



Drishti IAS Presents...



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Multiple
Choice
Questions
and
Answers

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QUESTIONS

1. Consider the following statements about the Second INDUS-X Summit:

1. The summit emphasised the critical role India and the US play as key partners in ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacific region.
2. It highlighted the introduction of Joint IMPACT Challenges, which aims to advance defence and aerospace co-development and co-production.
3. It also provides a platform for startups and MSMEs in the defence sector to engage with established players, facilitating knowledge exchange and partnerships.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

2. Consider the following statements about Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX (ADITI) scheme:

1. Under the scheme, start-ups are eligible to receive grant-in-aid of up to Rs 25 crore for their research, development, and innovation endeavours in defence technology.
2. In the first edition of ADITI, 17 challenges regarding the Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force and Defence Space Agency have been launched.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. Only 1
- B. Only 2
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

3. Consider the following statements regarding Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missile:

1. VSHORADS, a Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD), is an indigenous creation developed by the Research Centre Imarat (RCI) in collaboration with DRDO laboratories.
2. The missile is designed to neutralize low-altitude aerial threats at short ranges while ensuring easy portability due to highly optimized design.

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

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

4. Consider the following statements about Fifth-generation Fighter Jets:

1. These jets have stealth capabilities and can cruise at supersonic speeds without engaging afterburners.
2. It stands out from fourth-generation (4G) peers due to its multi-spectral low-observable design, self-protection, radar jamming capabilities, and integrated avionics.
3. 5G jets are possessed by Russia (Sukhoi Su-57), China (Chengdu J-20), and the US (F-35).

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

5. Which of the following exercises involve both India and the US?

1. Yudh Abhyas
2. Vajra Prahar
3. Nomadic Elephant
4. Tiger Triumph

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. All of the above

6. Consider the following statements:

1. International Corporate Governance Society (ICGS) Samudra Paheredar is equipped with specialised marine pollution control equipment and also a Chetak Helicopter in Pollution Response configuration.
2. Samudra Paheredar is stationed on the East Coast of India in Visakhapatnam and has successfully conducted Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) Surveillance in the region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

7. Consider the following statements about the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI):

1. It is an independent international institute dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control, and disarmament.
2. According to SIPRI's latest data, India emerged as the leading arms importer globally during the period from 2019 to 2023.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The 1500 HP engine possesses cutting-edge features such as a high power-to-weight ratio, and operability in extreme conditions, including high altitudes.

Statement-II: India has many Main Battle Tanks (MBTs), including the T-90M Bhishma, ARJUN MBT, and K-9 Vajra.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- A. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- B. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- C. Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.
- D. Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

9. Consider the following statements about Defence Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic (DIANA):

1. DIANA is a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) established organization to accelerate dual-use innovation capacity across the Alliance.
2. It recently approved a proposal to establish an accelerator and two test centres in Finland to foster technology, innovation, and business development for both civil and defence purposes.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. Only 1
- B. Only 2
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

10. Regarding Exercise Bharat Shakti, consider the following statements :

1. It is a joint military exercise between India and Sri Lanka.
2. It included successful test firing of the long-range AGNI missile with advanced MIRV technology.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. Only 1
- B. Only 2
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

11. Consider the following:

Statement-I: INS Jatayu will enhance the Indian Navy's operational reach in the Indian Ocean for anti-piracy, anti-narcotics, and surveillance missions.

Statement-II: INS Jatayu is strategically located in Minicoy and will operate under the Southern Naval Command's Naval Officer in Charge (Lakshadweep).

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- A. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- B. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- C. Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- D. Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

12. Consider the following statements:

1. INS Vikrant is India's first indigenously-built aircraft carrier.
2. Exercise MILAN 2024 is an annual bilateral exercise between India and Bangladesh.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 Only
- B. 2 Only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

13. With reference to the ICGS Varaha, consider the following statements:

1. The ICGS Varaha is the fourth in the series of seven 98-m Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPV) of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG).



- The ship has been designed and built indigenously and operated from the East Coast.
- ICGS Varaha is capable of operating the indigenously developed advanced light helicopter.

How many of the above statements are **not** correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

14. Consider the following statements with respect to 'Military Exercise 'Sada Tanseeq':

- It is a joint military exercise between India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- Its primary objective is to train troops for Joint Operations in Semi-Desert terrain as outlined in the United Nations Charter.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

15. Consider the following:

- JIMEX
- Malabar exercise
- Dharma Guardian

How many of the above are joint exercises between India and Japan?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

16. With reference to the Exercise Vayu Shakti- 2024, consider the following statements:

- This exercise is set to deliver a compelling display of the Indian Air Force's offensive and defensive capability, seamlessly operating both day and night.
- It involves the participation of aircraft and air forces from the United States, Germany, France, Australia, as well as neighboring and other allied nations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

17. Which of the following is a "Rocket Launcher"?

- Tejas
- Akash
- Prithvi
- Pinaka

18. With respect to Indigenous Assault Rifle 'Ugram', consider the following statements:

- The Ugram is intended to replace the aging INSAS rifle currently used by the Indian Armed Forces.
- It has been developed as per the General Staff Qualitative Requirements (GSQR) of the army.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

19. Which three countries participate in the Joint Force Exercise "Desert Knight"?

- India, France, and UAE
- India, Russia, and China
- India, United States, and Saudi Arabia
- India, Japan, and South Korea

20. Consider the following statements:

- The Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) refers to seven security forces in India under the authority of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- The Assam Rifles work under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs but its operational control rests with the Ministry of Defence.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 Only
- 2 Only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

21. Consider the following statements with respect to Indian Coast Guard (ICG) force:

- The ICG was formally inaugurated in 1978 as an independent armed force of the Union Government with the enactment of the Coast Guard Act, 1978.
- The force maintains order in international shipping lanes and is ranked as the second largest Coast Guard force in the world.

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

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

22. Consider the following statements with respect to Critical Information Infrastructure (CII):

1. The government, under the Information Technology (IT) Act of 2000, has the power to declare any data, database, IT network or communications infrastructure as CII.
2. Any person who secures access or attempts to secure access to a protected system in violation of the law can be punished with a jail term of up to 10 years.

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

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

23. Regarding the United National Liberation Front (UNLF), consider the following statements:

1. The UNLF is one of the seven “Meitei Extremist Organisations” banned by the Union government under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, 1967.
2. The UNLF has been operating both within and outside Indian Territory.
3. Recently, the Government of India and Government of Manipur signed a Peace Agreement with UNLF.

How many of the statements given above are **NOT** correct?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

24. Consider the following statements:

1. MiG 21 is a subsonic jet fighter originally designed by the Soviet Union.
2. Rafael is a French twin-engine and multi-role fighter aircraft.
3. India is expected to launch its indigenous fighter Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) by 2024.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

25. Regarding Border Security Force (BSF), consider the following statements:

1. It is one of the five Central Armed Police Forces of the Union of India.
2. BSF has an instrumental role in helping state administration maintain Law and Order and conduct peaceful elections.
3. It has been termed as the Second Line of Defence of Indian Territories.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

26. Consider the following statements:

1. It is the first variant of Agni series missiles but is not developed under Integrated Guided Missile Development Program (IGMDP).
2. It is primarily intended for use as a deterrent against potential adversaries.
3. It has the capability to carry conventional but not nuclear warheads.

Which of the statements given above are correct regarding Agni-1 Missile?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None of the above

27. Consider the following statements:

1. Operation Prosperity Guardian is a multinational security initiative to ensure security in the Indian Ocean initiated by the United States.
2. SAGAR is an annual bilateral exercise between the Indian and Sri Lankan navies in the Indian Ocean.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 Only
- B. 2 Only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2



28. Regarding Project 15 B, consider the following statements:

1. It is India's indigenous Destroyer construction programme.
2. Project 15B aimed to build Visakhapatnam class destroyers.
3. These ships are designed by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

29. Regarding the Operation Storm Makers II, consider the following statements:

1. It is a joint operation between the Indian and Myanmar Army against the militants.
2. This operation is part of the BIMSTEC Anti-Terrorism Framework.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 Only
- B. 2 Only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

30. Which of the following countries does India perform Exercise MITRA SHAKTI with?

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. Bangladesh
- C. Nepal
- D. Maldives

31. With reference to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), consider the following statements:

1. The NIA is a federal agency of the Indian government responsible for investigating and prosecuting crimes related to Terrorism, Insurgency, and other national security matters.
2. It was established in 2009 following the Mumbai terrorist attacks in 2008, under the National Investigation Agency (NIA) Act, 2008, and operates under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
3. The NIA has the power to take over investigations of terrorism-related cases from state police forces and other agencies.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

32. With reference to the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus), consider the following statements:

1. The ADMM-Plus is a platform for ASEAN and its ten Dialogue Partners.
2. The Inaugural ADMM-Plus was convened in Jakarta, Indonesia, in 2007.
3. The ADMM is the highest defense consultative and cooperative mechanism in ASEAN.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

33. Consider the following statements regarding Integrated Theatre Command (ITC):

1. An ITC envisages a unified command of the three Services, under a single commander, for geographical areas that are of strategic and security concern.
2. The integrated theatre commander will be answerable to chief of all three individual Services.
3. The Shekatkar committee had recommended the creation of 4 integrated theatre commands — northern, western, eastern, and southern.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

34. With reference to the Smuggling and Counterfeiting Activities, consider the following statements:

1. The Golden Crescent region of the world consists of countries - Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq.
2. The Golden Triangle part of the world includes the countries; Myanmar, Laos, Thailand.
3. FICCI CASCADE is an initiative by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. Only one statement
- B. Only two statements
- C. All three statements
- D. None of the Above

35. Which among the following Committees established in India can be associated with Police Reforms:

1. Padmanabhaiah Committee (2000)
2. Malimath Committee (2000)
3. Justice JS Verma Committee (2012)

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

36. Regarding the Integrated Theatre Commands (ITCs), consider the following statements:

1. An integrated theatre command envisages a unified command of the three Services, under a single commander, for geographical theatres (areas) that are of strategic and security concern.
2. The integrated theatre commander will not be answerable to individual services.
3. The Shekatkar committee, 2015 has recommended the creation of 3 integrated theatre commands.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

37. Regarding the UN Peacekeeping, consider the following statements:

1. The primary objective of UN Peacekeeping is to facilitate peace and security, protect civilians, and support the restoration of stable governance structures.
2. The UN Security Council (UNSC) has authorized a Kenya-led Multinational Security Mission (MSS) to bring stability and manage rising violence in Haiti.
3. Unlike the 2017 UN peacekeeping mission in Haiti this new MSS will not be operated by the United Nations.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

38. Regarding the Chemical Weapons, consider the following statements:

1. Munitions, devices and other equipment specifically designed to weaponize toxic chemicals also fall under the definition of chemical weapons.
2. The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) is a multilateral treaty banning chemical weapons and requiring their destruction within the stipulated time.
3. India is yet to sign the Chemical Weapon Convention.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

39. Consider the following statements about the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)?

1. It was initially established under the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Act, 1949 and serves as India's primary border patrol organization for its border with Tibet (China).
2. It is a specialized paramilitary force of India, established in 1962 in the aftermath of the Sino-Indian War.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

40. Consider the following nations:

1. Turkmenistan
2. Uzbekistan
3. India
4. Kazakhstan

How many of the above nations are participants of Exercise KAZIND-2023?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. Only three
- D. All four



- 41.** Regarding the CERT-In, consider the following statements:
1. It is the national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents as and when they occur.
 2. It is the functional organisation of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2
- 42.** Recently, the exercise Varuna took place in the Arabian Sea. It was between the forces of:
- A. India and China
B. India and France
C. India and Japan
D. India and Russia
- 43.** Regarding the 'Operation Polo', consider the following statements:
1. It was a military operation launched by the Indian Armed Forces to annex the princely state of Hyderabad into the Indian Union.
 2. After Independence, Mir Osman Ali Shah, the Nizam of Hyderabad, expressed his desire to join Pakistan.
 3. The military operation, overseen by V.P. Menon, involved strategic attacks from various directions that resulted in the surrender of Hyderabad state forces.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- A. Only one
B. Only two
C. All three
D. None
- 44.** Which of the following are characteristics of Akira Ransomware?
- A. It appends the .akira extension to the encrypted files.
B. It deletes the Windows Shadow Volume copies on the affected devices.
C. It uses VPN services to trick users into downloading malicious files.
D. All of the above
- 45.** With reference to the Indian Navy, consider the following statements:
1. The Indian Navy was established in 1612 by the East India Company.
 2. It is headed by the President of India as its Supreme Commander.
 3. It operates three classes of submarines namely Chakra, Sindhughosh and Shishumar.
- How many of the statements above are correct?
- A. Only one
B. Only two
C. All three
D. None
- 46.** With which of the following countries does India conduct exercise 'Zayed Talwar'?
- A. UAE
B. Saudi Arabia
C. Oman
D. None of the above
- 47.** Consider the following statements:
1. INS Vikramaditya is the Indian Navy's largest aircraft carrier and warship converted from the Russian Navy's decommissioned Admiral Gorshkov/Baku.
 2. France's S-400 deal refers to the procurement of the S-400 Triumf, a highly advanced mobile Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM) system.
- Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?
- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2
- 48.** Consider the following statements:
1. Indian army derives its Uniform pattern from British army.
 2. Post independence, India discarded all regimental uniform items beyond the rank of Lt Colonel.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2

49. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The first three gallantry awards namely Param Vir Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra, and Vir Chakra were instituted by the government of India on 26th January 1952.
2. Kirti Chakra is the second-highest peacetime gallantry award.
3. The gallantry awards are announced twice in a year.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

50. The exercise, Samudra Shakti-23 is conducted between which of the following countries?

- A. India and Indonesia
- B. India and Malaysia
- C. India and Thailand
- D. India and Vietnam

51. With reference to the various Defense Arsenal in India, consider the following statements:

1. Tejas aircraft is a multi-role supersonic aircraft designed and developed indigenously in India.
2. ASTRA is an all-weather beyond-visual-range air-to-air missile.
3. LCH Prachand is the first indigenous Multi-Role Combat Helicopter.

Which of statements given above is/are correct?

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

52. Consider the following statements regarding 'Mission DefSpace':

1. Its primary objective is to foster the growth of the Indian Private Space industry by undertaking challenges in all facets of a space mission – from strategic mission planning to cutting-edge satellite data analytics.
2. The nodal authority responsible for Mission DefSpace is Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

53. Consider the following statements:

1. Pokhran-II refers to a sequence of five nuclear bomb test explosions also known as Operation Shakti.
2. Pokhran-II event marked India's 2nd successful attempt, following the first test code-named Smiling Buddha, which took place in May 1974.
3. Pokhran-II had detonation of one fusion and two fission bombs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

54. Consider the following statements:

1. India is not a signatory; it declined to accede to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) 1968.
2. India has signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).
3. India is not a member of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

55. With reference to the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), consider the following statements:

1. The LCA programme was started when the government established the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA).
2. It is designed to carry a range of air-to-air, air-to-surface, precision-guided, weapons.
3. Tejas is the first indigenous LCA.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

56. Consider the following statements:

1. Ballistic Missile is a rocket-propelled self-guided strategic-weapons system that follows a parabolic trajectory.
2. India's Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) System in India development began after the Kargil war (1999).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

57. Which of the following military forces participated in the 'Ex KAVACH', a joint military exercise recently concluded by the Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC)?

- A. Army and Navy only
- B. Army, Navy, and Air Force only
- C. Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard
- D. Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Border Security Force

58. Q: Which of the following statements about radioactivity is/are correct?

1. Radioactivity is the process of releasing particles or waves from the stable nuclei of some elements.
2. The three types of radioactive emissions are alpha particles, beta particles, and gamma rays.

Select the correct answer using the following code:

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

59. Consider the following pairs of India's naval military exercises with different countries:

Match1	Match2
1. SLINEX	Sri Lanka
2. INDRA	France
3. VARUNA	Russia

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

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

60. Reusable Launch Vehicle-Technology is a project under which of the following?

- A. Indian Space Research Organisation.
- B. Defence Research and Development Organisation.
- C. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
- D. None of the Above

61. With reference to the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), consider the following statements:

1. It is one of the seven Central Armed Police Forces in India.
2. It consists of an air wing, a marine wing, an artillery regiment, and commando units.

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

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

62. Consider the following pairs of joint military exercises with other countries:

Military Exercise	: Country
1. Maritime Partnership Exercise	: France
2. Vajra Prahar	: UK
3. Garuda Shakti	: Indonesia

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

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

63. Bilateral exercise named Bold Kurukshetra is performed between India and which of the following countries?

- A. Singapore
- B. Indonesia
- C. Maldives
- D. Thailand

64. Which of the following statements is true about the difference between Directed-Energy Weapons (DEWs) and hypersonic weapons?

1. DEWs use physical projectiles to damage or destroy their targets, while hypersonic weapons use focused energy.

2. DEWs can hit their targets at the speed of light, while hypersonic weapons can hit their targets at speeds of Mach 5 to Mach 10.
3. DEWs are affected by gravity and atmospheric drag, while hypersonic weapons are not.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

65. Exercise Agni Warrior is Military exercise conducted between which of the following group of countries?
- A. Singapore Army and Indian Army
 - B. British Army and Indian Army

- C. Indonesian Army and Indian Army
- D. Bangladesh Army and Indian Army

66. Regarding India's defense imports, consider the following statements:

1. Despite being the largest arms supplier, Russia's exports to India fell gradually during 2018-2022.
2. While France emerged as the second-largest arms supplier to India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANSWERS

1.

Ans: C

Exp:

Second INDUS-X Summit:

- The United States Department of Defense (DoD) and the Indian Ministry of Defense (MoD) participated in the **second India-US Defense Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X) Summit** in New Delhi.
- It was jointly organised by **Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX)**, MoD, and the DoD, and coordinated by the US-India Business Council (USIBC) and Society of India Defense Manufacturers (SIDM).
- **Key Highlights:**
 - ◆ The summit emphasised the critical role India and the US play as key partners in ensuring a **free and open Indo-Pacific region**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ Discussions centred on co-producing advanced military capabilities, strengthening defence supply chains, and enhancing interoperability to address shared security challenges.
 - ◆ Emphasis was placed on fostering innovation in defence technologies through collaborative efforts between Indian and American industries.
 - The summit provided a platform for startups and **Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)** in the defence sector to engage with established players, facilitating knowledge exchange and partnerships. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

2.

Ans: C

Exp:

Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX (ADITI) Scheme:

● **About:**

- ◆ The ADITI scheme worth Rs 750 crore for the period 2023-24 to 2025-26 falls under the **iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence) framework** of Department of Defence Production (DDP), Ministry of Defence.
- ◆ Under the scheme, **start-ups are eligible to receive grant-in-aid** of up to Rs 25 crore for their research, development, and innovation endeavours in defence technology. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- ◆ The scheme will nurture the innovation of youth, and help the country leap forward in the field of technology.
 - In the first edition of ADITI, 17 challenges – Indian Army (3), Indian Navy (5), Indian Air Force (5) and Defence Space Agency (4) – have been launched. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.



● **Objective:**

- ◆ It aims to develop about **30 deep-tech critical and strategic technologies** in the proposed timeframe.
- ◆ It also envisages to create a '**Technology Watch Tool**' to bridge the gap between the expectations and requirements of the modern Armed Forces and the capabilities of the defence innovation ecosystem.

3.

Ans: D

Exp:

The **Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)** conducted two successful flight tests of the **Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS)** missile.

- These tests were carried out from a ground-based portable launcher off the **coast of Odisha** at the **Integrated Test Range, Chandipur**, and targeted high-speed unmanned aerial targets in various interception scenarios.
- VSHORADS, a **Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD)**, is an indigenous creation developed by the **Research Centre Imarat (RCI)** in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories and Indian industry partners. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Propelled by a **dual-thrust solid motor**, the missile is designed to **neutralize low-altitude aerial threats** at short ranges while ensuring easy portability due to highly optimized design. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

4.

Ans: C

Exp:

- **Fifth-generation (5G) fighters** are aircraft capable of operating in **heavily contested combat zones**, characterised by the presence of the most advanced air and ground threats, both current and anticipated.
- 5G fighter jets have **stealth capabilities** and can **cruise at supersonic speeds** without engaging afterburners. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It stands out from fourth-generation (4G) peers due to its **multi-spectral low-observable design**, self-protection, radar jamming capabilities, and integrated avionics. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **5G jets** are possessed by **Russia (Sukhoi Su-57), China (Chengdu J-20), and the US (F-35)**. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

5.

Ans: B

Exp:

Recently, the joint India-U.S. tri-service **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise, Tiger Triumph**, commenced on the Eastern seaboard. .

- Other Exercises Between India and US are-
 - ◆ Yudh Abhyas
 - ◆ Vajra Prahar
 - ◆ Cope India
- Nomadic Elephant Exercise is a joint military training exercise between the Indian Army and the Mongolian Armed Forces.
- **Hence, option B is correct.**

6.

Ans: C

Exp:

The **Indian Coast Guard (ICG) ship Samudra Paheredar** embarked on a significant overseas deployment to **ASEAN countries**, reaffirming India's commitment to combating **marine pollution and strengthening bilateral cooperation in the region.**

- The visit of specialised **Pollution Control Vessels like Samudra Paheredar** aims to showcase **India's Marine Pollution Response capabilities** and shared concern towards Marine Pollution in the ASEAN region.
 - ◆ The visit aims to strengthen bilateral relationships with key maritime agencies in the **Philippines, Vietnam, and Brunei.**
- Samudra Paheredar is equipped with specialised **marine pollution control equipment** and a Chetak Helicopter in Pollution Response configuration to contain and recover **spilled oil**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- ICGS Samudra Paheredar, stationed on the **East Coast of India in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**, It has successfully undertaken various Coast Guard operations, including Pollution Response, **International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) /Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) Surveillance**, counter-transnational crimes, and Maritime Search and Rescue (SAR). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

7.

Ans: C

Exp:

According to the latest data on international arms transfers from the **Stockholm International Peace Research**



Institute (SIPRI), India emerged as the leading arms importer globally during the period from 2019 to 2023. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

- **About SIPRI:**
 - ◆ It was established in 1966 in Stockholm (Sweden).
 - ◆ It is an independent international institute dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control, and disarmament. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

8.

Ans: B

Exp:

Recently, the Defence Secretary presided over the maiden test-firing of the country's first indigenously-made 1500 Horsepower (HP) engine for Main Battle Tanks at BEML Limited's (formerly Bharat Earth Movers Limited) Engine division in Mysuru complex.

- The 1500HP engine represents a paradigm shift in military propulsion systems, possessing cutting-edge features such as a high power-to-weight ratio, and operability in extreme conditions, including high altitudes, sub-zero temperatures and desert environments. Hence, Statement-I is correct.
- India has many main battle tanks (MBTs), including the T-90M Bhisma, ARJUN MBT, and K-9 Vajra. Hence, statement-II is correct.

Hence, both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.

9.

Ans: C

Exp:

- DIANA is a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) established organization to accelerate dual-use innovation capacity across the Alliance. It provides companies with resources, networks, and guidance to develop deep technologies for critical defence and security challenges. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Recently, the Defence Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic (DIANA) initiative board approved a proposal to establish an accelerator and two test centres in Finland, with a mission to foster technology, innovation, and business development for both civil and defence purposes. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- All NATO nations are members of DIANA. The DIANA Board of Directors is responsible for governance and comprises representatives from every Allied country.

10.

Ans: A

Exp:

- Exercise Bharat Shakti :
- A Tri-Services Live Fire and Manoeuvre Exercise named "Bharat Shakti" is being conducted in Pokhran, Rajasthan, demonstrating India's indigenous defence capabilities. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- It included successful test firing of the long-range AGNI missile with advanced MIRV technology. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Key equipment and weapons systems featured in the exercise include T-90 (IM) Tanks, Dhanush and Sarang Gun Systems, Akash Weapons Systems, Logistics Drones, Robotic Mules, Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH), Naval Anti-Ship Missiles, Light Combat Aircraft Tejas, Light Utility Helicopters, and Advanced Light Helicopters.

11.

Ans: A

Exp:

INS Jatayu:

- INS Jatayu will enhance the Indian Navy's operational reach in the Indian Ocean for anti-piracy, anti-narcotics, and surveillance missions. Hence, statement-I is correct.
- INS Jatayu is strategically located in Minicoy and will operate under the Southern Naval Command's Naval Officer in Charge (Lakshadweep). Hence, statement-II is correct.
- INS Jatayu will be equipped with additional infrastructure, including an airfield and personnel housing, to support naval operations and ensure comprehensive security coverage.
- Minicoy Island, where INS Jatayu is located, sits at the intersection of crucial Sea Lines of Communications (SLOCs) like the Eight Degree Channel and the Nine Degree Channel, making it susceptible to maritime pollution due to heavy maritime traffic.

Hence, option A is correct because both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement I.

12.

Ans: A

Exp:

- INS Vikrant: India's first indigenously-built aircraft carrier, a major milestone in achieving self-reliance in defense manufacturing. Hence, statement 1 is correct.



- **MILAN 2024** is the 12th edition of the **biennial Multilateral Naval Exercise** held at Visakhapatnam, under the aegis of Eastern Naval Command.

- ◆ The central aim of MILAN is to enhance professional interaction between friendly navies and gain experience in multilateral large-force operations at sea.
- ◆ It made a beginning in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in 1995. The navies of **Indonesia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Thailand** participated in this edition. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

13.

Ans: A

Exp:

- ICGS Varaha:
 - ◆ The **ICGS Varaha** is the **fourth** in the series of **seven 98-m Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPV)** of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The ship has been designed and built indigenously and operated from the port of **New Mangalore** on the West Coast. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ ICGS Varaha is capable of operating the indigenously developed **advanced light helicopter** developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

14.

Ans: C

Exp:

- Joint Military Exercise 'Sada Tanseeg'
 - ◆ It is a joint military exercise between **India and Saudi Arabia**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ Major activities include Mobile Vehicle Check Posts, Cordon & Search Operations, House Intervention Drills, Reflex Shooting, Slithering, and Sniper Firing, offering an opportunity to strengthen bilateral relations and achieve shared security objectives.
 - ◆ Its primary objective is to train troops for **Joint Operations** in **Semi-Desert terrain** as outlined in the United Nations Charter. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

15.

Ans: C

Exp:

The **5th edition** of Joint Military Exercise '**Dharma Guardian**' between the **Indian Army** and the **Japan Ground**

Self Defence Force started on 25th February and will conclude on 9th March 2024 at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan.

- Exercise 'Dharma Guardian' is an **annual exercise** conducted alternatively in India and Japan.
- India and Japan's defence forces also organise a series of bilateral exercises such as:
 - ◆ **JIMEX (naval), Malabar exercise (Naval Exercise), 'Veer Guardian' and SHINYUU Maitri (Air Force), and Dharma Guardian (Army).**
- Hence, option C is correct.

16.

Ans: A

Exp:

- **Exercise Vayu Shakti** is set to deliver a compelling display of the Indian Air Force's offensive and defensive capability, seamlessly operating both day and night. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Additionally, the exercise will highlight **collaborative maneuvers** with the **Indian Army**, showcasing their joint operational capabilities.
- The exercise will showcase IAF's prowess in precision, long-range weapon delivery, and effective operations from various air bases, including special missions with transport, helicopter fleets, Garuds, and Indian Army elements.
 - ◆ This year, 121 aircraft, including **Tejas, Prachand, Dhruv, Rafale, Mirage-2000, Sukhoi-30 MKI, Jaguar, Hawk, C-130J, Chinook, Apache, and Mi-17**, will participate in the exercise, showcasing the capabilities of indigenous Surface to Air Weapon systems **Akash and Samar** in tracking and shooting down intruding aircraft.
- **Tarang Shakti** would be the first ever **multinational exercise** to be held in the country.
 - ◆ This will see aircraft from friendly air forces like the **US, Germany, France, Australia** and neighboring other friendly countries. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

17.

Ans: D

Exp :

- **About Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO):**
 - ◆ DRDO is the **R&D wing of the Ministry of Defence, Government of India**, with a vision to empower India with cutting-edge defense technologies and a mission to achieve self-reliance in critical defense technologies.



○ **Core Principle: “Balasya Mulam Vigyanam”**
(Science is the source of strength)

- ◆ **Significant Contributions:** Developed strategic systems and platforms like **Agni and Prithvi series of missiles, Tejas (Light Combat Aircraft), Pinaka (Multi-barrel Rocket Launcher), Akash (Air Defence System)**, radars, and electronic warfare systems. **Hence, option D is correct.**

18.

Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has launched an indigenous assault rifle named **‘Ugram’**, intended to meet the operational requirements of armed forces, paramilitary, and state police entities.
- The Ugram is intended to replace the aging INSAS rifle currently used by the Indian Armed Forces. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It has been developed as per the General Staff Qualitative Requirements (GSQR) of the army. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ GSQR is one of the initial processes in capital procurement. It outlines why the equipment is required, its physical and operational details, as well as the maintainability and quality requirements.

19.

Ans: A

Exp:

Recently, the Indian Air Force (IAF) joined forces with the French Air and Space Force (FASF) and United Arab Emirates (UAE) Air Force in Exercise Desert Knight, showcasing collaborative air operations and strengthening diplomatic ties.

- Exercise Desert Knight is a **joint military exercise between India, France, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)**.
- The exercise took place over the Arabian Sea, with the IAF operating from bases in India.
- The exercise’s main goal was to improve cooperation and interoperability between the three air forces.
- Hence, option A is correct.

20.

Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF)** refers to seven security forces in India under the authority of the

Ministry of Home Affairs. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- The **Assam Rifles** work under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs but its operational control rests with the Ministry of Defence. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

21.

Ans: B

Exp:

- The interim Indian Coast Guard (ICG) came into being on **1st February 1977**. The ICG in its present shape was **formally inaugurated on 18th August 1978** as an **independent armed force** of the Union with the enactment of the Coast Guard Act 1978, to prevent the **sea-borne smuggling** of goods that hampered the economy. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The ICG maintains order in international shipping lanes and India’s vast seas. The force is ranked as the **fourth largest Coast Guard** in the world. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

22.

Ans: D

Exp:

- The Information Technology (IT) Act of 2000 defines Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) as a computer resource, the incapacitation or destruction of which shall have debilitating impact on national security, economy, public health or safety.
- The government, under the IT Act of 2000, has the power to declare any data, database, IT network or communications infrastructure as CII to protect that digital asset. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Any person who secures access or attempts to secure access to a protected system in violation of the law can be punished with a jail term of up to 10 years. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
 - ◆ Created in January 2014, the National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) is the nodal agency for taking all measures to protect the nation’s critical information infrastructure.

23.

Ans: D

Exp:

United National Liberation Front (UNLF):

- The **UNLF** was formed in 1964, and is distinct from the insurgent groups active in the **state’s Naga-dominated and Kuki-Zomi dominated hills.**



- The **UNLF** is one of the seven “**Meitei Extremist Organisations**” banned by the Union government under the **Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, 1967**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The **UNLF** has been operating both **within** and **outside Indian Territory**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- It is believed that the **UNLF** initially received training from the **NSCN (IM)**, the **largest insurgent group** among the **Naga factions**.
- It operates in all the **valley areas of Manipur** and some **villages in the Kuki-Zomi hill districts**.
- It is a banned group It mostly operates from **camps and training bases in Myanmar’s Sagaing Region, Chin State, and Rakhine State**, with support from the **Myanmar military**.
- Recently, the **Government of India and Government of Manipur** signed a **Peace Agreement** with **United National Liberation Front (UNLF)**, which is the oldest valley-based insurgent group of Manipur. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

24.

Ans: A

Exp:

- MiG-21:
 - ◆ **Supersonic** jet fighter and interceptor aircraft designed by the erstwhile USSR in the 1950s. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- Rafale:
 - ◆ **French twin-engine** and multirole fighter aircraft.
 - ◆ India procured 36 Rafale jets for Rs 59,000 crore in 2016. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA):
 - ◆ An Indian program to develop a 5th generation stealth, multirole combat aircraft for the **IAF** and the **Indian Navy**.
 - ◆ Designed and developed by **DRDO**, in collaboration with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and other public and private partners.
 - ◆ Started in 2008 as a successor to the Sukhoi Su-30MKI
 - The **first flight** is planned for **2025** and production is expected to start after **2030**. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.

25.

Ans: A

Exp:

Border Security Force:

- The BSF was raised in **1965** after the India-Pakistan war.

- It is **one of the five Central Armed Police Forces** of the Union of India under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- BSF has an **instrumental role in helping state administration** in maintaining Law and Order and conducting peaceful elections. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- It has been termed as the First Line of Defence of Indian Territories. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.

26.

Ans: A

Exp:

- Agni-1 is a Short-Range Ballistic Missile (SRBM) developed by India as part of its Agni series of missiles.
 - ◆ It is the first missile in the Agni series and is designed to be a strategic weapon capable of carrying a nuclear payload.
- The Agni-1 is **primarily intended for use as a deterrent against potential adversaries** and is known for its quick response time. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ It is the first variant of the Agni series missiles under **Integrated Guided Missile Development Program (IGMDP)**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The Agni-1 is a single-stage, solid-fueled missile with a range of around 700 to around 1200 kilometers and can carry a payload of 1,000 kg, making it a short-range ballistic missile.
 - ◆ It has the capability to carry **both conventional and nuclear warheads**. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.
 - ◆ The solid-fuel propulsion system enhances its operational flexibility and reduces launch preparation time.

27.

Ans: A

Exp:

- The **United States has initiated Operation Prosperity Guardian**, a multinational security initiative to **ensure security in the Red Sea**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- **Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)** was launched in 2015. It is **India’s strategic vision for the Indian Ocean Region (IOR)**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- Through **SAGAR**, **India seeks to deepen economic and security cooperation** with its maritime neighbours and **assist in building their maritime security capabilities**.

28.

Ans: D

Exp:

About Project 15B :

- India's indigenous Destroyer construction programme commenced in the late 1990s with the three Delhi class (P-15 class) warships and this was followed by three Kolkata class (P-15A) destroyers commissioned a decade later. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ Presently, under the P-15B (Visakhapatnam Class), a total of four warships are planned (Visakhapatnam, Mormugao, Imphal, Surat), following the success and technological advancements achieved in Project 15A.
 - ◆ Project 15B aimed to build the advanced variants of Kolkata class destroyers as Visakhapatnam class destroyers.
 - The class is identified by the name of its lead ship, hence known as the Visakhapatnam class. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ These ships are designed by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau and constructed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDSL) in Mumbai. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

29.

Ans: D

Exp:

Operation Storm Makers II:

- **Operation Storm Makers II** is orchestrated by **Interpol**. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- It has illuminated the **expanding network of fraud schemes associated with human trafficking**.
- It mobilized law enforcement in **27 countries across Asia** and other regions to target human trafficking and migrant smuggling. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

30.

Ans: A

Exp:

- **Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2023**, being held in **Aundh (Pune) in November 2023**, marks the joint effort between **Indian and Sri Lankan contingents** comprising troops mainly from the **Maratha Light Infantry Regiment and the 53 Infantry Division**, respectively.
- This exercise focuses on rehearsing **sub-conventional operations under the UN Charter's Chapter VII**, emphasizing counter-terrorism tactics like **raids, heliborne missions, and search-and-destroy operations**. Exercise will also involve the employment of **Drones** and Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems
- Hence, option A is correct.

31.

Ans: C

Exp:

- The NIA is a federal agency of the Indian government responsible for investigating and prosecuting crimes **related to Terrorism, Insurgency**, and other national security matters. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ Federal agencies in a country typically have jurisdiction over matters that affect the country as a whole, rather than just individual states or provinces.
- It was established in 2009 following the **Mumbai terrorist attacks in 2008, under the National Investigation Agency (NIA) Act, 2008**, and operates under the Ministry of Home Affairs. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The National Investigation Agency (Amendment) Act, 2019 was passed in July 2019, amending the NIA Act, 2008.
- The NIA has the power **to take over investigations of terrorism-related cases from state police forces and other agencies**. It also has the authority to investigate cases across state boundaries without obtaining prior permission from state governments. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**

32.

Ans: A

Exp:

- The ADMM-Plus is a platform for **ASEAN** (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam) **and its eight Dialogue Partners** Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States (collectively referred to as the "Plus Countries"), to strengthen **security and defense cooperation for peace**, stability, and development in the region. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Inaugural ADMM-Plus was convened in **Ha Noi, Vietnam**, in 2010. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The ADMM is **the highest defense consultative and cooperative mechanism** in ASEAN. It aims to enhance regional peace and stability through cooperation in defense and security. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

33.

Ans: A

Exp:

Integrated Theatre Command:

- An integrated theatre command envisages a unified command of the three Services, under a single



commander, for geographical theatres (areas) that are of strategic and security concern. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- The commander of such a force will be able to bear all resources at his disposal — from the Army, the Indian Air Force, and the Navy — with seamless efficacy.
- The integrated theatre commander will not be answerable to individual Services. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Integration and jointness of the three forces will avoid duplication of resources. The resources available under each service will be available to other services too.
- The **Shekatkar committee (in 2015)** had recommended the creation of **3 integrated theatre commands** — northern for the China border, western for the Pakistan border, and southern for the maritime role. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

34.

Ans: B

Explanation:

Golden Crescent and Golden Triangle :

- India's location near major drug-producing regions, including the **Golden Triangle (Myanmar, Laos, and Thailand)** and the **Golden Crescent (Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iran)** has been associated with activities that may involve the transportation and distribution of controlled substances. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct and 2 is correct.**
- FICCI CASCADE (Committee Against Smuggling and Counterfeiting Activities Destroying Economy), is an initiative by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**
- It was established on 18th January, 2011 in order to address the pressing issue of illicit trade in counterfeits, pass-offs, and smuggled goods in India and globally.

35.

Ans: D

Exp:

- From the infographic given below, it can be inferred that all the three above mentioned committees can be associated with Police Reforms:



36.

Ans: C

Exp:

- An integrated theatre command envisages a **unified command of the three Services, under a single commander**, for geographical theatres (areas) that are of strategic and security concern. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The commander of such a force will be able to bear all resources at his disposal — from the Army, the Indian Air Force, and the Navy — with **seamless efficacy.**
- The integrated theatre commander **will not be answerable to individual Services.** Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- The **Shekatkar committee, 2015** has recommended the **creation of 3 integrated theatre commands** — **northern** for the China border, **western** for the Pakistan border, and **southern** for the maritime role. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

37.

Ans: C

Exp:

- The primary objective of UN Peacekeeping is to facilitate peace and security, protect civilians, and support the restoration of stable governance structures. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It brings together the UN General Assembly, the UN Security Council, the Secretariat, troop and police contributors, and the host governments in a combined effort to maintain international peace and security.
- Recently, the **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)** has approved the **Multinational Security Mission (MSS)**, led by **Kenya**, to restore security, protect critical infrastructure, and control spiraling violence in **Haiti.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Unlike the Previous **UN peacekeeping mission** in Haiti that concluded in 2017, this new MSS will **not be operated by the United Nations.** Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**
- **Kenya has volunteered to lead the force**, with support from other countries like the Bahamas, Jamaica, and Antigua and Barbuda.

38.

Ans: B

Exp:

- A Chemical Weapon is a **chemical used to cause intentional death** or harm through its toxic properties.

- **Munitions, devices** and other equipment specifically designed to **weaponize toxic chemicals also fall under the definition of chemical weapons.** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) is a **multilateral treaty banning chemical weapons** and requiring their destruction within the stipulated time. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **India** signed the treaty in January 1993. The **Chemical Weapons Convention Act, 2000** was passed to implement the CWC. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

39.

Ans: C

Exp:

Indo-Tibetan Border Police:

- The **Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)**, is a dedicated paramilitary force responsible for safeguarding India's borders with Tibet (China).
 - ◆ ITBP was initially raised under the **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Act, 1949.** However, in **1992**, parliament enacted the **ITBP Act** and the rules were framed in **1994.** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- The ITBP is a specialized mountain force of India, which was established on **24th October 1962**, soon after the India-China war which was initially meant for deployment **along the India-China border.** Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

40.

Ans: B

Exp:

- **Indian Army** and **Indian Air Force** contingent are participating in the **7th** edition of **Joint Military 'Exercise KAZIND-2023'.**
- The exercise between **India** and **Kazakhstan** began as **"Exercise PRABAL DOSTYK"** in **2016.** After the second edition, it was renamed **"Exercise KAZIND"** and upgraded to a company-level exercise. **Hence, option B is correct.**

41.

Ans: C

Exp:

CERT-In:

- It is the national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents as and when they occur. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**



- It is the functional organization of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

Mandates of the CERT-In:

- ◆ **Mandatorily Enable Logs:**
 - It mandates all service providers, intermediaries, data centres, corporates and government organisations to mandatorily enable logs of all their ICT (Information and Communication Technology) systems.
- ◆ **Connect and Synchronize all ICT systems:**
 - To ensure the chain of events is accurately reflected in the time frame, service providers have been asked to connect and synchronize all their ICT systems clocks to the Network Time Protocol (NTP) Server of the National Informatics Centre (NIC) or National Physical Laboratory (NPL).

42.

Ans: B

Exp:

21st Edition of India-France Bilateral Naval Exercise 'VARUNA'

The **Phase II of Varuna-23**, the bilateral naval exercise between the **Indian and French Navies**, took place in the **Arabian Sea**. Hence, **option B is correct.**

- This exercise involved **guided missile frigates, tankers, Maritime Patrol Aircraft**, and integral helicopters from both sides.
- Varuna, which began in **1993 and was officially named in 2001**, has evolved over the years into a symbol of the strong strategic relationship between **India and France**.

43.

Ans: A

Exp:

On **13th September, 1948**, India's military action known as "**Operation Polo**" was launched to integrate the princely state of **Hyderabad**, a significant event in Indian history. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**

- The **Nizam of Hyderabad, Mir Osman Ali Shah**, had hesitated to join India or Pakistan after Independence, capitalizing on the Indian government's preoccupation with the Kashmir conflict. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ A standstill agreement signed in **November 1947** maintained the **status quo between Hyderabad and India for a year**, allowing the Nizam to continue governing independently.

- ◆ However, **escalating tensions, cross-border raids, and intentions to establish an independent state**, prompted India to act.

- The **operation saw well-planned military thrusts from multiple directions**, ultimately leading to the surrender of the Hyderabad state forces.

- ◆ This pivotal campaign, carried out under the **watchful eye of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**, culminated in a ceasefire declaration on **17th September, 1948** effectively placing Hyderabad under Indian control by **18th September, 1948**. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct.**

44.

Ans: D

Exp:

Akira Ransomware: It is **malicious software** that poses a significant threat to **data security**. It targets **both Windows and Linux devices**, encrypting data and demanding a **ransom for decryption**.

Key Characteristics of Akira Ransomware:

- Designed to **encrypt data and create a ransomware note** with a unique **“.akira” extension** appended to encrypted filenames.
- Capable of deleting Windows Shadow Volume copies and shutting down Windows services to prevent interference during encryption.
- Exploits **VPN services and malicious files** to infect devices, making it challenging to detect and prevent.
- Hence, **option d is the correct answer.**

45.

Ans: C

Exp:

- Indian Navy:
 - ◆ The Indian Navy was **established in 1612 by the East India Company**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ It is **headed by the President of India as its Supreme Commander**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Indian Navy's Motto is - **Sam no Varunah (शं नो वरुणः)** that means that the God of water, Varuna, should be auspicious unto us.
 - ◆ Some of the earliest operations of the Indian Navy include its contribution in liberating **Goa from Portugal in 1961**.
 - ◆ It **operates three classes of submarines:** Chakra (it has the nuclear-powered INS Chakra) , Sindhughosh and Shishumar. Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**

- ◆ **Marine Commandos or MARCOS is the special force unit of the Indian Navy**, trained to conduct amphibious warfare, counter-terrorism, special reconnaissance, hostage rescue and asymmetric warfare.

46.

Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, two ships of the Indian Navy - **INS Visakhapatnam**, and **INS Trikand** - visited **Port Rashid**, Dubai, UAE to conduct bilateral exercise '**Zayed Talwar**'.
- ◆ The exercise envisages to **boost the maritime partnership between the two navies** and foster a common understanding of the security challenges in the region.
- ◆ Other bilateral exercises between the two countries include: **In-UAE BILAT** (bilateral naval exercise), **Desert Eagle-II** (bilateral air force exercise) and **Exercise Desert Flag-VI**.
- Hence, option A is correct.



47.

Ans: B

Exp:

Defence Trade Dynamics Between India and Russia:

- **Military Hardware:**
 - ◆ The military hardware purchased/leased by India from Russia includes:
 - S-400 Triumf

- **Russia's S-400 deal refers to the procurement of the S-400 Triumf, a highly advanced mobile Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM) system. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

- Kamov Ka-226 200 to be made in India under the Make in India initiative
- T-90S Bhisma
- INS Vikramaditya aircraft carrier programme

- **Submarine Programmes:**

- ◆ **Russia also plays a very important role in assisting the Indian Navy** with its submarine programmes:

- Indian Navy's first submarine, '**Foxtrot Class**' came from Russia
- **INS Vikramaditya**, the sole aircraft carrier operated by India, is of Russian origin.

- It is the **Indian Navy's largest aircraft carrier and warship converted from the Russian Navy's decommissioned Admiral Gorshkov/Baku. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- India operates nine of the fourteen conventional submarines sourced from Russia.

48.

Ans: A

Exp:

Recently, the Indian Army has decided that from 1st August 2023, all officers of the rank of Brigadier and above will wear **Common Uniform** items irrespective of their cadre and appointment, in order to promote and strengthen common identity and approach.

- **Current Position:**

- ◆ Different branches of the Indian Army wear different uniform accouterments, such as berets, lanyards, and badges of rank, based on their regimental or corps affiliation.

- Accouterments are additional items of dress or equipment that are worn or carried, especially by military personnel, to complete a uniform or outfit.

- ◆ Infantry officers and Military Intelligence officers wear dark green berets, armored corps officers wear black berets, and other corps officers wear dark blue berets. Officers from the Corps of Military Police wear red berets.

- ◆ As of now, all officers from the rank of Lieutenant to General wear uniform accouterments as **per their regimental or corps affiliation. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

● **New Uniform:**

- ◆ All officers of the rank of Brigadier, Major General, Lt. General, and General will now wear berets (caps) of the same colour, common badges of rank, a common belt buckle, and a common pattern of shoes.
 - The shoulder rank badges will be golden for all senior officers.
- As of now, officers from the rifle regiments such as Gorkha Rifles, Garhwal Rifles and Rajputana Rifles wear black rank badges.
 - ◆ The headgear, shoulder rank badges, gorget patches, belts and shoes of senior officers of Brigadier and above ranks will now be standardised and common.
 - There is no change to the uniform worn by Colonels and below-rank officers.
 - ◆ They will no longer wear regimental lanyards (cords) on their shoulders. They will also not wear any shoulder flashes like 'Special Forces', 'Arunachal Scouts', 'Dogra Scouts', etc.
 - ◆ Thus, there will be no item of uniform that will identify them as belonging to a particular Regiment or Corps. All officers of these higher ranks will dress alike in the same pattern of uniform.
- **In the British army, from where the Indian Army derives its uniform pattern** and associated heraldry, the uniform worn by officers of the rank of Colonel and above is referred to as the **Staff uniform**, to distinguish it from the Regimental uniform. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

49.

Ans: B

Exp:

- Post-Independence, **the first three gallantry awards namely Param Vir Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra, and Vir Chakra** were instituted by the government of India on 26th January 1950 and were deemed to have effect from 15th August 1947. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Kirti Chakra** is the peacetime award equivalent of the Maha Vir Chakra, the second-highest peacetime gallantry award. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The gallantry awards are **announced twice in a year** — first on the occasion of the **Republic Day** and then on the occasion of the **Independence Day**. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

50.

Ans: A

Exp:

SAMUDRA SHAKTI – 23:

- The **4th edition of the India-Indonesia Bilateral exercise, Samudra Shakti-23**, commenced as **INS Kavaratti, an indigenously designed and built ASW Corvette**, arrived in Batam, Indonesia. Taking place from May 14-19, 2023, the exercise aims to enhance interoperability, jointness, and cooperation between the Indian and Indonesian navies. **Hence, option A is correct.**
- Alongside INS Kavaratti, an Indian Navy **Dornier Maritime Patrol aircraft and Chetak helicopter** are also participating. At the same time, the Indonesian Navy is represented by **KRI Sultan Iskandar Muda, CN 235 Maritime Patrol Aircraft, and AS565 Panther Helicopter.**
- The Other Exercise between India and Indonesia is **Garuda Shakti**, a joint military exercise. And **India-Indonesia CORPAT** is a coordinated patrol between the navies of India and Indonesia, aimed at enhancing maritime security and cooperation in the Andaman Sea and the Straits of Malacca.



51.

Ans: D

Exp:

Examples of Indigenous Defense Arsenal in India:

- **Tejas Aircraft:** The Tejas is a lightweight, multi-role supersonic aircraft designed and developed indigenously in India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Arjun Tank:** Developed by the Defense Research and

Development Organization (DRDO), the Arjun Tank is a 3rd generation main battle tank that showcases India's expertise in armored vehicle technology.

- **NETRA:** The **NETRA** is an airborne early warning and control system developed domestically, providing crucial surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities.
- **ASTRA:** India has successfully developed the **ASTRA**, an **all-weather beyond-visual-range air-to-air missile**, enhancing the country's air defense capabilities. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **LCH 'Prachand':** It is the first indigenous **Multi-Role Combat Helicopter** which has potent ground attack and aerial combat capability. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- **ICG ALH Squadrons:** In a major boost to further strengthen the capabilities of the **Indian Coast Guard**, **ALH Mk-III squadrons** were commissioned in Porbandar and Chennai in June and December 2022.

52.

Ans: A

Exp:

- The fundamental goal of 'Mission Defspace' is to **cultivate the advancement of the Indian Private Space industry** by embarking on challenges that encompass every aspect of a space mission – from **strategic mission planning to pioneering satellite data analytics**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The nodal authority responsible for Mission DefSpace is the Ministry of Defense. It was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister during DefExpo in October, 2022 **Hence, statement 2 is not incorrect.**

53.

Ans: D

Exp:

25th Anniversary of Pokhran-II

India recently celebrated the **25th anniversary of Pokhran-II**, its successful nuclear bomb test explosions.

- India's successful nuclear bomb test explosions at the Pokhran Test Range marked a significant **milestone in its journey to become a nuclear power**.
- Pokhran-II refers to a sequence of **five nuclear bomb test explosions conducted by India** on 11th May 1998 at the Pokhran Test Range of the Indian Army.
- Code name Operation **Shakti**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ This event marked India's 2nd successful attempt, following the first test code-named **Smiling Buddha**, which took place in May 1974. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- ◆ Detonation of one fusion and two fission bombs. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- ◆ On 13th May 1998, two additional fission devices detonated.

India's Nuclear Status:

- ◆ Pokhran-II cemented **India's status as a nuclear power**.
- ◆ It demonstrated **India's ability to possess and deploy nuclear weapons**, thus enhancing its **deterrence capabilities**.
- ◆ The Indian government led by **Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee** officially declared itself as a state possessing nuclear weapons following Pokhran-II.

54.

Ans: B

Exp:

India's Status on Various International Treaties about Nuclear Weapons:

- **Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) 1968:**
 - ◆ **India is not a signatory; it declined to accede to the NPT**, citing concerns about the treaty's perceived discriminatory nature and lack of reciprocal obligations from nuclear weapons states. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT):**
 - ◆ India has **not signed the CTBT** as it is a **strong advocate for a time-bound disarmament commitment from nuclear weapon states (NWS)** and may use the lack of a commitment as a reason to refrain from signing the CTBT. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW):**
 - ◆ It entered into force on 22 January 2021 and **India is not a member of this treaty.**
- **Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG):**
 - ◆ India is not a member of the NSG. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- **Wassenaar Arrangement:**
 - ◆ India joined the arrangement on December 2017 as its 42nd participating state.

55.

Ans: D

Exp:

Light Combat Aircraft (LCA):

- **About:**
 - ◆ The **LCA** programme was started by the

Government of India in 1984 when they established the **Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA)** to manage the LCA programme. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**

- India's **first indigenous light combat aircraft was Tejas.** Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

● **Features:**

- ◆ Designed to **carry a range of air-to-air, air-to-surface, precision-guided, weapons.** Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**
- ◆ Air to air refueling capability.

56.

Ans: C

Exp:

Ballistic Missile:

- It is a **rocket-propelled self-guided** strategic-weapons system that follows a **parabolic trajectory** to deliver a payload from its launch site to a predetermined fixed target. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- Ballistic missiles can carry conventional high explosives as well as chemical, biological, or nuclear munitions.

Ballistic Missile Defence System in India:

- A **Ballistic Missile Defence system (BMD)** is a missile defence system that acts as a shield against ballistic missile attacks.
- India's **BMD development began in 1999**, after the Kargil war. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- The primary aim was to augment India's defence against possible nuclear attack from Pakistan.
- India seeks to deploy a functional 'iron dome' ballistic missile defence (BMD), incorporating both low-altitude and high-altitude interceptor missiles.
- India's BMD is primarily developed by **DRDO** with help of many public and private firms like BEL, Astra Microwave, L&T, etc.
- **Ballistic missiles of India: Agni, K 4 (SLBM), Prahaar, Dhanush, Prithvi and Trishul.**

57.

Ans: C

Exp:

- The Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) recently concluded a two-month-long joint military exercise named 'Ex KAVACH.'
- The exercise involved the assets of the **Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard** and aimed at fine-tuning joint warfare capabilities and enhancing interoperability and operational synergy between the forces. Hence, **Option (c) is correct.**

58.

Ans: B

Exp:

- Radioactivity is the phenomenon of **spontaneous emission of particles or waves from the unstable nuclei** of some elements, not stable nuclei. Hence, **statement 1 is incorrect**
- The three types of radioactive emissions are alpha particles, beta particles, and gamma rays. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

59.

Ans: C

Exp:

- **India's navy conducts various bilateral and multilateral naval exercises** with other countries to enhance its maritime security capabilities and to foster regional and international cooperation.
- The following are the correct pairs of India's naval exercises with different countries:
- **SLINEX:** This is a **biennial naval exercise conducted between India and Sri Lanka** to enhance interoperability, strengthen mutual trust and cooperation, and exchange best practices in maritime operations.
- SLINEX stands for "**Sri Lanka India Naval Exercise.** Hence, **pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- **INDRA:** This is a bilateral exercise between **India and Russia** to enhance interoperability and to share best practices in maritime operations.
- The exercise involves various types of naval operations, including anti-piracy operations, search and rescue, and communication exercises. Hence, **pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- **VARUNA:** This is a naval exercise conducted between **India and France** to enhance maritime cooperation and interoperability between the two navies. Hence, **pair 3 is not correctly matched.**
- Therefore, **option C is correct.**

60.

Ans: A

Exp:

- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully demonstrated a precise landing experiment for a Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV) at the Aeronautical Test Range (ATR), Chitradurga, Karnataka.** Hence **option (a) is correct.**
- An Indian Air Forces (IAF) Chinook helicopter was used to drop the RLV-TD from a 4.5 km altitude and ISRO executed the landing experiment of the RLV-TD as planned.

61.

Ans: A

Exp:

Central Industrial Security Force (CISF):

- CISF is **one of the seven Central Armed Police Forces in India** and is responsible for providing security to various public sector undertakings, airports, and other important installations. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The BSF has **air wing, marine wing, an artillery regiment, and commando units**. It currently stands as the world's largest border guarding force. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The **CISF was set up under the act of the Parliament of India on March 10, 1969**. Since then, CISF Raising Day is being celebrated on March 10 each year. However, in 2023, the date was revised (12th March).

62.

Ans: C

Exp:

- Indian Navy's **indigenously built guided missile frigate, INS Sahyadri** participated in a **Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with French Navy (FN)** ships in the **Arabian Sea in March 2023**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The exercise witnessed a wide spectrum of sea evolutions, including cross-deck landings, boarding exercises and seamanship evolutions. The seamless conduct of the exercise reaffirmed the interoperability and high level of cooperation between the two navies.
 - ◆ **INS Sahyadri** is fitted with state-of-the-art weapons and sensors, which makes it **capable of detecting and neutralising air, surface and sub-surface threats**. The ship is a part of Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam.
- **Vajra Prahar - US**: This is a **bilateral military exercise between the special forces of India and the United States**. The exercise focuses on counter-terrorism operations, close quarter combat, and special reconnaissance. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Garuda Shakti - Indonesia**: This is a **bilateral military exercise between the armies of India and Indonesia**. The exercise focuses on counter-terrorism operations, jungle warfare, and special forces operations. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

63.

Ans: A

Exp:

Exercise Bold Kurukshetra:

- It is **conducted** under the ambit of the bilateral arrangement for the joint Army Training and exercises **between the Singapore Army and the Indian Army**.
 - ◆ The exercise was first conducted in 2005.
- **Other exercise between India and Singapore includes Joint Military Training (Air Force), Trilateral Maritime Exercise SIMTEX (With Thailand) and Exercise Agni Warrior (Army)**.
- **Hence, option A is correct.**

64.

Ans: C

Expl:

- In layman's parlance, a **directed-energy weapon damages or destroys its target using focused energy** by means of lasers, microwaves or particle beams. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Example – Microwave weapons, Lasers weapons, drone defence systems etc.
- A hypersonic weapon is **one that can hit its target five to ten times** (Mach 5 to Mach 10) the speed of sound.
- Advantages of DEWs over Conventional Ammunitions:
 - ◆ DEWs, particularly lasers, have high precision, low cost per shot, logistical benefits and low detectability.
 - ◆ They **transmit lethal force at the about speed of light** (about 300,000 kilometers per second). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Their beams are not affected by the constraining effects of gravity or atmospheric drag. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Their effects can be tailored by varying the type and intensity of energy delivered against targets.

65.

Ans: A

Exp:

Exercise between India and Singapore:

- **There are several exercises between India and Singapore including Joint Military Training (Air Force), Trilateral Maritime Exercise SIMTEX (With Thailand) and Exercise Agni Warrior (Army)**. **Hence, option A is correct.**
- The Singapore Army and Indian Army **also participated in the 13th edition of Exercise Bold Kurukshetra**, a



bilateral armour exercise at Jodhpur Military Station, India. The exercise was hosted by the Indian army.

- Exercise **Bold Kurukshetra is conducted under the ambit of the bilateral arrangement for the joint Army Training and exercises between the Singapore Army and the Indian Army.**

66.

Ans: B

Exp:

- According to **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's (SIPRI) Trends in International Arms Transfers 2022 report**, India remained the world's largest arms importer from 2018 to 2022 followed by Saudi Arabia and Ukraine.
- **Arms Suppliers to India:**
 - ◆ **Russia was India's largest arms supplier** in the

periods between 2013-17 and 2018-22, **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- ◆ But its share of arms imports to India fell from 64% to 45% while **France emerged as the second-largest arms supplier to India** between 2018-22 at 29%, followed by the US at 11%. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - Russia's position as India's main arms supplier is under pressure owing to strong competition from other supplier states, increased Indian arms production, and, since 2022, constraints on Russia's arms exports related to its invasion of Ukraine.
 - India also imported arms during this five-year period from **Israel, South Korea, and South Africa** which are among the **top arms exporters globally.**

