answer: A**

#### Explanation:

- **Sheath blight** is a fungal disease caused by **Rhizoctonia solani**.
- Rice sheath blight is an increasing concern for rice production, especially in intensified production systems.
- Infected leaves dry out and die more rapidly, young tillers can also be destroyed. As a result, the leaf area of the canopy can significantly be reduced by the disease. This reduction in leaf area is the primary cause of yield reduction. **Hence, option A is correct.**

#### QUESTION 65:

Which among the following statements is/are correct regarding the Spitzer Space Telescope?

1. It has observed and revealed the rings around Saturn.
2. It has replaced the Hubble telescope in space.
3. It was launched by NASA in 2018 to explore outer space region.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 and 2
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- The Spitzer Space Telescope **revealed a new ring around the planet Saturn. In 2017**, the telescope also revealed the presence of **seven rocky planets around the TRAPPIST-1 star. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Spitzer Space Telescope is the **final mission in NASA's Great Observatories Program** - a family of four space-based observatories, each observing the Universe in a different kind of light. The **other missions** in the program include the visible-light **Hubble Space Telescope (HST)**, **Compton Gamma-Ray Observatory (CGRO)**, and the **Chandra X-Ray Observatory (CXO)**. it will not be replacing the **Hubble Space Telescope (HST)**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Spitzer Space Telescope was **launched in the year 2003**, after nearly 16 years of exploring the cosmos in infrared light, **NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope will be switched off permanently on 30th January 2020. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

**QUESTION 66:**

Libra, which was in the news recently is related to?

- (A) It is a species of Leopard which is on the verge of extinction.
- (B) It is a newly introduced species of rice tolerant to extreme weather conditions.
- (C) It is a global project to establish the world's largest telescope in Antarctica.
- (D) It is a newly introduced cryptocurrency by Facebook.

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

- Facebook has unveiled its own **cryptocurrency named "Libra"**. Based on the Libra Blockchain, it's backed by the Libra Reserve. It has also officially announced a digital wallet service named Calibra.
- The company managing this wallet is going to be a subsidiary and will be operating independently from Facebook.
  - A cryptocurrency is a digital or virtual currency that uses cryptography for security. It uses decentralized technology to let users make secure payments and store money without the need to use their name or go through a bank.
  - They run on a distributed public ledger called blockchain, which is a record of all transactions updated and held by currency holders.
  - The most common cryptocurrencies are Bitcoin, Ethereum, Ripple, and Litecoin.
- Hence, option D is correct.

**QUESTION 67:**

Consider the following:

1. Assessment of land revenue on the basis of nature of the soil and the quality of crops
2. Use of mobile cannons in warfare
3. Cultivation of tobacco and red chillies

Which of the above was/were introduced into India by the English?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) None

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

- System of land revenue, under which the land was assessed by a systematic survey and measurement of the entire cultivable land was initiated by **Sher Shah Suri**.
  - During Akbar's rule, this system was more elaborated and implemented in detail across the Mughal Empire. Akbar followed the system of standardization of measurement of land; ascertaining the produce per bigha of land; and fixation of the State's share in that produce. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- In the **First Battle of Panipat (1526)**, Babur used cannons against Ibrahim Lodhi's army. It was further used by Babur himself in the Battle of Khanwa in 1528 against the army of Rana Sanga. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Chillies are believed to be of Mexican origin and dates back to 3500 BC. It was introduced to the rest of the world by Christopher Columbus who discovered America in 1493. It became popular in Portugal.
  - In 1498, **Vasco-da-Gama reached Indian shores and introduced chillies in India**. Tobacco is a plant that grows natively in North and South America. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

**QUESTION 68:**

Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Brahmo Samaj? (2012)

1. It opposed idolatry.
2. It denied the need for a priestly class for interpreting the religious texts.
3. It popularized the doctrine that the Vedas are infallible.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

- In August 1828, **Raja Ram Mohan Roy founded the Brahmo Sabha** which was later renamed 'Brahmo Samaj' (The society of God).
- Objective of the Brahmo Samaj was the worship and adoration of the eternal, unsearchable, immutable God.
- **It opposed idol worship** and stayed away from the practice of priesthood and sacrifice. **Hence, statement 1 and 2 are correct.**
- The worship was performed through prayers, meditation, and readings from the Upanishads.
- Great emphasis was laid on "promotion of charity, morality, benevolence, and strengthening of the bonds of union between men of all religious persuasions and creeds"
- **Arya Samaj, which was founded by Dayanand Saraswati, promoted values, and practices based on the belief in the infallible authority of the Vedas.** Members of the Arya Samaj believe in one God and reject the worship of idols. Brahmo Samaj did not believe in the infallibility of the Vedas. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

**QUESTION 69:**

Who of the following was/were economic critic/critics of colonialism in India? (2015)

1. Dadabhai Naoroji
2. G. Subramania Iyer
3. R. C. Dutt

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 only  
(B) 1 and 2 only  
(C) 2 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

- **Dadabhai Naoroji** was the first man to voice that internal factors were not the reasons for poverty in India, but poverty was caused by the colonial rule that was draining the wealth and prosperity of India.
  - In 1867, Dadabhai Naoroji put forward the '**drain of wealth**' theory in which he stated that Britain was completely draining India. He mentioned this theory in his book "**Poverty and Un-British Rule in India**". Further, in his book, he stated the loss of 200- 300 million pounds of revenue to Britain. Dadabhai Naoroji considered it as a major evil of the British in India.
- **Romesh Chandra Dutt** was a retired ICS officer. He published "**The Economic History of India**" at the beginning of the 20th century in which he examined in minute detail the entire economic record of colonial rule since 1757. Besides, he also explained the Drain Theory in his book.
- **G. Subramaniya Iyer** was the founder of 'The Hindu' newspaper. He published his book "**Some Economic Aspects of British Rule in India**" presenting a criticism of the economic policies of Britishers.
- Thus, all the three personalities criticized the economic policies of colonial rule. **Hence, option (D) is the correct.**

**QUESTION 70:**

What was/were the object/objects of Queen Victoria's Proclamation (1858)? (2014)

1. To disclaim any intention to annex Indian States
2. To place the Indian administration under the British Crown
3. To regulate East India Company's trade with India

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 2 only  
(C) 1 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- Owing to policies like the Doctrine of Lapse of British East India Company that were aimed to annex Princely States and the Revolt of 1857, many influential Princely States such as Awadh, Jhansi and Nagpur and influential landlords like Kunwar Singh, saw British policies as an intrusion into their independence.
  - Thus, to allay the fears of Princely States and to break the support group (i.e., dissatisfied Princely

Rulers) of rebel sepoys – 1858 proclamation clarified the British position in relation to the Princely States. **The proclamation denied any intention to annex Indian States. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- The proclamation of **1858 abolished the rule of the East India Company** and placed the Indian administration under the British Crown. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Proclamation sought to end the English East Company's rule and establish a direct control of the British Crown (i.e., British Parliament). **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

#### QUESTION 71:

Consider the following statements:

1. The Anti-Partition Movement in Bengal also involved the peasantry class of Bengal.
2. The Indian National Congress declared swaraj as its goal under the Presidentship of Dadabhai Naoroji at the Calcutta session in 1906.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

- The decision of British govt. to partition Bengal had been made public in December 1903. This led the anti-partition movement in Bengal.
  - In the period 1903-1905, the leadership for the anti-partition movement in Bengal was provided by men like **Surendranath Banerjee, K.K. Mitra and Prithwish Chandra Ray.**
- Ignoring a loud public opinion against the partition proposal, the **government announced the partition of Bengal in July 1905.**
- The **militant nationalists** led by **Tilak, Lajpat Rai, Bipin Chandra Pal and Aurobindo Ghosh** wanted the movement to be taken outside Bengal to other parts of the country and go beyond a boycott of foreign goods to become a full fledged political mass struggle with the goal of attaining swaraj. But the Moderates, dominating the Congress at that time, were not willing to go that far.
  - In spite of the popular character of the Anti-Partition Movement and of the desire of the militant nationalists to take the national movement to the masses, the **movement did not really affect and involve the peasantry of Bengal.** It was confined on the **whole to the towns and to the upper and lower middle classes of the province. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The **Congress session was held at Calcutta (1906)** under the Presidentship of **Dadabhai Naoroji.** It was declared that the **goal of the Indian National Congress** was **self government or swaraj** like the United Kingdom or the colonies of Australia or Canada. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 72:

Consider the following statements with reference to the annulment of the partition of Bengal in 1911:

1. All the Muslim intellectuals and political elite were unhappy with the decision to annul the partition.
2. It was done mainly to curb the menace of revolutionary terrorism.
3. Bengal, Bihar and Orissa were again unified together under Bengal Presidency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 3 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only

- (C) 2 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- The decision to annul the partition came as a rude shock to many Muslim intellectuals and political elite. It was also decided to shift the capital to Delhi as a sop to the Muslims, as it was associated with Muslim glory, but the Muslims were not pleased.
  - But not all intellectuals were on the same page. For example, Abdul Rasul and a large number of other Bengali Muslim intellectuals gave active support to the Swadeshi agitation against the partition of Bengal and supported the annulment. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- A fallout of the Swadeshi and Boycott Movement became pronounced in the name of revolutionary terrorism in Bengal. A lot of revolutionary groups (e.g. Anushilan Samiti, Jugantar) emerged. The decision to annul the partition of Bengal in 1911 was mainly to combine appeasement of Bengali sentiment and curb the menace of revolutionary terrorism. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- By the proclamation of King George of 1911, eastern Bengal was assimilated into the Bengal Presidency. But Bihar and Orissa were taken out of Bengal, and Assam was made a separate province. Now, the Bengal Presidency comprises mainly Bengali speaking areas (Eastern and Western Bengal). **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

**QUESTION 73:**

With reference to the Indian freedom struggle, 'Ilbert bill controversy' is related to:

- (A) Abolishing judicial disqualification based on racial discrimination.  
(B) Devolution of financial power to the provincial government.  
(C) Reducing the age for civil services examination.  
(D) Restrictions on the vernacular press.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

The Ilbert Bill was introduced in 1883 by **Lord Ripon**, the then Viceroy of India.

- The bill sought to abolish "**judicial disqualification based on race distinctions**" and allow Indian judges and magistrates the jurisdiction to try British offenders in criminal cases and sought **equality** between British and Indian judges in the country.
- Ripon had to modify the bill, thus almost defeating the original purpose, because of the stiff opposition from the European community.
- The controversy gave clear indications to the nationalists that justice and fair play could not be expected where the interests of the European community were involved.
- However, the organised agitation by the Europeans to revoke the Ilbert Bill also taught the nationalists how to agitate for certain rights and demands. **Hence, option A is correct.**

**QUESTION 74:**

Consider the following pairs:

**Movement/Organisation**

1. Poona Sarvajanik Sabha
2. Indian League
3. United Indian Patriotic Association

**Leader**

- M.G Ranade  
Anand Mohan Bose  
Syed Ahmad Khan

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

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

**Poona Sarvajanik Sabha:** Justice Mahadev Govind Ranade established the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha in **1867** in **Bombay**. Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.

- It sought to remove caste restrictions, abolish child marriage, shaving of widows' heads, the heavy cost of marriages and other social functions; encourage education of women and promote widow remarriage.
- It advocated the worship of one God and condemned idolatry.
- The other prominent leader included Ganesh Vasudev Joshi.

**Indian League:** It was started in **1875** by **Sisir Kumar Ghosh** with the object of "stimulating the sense of nationalism amongst the people" and of encouraging political education. Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.

**United Indian Patriotic Association:** The United Indian Patriotic Association was a political organisation founded in **1888** by **Sir Syed Ahmad Khan** and **Raja Shiv Prasad Singh of Benaras**.

- It was formed to counter the **Indian National Congress**. Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.

**QUESTION 75:**

Which of the following factors led to the growth of Indian nationalism during the freedom struggle?

1. Political and economic unification of India.
2. Growth of education and western thoughts.
3. Socio-religious reform movement.
4. Rediscovery of India's past.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

Indian nationalism grew partly as a result of colonial policies and partly as a reaction to colonial policies. In fact, it would be more correct to see Indian nationalism as a product of a mix of various factors:

■ **Political, Administrative and Economic Unification of the Country**

- A professional civil service, a unified judiciary and codified civil and criminal laws throughout the length and breadth of the country imparted a new dimension of political unity of the country.
- The necessities of administrative convenience, considerations of military defence and the urge for economic penetration and commercial exploitation were the driving forces behind the planned development of modern means of transport and communication such as railways, roads, electricity and telegraph.
  - The economic fate of the people of different regions got linked together; for instance, failure of crops in one region affected the prices and supply in another region.

- Modern means of transport and communication brought people, especially the leaders, from different regions together.
- This was important for the exchange of **political ideas** and **for mobilisation and organisation of public opinion** on political and economic issues. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Growth of Western Thought and Education:** The introduction of a modern system of education afforded opportunities for assimilation of modern Western ideas. This, in turn, gave a new direction to Indian political thinking.
  - The liberal and radical thought of European writers like Milton, Shelley, John Stuart Mill, Rousseau, Paine, Spencer and Voltaire helped many Indians imbibe modern rational, secular, democratic and nationalist ideas.
  - The English language helped nationalist leaders from different linguistic regions to communicate with each other. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Socio-religious Reform Movement:** The reform movements sought to remove social evils which divided the Indian society; this had the effect of bringing different sections together and proved to be an important factor in the growth of Indian nationalism. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- **Rediscovery of India's Past:** The historical research by European scholars, such as Max Mueller, Monier Williams, Roth and Sassoon, and by Indian scholars such as R.G. Bhandarkar, R.L. Mitra and later Swami Vivekananda, created an entirely new picture of India's past.
  - This picture was characterised by well-developed political, economic and social institutions, a flourishing trade with the outside world, a rich heritage in arts and culture and numerous cities.
  - The theory put forward by European scholars, that the Indo-Aryans belonged to the same ethnic group from which other nations of Europe had evolved, gave a psychological boost to the educated Indians.
  - The self-respect and confidence so gained helped the nationalists to demolish colonial myths that India had a long history of servility to foreign rulers. **Hence, statement 4 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 76:

Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Surat split of Indian National Congress?

1. The Moderates agreed to cooperate with the Government and discuss reforms in the Legislative Council.
2. Disagreement between Moderates and Extremists over extension of Swadeshi and Boycott Movement.
3. The Extremist wanted the resolutions on Swadeshi to be passed in the Surat session which were opposed by Moderates in Calcutta Session.

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

**Answer: D**

#### Explanation:

- The Government of India, headed by **Lord Minto as Viceroy** and **John Morley as the Secretary of State**, offered fresh reforms in the Legislative Council and in the beginning of 1906 began discussing them with the Moderate leadership of the Congress.
  - The **Moderates agreed to cooperate with the Government and discuss reforms even while a vigorous popular movement**, which the Government was trying to suppress, was going on in the country. The result was a total split in the nationalist ranks. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- There was a great deal of public debate and disagreement among Moderates and Extremists in the years 1905-1907, even when they were working together against the partition of Bengal. The Extremists wanted to **extend the Swadeshi and Boycott Movement from Bengal** to the rest of the country.
  - They also wanted to gradually extend the **boycott from foreign goods to every form of association or cooperation with the colonial Government**. The Moderates wanted to confine the boycott part of the movement to Bengal and were totally opposed to its extension to the Government. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The difference between Moderates and Extremists further widened in **Calcutta Session of Congress (1906)** and they competed for the post of Congress president. The Moderates opposed the resolutions on **Swadeshi, Boycott of foreign goods and National Education** and requested to withdraw from the policy laid down in the Calcutta session. But the Extremists were not ready to do so.
  - The Extremists wanted a guarantee that the four resolutions would be passed. To force the Moderates to do so they decided to object to the duly elected President for the year, **Rash Behari Ghose**. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 77:

With reference to the 'Indian Councils Act 1892', consider the following statements:

1. The non-official members of the Indian Legislative Council gained majority.
2. The principle of representation was introduced through this Act.
3. There was a provision of discussion and voting on the budget in the council.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 2 only  
(C) 2 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

Explanation:

#### Indian Councils Act 1892

- The Number of additional members or non-official members in the **Imperial Legislative Councils and the Provincial Legislative Councils** was raised. In the Imperial Legislative Council, now the governor-general could have ten to **sixteen non-officials** (instead of six to ten previously).
  - The **official members retained their majority** in the council, thus making ineffective the non-official voice. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The non-official members of the Indian Legislative Council were to be **nominated by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and provincial legislative councils**.
  - The members could be recommended by universities, municipalities, zamindars and chambers of commerce. So the **principle of representation was introduced**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Budget could be discussed but it could not be voted upon, nor could any amendments be made to it. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- Questions could be asked but supplementaries could not be asked, nor could answers to any question be discussed.
- The 'reformed' Imperial Legislative Council met, during its tenure till 1909, on an average for only thirteen days in a year, and the number of unofficial Indian members present was only five out of twenty-four.

### QUESTION 78:

Which of the following statements about the Lucknow Session (1916) of Indian National Congress (INC) is not correct?

- (A) The session was presided over by Ambika Charan Majumdar.
- (B) Extremists were readmitted into the INC.
- (C) Both INC and Muslim League presented the joint constitutional demands to the government.
- (D) INC rejected the Muslim League position on the separate electorate.

**Answer: D**

### Explanation:

- The Lucknow Session of the Indian National Congress was presided over by a Moderate, Ambika Charan Majumdar. **Hence, option 1 is correct.**

The two major developments of this session of INC are:

- The extremists, which split from the INC after Surat Session (1907) were readmitted into the INC. **Hence, option 2 is correct.**
  - The Moderates and the Extremists realised that the split had led to political inactivity in the country.
  - Old controversies have become meaningless after the annulment of Bengal Partition in 1911.
  - **Annie Besant** and **Bal Gangadhar Tilak** had made vigorous efforts for the reunion. To allay Moderate suspicions, Tilak had declared that he supported reform of the administration and not an overthrow of the government. He also denounced acts of violence.
- The Muslim League and the Congress joined hands and presented the common constitutional demands to the government. The demands include :
  - Government should declare that it would confer self-government on Indians at an early date.
  - The representative assemblies at the central as well as provincial-level should be further expanded with an elected majority and more powers given to them.
  - The term of the legislative council should be five years.
  - The salaries of the Secretary of State for India should be paid by the British treasury and not drawn from Indian funds.
  - Half the members of the viceroy's and provincial governors' executive councils should be Indians.**Hence, option 3 is correct.**
- The League agreed to present joint constitutional demands with the Congress to the government, the Congress **accepted the Muslim League's position on separate electorates.**
  - The acceptance of the principle of separate electorates by the Congress implied that the Congress and the League came together as separate political entities, which was a major landmark in the evolution of the **two-nation theory** by the Muslim League. **Hence, option 4 is not correct.**

### QUESTION 79:

In which one of the following movements, Gandhiji used the hunger strike for the first time as the method of protest in India?

- (A) Champaran Satyagraha
- (B) Kheda Satyagraha
- (C) Ahmedabad Mill Strike
- (D) Rowlatt Satyagraha

**Answer: C**

### Explanation:

### Champaran Satyagraha (1917)—First Civil Disobedience

Gandhi was requested by Rajkumar Shukla, a local man, to look into the problems of the farmers in the context of indigo planters of Champaran in Bihar.

- The European planters had been forcing the peasants to grow indigo on **3/20** part of the total land (called **tinkathia system**).
  - Towards the end of the nineteenth-century, German synthetic dyes replaced indigo. The European planters demanded high rents and illegal dues from the peasants in order to maximise their profits before the peasants could shift to other crops.
  - Besides, the peasants were forced to sell the produce at prices fixed by the Europeans.
- Gandhi was joined by **Rajendra Prasad, Mazhar-ul-Haq, Mahadeo Desai, Narhari Parekh, and J.B. Kripalani** to Champaran to probe into the issue.
- Gandhi was able to convince the authorities that the tinkathia system should be abolished and that the peasants should be compensated for the illegal dues extracted from them. **Hence, option A is not correct.**

### Kheda Satyagraha (1918)—First Non-Cooperation

In the year **1918**, the crops failed in **Kheda district of Gujarat** due to **drought**. According to the Revenue Code, if the yield was less than **one-fourth** the normal production, the farmers were entitled to remission.

- The peasants submitted petitions to the highest governing authorities of the province requesting that the revenue assessment for the year 1919 be suspended, but the government didn't pay any attention.
- Gandhi asked the farmers not to pay the taxes.
- Sardar Patel along with his colleagues organised the tax revolt which the different ethnic and caste communities of Kheda supported.
- The government agreed to suspend the tax for the year in question, and for the next; reduce the increase in rate; and return all the confiscated property. **Hence, option B is not correct.**

### Ahmedabad Mill Strike (1918)—First Hunger Strike

In March 1918, Gandhi intervened in a dispute between the cotton mill owners of Ahmedabad and the workers over the issue of discontinuation of the plague bonus. The mill owners wanted to withdraw the bonus and the workers were demanding a rise of 50% in their wages.

- When negotiations with mill owners did not progress, Gandhi himself undertook a fast unto death (his first) to strengthen the workers' resolve.
- The fast also had the effect of putting pressure on the mill owners who finally agreed to submit the issue to a tribunal. The strike was withdrawn. In the end, the tribunal awarded the workers a 35% wage hike. **Hence, option C is correct.**

### Rowlatt Satyagraha (1919)

**Rowlatt Satyagraha** was in response to the British government enacting the Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act of 1919, popularly known as the Rowlatt Act. Gandhiji called for a countrywide campaign against the Rowlatt Act. **Hence, option D is not correct.**

### QUESTION 80:

With reference to the 'Militant school of thought', consider the following statements:

1. It believed in swaraj as a goal of national movement.
2. Bal Gangadhar Tilak was a prominent leader of this school of thought.
3. It believed in the limited involvement of masses in political struggle.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- By the dawn of the twentieth century, a band of nationalist thinkers had emerged who advocated a more militant approach to political work.
  - These included **Raj Narain Bose, Ashwini Kumar Datta, Aurobindo Ghosh and Bipin Chandra Pal** in Bengal; **Vishnu Shastri Chiplunkar and Bal Gangadhar Tilak** in Maharashtra; and **Lala Lajpat Rai** in Punjab.
  - **Bal Gangadhar Tilak** emerged as the most outstanding representative of this school of thought. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- The **basic tenets** of this school of thought were:
  - **Hatred for foreign rule**; since no hope could be derived from it, Indians should work out their own salvation;
  - **Swaraj to be the goal of national movement. Hence, statement 1 is correct.;**
  - Direct political action required;
  - Belief in the capacity of the masses to challenge the authority;
  - Personal sacrifices required and a true nationalist to be always ready for it.
- The new leadership could provide a **proper channelisation of the immense potential for political struggle which the masses possessed** and, as the militant nationalists thought, were ready to give expression to. This energy of the masses got a release during the movement against the partition of Bengal, which acquired the form of the swadeshi agitation. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

**QUESTION 81:**

Which of the following is/are NOT included in the Eleven demands of Mahatma Gandhi after the Lahore Congress session?

1. Reforms in Criminal Investigation Department
2. Reserve coastal shipping for Indians
3. Dominion status for India
4. Abolish salt tax and government's salt monopoly

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- To carry forward the mandate given by the Lahore Congress, Gandhi presented eleven demands to the government and gave an ultimatum of January 31, 1930 to accept or reject these demands. The demands were as follows:
  1. Reduce expenditure on Army and civil services by 50 per cent.
  2. Introduce total prohibition.

3. **Carry out reforms in the Criminal Investigation Department (CID).**
  4. Change Arms Act allowing popular control of issue Release political prisoners.
  5. Accept Postal Reservation Bill.
  6. Accept Postal Reservation Bill.
  7. Reduce rupee-sterling exchange ratio to 1s 4d.
  8. Introduce textile protection.
  9. **Reserve coastal shipping for Indians.**
  10. Reduce land revenue by 50 per cent.
  11. **Abolish salt tax and government's salt monopoly.**
- The Indian National Congress, on 19 December 1929, passed the historic '**Purna Swaraj**' – (total independence) resolution – at its Lahore session. **Hence, option C is correct.**
  - With no positive response forthcoming from the government on these demands, the Congress Working Committee invested Gandhi with full powers to launch the Civil Disobedience Movement at a time and place of his choice.

### QUESTION 82:

Consider the following pairs with reference to personalities related to Salt Satyagraha:

Location	Personalities
1. Tamil Nadu	C. Rajagopalachari
2. Malabar	K. Kelappan
3. Bihar	Sarojini Naidu

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

**Answer: B**

### Explanation:

#### Salt Satyagraha at Different Places

- Tamil Nadu In April 1930, **C. Rajagopalachari** organised a march from Tiruchirapalli (Trichinopoly as it was called by the British) to Vedaranniyam on the Tanjore (or Thanjavur) coast to break the salt law. **Hence, pair 1 is correct.**
  - The event was followed by widespread picketing of foreign cloth shops; the anti-liquor campaign gathered forceful support in interior regions of Coimbatore, Madurai, Virudhanagar, etc.
  - Although Rajaji tried to keep the movement non-violent, violent eruptions of masses and the violent repressions of the police began.
- In **Malabar**, **K. Kelappan**, a Nair Congress leader famed for the Vaikom Satyagraha, organised a salt march. **Hence, pair 2 is correct.**
  - **P. Krishna Pillai**, the future founder of the Kerala Communist movement, heroically defended the national flag in the face of police lathi-charge on Calicut beach in November 1930.
- In Dharasana, on May 21, 1930, **Sarojini Naidu, Imam Sahib and Manilal** (Gandhi's son) took up the unfinished task of leading a raid on the **Dharasana Salt Works**.
  - The unarmed and peaceful crowd was met with a brutal lathicharge which left 2 dead and 320 injured. **Hence, pair 3 is not correct.**

- In **Bihar**, Champaran and Saran were the first two districts to start salt satyagraha. In landlocked Bihar, manufacture of salt on a large scale was not practicable and at most places it was a mere gesture.
  - In Patna, Nakhas Pond was chosen as a site to make salt and break the salt law under **Ambika Kant Sinha**. However, very soon, a very powerful no-chaukidari tax agitation replaced the salt satyagraha (owing to physical constraints in making salt).
  - By November 1930, sale of foreign cloth and liquor dramatically declined, and administration collapsed in several parts like the Barhee region of Munger

### QUESTION 83:

Which of the following is/ are correct regarding Gandhi-Irwin Pact?

1. The government immediately released all the prisoners arrested during movement.
2. The committee was set up for public inquiry into police excesses.
3. The right to make salt in coastal villages for personal consumption was allowed.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

### Explanation:

- On January 25, 1931, **Mahatma Gandhi** and all other members of the **Congress Working Committee (CWC)** were released unconditionally. The CWC authorised Gandhi to initiate discussions with the viceroy.
- As a result of these discussions, a pact was signed between the viceroy, representing the British Indian Government, and Gandhi, representing the Indian people, in Delhi on February 14, 1931.
- This Delhi Pact, also known as the Gandhi-Irwin Pact, placed the Congress on an equal footing with the government Irwin on behalf of the government agreed on—
  1. Immediate release of all political prisoners not convicted of violence. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
  2. Remission of all fines not yet collected.
  3. Return of all lands not yet sold to third parties.
  4. Lenient treatment to those government servants who had resigned.
  5. **Right to make salt in coastal villages for personal consumption (not for sale). Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
  6. Right to peaceful and non-aggressive picketing; and
  7. Withdrawal of emergency ordinances.
- The viceroy, however, **turned down two of Gandhi's Demands—**
  1. **Public inquiry into police excesses. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  2. Commutation of Bhagat Singh and his comrades' death sentence to life sentence.
- Gandhi on behalf of the Congress agreed—
  1. To suspend the civil disobedience movement, and
  2. To participate in the next Round Table Conference on the constitutional question around the three lynch-pins of federation, Indian responsibility, and reservations and safeguards that may be necessary in India's interests (covering areas such as defence, external affairs, the position of minorities, financial credit of India and discharge of other obligations).

#### QUESTION 84:

With reference to the Karachi Congress Session, 1931, consider the following statements:

1. Indian National Congress endorsed Gandhi-Irwin Pact at Karachi Congress Session, 1931.
2. The resolution on Fundamental Rights was adopted in Karachi session.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

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##### Karachi Congress Session, 1931

- In March 1931, a special session of the Congress was held at Karachi to **endorse the Gandhi-Irwin Pact. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - Six days before the session (which was held on March 29) Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru were executed.
  - Throughout Gandhi's route to Karachi, he was greeted with black flag demonstrations by the **Punjab Naujawan Bharat Sabha**, in protest against his failure to secure commutation of the death sentence for Bhagat and his comrades.
- This was the **first time the Congress spelt out what swaraj** would mean for the masses—"in order to end exploitation of masses, political freedom must include economic freedom of starving millions."
  - While disapproving of and dissociating itself from political violence, the Congress admired the 'bravery' and 'sacrifice' of the three martyrs.
  - The Delhi Pact or Gandhi-Irwin Pact was endorsed.
  - The goal of purna swaraj was reiterated.
  - Two resolutions were adopted—one on **Fundamental Rights** and the other on National Economic Programme. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 85:

Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Communal Awards?

1. The depressed class were declared minority and awarded a separate electorate.
2. Seats were allocated for Maratha's in Bombay presidency.
3. The idea of separate electorates for the depressed classes was abandoned by the Poona pact.

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

**Answer: D**

#### Explanation:

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- The **Communal Award** was announced by the British prime minister, **Ramsay MacDonald, on August 16, 1932**. The Communal Award, based on the findings of the Indian Franchise Committee (also called the Lothian Committee), established separate electorates and reserved seats for minorities, including the depressed classes which were granted seventy-eight reserved seats.

- This award accorded separate electorates for Muslims, Europeans, Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, **depressed classes**, and even to the Marathas for some seats in Bombay.
- Main provisions of the Communal Award are:
  - Muslims, Europeans, Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo- Indians, **depressed classes**, women, and even the Marathas were to get separate electorates. Such an arrangement for the depressed classes was to be made for a period of 20 years.
  - The depressed classes to be declared/accorded the **status of minority**.
    - The depressed classes were to get '**double vote**', one to be used through separate electorates and the other to be used in the general electorates. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - In the **provincial legislatures**, the seats were to be distributed on communal basis.
    - The existing seats of the provincial legislatures were to be doubled. The Muslims, wherever they were in the minority, were to be granted a weightage.
    - Except in the North West Frontier Province, 3 per cent seats were to be reserved for women in all provinces.
    - Allocation of seats were to be made for labourers, landlords, traders and industrialists.
    - In the province of Bombay, **7 seats were to be allocated for the Marathas. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Poona pact was signed by **B.R. Ambedkar** on behalf of the depressed classes on September 24, 1932, the **pact abandoned the idea of separate electorates for the depressed classes**.
  - But the **seats reserved for the depressed classes** were increased from 71 to 147 in provincial legislatures and to 18 percent of the total in the Central Legislature. The Poona Pact was accepted by the government as an amendment to the Communal Award. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 86:

Consider the following events:

1. Delhi Manifesto
2. Nehru Report
3. Declaration of Purna Swaraj as the aim of Congress
4. Delhi Proposals

Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the above events?

- (A) 4-3-2-1  
(B) 4-2-1-3  
(C) 3-4-1-2  
(D) 2-3-4-1

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

##### Delhi Proposals

**In December 1927**, a large number of Muslim leaders had met at Delhi at the Muslim League session and evolved four proposals for their demands to be incorporated into the draft of the upcoming constitution. These proposals, which were accepted by the **Madras session of the Congress (December 1927)**, came to be known as the '**Delhi Proposals**'.

- The four proposals include:
  - **joint electorates** in place of separate electorates with reserved seats for Muslims.
  - **one-third representation** to Muslims in the Central Legislative Assembly.
  - representation to Muslims in Punjab and Bengal in proportion to their population.

- formation of **three** new Muslim majority provinces—**Sindh, Baluchistan** and **North-West Frontier Province**.

### Nehru Report

In **February 1928**, an All Parties Conference appointed a sub-committee under the chairmanship of **Motilal Nehru** to draft a constitution. This was the first major attempt by the Indians to draft a constitutional framework for the country. The report was finalised by **August 1928**.

### Delhi Manifesto

On **November 2, 1929**, a conference of prominent national leaders issued a '**Delhi Manifesto**' which put forward certain conditions for attending the Round Table Conference:

- The purpose of the Round Table Conference should be not to determine whether or when dominion status was to be reached but to formulate a constitution for implementation of the dominion status (thus acting as a constituent assembly) and the basic principle of dominion status should be immediately accepted.
- Congress should have majority representation at the conference.
- There should be a general amnesty for political prisoners and a policy of conciliation.

**Gandhi** along with **Motilal Nehru** and other political leaders met **Lord Irwin** in December 1929.

- They asked the viceroy for assurance related to Delhi Manifesto. Viceroy Irwin rejected the demands put forward in the Delhi Manifesto.

### Lahore Session of Congress

Jawaharlal Nehru was nominated president for the Lahore session of the Congress in **December 1929**.

- The following major decisions were taken at the Lahore session:
  - The Round Table Conference was to be boycotted.
  - Complete independence was declared as the aim of Congress.
  - Congress Working Committee was **authorised to launch** a programme of civil disobedience including non-payment of taxes and all members of legislatures were asked to resign their seats.
  - January 26, 1930, was fixed as the first Independence (Swarajya) Day, to be celebrated everywhere.

### QUESTION 87:

Who amongst the following were the members of the committee that formed the Nehru Report?

1. Ali Imam
2. Subhas Chandra Bose
3. Mangal Singh
4. Maulana Azad
5. Tej Bahadur Sapru

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: C**

### Explanation:

An All Parties Conference met in **February 1928** and appointed a sub-committee under the chairmanship of **Motilal Nehru** to draft a constitution. This was the first major attempt by the Indians to draft a constitutional framework for the country. The report was finalised by August 1928.

- The committee included:
  - Tej Bahadur Sapru
  - Subhash Bose
  - M.S. Aney
  - Mangal Singh
  - Ali Imam
  - Shuab Qureshi
  - G.R.Pradhan
- The main recommendations included:
  - Dominion status
  - Rejection of separate electorate
  - Linguistic province
  - Fundamental rights including equal rights for women, right to form unions and universal adult suffrage
  - Full protection to cultural and religious interest of Muslims
  - Complete dissociation of state from religion

#### QUESTION 88:

With reference to the Simon Commission, consider the following statements:

1. Its genesis lies in the Government of India Act 1919.
2. It recommended the abolition of dyarchy and the communal electorate.
3. Unionists and Justice Party did not participate in the anti-Simon commission protest.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

**In November 1927**, the British Government announced the appointment a seven-member statutory commission under the chairmanship of **Sir John Simon** to report on the condition of India under its new Constitution.

- **The Government of India Act, 1919**, provided for the appointment of a statutory commission to inquire into and report on its working after ten years of its coming into force.
  - The constitutional reforms were due for 1929, the Conservative government, then in power in Britain, appointed statutory commission two years earlier as it feared defeat by the Labour Party. Thus, it did not want to leave the question of the future of Britain's most prized colony in "irresponsible Labour hands". **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The commission submitted its report in **1930** and recommended the following:
  - Abolition of dyarchy
  - Extension of responsible government in the provinces
  - Establishment of a federation of British India and princely states
  - Continuation of the communal electorate. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Indian response to the Simon Commission was immediate and nearly unanimous. Indians boycotted the Simon Commission mainly because of their exclusion from the commission.

- Under the commission, the foreigners would discuss and decide upon India's fitness for self-government. This notion was seen as a violation of the principle of self-determination, and as a deliberate insult to the self-respect of Indians.
- The Congress, the Muslim League and liberals from Hindu Mahasabha boycotted the commission.
- However, the **Unionist Party of Punjab** and **Justice Party in the south** decided **not to boycott** the commission. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 89:

Consider the following statements with reference to Cabinet Mission Plan:

1. It was to find the ways for peaceful transfer of power to India.
2. Demand for a full-fledged Pakistan was accepted.
3. Provincial assemblies to be divided into two sections of one each from the Hindu majority and Muslim majority.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only  
(B) 1 and 2 only  
(C) 1 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A**

#### Explanation:

- The Attlee government announced in February 1946 the decision to send a high-powered mission of three British cabinet members (**Pethick Lawrence**, Secretary of State for India; **Stafford Cripps**, President of the Board of Trade; and **A.V.Alexander**, First Lord of Admiralty) to India **to find out ways and means for a negotiated, peaceful transfer of power to India. Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- It **rejected the demand for a full-fledged Pakistan**, because of following reasons
  - The Pakistan so formed would include a large non-Muslim population—38% in the North-West and 48% in the North-East.
  - Deep-seated regional ties would be disturbed if Bengal and Punjab were partitioned.
  - Partition would entail economic and administrative problems, for instance, the problem of communication between the western and eastern parts of Pakistan.; and
  - The division of the armed forces would be dangerous. **Hence, Statement 2 is not correct.**
- According to the Cabinet proposal grouping of existing provincial assemblies would be done into **three sections**:
  - **Section-A:** Madras, Bombay, Central Provinces, United Provinces, Bihar and Orissa (Hindu-majority provinces).
  - **Section-B:** Punjab, North-West Frontier Province and Sindh (Muslim-majority provinces)
  - **Section-C:** Bengal and Assam (Muslim-majority provinces).
  - Muslim majority provinces were grouped into two groups while remaining into one Hindu majority provinces. **Hence, Statement 3 is not correct**

#### QUESTION 90:

What was/were the reason/reasons for starting 'Quit India Movement' :

1. The failure of the Wavell Plan to solve the constitutional deadlock.
2. Popular discontent because of rising prices and shortage of food items.
3. Popular faith in the stability of British rule was low.
4. Rout of a European power by an Asian power.

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

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

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- In July 1942, the Congress Working Committee met at Wardha and resolved that it would authorise Gandhi to take charge of the non-violent mass movement. Later, the 'Quit India Resolution' was ratified at the Congress meeting at Gowalia Tank, Bombay, on August 8, 1942.
- There were several reasons for starting the Quit India Movement -
  - **The failure of the Cripps Mission** to solve the constitutional deadlock exposed Britain's unchanged attitude on constitutional advance and made it clear that any more silence would be tantamount to accepting the British right to decide the fate of Indians without consulting them. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct**
  - There was popular discontent because of rising prices and shortage of food items such as rice, salt, etc., and because of factors such as commandeering of boats in Bengal and Orissa. There were fears of Britain following a scorched earth policy in Assam, Bengal and Orissa against possible Japanese advance. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct**
  - News of reverses suffered by the British in South-East Asia and an imminent British collapse enhanced popular willingness to give expression to discontent. The Japanese troops were approaching the borders of India. Popular faith in the stability of British rule was so low that people were withdrawing deposits from banks and post offices. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct**
  - The manner in which the British evacuated from South-East Asia leaving the subjects to their fate, and the rout of a European power by an Asian power shattered white prestige and the British behaviour towards the Indian subjects in South-East Asia exposed the racist attitude of the rulers. **Hence, Statement 4 is correct**
  - The leadership wanted to condition the masses for a possible Japanese invasion.

**QUESTION 91:**

Which of the following is/are the components of Revenue Expenditure of the Union government?

1. Salaries of employees
2. Repayment of loan
3. Subsidies
4. Education and health services

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

- An expenditure that **neither creates assets nor reduces a liability is categorised as revenue expenditure**. If it **creates an asset or reduces a liability, it is categorised as capital expenditure**.
- Examples of revenue expenditure are **salaries of government employees**, interest payments on

loans taken by the government, pensions, **subsidies**, grants, rural development, **education and health services** etc.

- **Repayment** of the **loan** is a **capital expenditure** because it reduces liability. These expenditures are met out of capital receipts of the government including capital transfers from the rest of the world. **Hence, option D is correct.**

#### QUESTION 92:

Consider the following statements:

1. The government security (G-Sec) is a debt obligation of the government to fund their fiscal deficit.
2. G-Sec is a tradable instrument issued by the Central Government or the State Governments.
3. There is volatility in G-sec yields due to the movement in oil prices, domestic liquidity and rupee exchange rate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1 and 2 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: D**

#### Explanation:

- Government security (G-Sec) is a **debt obligation** of the **Indian government** to **fund** their **fiscal deficit**.
  - These securities are offered for short term as well as long term. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- G-Secs carry practically no risk of default and, hence, are called **risk-free gilt-edged instruments**.
- Gilt-edged securities are high-grade investment bonds offered by governments and large corporations as a means of borrowing funds. **G-Sec is a tradable instrument** issued by the Central Government or the State Governments. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The G-sec **yields are volatile** and **closely tracked** by the **movement in oil prices, domestic liquidity and rupee exchange rate**. The **hardening of yields** may be attributed to rising crude oil prices, the firming up of US treasury yields, the pace of rate hikes by the US Fed and upside risks to domestic inflation. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 93:

Consider the following statements:

1. Education and health services are examples of merit goods in an economy.
2. The investment in merit goods generates positive externalities and spillover effect on social welfare.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: C**

- Merit goods are those goods and services that the government feels that people will under-consume, and which ought to be subsidised or provided free at the point of use so that consumption does not depend primarily on the ability to pay for the good or service. Examples of merit goods include **education, health care**, welfare services, housing etc. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- Merit goods and services **create positive externalities when consumed and the spillover benefits** can have a significant effect on social welfare. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 94:

Which among the following statements is/are correct regarding the Essential Commodities Act (ECA)?

1. It provides protection to consumers against irrational spikes in prices of essential commodities.
2. The list of items under this Act includes only edible oils and petroleum products.
3. The Centre can include new commodities as and when the need arises.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

- The **Essential Commodities Act** gives consumers protection against irrational spikes in prices of essential commodities.
  - The Government has invoked the Act many times to ensure adequate supplies. It cracks down on hoarders and black-marketeers of such commodities. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The list of items under the **Essential Commodities Act** includes **drugs, fertilisers, pulses and edible oils, and petroleum and petroleum products**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Centre under the Act has the power to include **new commodities** as and **when the need arises**, and can take them off the list once the situation improves (in view of public interest). The States act on this notification to specify limits and take steps. Anybody trading or dealing in a commodity, be it wholesalers, retailers or even importers are prevented from stockpiling it beyond a certain quantity. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 95:

Which of the following is/are the component(s) of Namami Gange Mission?

1. Sewerage management
2. Urban sanitation
3. Water quality
4. Ecosystem conservation
5. Interlinking of rivers

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

- **Namami Gange Programme**, is an Integrated Conservation Mission, approved as 'Flagship Programme' by the Union Government in June 2014 to accomplish the twin objectives of **effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga**.

■ **Component of Namami Gange Mission includes:**

1. Sewerage project management
  2. **Urban sanitation**
  3. **Water quality**
  4. **Ecosystem conservation**
  5. Clean Ganga fund
  6. Water use efficiency
  7. Urban river management
  8. Rural sanitation
  9. River as public space
  10. Industrial pollution
  11. Sewerage infrastructure
- Interlinking of rivers is not a component of Namami Gange Mission. **The National River Linking Project (NRLP) formally known as the National Perspective Plan**, envisages the interlinking of rivers.. **Hence, option C is correct.**

**QUESTION 96:**

Consider the following statements:

1. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a strategy to hold the responsibility for environmental costs associated with a product.
2. EPR uses financial incentives to encourage manufacturers to design environmentally friendly products.
3. Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) are responsible for the collection and safe handling of waste products after their life cycle.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 2 and 3 only  
(C) 1 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

- **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)** is a strategy to add all the **environmental costs associated with a product** throughout the product life cycle to the market price of that product. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- EPR uses **financial incentives** to encourage manufacturers to design environmentally friendly products by holding producers responsible for the costs of managing their products at the end of life. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- EPR is based on the principle that manufacturers have the greatest control over product design and marketing and have the greatest ability and responsibility to reduce toxicity and waste.
- EPR may take the form of **reuse, buyback, or recycling program**. The producer may also choose to delegate this responsibility to a third party, a so-called **Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO)**, which is paid by the producer for used-product management.
  - It shifts the responsibility for **waste management** from government to private industry, obliging producers, importers and/or sellers to internalise waste management costs in their product prices and ensure the safe handling of their products. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

### QUESTION 97:

Which of the following is/are correct regarding Gender budgeting?

1. The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD) is the nodal agency to implement the strategy of gender budgeting.
2. Gender budgeting is a process to plan the differential needs of women and men.
3. Gender budget cells are formed within ministries and departments to strengthen gender budgeting processes.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 only  
(B) 2 and 3 only  
(C) 1 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: D**

### Explanation:

- The Ministry of **Women and Child Development (MoWCD)** as the nodal agency for coordination of Gender Budgeting activities has adopted the mission strategy of 'Budgeting for Gender Equity to ensure that government budgets are planned according to the differential needs of women and men and accordingly prioritized. **Hence statement 1 and 2 are correct.**
- Gender Budgeting is concerned with the gender-sensitive formulation of legislation, policies, plans, programmes and schemes; allocation and collection of resources; implementation and execution; monitoring, review, audit and impact assessment of programmes and schemes; and follow-up corrective action to address gender disparities.
- In the Gender Budget Statement of 2019-20, **30 Ministries/Departments reported having schemes with women's components, amounting to approximately 5% of the total Union Budget. Furthermore, 57 Ministries/Departments have formed Gender Budget Cells to institutionalize and strengthen gender budgeting processes.** During the last 3 financial years, over 4500 Government officials have been trained under this Scheme. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

### QUESTION 98:

Which of the following is/are the components of Ayushman Bharat Yojna?

1. It is a health insurance scheme for providing free, quality and cashless health facilities in secondary and tertiary care facilities.
2. The inclusion of beneficiaries is decided on the basis of Below Poverty Line(BPL) data.
3. It aims to create Health and Wellness Centres for providing comprehensive primary health care.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 3 only  
(B) 2 only  
(C) 2 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A**

### Explanation:

- Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY (Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY)) provides a defined benefit cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year. **Free treatment available at all public and empanelled private hospitals in times of need.** Covers secondary and tertiary care hospitals. The scheme will be cashless

& paperless at public hospitals and empanelled private hospitals. The beneficiaries will not be required to pay any charges for hospitalization expenses. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- All families listed in the **Socio-Economic Caste Census(SECC) database** as per defined criteria will be covered. No cap on family size and age of members. Priority to the girl child, women and senior citizens. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The first component pertains to the creation of **1,50,000 Health and Wellness Centres which will bring health care closer to the homes of the people.** These centres will provide Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC), covering both maternal and child health services and non-communicable diseases, including free essential drugs and diagnostic services. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 99:

With reference to landholding in India, consider the following statements:

1. Operational holding is the land which is used wholly or partly for agricultural production and is operated as one technical unit by one person.
2. There has been a decrease in operational land holdings over the years.
3. The share of operational holdings cultivated by women has also increased during the same period.

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

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

- Operational holding refers to all land which is used wholly or partly for agricultural production and is operated as one technical unit by one person alone or with others without regard to the title, legal form, size or location. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The number of operational holdings, i.e. land put to agricultural use, has increased to 14.6 crores in 2015-16 from 13.8 crores in 2010-11, thereby registering an increase of 5.3 per cent. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **The share of operational holdings cultivated by women has increased** from 11.7 per cent in 2005-06 to 13.9% in 2015-16. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

#### QUESTION 100:

Considering the following statements:

1. The marginal landholders have less than 1 ha of operational land.
2. The share of marginal farmers has increased in total operational holding in recent times.
3. The share of large landholding in operational holding has increased.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 2 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:



- **Marginal Farmer** means a **farmer** cultivating (as owner or tenant or sharecropper) agricultural land up to 1 hectare (2.5 acres). **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The share of **marginal holdings (less than 1 ha) in total operational holdings increased from 62.9% in 2000-01 to 68.5% in 2015-16**, while the share of smallholdings (1 ha to 2 ha) decreased from 18.9% to 17.7% during this period. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Large holdings (above 4 ha) decreased from 6.5 per cent to 4.3 per cent. The area operated by the marginal and smallholdings increased from 38.9 per cent in 2000-01 to 47.4 per cent in 2015-16, while that of **the large holdings decreased from 37.2% to 20% during this period. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

