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Detailed
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1. Ans: D

Exp:

- The LAC is the demarcation that separates Indian-controlled territory from Chinese-controlled territory. The recent stand-off at Ladakh's Galwan Valley has escalated due to the infrastructure projects that India has undertaken in recent years.
- The LAC is generally divided into three sectors namely: Western sector, Middle sector, and Eastern sector.
 - ◆ **Eastern Sector:**
 - In this sector, India shares a 1346 km long boundary with China.
 - **The alignment of the LAC in the eastern sector is along the 1914 McMahon Line.**
 - Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - ◆ China considers the McMahon Line illegal and unacceptable claiming that Tibetan representatives who had signed the 1914 Convention held in Shimla which delineated the McMahon line on the map were not having rights to do so.
 - ◆ **It spans Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.**
 - Hence, statement 2 is correct.
 - ◆ **Western Sector:**
 - India shares about 1597 km of border with China. It is between the Union Territory of Ladakh (erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir) and Xinjiang Province of China.
 - ◆ **Middle Sector:**
 - In this sector, India shares about a 545 km long boundary with China which runs along the watershed from Ladakh to Nepal.
 - **Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand touch this border with Tibet (China) in this sector.** Both sides do not have much disagreement over the border in this area.
 - Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- Hence, option D is correct.

2. Ans: D

Exp:

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was formed in 1958.
 - ◆ It was formed from the **amalgamation of the Technical Development Establishment (TDEs) of the Indian Army and the Directorate of Technical Development & Production (DTDP) with the**

Defence Science Organisation (DSO). Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- **Various Programmes of DRDO:**

- ◆ **Integrated Guided-Missile Development Programme (IGMDP):**

- It was one of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's major works to make Indian defence forces self-sufficient in the field of missile technology. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- ◆ **Mobile Autonomous Robot System (MARS):**

- MARS is a smart robust robot to handle land mines and Inert Explosive Devices (IEDs) which helps the Indian Armed Forces to disarm them from far distances despite hostile surroundings.

- ◆ **Highest Terrestrial Centre in Ladakh:**

- DRDO's centre in Ladakh is at 17,600 feet above sea level at Changla near Pangong lake which is intended to serve as a natural cold storage unit for the preservation of natural and medicinal plants.

3. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the government has prepared the **Draft Indian Ports Bill, 2022** which seeks to **repeal and replace the existing Indian Ports Act 1908**, which is more than 110 years old, becoming imperative that the **Act is revamped to reflect the present-day frameworks. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Major Ports are under the Union list of the Indian Constitution and are administered under the **Indian Ports Act 1908 and the Major Port Trust Act, 1963.**
 - ◆ All the Minor Ports are governed under the Indian Port Act, 1908 and are **owned and managed by the State Governments. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Union Government has allowed **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) of up to 100% under the automatic route for port and harbour construction** and maintenance projects. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

4. Ans: B

Exp:

- Nipun mines are indigenously designed and developed anti-personnel mines, termed by the DRDO as 'soft target blast munition'.



- Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- These mines are meant to act as the first line of defence against infiltrators and enemy infantry.
 - ◆ They are smaller in size and can be deployed in large numbers.
 - ◆ Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- Hence, option B is correct.

5. Ans: B

Exp:

- NCRB, headquartered in New Delhi, was set-up in 1986 under the Ministry of Home Affairs to function as a repository of information on crime and criminals so as to assist the investigators in linking crime to the perpetrators. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- NCRB has also been designated as the Central Nodal Agency to manage technical and operational functions of the 'Online Cyber-Crime Reporting Portal' through which any citizen can lodge a complaint or upload a video clip as evidence of crime related to child pornography, rape/gang rape. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- The responsibility of implementation of the Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) has also been given to the NCRB.
- ICJS is a national platform for enabling integration of the main IT system used for delivery of Criminal Justice in the country.
- It seeks to integrate the five pillars of the system viz Police (through Crime and Criminal Tracking and Network Systems), e-Forensics for Forensic Labs, e-Courts for Courts, e-Prosecution for Public Prosecutors and e-Prisons for Prisons. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

6. Ans: B

Exp:

- Competition Commission of India (CCI) is a statutory body of the Government of India responsible for enforcing the Competition Act, 2002, it was duly constituted in March 2009. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
 - ◆ The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 (MRTP Act) was repealed and replaced by the Competition Act, 2002, on the recommendations of the Raghavan committee.
- Composition: The Commission consists of one Chairperson and six Members who shall be appointed by the Central Government. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

- ◆ The commission is a quasi-judicial body which gives opinions to statutory authorities and also deals with other cases. The Chairperson and other Members shall be whole-time Members.
- Eligibility criteria of members of CCI: The Chairperson and every other Member shall be a person of ability, integrity and standing and who, has been, or is qualified to be a judge of a High Court, or, has special knowledge of, and professional experience of not less than fifteen years in international trade, economics, business, commerce, law, finance, accountancy, management, industry, public affairs, administration or in any other matter which, in the opinion of the Central Government, may be useful to the Commission.

7. Ans: B

Exp:

- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is an autonomous statutory body established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (FSS Act).
- The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India is the administrative Ministry of FSSAI. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- The FSSAI comprises a chairperson and twenty-two members out of which one – third are to be women. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- As a measure toward ease of doing business, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) through notifications in 2016 has shifted from product-by-product approval to an ingredient and additive-based approval process.

8. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Model Tenancy Act, 2021 is to establish Rent Authority to regulate renting of premises and to protect the interests of landlords and tenants and to provide speedy adjudication mechanism for resolution of disputes and matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.
 - ◆ It aims at creating a vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive rental housing market in the country.
 - ◆ It will enable the creation of adequate rental housing stock for all income groups thereby addressing the issue of homelessness.
 - ◆ It will enable the institutionalization of rental housing by gradually shifting it toward the formal market.

● **Key Provisions:**

- ◆ **A written agreement is mandatory** between the property owner and the tenant. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- ◆ Establishes an independent authority in every state and UT for registration of tenancy agreements and even a separate court to take up tenancy related disputes.
- ◆ Limit the **tenant's advance security deposit to a maximum of two months' rent for residential purposes** and to a maximum of six months for non-residential purposes. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- ◆ The landlord will be responsible for activities like structural repairs except those necessitated by damage caused by the tenant, whitewashing of walls and painting of doors and windows, etc.
- ◆ The tenant will be responsible for drain cleaning, switches and socket repairs, kitchen fixtures repairs, replacement of glass panels in windows, doors and maintenance of gardens and open spaces, among others.
- ◆ A landowner will have to give **24-hour prior notice** before entering the rented premises to **carry out repairs or replacement.** **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- ◆ If a landlord has fulfilled all the conditions stated in the rent agreement - giving notice etc.- and the tenant fails to vacate the premises on the expiration of the period of tenancy or termination of tenancy, the landlord is entitled to double the monthly rent for two months and four times after that.

9. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, Delhi's Chief Minister was denied permission to attend the World Cities Summit in Singapore.
- **Provisions for members of state government for Foreign Visit Approval:**
 - ◆ Foreign visits by members of the State governments in their official capacity would require clearances from **the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Ministry of Home Affairs, Finance Ministry, and the Central Administrative Ministry.**
- **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ It stated that **Chief Ministers required further approval from the Prime Minister's Office before an official visit.**

● **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

● **Hence, option B is correct.**

10. Ans: D

Exp:

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)

- ABDM is a **national digital health eco-system** that supports **Universal Health Coverage** in an efficient, accessible, inclusive, and affordable manner, through the provision of a wide range of information and infrastructure services.
 - ◆ It aims to develop the backbone necessary to **support the integrated digital health infrastructure** of the country. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **It's a collaborative approach toward digitization of healthcare delivery will help India achieve its goal of healthcare for all** in the most effective, efficient, and affordable manner.
 - ◆ Recently, 12 health service applications completed their integration across various milestones in the ABDM sandbox environment.
- **The tally now includes 20 government applications and 32 private sector applications.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- As per the Building blocks of ABDM, The **ABHA mobile app** is to be used by the patients to control and access their medical information, as well as share it with healthcare professionals.
 - ◆ The app is supported by the **secure PHR (Personal Health Record)** system. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

11. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Cooperatives Build a Better World** is the theme of the international cooperative day 2022. **The occasion highlights the cooperative movement's contributions to tackling the major issues addressed by the United Nations as well as to enhancing and expanding the alliances between the cooperative movements internationally** Hence statement 1 is correct.
- Anand Milk Union Limited (AMUL), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED), and Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) are all examples of Indian cooperatives. **hence statement 2 is correct.**



12. Ans: C

Exp:

GI Tag:

- GI is an indication used to identify goods having special characteristics originating from a definite geographical territory.
- The **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999** seeks to provide for the registration and better protection of geographical indications relating to goods in India.
 - ◆ The Act is administered by the **Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks**- who is the **Registrar of Geographical Indications**.
 - ◆ The **Geographical Indications Registry is located at Chennai**.
 - ◆ The registration of a **geographical indication is valid for a period of 10 years**. It can be renewed from time to time for a **further period of 10 years each**.
- **Some of the Products with GI Tags include:**

Product	Category	State/Region
Lahauli Knitted Socks & Gloves	Handicraft	Himachal Pradesh
Hathei Chilli	Agriculture	Manipur
Mahoba De-sawari Pan	Agriculture	Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh

- Hence all pairs are correctly matched.

13. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Central Government for the trial of Scheduled Offences constitutes one or more Special Courts under Section 11 and 22 of the NIA Act 2008.
- **Composition:**
 - ◆ The Special Court shall be presided over by a judge to be appointed by the Central Government on the recommendation of the **Chief Justice of the High Court**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
 - ◆ The Central Government may, if required, appoint an additional judge or additional judges to the Special Court, on the recommendation of the Chief Justice of the High Court.
- **Jurisdiction of Special Courts:**
 - ◆ The Special Courts have all powers of the court of sessions under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

- ◆ Where any question arises as to the jurisdiction of any Special Court, it shall be referred to the Central Government whose decision in the matter shall be final.
- ◆ The Supreme Court can transfer a case pending before a Special Court to any other Special Court within that State or any other State in some exceptional cases where it is not feasible to conduct a peaceful, fair, impartial and speedy trial.
- ◆ Similarly, the High Court has the power to transfer a case pending before a Special Court in a State to any other Special Court within that State.

14. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940** regulates the import, manufacturing and distribution of drugs in India. Hence, **Statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ However, there is no statutory definition of "e-pharmacy" either under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 or the Pharmacy Act, 1948.
- However, the electronic sale of physician-prescribed drugs from online drug store sites is expressed under the IT Act, 2000.
- The **Draft e-pharmacy rules were floated by the Ministry of Health and family welfare in 2018**. Hence **Statement 2 is correct**.
- In February 2023, the Ministry of Health and family welfare issued show cause notices to at least 20 companies, including Tata-1mg, Flipkart, Apollo, PharmEasy, Amazon, and Reliance Netmeds for selling medicines online.

15. Ans: A

Exp:

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR):

- The **30 rights and freedoms include civil and political rights**, like the right to life, liberty, free speech and privacy and economic, social and cultural rights, like the right to social security, health and education, etc.
 - ◆ **India took an active part** in drafting of the UDHR. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The **UDHR is not a treaty**, so it does **not directly create legal obligations** for countries. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- The **UDHR**, together with the **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights** and its two Optional Protocols (on the complaints procedure and on the



death penalty) and the **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and its Optional Protocol**, form the so-called International Bill of Human Rights.

16. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Inquire into complaints** and take **suo motu** notice of matter relating to :
 - ◆ Deprivation and violation of child rights. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Non implementation of laws providing for protection and development of children.
 - ◆ Noncompliance of policy decisions, guidelines or instructions aimed at mitigating hardships to and ensuring welfare of the children and providing relief to such children.
- The Commission shall not enquire into any matter which is pending before a **State Commission** or any other **Commission** duly constituted under any law for the time being in force. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

17. Ans: C

Exp:

- **The UN Convention on the Rights of PwD**, which was adopted in 2006, defines persons with disabilities as those “who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others”.
- **India ratified the Convention** in October 2007.
- The Parliament enacted the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 with a view to fulfilling the obligations under the UNCRPD.**

18. Ans: C

Exp:

- Synergy is a **Cyber Security Exercise** which is successfully designed & conducted by **CERT-In** in collaboration with the **Cyber Security Agency of Singapore (CSA)**.
- The exercise scenario was derived from real-life cyber incidents, in which a domestic level (limited impact) ransomware incident escalates to a global cyber security crisis.
- Each State participated as a **National Crisis Management Team having a composition of different government agencies including National CERTs/**

CSIRTs, Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA), Communication & IT/ICT Ministry and Security agencies.

- Its objective is to **Assess, Share and Improve strategies and practices among Member-States to build network resiliency against ransomware & cyber extortion attacks. Hence, only Statement 3 is correct.**

19. Ans: A

Exp:

- IREDA is a mini ratna company under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
- It was set up in 1987 as a specialized non-banking finance agency for the renewable energy sector.
- IREDA plays a key role in the renewable energy project financing which gives confidence to the financial institutions/banks to lend in the sector. **Hence, option A is correct.**

20. Ans: C

Exp:

- The FCI is a government-owned corporation that manages the **food security system in India.**
- The **FCI also maintains buffer stocks** of food grains to ensure food security during times of scarcity or crisis. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The FCI is also responsible for distributing foodgrains throughout the country for **public distribution system. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **FCI also conducts e-auction** as one of the methods to **dispose of its surplus food grains.**

21. Ans: B

Exp:

- The origin of the Census in India **goes back to the colonial exercise of 1881.**
 - ◆ The Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) was **conducted in 2011 for the first time since the 1931 census of India. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- The **subject of a census falls in the Union list** and only Parliament can legislate on it. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The caste census is **under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs: Registrar General of India (RGI)** and Census Commissioner of India. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Census has evolved and been used by the government, policymakers, academics, and others **to capture the**

Indian population, access resources, map social change, delimitation exercises, etc.

22. Ans; B

Exp:

- In 2012, the **POCSO Act** raised the age of consent to **18 years**, which had been at **16 years** since **1940**. The **POCSO Act, 2012** defines a child as any person below the age of **18 years**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The act also provides for mandatory reporting of **sexual offenses against children**, and penalties for failure to report such offenses.
- The act provides for the establishment of a **National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights** and **State Commission for the Protection of Child Rights** to monitor and ensure the implementation of the act. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

23. Ans: C

Exp:

- Under **Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), 1967**, a individual can be designated as a terrorist if he/she
 - ◆ **commits or participates in any act of terrorism**
 - ◆ **promotes enmity between different groups,**
 - ◆ **commits or participates in any act that threatens the sovereignty and integrity of India**
 - ◆ **but not for committing or participating in any act of bribery.**
- Originally enacted in 1967, the UAPA was **amended to be modelled as an anti-terror law in 2004 and 2008**.
- Therefore, **option C is correct**.

24. Ans- C

Exp:

- **International Hockey Federation (FIH), founded in 1924**, is responsible for field hockey's major international tournaments, notably the **World Cup**.
 - ◆ It is headquartered in **Lausanne, Switzerland**.
- The **FIH is recognised by the International Olympic Committee**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ It is also the sole ultimate governing body for the sport of Hockey throughout the world. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

25. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013** aims to provide for food and nutritional security in the human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate

quantities of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity.

● **Eligibility:**

- ◆ **Priority Households to be covered under TPDS**, according to guidelines by the **State government**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- ◆ Households covered under existing Antyodaya Anna Yojana.

● **Provisions:**

- ◆ **5 Kgs of foodgrains per person (not per household) per month** at Rs. **3/2/1** per Kg for **rice/wheat/coarse grains (not coarse grains/ rice/wheat)**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- ◆ The existing AAY household will continue to receive 35 Kgs of foodgrains per household per month.
- ◆ Meal and maternity benefit of not less than Rs. 6,000 to pregnant women and lactating mothers during pregnancy and six months after the child birth.
- ◆ Meals for children upto 14 years of age.
- ◆ Food security allowance to beneficiaries in case of non-supply of entitled foodgrains or meals.
- ◆ Setting up of grievance redressal mechanisms at the district and state level.

26. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** has several functions as per the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, such as
 - ◆ the **establishment of scientific and technical committees** for the purpose of advising it on any matter
 - ◆ **registration or licensing of food business operators**
 - ◆ **conducting inspections and investigations**, and providing for accreditation of laboratories and inspection agencies.
- However, **its mandate does not include collecting taxes from food business operators**.
- Therefore, **option D is correct**.

27. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Cri-MAC was launched in 2020 by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), which is run by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.

- It was launched to share information on crime and criminals with various law enforcement agencies and ensure a seamless flow of information among them.
- It aims to help in early detection and prevention of crime incidents across the country.
- Cri-MAC facilitates dissemination of information about significant crimes, including human trafficking across the country on real-time basis and enables inter-State coordination. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It can help in locating and identifying the trafficked victims as also in prevention, detection and investigation of crime.

28. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **Aspirational District Programme (ADP)** aims to **transform districts** that have shown relatively **less progress in key social areas.**
 - ◆ Aspirational Districts are those districts in India that **are affected by poor socio-economic indicators.**
 - ◆ **At Government of India level, the programme is anchored by NITI Aayog.** In addition, individual Ministries have assumed responsibility to drive progress of districts. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Parameters for Ranking Districts:** The ranking is based on the incremental progress made across 49 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) under **5 broad socio-economic themes** -
 - ◆ Health & Nutrition (30%)
 - ◆ Education (30%)
 - ◆ Agriculture & Water Resources (20%)
 - ◆ **Financial Inclusion & Skill Development (10%). Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Infrastructure (10%)
- The **Aspirational Blocks Programme** is a development initiative aimed at improving the performance of areas that are lagging on various development parameters.
 - ◆ It was announced in the **Union Budget 2022-23.**
 - ◆ The ABP is based on the **ADP (but it is not a sub-scheme of ADP). Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

29. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the **All-India Football Federation** unveiled its strategic roadmap with '**Vision 2047**', hoping that in

the country's centenary year of independence, India will emerge as a new powerhouse of Asian football.

- The Indian Football's Vision 2047 is a long-term plan for Indian football that aims to make it a top 50 ranked team in the world by the year 2047, which marks the 100th anniversary of India's independence. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The vision document proposes a number of strategies to achieve this goal, including:
 - **Village Grassroots Programmes:**
 - ◆ AIFF aims to implement village grassroots programmes to reach **35 million children across 100 villages throughout India** and also aim to register 1 million registered players and provide football education to 25 million children through Football for Schools. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ They noted that there is a huge gender disparity in participation at grassroots level.
 - **Infrastructure:**
 - ◆ The AIFF will improve **infrastructure by putting in place policy interventions that will incentivise government authorities,** football clubs, corporates, and private investors to invest in infrastructure.
 - **National Football Philosophy:**
 - ◆ The national football philosophy of India would be based on **collecting data from scouting, creating a technical curriculum,** focusing on coach and player development and hoping it would translate into a talent pool for the national team.
 - ◆ To create a national playing philosophy, the AIFF will develop the **Coach Education Program to improve the quality of football** at all levels of the ecosystem.
 - ◆ The AIFF has also targeted creating 50,000 active coaches — almost 4,500 with a minimum AIFF C License — across the country.
 - ◆ The focus on collecting data and creating a scouting system will be in charge of and will do so by 2026. The overall approach to finding a footballing philosophy though remains the same.
 - ◆ The document also emphasis on building a sustainable club structure, which will help in establishing a robust league system and improve the popularity of Football in India, eventually

leading to better performances at the international level.

30. Ans: A

Exp:

- The **NCRB** was established in response to the **National Police Commission's** recommendations (1977-1981). **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Bureau has been tasked with maintaining the **National Database of Sexual Offenders (NDSO)** and sharing information on a regular basis with the states/UTs.
- **NCRB**, headquartered in **New Delhi**, was set-up in **1986** under the **Ministry of Home Affairs**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **NCRB** has also been designated as the **Central Nodal Agency** to manage technical and operational functions of the '**Online Cyber-Crime Reporting Portal**' through which any citizen can lodge a complaint or upload a video clip as evidence of crime related to child pornography, rape/gang rape.

31. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) Scheme:**
 - ◆ **Skill India Mission** was launched by the government in 2015 **under which** the flagship scheme **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)** is run. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ It aims to train over 40 crore people in India in different skills by 2022. It aims at **vocational training and certification of Indian youth for a better livelihood and respect in the society**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ **PMKVY** is **implemented by the National Skills Development Corporation (NSDC)** under the guidance of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

32. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Supreme Court has recently held that compelling an unwilling person to undergo a DNA test would be a violation of his/her personal liberty and right to privacy. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The court is focusing on the widespread use of a technology that, on the one hand, promotes the cause of justice while violating privacy on the other.

- **Autosomal DNA tests** can be used to confirm relationships with a **high level of accuracy** for **parent/child relationships** and all relationships up to the second cousin level. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

33. Ans: D

Exp:

- **The National Medical Commission (NMC)** is a statutory body in India that was established in 2019 by the Indian government to **replace the Medical Council of India (MCI)**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The NMC has **been constituted by an act of Parliament known as National Medical Commission Act, 2019**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The NMC is a regulatory body for the medical education sector in India.

34. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Yotta D1, built at a cost of Rs 5,000 crore, is the country's biggest and UP's first data centre.**
- It is north India's **first hyperscale data centre.**
- The data centre will **increase data storage capacity of the country**, which until now stood at 2% only despite the fact that **20% of the world's data is consumed by Indians.**
- **Hence, Option D is correct.**

35. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1950:**
 - ◆ Lays down procedures for **delimitation of constituencies**. **Hence, option 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Provides for the allocation of seats in the House of the People and in the Legislative Assemblies and Legislative Councils of States.
 - ◆ Lays procedure for the preparation of electoral rolls and the manner of filling seats.
 - ◆ Lays down the qualification of voters.
- **The Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1951:**
 - ◆ It regulates the actual conduct of elections and by-elections.
 - ◆ It provides administrative machinery for conducting elections.
 - ◆ It deals with the registration of political parties. **Hence, option 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ It specifies the qualifications and disqualifications for membership of the Houses.
 - ◆ It provides provisions to curb corrupt practices and other offenses.

- ◆ It lays down the procedure for settling doubts and disputes arising out of elections.

36. Ans: D

Exp:

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST):

- **Formation:** NCST was set up in 2004 by amending **Article 338** and by inserting a **new article 338A** in the **Constitution** through the **89th Constitution Amendment Act, 2003**. Hence, it is a constitutional body. **Hence, statement 1 and 2 are correct.**
 - ◆ By this amendment, the erstwhile National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was **replaced by two separate Commissions namely:**
 - the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC), and
 - the NCST
- **Objective:** Article 338A inter-alia gives powers to the NCST to oversee the implementation of various safeguards provided to **Scheduled Tribes (STs)** under the Constitution or under any other law for time being in force or under any other order to the Government and **to evaluate the working of such safeguards.**
- **Composition:** It consists of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and 3 other Members who are appointed by the **President** by warrant under his hand and seal.
 - ◆ At least **one member should be a woman. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ The Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the other Members **hold office for a term of 3 years.**
 - The Chairperson has been **given the rank of Union Cabinet Minister**, the Vice Chairperson has the **rank of a Minister of State** and other Members **have the rank of Secretary to the Government of India.**
 - ◆ The members are not eligible for appointments for more than two terms.

37. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA), 2006:**
 - ◆ It says that child marriages are **illegal but not void**. They are voidable at the minor's choice if he/she petitions the court to declare the marriage null and void. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - The Act stipulates **18 years as the minimum marriageable age for women, while for men it is 21 years.**

- ◆ The Act punishes child marriage with **rigorous imprisonment which may extend to two years or with a fine** which may extend to one lakh rupees or both. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- The punishment also **extends to anyone who performs, conducts, directs, or abets any child marriage. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

38. Ans: A

Exp:

- **About crony capitalism:**
 - ◆ **Crony capitalism** is a term used to describe a **capitalist economic system** in which **individuals or businesses with close ties to political leaders and government officials** use their **political connections to gain an unfair advantage** in the marketplace.
 - ◆ In the **Crony Capitalism Index 2021** published by **The Economist**; India was ranked at **7th position** where **crony sector wealth accounted for 8% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** of the country.
- **Issues Associated with Crony Capitalism:**
- **Unfair Advantage in Marketplace:** Crony capitalism can lead to corruption as **businesses use their political connections to gain an unfair advantage** in the marketplace, often by bribing government officials.
- This can **undermine the rule of law and erode public trust** in government institutions.
- **Distorted Market Competition:** When some businesses are given an unfair advantage through their political connections, it **distorts market competition** and makes it difficult for smaller businesses and entrepreneurs to succeed.
- This can lead to a **concentration of wealth and power in the hands of a few individuals or corporations.**
 - ◆ **Reduced Innovation:** The dominant position of large businesses often erodes competition and **discourages them to further innovate** or improvise their products/services.
 - ◆ This can **stifle innovation in the overall economy** and lead to a **decline in competitiveness.**
 - ◆ **Public Distrust of Government and the Economy:** Widespread crony capitalism can lead to a **loss of public trust in government institutions** and the economic system.
 - ◆ This can make it difficult for policymakers to implement reforms and for businesses to operate effectively. **Hence, option A is correct.**

39. Ans: C

Exp:

- TRIFED was established in **August 1987** under the **Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984** by the **Government of India** as a **National level Cooperative Body**, with the basic mandate of bringing about **socio-economic development** of **tribals** of the country. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- The **Aadi Mahotsav** event has been arranged around the theme of **"A Celebration of Crafts, Culture, Cuisine and Commerce"**.
- The **Aadi Mahotsav** connects **tribal artisans, craftsmen** and **women** to a direct market in **large metro cities** and **State capitals**. It is an initiative of TRIFED. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

40. Ans: B

Exp:

- **About Vibrant Village Programme:**
- It is a **Centrally sponsored scheme**, announced in the Union Budget 2022-23 (to 2025-26) for the **development of villages on the northern border**, thus improving the quality of life of people living in identified border villages. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ It will cover the border areas of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Ladakh.
 - ◆ It will cover 2,963 villages with 663 of them to be covered in the first phase.
 - ◆ Vibrant Village Action Plans will be created by the district administration with the help of Gram Panchayats.
 - ◆ There will not be an overlap with Border Area Development Programme.
- **Objective:**
- The scheme aids to identify and develop the economic drivers based on local, natural, human and other resources of the border villages on the northern border;
- Development of growth centres on **'hub and spoke model'** through the promotion of social entrepreneurship, **empowerment of youth and women through skill development and entrepreneurship; Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Leveraging the tourism potential through the promotion of local, cultural, and traditional knowledge and heritage;

- ◆ Development of sustainable eco-agri businesses on the concept of 'one village-one product' through community-based organisations, cooperatives, NGOs.

41. Ans: C

Exp:

- **World Day of Social Justice:**
 - ◆ Every year, **February 20 marks the World Day of Social Justice across the globe.**
 - ◆ The **theme for this year focuses on the recommendations available** on the common agenda prepared to strengthen global solidarity and to rebuild trust in government by **"Overcoming Barriers and Unleashing Opportunities for Social Justice"**.
- The General Assembly determined that in 2007, February 20 will be observed annually as World Day of Social Justice. In 2008, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) endorsed the **ILO Declaration on Social Justice for Equitable Globalization.**
 - ◆ This is the ILO's **third major declaration of principles and policy** since the ILO's Constitution of 1919.
- This day **promotes awareness of social injustice and breaking down barriers** based on gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, or handicap.
- Hence, **option C is correct.**

42. Ans: B

Exp:

- 'Mission Shakti' was launched during the 15th Finance Commission period 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- Mission Shakti is an integrated **women empowerment programme** is launched as an umbrella scheme for the safety, security and empowerment of women for implementation. Hence **option B is correct.**

43. Ans: D

Exp:

- **About:**
 - ◆ SCS is a classification given by the Centre to assist development of states that face geographical and socio-economic disadvantages.
 - ◆ The Constitution does not make a provision for SCS and this classification was later done on the recommendations of the Fifth Finance Commission in 1969.
 - ◆ Status was first accorded to Jammu and Kashmir, Assam and Nagaland in 1969.

- **Parameters (Based on Gadgil Formula):**

- ◆ Hilly Terrain;
- ◆ Low Population Density and/or Sizeable Share of Tribal Population;
- ◆ Strategic Location along Borders with Neighbouring Countries;
- ◆ Economic and Infrastructure Backwardness; and
- ◆ Nonviable Nature of State finances.

44. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways laid the Foundation Stone of the world's largest and unique Divyang Park - Anubhuti Inclusive Park in Nagpur, Maharashtra. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- This is the world's first inclusive disabled park that is made by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. Various projects have been conceptualized for the disabled as well as for the general public and senior citizens. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The park will have adapted facilities for all 21 types of disabilities, it will have facilities like a touch and smell garden, hydrotherapy unit, water therapy, and independent room for mentally challenged children, and mothers.

45. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Provisions:**
 - ◆ It regulates the conduct of elections.
 - ◆ It specifies the qualifications and disqualifications for membership of the houses,
 - ◆ It provides provisions to curb corrupt practices and other offences.
 - ◆ It lays down the procedure for settling doubts and disputes arising out of elections.
- **Significance:**
 - ◆ The act is significant for the smooth functioning of the Indian democracy as it bars the entry of persons with criminal background into representative bodies, thus **decriminalizing Indian politics.**
 - ◆ The act requires every candidate to declare his assets and liabilities, and maintain an account of election expenses. This provision ensures the **accountability and transparency** of the candidate in the use of public funds or misuse of power for personal benefits.
- **Hence, option D is correct.**

46. Ans: D

Exp:

- **About GST Council:**
 - ◆ It is a **joint forum** of the Centre and the states.
 - ◆ It was set up by the **President as per Article 279A (1)** of the amended Constitution.
- **Members:**
 - ◆ The members of the Council include the **Union Finance Minister (chairperson)**, the Union Minister of State (Finance) from the Centre. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Each **state can nominate a minister in-charge of finance** or taxation or any other minister as a member.
- **Functions:**
 - ◆ According to **Article 279** of the Constitution, the council can make recommendations to the **Union and the states on important issues related to GST**, like the goods and services that may be subjected or exempted from GST, model GST Laws".
- **Article 279** as well as **Article 279A** of the Indian Constitution **deal with the financial provisions** of the country.
- They are **specifically related to the calculation of "net proceeds" from Union duties and taxes** on goods and the formation of the Goods and Services Tax Council, respectively.
 - ◆ It also **decides on various rate slabs** of GST. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- For instance, an interim report by a panel of ministers has suggested imposing 28 % GST on casinos, online gaming and horse racing.

47. Ans: A

Exp:

- The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), which was established in 1986 through an Act of Parliament, works under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It is mandated with export promotion of agricultural commodities. Additionally, APEDA has been entrusted with the responsibility to monitor the import of sugar. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

48. Ans: B

Exp:

- MGNREGA, which was launched in 2005, is one of the **largest work guarantee programmes** in the world.



- The primary objective of the scheme is to guarantee 100 days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work.
- **Legal Right to Work:**
 - ◆ Unlike earlier employment guarantee schemes, the act aims at **addressing the causes of chronic poverty** through a rights-based framework.
 - ◆ At least one-third of beneficiaries have to be women.
 - ◆ Wages must be paid according to the statutory minimum wages specified for agricultural labourers in the state under the **Minimum Wages Act, 1948. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The most important part of MGNREGA's design is its legally-backed guarantee for any rural adult to get work within **15 days of demanding it, failing which an 'unemployment allowance' must be given.** This demand-driven scheme enables the self-selection of workers. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

49. Ans: A

Exp:

- Bail is the **conditional/provisional release** of a person held under legal custody (**in matters which are yet to be pronounced by the Court**), by undertaking a promise to appear in the Court as and when required. It signifies a security/collateral deposited before the Court for release.
- **Types of Bail in India:**
 - ◆ **Regular Bail:** It is a direction given by the Court (any Court within the country) to **release a person who is already under arrest and kept in police custody. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - For such Bail, a person can file an application under **Section 437 and 439 of the CrPC.**
 - ◆ **Interim Bail:** Bail granted for a **temporary and short period** by the Court till the application seeking **Anticipatory Bail or Regular Bail is pending** before a Court. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ **Anticipatory Bail:** A direction issued to **release a person on Bail even before the person is arrested.** In this situation, there is apprehension of arrest, and the person is not arrested before the Bail is granted.
 - For such Bail, a person can file an application under Sec. 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC).

- It is issued only by the Sessions Court and High Court.

50. Ans: B

Exp:

- Seditious is a **crime under Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).**
 - ◆ **Section 124A IPC defines sedition as** an offence committed when "any person by words, either spoken or written, or by signs, or by visible representation, or otherwise, brings or attempts to bring into hatred or contempt, or excites or attempts to excite disaffection towards the government established by law in India". **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It is a **non-bailable offence.** Punishment under Section 124A ranges from **imprisonment up to three years to a life term, to which a fine may be added.**
 - ◆ **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

51. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Lunar eclipse** takes place when the **Moon moves into the Earth's shadow.** The Earth has to be **directly between the Sun and the Moon.**
 - ◆ First, the **Moon moves into the penumbra** – the part of the Earth's shadow where not all of the light from the Sun is blocked out. Part of the Moon's disc will look dimmer than a regular full Moon.
 - ◆ And then the **Moon moves into the Earth's umbra**, where direct light from the Sun is totally blocked out by the Earth. This means the only light reflecting off the Moon's disc has already been refracted, or bent, by the Earth's atmosphere.
 - ◆ **A lunar eclipse can only take place during a full Moon.**
- **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- A Total Lunar Eclipse happens when the **earth is positioned between the sun and the moon** and casts a **shadow on the latter.**
 - ◆ During this, the **whole of the lunar disc enters the Earth's umbra**, so the Moon appears **reddish (Blood Moon).**
 - ◆ The moon takes on a reddish hue **due to a phenomenon called Rayleigh scattering.**
 - ◆ Rayleigh scattering is the scattering of light by particles in a medium without a change in



wavelength. This is also the reason why the sky appears blue.

- Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

52. Ans- A

Exp:

- Shivalik are known as **Dafla, Miri, Abor, and Mishmi Hills** in Arunachal Pradesh.
 - ◆ The Shivalik's are a mountain range of the **outer Himalayas** that stretches over about **2,400 km** from the **Indus River eastwards close to the Brahmaputra River**, spanning the northern parts of the Indian subcontinent.
- The correct west to East Sequence is: **Dafla, Miri, Abor, Mishmi**.
- Therefore, option A is correct.

53. Ans: A

Exp:

- The **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO)** imposed restrictions on disclosing the identity of the victim of sexual offence. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- **Right to free and compulsory elementary education** for all children in the **6-14 year age group** are mentioned in the **Article 21** of the **Indian constitution**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- As per **Section 155(2) CrPC**, a police officer cannot investigate a **non-cognizable offense** without the order of a **Magistrate**.

54. Ans: D

Exp:

- Earthquake waves are basically of two types — **body waves and surface waves**.
- **Body waves** are generated due to the release of energy at the focus and move in all directions travelling through the body of the earth. Hence, the name body waves.
 - ◆ There are **two types of body waves**. They are called **P and S-waves**.
 - ◆ **P-waves** move faster and are the first to arrive at the surface. These are also called 'primary waves'. The P-waves are similar to sound waves. They travel through gaseous, liquid and solid materials. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
 - ◆ **S-waves** arrive at the surface with some time lag. These are called secondary waves. An important fact about S-waves is that they can travel only

through solid materials. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

55. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **United Nations Human Right Council** was created by the **United Nations General Assembly in 2006**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- It replaced the former **United Nations Commission on Human Rights**.
- **Universal Periodic Review (UPR)** serves to assess the human rights situations in all **United Nations Member States**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- The **Advisory Committee** serves as the **Council's "think tank"** providing it with expertise and advice on thematic human rights issues.

56. Ans: B

Exp:

- In India, a license to own a gun must be obtained by someone who is at least **21 years old**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The punishment of imprisonment is increased between **7 and 14 years**, along with a fine for the **offense of acquisition, possession or carrying of prohibited ammunition** without a license.
- Unlawful manufacture, sale and transfer are liable for an imprisonment term not less than seven years which could be extended to life, with a fine.
- The **Ministry of Home Affairs** is responsible for managing gun licensing at top most level. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

57. Ans: B

Exp:

- **QUAD** aims to ensure and support a "**free, open and prosperous**" **Indo-Pacific region**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The idea of **Quad** was first mooted by **Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007**. However, the idea couldn't move ahead with **Australia pulling out of it**, apparently due to **Chinese pressure**.
- It is the grouping of four **democracies such as India, Australia, the US, and Japan**.
- **India, Australia, the US and Japan**, came together and formed this "**quadrilateral**" **coalition in 2017**.
- A meeting was conducted between the **UNGA and the Quad (India, the U.S., Australia, and Japan)** to sign a cooperation for **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

58. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Capital Punishment or death penalty is a **legal punishment** in India.
- It is permissible for some crimes under the country's main substantive penal legislation, **the Indian Penal Code, 1860. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Jagmohan Singh V/s State of UP 1973:**
 - ◆ The Supreme Court held that according to **Article 21** deprivation of life is constitutionally permissible if that is done according to the procedure established by law. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

59. Ans: D

Exp:

- Both the statements given are the provisions mentioned in the Representation of Peoples Act, 1950.
- Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1950:
 - ◆ Lays down procedures for delimitation of constituencies. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Lays procedure for the preparation of electoral rolls and the manner of filling seats.
 - ◆ Provides for the allocation of seats in the House of the People and in the Legislative Assemblies and Legislative Councils of States. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Lays down the qualification of voters.
- **The Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1951**
 - ◆ It regulates the actual conduct of elections and by-elections.
 - ◆ It provides administrative machinery for conducting elections.
 - ◆ It deals with the registration of political parties.
 - ◆ It specifies the qualifications and disqualifications for membership of the Houses.
 - ◆ It provides provisions to curb corrupt practices and other offenses.
 - ◆ It lays down the procedure for settling doubts and disputes arising out of elections.

60. Ans: A

Exp:

- The Supreme Court recently underlined that prohibition on **abortion of unmarried women** is the violation of **women's right to bodily autonomy and dignity**". **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Court held that the rights of **reproductive autonomy, dignity and privacy** under **Article 21** of the Constitution

gives an unmarried woman the right of choice as to whether or not to bear a child on a similar footing as that of a married woman.

- The **Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, 1971** and its **Rules of 2003** prohibit **unmarried women** who are between **20 weeks to 24 weeks pregnant** to abort even with the help of registered medical practitioners. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

61. Ans: C

Exp:

- **NCRB, headquartered in New Delhi**, was set-up in 1986 under the **Ministry of Home Affairs** to function as a repository of information on crime and criminals so as to assist the investigators in linking crime to the perpetrators.
- It was set up based on the recommendations of the **National Police Commission (1977-1981)** and the **MHA's Task Force (1985).**
- **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Bureau has been entrusted to maintain **National Database of Sexual Offenders (NDSO)** and share it with the States/UTs on regular basis.
- NCRB has also been designated as the **Central Nodal Agency** to manage technical and operational functions of the **'Online Cyber-Crime Reporting Portal'** through which any citizen can lodge a complaint or upload a video clip as an evidence of crime related to child pornography, rape/gang rape.
- **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

62. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, the Centre has recently approved the **'National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building – Mission Karmayogi'** to effect a transformational shift from rule-based training to role-based capacity development of all civil services in the country.
 - ◆ It is aimed at building a future-ready civil service with the right attitude, skills and knowledge, aligned to the vision of New India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It aims to prepare Indian civil servants for the future by making them more creative, constructive, imaginative, proactive, innovative, progressive, professional, energetic, transparent, and technology-enabled. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The capacity building will be delivered through an **iGOT Karmayogi digital platform**, with content drawn



from global best practices. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

63. Ans: B

Exp:

- Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) is a scheme for **making model residential schools for STs across India. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is being **implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The aim of the scheme to **build schools at par with the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas and Kendriya Vidyalayas with focus on special state-of-the-art facilities** for preserving local art and culture besides providing training in sports and skill development.
- The EMR School **follows the CBSE curriculum.**

64. Ans: B

Exp:

- It is about taking action to tackle the global sanitation crisis and achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6: sanitation and water for all by 2030.
- **Theme for 2022: “ Making the invisible visible “**, The theme of this year explores how inadequate sanitation systems spread human waste into rivers, lakes and soil, polluting underground water resources. **Hence, option B is correct.**

65. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Center (I4C):** I4C was approved in 2018 to deal with the increasing cases of cybercrimes in a coordinated and effective manner.

The Components of the I4C Scheme are:

- ◆ National Cyber Crime Threat Analytics Unit
- ◆ National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal
- ◆ National Cyber Crime Training Center
- ◆ Cyber Crime Ecosystem Management Unit
- ◆ National Cyber Crime Forensic Laboratory Ecosystem
- ◆ Platform for Joint Cyber Crime Investigation Team.
- ◆ National Cyber Crime Research and Innovation Center

- Hence, option C is correct.

66. Ans: C

Exp:

MAARG Portal Objectives:

- To provide sector focused **guidance, handholding, and support to start-ups** throughout their **lifecycle.** It

intended to establish a formalized and structured platform that facilitates intelligent matchmaking between the mentors and their respective mentees to facilitate efficient and **expert mentorship for start-ups** and build an outcome-oriented mechanism that allows timely tracking of the **mentor-mentee** engagements. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- MAARG portal is – Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience and Growth.
- MAARG Portal is being operationalized by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

67. Ans: C

Exp:

- The campaign titled **“Nai Chetna-Pahal Badlav Ki”** with the theme of **‘Elimination of Gender-Based Violence’** will be conducted as a **‘Jan Andolan’ (people’s movement)** in all the States/UTs of the country. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- This campaign will be implemented by all states in collaboration with Civil Society Organisations (CSO) partners.
- This campaign will be implemented by all states in collaboration with CSO partners, and actively executed by all levels including the states, districts and blocks, engaging the community institutions along with the extended community.
- **“Naari Chetna Kendras”** established under this program will work with **One Stop Centres (OSCs)** of the **Ministry of Women and child development.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

68. Ans: C

Exp:

- **The Right to Information Act 2005** mandates **timely response to citizen requests** for government information.
- The basic object of the Right to Information Act is to **empower the citizens, promote transparency and accountability in the working of the Government, contain corruption, and make our democracy work for the people in a real sense.**
- **The right to information** gained power when **Universal Declaration of Human Rights** was adopted in 1948 providing **everyone the right to seek, receive, information and ideas** through any media and regardless of frontiers.



- **Genesis of RTI law started in 1986**, through judgement of **Supreme Court in Mr. Kulwal v/s Jaipur Municipal Corporation case**, in which it directed that freedom of speech and expression provided under **Article 19** of the Constitution clearly implies Right to Information, as without information the freedom of speech and expression cannot be fully used by the citizens.
- Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- RTI Act **extends to the whole of India.**
- **2019 Amendment to RTI Act** provided that the **Chief Information Commissioner and an Information Commissioner** (of Centre as well as States) shall hold office for such term as prescribed by the Central Government. Before this amendment, their term was fixed for 5 years.
 - ◆ It provided that the **salary, allowances and other service conditions of the Chief Information Commissioner and an Information Commissioner** (of Centre as well as States) shall be such as **prescribed by the Central Government.**
- Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

69. Ans: C

Exp:

- **MGNREGA** is one of the largest work guarantee program in the world launched in **2005** by the **Ministry of Rural development.**
- **Legal Right to Work:** In contrast to prior employment guarantee schemes, the legislation employs a **rights-based approach** to address the root causes of persistent poverty. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- The **MGNREGA** wage rates are fixed according to changes in the **CPI-AL (Consumer Price Index-Agriculture Labor)**, which reflects the increase in the inflation in rural areas. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

70. Ans: C

Exp:

- Internet shutdown orders are governed under the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017, under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.
 - ◆ The 2017 Rules provide for temporary shutdown of telecom services in a region on grounds of public emergency and give **senior bureaucrats from the Home Ministry at the central and state levels the power to order shutdowns.** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- In *Anuradha Bhasin vs Union of India (2020)*, the **Supreme Court ruled that an indefinite suspension of**

internet services would be illegal under Indian law and that orders for internet shutdown must satisfy the tests of necessity and proportionality. Hence **Statement 2 is correct.**

71. Ans: D

Exp:

Indian Road Congress (IRC):

- IRC is the **Apex Body of Highway Engineers in the country.** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- The IRC was set up in 1934 on the **recommendations of the Indian Road Development Committee best known as Jayakar Committee (1927)** set up by the Government with the objective of Road Development in India. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

World's First Bamboo Crash Barrier:

- The **world's first 200-metre-long bamboo crash barrier has been installed on a Vani-Warora Highway** connecting Chandrapur and Yavatmal districts in Maharashtra. Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**
- Named '**Bahu Balli**', the bamboo crash barrier underwent rigorous testing at various government-run institutions and was tested as Class 1 during the Fire Rating Test and it has **also been accredited by the Indian Road Congress (IRC).**

72. Ans: C

Exp:

- Established in 1994, National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), is an autonomous body under the [University Grants Commission \(UGC\)](#) responsible for assessing the quality of **higher educational institutions** in India. Hence, **statement 1 and 2 are correct.**
- Through a multi-layered assessment process, it **awards grades ranging from A++ to C** based on parameters such as **curriculum, faculty, infrastructure, research and financial well-being.**

73. Ans: A

Exp:

- In 2020, Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog and the National Informatics Centre (NIC) launched CollabCAD in Atal Tinkering Labs (or ATL schools) to provide students experience in **creating and modifying 3D designs.** CollabCAD is a collaborative network enabled and desktop CAD (Computer -Aided Design) software system, which provides a total engineering solution from 2D drafting & detailing to 3D printing.
- The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has launched an incubator capabilities enhancement program 'AIM-



iCREST'. **AIM-iCREST** is an Incubator Capabilities Enhancement program for a Robust Ecosystem focused on **creating high performing Startups**.

- The **Suganya Bharat Abhiyan (Accessible India Campaign)** completed 7 years in December 2022. The aim of the Campaign is to make a barrier-free and conducive environment for **Divyangjans (Persons with Disabilities - PwDs)** all over the country.
- Recently, the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has released guidelines on **digital education titled 'PRAGYATA'**. The guidelines include eight steps of online/digital learning i.e. Plan- Review- Arrange-Guide- Yak (talk)- Assign- Track- Appreciate.

74. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** also known as the Global Goals, were **adopted by the United Nations in 2015** as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.
 - ◆ The 17 SDGs are integrated—they recognize that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must balance social, economic and environmental sustainability. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- They are **meant to be achieved by 2030**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- They are built upon the **success of the Millennium Development Goals**, including new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among other priorities.
 - ◆ The goals are interconnected – often the key to success on one will involve tackling issues more

commonly associated with another. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

75. Ans: C

Exp:

Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY):

- It is a **maternity benefit programme** being implemented in all districts of the country with effect from 1st January 2017.
- It is a **centrally sponsored scheme** being executed by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Under this scheme, the cash benefits are provided to pregnant women in their bank accounts directly to meet **enhanced nutritional needs** and partially **compensate for wage loss**.
- The beneficiaries under this scheme include all Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers (PW&LM), **excluding those who are in regular employment with the Central Government or the State Governments** or PSUs or those who are in receipt of similar benefits under any law for the time being in force. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- All eligible Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers who have their pregnancy on or after 1st January 2017 **for the first child** in the family.
- Implementation of the scheme is **closely monitored by the central and state governments** through the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana - Common Application Software (PMMVY-CAS). **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**