



## Prelims Refresher Program: Day 10 (Test-3)

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### Question 1:

The motion can be introduced only in Lok Sabha to draw the attention of the house to a matter of urgent public importance. It involves the element of censure against the government. It is an extraordinary device as it disrupts the normal business of the house. It does not deal with any matter that is under adjudication by the court. It is restricted to a matter of recent occurrence and does not cover more than one matter. The motion also does not revive discussion on a matter that has been discussed in the same session.

Identify the motion discussed in the paragraph above:

1. Privilege Motion
2. Calling attention Motion
3. Censure Motion
4. Adjournment Motion

**Correct Answer : 4**

### Explanation

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**Adjournment Motion:** The adjournment motion is an extraordinary procedure which, if admitted, leads to setting aside the normal business of the House for discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance.

- The right to move a motion for an adjournment of the business of the House is subject to the following restrictions:
    - It should raise a matter which is definite, factual, urgent and of public importance.
    - It should not cover more than one matter.
    - It should be restricted to a specific matter of recent occurrence and should not be framed in general terms.
    - It should not raise a question of privilege.
    - It should not revive discussion on a matter that has been discussed in the same session.
    - It should not deal with any matter that is under adjudication by a court.
    - It should not raise any question that can be raised on a distinct motion.
  - Hence, it involves an element of censure against the government and therefore Rajya Sabha is not permitted to make use of this device. **Hence, option D is correct.**
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### Question 2:

The 'Social justice' as one of the objectives of the Indian Constitution is provided in

1. Directive Principles of State Policy
2. Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy
3. Fundamental Rights and Preamble
4. None of the above

**Correct Answer : 2**

### Explanation

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- **Social justice** denotes the equal treatment of all citizens without any social distinction based on caste, colour, race, religion, sex and so on. It means the absence of privileges being extended to any particular section of the society, and improvement in the conditions of backward classes (SCs, STs, and OBCs) and women.
- The Constitution has attempted to attune the apparently conflicting claims of **socio-economic justice** and of **individual liberty and fundamental rights** by putting some relevant provisions.

- The **Preamble** has solemnly promised to all its citizens:
  - **justice-social, economic and political;**
  - **liberty** of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;
  - **equality** of status and of opportunity;
  - and to promote among all **fraternity** assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity of the nation.
- **Fundamental Right:**
  - **Article 14** of the Constitution of India provides for **equality before the law or equal protection of the laws** within the territory of India.
  - **Article 15** secures the citizens from every sort of discrimination by the State, on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth or any of them.
  - **Article 17** abolishes the practice of untouchability. The practise of untouchability is an offence and anyone doing so is punishable by law.
  - **Article 19** guarantees the citizens six **different kinds of freedom and recognize them as their fundamental rights.**
  - **Articles 23 and 24** provide for fundamental rights against exploitation. Article 24, in particular, **prohibits an employer** from employing a child below the age of 14 years in any factory or mine or in any other hazardous employment.
  - **Article 31** makes a specific provision in regard to the right to property and deals with the vexed problem of compulsory acquisition of property.
- **Directive Principles of State Policy:**
  - **Article 38** requires that the state should make an effort to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting as effectively as it may a social order in which justice social, economic and political shall inform all the institutions of national life.
  - **Article 39 (A)** says that the State shall secure that the **operation of the legal system promotes justice**, on a basis of equal opportunity, and shall, in particular, provide free legal aid, by suitable legislation or schemes, or in any other way, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities.
  - **Article 41** recognizes every citizen's right to work, to education and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness & disablement and in other cases of undeserved want.
  - **Article 42** stresses the importance of securing just and humane conditions of work and for **maternity relief.**
  - **Article 43** holds before the working population the ideal of the living wage.
  - **Article 46** emphasizes the importance of the promotion of educational and economic interests of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other weaker sections. **Hence, option B is correct.**

### Question 3:

Consider the following statements:

1. The general direction of monsoon wind during June-September is from South-West to North-East.
2. The monsoon winds first hit the Andaman and Nicobar Islands generally in the last week of May.
3. The rainfall from the Bay of Bengal branch increases as they move towards West over the Northern plains.

Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1 and 3 only

**Correct Answer : 2**

### Explanation

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#### **Advancing South West Monsoon Season**

- In India, June to September are the months of advancing South-West monsoon season. By the end of May, the monsoon trough further intensifies over north India due to high temperatures in the region. The general direction of the wind during this season is from **South-West to North-East. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- These moisture-laden winds **first hit the Andaman and Nicobar Islands** in the **last week of May** and Kerala coast in the first week of June with violent thunder and lightning. This South-West monsoon that flows into India brings about a major change in its weather. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- Two branches of south-west monsoon originate from:
  - **Arabian Sea Branch:** It is obstructed by the Western Ghats which gives heavy rainfall on the Western side of Western Ghats. It reaches Mumbai by 10th June. When this branch crosses the Western Ghats and reaches the Deccan Plateau and parts of Madhya Pradesh, it gives less rainfall as it is a rain shadow region. Further, this branch reaches the Northern Plain by 20<sup>th</sup> June.
  - **Bay of Bengal Branch:** The monsoon winds that move from the Bay of Bengal strike Andaman and Nicobar islands, North-Eastern states and coastal areas of West Bengal and covers the whole of India by the 15<sup>th</sup> of July. They cause heavy rainfall in the region. However, the quantity of rainfall decreases as they move towards the West over the Northern plains.  
For example, rainfall in Kolkata is 120 cm, Allahabad 91 cm and Delhi 56cm. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

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#### Question 4:

Consider the following pairs:

Islands	Country
1. Lamu Islands	Somalia
2. Sabang Island	Indonesia
3. Reunion Island	Germany
4. Socotra Island	Yemen

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 2 and 4 only

**Correct Answer : 4**

Explanation

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- **Lamu Island:** Somalia's **Al-Shabaab group** has attacked a military base used by the United States of America (USA), and Kenyan forces in **Kenya's coastal Lamu region**.
  - Lamu Island is located on the **eastern coast of Kenya in the Indian Ocean**.
  - It is recognised as a **World Heritage Site** by the **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**. **Hence, pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- **Sabang Island:** India is developing its maiden deep-sea port in Indonesia's Sabang Island, close to Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
 

Sabang, also known as **Weh island**, is located 710 km southeast of the Andaman Islands and less than 500 km from the entrance of the **Malacca Strait**, through which almost 40% of India's trade passes. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- **Reunion Island:** In January 2019, India and France have operationalized their reciprocal military logistics support agreement.
  - Under the pact, Indian warships can access **French bases** like the **Reunion Islands** near Madagascar and **Djibouti on the Horn of Africa** in the **Indian Ocean**.
  - Recently, French President also announced that India will deploy a naval aircraft at **France's reunion island** as part of a joint surveillance mission with France in the southern Indian Ocean.
  - Reunion Island is the French territory, located in the Indian Ocean near Madagascar. **Hence, pair 3 is not correctly matched.**
- **Socotra Island:** Recently, thousands of Yemenis protested in Hadibu, capital and largest city of Socotra island against the **United Arab Emirates**, and accused it of supporting chaos and tearing the social fabric.
  - The UAE is seeking greater influence in Socotra, having built a military base there, installing communications networks, and carrying out other development projects.
  - Strategic access to Socotra would help the UAE expand its global trade routes to states such as India, with whom it has growing ties.
  - It is located 220 miles away from **mainland Yemen**, and is a UNESCO-protected site. It's often called the **Galapagos of the Indian Ocean**, and hosts around 800 rare animal and plant species. **Hence, pair 4 is correctly matched.**

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### Question 5:

Consider the following statements:

1. SAGAR is an Indian initiative for removing plastic waste in Indian Ocean.
2. Project Mausam aims to document the diversity of cultural, commercial and religious interactions in the Indian Ocean.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

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**SAGAR** refers to "**Security and Growth for All in the Region**". The vision of SAGAR was enunciated by the Prime Minister in March 2015. It is an articulation of India's vision for the Indian Ocean.

- SAGAR underscores India's engagement in the Indian Ocean. It aims at enhancing capacities **to safeguard land and maritime territories & interests; deepening economic and security cooperation in the littoral; action to deal with natural disasters and maritime threats like piracy, terrorism.**
- It also includes engaging with countries beyond our shores with the aim of building greater trust and promoting respect for maritime rules, norms and peaceful resolution of disputes. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

**Project 'Mausam'** is an initiative of the **Ministry of Culture**, implemented by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) as the nodal agency with research support of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) and National Museum as associate bodies.

- The project aims to explore the multi-faceted Indian Ocean 'world'—collating archaeological and historical research in order to document the diversity of cultural, commercial and religious interactions in the Indian Ocean.
- It also aims to promote research on themes related to the study of Maritime Routes. The main objective of the project is to inscribe places and sites identified under Project Mausam as trans-national nomination for inscription on **UNESCO's World Heritage List. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

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## Question 6:

In the Constitution of India, promotion of international peace and security is included in

1. Preamble
2. Directive Principles of State Policy

3. Fundamental Duties

4. Ninth Schedule

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

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- **Directive Principles of State Policy** under Article 51 deals with guiding principles which the state shall strive to follow in regard with international relations.
  - According to Article 51, the State shall endeavour to:
    - **promote international peace and security**
    - maintain just and honourable relations between nations
    - foster respect for international law and treaty obligations in the dealings of organised peoples with one another encourage settlement of international disputes by arbitration. **Hence, option B is correct.**
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## Question 7:

Which of the following is/are correct regarding the Preamble of India?

1. It was held as a part of the Constitution in the Berubari Union case.
2. The objectives of the Preamble are part of the basic structure of the Constitution.
3. It is neither a source of power nor a source of limitations.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3 only

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

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- The Preamble serves the following points:
  - It indicates the sources from where the power in the constitution is derived viz. the people of India.
  - It declares the freedoms which the people of India intended to secure to all citizens and the basic type of government and polity which was to be established.
- In **Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala** case, it was held:
  - that the Preamble to the **Constitution of India is a part of the Constitution. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - that the **Preamble is neither a source of power nor a source of limitations. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
  - the Preamble has a significant role to play in the interpretation of law and provisions of the Constitution.
- In **S.R Bommai** case the majority of nine Judges laid down a judgement regarding the application of the Preamble under the Constitution, which is as follows:
 

The Preamble indicates the **Basic Structure of the Constitution.**

  - A **republican and democratic form** of government.
  - The **secular character** of the Constitution.
  - The **federal character** of the Constitution.
  - **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

### Question 8:

These forests are found in the western slope of the Western Ghats. They are found in warm and humid areas with annual precipitation of over 200 cm and mean annual temperatures above 22°C. They are well stratified, with layers closer to the ground and are covered with shrubs and creepers, with short structured trees followed by a tall variety of trees.

Identify the forest type which has been discussed.

1. Tropical Deciduous forests
2. Tropical Evergreen
3. Tropical Thorn forests
4. Montane forests

**Correct Answer : 2**

Explanation

**Tropical Evergreen and Semi-Evergreen Forests**

- These forests are found in the western slope of the Western Ghats, hills of the northeastern region and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. They are found in warm and humid areas with annual precipitation of over 200 cm and mean annual temperatures above 22°C.
  - Tropical evergreen forests are well stratified, with layers closer to the ground and are covered with shrubs and creepers, with short structured trees followed by a tall variety of trees. In these forests, trees reach great heights up to 60 m or above. As such these forests appear green all year round. Species found in these forests include rosewood, mahogany, aini, ebony, etc.
  - The semi-evergreen forests are found in the less rainy parts of these regions. Such forests have a mixture of evergreen and moist deciduous trees. The under growing climbers provide an evergreen character to these forests. Main species are white cedar, hollock and kail. **Hence, option B is correct.**
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### Question 9:

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The underlying principle of the parliamentary form of the Government is the collective responsibility of the executive to the legislature.
2. The President can dissolve the lower house of Parliament only after completion of its term.
3. Indian Parliamentary system is based on the doctrine of the 'Sovereignty of Parliament'.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 1 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 3**

Explanation

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**Collective Responsibility**

- This is a **bedrock principle** of parliamentary government. The ministers are collectively responsible to the Parliament in general and to the Lok Sabha in particular (**Article 75**). The principle of collective responsibility implies that the **Lok Sabha can remove the ministry** (council of ministers) from office by passing a **vote of no confidence**.

The Lok Sabha **exercises control** over the ministers through **various devices** like question hour, discussions, adjournment motion, no-confidence motion, etc.

**Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- The lower house of the Parliament (Lok Sabha) can be dissolved by the President on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. In other words, the Prime Minister **can advise the President to dissolve the Lok Sabha before the expiry of its term** and hold fresh elections. This means that the executive enjoys the right to get the legislature dissolved in a parliamentary system. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

### The distinction between Indian and British Models

- The parliamentary system of government in India is largely based on the British parliamentary system (Westminster model of government). However, it never became a replica of the British system.
- India has a republican system in place of the British monarchical system. In other words, the Head of the State in India (President) is elected, while the Head of the State in Britain (King or Queen) enjoys a hereditary position.
- The **British** system is based on the doctrine of the '**Sovereignty of Parliament**', while the **Parliament is not supreme in India** and enjoys limited and restricted powers due to a **written Constitution**, the **federal system**, **judicial review** and **fundamental rights**. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- In Britain, the Prime Minister should be a member of the Lower House of the Parliament. In India, the Prime Minister may be a member of any of the two Houses of Parliament.
- Usually, the members of Parliament alone are appointed as ministers in Britain. In India, a person who is not a member of Parliament can also be appointed as a minister, but for a **maximum period of six months**.
- Britain has the system of legal responsibility of the minister while India has no such system. Unlike in Britain, the **ministers in India are not required to countersign the official acts of the Head of the State**.
- '**Shadow Cabinet**' is a **unique** institution of the British cabinet system. It is formed by the opposition party to balance the ruling cabinet and to prepare its members for future ministerial office. There is no such institution in India.

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### Question 10:

Democracy's superior virtue lies in the fact that it calls into activity

1. The intelligence and character of ordinary men and women.
2. The methods for strengthening executive leadership.
3. A superior individual with dynamism and vision.
4. A band of dedicated party workers.

**Correct Answer : 1**

## Explanation

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The term Democracy, literally means "a government of the people, for the people and by the people", i.e., rule by the people.

For example, in course of electing the representative for forming the government the people exercise their intelligence and character. **Hence, option A is correct.**

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### Question 11:

It is the first biosphere reserve of India which was established in 1986. It was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 2012. The natural vegetation types include several dry scrubs, dry and moist deciduous, semi-evergreen and wet evergreen forests. It includes the largest known population of endangered Lion-tailed macaque.

1. Nokrek Biosphere Reserve
2. Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve
3. Similipal Biosphere Reserve
4. Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

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### Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (NBR)

- The government has established **18 Biosphere Reserves of India**, which protect larger areas of natural habitat (than a National Park or Wildlife Sanctuary). Biosphere Reserves of India often include one or more National Parks or sanctuaries, along with buffer zones that are open to some economic uses.

- The **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (NBR)**, the first biosphere reserve of India, was established in **September 1986**. It embraces the sanctuary complex of **Wayanad, Nagarhole, Bandipur and Mudumalai**, the entire forested hill slopes of Nilambur, the Upper Nilgiri plateau, Silent Valley and the Siruvani hills.
  - The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve possesses different habitat types, unspoilt areas of natural vegetation with several dry scrubs, dry and moist deciduous, semi-evergreen and wet evergreen forests, evergreen sholas, grasslands and swamps.
  - It includes the largest known population of **two endangered animal species**, namely the **Nilgiri Tahr and the Lion-tailed macaque**. The largest south Indian population of elephant, tiger, gaur, sambar and chital as well as a good number of endemic and endangered plants are also found in this reserve.
  - The habitat of a number of tribal groups remarkable for their traditional modes of harmonious use of the environment is also found here. The topography of the NBR is extremely varied, ranging from an altitude of 250 m to 2,650 m. About 80% of the flowering plants reported from the Western Ghats occur in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
  - **Hence, option B is correct.**
- 

### Question 12:

With reference to the Indian Council Act of 1861, consider the following statements:

1. Introduced the portfolio system.
2. Empowered Viceroy to issue an ordinance.
3. Separated the legislative and executive functions of the Governor-General's council.
4. Restored the legislative powers to Bombay and Madras Presidencies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 3 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1, 2 and 4
4. 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Correct Answer : 3**

### Explanation

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#### Indian Council Act, 1861

Indian Council Act of 1861 is said to contain the first seeds of representative institutions in

India. It laid the foundation of the policy of legislative devolution in the country.

- **Portfolio System** was introduced by **Lord Canning** in 1859. However, the Act gave recognition to the portfolio system.

Under this, a member of the Viceroy's council was made in-charge of one or more department of the government and was authorised to issue final orders on behalf of the council on matters of his department(s). **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- It empowered the Viceroy to issue ordinances, without the concurrence of the legislative council, during an emergency. The life of such an ordinance was six months. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It made a beginning of representative institutions by associating Indians with the law-making process. It thus provided that the viceroy should nominate some Indians as non-official members of his expanded council.
- It initiated the **process of decentralisation** by restoring the legislative powers to the Bombay and Madras Presidencies. It thus reversed the centralising tendency that started from the Regulating Act of 1773 and reached its climax under the Charter Act of 1833.

This policy of legislative devolution resulted in the grant of almost complete internal autonomy to the provinces in 1937. **Hence, statement 4 is correct.**

- It also provided for the establishment of new legislative councils for Bengal, North-Western Frontier Province (NWFP) and Punjab, which were established in 1862, 1866 and 1897 respectively.
- **Features of Charter Act of 1853**
  - It separated, for the first time, the legislative and executive functions of the Governor-General's council. It established a separate Governor-General's legislative council which came to be known as the Indian (Central) Legislative Council. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
  - It introduced an open competition system of selection and recruitment of civil servants.
  - It extended the Company's rule and allowed it to retain the possession of Indian territories on trust for the British Crown.

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### Question 13:

Which of the following are envisaged by the Right against Exploitation in the Constitution of India?

1. Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour
2. Abolition of untouchability
3. Protection of the interests of minorities
4. Prohibition of employment of children in factories and mines

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1, 2 and 4 only
2. 2, 3 and 4 only
3. 1 and 4 only
4. 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Correct Answer : 3**

### Explanation

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- **Articles 23 and 24** under Part III (Fundamental Rights) of the Constitution deal with the Right against exploitation.
  - Article 23 provides for the **prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour**. It states that traffic in human beings and begar and other similar forms of forced labour are prohibited and any contravention of this provision shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law.
  - Article 24 provides for the **prohibition of employment of children in factories, etc.** It states that no child below the age of fourteen years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employment.
  - **Hence, option C is correct.**
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### Question 14:

With reference to North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), consider the following statements:

1. It works on a principle of collective defence.
2. It was formed to defend the member states by military means only.
3. The USA is the only North American country in the alliance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 1 and 2 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 1**

## Explanation

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North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is a **political and military alliance** established by the North Atlantic Treaty (also called the **Washington Treaty**) on April 4, 1949.

- NATO is committed to the principle that an attack against one or several of its members is considered as an attack against all. This is the principle of **collective defence**, which is enshrined in **Article 5** of the Washington Treaty. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - NATO's purpose is to guarantee the freedom and security of its members **through political and military means.**
    - **POLITICAL** – NATO promotes democratic values and enables members to consult and cooperate on defence and security-related issues to solve problems, build trust and, in the long run, prevent conflict.
    - **MILITARY** – NATO is committed to the peaceful resolution of disputes. If diplomatic efforts fail, it has the military power to undertake crisis-management operations. These are carried out under the collective defence clause of NATO's founding treaty - Article 5 of the Washington Treaty or under a United Nations mandate, alone or in cooperation with other countries and international organisations. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - It was formed by the **United States, Canada**, and several **Western European nations**. The USA and Canada are the only North American countries in the alliance. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
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### Question 15:

Consider the following events:

1. Cuddapah System
2. Archaean Gneisses
3. Dharwar System
4. Carboniferous rocks

Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the formation of the rock system?

1. 4-3-2-1
2. 2-3-4-1
3. 3-4-1-2
4. 2-3-1-4



**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

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- **Archaean Gneisses** and Schists are the oldest rocks system formed about **4 billion years** ago (Precambrian era).
    - They serve as the basement complex or the foundation rocks for other rock systems.
    - They are found in Aravalli hills.
  - The **Dharwar System** formation period ranges from **4 billion years ago to – 1 billion years ago**.
    - Highly metamorphosed sedimentary rock-system. Formed due to metamorphosis of sediments of Archaean gneisses and schists.
    - They are the oldest metamorphosed rocks.
    - Found in abundance in Dharwad district of Karnataka.
  - **Purana Rock System** (1400 – 600 Million Years) includes two divisions: the **Cuddapah System** and the **Vindhyan System**.
    - **Cuddapah System** includes Unfossiliferous clay, slates, sandstones and limestones were deposited in synclinal basins.
    - Observed in Cuddapah district of Andhra Pradesh.
  - **Carboniferous rocks** (350 million years) comprise mainly of limestone, shale and quartzite. Carboniferous in geology means coal-bearing.  
Mount Everest is composed of Upper Carboniferous limestones. Coal formation started in the Carboniferous age. **Hence, option D is correct.**
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### Question 16:

Regarding the federal system in India, consider the following statements:

1. It seeks to ensure unity as well as diversity.
2. Indian federation is formed by mutual agreement between the Union and State.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 1**

## Explanation

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Federalism is a system of government in which the power is divided between a central authority and constituent units of the country.

- The federal system has **dual objectives**:
    - To safeguard and promote the unity of the country.
    - To accommodate regional diversity.
  - Therefore, two aspects are crucial for the institutions and practice of federalism.  
**Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - The Constitution of India provides for a federal system of government in the country. Article 1 describes India as a '**Union of States**'.
  - According to **Dr. BR Ambedkar**, the phrase '**Union of States**' has been preferred to '**Federation of States**' to indicate two things:
    - The Indian federation is not the result of an agreement among the states like the American Federation.
    - The states have no right to secede from the federation. The federation is a union because it is indestructible. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- 

### Question 17:

The Parliament has the power to legislate on matters of State List under which circumstances:

1. When Rajya Sabha passes a resolution
2. During Financial Emergency
3. When any one of the States makes a request to the Parliament

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. All of the above

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

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Constitution empowers the Parliament to make laws on any matter enumerated in the State List under the following five extraordinary circumstances:

- **When Rajya Sabha passes a resolution (Article 249).**
    - In the national interest, Rajya Sabha passes a resolution by a two-thirds majority (members present and voting), such resolution remains in force for one year.
    - The laws cease to have an effect on the expiration of six months after the resolution has ceased to be in force and can be renewed any number of times but not exceeding one year at a time. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - **During a National Emergency (Article 352).**
    - Parliament can legislate on matters related to State list during National Emergency and **not during the financial emergency.**
    - The laws become inoperative on the expiration of six months after the emergency has ceased to operate. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - **When States make a Request (Article 252).**
    - When the legislatures of two or more states pass resolutions requesting the Parliament to enact laws on a matter in the State List, then the Parliament can make laws for regulating that matter. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
    - Such a law can be amended or repealed **only by the Parliament** and not by the legislatures of the concerned states.
  - **To Implement International Agreements (Article 253).**

The Parliament can make laws on any matter in the State List for implementing the international treaties, agreements or conventions.
  - **During President's Rule (356).**
    - When the President's rule is imposed in a state, the Parliament becomes empowered to make laws with respect to any matter in the State List in relation to that state.
    - A law made by the Parliament continues to be operative even after the President's rule.
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### Question 18:

With reference to the Subansiri river, consider the following statements:

1. The river originates in Tibetan Plateau.
2. It is the largest tributary of the Brahmaputra River.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

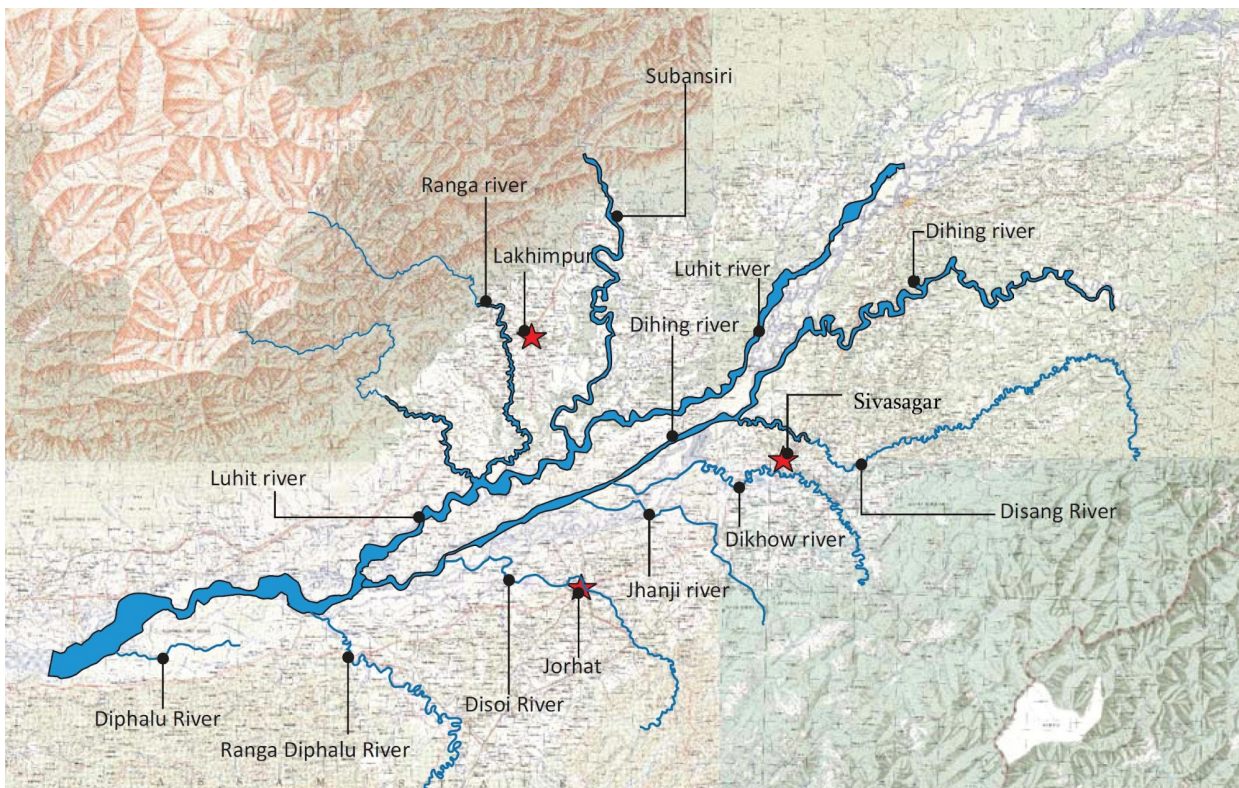
**Correct Answer : 3**

## Explanation

- **Subansiri River**, originates in the Tibet Plateau and enters India through **Miri hills** in Arunachal Pradesh. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

The Subansiri river is known as the **Gold River by the locals**. This river is famous all over the world for its gold dust.

- The principal tributaries of the Brahmaputra River joining from the right are Kameng, **Subansiri**, Manas, Sankosh and Teesta whereas Lohit, Dibang, Burhi Dihing, Desang, Dikhow, Dhansiri join it from the left.
  - **Subansiri is the largest tributary of the Brahmaputra River. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - The **Brahmaputra River** originates in the north from Kailash ranges of the Himalayas at an elevation of 5,150 m just south of the lake Konggyu Tsho and flows for about a total length of 2,900 km. It enters India at Namcha Barwa (Arunachal Pradesh) and flows for 916 km.



### Question 19:

With reference to Article 20 of the Indian Constitution, Consider the following statements:

1. It prohibits the conviction of a person in criminal cases under retrospective law.
2. No person shall be punished for the same offence more than once.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 3**

## Explanation

---

**Article 20** grants protection against arbitrary and excessive punishment to an accused person. It contains three provisions:

- **No ex-post-facto law:** An ex-post-facto law is one that imposes penalties retrospectively, that is, upon acts already done or which increases the penalties for such acts.  
However, this limitation is imposed only on criminal laws and not on civil laws or tax laws. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - **No self-incrimination:** No person accused of any offence shall be compelled to be a witness against himself.  
However, this protection extends only to criminal proceedings and not to civil proceedings or proceedings which are not of criminal nature.
  - **No double jeopardy:** No person shall be prosecuted and punished for the same offence more than once.
    - The protection against double jeopardy is available only in proceedings before a court of law or a judicial tribunal.
    - In other words, it is not available in proceedings before departmental or administrative authorities as they are not of judicial nature. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- 

### Question 20:

A Constitutional Government is one which

1. Places effective restrictions on individual liberty in the interest of State Authority
2. Places effective restrictions on the Authority of the State in the interest of individual liberty

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

---

- It is an **autocratic government** that tries to curb individual liberty at the expense of State authority. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - The Constitutional Government ought to be the one which strives for **providing liberty to individuals and restricting and curbing excess state authority** which is not in the interest of individual/people at large. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
-



## Prelims Refresher Program: Day 10 (Test-3)

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 [drishtiias.com/print-quiz/824](https://drishtiias.com/print-quiz/824)

### Question 1:

With respect to 'Nudge Theory', consider the following statements:

1. The concept proposes positive reinforcement and indirect suggestions to influence the behaviour and decision making of individuals or groups.
2. Richard Thaler received the Nobel Prize in economic sciences for his contribution to behavioural economics.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 3**

### Explanation

---

- **Nudge** is a concept in **behavioural science**, political theory and behavioural economics which proposes positive reinforcement and indirect suggestions as to ways to influence the behaviour and decision making of groups or individuals.
  - Nudging contrasts with other ways to achieve compliance, such as education, legislation or enforcement. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - Richard Thaler, the father of 'nudge theory', has been awarded the Nobel economics prize in 2017. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- 

### Question 2:



With reference to the 'dwarf firms', consider the following statement:

1. Firms employing less than 100 workers and older than ten years are categorised as dwarf firms.
2. Dwarf firms account for more than half of all the firms in the organised manufacturing sector.
3. These firms are the biggest contributor to the economy in terms of employment and productivity.

Which of the statements given above is/are NOT correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1, 2 and 3
4. 3 only

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

---

- Firms that are **both small (less than 100 workers)** and older than **ten years** are categorized as dwarfs firms. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - The dwarf firms account for more than half of all the firms in **organized manufacturing by number**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - Despite the dominance of dwarf firms in the economy their share in Net Value Added (NVA) or **productivity** and **employment** is **very small** (i.e 7.6%).
  - In contrast, young, large firms (firms that have more than 100 employees and are not more than 10 years old) account for only 5.5% of firms by number but their contribution to the economy is higher than dwarf firms i.e (21.2% of the employment and 37.2% of the NVA).
  - Firms that are able to grow over time to become large are the biggest contributors to employment and productivity in the economy.
  - In contrast, **dwarfs** that remain small despite becoming older **remain the lowest contributors to employment and productivity** in the **economy**. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- 

## Question 3:

With reference to Economic Policy Uncertainty (EPU) Index, consider the following statement:



1. The Economic Policy Uncertainty (EPU) of India was at a peak in 2011-12.
2. The low Economic Policy Uncertainty shows the resilience in the economy.
3. The EPU of India is on the rise after the implementation of GST.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 and 3
3. 1 and 2 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

---

- The EPU Index for India shows peaks in a few months of 2011 and 2012, reflecting the policy paralysis during that period, which witnessed the problems of the high twin deficits and high inflation, thereby intensified macroeconomic vulnerability. The index is also high in the second half of 2013 when the economy faced the episode of “taper tantrum” leading to volatile capital flows, depreciation of rupee vis-à-vis US dollar. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - The low economic policy uncertainty index for India in the last one year points towards the resilience of the economy even in times of global trade uncertainty (For example the rising trade tensions between the US and China). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - The peak during GST was on the rise but it is not as sharp as seen in 2011-12, maybe due to the fact that the discussions around GST policy were happening much before it was actually implemented in July 2017. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- 

## Question 4:

With reference to the replacement level fertility rate, consider the following statements:

1. Total Fertility Rate of about 2.1 children per woman is called Replacement-level fertility.
2. TFR of Southern states, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra are already well below replacement level fertility.
3. Replacement level fertility at the national and state level is higher than the usual benchmark of 2.1.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2
2. 2 only
3. 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

---

- **TFR of about 2.1 children per woman** is called **Replacement level fertility**. This value represents the average number of children a woman would need to have to reproduce herself by bearing a daughter who survives to child bearing age. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - India has reached the current TFR of 2.3 at a relatively low per capita income when compared to the experience of major developed economies but similar to that of other Asian countries.
  - **The southern states, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, West Bengal and Maharashtra** are already quite advanced in the demographic transition, with:
    - TFR is already well below **replacement level fertility**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
    - Population growth mainly due to momentum.
    - More than 10 percent of the population over the age of 59.
    - At most one-third of the population below the age of 20.
  - Replacement level fertility at the national and state level is higher than the usual benchmark of 2.1, i.e., due to the skewed sex ratio, a woman would have to give birth to more than 2.1 children in order for the population to replace itself. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
  - Projected values for 2021-41 suggest that TFR at the **national level** will continue to **decline rapidly** and **will lie below replacement level fertility** at 1.8 as early as 2021.
  - At the state level, those already below replacement level fertility, including the southern states, West Bengal, Punjab, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh, are expected to see TFR decline further by 2021, reaching as low as 1.5-1.6 and stabilizing thereafter.
  - Even states lagging behind in the **fertility transition** are expected to see TFR fall significantly below replacement level to 1.8. This would be as early as 2021 in Jharkhand, Haryana and Chhattisgarh, and by 2031 in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. In fact, **by 2031, all states would see below replacement level fertility.**
-

### Question 5:

With reference to Gini Index, consider the following statements:

1. Gini Index is a graphical representation of the distribution of income or of wealth.
2. Higher the value of the Gini Index, the greater the degree of income equality.
3. The value of the Gini Index in India has increased amongst regular workers while it has decreased among casual workers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 3**

### Explanation

---

- The Gini index/ Coefficient is a simple **measure of the distribution of income across income percentiles** in a population  
Gini coefficient is a commonly-used **measure of income inequality** that condenses the entire income distribution for a country into a single number between 0 and 1. While the **Lorenz curve** is a **graphical representation of the distribution of income** or of wealth. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - The **higher Gini index indicates greater inequality**, with high-income individuals receiving a much larger percentage of the total income of the population. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - Between 1993 and 2011, the average real wages increased in India, with the fastest growth recorded for casual labour, women's labour, and rural/agricultural labour (ILO 2018).  
Despite these increases, the existing wage inequality measured by the Gini coefficient remains very high by international standards and it is seen that this **inequality has increased amongst regular workers while it has decreased among casual workers. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- 

### Question 6:

Consider the following statements:

1. Coffee Board is a statutory organization and it functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.
2. Coffee Board has launched blockchain-based coffee e-marketplace in India to ensure a better return for coffee growers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 3**

### Explanation

---

- Coffee Board is a **statutory organization** that was constituted under Section (4) of the Coffee Act, 1942. It functions under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India**.
  - The Board comprises 33 Members including the Chairperson, who is the Chief Executive and it functions from Bangalore. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - Coffee Board has launched **blockchain-based coffee e-marketplace**. This is a pilot project which is likely to help integrate the farmers with markets in a transparent manner and lead to the realization of the fair price for the coffee producer. It will also reduce the number of layers between coffee growers and buyers and help farmers double their income. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- 

### Question 7:

With respect to MGNREGA scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It provides a legal guarantee for wage employment.
2. There are provisions for allowances and compensation both in cases of failure to provide work on demand and delays in payment of wages for work undertaken.
3. The resource transfer from Centre to States is based on the demand for employment in each State.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only

2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 2 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

---

- The **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA) was notified on September 7, 2005**. The mandate of the Act is to provide at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. It provides a **legal guarantee for wage employment. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - There are **legal provisions for allowances and compensation** both in cases of failure to provide work on demand and delays in payment of wages for work undertaken. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - Unlike the earlier wage employment programmes that were **allocation-based, MGNREGA is demand driven and resource transfer from Centre to States is based on the demand for employment in each State**. This provides an additional incentive for States to leverage the Act to meet the employment needs of the poor. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- 

## Question 8:

With reference to the Paris agreement, consider the following statements:

1. Katowice Climate Package elaborates implementation guidelines for the Paris Agreement on climate change.
2. India has committed to achieve 40% installed capacity of power from non-fossil fuels by 2030 under the Paris agreement.
3. The agreement is based on the principle of the Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 2 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

---

- **Katowice Climate Package**, elaborates **implementation guidelines for the Paris agreement on climate change**, including procedures and mechanisms that will operationalize the agreement.
  - Katowice Climate Package provides guidance for the second round of **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)** that countries will submit by 2025. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - **India's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)** under the Paris agreement commits to achieve **40% installed capacity** of power from non-fossil fuels by 2030. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - **Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC)** is a principle within the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** that acknowledges the different capabilities and differing responsibilities of individual countries in addressing climate change. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- 

### Question 9:

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

1. MSME sector accounts for one of the biggest employment generation in the Indian economy.
2. This sector has the potential to increase the regional imbalance.
3. MSME sector receives incentives from Priority Sector Lending of Public Sector Banks.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 3 only
2. 2 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 1**

## Explanation

---

- MSME sector is the **biggest employer after agriculture sector, despite the fact that the agriculture sector's contribution to GDP is less than MSME**. While it contributes about 45 per cent to the manufacturing sector, and perhaps 40 per cent to Exports, it forms the highest share of the employment sector in India, contributing around 69 per cent to it. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - Micro, Small & Medium enterprises sector is the pillar of economic growth in many developed, and developing countries in the world. Often rightly termed as “the engine of growth” for India, MSME sector has played a prominent role in the development of the country in terms of creating employment opportunities.  
**MSME** has employed more than 50 million people, **scaling manufacturing capabilities, curtailing regional disparities** and balancing the distribution of wealth. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - **Priority sector lending** includes only those sectors as part of the priority sector, that impact large sections of the population, the weaker sections and the sectors which are employment-intensive such as agriculture, and Micro and Small enterprises.
  - MSMEs engaged in the manufacture or production of goods to any industry specified in the first schedule to the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 and as notified by the Government from time to time is reckoned for **priority sector advances**. MSMEs engaged in providing or rendering of services and defined in terms of investment in equipment under MSMED Act, 2006. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- 

#### Question 10:

With reference to the National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS & LUP), consider the following statements:

1. It is an autonomous institute under the Ministry of Earth Science.
2. BHOOMI Geo-portal was developed by NBSS & LUP.
3. It prepares digitized maps of micronutrient status of the soil.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 3**

Explanation

The National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS & LUP) is one among the chain of Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutes, under **the Ministry of Agriculture**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.

- Government of India established **All India Soil Survey Organisation** in 1956 with the Headquarters at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Nagpur.
  - In 1969, it was reorganized and the research aspects of soil survey, classification and correlation were transferred to the **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)**, and the developmental activities were retained under the Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Food and Agriculture.
  - In 1976, it became an independent Institute of ICAR named as **National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP)** and continued to function at the IARI, New Delhi.
- NBSS & LUP developed **BHOOMI Geo-portal** to access various thematic information on major physiographic regions, sub-physiographic regions, agro-ecological regions and agro-ecological sub-regions of the country. **Hence, statement 2 is correct**.
- It has also developed **National Resource Inventory (LRI)**.  
National Resource Inventory is a digitized map of micro-nutrients status, which would be helpful in providing site-specific variable rate of application of micro nutrients prescription for sustainable agricultural productivity. **Hence, statement 3 is correct**.

---

### Question 11:

Regarding the National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI), consider the following statements:

1. NIXI is a not for profit Organization under Companies Act 2013.
2. It facilitates the exchange of domestic internet traffic between peering Internet Service Provider (ISP) members.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 3**

Explanation



- NIXI is a **not for profit organization** under section 8 of the Companies Act 2013, and was registered on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2003. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**  
An Internet Exchange Point is a facility that allows Internet Service Providers (ISP) to "meet" and exchange traffic, also called peering. This saves money on International bandwidth for the ISPs and improves connectivity for their customers by reducing latency.
  - NIXI was set up for peering of ISPs among themselves for the purpose of routing the **domestic traffic within the country, thereby resulting in a better quality of service** (reduced latency) and reduced bandwidth charges for ISPs by saving on International Bandwidth. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- 

### Question 12:

Consider the following statements:

1. Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme is run by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
2. Indian Statistical Institute is an institute of national importance under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
3. The Office of Registrar General & Census Commissioner is under MoSPI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 3 only
2. 2 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 2**

### Explanation

---

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has two wings, one relating to Statistics and the other- Programme Implementation.
- The Programme Implementation Wing has three Divisions, namely,
  - Twenty Point Programme
  - Infrastructure Monitoring and Project Monitoring and
  - **Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

- Besides these two wings, there is the National Statistical Commission (NSC) created through a resolution of the Government of India (MOSPI) and one autonomous Institute, viz., **Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) declared as an institute of national importance** by an act of the Parliament. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - The Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner is under the Ministry of **Home Affairs. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- 

### Question 13:

Consider the following statements:

1. Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is published on a monthly basis by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO).
2. The weightage of the manufacturing sector is the largest in IIP.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 3**

### Explanation

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- The IIP is estimated and published on a monthly basis by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO). The three sectors of the IIP as per the revision based on 2011-12 series are: (i) Mining, (ii) Manufacturing (iii) Electricity. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - The Industrial growth rate in terms of IIP was 3.6 per cent in 2018-19 as compared to 4.4 per cent in 2017-18. The Mining, Manufacturing and Electricity sectors registered positive growth rates of 2.9 per cent, 3.6 per cent and 5.2 per cent respectively in 2018-19.
  - The IIP assigns a weight of 77.63 per cent to the manufacturing sector, 14.37 per cent to mining sector and 7.99 per cent to electricity sector. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- 

### Question 14:

Consider the following statements:

1. The National Statistical Commission (NSC) is a constitutional body set up with a mandate to evolve policies, priorities and standards in statistical matters.
2. NSC was set up on the recommendations of the Rangarajan Commission.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 2**

### Explanation

---

- The Government of India set up the National Statistical Commission (NSC) through a resolution dated 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2005. The NSC was constituted with effect from 12th July 2006 with a mandate to evolve policies, priorities and standards in statistical matters. The NSC has four Members besides a Chairperson, each having specialization and experience in specified statistical fields. **Hence, statement 1 is NOT correct.**
  - The NSC was set-up on the recommendations of the Rangarajan Commission, which reviewed the Indian Statistical System in 2001. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- 

### Question 15:

With reference to Fame India-II, consider the following statement:

1. It encourages faster adoption of the electric and hybrid vehicle.
2. The scheme will help in reducing India's dependence on hydro-carbon based fuels.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 3**

## Explanation

---

- FAME India (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid and) Electric Vehicles) scheme is an incentive scheme for the promotion of faster adoption & manufacturing of electric and hybrid vehicles in the country.
- Fame India-II is an expanded version of the present scheme titled ' 'FAME India-I' ' which was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015.
- Ultimate objective of the scheme is to **promote electric mobility and the scheme gives financial incentives for enhancing** electric vehicle production and the creation of electric transportation infrastructure. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

The electric transportation infrastructure will help in reducing India's dependence on hydro-carbon based fuels. By establishing a necessary charging Infrastructure for electric vehicles, the scheme will help in addressing the issue of environmental pollution and fuel security. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

---

### Question 16:

The term "lighthouse effect" used in economic survey 2018-19 refers to?

1. It shows the relationship between the wage hike and the minimum wage in an informal sector.
2. It refers to the use of per capita energy in the economy.
3. The trend of growing MSME sector and its contribution to the economy.
4. The contribution of women in India's GDP growth.

**Correct Answer : 1**

## Explanation

---

- The minimum wage in India does not operate as a conventional floor wage to protect the lowest-paid workers. Nevertheless, the study shows the presence of a **"lighthouse effect"**, i.e., the minimum wage acts as a benchmark that pulls up wages in the low-paid and informal sector by enhancing the bargaining power of vulnerable workers.
  - The empirical literature indicates that, contrary to predictions from economic theory, wages in the informal sector increase after a minimum wage hike. This phenomenon was explained as a byproduct of a signal (a lighthouse) conveyed by statutory minima to wage setting in the informal sector. **Hence, option A is correct.**
- 

### Question 17:

Which among the following factors contribute to dwarfism in MSME sector:

1. The exemptions in labour laws given to the smaller firms.
2. The lower productivity and employability of smaller firms.
3. Incentives received by MSMEs from the government to boost this sector.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 and 3 only
2. 2 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

---

- India has a plethora of labour laws, regulations and rules, both at the centre and the state levels that govern the employer-employee relationship.
  - For example, the Industrial Disputes Act (IDA), 1947 mandates companies to get permission from the government before the retrenchment of employees.
  - This restriction is, however, applicable only to firms with more than 100 employees. Thus, firms with less than 100 employees are exempted from the need to get permission from the Government before retrenching their employees.
  - Given the transaction costs inherent in complying with such regulations, naturally, a large majority of firms would prefer to be below the threshold of 100 employees, and therefore contributing to dwarfism. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Firms with less than 100 workers despite being more than ten years old, account for more than half of all organized firms in manufacturing by number, their contribution to employment is only 14 % and productivity is a mere 8%.
  - In contrast, large firms (more than 100 employees) account for three-quarters of such employees and close to 90% of productivity despite accounting for about 15% by number.
  - Lack of productivity and employability leads to low output and thus firms remain dwarf. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- The policies targeted at the small firms referred to as the MSMEs include priority sector lending, incentives/exemptions till they reach an investment upper limit quantified in terms of investment in plant & machinery.

To be able to continue to receive such incentives firms prefer to remain dwarf.

**Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

---

### Question 18:

Arrange the following in descending order of employment elasticity:

1. Rubber and plastic products
2. Wood and products of wood
3. Electronic and optical products
4. Transport equipment, machinery
5. Electricity, gas and water supply

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1, 3, 4, 5 and 2
2. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 1
3. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 1
4. 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1

**Correct Answer : 1**

### Explanation

---

- The sub-sectors with highest employment elasticities are: **Rubber and plastic products> Electronic and optical products>Transport equipment>Electricity, Gas and water supply>Wood and products of wood.**
  - To step up the impact of economic growth on employment, the focus has to be on such high employment elastic sectors. **Hence, option A is correct.**
- 

### Question 19:

With reference to the Samagra Vedika initiative, consider the following statements:

1. It is an initiative of the Telangana government.
2. This initiative links existing government datasets using a common identifier – the name and address of an individual.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 3**

### Explanation

---

- The Telangana Government has developed its own software to track citizen details for various government services under what is called, 'Samagra Vedika'. The 'Samagra Vedika', created in 2017, allows the state to verify or check citizen data from about 25 departments.  
The capability allows the state to seamlessly **integrate and cross check citizen data among all the government departments** without relying on the Aadhaar platform. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - The initiative links around twenty-five existing government datasets using a common identifier – the name and address of an individual.
  - Seven categories of information about each individual were linked in this aggregation exercise – crimes, assets, utilities, subsidies, education, taxes and identity information.
  - Each individual was then further linked to relatives such as spouse, siblings, parents and other known associates. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- 

### Question 20:

Which among the following best describes the term "Chitta Adangal"?

1. These are the land records used in Tamil Nadu for land identification.
2. It is a painting done on a piece of cloth prevalent during the Pallava dynasty.
3. A local variety of Carnatic music particularly practised in Kerala.
4. A literature of the Sangam age used to define the duties of the king.

**Correct Answer : 1**

### Explanation

---

- Chitta Adangal is a document in the Taluk office containing details such as the survey number, the current owner, Patta number etc.
  - The **Adangal records** contain information such as Survey number, Wise holdings, Extent of field, Crop raised and its condition, duration of tenancy etc. **Hence, option A is correct.**
-





## Prelims Refresher Program: Day 10 (Test-3)

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 [drishtiias.com/print-quiz/833](https://drishtiias.com/print-quiz/833)

### Question 1:

Consider the following statements:

1. In Belan valley, the traces of all three phases of pre-historic era have been.
2. In Burzahom, the ancient people used to live in dwelling pits.
3. The palaeolithic sites were mainly found in the plains of the Indus and Ganga.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 1 and 2 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 2 and 3 only

**Correct Answer : 2**

Explanation

---

- **Belan Valley** lies in Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh in the Vindhya Range. All the three phases of the **pre-historic era**, Palaeolithic followed by the Mesolithic and then by the Neolithic have been found in the sequence.
    - The evidence of the blade and burin industries by different scholars brought the Upper Palaeolithic into the limelight.
    - The **Mesolithic phase** is a transition phase between the **Palaeolithic and Neolithic phase**.
      - People in the Belan valley lived on hunting, fishing and food gathering. At a later stage, they also domesticated animals.
      - The first three occupations continued the palaeolithic practice, while the last was interrelated with the neolithic culture.
      - Animal remains found in the Belan valley show that goats, sheep and cattle were exploited.
      - The tools found from the Belan valley are evidence of **neolithic phase**.
    - **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - Burzahom is a neolithic site located in **Kashmir**. Burzahom means 'place of birch' and is situated 16 km north-west of Srinagar.
    - The Kashmir neolithic culture was distinguished by its dwelling pits. Here, neolithic people lived in pits on the lakeside. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
    - The range of ceramics, the variety of stone and bone tools have been found. The notable feature is the **complete absence** of microliths.
 

Microliths are characteristics tools of Mesolithic age.
  - The Palaeolithic sites were mainly found in the hilly slopes and river valleys of the country. They are absent in the alluvial plains of the Indus and the Ganga.
 

The probable reason could be the absence of the knowledge of agriculture and the availability of water near the river. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- 

## Question 2:

Arrange the following Indus valley sites from west to east.

1. Lothal
2. Sutkagendor
3. Kot-diji
4. Kalibangan

Select the answer using the code given below:

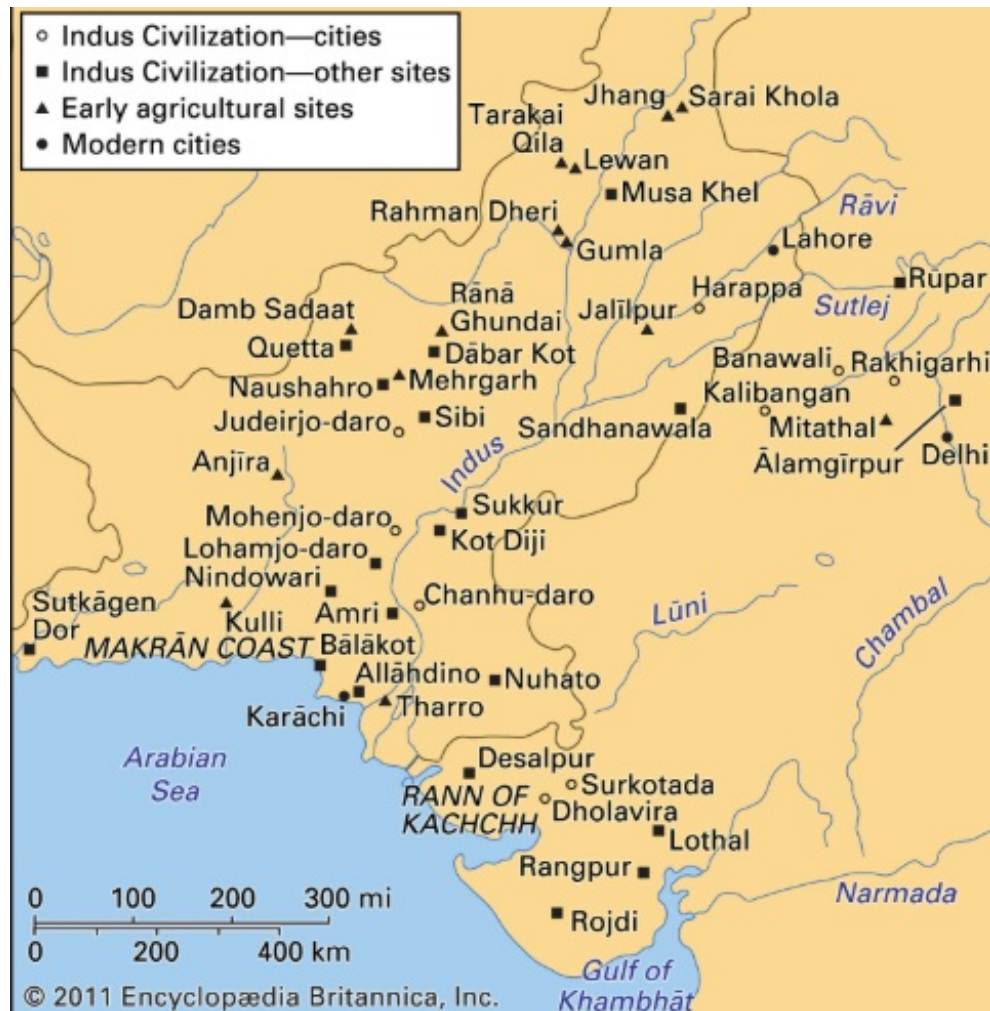
1. 3-2-1-4
2. 2-3-4-1

3. 3-4-2-1

4. 2-3-1-4

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation



### Question 3:

With reference to Indus Valley Civilization, consider the following statements:

1. The roads and streets were laid out in 'grid pattern'.
2. Homes were designed taking into account the issue of privacy.
3. Granaries were used for religious purposes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only

2. 1 and 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 1**

## Explanation

---

Town planning is the unique feature of Indus valley civilization. Their town planning proves that they lived a highly civilized and developed life. Indus people were the first to build planned cities with a scientific drainage system. The Indus cities were built on a uniform plan.

- The streets were straight and cut each other at right angles. The streets and roads divided the city into rectangular blocks, forming the **grid pattern. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - It is interesting to note that Indus people were greatly concerned about privacy. There were no windows in the walls along the ground level. The main entrance also does not give a direct view of the interior of the courtyard. These features highlight concern for privacy. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - The largest building in Mohenjodaro was a granary. In Harappa, there is a series of brick platforms which formed. These granaries were used to safely store the grains, which were probably collected as revenues or storehouses to be used in emergencies. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- 

## Question 4:

With reference to Foreigners Tribunals (FTs) in India, consider the following statements:

1. Only FTs are empowered to declare illegal immigrants as foreigners.
2. Both the Central and State government can establish FTs in the country.
3. Only State administration can approach the FTs against an individual, suspected of being a foreigner.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 only
3. 3 only

4. 1 and 3 only

**Correct Answer : 1**

## Explanation

---

Foreigner Tribunals are quasi-judicial bodies established under the **Foreigners Act, 1946**.

- Under the provisions of the Foreigners Act, 1946 and Foreigners Tribunal Order, 1964, **only Foreigner Tribunals are empowered** to declare a person as a foreigner. Thus, non-inclusion of a person's name in the NRC does not by itself amount to him/her being declared a foreigner. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Ministry of Home Affairs has amended the **Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964**, and has empowered **district magistrates in all States and Union Territories** to set up tribunals to decide whether a person staying illegally in India is a foreigner or not. Earlier, the powers to constitute tribunals were vested only with the Centre. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The **Foreigners (Tribunal) Order, 2019** also empowers **individuals, along with State administration** to approach the Tribunals. "Earlier only the **State administration** could move the Tribunal against an individual, suspected of being a foreigner."
  - The amendment has come in the backdrop of Assam's final National Register of Citizens (NRC) which was published in 2019.
  - If a person doesn't find his or her name in the final NRC, s/he could move the Tribunal.
  - The amended order also allows District Magistrate to refer individuals who haven't filed claims against their exclusion from NRC to Tribunals to decide if they are foreigners or not. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

---

## Question 5:

'Pinguli chitrakathi art' is mainly practised by tribes of which one of the following states?

1. Gujarat
2. Madhya Pradesh
3. Maharashtra
4. Karnataka

**Correct Answer : 3**

## Explanation

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- Chitrakathi is a unique style of painting, practised in Pinguli, a small village near Kudal, in the district of Sindhudurg in Maharashtra, dating back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century.
  - It is tribal art, practised by the Thakar tribe of Maharashtra.
  - Painting is done using paper, brush and hand-made colours and in the sequence, based on the story of Mahabharata or Ramayana. The collection of pictures are used to narrate the whole story. The sutradhar (narrator) unfolds the tale in the form of songs supported by the music of the vina, taal and the huduk. **Hence, option C is correct.**
- 

### Question 6:

With reference to the guilds (Shreni) of ancient India that played a very important role in the country's economy, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Every guild was registered with the central authority of the State and the king was the chief administrative authority on them.
2. The wages, rules of work, standards and prices were fixed by the guild.
3. The guild had judicial powers over its own members.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 3**

### Explanation

---

- In ancient India, **Shreni was an association of traders, merchants, and artisans.** Generally, a separate **Shreni existed for a particular group of persons engaged in the same vocation or activity.** Shrenis have sometimes been compared with the guilds. The **king had no role to play in their functioning. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

- Ancient Indian guilds were a unique and multifaceted form of organisation, which combined the functions of a democratic government, a trade union, a court of justice and a technological institution.

They procured raw materials for manufacturing, controlled quality of manufactured goods and their price, and located markets for their sale. They **made rules for wages, work, standards and prices**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

- Besides serving the purpose of keeping the members of a trade together like a close community, the guilds **undertook many useful roles such as administrative, economic, charitable and banking functions**. Several historians report that the **powerful guilds performed judicial functions** as well. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

---

### Question 7:

Regarding the Indus Valley Civilization, consider the following statements:

1. Trade flourished due to the use of metal money.
2. People worshipped deities placed in the temples.
3. Boat-making was practised by Indus people.
4. Balakot is the coastal site of Indus Valley Civilization.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 3 only
4. 3 and 4 only

**Correct Answer : 4**

### Explanation

- Trade flourished in the Indus Valley Civilization. Various factors like presence of granaries at Harappa and Mohenjodaro, presence of numerous seals, uniform script and regulated weight and measure highlights toward flourishing trade. However, they did not use metal money. They carried on all exchanges through barter. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

- In **Harappa**, numerous terracotta figurines of women have been found. The male deity of Pashupati Mahadeva is represented on a seal.
    - Phallus worship was also practised in the Indus Valley Civilization.
    - The people also worshipped gods in the form of trees and animals.
    - However, the gods were not placed in temples. There is no evidence of the prevalence of temples in the Indus Civilization. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - **The Indus Valley** people also practised navigation on the coast of the Arabian Sea. The Harappans also practised boat-making. Several Port cities existed during the Harappan period and dockyard was found at **Lothal, Gujarat. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
  - **Balakot** is the ancient coastal site, located in the **Somani Bay near Karachi, Pakistan**. It dates back to the period of the Harappan (or Indus) Civilization. It flourished around 2000 B.C.  
It was the centre of shell and bead making. **Hence, statement 4 is correct.**
- 

#### Question 8:

Arrange the following Major Rock edicts of Ashokan Inscriptions in north to south direction:

1. Kalsi
2. Girnar
3. Sannati
4. Shahbazgarhi

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

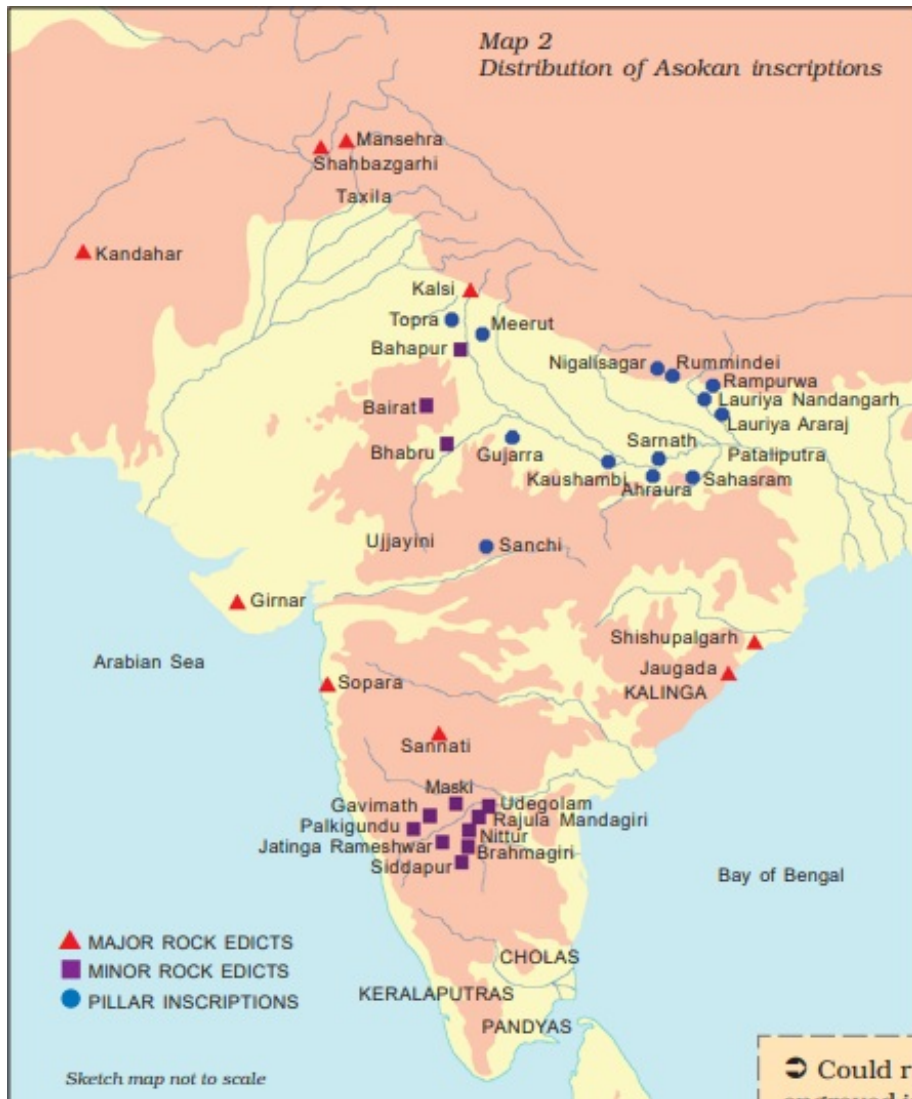
1. 4-3-2-1
2. 2-3-4-1
3. 4-1-2-3
4. 2-3-1-4

**Correct Answer : 3**

Explanation

---





Hence, option C is correct

## Major Rock Edicts of Asoka

Major Rock Edict	Features
1. Major Rock Edict I	Ban on slaughtering of animals and festival celebration.
2. Major Rock Edict II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides for care for man and animals.</li> <li>It mentions Chola, Pandyas, Satyapura and Keralputra Kingdoms of South India.</li> </ul>

3. Major Rock Edict III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Propagation of Dhamma policy by state administrative officers like Rajjukas, Yuktas etc.</li> <li>• Generosity to brahmins, relatives, parents etc.</li> </ul>
4. Major Rock Edict IV	Propagation of Dhammaghosha over Bherighosha.
5. Major Rock Edict V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• About Dhammamahamatras.</li> <li>• It talks about treating slaves properly.</li> </ul>
6. Major Rock Edict VI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It talks about King desires to be informed about his subjects.</li> <li>• Welfare of people.</li> </ul>
7. Major Rock Edicts VII	Tolerance for all religions.
8. Major Rock Edicts VIII	Ashoka's visit to Bodh Gaya and the Bodhi tree.
9. Major Rock Edicts IX	Condemns popular ceremonies.
10. Major Rock Edicts X	Condemns the individuals desire for fame and glory.
11. Major Rock Edicts XI	Explains Dhamma.
12. Major Rock Edicts XII	Respect and honour for other religious sects.
13. Major Rock Edicts XIII	It mentions Asoka's Mentions about Asokan Victory over other kings. (Kalinga war)
14. Major Rock Edicts XIV	It talks about engraving of inscriptions in different parts of the country.

### Question 9:

Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the 'Vedic age' period?

1. Vis was the smallest unit in the political structure of the Rigvedic period.
2. The chiefs were democratically elected.
3. The practice of Bali was compulsory in the Vedic society.
4. The society followed the rigid social order based on varna.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 only
3. 2 and 4 only
4. 1, 2 and 4

**Correct Answer : 2**

### Explanation

---

- The political structure of Rigvedic India may be traced in the following ascending order:
  - The Family (kula)
  - The Village (grama)
  - The Clan (vis)
  - The People (Jana)
  - The Country (Rashtra)
- **Kula (family)** was the smallest unit. It included all the people living under the same roof (griha). An aggregate of several families made up the grama like today, and its headman was called gramini. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - The next larger formation was called the vis, under the head called **vispati**. Larger than vis was Jana.
  - Regarding Jana, we get the mention of panchajanah and of people called Yadus, (Yadva-janaha) and Bharatas (Bharata-janaha).
  - The king is also called the protector of the Jana or people. Above the Jana was Rashtra, i.e. country.
- The **hereditary monarchy was the normal form of Government** but an **elected king also finds mention**. The chiefs were democratically elected by the assembly of people (Jana). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- The **kingdoms (Rashtra)** were generally small states ruled by kings (rajana) but the word Samrat does indicate that some of them must have had bigger kingdoms and enjoyed the position of greater authority and dignity, markedly different from others. The king administered justice with the assistance of purohita and other officials.  
For his services, the king was paid **Bali (voluntary gift or tribute)**. Bali came to the king from his own people and also from defeated people. Theft, burglary, robbery and cattle lifting were the principal crimes which were strongly dealt with by the administration. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- Among the important royal officials, were the purohita (chief priest and minister), senani (army chief) and gramini (head of the village). We also hear of dutas (envoys) and spies (spas).
- The **Rigvedic society comprised four varnas**, namely **Brahmana, Kshatriya, Vaisya and Shudra**.
  - This classification of society was based on the occupation of individuals. The teacher and priests were called Brahmanas; rulers and administrators kshatriyas; farmers, merchants and bankers Vaisyas; and artisan and labourers as Sudras.
  - These vocations were followed by persons according to their ability and liking, and the occupations had not become hereditary as they become later on.
  - Members of the same family took to different professions and belonged to different varnas are well illustrated by a hymn of the Rigveda. Society doesn't follow rigid varna systems. **Hence, statement 4 is not correct.**

### Question 10:

With reference to the difference between the culture of Rigvedic Aryans and Indus Valley people, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Rigvedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare whereas the people of Indus Valley Civilization did not leave any evidence of using them.
2. Rigvedic Aryans knew gold, silver and copper whereas Indus Valley people knew only copper and iron.
3. Rigvedic Aryans had domesticated the horse whereas there is no evidence of Indus Valley people having been aware of this animal.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only

4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 3**

## Explanation

- **Use of coat of mail and helmets by Aryans is evident in the Rigvedic Age** while the same is not evident in the Indus Valley Civilization. **Hence, statement 1 is Correct.**
- The **Vedic age marks the advent of iron, whereas Indus Valley Civilization was part of Chalcolithic age**, i.e., copper, thereby it reflects that the Harappans were not aware of iron. The earliest literary reference to iron in Indian subcontinent is found in Yajur Veda. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- There is **no clear evidence of the Indus Valley people having been aware of the horse**, whereas Rigvedic Aryans had domesticated it. In fact, the horse was the most significant, among other animals, for the Rigvedic Aryans as its swiftness enabled them to make successful inroads into Western Asia. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

## Question 11:

Consider the following pairs:

<b>Mahajanapadas</b>	<b>Current Location</b>
1. Anga	Bhagalpur
2. Kamboja	Kashmir
3. Ashmaka	Mathura
4. Matsya	Bharatpur

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

1. 1 only
2. 1 and 4 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 4

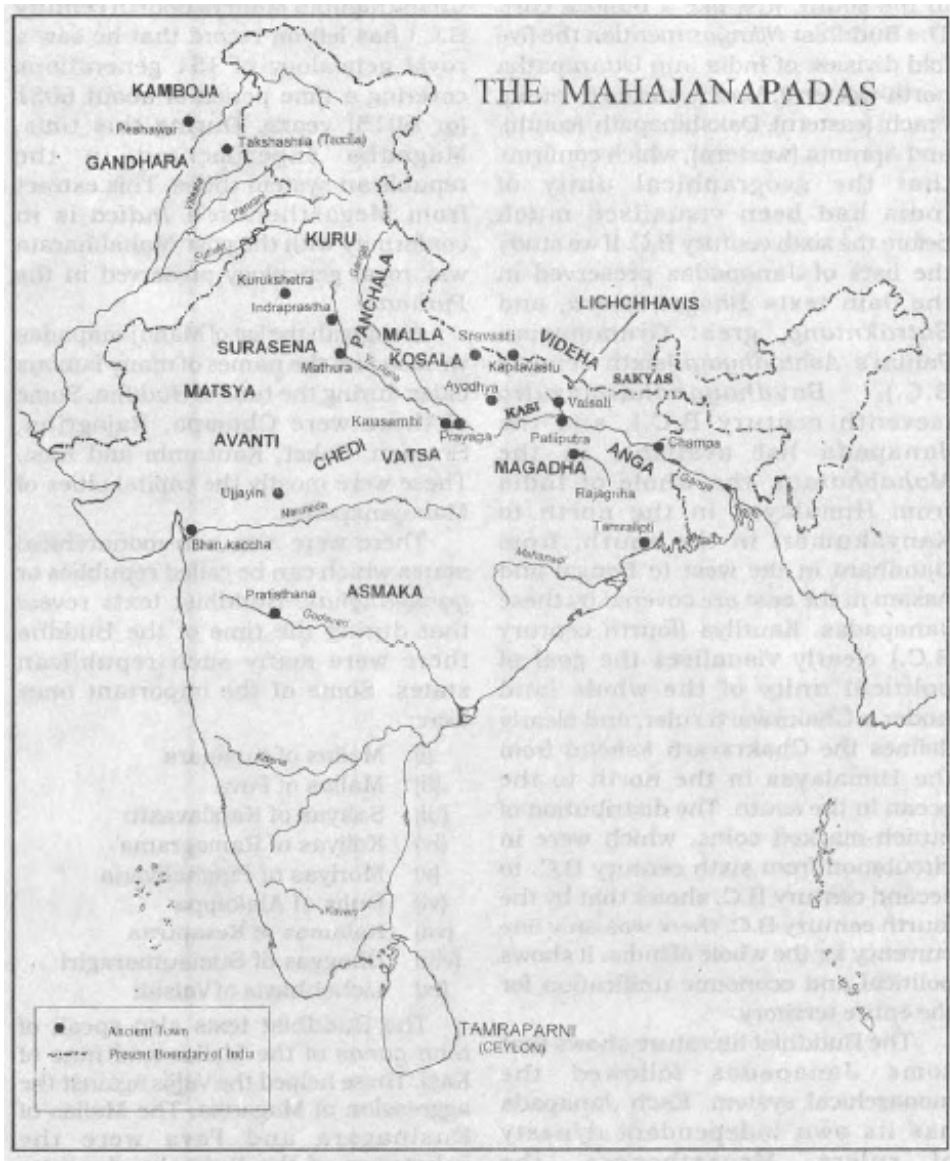
**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

---

According to **Anguttara Nikaya** there were following Mahajanapadas:

- **Anga** (including the modern districts of **Monghyr and Bhagalpur in Bihar**) with its capital of Champa. **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- **Magadha** (covering the districts of Patna, Gaya and parts of Shahabad) with its earlier capital at Rajagriha or Girivraja.
- **Vajji** (a confederacy of eight republican clans, situated to the north of the river Ganga in Bihar) with its capital, Vaishali.
- **Malla** (also a republican confederacy covering the modern districts of Deoria, Basti, Gorakhpur and Siddharthnagar in eastern Uttar Pradesh) with two capitals at Kusinara (Kushinagar) and Pawa.
- **Kasi** with its capital at Varanasi.
- **Kosala** (covering the present districts of Faizabad, Gonda, Bahraich etc.), with its capital at Sravasti.
- **Vatsa** (covering the modern districts Allahabad, Mirzapur etc.), with its capital at Kaushambi.
- **Chedi** (covering the modern Bundelkhand area with its capital at Shuktimati).
- **Kuru** (covering the modern Haryana and Delhi area to the west of river Yamuna) with its capital at Indraprastha (modern Delhi).
- **Panchala** (covering the area of western Uttar Pradesh up to the east of river Yamuna up to the Kosala Janapada) with its capital at Ahichhatra.
- **Surasena** (covering Brij Mandal with its capital at Mathura).
- **Matsya** (covering the area of **Alwar, Bharatpur and Jaipur in Rajasthan**). **Hence, pair 4 is correctly matched.**
- **Avanti** (modern Malawa) with its capital at Ujjaini and Mahishmati.
- **Ashmaka** (between the rivers Narmada and Godavari) with its capital at Potana. **Hence, pair 3 is not correctly matched.**
- **Gandhara** (area covering the western part of Pakistan and eastern Afghanistan) with its capital at Taxila and Pushkalavati.
- **Kamboja** (identified with modern **district of Hazara districts of Pakistan**). **Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- **Hence, option B is correct.**



### Question 12:

Which of the following caves were built during the Mauryan Period?

1. Bagh Cave
2. Barabar Caves
3. Ellora Caves

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 only
3. 1 and 3 only

4. 2 and 3 only

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

---

**The Mauryan Empire (322 BCE - 185 BCE) supplanted the earlier Magadha Kingdom to assume power over large tracts of eastern and northern India. At its height, the empire stretched over parts of modern Iran and almost the entire Indian subcontinent, barring only the southern peninsular tip.**

- **Bagh Caves:** It is located on the bank of the Bagh river in Madhya Pradesh. It is a group of **9 Buddhist caves** that developed around **6<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.** It is architecturally very similar to the Ajanta caves. It is said to be established by Buddhist monk Dataka. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - **Barabar Cave:** It is located 24 km north of Gaya, in Bihar. It is situated on the hills of Barabar. It is a set of **4 rock-cut caves**, dating back to **3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE.**  
It was built by **Ashoka for Ajivika Sect.** The inscription at Sudama Cave informs that the 4 caves on Barabar hills were assigned by King Ashoka to Ajivika monks. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - **Ellora Caves:** It is located in the Sahyadri range of Maharashtra. It is a group of 34 caves, consisting of 17 Brahmanical, 12 Buddhist and 5 Jain.
    - These set of caves were developed during the period between the **5<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> centuries A.D.** **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
    - It consists of both **double** as well as **triple** storeyed cave.
    - Various caves associated with Ellora cave are as follows:
      - Ravan ki Khai (Cave No.: 14)
      - Dashavatar Temple (Cave No.: 15)
      - Kailash Leni Cave (Cave No.: 16)
- 

## Question 13:

Which of the following characterize/characterizes the people of Indus Civilization?

1. They possessed great palaces and temples
2. They worshipped both male and female deities.
3. They employed horse-drawn chariots in warfare.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 only



3. 1, 2 and 3
4. None of the statements given above is correct

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

---

- Excavations at Indus Valley sites **confirmed that the inhabitants of the Indus Valley Civilization did not build large monumental structures.** There is no conclusive evidence of palaces or temples— or even of kings, armies, or priests. The largest structures found are granaries. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - The **clay seals discovered during various excavations reveal the presence of a male God.** The seal with a male God wearing a headdress surrounded by various animals exhorts the belief in the male symbol of strength. The **figurine of a female God found in the excavation also suggests their beliefs on the female as a source of creation. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - There is no evidence of horse drawn chariots during the Indus Valley Civilization. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- 

## Question 14:

Consider the following statements:

1. National Investment & Manufacturing Zones (NIMZs) are established as industrial township under Article 243Q of the Indian Constitution.
2. In NIMZ, atleast 30% of the total land areas should be dedicated to the manufacturing units.
3. The main objective of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) is the promotion of exports, while NIMZs are based on the principle of industrial growth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

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**National Investment & Manufacturing Zones (NIMZs)** are one of the important instruments of **National Manufacturing Policy, 2011**.

National Manufacturing Policy with the objective of enhancing the share of manufacturing in GDP to 25% within a decade and creating 100 million jobs.

**NIMZs** is envisaged as large areas of developed land with the requisite eco-system for promoting world class manufacturing activity.

- On receipt of final approval from the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** under the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**, the NIMZ are declared by the State Government as an **industrial township** under **Article 243Q(1) (c)** of the Constitution. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Each NIMZ is notified separately by the **DPIIT (formerly DIPP)** in the official gazette.
- At least 30% of the total land area proposed for the NIMZ is utilized for the location of manufacturing units. NIMZ also includes areas for other social infrastructure. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

#### **Difference between Special Economic Zones (SEZs) SEZs and NIMZs**

- NIMZs are established under National Manufacturing Policy 2011 while SEZs are established under SEZ Act, 2005.
- NIMZs are different from SEZs in terms of size, level of infrastructure planning, governance structures related to regulatory procedures, and exit policies.  
Ranging from 50 square kilometers to 900 square kilometers, each NIMZ will be much larger than a traditional Special Economic Zone (SEZ). The main objective of **Special Economic Zones is promotion of exports**, while **NIMZs** are based on the principle of **industrial growth** in partnership with States and focuses on manufacturing growth and employment generation. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- **The other main objectives of the SEZ Act are:**
  - generation of additional economic activity
  - promotion of exports of goods and services
  - promotion of investment from domestic and foreign sources
  - creation of employment opportunities
  - development of infrastructure facilities

---

#### **Question 15:**

'Project MANAV' recently seen in the news is related to?

1. India's first manned space flight that will send three humans into space.

2. Project for mapping every tissue of the human body.
3. An attempt to assess the percentage of Neanderthal DNA in modern humans.
4. Indian Human Spaceflight Programme to develop the technology needed to launch crewed orbital spacecraft.

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

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- **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)** has launched '**MANAV: Human Atlas Initiative**', a project for mapping every tissue of the human body to help better understand the roles of tissues and cells linked to various diseases.
  - The collated data can be useful for future researchers and clinicians and drug developers, who finally handle human bodies in disease conditions.  
Such a database will come in handy in tracing causes of a disease, understanding specific pathways and ultimately decoding how the body's disease stage is linked to tissues and cells.
  - The programme will seek to provide:
    - Better biological insights through physiological and molecular mapping,
    - Develop disease models through predictive computing
    - Allow for a holistic analysis and finally drug discovery.
  - **Hence, option B is correct.**
- 

## Question 16:

'Upanayana ceremony' practised in the later Vedic period, refers to?

1. Coronation of the king
2. Animal sacrifice
3. Prayer before the midday meal
4. Individual's entrance to a school

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

---

During later Vedic period, the education began with the **Upanayana ceremony** which was considered as the second birth of the child and that is why after this ceremony he came to be known as **dvija**. **Hence, option D is correct.**

The aim of learning was faith, retention of knowledge acquired, progeny, wealth, longevity and immortality. They, thus, comprehended success in both worldly as well as spiritual life. The duties of the pupils were well defined.

---

### Question 17:

The term 'Niska and Satamana' often used in the context of the later Vedic period, refers to?

1. The taxes collected by king
2. The voluntary gift to the chiefs
3. Units of currency
4. Guilds of craftsmen

**Correct Answer : 3**

### Explanation

---

- There were two types of metallic currency prevalent side by side. One of them was known as **hiranyapinda** or buttons of gold, and the other one is niska which was actually a gold coin.
- The later Vedic period also shows evidence of a **developed coinage system**. Niska is the oldest coin known from the Vedic times. It mentions different coins like **Niska and Satamana**.

**Hence, option C is correct.**

---

### Question 18:

In Indus Valley Civilization, "Shamans" is referred to which of the following?

1. Men and women who had magical and healing power.
2. One who standardized weights and measures.
3. Town planning officer.
4. One who carried out foreign trade.

**Correct Answer : 1**

### Explanation

---

**"Shamans"** were the men and women were believed to claim magical and healing powers, as well as an ability to communicate with the other world.

---

**Question 19:**

Which of the following ancient texts mentions Mahajanapadas?

1. Digha Nikaya
2. Bhagavati Sutra
3. Anguttara Nikaya

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 4**

### Explanation

---

- The early Buddhist and Jain literature presents a list of Mahajanapadas with the minor variation of names in different works.
- Though the number is the same, the names in the lists differ. Perhaps they show the political conditions at different times and the geographical nearness or knowledge of the author.

- According to **Anguttara Nikaya**, there were following Mahajanapadas:
  - Anga
  - Assaka (or Asmaka)
  - Avanti
  - Chedi
  - Gandhara
  - Kashi
  - Kamboja
  - Kosala
  - Kuru
  - Magadha
  - Malla
  - Machcha (or Matsya)
  - Panchala
  - Surasena
  - Vriji
  - Vatsa (or Vamsa)
- The **Digha Nikaya**, mentions only twelve Mahajanapadas from the above list and omits four of them (Assaka, Avanti, Gandhara, and Kamboja).
 

The **Buddhist Nikayas** mention the five-fold division of India into Uttarapatha (north-western), Madhyadesha (central), Prachi (eastern), Dakshinapatha (south), and Apranta (western), which confirms that the geographical unity of India had been visualised much before the sixth century B.C.
- The lists of Janapadas are preserved in the Jain texts Bhagavati Sutra, and **Sutrakritanga**, great Grammarian Panini's Ashtadhyayi (sixth century B. C.), Baudhayana Dharmasutra (seventh century B.C.).
 

**In Ashtadhyayi, Janapada stands for country and Janapadin for its citizenry.**
- Hence, option D is correct.

### Question 20:

With reference to the economic history of medieval India, the term 'Araghatta' refers to

1. bonded labour
2. land grants made to military officers
3. waterwheel used in the irrigation of land
4. wasteland converted to cultivated land

**Correct Answer : 3**

## Explanation

---

In Sanskrit the word Araghatta has been used in the ancient texts to describe the water wheel. The word 'Araghatta' comes from the combination of the words 'Ara' meaning spoke and 'Ghatta' meaning pot. It was used to lift water from wells for irrigation purposes. **Hence, option (c) is the correct.**

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## Prelims Refresher Program: Day 10 (Test-3)

 [drishtiias.com/print-quiz/834](https://drishtiias.com/print-quiz/834)

### Question 1:

With reference to the Mauryan Empire, consider the following statements:

1. Along with the huge army, it also maintained navy.
2. Rajukas were appointed for the propagation of dhamma.
3. The state enjoyed a monopoly in the sale of liquor.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3 only

**Correct Answer : 2**

### Explanation

- The most striking feature of the Mauryan Empire was the maintenance of a huge army. According to the account of a Roman writer, **Pliny**, Chandragupta maintained 600,000-foot soldiers, 30,000 cavalry and 9000 elephants. In addition to this, they also maintained a **navy**.

Records show that in the period after his conquest, Chandragupta Maurya established an Admiralty Division under a Superintendent of Ships as part of his war office, with a charter including responsibility for navigation on the seas, oceans, lakes and rivers. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**



- **Rajukas** were appointed for the administration of justice in the empire. They were vested with the authority of not only rewarding people but also punishing them wherever necessary.

**Dhamma mahamatras (mahamattas)** were appointed for the **propagation of dhamma**. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

- According to the **Arthashastra**, the state-controlled almost all the economic activities in its realm. Taxes collected from peasants varied from one-sixth to one-fourth.
  - Tolls were levied on commodities brought to town for sale, and they were collected at the gate.
  - The state enjoyed a monopoly in mining, sale of liquor, manufacture of arms etc.Hence, statement 3 is correct.

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### Question 2:

Which one of the following best describes the 'bherighosha'?

1. Policy of cultural conquest
2. Policy of religious toleration
3. Taxation Policy
4. Policy of physical occupation

**Correct Answer : 4**

### Explanation

**Bherighosha:** It refers to the **policy of physical occupation**. After the Kalinga war, Ashoka was shattered by the large scale killing and bloodshed.

- The war caused great suffering to the brahmana, priests and Buddhist monks, and this, in turn, brought upon Ashoka much grief and remorse.
- Therefore, he abandoned the policy of physical occupation in favour of one of cultural conquest. In other words, **bherighosha** was replaced with **dhammaghosha**.
- Dhamma policy of Ashoka was aimed at eliminating social tension and sectarian conflicts, and to promote a harmonious relationship between the diverse elements of the vast empire.
- Ashoka's dhamma was neither a new religion nor a new political philosophy. Rather, it was a way of life, a code of conduct and a set of principles to be adopted and practised by the people at large. Hence, option D is correct.

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### Question 3:

Consider the following pairs:

Literature	Subject
1. Pancha Siddhanta	Astronomical Canons
2. Milindapanho	Buddhist Doctrine
3. Sushruta Samhita	Sanskrit Grammar
4. Mahabhasya	Encyclopaedia of Surgery

Which of the pairs given above is/are not correctly matched?

1. 1 only
2. 3 and 4 only
3. 2 and 4 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

- **Varahamihira's main work** is the book **Pancha Siddhantika** (Treatise on the five Astronomical Canons). It is a treatise on **mathematical astronomy**. Hence, pair 1 is **correctly matched**.
- Milindapanho is an important Pali work, which explains the **Buddhist doctrines** in the form of a dialogue between Milinda (who is generally identified with the Indo-Greek king Menander) and his teacher, the great Buddhist philosopher, Nagasena. Hence, pair 2 is **correctly matched**.
- Ayurveda has its origin in Atharvaveda. The medicine became a regular subject of study at centres of learning like Taxila and Varanasi. The school at Varanasi specialised in surgery and **Sushruta Samhita** is an **encyclopaedia of surgery, compiled by the great surgeon Sushruta**. Hence, pair 3 is **not correctly matched**.

At Taxila, the teachings of Atreya were collected by his pupils and compiled by Charaka in his **Charaka Samhita**. Charaka and Sushruta were contemporaries of Kushana king Kanishka.

- The most outstanding work in the field of grammar, **Mahabhasya** was written by **Patanjali** in the second century B.C., is a commentary on Panini's Ashtadhyayi. Hence, pair 4 is not correctly matched.
    - After Patanjali, the centre of Sanskrit grammar learning shifted to the Deccan where the **Katantra school** flourished in the first century A.D.
    - Sarvavarman, a scholar of great repute in the court of the **Satavahana King Hala**, composed the grammar of Katantra. This work was short and handy which helped the learning of Sanskrit in about six months.
    - Hala wrote a great poetical work **Gathasaptasati in Prakrit**.
- 

#### Question 4:

Which of the following literatures is/are written by Kalidas?

1. Raghuvamsa
2. Mrichchhakatika
3. Meghaduta
4. Kadambari

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 and 4 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 4 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 2**

#### Explanation

---

- Kalidas stands foremost in the history of Indian literature. He is credited with having written the best works in poetry, drama as well as in prose. His kavya's such as **Meghaduta, Raghuvamsa and Kumarasambhava**, and dramas such as **Abhijnashakuntalam** are considered to be among the best literary works in the world and have been translated into many languages.

- Kalidas graced the court of **Vikramaditya**, the king of **Ujjayini**, who has been identified with **Chandragupta II**.

A few inscriptions of the period also possess, to some degree, most of the characteristics features of Sanskrit kavya. The **Allahabad pillar inscription** by Harisena, **Mandsor inscription** composed by Vatsabhathi, **Junagarh rock inscription**, **Mehrauli Pillar inscription**, **Aihole inscription** by Ravikriti etc. are some examples of literary expression.

- **Mrichchhakatika** is a ten-act Sanskrit drama attributed to **Sudraka**, an ancient playwright whose is possibly from the 5th century AD, and who is identified by the prologue as a Kshatriya king as well as a devotee of Siva who lived for 100 years.
- **Kadambari** is a romantic novel in Sanskrit. It was substantially composed by **Banabhatta** in the first half of the 7<sup>th</sup> century CE, who did not survive to see it through completion. The novel was completed by **Banabhatta's son Bhushanabhatta**, according to the plan laid out by his late father. **Hence, option B is correct.**

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### Question 5:

Which of the following factors contributed to the decline of the Mauryan Empire?

1. Financial Crisis
2. Oppressive Rule
3. Neglect of North-West Frontier
4. Brahmanical Reaction

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 and 3 only
2. 1, 2 and 3 only
3. 1, 3 and 4 only
4. 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Correct Answer : 4**

Explanation

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- The enormous expenditure on the army and payment to bureaucracy created a financial crisis for the Mauryan empire.
  - Despite all kinds of taxes imposed on the people, it was difficult to maintain the huge superstructure.
  - Ashoka made large grants to the Buddhist monks which left the royal treasury empty. In order to meet expenses in the last stage, they had to melt the images made of gold. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The oppressive rule in the provinces was an important cause of the break-up of the empire. In the reign of Bindusara, the citizens of Taxila bitterly complained against the misrule of wicked bureaucrats.
  - The Kalinga edicts shows that Ashoka felt very much concerned about oppression in the provinces and therefore asked the mahamatras or mahamattas not to torture townsmen without due cause.
  - For this purpose, he introduced rotation of officers in provinces. He himself spent 256 nights on a pilgrimage tour which may have helped administrative supervision. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Ashoka was mostly preoccupied with missionary activities at home and abroad, he could not pay attention to the safeguarding of the passage on the north-western frontier.
  - Security of borders had become a necessity in view of the movement of tribes in Central Asia in the third century B.C. The Scythians were in a state of constant flux, they pose serious dangers to the settled empires in China and India.
  - The Chinese ruler **Shih Huang Ti** (247-210 B.C) constructed the **Great Wall of China in about 220 B.C.** to shield his empire against the attacks of the Scythians.
  - No similar measures were taken by Ashoka. The Mauryan empire was formally destroyed by **Pushyamitra Sunga in 185 B.C.** **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- The brahmanical reaction began as a result of the policy of Ashoka. Ashoka adopted a tolerant policy and asked the people to respect even the brahmanas. But he prohibited the killing of animals and birds, and ended superfluous rituals performed by women. Thus naturally affected the income of the brahmanas.
  - The anti-sacrifice attitude of Buddhism and of Ashoka naturally brought much loss to the Brahmanas, who lived on the gifts made to them through various kind of sacrifices.
  - Hence, in spite of the tolerant policy of the Ashoka, the brahmanas developed some kind of antipathy to him.
  - Some of the new kingdoms, which arose on the ruins of the Mauryan empire, were ruled by the Brahmanas. **For example:** the Sungas and the Kanvas. **Hence, statement 4 is correct.**

Consider the following pairs:

Volcanic Eruption	Country
1. White Island	Australia
2. Taal	Philippines
3. Mount Sinabung	Indonesia
4. Mount Etna	Italy

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

1. 1 only
2. 1 and 2 only
3. 2 and 4 only
4. 2, 3 and 4 only

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

- **White Island** is New Zealand's most active cone volcanoes which has been built up by continuous volcanic activity over the past 1,50,000 years.  
About 70% of the volcano lies under the sea and the island forms the tip of the volcano. **Hence, pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- A volcano called **Taal** on the island of Luzon, 50 km from **Manila, Philippines** erupted on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.
  - Taal is classified as a "**complex**" volcano by the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS).  
A complex volcano, also called a compound volcano, is defined as one that doesn't have just one main vent or cone but several eruption points.
  - Taal has erupted more than 30 times in the last few centuries, the most recent was in 1977.
  - Philippines is situated at the boundaries of two tectonic plates — the Philippines Sea Plate and the Eurasian plate — thus susceptible to earthquakes and volcanism. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**

- **Mount Sinabung**, which is 2,460 m high, is among Indonesia's most active volcanoes, but had been inactive for four centuries before its 2010 eruption.  
Indonesia has nearly 130 active volcanoes, more than any other country. It is particularly prone to seismic activity due to its location on the "**Ring of Fire**", an arc of volcanoes and fault lines encircling the Pacific Basin. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**
  - Mount Etna is the highest Mediterranean island mountain and the most active stratovolcano in the world. It is about 3,326 metres high and is the highest peak in Italy.
    - Eruptions of Etna follow a variety of patterns. Most occur at the summit, where there are currently (as of 2019) five distinct craters.
    - The eruptive history of the volcano can be traced back 500,000 years and at least 2,700 years of this activity has been documented. **Hence, pair 4 is correctly matched.**
- 

### Question 7:

The Chinese traveller Yuan Chwang (Hiuen Tsang) who visited India recorded the general conditions and culture of India at that time. In this context, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The roads and river-routes were completely immuned from robbery.
2. As regards punishment for offences, ordeals by fire, water and poison were the instruments for determining the innocence or guilt of a person.
3. The tradesmen had to pay duties at ferries and barrier stations.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

1. 1 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 2**

### Explanation

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- Yuan Chwang (Hiuen Tsang) was a Chinese Buddhist monk, scholar, traveller, and translator who visited India during the reign of Harsha.

- His objective was to secure authentic Buddhist scriptures and visit places of Buddhist interest. Hiuen Tsang visited Kashmir, Punjab, Kapilavastu, Bodh-Gaya, Sarnath, and Kusinagara. He studied at the University of Nalanda.
- **Huein Tsang's Observations**
  - Kingdoms were well-governed and free from revolts.
  - Offenders were given physical punishments and were tortured. Traitors were given death sentences or turned out of the kingdom.
  - **Ordeals by which the innocence or guilt of an accused was determined included water, fire, and poison. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - Prayag was an important city while the importance of Pataliputra was replaced by Kannauj.
  - Nalanda and Valabhi were the centres of Buddhist learning.
  - Main source of income of the State was land revenue, which formed 1/6th of the produce.
  - Harsha divided income as one part of it was spent on administrative routine of the State; the second part of it was distributed among government employees; the third of it was given to scholars; and the fourth part of it was given in charity to the Brahmanas and the Buddhist monks.
  - Army of Harsha consisted of 60,000 war-elephants, 50,000 strong cavalry chariots and a 1,00,000 strong infantry.
  - **The roads and river-routes were not completely immune from robbery. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - The caste-system was rigid. There was no Purdah-system and women were provided education. Practice of Sati prevailed. Education was religious and was provided orally. Texts were put in writing and their script was Sanskrit.
  - Harsha was a devotee of Buddha. Hinduism was more widely popular in India at that time as compared to Buddhism.
  - Harsha used to spend 3/4<sup>th</sup> of the state-income for religious purposes.
  - Taxes were light during that time and **tradesmen used to go to and fro bartering their produce and merchandise after paying light duties at ferries and barrier stations. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

### Question 8:

With reference to the scientific progress of ancient India, which of the statements given below are correct?

1. Different kinds of specialized surgical instruments were in common use by 1<sup>st</sup> century AD.
2. Transplant of internal organs in the human body had begun by the beginning of 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD.



3. The concept of sine of an angle was known in 5<sup>th</sup> century AD.
4. The concept of cyclic quadrilaterals was known in 7<sup>th</sup> century AD.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 3 and 4 only
3. 1, 3 and 4 only
4. 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Correct Answer : 3**

### Explanation

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- In the **Sushruta Samhita**, Sushruta describes the method of **operating cataract, stone disease, and several other ailments**. He mentions that as many as 121 implements were used for surgery. However, historians have not been able to assign a definite period to Sushruta, but definitely it was prior to 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - There is no direct historical evidence or texts that point out that the **transplant of internal organs in the human body** occurred in the beginning of 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - The **concept of sine of an angle** was known in the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD. Aryabhata had given the sine and versed sine tables. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
  - The concept of cyclic **quadrilaterals was known in 7<sup>th</sup> century AD**. Brahmagupta (598 AD-668 AD) gave the formula for the area of the cyclic quadrilateral. **Hence, statement 4 is correct.**
- 

### Question 9:

Consider the following statements:

1. Gold Coins were issued for the first time by Shungas.
2. Sudarshan lake was built by Rudraraman I.
3. Caps and helmets for warfare were introduced in India by the Central Asians.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only

3. 3 only
4. 1 and 3 only

**Correct Answer : 3**

## Explanation

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- The **Indo-Greeks** were the **first to issue gold** coins in India, which increased in number under the Kushans. However, the punched-marked coins were introduced during the Mahajanapada period. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - According to **Junagarh inscription**, Sudarshan lake was an artificial reservoir, built by the local governor of Mauryan Emperors for checking floods.  
**Rudradaman I** was Shaka ruler, who ruled from 130 to 150 AD. He ruled from Sindh to Narmada valley, which sometimes extends upto Konkan. He is famous in history for the **repair of Sudarsana lake** in the semi-arid zone of Kathiawar.  
**Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - The Sakas and Kushans added new ingredients to Indian culture and enriched it immensely. They introduced better cavalry and the use of horse riding on a large scale. They made common use of reins and **saddles**.
    - The Sakas and Kushans introduced turban, tunic, trousers, and heavy long coat.
    - The Central Asians also brought in **caps, helmets and boots** which were used by **warriors**. Because of these advantages they have made a clean sweep of the opponents in Iran, Afghanistan and Indian sub-continent. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- 

### Question 10:

The term 'Sandhivigrahika' used during the Gupta period refers to?

1. Chief of the guild of traders and bankers.
2. Council in the village consists of Headman of village and elders.
3. Minister of peace and war.
4. Chariot warriors and horsemen in the army.

**Correct Answer : 3**

## Explanation

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- The Prayagraj Pillar Prasasti makes the mention of officials known as 'Mahadandnayaka' 'Kumaramaty' and 'Sandhivigrahika'. Two new classes of officers were introduced by the Guptas.
    - **Sandhivigrahika - the minister of peace and war i.e. modern foreign minister.**
    - **Kumaramatyas** - a body of top-ranking officials attached not only to the king but also to the crown-prince and sometimes placed as in charge of districts.
  - Another class of important officials were Ayuktas, probably the same as Yuktas mentioned in the Ashokan inscriptions and in Kautilya's Arthashastra. **Hence, option C is correct.**
- 

### Question 11:

With reference to the system of administration in the Gupta period, arrange the following in descending order of their scale:

1. Bhukti
2. Vithis
3. Adhithana
4. Vishaya

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 4-3-2-1
2. 1-4-3-2
3. 3-4-1-2
4. 2-3-1-4

**Correct Answer : 2**

Explanation

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During the Gupta to **Harsha period**, the kingdom (Rajya) was divided for administrative convenience into a number of provinces - **Bhukti in the north and mandala or Mandalam in the south**. The provinces, in turn, were sub-divided into divisions - **Vishaya or Bhoga in the north and Kottams or Valanadu in the south**. The other units of administration in the descending scale were the **districts - Adhithana or Pattana in north and Nadu in the south**; groups of villages i.e. **modern tehsil called Vithis in north and Pattala and Kurram in south Indian records**. The villages formed the lowest administrative units. **Hence, option B is correct.**

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### Question 12:

Which one of the following foreign travellers elaborately discussed about diamonds and diamond mines of India?

1. Francois Bernier
2. Jean-Baptiste Tavernier
3. Jean de Thevenot
4. Abbe Barthelemy Carre

**Correct Answer : 2**

### Explanation

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- **Francois Bernier, a Frenchman**, was a doctor, political philosopher and historian. Like many others, he came to the Mughal Empire in search of opportunities. He was in India for twelve years, from 1656 to 1668, and was closely associated with the Mughal court, as a physician to Prince Dara Shikoh, the eldest son of Emperor Shah Jahan, and later as an intellectual and scientist, with Danishmand Khan, an Armenian noble in the Mughal court.
- **Jean-Baptiste Tavernier (1605-1689)** was a French explorer and merchant. He was the **first European to describe the diamond mines in India**. In 1676, Tavernier published an account of his six journeys to India and Persia from 1631 to 1668 in Les Six Voyages de Jean-Baptiste Tavernier (translated into English in 1678 as The Six Voyages of John Baptista Tavernier).

- **Jean de Thevenot (1633-1667) was a French traveller** who came to India during Aurangzeb's reign. He had set sail from Balsora in the ship 'Hopewell', on 6th November 1665 AD and reached Surat on 10<sup>th</sup> January 1666.

He was an accomplished polyglot, skilled in Turkish, Arabic and Persian, and a diligent observer. Skilled in natural sciences, especially in botany, he collected vast corpus of samples from India.

- **Abbe Barthelemy Carre (born around 1636)** was a French traveller and an employee of French East India Company who was sent by French Finance Minister Jean-Baptiste Colbert to India for the cause of the expansion of the French empire in the East.

His travelogue presents rich accounts of the Sultanates of Bijapur and Golconda, English and Dutch operations in sub-continent and their hostilities with French, especially the siege of St. Thome by the Golconda army.

- **Hence, option (b) is correct.**
- 

### Question 13:

With reference to 'Nicotine', consider the following statements:

1. It is a plant alkaloid which is sedative in nature.
2. It has a cancer-causing effect.
3. Maharashtra has notified nicotine as class A poison.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

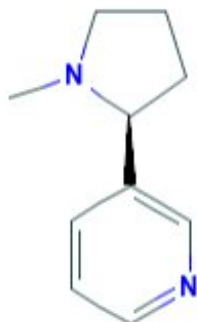
**Correct Answer : 1**

Explanation

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- Nicotine is a **plant alkaloid** that contains nitrogen, which is found in several types of plants, including the tobacco plant and can also be produced synthetically.

Nicotine is both a **sedative** and stimulant. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**



- Recent studies suggest that nicotine has several cancer-causing effects:
  - In small doses, nicotine speeds up cell growth and in larger doses, it is poisonous to cells.
  - Nicotine kick-starts a process called **epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT)**. EMT is one of the important steps in the path toward malignant cell growth.
  - Nicotine decreases the tumor suppressor CHK2. This may allow nicotine to overcome one of the body's natural defenses against cancer.
  - Nicotine can abnormally speed up the growth of new cells. This has been shown in tumor cells in the breast, colon, and lung.
  - Nicotine can lower the effectiveness of cancer treatment. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Karnataka** has amended **Poisons (Possessions and Sale) Rules 2015** by notifying **nicotine as Class A poison**.  
The move aims at strengthening the enforcement of the ban on production and sale of electronic cigarettes. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

#### Question 14:

With reference to Amravati School of Art, consider the following statements:

- It has Greek and Roman influence.
- The sculptures mainly focus on narrative art.
- Use of white marble was a special feature of this school.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 only

3. 2 and 3 only

4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 3**

## Explanation

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**Amravati School of Art** flourished in the **Andhra region** of southeastern India from about the **2<sup>nd</sup> century BC** to the end of the **3<sup>rd</sup> century AD**, during the rule of the **Satavahana dynasty**. It flourished in the Krishna River Valley.

- It was developed indigenously and not influenced by external cultures. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - The sculptures are generally part of **narrative art**, there is less emphasis on the individual features of Buddha. The sculptures generally depict life stories of Buddha and the Jataka tales.  
Amaravati sculptures have a sense of movement and energy with profound and quiet naturalism in human, animal and floral forms. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - The major centres were Amravati and Nagarjunakonda.
  - Amaravati School of Art predominantly made use of a distinctive **white marble**, which was not used in Mathura or Gandhara Style. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- 

### Question 15:

Consider the following statement:

1. The National Physical Laboratory (NPL) is India's official reference keeper of units of measurements.
2. The National Physical Laboratory is a body under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs.
3. The definition of the kilogram is based on Planck constant.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 and 3 only

2. 2 only

3. 2 and 3 only

4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 1**

## Explanation

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- The **National Physical Laboratory (NPL)**, which is India's official **reference keeper** of units of measurements, released a set of recommendations to update the definition of the kilogram. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The National Physical Laboratory, India was set up in 1900. It is one of the earliest national laboratories set up under the **Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- In 2018, at the **General Conference on Weights and Measures (CGPM)** in Versailles (France), delegates of the International **Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM)** had voted to redefine the kilogram in terms of **Planck constant**.

Earlier, the kilogram derived its provenance from the weight of a block of a **platinum-iridium alloy** housed at the International Bureau of Weights and Measures in France. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

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### Question 16:

Consider the following pairs:

Mudras Related to Buddha	Symbolise
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1. Bhumisparsha Mudra	Calling the Earth to Witness the Truth
2. Abhaya Mudra	Fearlessness and Strength
3. Vajra Mudra	Knowledge
4. Anjali Mudra	Teaching and Discussion

---

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

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1, 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 4 only

**Correct Answer : 1**

## Explanation

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## Various Mudras Related to Buddha

- **Bhumisparsha Mudra:** It depicts the Buddha sitting in meditation with his left hand, palm upright, in his lap, and his right hand touching the earth.  
It signifies '**Calling the Earth to Witness the Truth**', and it represents the moment of **Buddha's attaining enlightenment. Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- **Dhyana Mudra:** It indicates **meditation** and is also called '**Samadhi**' or '**Yoga**' Mudra.  
It signifies the attainment of **spiritual perfection.**
- **Abhaya Mudra:** It symbolizes strength and inner security. It is a gesture which instills a **sense of fearlessness** to others as well. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched**
- **Dharmachakra Mudra:** It means '**Turning the Wheel of the Dharma or Law**', i.e., setting into motion the wheel of Dharma.  
It represents the first sermon in Sarnath after he attained enlightenment.
- **Vajra Mudra:** This gesture **denotes the fiery thunderbolt** that symbolizes the five elements, i.e. air, water, fire, earth, and metal. **Hence, pair 3 is not correctly matched.**
- **Vitarka Mudra:** It indicates **teaching and discussion or intellectual debate.**
- **Anjali Mudra:** It signifies **greetings, devotion, and adoration.** It is a common gesture used in India to greet people (Namaste). It signifies adoration of the superior and considered a sign of regards with deep respect. Hence, pair 4 is not correctly matched.
- **Uttarabodhi Mudra:** It means **supreme enlightenment.** This mudra is known for charging one with energy. It symbolises **perfection.**
- **Varada Mudra:** It indicates charity, compassion or granting wishes.  
**It signifies five perfections:** generosity, morality, patience, effort and meditative concentration, through the five extended fingers.
- **Karana Mudra:** It indicates **warding off evil.** The energy created by this Mudra helps remove obstacles such as sickness or negative thoughts.



**Bhumisparsa Mudra**  
Touching the earth as Gautama did, to invoke the earth as witness to the truth of his words.



**Varada Mudra**  
Fulfillment of all wishes; the gesture of charity.



**Dhyana Mudra**  
The gesture of absolute balance, of meditation. The hands are relaxed in the lap, and the tips of the thumbs and fingers touch each other. When depicted with a begging bowl this is a sign of the head of an order.



**Abhaya Mudra**  
Gesture of reassurance, blessing, and protection. "Do not fear."



**Dharmachakra Mudra**  
The gesture of teaching usually interpreted as turning the Wheel of Law. The hands are held level with the heart, the thumbs and index fingers form circles.



**Vitarka Mudra**  
Intellectual argument, discussion. The circle formed by the thumb and index finger is the sign of the Wheel of Law.



**Tarjani Mudra**  
Threat, warning. The extended index finger is pointed at the opponent.



**Namaskara Mudra**  
Gesture of greeting, prayer, and adoration. Buddhas no longer make this gesture because they do not have to show devotion to anything.



**Jnana Mudra**  
Teaching. The hand is held at chest level and the thumb and index finger again form the Wheel of Law.



**Karana Mudra**  
Gesture with which demons are expelled.



**Ksepama Mudra**  
Two hands together in the gesture of 'sprinkling' the nectar of immortality.



**Uttarabodhi Mudra**  
Two hands placed together above the head with the index fingers together and the other fingers intertwined. The gesture of supreme enlightenment.

### Question 17:

The temple is internally and externally carved from solid rock, with exquisite precision, to build a monolithic rock temple. It is one of the largest rock-cut temples in the world. The temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva and it was constructed by Rashtrakuta kings.

Identify the temple discussed in the above paragraph?

1. Mahabalipuram Shore Temple
2. Pancha Rathas Temple
3. Kailasa Temple
4. Kandariya Mahadeva Temple

**Correct Answer : 3**

## Explanation

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- The construction of the **Kailasa temple** began during the rule of the Rashtrakuta king, Dantidurga (735-757 AD). A group of skilled artisans cut and carved the vertical face of the basalt rock of a hill in Elapura, known today as Ellora, near Aurangabad.
- Unlike the Buddhists who made carvings inside the rock to construct cave temples, this group cut the rock internally and externally, with exquisite precision, to build a **monolithic rock temple**.
- Major work on the temple was done by King Dantidurga's successor, **Krishna I (757-773 AD)**, although work continued under many successive kings for more than a century. **Hence, option C is correct.**
- **Pancha Rathas** also referred to as **Pandava Rathas** are the most excellent architectural edifices of the nine monolithic temples of Mahabalipuram situated on the Coromandel Coast of the Bay of Bengal. These are five monolithic temple structures built by the Pallavas in the early 7<sup>th</sup> century AD.
- **Shore Temple** is one among a number of Hindu monuments at Mamallapuram (Mahabalipuram), on the Coromandel Coast of Tamil Nadu. It is considered the finest early example of medieval southern Indian temple architecture.
- It was built probably in the reign of **Narasimhavarman II**, also known as **Rajasimha (Pallava ruler)** who reigned from 700 to 728 CE.
- Unlike most of its neighbours at the site, it is built of cut stones rather than carved out of caves.
- **Kandariya Mahadeva Temple** occupies an area of about 6,500 square feet and rises 117 feet above ground level. The meaning "the Great God of the Cave", is the largest and most ornate Hindu temple in the medieval temple group found at Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh. It is considered one of the best examples of temples preserved from the medieval period in India.

It is the largest of the western group of temples in the Khajuraho complex which was built by the **Chandela rulers**. Shiva is the chief deity in the temple deified in the sanctum sanctorum.

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### Question 18:

With reference to India's culture and tradition, what is 'Kalaripayattu'?

1. It is an ancient Bhakti cult of Shaivism still prevalent in some parts of South India
2. It is an ancient style bronze and brass work still found in southern part of Coromandel area

3. It is an ancient form of dance-drama and a living tradition in the northern part of Malabar
4. It is an ancient martial art and a living tradition in some parts of South India

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

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- Kalaripayattu means 'practicing the arts of the battlefield'. Considered to be more than 2000 years old, it is practiced widely in Kerala and in the fringes of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and also in Sri Lanka.
  - It is probably the **oldest form of martial arts in India and across the world and is believed to have been founded by Parasurama**. It is said to be forerunner of Chinese martial art (Kung-fu) as the Buddhist monk Bodhidharma took this art from India to China.
  - It finds reference in the Dhanurveda (an Upveda) also known as the Indian Science of Warfare. It is also referenced in the Sangam literature.
  - The art reached its zenith during the hundred years of war between the Cholas, Pandyas and Cheras. During the 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, the art was incorporated into many religions as well.
  - It primarily emphasises on footwork patterns and the ability to strike at vital points. It includes strikes, kicks and the use of weapons. It is a silent combat, where style matters the most and it is not accompanied by any music or drumming.
  - The demonstration of Kalaripayattu includes physical exercise and mock duel (armed and unarmed). It is practiced by women also. **Hence, option (d) is correct.**
- 

### Question 19:

Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding measles?

1. It is a contagious disease caused by bacteria.
2. It can be prevented with the MMR vaccine.
3. It is not covered under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP).

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

---

- Measles virus is an enveloped ribonucleic acid virus of the **genus Morbillivirus**. It is highly contagious, and an infected person will often transmit the **virus** to over 90% of unprotected close contacts. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

The virus **infects the respiratory tract**, then spreads throughout the body.

Measles is a human disease and is not known to occur in animals.

- Measles can be **entirely prevented through a two-dose vaccine** and had been officially eliminated in many countries with advanced healthcare systems. It can be prevented with **MMR vaccine**. The vaccine protects against three diseases: **measles, mumps, and rubella**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - Government of India is providing **vaccination free of cost against** vaccine-preventable diseases include **diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, measles, a severe form of childhood tuberculosis, hepatitis B, meningitis and pneumonia (Haemophilus influenzae type B infections), Japanese encephalitis (JE)** in JE endemic districts. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- 

### Question 20:

Consider the following statements:

1. The Ajanta caves were constructed only during the Mahayana phase of Buddhism.
2. The themes of Ellora caves are based on Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism traditions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

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- The **Ajanta caves** were inscribed by the Buddhist monks, under the patronage of the **Vakataka kings** – Harishena being a prominent one. The figures in these caves were done using fresco painting and demonstrate considerable naturalism.

- The paintings are generally themed around Buddhism – the life of Buddha and Jataka stories. Of the 29 caves, **5 were developed during the Hinayana phase** while the remaining **24 were developed during the Mahayana phase of Buddhism. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - Ellora caves are located in the Sahyadri range of Maharashtra. It is a group of 34 caves – 17 Brahmanical, 12 Buddhist and 5 Jain. These set of caves were developed during the period between the 5th and 11<sup>th</sup> centuries A.D.
    - Built by various guilds from Vidarbha, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Hence, the caves reflect a natural diversity in terms of theme and architectural styles.
      - Caves 1-12: Buddhist Caves
      - 13-29: Hindu Caves
      - 30-34: Jain (Digambara sect)
    - **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
-



## Prelims Refresher Program: Day 10 (Test-3)

 [drishtiias.com/print-quiz/840](https://drishtiias.com/print-quiz/840)

### Question 1:

Which of the following is/ are the features of the Chola style of architecture?

1. Gopuram
2. Vimana
3. Antarala
4. Spherical shaped Shikhara

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 4 only
3. 3 and 4 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 4**

### Explanation

- The **Dravidian temple architecture** started by the Pallavas and was refined by the Cholas. The Chola rulers of Tanjore developed the Dravidian style of temple architecture.  
Their works taken up on a stupendous scale include irrigation schemes, the embankment of artificial lakes, dams across the Kaveri and well-planned cities.

- **The features of the Dravidian style or Chola style are:**

- Unlike the Nagara temples, the Dravidian temples were surrounded by high boundary walls. The front wall had a **high entrance gateway** known as the gopuram.
- The **temple premise** was laid out in the **panchayatan style** with a principal temple and four subsidiary shrines.
- In the Dravidian style, the spire is in the form of a **stepped pyramid** that rises up linearly rather than curved. It is known as **vimana**.

There is only **one vimana in the Dravidian architecture** on top of the main temple. The subsidiary shrines do not have vimanas, unlike in Nagara architecture.

- The assembly hall was connected with the **garbhagriha by a vestibular tunnel** known as **antarala**.
- The **entrance of the garbhagriha** had sculptures of **Dwaarpal, Mithun and yakshas**.
- The presence of a **water tank inside the temple enclosure** was a unique feature of the Dravidian style.

**Example:** Brihadeswara temple at Tanjore (built by Raja Raja I in 1011 A.D.), Gangaikondacholapuram temple (built by Rajendra I to commemorate his victory in the Gangetic delta), etc.

- The crowning element is shaped in the form of an **octagon and is known as shikhara**. It is similar to the Kalash of the Nagara temple, but **not spherical**. Thus, 1, 2 and 3 are the features of Chola style of architecture. **Hence, option D is correct.**

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### Question 2:

Which of the following temples is based on 'Stellate ground plan'?

1. Konark Sun Temple
2. Chausath Yogini Temple
3. Kailasa Temple
4. Hoysaleswara Temple

**Correct Answer : 4**

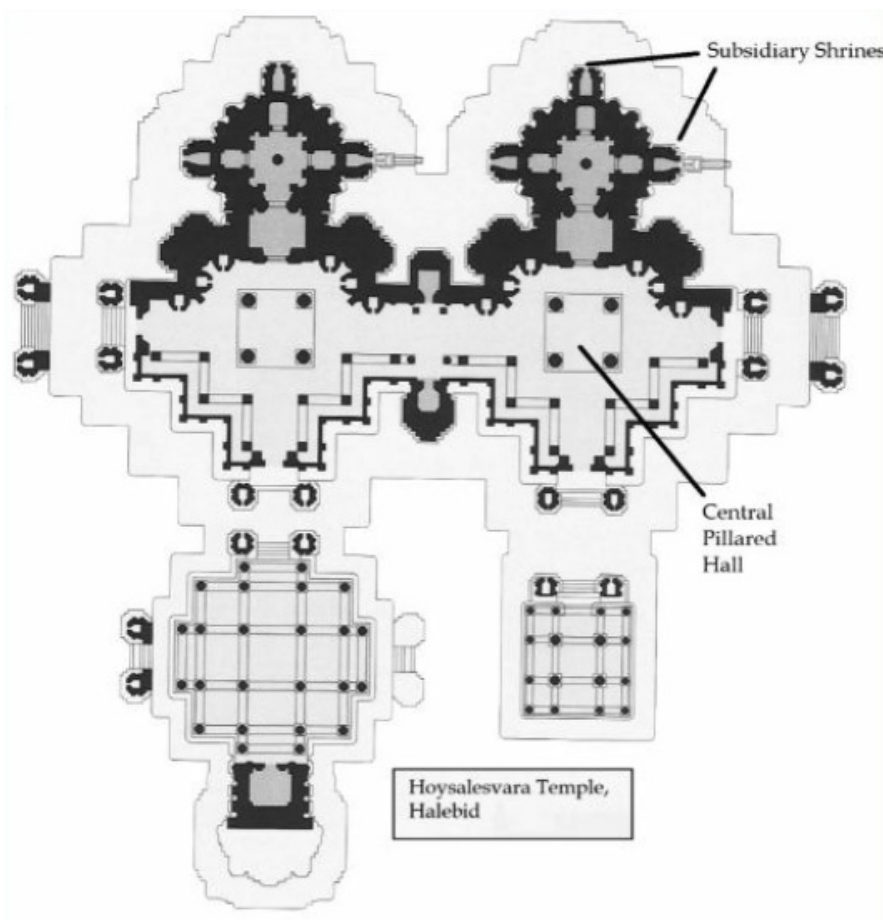
Explanation

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- The temples built under the Hoysala rulers developed a distinct style of their own known as the **Hoysala School of art**.
  - It developed in the period from 1050-1300 A.D with the prominent seats being Belur, Halebid and Sringeri.
  - It is found in the region of Karnataka near Mysore.
- Some of the features of the architecture are:
  - Multiple shrines were built around a central pillared hall.
  - The shrines led out in the shape of an **intricately designed star**. This was known as the **Stellate plan**. **Hence, option D is correct.**
  - Soft soapstone (Chlorite schist) was the main building material.
  - Massive emphasis was laid on the decoration of the temple through sculptures. Both the interior and exterior walls, even the jewellery worn by the deities were intricately carved.
  - All the chambers had Shikharas which were interconnected by an arrangement of horizontal lines and mouldings. This resolved the tower into an orderly succession of tiers.
  - The temples were built on an upraised platform known as **Jagati**, which was about 1 metre high. The walls and stairs of the temple followed a zigzag pattern.

Example: **Hoysaleswara temple at Halebid**, Vijayanarayana temple at Belur.



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### Question 3:

With reference to the religious history of India, consider the following statements:

1. Hinayana form of Buddhism focuses on self-efforts to achieve salvation.
2. 'Diamond Triangle' is associated with Vajrayana Buddhism.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 3**

### Explanation

---

#### Various schools of Buddhism:

- **Hinayana:** The term literally means '**lesser vehicle**'. It believes in the original teaching of Buddha or Doctrine of elders.  
It does not believe in Idol worship and tries to attain **individual salvation** through self-discipline and meditation. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Mahayana:** The term Mahayana is a Sanskrit word which literally means "Great Vehicle". It believes in the heavenliness of Buddha and practises idol worship.
- It focuses on salvation through Bodhisattvas.
  - Bodhisattvas were perceived as deeply compassionate beings who accumulated merit through their efforts but used this not to attain 'nibbana'/'nirvana' and thereby abandon the world, but to help others.
  - It originated in northern India and Kashmir and then spread into Central Asia, East Asia and some areas of Southeast Asia.
- **Vajrayana:** It means "**The Vehicle of the Thunderbolt**", also known as tantric Buddhism.
  - It was an offshoot of Mahayana Buddhism. Origins of Tantric Buddhism can be traced to ancient Hindu and Vedic practices as well, including esoteric ritual texts designed to achieve physical, mental, and spiritual breakthroughs.
  - Tantric Buddhism is sometimes described as offering a shortcut to enlightenment.

**Diamond Triangle of Odisha** comprises three places, namely, Ratnagiri, Udaygiri and

Lalitgiri.

- In Sanskrit, '**diamond**' is referred to as Vajramani and hence Vajrayana is called as **diamond vehicle sect**. Historically, the ancient texts of Tibet, whose people follow Vajrayana Buddhism even today, mention these places as the places of origin of **Vajrayana (Diamond Vehicle Sect)** and hence the name '**Diamond Triangle of Odisha**'.
- Diamond Triangle was once the heart of teaching and learning of Vajrayana Buddhism but with the passage of time, it lost its significance after the 13<sup>th</sup> century until it was discovered in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
  - **Ratnagiri:** It is the only monastery in India to have a curvilinear roof.  
The numerous Votive Stupas (Stupas erected on fulfilment of wish), the Commemorative Stupas (Stupas erected in memory of monks with their relics), the massive Mahastupa, Chaityagrihas, statues of Buddha have been found.
  - **Udaygiri:** It is famous for the horseshoe-shaped hill, which has two monasteries dating back to the period between 2<sup>nd</sup> century – 13<sup>th</sup> century A.D.
    - Excavation of the site revealed the presence of two Mahaviharas adjacent to each other.
    - A large complex of **Madhavapura Mahavihara** comprises of Mahastupa made up of burnt bricks with Dhyani Buddha Aksobhaya on the eastern side, Amitabha on the Western side, Amoghasiddhi on the North and Ratnasambhava on the South.
    - A large number of sculptures of Buddha and other Buddhist divinities like **Tara, Manjushri, Bhrikuti, Hariti, Chunda, Avalokiteswara, Maitreya, Aparajita, Vairochona and Vasudhara** have been discovered here.
  - **Lalitgiri:** It is treated as the most sacred among the other three places of the diamond triangle as it unearthed a massive stupa with relics of Buddha.  
Four monasteries have been excavated here besides a **unique U-shaped** Chaitya Griha surrounded by votive stupas. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

---

#### Question 4:

Which of the following is/are famous for Sun temples?

1. Gaya
2. Kashmir
3. Kumbakonam

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1. 1 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

---

- The numerous solar deities of the Vedas were merged into a single God usually known as Surya (the sun). Several temples in northern and western India were dedicated to the Sun God.
  - **Some of the major temples in India are:**
    - **Modhera Sun Temple, Gujarat.** It was built in the 11<sup>th</sup> century.
    - **Konark Sun Temple, Odisha.** It was made by Narasimhadeva I, the Eastern Ganga king in 13<sup>th</sup> century. It is in the shape of "Rath"(Chariot) with mandapa on a raised platform.
    - **Brahmanya Dev Temple, Unao** (Madhya Pradesh).
    - **Suryanaar Kovil, Kumbakonam (Tamil Nadu)** was built in the 11<sup>th</sup> century in Dravidian style.

It also has shrines of eight celestial bodies, together called 'Navagraha'. It has beautiful five-layered Gopuram.
    - **Suryanarayana Swamy temple, Arasavalli (Andhra Pradesh).** It is said to be made by a Kalinga king in the 7<sup>th</sup> century. The idol is made of granite and holds a lotus.
    - **Dakshinaarka Temple, Gaya (Bihar)** is said to be built by King Prataparuda of Warangal in 13<sup>th</sup> century AD. The deity is made in granite and the idol wears Persian attire like waist girdle, boots and a jacket. It has a Surya Kund (water reservoir) nearby.
    - **Navalakha Temple, Ghumli (Gujarat)** was made in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. It is built in Solanki and Maru-Gurjara style. It faces east and is built on a large platform.
    - **Surya Pahar Temple, Goalpara (Assam).**
    - **Martand Sun temple, Kashmir** was built by the third ruler of the Karkota Dynasty, Lalitaditya Muktapida, in the 8<sup>th</sup> century CE. Martand is another Sanskrit name for the Hindu Sun-god.
  - Hence, option D is correct.
- 

**Question 5:**

With reference to the religious history of India, consider the following statements:

1. Both Jainism and Buddhism discarded the existence of God.
2. Jainism condemns the varna system.
3. Jainism believes in the transmigration of the soul while Buddhism does not.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 only
3. 3 only
4. 1 and 3 only

**Correct Answer : 3**

## Explanation

---

- **Buddhism discarded the existence of God. The Buddha did not teach that God created the Universe.**
    - He pointed to a great Law or Dharma running through everything that exists. It is by living in accordance with this Law that true Wisdom and Compassion and hence freedom from suffering may be achieved.
    - However, Jainism recognised the existence of god but placed them lower than Jina (Mahavira). **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - **Jainism** did not condemn the varna system but attempted to mitigate the evils of the varna order and the ritualistic Vedic religion.
    - But Buddhism attacked the varna system. People were taken into the Buddhist order without any consideration of caste. Women were also admitted to the sangha and thus brought on par with men. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - According to Mahavira, a person is born in higher or lower varna as the consequence of the sins or the virtues in the previous birth. Thus, Jainism believes in the transmigration of the soul and the theory of Karma.
    - But, Buddhism does not believe in the existence of the soul (atman). The Buddha rejected the concept of a permanent "self/soul", and instead asserted the concept of anatman (Pali: anatta), which refers to an impermanent, constantly changing composite self. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- 

## Question 6:

Recently, the term 'co-location' and 'front running' was in the news in relation to:

1. A space sharing model between two large corporate groups.
2. A facility to provide undue benefits to some traders over others in the stock exchange.
3. A government initiative to boost rural network connectivity.
4. An agreement signed between India and Afghanistan to train Afghanistan sports personnel in India.

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

- **Co-location** allows **brokers to operate closer to their servers** upon payment of additional fees. It helps brokers **secure an advantage** over others due to proximity to exchange servers as data transmission takes less time. Orders reach exchange servers faster than those who have not availed the facility.
- **Front-running** is when a broker or any other entity **enters into a trade because they have the foreknowledge of a big non-publicized transaction** that will influence the price of the asset, resulting in a likely financial gain for the broker. It also occurs when a broker or an analyst buys or sells shares for their account ahead of their firm's buy or sell recommendation to the clients. **Hence, option B is correct.**

## Question 7:

In the context of the history of India, consider the following pairs:

Term	Description
1. Eripatti	Land, revenue from which was set apart for the maintenance of the village tank
2. Taniyurs	Villages donated to a single Brahmin or a group of Brahmins
3. Ghatikas	Colleges generally attached to the temples

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

1. 1 and 2 Only

2. 3 Only
3. 2 and 3 Only
4. 1 and 3 Only

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

- Eripatti was a type of land during the time of Pallavas, revenue from which was set apart for maintenance of village tanks. **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- Taniyurs were very large villages which were administered as a single unit in the Chola empire. **Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- In 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> centuries, Ghatikas were the learning centres attached to a temple. They provided Brahmanical education in Sanskrit medium. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.** Therefore, option D is the correct.

## Question 8:

With reference to the Indian history of art and culture, consider the following pairs:

Famous Work of Sculpture	Site
1. A grand image of Buddha's Mahaparinirvana with numerous celestial musicians above and the sorrowful figures of his followers below	Ajanta
2. A huge image of Varaha Avatar (boar incarnation) of Vishnu, as he rescues Goddess Earth from the deep and chaotic waters, sculpted on rock	Mount Abu
3. "Arjuna's Penance"/ "Descent of Ganga" sculpted on the surface of huge boulders	Mamallapuram

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

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only

4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 3**

## Explanation

- The first Buddhist cave monuments at Ajanta date from the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1st centuries BC. During the Gupta period (5th and 6th centuries AD), many more richly decorated caves were added to the original group. The paintings and sculptures of Ajanta, considered masterpieces of Buddhist religious art, have had a considerable artistic influence. The Parinirvana of the Buddha in Cave 17, with numerous celestial musicians above and the sorrowful figures of his followers below, is one of the grandest and yet most delicately expressive scenes made in stone. **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- Udayagiri in Madhya Pradesh is famous for its 20 caves of Hindu and Jain pantheons embodying rock-cut caves and temples dating back to the Gupta period. King Chandragupta II commissioned the most famous carving, tall statue of Vishnu's Boar Avatar, Varaha, (shown rescuing the Earth, which is hanging on his tusk), with the worshipful masses standing in homage by the sides in these rock-cut caves. **Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- Mahabalipuram or Mamallapuram was the second capital of the Pallava kings Mahendravarman I (600-630 AD) and his son Narasimhavarman I (630-668 AD). Two giant monolithic rock faces that have been sculpted with scenes from the Mahabharata and Puranas are known as the 'Arjuna's Penance' or the 'Descent of the Ganga'. It was sculpted to commemorate the victory of the Pallava ruler Narasimhavarman I over the Chalukyan King, Pulakesin II. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

### Question 9:

Consider the following pairs:

Ancient Universities	School of Thought
1. Nagarjunakonda	Hinayana Buddhism
2. Jaggadala	Vajrayana Buddhism
3. Valabhi	Mahayana Buddhism

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



1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. 1 and 2 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

---

### Famous Universities in ancient India were:

- **Nagarjunakonda:** It is situated 160 km from Amaravathi in Andhra Pradesh and it was a major Buddhist centre with scholars from Sri Lanka, China, etc coming for higher-education. It had many Viharas, Stupas, etc. It was named after Nagarjuna, a south Indian scholar of **Mahayana Buddhism**. **Hence, pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- **Jaggadala:** A centre of learning for the **Vajrayana sect of Buddhism**, in Bengal. Many scholars took shelter here after Nalanda and Vikramshila declined. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- **Manyakheta:** Now called Malkhed (Karnataka). It rose to prominence under the Rashtrakuta rule. Scholars of Jainism, Buddhism and Hinduism studied here. It has a 'matha' of Dvaita school of thought.
- **Valabhi:** It was situated in Saurashtra, Gujarat. It was an important centre of learning for the **Hinayana Buddhism**. Various disciplines like administration and statecraft, laws, philosophy etc were taught here. It was visited by the Chinese scholar, Hsuan Tsang. It was supported by the grants of rulers of the Maitraka Dynasty of Gujarat. **Hence, pair 3 is not correctly matched.**
- **Odantapuri:** It is located in Bihar and was made under the patronage of Pala dynasty King Gopala I. It was a Buddhist mahavihara. It was destroyed by Bakhtiyar Khilji.
- **Vikramshila:** It is located in present-day Bhagalpur district of Bihar. It was established by King Dharampala of the Pala dynasty, primarily as a Buddhist learning centre. The scholars were invited by kings outside India to spread Buddhist teachings.  
The **Vajrayana sect** flourished here and **Tantric teachings** were taught. Other subjects like logic, Vedas, astronomy, urban development, law, grammar, philosophy, etc were also taught.

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### Question 10:

Which one of the following Buddhist texts specifically provides an insight into women's social status and spiritual experience?

1. Therigatha
2. Uttaradhyayana Sutta
3. Buddha Charita
4. Mahavamsa

**Correct Answer : 1**

## Explanation

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**Therighata**, composed more than two millennia ago, is an anthology of poems in the **Pali** language by and about the first Buddhist women. These women were called **theris**.

- It is a part of Sutta Pitaka and provides an **insight into women's social and spiritual experiences**.
  - The poems they left behind are arguably among the most ancient examples of women's writing in the world and they are unmatched for their quality of personal expression and the extraordinary insight they offer into the lives of women in the ancient Indian past—and indeed, into the lives of women. **Hence, option A is correct.**
- 

### Question 11:

Consider the following statements:

1. Shankaracharya suggested the path of faith and devotion to attain salvation.
2. Ramanujan considers only knowledge as the pathway for salvation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

---

Shankaracharya and Ramanujan belonged to **Vedanta school**. This school upholds the philosophies of life as elaborated in the Upanishads. The oldest text that formed the basis of this philosophy was Brahmasutra of Badarayana that was written and compiled in 2<sup>nd</sup> century BCE.

- The philosophy propounds that Brahma is the reality of life and everything else is unreal or Maya.
- The atma or the consciousness of self is similar to the Brahma. This argument equalizes Atma and Brahma and if a person attains the knowledge of the self, he would automatically understand Brahma and would achieve salvation.

### Shankaracharya

**Vedanta Philosophy** evolved through the philosophical intervention of Shankaracharya in 9th century AD. His changes led to the development of **Advaita Vedanta (Monism)**.

- He states that Brahman is the only reality and the world is illusory (Maya). Ignorance of the reality is what causes suffering, and liberation can be obtained only by a true knowledge of Brahman.
- It states that both the individual self (Atman) and Brahman are the same, and knowing this difference causes liberation.
- He considers Brahma to be **without any attributes. He considers Knowledge or jnana/gyan to be the main means of attaining salvation. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

### Ramanujan

He propounded the theory of **Vishishtadvaita (Unique Advaita)**.

- Vishishtadvaita is a qualified **monism**, where God alone exists, but it admits a **plurality of souls**.
- It is midway between Advaita and Dvaita philosophies. God and the individual souls are inseparable, just like the fire and spark.
- He considers brahma to possess certain attributes.
- **He considers loving the faith and practising devotion as the path to attain salvation. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

---

### Question 12:

Building 'Kalyaana Mandapas' was a notable feature in the temple construction in the kingdom of

1. Chalukya

2. Chandela
3. Rashtrakuta
4. Vijayanagara

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

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- Temples of Vijayanagara, centred around Hampi, have the feature of 'Kalyaana Mandapa'.
  - One of the greatest monuments of the Vijayanagara period, which dates back to the 16th century, is the Vitthala Temple.
  - The Vitthala Temple is built with a spacious courtyard within a walled enclosure with three massive gateways adorned by lofty Gopuras in the north, east and south. In the courtyard are located the main shrine, Devi shrine, Kalyaana Mandapa, Utsava Mandapa, a hundred pillared Mandapa and a stone Ratha.
  - The Kalyaana Mandapa, an open pavilion, was used for ceremonies involving the symbolic marriage of the temple's deity to his consort. Its interior is surrounded by impressive columns and contains a platform in the centre for the performance of sacred dances. **Therefore, option D is the correct.**
- 

## Question 13:

The term Kudakrumia Rangnekari was recently in the news is related to:

1. It is a tribal art form practised in Maharashtra.
2. It is a type of miniature painting of Manipur.
3. It is a variety of rice from Kerala that recently received GI tag.
4. It is a new species of wasp identified by scientists in Goa.

**Correct Answer : 4**

## Explanation

---

- A new species of wasp from the genus **Kudakrumia** has been recently identified by scientists in Goa.  
The wasp, Kudakrumia rangnekari, was named after Goa-based researcher Parag Rangnekar.

- In India, the wasp is found in Goa and Kerala and outside the country, it is also found in the neighbouring country, Sri Lanka. **Hence, option D is correct.**
- 

#### Question 14:

'Jagmohan/Jagamohana' is the feature of which of the following temple architecture?

1. Khajuraho Temples
2. Modhera Temples
3. Kalinga Temples
4. Pallava Temples

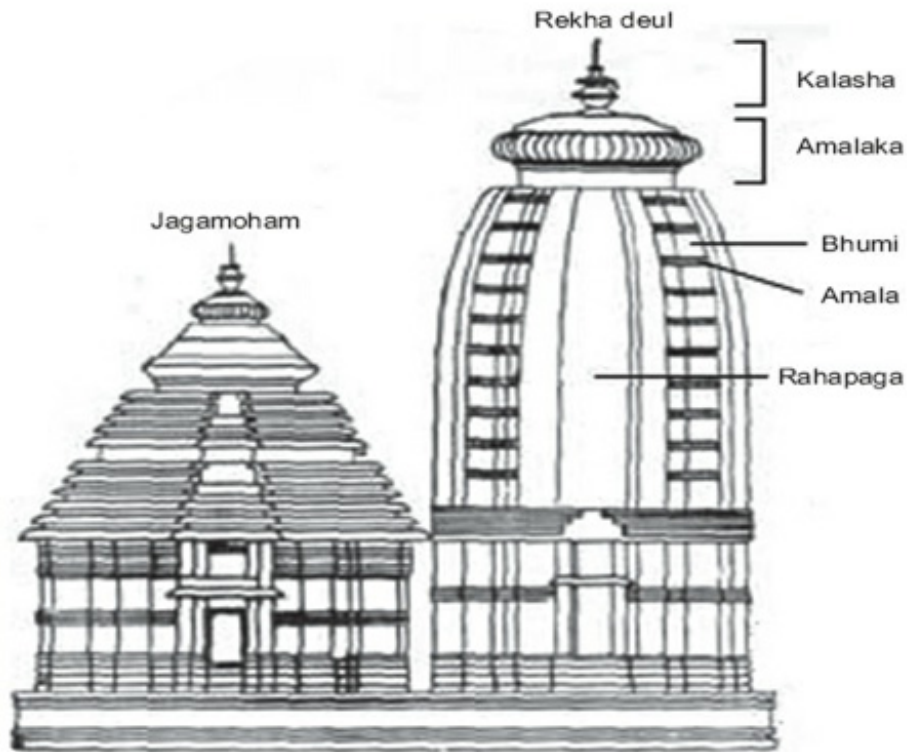
**Correct Answer : 3**

#### Explanation

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##### **Odisha Architecture (Kalinga architectural style):**

- It is a style of Temple architecture which flourished in the ancient Kalinga previously known as Utkal and part of the kingdom of Magadha or present eastern Indian state of Odisha.
- Architecture in Odisha found its supreme expression in the form of temples, some of which are among the finest in the country. The most famous temples are **Lingaraja temple at Bhubaneswar (11<sup>th</sup> century), the Jagannath Temple at Puri (12<sup>th</sup> century) and the great Sun Temple at Konark (13<sup>th</sup> century).**
- Some of its features are:
  - Structurally, the temple consists of four chambers. The four chambers are **Bhogmandir, Natmandir, Jagmohana** and finally the innermost Sanctum sanctorum of the temple in which the prime deity of the temple is placed.
  - The exterior walls were **lavishly decorated with intricate carvings**, but interior walls were plain.
  - There was **no use of pillars** in porch. Iron girders were used instead to support the roof.
  - The shikhara in the Odisha school was known as **rekhadeuls**. They were almost vertical roofs which suddenly curved inwards sharply.
  - The **mandap** was known as **Jagmohan** in this region.
  - The ground plan of the main temple was square. Temples were surrounded by a boundary wall as in the Dravidian style of temple architecture.
  - **Hence, option C is correct.**



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**Question 15:**

With reference to white-throated rail, consider the following statements:

1. It is listed as critically endangered in the IUCN Red List.
2. It is a flightless species of bird that inhabits Aldabra.
3. It has gone through the process of iterative evolution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 2 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 2**

Explanation

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- **White-throated rail** is a flightless subspecies, also known as **Aldabra rail**. It inhabits Aldabra, while another Assumption rail from Assumption went extinct in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century due to introduced predators.  
It is now the last living member of the **genus Dryolimnas** and believed to be the last flightless bird in the Indian Ocean. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It has a **least concerned status** in **IUCN Red List**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is found that white-throated rail came back after extinction, through a process called **“iterative evolution”**. This is the first time it has been seen in rails, and one of the most significant seen birds.
  - On two separate occasions tens of thousands of years apart, the species of rail was able to colonise a place called Aldabra. In both cases it eventually became flightless, and those birds from the later time can still be found on the island now. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
  - **Iterative evolution means the repeated evolution of similar or parallel structures from the same ancestor but at different times.**

### Question 16:

Consider the following statements:

1. Sutta Pitaka consists of rules of conduct and discipline applicable to the monastic life of the monks and nuns of Buddhism.
2. Vinay Pitaka includes the teachings of Buddha.
3. Dipavamsa is the Pali text, which described the regional spread of Buddhism in Sri Lanka.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : 2**

**Explanation**

The Buddha taught orally – through discussion and debate. Men and women attended these discourses and discussed what they heard. None of the Buddha's speeches were written down during his lifetime.

After his death, his teachings were compiled by his disciples at a council of “elders” or senior monks. These compilations were known as **Tipitaka/Tripitaka** – literally, three baskets to hold different types of texts.

- **Sutta Pitaka:** It includes the teachings of Buddha. It is divided into five Nikayas or collections:
    - Digha Nikaya
    - Majjhima Nikaya
    - Samyutta Nikaya
    - Anguttara Nikaya
    - Khuddaka Nikaya
  - **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - **Abhidhamma Pitaka:** It deals with the philosophy and doctrine of Buddhism.
  - **Vinay Pitaka:** The Vinaya Pitaka included rules and regulations for those who joined the sangha or monastic order. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - **Mahavamsa** (literally ‘**the great chronicle**’) and **Dipavamsa** (literally, ‘**the chronicle of the island**’) are the **Pali texts**, which describe the regional history of Buddhism in the Ceylon (modern-day Sri Lanka). **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
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### Question 17:

With reference to Guru Nanak Dev, consider the following statements:

1. He advocated the worship of a formless divine.
2. His idea of equality can be deduced from the notion of langar, pangat and Sangat.
3. He was the contemporary of Tyagaraja.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3 only

**Correct Answer : 1**



## Explanation

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**Guru Nanak Dev (1469-1539)** was born in a village, Talwandi Rai Bhoi, near Lahore (it was renamed later as Nankana Sahib).

- He advocated the 'Nirguna' form of bhakti i.e worship of a formless divine. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- He rejected sacrifices, ritual baths, image worship, austerities and the scriptures of both Hindus and Muslims.
- His idea of equality can be deduced by the following innovative social institutions, as given by him:
  - **Langar:** Collective cooking and sharing of food.
  - **Pangat:** Partaking food without distinctions of high and low caste.
  - **Sangat:** Collective decision making. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - He also advocated the concept of "**dasvandh**" or donating one-tenth of one's earning among needy persons.

**Tyagaraja (1767-1847)** is the most celebrated poet-composer and singer in Carnatic music. He was not the contemporary of Guru Nanak Dev.

Tyagaraja's songs and compositions are full of devotion to lord Rama. He saw the reigns of four kings of Maratha dynasty — Tulaja II (1763-1787), Amarasimha (1787-1798), Serfoji II (1798-1832) and Sivaji II (1832-1855). **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

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### Question 18:

Which one of the following was a very important seaport in the Kakatiya kingdom?

1. Kakinada
2. Motupalli
3. Machilipatnam (Masulipatnam)
4. Nelluru

**Correct Answer : 2**

## Explanation

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- Kakatiya dynasty ruled around the present day Andhra region from about 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century AD.

- Around 1289 AD, Marco Polo visited the Kakatiya kingdom under the reign of Rubramba. He recognized Kakatiya Kingdom as the kingdom of Mutfli – naming it after Motupalli, which was the most prosperous seaport of the Kakatiyas. **Therefore, option B is the correct.**
- 

### Question 19:

Which of the following is/are correct regarding Artemis?

1. It is a crop disease prevalent in south-east Asian countries.
2. It is NASA's new manned mission to the moon.
3. It is a newly developed drug for the treatment of dengue.
4. It is a primitive tribal group of Africa.

**Correct Answer : 2**

### Explanation

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- NASA's new **manned mission** to the moon will be named as **Artemis**.
  - According to Greek mythology, Artemis, the goddess of the Moon, was a twin sister of Apollo.
  - The Artemis program began when President Donald Trump signed **Space Policy Directive in 2017**, directing NASA to send astronauts to the moon.
  - It will land in the lunar south pole in 2024 and will include women on board too. **Hence, option B is correct.**
- 

### Question 20:

The followers of this philosophy/order, believed in the ascetic way of life. They believed everything is predetermined and human does not have the freedom to shape their destiny. They supposedly held that the affairs of the entire universe were ordered by a cosmic force called 'niyati'. Thus, they are also referred to as fatalists.

In the above text, identify the philosophy/order we are talking about:

1. Jainism
2. Charvaka
3. Ajivika

#### 4. Vaisheshika

**Correct Answer : 3**

#### Explanation

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Ajivika, an ascetic sect emerged in India about the same time as Buddhism and Jainism and lasted until the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The name may mean "**following the ascetic way of life**".

- It was founded by **Goshala Maskariputra** (also called Gosala Makkhaliputta or Makkhali Gosala) in 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, a friend of Mahavira of Jainism.
  - The basic principle of the doctrine according to Gosala was **niyati, fate or destiny**. The Ajivikas were rigid **fatalists** and **determinists**, seeing **niyati** as the sole determinant of every happening. No human effort could have any effect against **niyati** and therefore **karma is a fallacy**.
  - Ajivikas worshipped Goshala as a divinity, and the tenet of **niyati** developed into the doctrine that **all change was illusory** and that everything was eternally immobile. **Hence, option C is correct.**
-