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MCQs

Multiple Choice Questions and Answers

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QUESTIONS

1. Regarding Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules(A), 2020, consider the following statements:
1. Systems with a capacity of up to 10 kW are exempt from the requirement of a technical feasibility study.
 2. The distribution company is required to strengthen the distribution system needed for rooftop solar PV systems up to 5 kW capacity at its own expense.
 3. Consumers can obtain separate electricity connections for charging their Electric Vehicles (EVs).
- 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:
- Statement-I:** Prasar Bharati is India's largest public broadcasting agency and a statutory autonomous body set up by the Prasar Bharati Act, 1997.
- Statement-II:** Ministry of Information and Broadcasting launched the Prasar Bharti – Shared Audio Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination (PB-SHABD), a news-sharing service from Prasar Bharati, aimed at transforming news dissemination in India.
- 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.
3. Consider the following statements regarding Self-Regulatory Organisations (SROs):
1. SROs are entities formed within specific industries or sectors to regulate themselves, often in collaboration with government regulators.
 2. While regulators maintain ultimate authority, they rely on SROs to monitor and enforce compliance within their respective industries.
- 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 National Green Tribunal (NGT):
1. It was established under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.
 2. New Delhi serves as the principal place of sitting of NGT, with Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata, and Chennai designated as the other four places of sitting for the Tribunal.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- A. Only 1 B. Only 2
C. Both 1 and 2 D. Neither 1 nor 2
5. Regarding Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2024, consider the following statements:
1. It defines biodegradable plastics as materials that can be broken down by biological processes in certain environments, such as soil and landfills, without producing microplastics.
 2. The rules specify which chemical tests can establish the absence of microplastics or the extent to which microplastics must be reduced for elimination.
- 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
6. Regarding the patent system in India, consider the following statements:
1. The patent system in India is governed by the Copyright Act, 1957.
 2. The term of every patent granted is 15 years from the date of filing of the application.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- A. Only 1 B. Only 2
C. Both 1 and 2 D. Neither 1 nor 2
7. Consider the following statements regarding the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001:
1. Breeders don't have exclusive rights to produce, sell, market, distribute, import, or export protected varieties.
 2. Researchers can utilize registered varieties for experimentation or research purposes.
 3. Farmers are exempt from paying fees in proceedings under the Act before relevant authorities or courts.
- How many of the above statements are correct?
- A. Only one B. Only two
C. All three D. None

8. Regarding Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024, consider the following statements:
1. Time-lines for film certification processing have been reduced, with the adoption of complete digital processes to eliminate all transactional delays.
 2. Movies and feature films must incorporate accessibility features for certification, making them inclusive for disabled persons as per the stipulated guidelines.
- 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
9. Consider the following statements:
1. The Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954, regulates drug advertisements but does not ban promotions of magic remedies.
 2. The Act defines “magic remedy” to include talismans, mantras, kavachas (amulets), and any other similar items that claim supernatural or magical properties for curing ailments.
- 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
10. Regarding the Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in India, consider the following statements:
1. The SHG model was introduced in India in 1994, inspired by Verghese Kurien.
 2. The SHG-Bank Linkage Programme (SHG-BLP) was initiated by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in 1989.
 3. Lakhpati Didi is a government initiative that aims to empower women in SHGs to earn at least Rs 3,00,000 per year through sustainable livelihood practices.
- How many of the above statements are correct?
- A. Only one B. Only two
C. All three D. None
11. Consider the following statements:
1. Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) is the Central Drug Authority for discharging functions assigned to the Central Government under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.
 2. CDSCO holds that new drugs can be manufactured for sale now, without approval from the Central License Approving Authority.
- 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
12. Regarding the Narcotics Control Bureau, consider the following statements:
1. It was constituted by the Government of India under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947.
 2. It comes under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
 3. The National Policy on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances is based on Article 47 of the Indian Constitution.
- How many of the above statements are correct?
- A. Only one B. Only two
C. All three D. None
13. With reference to FASTag, consider the following statements:
1. It is operated by the National Council for Science and Technology Communication (NCSTC) under the Ministry of Science and Technology.
 2. It is a device that employs Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology for making toll payments directly while the vehicle is in motion.
- How many of the above statements are correct?
- A. 1 Only B. 2 Only
C. Both 1 and 2 D. Neither 1 and 2
14. Consider the following statements regarding Abortion:
1. Abortion is the deliberate termination of a pregnancy, typically performed during the first 28 weeks of gestation.
 2. Until the 1960s, abortion was prohibited in India, and violating this led to imprisonment or fines under Section 312 of the Indian Penal Code.
- 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
15. Regarding the Krishi Sakhi Convergence Programme (KSCP), consider the following statements:
1. An MoU between the Ministries of Agriculture & Farmer Welfare and Rural Development initiated the KSCP, to empower Krishi Sakhi to transform rural India.

2. The programme includes a Krishi Sakhis Training Programme to certify 70,000 Krishi Sakhis as Para-Extension Workers.
3. Krishi Sakhis, who are practicing farmers and trained para-extension professionals, serve as friends to farmers, guiding Natural Farming and Soil Health Management.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

16. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwDs) Act, 2016 implements the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, ratified by India in 2007.

Statement-II: Recently, the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) has prioritized improving accessibility for persons with disabilities (PwDs) in public buildings.

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

17. Regarding Inter-State Water Dispute Act, 1956, consider the following statements:

1. It requires the Central Government to initially seek resolution of an inter-state water dispute through consultations among the concerned states before establishing a tribunal upon their request.
2. The 2002 amendment to the act incorporated a one-year deadline for establishing water disputes tribunals and a three-year deadline for rendering decisions.

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

18. Regarding the recently launched Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP), consider the following statements:

1. It is a secure platform that facilitates intelligence sharing and information exchange among stakeholders like telecom service providers, Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), etc.

2. It would be a non-public data-sharing resource for "Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), LEAs, banks and financial institutions, social media platforms, identity document issuing authorities, etc.

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

19. Consider the following statements about Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA):

1. It is a statutory authority under the Department of Food and Public Distribution.
2. e-Kisan Upaj Nidhi (Digital Gateway) of WDRA was launched to leverage technology for easing farmers' warehousing logistics and ensuring fair prices for their produce.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

20. Consider the following statements regarding Bharat Tex 2024:

1. It is the largest global textile event in India inspired by the 5F Vision of the Prime Minister of India.
2. It serves as a launchpad for initiatives like the 'Innovative Business Practices and Economic Models in the Textile Value Chain in India' (IndiaTex) and Textile Grand Innovation Challenge.

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

21. Regarding Leprosy Disease, consider the following statements:

1. It is a chronic infectious disease caused by a type of bacteria.
2. It is known to occur only to the newly born children.
3. It is not an inherited disease but it is transmitted via droplets.

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

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

22. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: A 'guarantee' is a legal obligation for a State to make payments and protect an investor/lender from the risk of default by a borrower.

Statement-II: A guarantee, as per the Indian Contracts Act, 1872, is a contract to “perform the promise, or discharge the liability, of a third person in case of his default.

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.

23. With reference to ‘Credit System’, consider the following statements :

1. It assigns numerical values, known as credits, to different courses or learning activities based on the time and effort required to complete them.
2. It aims to establish academic equivalence between vocational and general education.
3. The credits earned by a student will be digitally stored in the Academic Bank of Credits and accessible through a linked Digilocker account.

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

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

24. Regarding the Nazool Land, consider the following statements:

1. Nazool land is owned by the government but most often not directly administered as state property.
2. The state typically grants leases for such land for a brief duration, ranging from 1 to 9 years.
3. The Nazool Lands (Transfer) Rules, 1956 is the law mostly used for Nazool land adjudication.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

25. With reference to ‘Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)’, consider the following statements:

1. It comprises all procedures that involve altering the female genitalia for medical reasons.
2. It is concentrated primarily in Western, Eastern, and North-Eastern Africa.

3. Presently, there is no legislation that bans the FGM practice in India.

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

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

26. Regarding the Global Pulses Conference, 2024, consider the following statements:

1. It was organised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare and NITI Aayog.
2. It is the industry’s largest global event, bringing together key players from more than 50 countries.

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

27. Regarding the National Commission for Scheduled Castes, consider the following statements:

1. It is a Constitutional Body established to provide safeguards against the exploitation of Scheduled Castes.
2. The 79th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2003 bifurcated the combined National Commission for SCs and STs into two separate bodies.

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 the Rubber Board of India, consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory organisation constituted under the Rubber Act, 1947.
2. It is headed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

29. Regarding the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), consider the following statements:

1. This committee is among the three financial parliamentary committees, with the other two being the Estimates Committee and the Committee on Public Undertakings.
2. It is constituted every year under Article 308 of the constitution of 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

30. Regarding Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in India, consider the following statements:

1. DPIs mediate the flow of people, money, and information.
2. India became the first country to develop all three foundational DPIs: Digital identity (Aadhar), Real-time fast payment (UPI), and Account Aggregator built on the Data Empowerment Protection Architecture (DEPA).
3. The Data Empowerment and Protection Architecture (DEPA) establishes a digital framework enabling users to share their data solely under the terms defined by a third-party entity.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

31. Consider the following statements:

1. Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP) is a central sector scheme being implemented for the period of 2015-16 to 2025-26.
2. While flood management is primarily the responsibility of State Governments, the Union Government also supplements their efforts.

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 |

32. With reference to the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA), consider the following statements:

1. It is one of the largest work guarantee programs in the world launched in 2005 by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare.
2. It is a demand-based wage employment scheme that provides at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment to each family per fiscal year.
3. It ensures that rural households have alternative sources of income when better employment opportunities are unavailable.

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

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

33. With reference to the University Grants Commission (UGC), consider the following statements:

1. The UGC operates under the Ministry of Education, the Central Government appoints a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, and other members to the UGC.

2. It functions from New Delhi as well as its six Regional offices.

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 |

34. Regarding Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), consider the following statements:

1. It is one of the largest work guarantee programmes in the world launched in 2005 by the Ministry of Rural Development.
2. The act mandates Gram sabhas to recommend the works that are to be undertaken and at least 50% of the works must be executed by them.
3. Under it, at least two-thirds of beneficiaries have to be women.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

35. Consider the following statements regarding "Manual Scavenging" in India:

1. The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 explicitly covers prison administration in outlawing manual scavenging.
2. State prison manuals mandate that duties like cleaning and sweeping must be performed by members of specific castes, perpetuating caste-based discrimination.

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 |

36. Regarding the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act of 1956, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to prevent the commercialization of vices and the trafficking of females.
2. The act declares sex work illegal and prohibits running brothels.

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 |

37. Regarding policy interventions to curb child marriages, consider the following statements:

1. According to the National Family Health Survey-5, West Bengal has experienced substantial decline in the number of child marriages.

2. Kanyashree Prakalpa scheme incentivizes the schooling of teenage girls aged 13 to 18.
3. Rupashree Prakalpa scheme provides cash incentives for girls' marriages.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

38. Regarding the Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code (2021), consider the following statements:

1. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had notified these guidelines to regulate Over the Top (OTT) platforms.
2. These rules establish a three-tier grievance redressal mechanism for OTT platforms.
3. They provide for self-classification of the content without any involvement of Central Board of Film Certification.

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

39. Regarding the tableaux for the Republic Day parade, consider the following statements:

1. The selection of tableaux for the Republic Day parade is done by an expert committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. The Non-selected States and Union Territories can showcase their tableaux at Bharat Parv, a six-day event at the Red Fort during Republic Day celebrations.
3. The Government has established a rotational plan for States and Union Territories to present their tableaux at the Republic Day parade within a three-year cycle (2024-2026).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two
(c) All three (d) None

40. Consider the following statements about Organ Transplantation:

1. A transplant can be either from a pool of organs of deceased persons donated by their relatives or from a living person who is known to the recipient.
2. Under the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues (THOT) Act, 1994 specific timelines for all stages of organ donation have been established.

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

41. With reference to Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023, consider the following statements:

1. Indore was awarded the cleanest city title and Surat, the second cleanest.
2. Maharashtra secured the top position among states in the annual cleanliness rankings for urban areas.
3. Chandigarh received the Safaimitra Surakshit Shehar award for the city with the best safety standards for sanitation workers.

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

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

42. With reference to Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), consider the following statements:

1. ASI was founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham.
2. It regulates all archaeological activities in the country as per the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.
3. ASI falls under the regulatory ambit of Ministry of Education.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

43. Consider the following statements regarding 'National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP)':

1. The NMP envisages an aggregate monetisation potential of Rs 6-lakh crore through the leasing of core assets of the Central government.
2. This pipeline is intended to support investments under the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) worth Rs 111 trillion in six years through FY25.

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

44. Consider the following statements:

1. NGOs can register as trusts, societies, or companies under the Companies Act, 2013, each with specific rules and regulations for registration and governance.
2. Registration under the FCRA 2010 is a one-time requirement for associations, groups, and NGOs seeking foreign donations, and it remains valid for a lifetime.

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

45. With reference to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), consider the following statements:

- It was founded by William Jones.
- It is the premier organization for the archaeological research of the nation.
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act, 1958 governs the functioning of ASI.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

46. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Emigration Rules require workers going to conflict zones to register with the Ministry of External Affairs' 'e-migrate' portal but exempts Israel.

Statement-II: India has ratified both the conventions; the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 and Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975.

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. |

47. With reference to Social Audits, consider the following statements:

- A social audit is a regular intergovernmental assessment of an organisation's or program's social impact.
- Mahatma Gandhi proposed the term "social audit" in 1920.
- Independent social audit units in each state are mandated under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

48. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Study material for all courses under school and higher education will be made available digitally in Indian languages included in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution.

Statement-II: This decision is in line with the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP-2020) to promote multilingualism in education at every level.

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. |

49. Consider the following statements with respect to Shimla Development Plan 2041:

- The development plan has been prepared under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation sub-scheme of the Government of India.
- The plan states that town planning comes under the purview of the National Green Tribunal.

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 |

50. With reference to the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), consider the following statements:

- The NCAP's goal is to reduce average particulate matter concentrations by 50% by 2026 in 100 cities.
- Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment Cities (PRANA), is a portal for monitoring the implementation of NCAP.

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 |

51. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is the National Standard Body of India established under the BIS Act, 2016 for the harmonious development of the activities of standardization.

Statement-II: BIS is a body under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.



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

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

52. Regarding the Ministry of Cooperation, consider the following statements:

- It was established by the 110th Constitutional Amendment Act.
- The Ministry is responsible for providing a separate administrative, legal, and policy framework for strengthening the cooperative movement in the country.
- Recently it has launched “World’s Largest Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector.”

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

- Only One
- Only Two
- All Three
- None

53. With reference to “National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)”, consider the following statements:

- NCRB was set up in 1986 to function as a repository of information on crime and criminals based on the recommendations of the Tandon Committee.
- It also acts as a national warehouse for the fingerprint records of Indian and foreign criminals, and assists in locating interstate criminals through fingerprint search.
- ‘Crimes in India’ and ‘Accidental Deaths and Suicides’ are the reports published by NCRB.

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

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

54. Regarding the Ministry of Cooperation, consider the following statements:

- It was established by the 110th Constitutional Amendment Act.
- The Ministry is responsible for providing a separate administrative, legal, and policy framework for strengthening the cooperative movement in the country.

3. Recently it has launched “World’s Largest Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector.”

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

- Only One
- Only Two
- All Three
- None

55. Regarding simultaneous elections in India, consider the following statements:

- The initial five general elections in India synchronized Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections.
- Presently, Lok Sabha elections align with Assembly polls in Andhra Pradesh and Bihar.
- Eventually, simultaneous elections would lead to increased expenditure for the government.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

56. Consider the following statements:

- The Public Gambling Act, 1867 primarily addresses physical gambling activities.
- Section 66 of the IT Act deals with computer-related offenses, providing a legal basis for addressing cyber crimes associated with online gaming.
- Online gambling is allowed in India, but offline gambling is not.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- One Only
- Two Only
- All Three
- None

57. Consider the following statement:

- The Indian Universities Commission was appointed in 1902.
- Indian Education Policy Resolution was issued in 1904.
- In the year of 1945, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) was formed.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- One Only
- Two Only
- All Three
- None

58. With reference to the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC), consider the following statements:

- It is an Autonomous Institution of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- It sets standards for drugs in India and its basic function is to regularly update the standards of drugs.

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

59. Consider the following statements:

1. National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), located in Bengaluru, serves as the National Apex Centre and coordinates the activities of Tele MANAS throughout India.
2. All the States/UTs have established Tele Mental Health and Normalcy Augmentation Systems (MANAS) Cells for extending mental health services.

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

60. Consider the following statements:

1. World Mental Health Day is observed on 10th October every year.
2. The Mental Health Care Act, 2017 guarantees every affected person access to mental healthcare and treatment from services run or funded by the government.
3. Kiran Helpline was launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development to provide support to people facing mental health issues.

How many of the statements above are correct?

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

61. Regarding E-Cigarettes, consider the following statements:

1. E-cigarettes are battery-powered devices that work by heating solid into an aerosol.
2. The possession of e-cigarettes is a violation of the law in India.
3. The Nicotine content as a direct substance in e-cigarettes is less than regular cigarettes.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

62. With reference to 'Self Help Group (SHG) Bank linkage (BL) Project', consider the following statements:

1. The SHG BL Project was launched by NABARD in 1992 and has blossomed into the world's largest microfinance project.
2. Regular training of staff and community cadres under State Rural Livelihoods Missions (SRLMs) is provided under this project.

3. Bank Sakhis are trained members from SHGs who act as intermediaries in aiding SHG members in transactions and application processes.

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

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

63. Consider the following statements:

1. The Shahi Idgah is a three-domed mosque in Mathura that stands adjacent to the Krishna Janmabhoomi temple.
2. The Places of Worship Act, 1991, prohibits changing the character of any place of worship as it existed on August 15, 1947.
3. The Act does not apply to ancient and historical monuments.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two
(c) All three (d) None

64. Consider the following statements regarding Prasar Bharati:

1. Prasar Bharati is a statutory autonomous body established under the Prasar Bharati Act 1997.
2. Prasar Bharati is the largest public broadcasting agency in the country and it includes Doordarshan Television Network and All India Radio.

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

65. With reference to Goa and its Liberation Day, consider the following statements:

1. Goa Liberation Day is celebrated every year to commemorate the state's liberation from Portuguese rule in 1961.
2. In 1961, the Indian Government launched Operation Vijay and annexed Daman and Diu along with Goa.
3. Goa continued to be a Union Territory till 1987 and then was given statehood by becoming the 25th state of India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

66. Consider the following statements regarding Archaeological Survey of India (ASI):

1. The ASI was established under the Ministry of Culture for the protection of the cultural heritage of the nation by the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904.

2. The ASI allows worship and rituals only at monuments where these traditions were already established at the time the ASI assumed custody.

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

67. Regarding the Assam Accord, consider the following statements:

1. This Accord is a bilateral agreement between the Central Government and the State Government of Assam.
2. The Accord introduced Section 6A into the Citizenship Act, of 1955, exclusively for Assam.
3. The Accord sought to end the influx of illegal migrants from Bangladesh.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

68. Consider the following statements regarding Exit polls:

1. Exit polls are surveys conducted with voters as they leave a polling station during an election.
2. The First Exit polls were conducted by the Indian Institute of Public Opinion during the Lok Sabha elections in 2014.

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

69. Regarding Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), consider the following statements:

1. The CBI operates under the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946.
2. It is neither a constitutional nor a statutory body.
3. It was established by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs and later transferred to the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

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

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

70. Regarding the Aadhar, consider the following statements:

1. The Aadhaar identity platform is one of the key pillars of 'Digital India', wherein every resident of the country is provided with a unique identity.
2. The Aadhaar number is a proof of identity and confers a right of citizenship or domicile.

3. Any individual, irrespective of age and gender, who is a resident of India, may voluntarily enroll to obtain an Aadhaar number.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

71. With reference to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), consider the following statements:

1. The UAPA introduces an alternative structure for criminal law, wherein the conventional principles of criminal legislation undergo a reversal.
2. The criteria for refusing bail under the UAPA require the court to be convinced that there is a "prima facie" case against the accused.

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

72. Consider the following provisions of Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023:

1. Advertising rates will be linked to subscriber base and viewership numbers, determined through competitive bidding to ensure transparency and efficiency.
2. OTT platforms can be empanelled not only for placing advertisements during regular content but also for the production of embedded/in-film advertisements, promotions, or branding activities.

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

73. Consider the following statements regarding the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO):

1. NOTTO is set up under the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, located in New Delhi.
2. NOTTO's National Network division oversees all activities related to organ and tissue donation and transplantation, serving as the central hub for procurement, distribution, and registry nationwide.

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

81. With reference to the 'Data Governance in India', consider the following statements:

1. Anonymised Data set contains aggregated information with personally identifiable information.
2. Under the upcoming Digital India Bill, there is a provision to mandate big tech companies to deposit all non-personal data into the India datasets platform.
3. Under the upcoming Digital India Bill, non-personal data held by the India datasets platform could be monetized.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (A) Only one (B) Only two
(C) All three (D) None

82. Consider the following statements regarding Cell Broadcast Alert System (CBAS):

1. It empowers us to disseminate critical and time-sensitive disaster management messages.
2. Technology does not need Mobile numbers to send alerts.
3. It is developed in collaboration with the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) and the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

83. Regarding the AAINA Dashboard for Cities, consider the following statements:

1. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to help cities assess their performance relative to others.
2. The Dashboard divides data into two categories: Political and Administrative Structure.

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

84. With reference to the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), consider the following statements:

1. The NCLAT was constituted under Companies Act, 2013.
2. Any person aggrieved by any order of the NCLAT may file an appeal to the Supreme Court.

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

85. Consider the following statements:

1. National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) was set up as a registered society under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 with a mandate for Dope free sports in India.
2. NADA's primary objectives are to implement anti-doping rules as per WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency) code.
3. WADA is recognised by the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

86. Which one of the following services is provided under the Tele MANAS Seva?

- A. Mental Health Counseling Services
- B. Improvement of Telecommunication Technology
- C. Monitoring of tigers in MANAS National Park
- D. Transmission of satellite data through receivers

87. Consider the following statements regarding Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT):

1. It can hear appeals against any direction, decision or order of TRAI but cannot adjudicate disputes between service providers or a service provider and consumer/s.
2. The Union Minister of Communications is the ex-officio chairperson of TDSAT.
3. TDSAT has all the powers of a civil court but it is not bound by the procedure laid down by the Code of Civil Procedure.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

88. With reference to Over The Top (OTT) platforms, consider the following statements:

1. OTT platforms, originally content hosts, expanded to produce and stream various media like short films, feature movies, documentaries, and web series.
2. They are governed by the Information Technology Rules, 2021.
3. They come under the jurisdiction of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 only



89. With reference to the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, of 1971, consider the following statements:

1. It permits licensed medical professionals to perform abortions in specific predetermined situations as provided under the legislation.
2. The MTP Act was amended in 2021 to allow certain categories of women to obtain abortions up to 22 weeks of gestation, raising it from the previous 20 weeks.

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

90. Regarding the Amendments to the Aircraft Rules, 1937 consider the following statements:

1. The amendments can play a crucial role in enhancing aviation safety.
2. The amended licensing process and the removal of redundant rules can contribute to a more business-friendly environment.
3. The amendments align India's aviation regulations with the International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO) Standards.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

91. With reference to Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR), consider the following statements:

1. It is a part of the 'One nation, One Student ID' initiative.
2. APAAR would also serve as a gateway to Digilocker.
3. Under the initiative, each student would get an APAAR ID for 14 years only.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

92. With reference to National Green Tribunal, consider the following :

1. NGT is a specialized body set up under the Environment Protection Act, 1986.
2. The Chairperson of the tribunal is appointed by the Chief Justice of India.
3. The total number of members in NGT should not be less than 10.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

93. With reference to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, consider the following statements:

1. The Act provides for the prevention and protection of animals from cruelty, unnecessary pain, overwork, torture, and abuse.
2. The Act also establishes the Animal Welfare Board of India and the Committee for Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CCSEA).

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

94. Consider the following statements with respect to 'Palliative Care':

1. It is not about curing the disease but rather about addressing the physical, emotional, social needs of the patient.
2. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), palliative care is explicitly recognized under the human right to health.
3. WHO recognizes that palliative care is part of the comprehensive services required for noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) through the Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs 2013–2020.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

95. Consider the following statements about Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment act, 2023 (MMDR):

1. It bars private sector from mining Lithium as it is listed as atomic mineral.
2. Centre has powers to auction mining lease and composite licence for critical minerals such as gold, silver etc.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

96. Which of the following statements is **not** correct?

- A. Telangana, Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat have areas designated as scheduled areas under Fifth Schedule.
- B. The Bhuria Committee 1991 recommended considering areas with 40% or more tribal population (according to the 1951 Census) as Scheduled Areas.

- C. The Tribal Advisory Council in scheduled states advise the Governor on matters referred to them regarding ST welfare.
- D. None of the above.

97. Consider the following statements:

1. Cerebral palsy (CP) is a specific learning disorder that primarily affects a person's ability to read, write, and spell accurately.
2. It is recognised as a disability under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

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

98. With reference to deemed university, consider the following statements:

1. It is established or incorporated by an Act of Parliament or State Legislature,
2. A deemed university enjoys academic autonomy but cannot design its own courses, syllabi, admission criteria, faculty recruitment and examination system.
3. The NCERT has been granted the deemed university status under the 'de novo' category.

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

- A. One only B. Two only
C. All three D. None

99. Consider the following statements regarding the 'principle of non-refoulement':

1. The principle of non-refoulement guarantees that no one should be returned to a country where they would face torture, cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.
2. India is not a party to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol.

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

100. Consider the following statements:

1. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 completely illegalises consumption of any part of "cannabis plant" – flower, raisin, seeds or leaves.
2. In India, Himachal Pradesh is the only state to have legalised the cultivation of Cannabis.

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

101. Consider the following statements regarding the powers of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO):

1. It is responsible for exercising regulatory control over the import of drugs.
2. Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, it is empowered to recall complete batches of substandard drugs.
3. CDSCO headquarters also approves certain licences as Central License Approving Authority.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

102. What is the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) primarily established for?

- A. Providing emergency food and healthcare to children and mothers in post-World War II countries.
- B. Promoting global peace and security.
- C. Offering educational resources to children in developing countries.
- D. Addressing long-term needs of children and women in developed countries.

103. Recently, the National Medical Commission (NMC) of India was awarded the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) Recognition Status for 10 years, the highest standards in medical education and accreditation.

Which of the following is/are the correct implications of the recognition status?

1. All the 706 existing medical colleges in India will become WFME accredited.
2. The new medical colleges that will be set up in the coming 10 years will also automatically become WFME accredited.
3. It makes Indian medical graduates eligible to pursue postgraduate training and practice in other countries that require WFME recognition.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

104. Regarding the Aadhaar, consider the following statements:

1. Aadhaar is a 16-digit individual identification number issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India.
2. Aadhaar number helps the residents to avail various services provided by banking, mobile phone connections and other Govt and Non-Govt services in due course.



112. Consider the following statements about the recently updated National Organ Transplantation Guidelines in India:

1. The guidelines allow patients above 65 years of age to receive an organ from deceased donors.
2. The guidelines require patients to register for organ transplants only in their state of domicile.
3. The guidelines mandate registration fees for organ recipient registration.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

113. Consider the following statements regarding INTERPOL:

1. It was established in 1923 and India is one of its founding members.
2. It is headquartered in Paris, France.
3. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is one of the ten members of the Interpol Global Academy Network.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

114. With reference to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), consider the following statements:

1. It consists of a chairperson and not more than two whole-time Members and not more than two part-time Members.
2. The recommendations of the TRAI are not binding upon the Central Government.

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

115. Consider the following statements regarding Additional Guidelines for Health and Wellness Celebrities:

1. Medical practitioners and health & fitness experts when sharing information, promoting products or services or making any health-related claims, must disclose that they are certified health/fitness experts and medical practitioners.
2. General wellness and health advice, which do not pertain to specific products, services, health conditions, or outcomes, are exempt from these regulations.

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

116. National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) is a database system managed by?

- A. Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)
B. National Informatics Center (NIC)
C. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)
D. National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science (NICFS)

117. Consider the following statements regarding Bharat New Car Assessment Programme (Bharat NCAP):

1. It is a mandatory programme that requires all passenger vehicles to undergo crash testing procedures and obtain a safety rating.
2. It evaluates vehicles based on three parameters: adult occupant protection, child occupant protection, and safety assist technologies.
3. It applies to passenger vehicles with not more than nine seats in addition to the driver's seat with gross vehicle weight not exceeding 4,000 kgs.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

118. Consider the following statements with respect to 'Khanan Prahari mobile app':

1. The Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change has launched the Khanan Prahari mobile app, revolutionising the fight against illicit coal mining activities in national parks and other protected areas.
2. The app enables citizens to take an active role in reporting incidents of illegal coal mining through the submission of geo-tagged photographs and textual information.
3. The corresponding web portal called as Coal Mine Surveillance & Management System (CMSMS) has been developed in association with the Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Application & Geoinformatics and Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI).

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

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

119. With reference to the Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, consider the following statements:

1. International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing is organized every year on 5th June.

2. IUU fishing is found in all types and dimensions of fisheries; it occurs both on the high seas and in areas within national jurisdiction.
3. IUU fishing undermines national and regional efforts to conserve and manage fish stocks.

How many of the statements above are correct?

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

120. Consider the following statements regarding Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Amendment Act 2021:

1. It allows abortion from 20 to 24 weeks of gestation for specific cases like rape survivors, with approval from two doctors.
2. It allows unmarried women to get abortions for any reason, regardless of their marital status, due to the failure of contraceptive measures.

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

121. Consider the following statements:

1. Unified Health Interface (UHI) is an open network of End User Applications (EUAs) that enables a wide variety of digital health services including appointment booking, teleconsultation, service discovery and others.
2. Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission Sandbox serves as a platform for testing technology and products that aids organizations, including private entities, in becoming Health Information Providers or Users.

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

122. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I:

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has announced import restrictions on computers but not on their components.

Statement-II

The move is in line with the government's efforts to strengthen domestic production through the revitalized production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for IT hardware.

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

123. Consider the following statements about Child Labour in India:

1. According to the National Crime Records Bureau Report of 2022, Telangana had registered highest number of cases under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 in 2021 with Assam following closely behind.
2. SDG Goal 8.7 seeks to eradicate the most severe forms of child labour, such as child soldiers' recruitment and exploitation, and aims to put an end to all forms of child labour by the year 2025.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

124. With reference to Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, 2023, Consider the following statements:

1. It aims to extend the coverage of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, which was primarily focused on censorship, to now encompass copyright protection.
2. The bill aims to deter piracy of films by imposing strict penalties on individuals involved in unauthorized audio-visual recording and distribution of copyrighted content.

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

125. Consider the following statements regarding Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme:

1. The KCC facility is not available to fisheries and animal husbandry farmers.
2. Tenant farmers and oral lessees are not eligible under the scheme.
3. The scheme provides both short – and long-term credit to the beneficiaries.

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

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

126. Consider the following statements:

1. The National e-Governance Division (NeGD) organised CISO Deep-Dive training program.
2. The training program is a part of a workshop organized under the Cyber Surakshit Bharat initiative (CSBI).
3. CSBI was launched by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in cooperation with NeGD.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

127. Consider the following statements:

1. Government is not bound to conduct bypolls if remaining term of the vacant seat is less than a year.
2. Candidate elected in Bypolls is elected for the full term.

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

128. Consider the following statements:

1. In India, the National Population Register (NPR) is prepared under the Census Act, 1948 and contains a list of all usual residents of the country.
2. For the purpose of NPR, a usual resident is a person who has resided in a place for at least 6 months and intends to reside there for another (at least) 6 months.

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

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

1. Kerala has occupied the first position among the 'larger states' in the NITI Aayog's annual 'health index' for the Covid year of 2020-21.
2. NITI Aayog's annual 'health index' is developed by NITI Aayog with technical assistance from the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

130. With reference to the Enforcement Directorate (ED), consider the following statements:

1. It deals with investigation of offences of money laundering and violations of foreign exchange laws.
2. Recruitment of the officers is done by drawing officers from other investigation agencies.

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

131. What is SAMADHAN doctrine, often seen in news?

- A. A policy framework to reduce insurgencies in North-Eastern states
B. A military doctrine adopted by the Indian armed forces
C. A policy framework for resolving issues related to left-wing extremism in India
D. A policy to settle interstate territorial disputes

132. Consider the following statements:

1. Mission Karmayogi aims to enhance citizen experience for government services and improve availability of a competent workforce.
2. The Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) responsible for implementing Mission Karmayogi was set up as a not-for-profit company.

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

133. As per the 78th Multiple Indicator Survey, consider the following statements:

1. It is carried out by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO).
2. It is designed to collect data on a range of key indicators related to households only.
3. Assam, Jharkhand, Bihar, and Odisha are among the worst in access to tapped drinking water.

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

134. Consider the following statements about GeM:

1. It was established in 2016 to facilitate procurement of goods and services by government agencies.
2. It is a completely paperless, cashless, and system-driven e-marketplace.
3. It functions under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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



ANSWERS

1.

Ans: C

Exp:

Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules(A), 2020:

- Systems with a capacity of up to 10 kW are exempt from the requirement of a technical feasibility study. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The distribution company is required to strengthen the distribution system needed for rooftop solar PV systems up to 5 kW capacity at its own expense. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Consumers can obtain separate electricity connections for charging their Electric Vehicles (EVs). **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

2.

Ans: B

Exp:

- Prasar Bharati is India's largest public broadcasting agency. It is a **statutory autonomous body set up by the Prasar Bharati Act, 1997. Hence, Statement I is correct.**
- The Prasar Bharati Corporation's main objective is to provide autonomy to Doordarshan and Akashvani to "educate and entertain the public."
- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting launched the **Prasar Bharti – Shared Audio Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination (PB-SHABD)**, a news-sharing service from **Prasar Bharati**, aimed at transforming news dissemination in India. **Hence, statement II is correct.**
 - ◆ PB-SHABD will serve as a single-point source of news content for smaller news organisations lacking extensive networks.
- **Hence, option B is correct because both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.**

3.

Ans: D

Exp:

- Self-Regulatory Organisations (SROs) are entities formed within specific industries or sectors to regulate themselves, often in collaboration with government regulators. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- SROs operate under the supervision of government regulators, who delegate certain regulatory functions

to these organisations. While regulators maintain ultimate authority, they rely on SROs to monitor and enforce compliance within their respective industries.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

- ◆ SROs aim to promote best practices and ethical conduct within their industries. They often provide guidance, training, and educational resources to help members understand and comply with regulatory requirements.
- ◆ These organisations develop and enforce industry-specific rules, standards, and codes of conduct aimed at ensuring compliance and ethical behaviour among their members.
- ◆ SROs operate with transparency and accountability to ensure that their regulatory activities are conducted in the public interest.

4.

Ans: C

Exp:

National Green Tribunal:

- **Foundation:** The NGT was established in October, 2010, under the **National Green Tribunal Act 2010. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ Its primary focus is to facilitate the **swift and efficient resolution of cases related to environmental protection, conservation of forests, and preservation of natural resources.**
 - ◆ Currently, **New Delhi** serves as the principal place of sitting of NGT, with **Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata, and Chennai** designated as the other four places of sitting for the Tribunal. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Structure:**
 - ◆ The Tribunal is headed by the Chairperson who sits in the Principal Bench and has at least 10 but not more than 20 judicial members and expert members.
 - ◆ The Chairperson is appointed by the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India (CJI).
 - ◆ A Selection Committee shall be formed by the central government to appoint the Judicial Members and Expert Members.

5.

Ans: A

Exp:

Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2024:

- **Biodegradable plastics** are materials that can be broken down by biological processes in certain environments, such as soil and landfills, without producing microplastics. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The rules **do not specify** which chemical tests can establish the absence of microplastics or the extent to which microplastics must be reduced for elimination. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

6.

Ans: D

Exp:

● **About Patent :**

- ◆ A Patent is a statutory right for an invention granted for a limited period to the patentee by the Government, in exchange of full disclosure of his invention for excluding others, from making, using, selling, importing the patented product or process for producing that product for those purposes without his consent.
- ◆ The patent system in India is governed by the **Patents Act, 1970** which was amended in 2003 and 2005. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- ◆ The Patent Rules are regularly amended in consonance with the changing environment, the most recent being Patents (Amendment) Rules, 2024.

● **Term of a Patent:**

- ◆ The term of every patent granted is **20 years** from the date of filing of the application. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- ◆ However, for applications filed under the national phase of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), the accorded term will be 20 years from the international filing date.
 - PCT is an international treaty with more than 150 contracting states, making it possible to seek patent protection for an invention simultaneously in each of a large number of countries by filing an international patent application.

7.

Ans: B

Exp:

- **Rights under the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001:**

◆ **Breeders' Rights:**

- Breeders are granted exclusive rights to produce, sell, market, distribute, import, or export protected varieties. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Breeder's rights include the ability to appoint agents or licensees and seek civil remedies for infringement.

◆ **Researchers' Rights:**

- Researchers can utilise registered varieties for experimentation or research purposes. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Initial use of a variety for developing another variety is permitted, but repeated use requires prior permission from the registered breeder.

◆ **Farmers' Rights:**

- Farmers who have evolved or developed new varieties are entitled to registration and protection similar to breeders.
- Farmers can save, use, exchange, share, or sell farm produce, including protected varieties, subject to certain conditions.
- Recognition and rewards are provided for farmers' conservation efforts related to plant genetic resources.
- Compensation provisions exist for farmers in cases of non-performance of protected varieties.
- Farmers are exempt from paying fees in proceedings under the Act before relevant authorities or courts. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

8.

Ans: C

Exp:

Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024:

- Time-lines for film certification processing have been **reduced**, with the adoption of complete **digital processes** to eliminate all transactional delays. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Movies and feature films must incorporate accessibility features for certification, making them **inclusive for disabled persons** as per the stipulated guidelines. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

9.

Ans: B

Exp:

The **Supreme Court in India** has warned Patanjali Ayurved, a popular Ayurvedic products company, against

making false claims in their **advertisements** about curing diseases.

- The **Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954**, regulates drug advertisements and bans promotions of certain magic remedies. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It prohibits ads that **falsely represent a drug's nature or effectiveness** and those promoting drugs for specific diseases listed in the Act.
- Additionally, it prohibits advertising magic remedies claiming to treat the same diseases.
 - ◆ The Act defines "magic remedy" to include **talismans, mantras, kavachas (amulets)**, and any other similar items that claim supernatural or magical properties for curing ailments. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

10.

Ans: A

Exp:

- **Self-Help Groups (SHGs):**
 - ◆ Self-help groups (SHGs) are informal associations of individuals with similar socio-economic backgrounds, aiming to collectively address common issues such as poverty, illiteracy, and lack of skills.
 - ◆ These groups promote self-governance and peer support, fostering self-employment and poverty alleviation within marginalised communities.
 - ◆ The SHG model was introduced in India in 1984, inspired by **Prof. Yunus's Grameen Bank model**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Kudumbashree in Kerala, Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal in Maharashtra, and Looms of Ladakh are a few examples of success stories from SHGs.
 - Looms of Ladakh, a Pashmina brand with 427 women SHG members, recorded sales of Rs 34 lakh in FY 2022-23 and Rs 42 lakh in the first 10 months of 2023-24, showcasing exponential growth.
- **SHG-Bank Linkage Programme (SHG-BLP):**
 - ◆ The SHG-BLP, initiated by the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** in 1989, evolved from an action research to a pilot project by 1992. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - This collaborative effort between SHGs, banks, and NGOs, with support from the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and NABARD**, aimed to provide financial services to underserved poor households.

- Over time, it has transformed into the **largest microfinance program globally**, covering approximately **16.19 crore households**, predominantly women groups, thus empowering women across the country.
- NABARD's efforts include policy advocacy, training programs, and capacity building for all stakeholders, contributing to the success of this savings-led microfinance model.

- **Rise of SHGs and Lakhpati Didis:**

- ◆ The SHGs in India, numbering **approximately 8.5 million with approximately 92.1 million members**, are spearheading a transformative revolution.
 - A notable outcome of this movement is the rising proportion of **Lakhpati Didis**.
 - Lakhpati Didi is a government initiative that aims to empower **women in SHGs to earn at least Rs 1,00,000 per year** through sustainable livelihood practices. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct**
 - The program was launched in 2023 with an initial target of 2 crore women, but the target has been increased to 3 crore in 2024-25.

11.

Ans: A

Exp:

The **Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)** has issued a cautionary statement regarding the manufacture and sale of unapproved drugs, particularly emphasising the category of "**New Drugs.**"

- Notably, drugs like **Meropenem**, an antibacterial agent, and **Disodium EDTA**, used to treat calcium overload, were highlighted as examples of such unapproved medications.
- CDSCO emphasised that no new drug should be manufactured for sale without approval from the licensing authority. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- CDSCO is the Central Drug Authority for discharging functions assigned to the Central Government under the **Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Major functions of CDSCO include regulatory control over the import of drugs, approval of new drugs and clinical trials, and approval of certain licences as Central License Approving Authority.

12.

Ans: A

Exp:

Narcotics Control Bureau :

- It was constituted by the Government of India in 1986 under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is the apex coordinating agency under the Ministry of Home Affairs. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The National Policy on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances is based on Article 47 of the Indian Constitution which directs the State to endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption, except for medicinal purposes, of intoxicating drugs injurious to health. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

13.

Ans: B

Exp:

- FASTag is a device that employs **Radio Frequency Identification (RFID)** technology for making toll payments directly while the vehicle is in motion. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- FASTag (RFID Tag) is affixed on the windscreen of the vehicle and enables a customer to make toll payments directly from the account which is linked to FASTag.
- It is operated by the **National Highway Authority of India (NHAI)** under the supervision of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

14.

Ans: D

Exp:

- Abortion is the **deliberate termination of a pregnancy**, typically performed during the **first 28 weeks of gestation**. It can be achieved through various medical procedures or medications, depending on the stage of pregnancy and the preferences of the individual seeking abortion. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Until the 1960s, **abortion was prohibited in India**, and violating this led to imprisonment or fines under **Section 312 of the Indian Penal Code**. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The **Shantilal Shah Committee** was set up in the **mid-1960s** to investigate the need for abortion regulations.

15.

Ans: C

Exp:

Krishi Sakhi Convergence Programme (KSCP):

- An MoU between the Ministries of Agriculture & Farmer Welfare and Rural Development initiated the KSCP, to **empower Krishi Sakhi** to transform rural India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The programme includes a Krishi Sakhis Training Programme to certify 70,000 Krishi Sakhis as "**Para-Extension Workers**." **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Krishi Sakhis, who are practicing farmers and trained para-extension professionals, serve as friends to farmers, guiding **Natural Farming** and Soil Health Management. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

16.

Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwDs) Act, 2016** implements the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, ratified by India in 2007. **Hence, statement-I is correct.**
 - Recently, the **Central Public Works Department (CPWD)** has prioritized improving accessibility for persons with disabilities (PwDs) in public buildings. **Hence, statement-II is correct.**
- Hence, option B is correct because both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct but Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement I.**

17.

Ans: C

Exp:

Inter-State Water Dispute Act, 1956:

- **Inter-State Water Dispute (ISWD) Act, 1956:** In case, a particular state or states approach the Centre for the constitution of the tribunal, the Central Government should **try to resolve** the matter by consultation among the aggrieved states. In case, if it does not work, then it may constitute the **tribunal**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Inter-State Water Dispute Act, 1956 was amended in 2002, to include the major recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission.
 - ◆ The amendments mandated a **one-year time frame** to set up the water disputes tribunal and also a 3-year time frame to give a decision. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

18.

Ans: C

Exp:

Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP):

- The DIP is a **secure and integrated platform** created by the **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)** for



curbing the misuse of telecom resources and data through intelligence sharing and information exchange among the **stakeholders** covering a wide spectrum of telecom service providers, law enforcement agencies (LEAs), banks and financial institutions. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- It would be a **non-public data-sharing resource** for “Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), LEAs, banks and financial institutions, social media platforms, identity document issuing authorities, etc. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

19.

Ans: C

Exp:

- The Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution launched the ‘e-Kisan Upaj Nidhi’ (**Digital Gateway**) of **Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA)** to leverage technology for easing farmers’ warehousing logistics and ensuring fair prices for their produce. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- WDRA was established in October 2010, under the **Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007**, with the aim of **developing and regulating warehouses**, promoting negotiability of warehouse receipts, and facilitating orderly growth of the warehousing business in India.
- WDRA operates as a **statutory authority under the Department of Food and Public Distribution**, with its headquarters located in New Delhi.
 - ◆ It is a **statutory authority** under the Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

20.

Ans: C

Exp:

- Bharat Tex 2024, the largest global textile event in India, concluded at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, inspired by the 5F Vision of the Prime Minister of India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The ‘5F’ Formula encompasses – Farm to fibre; fibre to factory; factory to fashion; fashion to foreign.
- Bharat Tex served as a launchpad for initiatives like the ‘**Innovative Business Practices and Economic Models in the Textile Value Chain in India**’ (**IndiaTex**) and **Textile Grand Innovation Challenge**, aiming to drive innovation and sustainability in the textile industry. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ IndiaTex is a four-year UN Environment Programme project that aims to accelerate the transition of the Indian textile sector towards circularity.

21.

Ans: A

Exp:

- **Leprosy:**
 - ◆ Leprosy, also known as **Hansen’s disease**, is a chronic infectious disease caused by a type of bacteria called “**Mycobacterium leprae**”. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The disease affects the skin, the peripheral nerves, mucosal surfaces of the upper respiratory tract, and the eyes.
 - ◆ Leprosy is known to occur **at all ages** ranging from early childhood to old age. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Leprosy is **not inherited**, but it is transmitted via droplets, from the nose and mouth, during close and frequent contact with untreated cases. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

22.

Ans: A

Exp:

- A ‘guarantee’ is a legal obligation for a State to make payments and protect an investor/lender from the risk of default by a borrower. **Hence, statement I is correct.**
- A guarantee, as per the **Indian Contracts Act, 1872**, is a contract to “perform the promise, or discharge the liability, of a third person in case of his default. It involves three parties: **the principal Debtor, Creditor, and Surety.** **Hence, statement II is correct.**
 - ◆ **Creditor:** The entity to whom the guarantee is given. This is the party to whom the **payment is due**, and they are protected by the guarantee.
 - ◆ **Principal Debtor:** The entity on whose **behalf the guarantee is given**. This is the **party that owes a debt** or has a liability.
 - ◆ **Surety:** The **entity providing the guarantee** (State governments in this context), that **promises to perform the promise** or discharge the liability of the **principal debtor in case of default.**
- **Hence, option A is correct because both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.**

23.

Ans: D

Exp:

- The credit system is a method used in education to quantify and assess the amount of learning a student has acquired.

◆ It assigns **numerical values, known as credits**, to different courses or learning activities based on the time and effort required to complete them and demonstrate mastery of the subject matter. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**

- Creditisation aims to **establish academic equivalence between vocational and general education**, facilitating mobility between the two education systems, as proposed by the NEP 2020. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
- The credits earned by a student will be digitally stored in the Academic Bank of Credits and accessible through a linked Digilocker account. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ To implement this in its affiliated schools, the CBSE formed a subcommittee in 2022 that suggested how the current academic framework should be redesigned to align it with NCF.

24.

Ans: B

Exp:

- **Nazool Land:**
 - ◆ Nazool land is **owned by the government** but most often not directly administered as state property. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The state generally allots such land to any entity **on lease for a fixed period**, generally between **15 and 99 years**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ While several states have brought in government orders for the purpose of framing rules for Nazool land, **The Nazool Lands (Transfer) Rules, 1956** is the law mostly used for Nazool land adjudication. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

25.

Ans: B

Exp:

Female Genital Mutilation:

- Female genital mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures that involve altering or **injuring the female genitalia for non-medical reasons** and is recognised internationally as a violation of the human rights, the health and the integrity of girls and women. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is concentrated primarily in **Western, Eastern, and North-Eastern Africa**, as well as select Middle Eastern and Asian nations. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
- Presently, there is no legislation that bans the FGM practice in India. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**

26.

Ans: B

Exp:

Global Pulses Conference 2024:

- The recent Global Pulses Conference, an **annual gathering** of pulses producers, processors, and traders, was recently jointly organized by the **Global Pulse Confederation** and the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (**NAFED**). **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Global Pulses Conference is the industry's **largest global event**, bringing together key players from more than 50 countries. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Global Pulses Conference is also known as the Global Pulse Confederation (GPC) Pulse Conference.

27.

Ans: A

Exp:

National Commission for Scheduled Castes:

- The **NCSC is a Constitutional Body** established with a view to provide safeguards against the exploitation of Scheduled Castes and to promote and protect their social, educational, economic, and cultural interests. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The **89th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2003** bifurcated the combined National Commission for SCs and STs into two separate bodies, namely, the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (**under Article 338**) and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (**under Article 338-A**). **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

28.

Ans: A

Exp:

Rubber Board:

- The **Rubber Board** is a **statutory organization** constituted under Section (4) of the **Rubber Act, 1947**, and functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Board is headed by a **Chairman** appointed by the Central Government and has 28 members representing various interests of the natural rubber industry. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Board is responsible for the development of the rubber industry in the country by assisting and encouraging research, development, extension, and training activities related to rubber.

29.

Ans: A

Exp:

Public Accounts Committee (PAC):

- It is one of the **three Financial Parliamentary committees**, the other two are the Estimates Committee and the Committee on Public Undertakings. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Parliamentary committees draw their authority from **Article 105** (on privileges of Parliament members) and Article 118 (on Parliament's authority to make rules for regulating its procedure and conduct of business).
- The Public Accounts Committee was introduced in 1921 after its first mention in the Government of India Act, 1919 also called Montford Reforms.
- The Public Accounts Committee is now constituted every year under **Rule 308** of the **Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business** in Lok Sabha. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

30.

Ans: B

Exp:

- **About Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI):** DPI refers to blocks or platforms such as digital identification, payment infrastructure and data exchange solutions that help countries deliver essential services to their people, empowering citizens and improving lives by enabling digital inclusion.
- **DPI Ecosystem:** DPIs mediate the flow of people, money and information. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ These three sets become the foundation for developing an effective DPI ecosystem:
 - First, the flow of people through a digital ID System.
 - Second, the flow of money through a real-time fast payment system.
 - And third, the flow of personal information through a consent-based data sharing system to actualise the benefits of DPIs and to empower the citizen with a real ability to control data.
- **IndiaStack:** It is a set of APIs (Application programming interface) that allows governments, businesses, startups and developers to utilise an unique digital Infrastructure to solve India's hard problems towards presence-less, paperless, and cashless service delivery.
 - ◆ India, through India Stack, became the first country to develop all three foundational DPIs, Digital identity (Aadhar), Real-time fast payment (UPI) and

Account Aggregator built on the Data Empowerment Protection Architecture (DEPA). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- ◆ DEPA creates a digital framework that allows users to share their data on their own terms through a third-party entity, who are known as Consent Managers. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

31.

Ans: A

Exp:

- The Union Cabinet, has approved the continuation of the **centrally sponsored Scheme, "Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP),"** proposed by the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR), with a total outlay of Rs. 4,100 crore for the period of 2021-22 to 2025-26. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- RMBA component with an outlay of Rs. 1160 crore (**100% central assistance**) focuses on **flood control, anti-erosion works, and** safeguards security installations on border rivers, including joint water projects with neighbouring countries.
 - ◆ The Scheme incentivizes states to implement **flood-plain zoning**, an effective flood management measure.
 - Flood-plain zoning designates areas prone to flooding and dictates permissible developments to minimize damage during floods.
 - ◆ While **flood management is primarily the responsibility of State Governments**, the Union Government aims to supplement their efforts by promoting modern technology and innovative approaches. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

32.

Ans: A

Exp:

- **'Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA)'** is one of the largest work guarantee programs in the world launched in 2005 by the **Ministry of Rural Development**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- MGNREGA is a demand-based wage employment scheme that provides at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment to each family per fiscal year to improve the livelihood security of families in rural areas of the country. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- It provides livelihood security, which means that rural households have alternative sources of income when better employment opportunities are unavailable. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

33.

Ans: C

Exp:

University Grants Commission (UGC):

- UGC came into existence on 28th December, 1953 and became a statutory Organization of the Government of India by an Act of Parliament in 1956, for the coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of teaching, examination and research in university education.
- The UGC operates under the Ministry of Education, the Central Government appoints a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, and ten other members to the UGC. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- It functions from New Delhi as well as its six Regional offices located in Bangalore, Bhopal, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Pune. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

34.

Ans: B

Exp:

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA):

- MGNREGA is one of the largest work guarantee programmes in the world launched in 2005 by the Ministry of Rural Development. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

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.

- The act mandates Gram sabhas to recommend the works that are to be undertaken and at least 50% of the works must be executed by them. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- At least one-third of beneficiaries have to be women. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

35.

Ans: B

Exp:

- The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013):

- ◆ Despite the outlawing of manual scavenging by the 2013 Act, it does not explicitly cover prison administration, and hence, the prison manuals that allow caste discrimination and manual scavenging in jails are not in violation of the Act. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

- State prison manuals mandate that duties like cleaning and sweeping must be performed by members of specific castes, perpetuating caste-based discrimination. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

- ◆ Prison manuals, such as the one in West Bengal under Section 741, safeguard the monopoly of "savarna Hindus" on cooking and carrying food for all prisoners.

36.

Ans: A

Exp:

Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act of 1956:

- The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act (ITP), 1956, aims to prevent the commercialization of vices and the trafficking of females. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- It delineates the legal framework surrounding sex work. While the act itself does not declare sex work illegal, it prohibits running brothels. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- Engaging in prostitution is legally recognized, but soliciting people and luring them into sexual activities are considered illegal.
- Section 2 of the act defines a brothel as any place used for sexual exploitation or abuse for the gain of another person or for the mutual gain of two or more prostitutes.

37.

Ans: B

Exp:

- Despite the implementation of multiple policy interventions in West Bengal aimed at curbing child marriage, the region has experienced a substantial surge of 32.3% in the incidence of child marriages. This increase corresponds to over 500,000 additional girls getting married as children.

- ◆ The National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-21) indicates that the prevalence of women aged 20-24 years married before 18 remains high in West Bengal at 41.6%, compared to the national figure of 23.3%. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

- The Kanyashree Prakalpa Scheme:

- ◆ Launched in 2013, Kanyashree Prakalpa incentivizes the schooling of teenage girls aged 13 to 18 while

simultaneously discouraging child marriage. The scheme has **covered 81 lakh girls**, according to the West Bengal Budget for 2023-24. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

● **Rupashree Prakalpa:**

- ◆ In addition to Kanyashree, the state government runs the Rupashree Prakalpa, **providing cash incentives for girls' marriages**. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

38.

Ans: B

Exp:

- In 2022, the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** had notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021 to regulate Over the Top (OTT) platforms. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The rules establish a soft-touch self-regulatory architecture with a Code of Ethics and a three-tier grievance redressal mechanism for OTT platforms. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- They provide for self-classification of the content without any involvement of Central Board of Film Certification. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

39.

Ans: (b)

Exp:

- The expert committee of the **Ministry of Defence** is responsible for choosing the tableaux for the Republic Day parade. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The MoD has included a provision for States and Union Territories that are not selected for the Republic Day parade to showcase their tableaux at the Bharat Parv. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The Government of India organizes the six-day mega event "Bharat Parv" from January 26-31, as part of the Republic Day celebrations. This alternative event takes place at the historic Red Fort.
- The Government has finalized a **rotational plan to ensure that every State and Union Territory gets an opportunity** to present their tableaux at the Republic Day parade within a three-year cycle (2024-2026). **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ The rotational system, agreed upon by 28 States, intends to provide fair opportunities to all regions, mitigating accusations of political bias and fostering a more inclusive celebration.

40.

Ans: A

Exp:

Reforming Organ Transplantation:

- Recently, the Delhi **High Court** has recommended an **optimal timeframe of 6-8 weeks for completing organ transplant processes involving living donors**.
 - ◆ High Court directed the government to establish specific timelines for all stages of organ donation applications in accordance with the **Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues (THOT) Act, 1994**, and Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Rules, 2014 (THOT Rules). **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ The law governs the transplantation of human organs and tissues in India, **including the donation of organs after death**.
 - ◆ It lays down regulations governing healthcare providers and hospitals and stipulates penalties for violations.

● **Organ Donors and Recipients:**

- ◆ A transplant can be **either from a pool of organs of deceased persons donated by their relatives or from a living person who is known to the recipient**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- ◆ In most cases, **the Act allows living donations from close relatives** such as parents, siblings, children, spouses, grandparents, and grandchildren.

41.

Ans: A

Exp:

Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023:

- **Swachh Survekshan**, conducted by the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** since 2016, is the **world's largest urban sanitation and cleanliness survey**.
 - ◆ It has been instrumental in fostering a spirit of healthy competition among towns and cities to improve their service delivery to citizens and towards creating cleaner cities.
- **Indore and Surat** were jointly awarded the **cleanest city** title. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Maharashtra** secured the top position among states in the annual **cleanliness** rankings for urban areas. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Chandigarh received the **Safaimitra Surakshit Shehar award for the city** with the best safety standards for sanitation workers. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

42.

Ans: B

Exp:

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI):

- ASI was founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham – the first Director-General of ASI. Alexander Cunningham is also known as the “Father of Indian Archaeology”. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- It regulates all archaeological activities in the country as per the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. It also regulates Antiquities and Art Treasure Act, 1972. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
- ASI, under the **Ministry of Culture**, is the premier organization for the archaeological research and protection of the cultural heritage of the nation. **Hence, Statement 3 is not correct.**

43.

Ans: C

Exp:

- The National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP) envisages an **aggregate monetisation potential of Rs 6-lakh crore through the leasing of core assets of the Central government** in sectors such as roads, railways, power, oil and gas pipelines, telecom, civil aviation etc, over a **four-year period (FY 2022-25)**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The **Monetization through NMP only includes core assets**, excluding monetization through **disinvestment of non-core assets**. Currently, only assets of **central government line ministries and CPSEs** in infrastructure sectors have been **included**.
- This pipeline is intended to support investments under the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) worth Rs 111 trillion in six years through FY25. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The **timeline for the NMP** has been strategically set to be **co-terminus with** the remaining period under the **NIP**.

44.

Ans: A

Exp:

- Majorly, NGOs can register as either trusts, societies, or companies under Section 8 of the **Companies Act, 2013**. Each form has its own set of rules and regulations for registration and governance. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- Registration under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 2010 (FCRA) is required for associations, groups, and NGOs seeking foreign donations, initially valid for **5 years** and renewable upon meeting specified norms. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

45.

Ans: C

Exp:

About the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI):

- It was founded in **1861 by Alexander Cunningham – the first Director-General of ASI**. Alexander Cunningham is also known as the “Father of Indian Archaeology”. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- ASI, under the **Ministry of Culture**, is the premier organization for the archaeological research and protection of the cultural heritage of the nation. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act, 1958** governs the functioning of ASI. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

46.

Ans: C

Exp:

- The Emigration Rules require workers going to conflict zones to register with the **Ministry of External Affairs’ ‘e-migrate’ portal**. However, Israel is not on this list. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The International practises for protection of migrant workers are governed by two conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO): the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 and Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975.
 - ◆ While **India has not ratified both conventions**, Israel had ratified the **1949 convention in 1953**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

47.

Ans: A

Exp:

About Social Audit: A social audit is a systematic, independent assessment of an organisation’s or program’s social impact and ethical performance. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

- **Howard Bowen** proposed the term “social audit” in his 1953 book Social Responsibilities of the Businessman. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005:** Section 17 of the Act stipulates that the gram sabha is responsible for monitoring work execution.



- ◆ **Independent social audit units in each state** are mandated to operate independently from implementing authorities, emphasising community-driven verification of program implementation. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

48.

Ans: A

Exp:

The Government of India has directed school and higher education regulators and heads of educational institutions to make study material in Indian languages available for all courses in the next three years.

- Study material for all courses under school and higher education will be made available digitally in Indian languages included in the **8th Schedule of the Constitution**. **Hence, statement I is correct.**
- This decision is in line with the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP-2020) to promote multilingualism in education at every level. **Hence, statement II is correct.**
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.

49.

Ans: A

Exp:

- The development plan has been prepared by the **Town and Country Planning Department of Himachal Pradesh** under the **AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation)** sub-scheme of the Government of India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The plan is based on the Geographical Information System and covers Shimla Municipal Corporation and its adjoining areas under the provisions of the Himachal Pradesh Town and Country Planning Act, 1977.
- The plan states that “town planning **does not** come under the purview of the “**National Green Tribunal**”. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Supreme Court gave its approval to the **Shimla Development Plan 2041**, setting aside the **previous orders of the NGT**, stating that it was beyond the jurisdiction of the tribunal to direct the state government on **how to formulate the development plan**.

50.

Ans: A

Exp:

National Clean Air Programme (NCAP):

- It was launched by the **Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** in January 2019.

- It is the first-ever effort in the country to frame a **national framework for air quality management** with a time-bound reduction target.
- The NCAP's goal is to reduce **average particulate matter (PM)** concentrations by 40% by 2026 in **131 cities**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Initially aimed for a 20-40% reduction by 2024, the target was later extended to 2026.
- **PRANA (Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment Cities)**, is a portal for monitoring of implementation of NCAP. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

51.

Ans: C

Exp:

- Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is the National Standard Body of India established under the BIS Act 2016 for the harmonious development of the activities of standardization, marking and quality certification of goods. BIS has its headquarters at New Delhi. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is a body under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution, Government of India, which celebrated its 77th Foundation Day on 6th January 2024. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

52.

Ans: A

Exp:

Ministry of Cooperation:

- **Ministry of Cooperation** was created by transferring the existing entries related to cooperation and cooperative in the business of the erstwhile Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare vide **Cabinet Secretariat's Gazette Notification dated 6th July, 2021**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Ministry is responsible for **providing a separate administrative, legal and policy framework** for strengthening the cooperative movement in the country. It aims to **deepen co-operatives as a true people-based movement** reaching up to the grassroots and develop a cooperative based economic model where each member works with a spirit to responsibility. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The **principal activities of the Ministry include streamlining processes for 'Ease of doing business' for co-operatives** and enabling development of Multi-State Co-operative Societies.

- Recently, the **Ministry of Cooperation has shed light on the “World’s Largest Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector.”** This initiative is aimed at addressing the **persistent shortage of storage capacity** for food grains in the country. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

53.

Ans: D

Exp:

- NCRB was set up in 1986 to function as a **repository of information on crime and criminals** to assist the investigators in linking the crime to the perpetrators based on the recommendations of the **Tandon Committee, National Police Commission (1977-1981) and the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Taskforce (1985).** **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
 - It is part of the MHA and is **headquartered in New Delhi.**
- It also acts as a **“national warehouse” for the fingerprint records** of Indian and foreign criminals, and assists in locating interstate criminals through fingerprint search. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
- The NCRB has four divisions: Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS), Crime Statistics, Finger Prints, and Training.
- NCRB Publications:**
 - Crimes in India, Accidental Deaths and Suicides, Prison Statistics, and Reports on Missing Women and children in India.** **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**
 - These publications serve as principal reference points on crime statistics not only for police officers but also for criminologists, researchers, media and policymakers not only in India but abroad as well.

54.

Ans: A

Exp:

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55.

Ans: D

Exp:

Simultaneous elections refers to the **idea of holding elections for the Lok Sabha (the lower house of Parliament), State legislative assemblies, and local bodies like municipalities and panchayats** across the country at the same time.

- The initial **four general elections in India synchronized Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections.** **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Presently, Lok Sabha elections align with Assembly polls in **Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Arunachal Pradesh, and Sikkim.** **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Conducting **elections** at various levels requires significant financial resources. **Synchronizing elections** would consolidate these expenses, leading to **substantial cost savings for the government.** **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

56.

Ans: B

Exp:

- Public Gambling Act, 1867:**
 - The act **primarily addresses physical gambling activities.** However, its relevance extends to online gaming, providing a legal framework for regulation. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Information Technology Act, 2000:**
 - The **Information Technology Act of 2000** plays a **pivotal role in regulating online activities**, including gaming. **Section 66 of the IT Act** deals with **computer-related offenses**, providing a legal basis for addressing **cyber crimes** associated with **online gaming.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**



- The **Public Gambling Act** has declared that **any gambling which involves the act of putting money or betting for money or any other equivalent act is illegal**. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.

57.

Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Indian Universities Commission** was a **body appointed in 1902** on the instructions of **Viceroy of India Lord Curzon** intended to make recommendations for reforms in university education in India. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The chief architect of the **educational policy published on March, 11, 1904** was **Lord Curzon**. It was a **very significant Government Resolution**. So the year, 1904, may be considered as an **important landmark in the history of the educational development** in India. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- **All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)** was set up in **November 1945** as a **national-level Apex Advisory Body** to conduct a survey on the **facilities available for technical education** and to promote development in the country in a coordinated and integrated manner. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

58.

Ans: D

Exp:

Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC):

- IPC is an Autonomous Institution of the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- IPC was created to set standards for drugs in India. Its basic function is to regularly update the **standards of drugs** commonly required for the **treatment of diseases** prevailing in this region.
- It publishes official documents for improving the **Quality of Medicines** by way of adding new and updating existing monographs in the form of **Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP)**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ It further promotes the **rational use of generic medicines** by publishing the National Formulary of India.
- IPC also provides **IP Reference Substances (IPRS)** which act as a fingerprint for identification of an article under test and its purity as prescribed in IP.

59.

Ans: A

Explanation:

- **National Tele Mental Health Programme:**

- ◆ NTMHP was launched in October 2022, to further improve access to quality mental health counselling and care services in the country.
- ◆ **National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru** is the National Apex Centre, coordinated activities of **Tele MANAS** across India. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
 - 25 States/UTs have established 36 **Tele Mental Health and Normalcy Augmentation Systems (MANAS)** Cells for extending mental health services. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
 - Handling a total of 63,806 calls on the helpline number.

60.

Ans: A

Exp:

- **World Mental Health Day** is observed on **10th October every year**, with the overall objective of **raising awareness of mental health issues** around the world and mobilising efforts in support of mental health. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The **Mental Health Care Act, 2017** guarantees **every affected person access to mental healthcare** and treatment from services run or funded by the government. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- It has **significantly reduced the scope for the use of Section 309 IPC** and made the attempt to commit suicide punishable only as an exception.
- **Kiran Helpline:** In 2020, the **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** launched a 24/7 toll-free helpline 'Kiran' to provide support to people facing anxiety, stress, depression, suicidal thoughts and other mental health concerns. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.

61.

Ans: A

Exp:

Recently, the **World Health Organization (WHO)** has urged governments to treat **e-cigarettes similarly to tobacco and ban all flavors**, threatening cigarette companies' bets on smoking alternatives.

About E-cigarettes :

- **E-cigarettes** are **battery-powered devices** that work by heating a **liquid** into an aerosol that the user inhales and exhales.



◆ The e-cigarette liquid **typically contains nicotine, propylene glycol, glycerin, flavorings, and other chemicals.** Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**

- In India, the **possession of e-cigarettes and similar devices is a violation** of the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarette Act (PECA), 2019. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- Nicotine is used as a direct substance in **e-cigarettes** and the content ranges up to **36 mg/mL**. Although regular cigarettes too have nicotine, but they range between 1.2 to 1.4 mg/mL. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct.**

62.

Ans: C

Exp:

- The SHG BL Project was launched by NABARD in 1992 and has blossomed into the world's largest microfinance project. Hence, **Statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ Under this programme, banks were allowed to open savings accounts for SHGs.
- Regular training of staff and community cadres under State Rural Livelihoods Missions (SRLMs) is provided under this project. Hence, **Statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Financial education for **Self Help Group (SHG) members** through trained **Financial Literacy Community Resource Persons (FLCRPs)** at the village level.
- Bank Sakhis, trained members from SHGs who act as intermediaries, aiding SHG members in transactions and application processes. Hence, **Statement 3 is correct.**

63.

Ans: (c)

Exp:

- The Allahabad High Court recently ruled that a survey will be conducted for the **Shahi Idgah, a three-domed mosque in Mathura.** It is seeking appointment of a **court commission** to inspect the **Shahi Idgah mosque** that stands adjacent to the **Krishna Janmabhoomi temple in Mathura.** Hence, **Statement 1 is correct.**
- The Places of Worship Act, 1991 was enacted to **freeze the status of religious places of worship** as they existed on **August 15, 1947**, and prohibits the conversion of any place of worship and ensures the maintenance of their religious character. Hence, **Statement 2 is correct.**
- The Act does not apply to **ancient and historical monuments, archaeological sites, and remains** covered by the **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.** It also excludes cases that have already been settled or resolved and disputes that have

been resolved by mutual agreement or conversions that occurred before the Act came into effect. Hence, **Statement 3 is correct.**

64.

Ans: C

Exp:

- Prasar Bharati is India's largest public broadcasting agency. It is a **statutory autonomous body** set up by the **Prasar Bharati Act in 1997** and **comprises the Doordarshan Television Network and All India Radio**, which were earlier media units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Hence, **both statements 1 and 2 are correct.**

65.

Ans: C

Exp:

- **Goa Liberation Day** is celebrated on **December 19th** every year to commemorate the **state's liberation from Portuguese rule in 1961.** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
 - The Indian government waited for **14 years after independence** to move troops to Goa because it was a sensitive issue and the government did not want to **risk a war with Portugal.**
 - In **1961**, the Indian Government launched **Operation Vijay** and annexed **Daman and Diu and Goa** with the Indian mainland on **19th December.** Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- As a result, **Goa, Daman, and Diu** became **Union Territories of India.**
- Goa continued to be a **Union Territory** till **1987** and then was given **statehood** by becoming the **25th state of India.** Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**

66.

Ans: B

Explanation:

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI):

- ASI, under the **Ministry of Culture**, is the **premier organization for the archaeological research and protection of the cultural heritage** of the nation.
 - ◆ It oversees all archaeological undertakings within the nation by the **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, of 1958.** Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**
- It administers more than 3650 ancient monuments, archaeological sites and remains of national importance.
- Its activities **include carrying out surveys of antiquarian remains, exploration and excavation of archaeological sites, conservation and maintenance** of protected monuments etc.

- It was **founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham** – the first Director-General of ASI. Alexander Cunningham is also known as the **“Father of Indian Archaeology”**.
- As of now, the ASI allows worship and rituals only at monuments where such traditions were **ongoing at the time the ASI took custody**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

67.

Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Assam Accord** was a **tripartite agreement** between the Central Government, the State Government of Assam, and the leaders of the Assam Movement. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The **Assam Accord, signed in 1985**, introduced Section 6A into the Citizenship Act, of 1955, exclusively for Assam. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- The **Assam Accord** sought to end the influx of illegal migrants from Bangladesh. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.
 - ◆ This provision addresses the issue of large-scale migration preceding the **1971 Bangladesh Liberation War**. Notably, it mandates the **detection and deportation of foreigners** who entered Assam after March 25, 1971, marking the creation of Bangladesh.

68.

Ans: A

Explanation:

Exit Polls:

- Exit polls are surveys conducted with voters as they leave a polling station during an election. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The purpose is to gather information on how people voted and their demographic characteristics.
- These polls provide early indications of election results before official results are announced.
- The first exit polls in India were conducted by the Indian Institute of Public Opinion during the second Lok Sabha elections in 1957. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

69.

Ans: D

Exp:

Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

- The CBI **was established by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs** and later transferred to the **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions**, currently

functioning as an attached office. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.

- Its establishment was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.
- The CBI operates under the **Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946**. It is neither a **constitutional nor a statutory body**. Hence, **both statement 2 and 3 are correct**.
- It investigates cases related to bribery, governmental corruption, breaches of central laws, multi-state organized crime, and multi-agency or international cases.

70.

Ans: B

Exp:

Aadhar:

- Aadhaar number is a **12-digit random number** issued by the UIDAI (“Authority”) to the **residents of India** after satisfying the verification process laid down by the Authority.
- The Aadhaar identity platform is one of the **key pillars of the ‘Digital India’**, wherein **every resident of the country** is provided with a unique identity. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The Aadhaar number is a **proof of identity**, however, it **does not confer any right of citizenship or domicile** in respect of an Aadhaar number holder. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- **Any individual, irrespective of age and gender**, who is a **resident of India**, may voluntarily enroll to obtain an Aadhaar number. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

71.

Ans: C

Exp:

Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA):

- **UAPA** presents an **alternate criminal law framework** where the **general principles of criminal law** are **reversed**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- By **relaxing timelines for the state to file chargesheets** and its **stringent conditions for bail**, the UAPA gives the **state more powers** compared with the **Indian Penal Code (IPC)**.
- **Enacted in 1967**, the UAPA was **strengthened** by the government in **2008 and 2012**.
- The **test for denying bail** under the UAPA is that the **court must be satisfied that a “prima facie” case exists** against the accused. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.



- In 2019, the SC defined **prima facie narrowly** to mean that the **courts must not analyze evidence** or circumstances, **but look at the “totality of the case”** presented by the state.
- In **NIA v Zahoor Ahmed Watali**, the SC read the **bail provisions strictly**, holding that courts must only be satisfied that a prima facie case can be made out to deny bail, and **not consider the merit or the admissibility of the evidence**.

72.

Ans: C

Explanation:

Key Policies under the Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023

- **Expansion to Digital Platforms:**
 - ◆ The CBC can advertise on social media, **Over-the-Top (OTT)** platforms, digital audio platforms, mobile applications, and websites.
 - ◆ It mandates that the websites, mobile apps, OTT platforms and digital audio platforms **need to be at least a year old to be eligible** to apply under the scheme.
- **Advertisement Rates and Transparency:**
 - ◆ Advertising rates will be linked to subscriber base and viewership numbers, determined through competitive bidding to ensure transparency and efficiency. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ Rates discovered through this process will remain valid for three years.
- **OTT Platforms Engagement:**
 - ◆ OTT platforms can be empanelled not only for placing advertisements during regular content **but also for the production of embedded/in-film advertisements**, promotions, or branding activities as per CBC’s Letter of Intent. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Funding Source:**
 - ◆ The CBC typically utilizes 2% of the total outlay of government schemes for publicity and outreach activities, and this fund is used for advertisements and campaigns.

73.

Ans: D

Explanation:

National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO):

- NOTTO is set up under the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, located in New Delhi. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- The National Network division of NOTTO functions as the apex centre for all Indian activities for procurement, distribution and registry of organs and tissue donation and transplantation in the country. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

74.

Ans: C

Exp:

OECD Principles on Artificial Intelligence:

- The **OECD Principles on Artificial Intelligence** promote AI that is **innovative and trustworthy** and that **respects human rights and democratic values**. They were **adopted in May 2019** by OECD member countries when they approved the OECD Council Recommendation on Artificial Intelligence. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The OECD AI Principles are the **first such principles signed up to by governments**. They **include concrete recommendations for public policy and strategy**, and their general scope ensures they can be applied to AI developments around the world.
- **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Developed by the OECD, **AI Network of Experts**, the OECD framework for classifying AI systems **aims to help policy makers, regulators, legislators and others to assess the opportunities and risks** that different types of AI systems present, to inform their AI strategies and ensure policy consistency across borders.

75.

Ans: C

Exp:

- Agri-food systems are the networks of people, activities, and resources that produce, process, distribute, and consume food.
 - ◆ They include farmers, traders, processors, retailers, consumers, and others, who are involved in the food value chain. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- **Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas** (celebrated annually on **October 15th in India** to recognize and appreciate the valuable contribution of **women farmers in the agricultural sector**). **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
- Climate change increases the **demand for water, labour, and natural resources**, which adds to the workload of women farmers, who are often responsible for collecting water, fuelwood, and fodder, as well as performing **household and care duties**. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**
- Women farmers also have to adapt to **changing weather and rainfall patterns**, which may require them to adopt new crops, **technologies, or practices, or to migrate to other areas.**



76.

Ans: D

Exp:

- Aadhaar is a **12-digit individual identification number** issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India on behalf of the Government of India. The number serves as proof of identity and address, anywhere in India. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- The Aadhaar number is unique for each individual and will remain valid for life time. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
- Aadhaar number will help the residents to avail various services provided by banking, mobile phone connections and other Govt and Non-Govt services in due course.
- Establishes identity of individuals on the basis of demographic and biometric information.
- It is a voluntary service that **every resident can avail irrespective of present documentation.**
- Aadhaar Authentication is a **process by which the Aadhaar number along with demographic information** (such as name, date of birth, gender etc) or biometric information (Fingerprint or Iris) of an individual is submitted to UIDAI's Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR) for its verification and UIDAI verifies the correctness of the details submitted, or the lack thereof, on the basis of information available with it. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ Aadhaar authentication is fundamental to accessing services, requiring individuals to **use their fingerprints or SMS passcodes to verify their identity** for tasks such as accessing rations and government services.

77.

Ans: B

Exp:

- **Online child pornography** is the **manifestation of digital exploitation**, which refers to the **production, distribution, or possession of sexually explicit material** involving minors through digital platforms.
- According to **National Crime Report Bureau (NCRB) 2021** the cases related to **child pornography** have increased from **2020 to 2021.**
- **Hence, option B is correct.**

78.

Ans: A

Exp:

Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail(VVPAT):

- VVPAT is an **independent verification printer machine** and is attached to electronic voting machines. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- When a voter presses a button in the EVM, a **paper slip is printed through the VVPAT.** The slip **contains the poll symbol and name of the candidate.** Therefore it is **not an alternative** to EVM. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- It **allows voters to verify** if their vote has gone to the intended candidate. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- After being visible to the voter from a glass case in the VVPAT for seven seconds, the ballot slip will be cut and dropped into the drop box in the VVPAT machine and a beep will be heard.

79.

Ans: A

Exp:

Ayushman Arogya Mandir: Transforming Healthcare

- The Union Government has decided to rename the existing **Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs)** as '**Ayushman Arogya Mandir**' with the tag-line '**Arogyam Parmam Dhanam**'. **Hence, option A is correct.**
 - ◆ Ayushman Bharat aims to shift from **selective healthcare to offering a full spectrum of services**, covering preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative care. It comprises two components:
 - **First:** The creation of 1,50,000 **Health & Wellness Centres (HWCs)** for free Comprehensive Primary Health Care, emphasizing wellness and a wider array of services at the community level.
 - **Second:** **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)**, extends health insurance of Rs. 5 lakhs per year to over 10 crore impoverished families for secondary and tertiary care.

80.

Ans: C

Exp:

- **Coverage:**
 - ◆ The rules cover all types of batteries, including Electric Vehicle batteries, portable batteries, automotive batteries, and industrial batteries. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR):**
 - ◆ The producers of batteries are responsible for the collection and recycling/refurbishment of waste batteries and the use of recovered materials from waste into new batteries. Rules prohibit disposal in landfills and incineration.

- To meet the EPR obligations, **producers may engage themselves or authorise any other entity** for the collection, recycling, or refurbishment of waste batteries. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**

- **Online Portal for exchange of EPR Certificates:**

- ◆ It will enable the setting up of a mechanism and centralized online portal for the exchange of EPR certificates between producers and recyclers/refurbishers to fulfill the obligations of producers.

- **Online Registration:**

- ◆ Online registration & reporting, auditing, and committee for monitoring the implementation of rules and taking measures **required for removal of difficulties.**

- **Principle of Polluter Pays:**

- ◆ Environmental **compensation will be imposed for non-fulfilment of Extended Producer Responsibility** targets, responsibilities and obligations set out in the rules. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**

81.

Ans: B

Exp:

- An Anonymised Data set is any data set that **does not contain personally identifiable information**. It could include **aggregated information**, such as the overall health data of a particular demography, weather and climate data of an area, and traffic data, among others.
 - ◆ It is **different from personal data**, which is data that relates to an identified or identifiable individual, such as email, biometrics, etc. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Under the Digital India Bill**, there is a provision to mandate big tech companies to deposit all the **non-personal data** they hold into a government-backed database known as the India Datasets platform. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Under the Digital India Bill**, non-personal data held by the India datasets platform could be monetized, playing a crucial role in economic benefits. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

82.

Ans: C

Exp:

Cell Broadcast Alert System (CBAS):

- The **CBAS** represents cutting-edge technology that empowers us to **disseminate critical and time-sensitive**

disaster management messages to all mobile devices within specified geographical areas, regardless of whether the recipients are residents or visitors. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- Common applications of Cell Broadcast include delivering emergency alerts such as severe weather warnings (e.g., **Tsunamis, Flash Floods, Earthquakes**), public safety messages, evacuation notices, and other critical information.
- It is developed in collaboration with the **Department of Telecommunications (DOT)** and the **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)** and other agencies to generate and disseminate the alerts. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- **Other Key points:**
 - ◆ Mobile numbers are not required. SMS can reach one million people in a few seconds. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ There is no subscriber privacy issue, as cell broadcast does not require mobile numbers for transmission.
 - ◆ Works even when there is a network jam (effective during flare-ups of communal riots, etc.). Data is not required, works in multiple languages simultaneously.

83.

Ans: (a)

Exp:

AAINA Dashboard for Cities

The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** launched the **'AAINA Dashboard for Cities'** portal, offering **Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)** a platform to voluntarily submit key data.

- AAINA aims to help cities assess their **performance relative to others**. It seeks to inspire cities by highlighting possibilities and areas for enhancement. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The **Dashboard categorizes data into five pillars:** Political & Administrative Structure, Finance, Planning, Citizen-Centric Governance, and Delivery of Basic Services. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ ULBs will regularly submit data, including audited accounts and self-reported performance metrics, through a user-friendly portal.
 - ◆ AAINA is envisioned as a **permanent platform for ULB-related data**, a comprehensive database of key performance metrics. With active ULB cooperation, the dashboard aims to become a public resource, allowing stakeholders to access and utilize the collected data.



84.

Ans: D

Exp:

National Company Law Appellate Tribunal:

- The NCLAT was **constituted under Section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013** to hear appeals against the orders of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ NCLT is a **quasi-judicial body** that adjudicates issues relating to companies.
- It is also the **appellate tribunal for orders passed by the NCLT(s) under Section 61 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016**, and for orders passed by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) under Sections 202 and 211 of the IBC.
- Any person aggrieved by any order of the NCLAT **may file an appeal to the Supreme Court. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

85.

Ans: C

Explanation:

- **NADA:**
 - ◆ National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) was set up as a registered society under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 on 24th November, 2005 with a mandate for Dope free sports in India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The primary objectives are to implement anti-doping rules as per WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency) code, regulate dope control programmes, to promote education and research and create awareness about doping and its ill effects. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The NADA has the necessary authority and responsibility for:
 - Planning, coordinating, implementing, monitoring and advocating improvements in Doping Control,
 - Cooperating with other relevant national organizations, agencies and other Anti-Doping Organisations etc.
- **WADA:**
 - ◆ In November, 1999 the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) was set up under the International Olympic Committee.
 - ◆ WADA is **recognised by the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport (2005). Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

- ◆ WADA's primary role is to develop, harmonise, and coordinate anti-doping regulations across all sports and countries.

86.

Ans: A

Exp:

- On **World Mental Health Day**, the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** highlighted the success of **Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (Tele MANAS) Seva**.
- **Tele-MANAS Seva** is a **mental health counseling service** launched on **World Mental Health Day 2022**.
- The **aim of Tele-MANAS** is to provide universal access to **equitable, accessible, affordable and quality mental health care** through **24X7 tele-mental health services** as a digital component of the **National Mental Health Programme (NMHP)** across all **Indian States** and **UTs** with assured linkages. **Hence, option A is correct.**

87.

Ans: A

Exp:

Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT):

- The TRAI Act, 1997 was amended in 2000 which established TDSAT to take over the adjudicatory and disputes functions from TRAI. TDSAT was **set up to adjudicate any dispute between:**
 - ◆ A licensor and a licensee
 - ◆ **Two or more service providers**
 - ◆ **A service provider and a group of consumers**
 - ◆ It was also established to **hear and dispose of appeals against any direction, decision or order of TRAI. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The TDSAT consists of a Chairperson and two other members, **all to be appointed by the Central Government. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ The selection of members is done by the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India.
- **Powers and Jurisdiction of TDSAT:**
 - ◆ The civil courts do not have jurisdiction to entertain any matter which the TDSAT is empowered to determine.
 - ◆ An order passed by TDSAT is executable as a decree of civil court, the **Tribunal has all the powers of a civil court.**
 - ◆ It is **not bound by the procedure laid down by the Code of Civil Procedure** but guided by the principles of natural justice. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

88.

Ans: (a)

Exp:

- OTT platforms are **audio and video hosting and streaming services** which started out as content hosting platforms but soon branched out into the production and release of short movies, feature films, documentaries, and web series themselves. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- They are governed by the **Information Technology Rules, 2021**, notified by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Telecom Disputes Settlement Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT)** has ruled that **Over The Top (OTT) platforms like Hotstar** are not in the jurisdiction of the **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)**. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

89.

Ans: A

Exp:

Legal Provisions Related to Abortion in India:

- Until the 1960s, abortion was illegal in India. The **Shantilal Shah Committee** was formed in the mid-1960s to examine the need for regulations. As a result, the **Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, of 1971** was passed, legalizing safe **abortions and protecting women's health**.
 - ◆ The MTP Act, of 1971, **permits licensed medical professionals** to perform abortions in specific predetermined situations as provided under the legislation. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The **MTP Act was amended in 2021** to allow certain categories of women, such as rape victims, minors, mentally ill women, etc., to **obtain abortions up to 24 weeks of gestation**, raising it from the previous 20 weeks. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - It sets up state-level **Medical Boards to decide if a pregnancy may be terminated after 24 weeks** in cases of substantial fetal abnormalities.
 - ◆ The MTP Act also provides for the protection of women's privacy, confidentiality, and dignity in accessing safe abortion services.

90.

Ans: C

Exp:

Amendments to the Aircraft Rules, 1937:

- The amendments can play a crucial role in **enhancing aviation safety by addressing concerns** related to the display of "false lights" around aerodromes. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The streamlined licensing process and the removal of redundant rules can contribute to a **more business-friendly environment**, attracting investment and fostering growth in the aviation industry. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- These amendments align India's aviation regulations with the **International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO) Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs)** and international best practices. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

91.

Ans: B

Exp:

Recently, several state governments requested schools to seek parental consent for the creation of a new student identity card known as the **Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR)**.

- This is part of the '**One nation, One Student ID**' initiative of the Union government, stemming from the new National Education Policy of 2020. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **APAAR** would also serve as a gateway to **Digilocker**, a digital system where students can store their important documents and achievements, such as exam results and report cards. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Under the initiative, each student would get a **lifelong APAAR ID**, making it easy for the learners, schools, and governments to track academic progress from pre-primary education to higher education. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

92.

Ans: A

Exp:

National Green Tribunal (NGT):

- **About :**
 - ◆ **NGT** is a specialized body set up under the **National Green Tribunal Act, 2010** for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**



● **Structure:**

- ◆ The Tribunal comprises the Chairperson, the Judicial Members and Expert Members.
 - The Chairperson is appointed by the **Central Government** in consultation with the Chief Justice of India (CJI).
 - A Selection Committee shall be formed by the central government to appoint the Judicial Members and Expert Members. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- ◆ The total number of **members** in **NGT** should **not be less than 10** and not more than 20. Each member holds office for five years or until they attain the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier and are not eligible for reappointment. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

93.

Ans: C

Exp:

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960:

- It is an Act of the Parliament of India that **prevents the infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering on animals.**
 - ◆ The act was originally passed in 1890 and **replaced by the 1960 act.**
- The Act provides for the prevention and protection of animals from: **Cruelty, Unnecessary pain, Overwork, Torture, Abuse.** **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The act also establishes the **Animal Welfare Board of India.**
- **Committee for Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CCSEA)** is a **statutory** Committee of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MoFAH&D) constituted under the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

94.

Ans: C

Exp:

- Palliative care is a specialized approach to healthcare that focuses on improving the quality of life and providing comprehensive support to individuals facing serious illnesses or life-limiting conditions.
- It is not about curing the disease but rather about addressing the physical, emotional, social needs of the patient. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- It differs from other **medical specialties** as it **addresses** not only **physical health** but also **social and economic realities.**
- According to the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, **palliative care** is explicitly recognized under the **human right to health.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Early **initiation of palliative care** in **advanced disease stages** can **reduce healthcare expenditure** by up to **25%.**
- **WHO** recognizes that **palliative care** is part of the **comprehensive services** required for **noncommunicable diseases (NCDs)** through the **Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs 2013–2020.** **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

95.

Ans: B

Exp:

The **Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment act, 2023** was passed by the Parliament, which came into force from August, 2023.

- The Amendment **delisted six minerals**, including **Lithium and Niobium**, from the list of atomic minerals, thereby **allowing grant of concessions for these minerals** to the private sector through auction. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Centre has powers** to auction mining lease and composite **licence for critical minerals such as gold, silver, copper, zinc, lead, nickel etc.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

96.

Ans: B

Exp:

- Scheduled Areas represent regions covering 11.3% of India's land area, inhabited by various ST communities comprising 8.6% of the country's population.
- They are designated in:
 - ◆ **10 states under the Fifth Schedule:** Andhra Pradesh, **Telangana**, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, **Gujarat**, Maharashtra, and **Himachal Pradesh.** **Hence, statement A is correct.**
 - ◆ **4 States under the Sixth Schedule:** Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.
- The guiding norms for declaring an area as a Scheduled Area include significant tribal population, compactness, reasonable size, viability as an administrative entity, and economic backwardness compared to neighboring areas.



◆ The **2002 Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission** or the **Bhuria Commission** recommended considering areas with 40% or more tribal population according to the 1951 Census as Scheduled Areas.

○ The **Bhuria Committee (1991)** is different from Bhuria Commission; its recommendations paved the way for the enactment of the PESA Act, 1996. **Hence, statement B is not correct.**

● The President of India notifies India's Scheduled Areas. **States with Scheduled Areas need to constitute a Tribal Advisory Council** with up to 20 ST members.

◆ They **advise the Governor on matters referred to them regarding ST welfare.** The Governor will then submit a report every year to the president regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas. **Hence, statement C is correct.**

● Therefore, option B is the correct answer.

97.

Ans: B

Exp :

● Cerebral palsy (CP) is a **group of neurological disorders that affect movement, muscle tone, and coordination.** Dyslexia is a specific learning disorder that primarily affects a person's ability to read, write, and spell accurately. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**

● Cerebral palsy is recognised as a disability under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**

98.

Ans: A

Exp:

NCERT Attains Deemed University Status:

● A deemed university is an institution of higher education that is recognised by the **University Grants Commission (UGC) under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956.**

◆ It is not established or incorporated by an Act of Parliament or State Legislature, but is **conferred the status of a university by the central government on the recommendation of the UGC.** Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**

● A deemed university enjoys **academic autonomy** and can design its own courses, syllabi, admission criteria, fee structure, faculty recruitment and examination system. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

● **De Novo Category:**

◆ The NCERT has been granted the deemed university status under the '**de novo**' category, which means

that it has been **recognised for its excellence in a new or emerging area of knowledge.** Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**

○ De-novo Institution means an institution devoted to innovations in teaching and research in unique and "**emerging areas of knowledge**" such as **biotechnology, nanotechnology, space science, etc.**

99.

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

● The principle of non-refoulement (1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol) is a well-established concept in international law, and in particular in the context of refugee law.

● Under international human rights law, the principle of non-refoulement guarantees that no one should be returned to a country where they would face torture, cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, and other irreparable harm. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

● India is not a party to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, the key legal documents pertaining to refugee protection under International Law. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

100.

Ans: D

Exp:

● The **Himachal Pradesh government is exploring the possibility of Legalising Cannabis (Hemp) cultivation,** aligning with farmers' longstanding demands to lift the ban on cultivation. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 permits states to make rules regarding cannabis cultivation for fibre, seeds, or horticultural purposes.

◆ Himachal Pradesh's neighbouring state, **Uttarakhand, became the first in India to legalise cannabis cultivation in 2017.** Hence, **statement 2 is not correct.**

● **According to the NDPS Act "cannabis plant" means any plant of the genus cannabis.**

◆ 'Charas' is the separated resin extracted from the cannabis plant. The **NDPS Act covers separated resin, in whatever form,** whether crude or purified, obtained from the cannabis plant and also includes concentrated preparation and resin known as hashish oil or liquid hashish.



- The Act defines 'ganja' as the flowering or fruiting tops of the cannabis plant but it clearly excludes the seeds and leaves.
- The Act illegalises any mixture with or without any neutral material, of any of the two forms of cannabis, charas and ganja, or any drink prepared from it.
- ◆ The legislature left seeds and leaves of the cannabis plant out of the ambit of the Act, because the serrated leaves of the plant have negligible THC content. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

101.

Ans: B

Exp:

- The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) is the Central Drug Authority for discharging functions assigned to the Central Government under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.
- Major Functions of CDSCO:
 - ◆ Regulatory control over the import of drugs. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - ◆ Approval of new drugs and clinical trials.
 - ◆ Meetings of the Drugs Consultative Committee (DCC) and the Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB).
 - ◆ Approval of certain licences as Central License Approving Authority is exercised by the CDSCO headquarters. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) is the head of the CDSCO responsible for approving licences of specified categories of drugs such as blood and blood products, IV fluids, vaccines, and sera in India.
- The DCGI recently voluntarily recalled Digene Gel due to customer complaints. A drug recall is a process in which a pharmaceutical company or regulatory authority removes a specific medication from the market due to safety concerns, defects, or other issues that may harm patients or consumers.
 - ◆ Presently, India does not possess legislation that empowers the recall of complete batches of substandard drugs. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

102.

Ans: A

Explanation:

United Nations Children's Fund

- The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), originally known as the United Nations International Children's

Emergency Fund, was created by the United Nations General Assembly on 11 December 1946, to provide emergency food and healthcare to children and mothers in countries that had been devastated by World War II. Hence, option A is the correct answer.

- In 1950, UNICEF's mandate was extended to address the long-term needs of children and women in developing countries everywhere.
 - ◆ In 1953, it became a permanent part of the United Nations System.

103.

Ans: D

Exp:

- The National Medical Commission (NMC), India has been awarded the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) Recognition Status for 10 years, the highest standards in medical education and accreditation.
 - ◆ WFME was founded in 1972 by the World Medical Association, the World Health Organization, the regional organizations of medical schools and academic teachers, and the International Federation of Medical Students Associations.
- Benefits of WFME Accreditation:
 - ◆ All the 706 existing medical colleges in India will become WFME accredited. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - ◆ The new medical colleges that will be set up in the coming 10 years will automatically become WFME accredited. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
 - ◆ It will also enable Indian medical graduates to pursue postgraduate training and practice in other countries that require WFME recognition, such as the US, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
 - ◆ It will increase the international recognition and reputation of Indian medical schools and professionals.
 - ◆ It facilitates academic collaborations and exchanges and promotes continuous improvement and innovation in medical education.
 - ◆ It will also make India an attractive destination for international students due to our globally recognized standards.

104.

Ans: C

Exp:

Aadhar:

- Aadhaar is a 12-digit individual identification number issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India



on behalf of the Government of India. The number serves as proof of identity and address, anywhere in India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- The Aadhaar number is **unique for each individual** and will remain valid for lifetime.
- Aadhaar number will help the residents to **avail various services provided by banking, mobile phone connections** and other Govt and Non-Govt services in due course. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It establishes the identity of individuals **on the basis of demographic and biometric information.**
 - ◆ It is a **voluntary service** that every resident can avail irrespective of present documentation. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

105.

Ans: C

Exp:

Historical Development of OBC Reservation in India:

- **Kalelkar Commission (1953):** The journey began with the **establishment of the Kalelkar Commission in 1953**, recognizing backward classes beyond SCs and STs on a national level. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Mandal Commission (1980):** The **Mandal Commission Report** estimated the **OBC population at 52%** and identified 1,257 backward communities. It recommended increasing quotas from **22.5% to 49.5% and extending reservation to OBCs.**
 - ◆ Following these recommendations, the **central government implemented the reservation policy**, reserving **27% of seats in union civil posts and services for OBCs under Article 16(4).** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ This policy was also enforced in central government educational institutions under **Article 15(4).**
- **“Creamy Layer” Exclusion (2008):** The Supreme Court directed the **exclusion of the “creamy layer” among OBCs** to ensure reservation benefits reach the most disadvantaged. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- **Justice G. Rohini Commission:** The **Justice G. Rohini Commission**, inaugurated on **October 2, 2017**, in accordance with **Article 340 of the Constitution and chaired by Justice G. Rohini**, has recently submitted its report following nearly six years of work.
 - ◆ The report underscores the imperative for sub-categorization among OBCs.
 - ◆ This sub-categorization aims to **allocate quotas within the existing 27% reservation to enhance opportunities for historically underrepresented OBC communities.**

106.

Ans: (c)

Exp:

- The PM-WANI, launched by the **Department of Telecom (DoT) in December 2020**, is one key scheme launched to bolster the penetration of **public WiFi hotspots to establish a robust digital communication infrastructure** throughout the nation, especially in rural areas. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- PM-WANI is a key part of **India’s Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)**. It can democratise internet access and bridge the digital divide by enabling anyone to become a Wi-Fi provider and anyone to become a Wi-Fi user, without any licence, registration, or fee. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- DPI refers to blocks or platforms such as **digital identification, payment infrastructure and data exchange solutions** that help countries deliver essential services to their people. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

107.

Ans: C

Explanation:

The **National eGovernance Division (NeGD)**, a branch of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), is embarking on a mission to **integrate Personalised Adaptive Learning (PAL)** into the **Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA)** platform.

- DIKSHA, overseen by the **Ministry of Education**, serves as an **online repository of educational content for schools**, but it is currently static. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ PAL, on the other hand, **employs AI to offer students personalised learning experiences** tailored to their individual needs and abilities. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

108.

Ans: A

Exp:

WHO’s Gujarat Declaration:

The World Health Organization (WHO) has released the outcome document of the **first WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit 2023** in the form of the **“Gujarat Declaration”**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine is being established in Jamnagar, Gujarat. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**



- The declaration reaffirmed global commitments towards **indigenous knowledge, biodiversity and traditional, complementary and integrative medicine.**
- The Gujarat Declaration aims to advance **evidence-based traditional medicine interventions** for universal health coverage and health-related **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).**
 - ◆ It calls for standardized documentation and data collection on traditional medicine.
- The summit explored the role of digital health technologies, including AI, in traditional medicine.

109.

Ans: B

Explanation:

Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008

- The Act defines unorganized workers as those who work in the informal sector or households, without any regular employment or social security benefits. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The Act empowers the Central Government and the State Governments to frame schemes for providing various social security benefits to unorganized workers, such as life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection, education, housing, etc.
- The Act also provides for the constitution of a National Social Security Board and State Social Security Boards for unorganized workers, which will advise and monitor the implementation of the schemes. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- The Act mandates the registration of unorganized workers by the District Administration and the issuance of identity cards to them.
- The Act also envisages the establishment of workers facilitation centers to provide information and facilitate access to the schemes.

110.

Ans: C

Explanation:

- The World Health Organisation (WHO) recently released a comprehensive report on **tobacco control measures.** The report evaluates the progress made globally since the introduction of the **MPOWER** measures – a set of strategies developed by WHO to combat tobacco use and its detrimental effects on health.
- The six MPOWER strategies include:
 - ◆ M: Monitor tobacco use and prevention policies
 - ◆ P: Protect people from tobacco smoke

- ◆ O: Offer help to quit smoking
- ◆ W: Warn about the dangers of tobacco
- ◆ E: Enforce bans on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship
- ◆ R: Raise taxes on tobacco

- Hence, option C is correct.

111.

Ans: A

Exp:

Recently, India's **Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)** has announced that from **1st November, 2023**, it will restrict the import of laptops, computers, and their components, focusing on items under **Harmonised System of Nomenclature (HSN) Code 8471.**

- The HSN is a system that assigns a **unique code** to every product that is traded internationally. Hence, option A is correct.
- The HSN code is used by **customs authorities** around the world to identify and **assess tariffs on imported goods.**
- It is also used by **traders and exporters** to declare their goods and comply with the rules of origin.
- The HSN code was developed by the **World Customs Organization (WCO)** in 1988 and is updated every five years.

112.

Ans: A

Exp:

- The **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** has earlier modified **National Organ Transplantation Guidelines**, allowing those above **65 years of age to receive an organ** for transplantation from deceased donors. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The New National Organ Transplantation Guidelines are:
 - ◆ **Removed Age Cap:**
 - Age limit for organ recipients eliminated due to improved life expectancy.
 - **NOTTO (National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization)** guidelines previously prohibited end-stage organ failure patients above **65 years from registering for organ transplants.**
 - ◆ **No Domicile Requirement:**
 - Domicile requirement waived for organ recipient registration.
 - **'One Nation, One Policy'** approach allows patients to register for organ transplants in any state. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

◆ **No Registration Fees:**

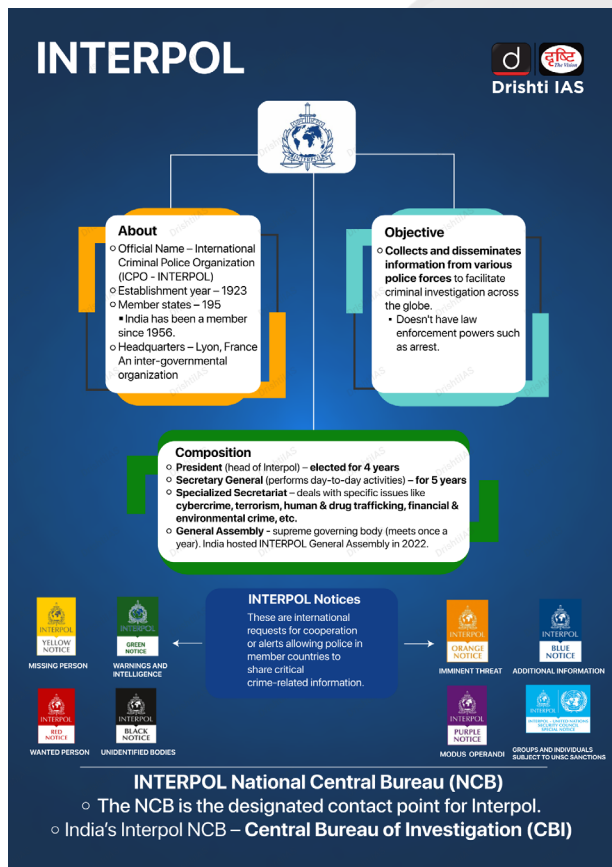
- Removal of registration fees for organ recipient registration. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct.**
- States, including Gujarat, Telangana, Maharashtra, and Kerala, no longer charge fees for patient registration.

113.

Ans: A

Exp:

- INTERPOL was established in 1923 and **India joined it in 1956. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- INTERPOL is headquartered in **Lyon, France. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The **Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Academy**, a key player in crime investigation and law enforcement training, has recently **joined the Interpol Global Academy Network as its 10th member. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**



114.

Ans: D

Exp:

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI):

● **About:**

- ◆ TRAI was **established with effect from 20th February 1997 by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.**

● **Composition:**

- ◆ TRAI consists of a **chairperson and not more than two whole-time Members and not more than two part-time Members. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

● **Functions:**

- ◆ To regulate telecom services, including fixation/revision of tariffs for telecom services which were earlier vested in the Central Government.
- ◆ Ensure quality of service and transparency in tariff
- ◆ Advise the government on policy matters and licensing issues
 - The **recommendations of the TRAI are not binding upon the Central Government. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

● **Appellate Authority:**

- ◆ The TRAI Act was **amended by an ordinance, effective from 24 January 2000, establishing a Telecommunications Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) to take over the adjudicatory and disputes functions from TRAI.**

115.

Ans: C

Explanation:

Additional Guidelines for Health and Wellness Celebrities:

- Recently, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, has issued **Additional Influencer Guidelines For Health and Wellness Celebrities, Influencers and Virtual Influencers**, making it mandatory for them to give disclaimers while presenting as Health Experts.
- **Disclosure of Health Certificates:**
 - ◆ Certified medical practitioners and health & fitness experts holding certifications from recognised institutions when sharing information, promoting products or services or making any health-related claims, must **disclose that they are certified health/fitness experts** and medical practitioners. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- **Exemptions for General Wellness Advice:**
 - ◆ General wellness and health advice, which do not pertain to specific products, services, health conditions, or outcomes, are exempt from these regulations. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

- For instance, advice like “Drink Water and Stay Hydrated,” “Exercise Regularly,” and “Get Enough Good Sleep” are exempt.

116.

Ans: C

Exp:

- **National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS)**, a nationwide database **managed by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)**, swiftly stores crime-related fingerprints and assigns a unique 10-digit National Fingerprint Number (NFN) to apprehended criminals within 24 hours.
 - ◆ NFN remains with the offender for life, connecting various crimes under different FIRs to the same ID.
 - ◆ ID comprises state code (first two digits) and sequential number, specific to states.
- NAFIS swiftly identifies persons of interest, linking their names to warrants, warnings, and related criminal data in police reference systems.
 - ◆ It operates from New Delhi’s Central Fingerprint Bureau(CFPB).
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

117.

Ans: A

Explanation:

Bharat New Car Assessment Programme (Bharat NCAP):

- **About:** Under the Bharat NCAP initiative, vehicles, particularly **passenger cars**, will be **subjected to rigorous crash testing procedures**, and based on their performance as per protocols laid down in the soon-to-be-published Automotive Industry Standard 197, they will be assigned a safety rating ranging from one to five stars.
 - ◆ The programme is applicable to passenger vehicles with **not more than eight seats** in addition to the driver’s seat with gross vehicle weight not exceeding **3,500 kgs**. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
 - ◆ The test procedure involves **Frontal Offset Test, Side Impact Test and Pole-Side Impact Test.**
 - This rating will provide consumers with a clear indication of a vehicle’s safety standards in the event of a collision.
 - ◆ Notably, **Bharat NCAP is voluntary**, encouraging manufacturers to nominate their vehicles for testing, thereby driving the production of safer cars in the Indian market. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

- **Testing Parameters:** Bharat NCAP evaluates vehicles based on three crucial parameters:

- ◆ **Adult Occupant Protection:** This parameter assesses the level of protection a vehicle offers to adult passengers in the event of a crash.
- ◆ **Child Occupant Protection:** The safety of child occupants is equally vital. This parameter gauges a vehicle’s effectiveness in safeguarding young passengers during collisions.
- ◆ **Safety Assist Technologies:** Modern vehicles are equipped with a range of safety assist technologies. This parameter examines the presence and effectiveness of these technologies in preventing accidents or minimizing their impact.
 - **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

118.

Ans: A

Exp:

- The **Ministry of Coal** has launched the **Khanan Prahari mobile app**, revolutionising the fight against **illicit coal mining activities**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The app enables citizens to take an **active role** in reporting incidents of **illegal coal mining** through the submission of **geo-tagged photographs** and **textual information**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The corresponding web portal called as **Coal Mine Surveillance & Management System (CMSMS)** has been developed in association with the **Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Application & Geoinformatics, Gandhinagar**, and **Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI), Ranchi**. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

119.

Ans: C

Exp:

Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing:

- International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing is **organized every year on 5th June**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- IUU fishing is a **broad term that captures a wide variety of fishing activity**.
- IUU fishing is **found in all types and dimensions of fisheries; it occurs both on the high seas** and in areas within national jurisdiction. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It concerns all aspects and stages of the capture and utilisation of fish, and it may sometimes be associated with organized crime.

- IUU fishing **undermines national and regional efforts to conserve and manage fish stocks** and, as a consequence, inhibits progress towards achieving the goals of long-term sustainability and responsibility. Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**

120.

Ans: C

Explanation:

Legal Provisions Related to Abortion in India:

- Until the **1960s, abortion was prohibited in India**, and violating this led to imprisonment or fines under **Section 312 of the Indian Penal Code.**
 - ◆ The **Shantilal Shah Committee** was set up in the mid-1960s to investigate the need for abortion regulations.
 - ◆ Based on its findings, the **Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, 1971** was enacted, **allowing safe and legal abortions, safeguarding women's health, and reducing maternal mortality.**
- The **MTP Act, 1971**, allows **abortion up to 20 weeks of gestation**, with the consent of the **woman and on the advice of one registered medical practitioner (RMP)**. However, the law was updated in **2002 and 2021.**
 - ◆ The **2021 amendment permits abortion from 20 to 24 weeks of gestation** for specific cases like rape survivors, with **approval from two doctors.** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
 - It sets up **state level Medical Boards** to decide if a pregnancy may be terminated after **24 weeks in cases of substantial foetal abnormalities.**
 - It extends the failure of contraceptive clauses to **unmarried women (initially only married women)**, allowing them to seek abortion services on grounds of their choice, irrespective of their marital status. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

121.

Ans: D

Explanation:

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission

- **Objective:**
 - ◆ It aims to provide **digital health IDs for all Indian citizens** to help hospitals, insurance firms, and citizens access health records electronically when required.

- The **National Health Authority (NHA)** under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is the implementing Agency.

● **Unified Health Interface (UHI):**

- ◆ Under ABDM, UHI is envisioned as an open protocol for various digital health services. UHI Network is an open network of **End User Applications (EUAs)** and participating Health Service Provider (HSP) applications.

- UHI enables a wide variety of digital health services between patients and health service providers (HSPs) including **appointment booking, teleconsultation, service discovery and others.**

- Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**

● **Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission Sandbox:**

- ◆ The Sandbox, established under the mission, serves as a platform for testing technology and products.

- It aids organizations, including private entities, in becoming **Health Information Providers or Users.**

- Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

122.

Ans: D

Explanation:

Recently, India's **Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)** has announced that from **November 1, 2023**, it will restrict the import of laptops, computers, and their components, focusing on items under **Harmonised System of Nomenclature (HSN) Code 8471**. Restriction shall not be applicable to imports under baggage rules. Hence, **statement I is not correct.**

- These restrictions aim to **boost domestic manufacturing**, reduce reliance on **foreign imports**, particularly imports from China, and enhance **self-reliance in India's technology sector.**
- It aligns with government efforts to strengthen domestic production through the revitalized **production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for IT hardware.** Hence, **statement II is correct.**

123.

Ans: C

Explanation:

● **Status of Child Labor in India:**

- ◆ As per the **National Crime Records Bureau Report 2022**, in 2021, around 982 cases were registered under the **Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986**, with the **highest number**



of cases registered in Telangana, followed by Assam.

◆ Hence statement 1 is correct.

- Goal 8 of sustainable developmental goal (SDG) aims to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

◆ As this relates to children, Target 8.7 of this goal aims to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, including the recruitment and use of child soldiers, as well as to end all forms of child labour by 2025.

◆ Hence statement 2 is correct.

124.

Ans. (c)

Exp:

- Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, 2023 aims to extend the coverage of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, which was primarily focused on censorship, to now encompass copyright protection. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The bill aims to deter piracy of films by imposing strict penalties on individuals involved in unauthorized audio-visual recording and distribution of copyrighted content.
- Jail Term: Imprisonment from 3 months to 3 years.
- Fine: From Rs. 3 lakhs to 5% of the audited gross production cost. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

125.

Ans: c

Exp:

The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme was introduced in 1998 for issue of Kisan Credit Cards to farmers based on their holdings for uniform adoption by the banks so that farmers may use them to readily purchase agriculture inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides etc. and draw cash for their production needs.

Applicability of the Scheme

The Kisan Credit Card Scheme is implemented by Commercial Banks, RRBs, Small Finance Banks and Cooperatives.

- In 2018-19, the facility was extended to fisheries and animal husbandry farmers. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

Objectives

1. To meet the short-term credit requirements for cultivation of crops;
2. Post-harvest expenses;
3. Produce marketing loan;

4. Consumption requirements of farmer household;
5. Working capital for maintenance of farm assets and activities allied to agriculture;
6. Investment credit requirement for agriculture and allied activities.

Note: Objectives from 1 to 5 form short term credit limit portion of the scheme while 6th forms the long-term credit portion. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

Eligibility

- Farmers – individual/joint borrowers who are owner cultivators;
- Tenant farmers, oral lessees & share croppers; Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- Self Help Groups (SHGs) or Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) of farmers including tenant farmers, share croppers etc.

126.

Ans: C

Exp:

- The **National e-Governance Division (NeGD)**, under its **Capacity Building scheme**, organised 36th **CISO Deep-Dive training programme** with 24 participants from Central Line Ministries and States/UTs at **Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi**. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The training program is a part of a series of workshops organised under the **Cyber Surakshit Bharat initiative**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- **Cyber Surakshit Bharat Initiative:** It was conceptualised with the mission to spread awareness about cyber-crime and build capacities of Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) and frontline IT officials, across all government departments.
- It was launched by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in 2018** in cooperation with **National e-Governance Division (NeGD)** and various industry partners in India. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

CISOs Deep Dive Training: It is the first-of-its-kind partnership between the Government and industry consortium under Public Private Partnership (PPP) model.

- Raise awareness of emerging cyber threats and related solutions, frameworks, guidelines, and policies. Share best practices and learn from success and failures. Equip individuals to make informed decisions on cyber security issues in their functional area.

127.

Ans: A

Exp.:

- Bypolls, also known as bye-elections or special elections, refer to elections held to fill vacant seats in the legislative bodies of India.
- It serves as a vital component within the broader electoral cycle and complements regular elections by addressing unforeseen vacancies.
- The primary objective of bypolls is to ensure **the timely filing of vacant seats, enabling the representation of the affected constituency or district in the legislative body for the remaining period. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Bypolls are conducted when a seat in the legislature becomes vacant due to reasons such as the death, resignation, disqualification, or expulsion of a sitting member.
- Section 151A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 mandates the Election Commission to fill the casual vacancies in the Houses of Parliament and State Legislatures through bye elections within six months from the date of occurrence of the vacancy, provided that the remainder of the term of a member in relation to a vacancy is one year or more.
- Hence, there is **no need to hold bye elections if the remaining term of the Lok Sabha is less than one year from the date of occurrence of vacancies. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

128.

Ans: B

Exp:

- The National Population Register (NPR) is a database containing a list of all **usual residents of the country.**
 - ◆ A usual resident for the purposes of NPR is a person who has resided in a place for six months or more and intends to reside there for another six months or more. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Its objective is to have a comprehensive identity database of people residing in the country.
 - ◆ It is generated through house-to-house enumeration during the “house-listing” phase of the Census.
 - ◆ NPR was first collected in 2010. It was updated in 2015 and already has details of 119 crore residents.
- The **NPR is prepared under the provisions of the Citizenship Act 1955 and the Citizenship (Registration**

of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

- ◆ It is mandatory for every “usual resident of India” to register in the NPR.

129.

Ans: A

Exp:

- **Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana emerged as the top performers among the ‘larger states’ in the NITI Aayog’s annual ‘health index’ for the Covid year of 2020-21.**
 - ◆ Among the **19 ‘larger states’, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana** have occupied first, second and third place respectively, in terms of overall performance. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- In 2017, the **National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog)** in collaboration with the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)** and the **World Bank** initiated an **annual Health Index** for tracking **Overall Performance and Incremental Performance** across all states and Union Territories (UTs). **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

130.

Ans: C

Exp:

Enforcement Directorate (ED):

- **About:**
 - ◆ The ED is a **multi-disciplinary organization** mandated with investigation of offences of **money laundering and violations of foreign exchange laws. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - It functions **under the Department of Revenue of the Ministry of Finance.**
 - ◆ As a premier financial investigation agency of the Government of India, the ED functions in **strict compliance with the Constitution and Laws of India.**
- **Structure:**
 - ◆ **Headquarters:** ED with its headquarters at New Delhi, is headed by the **Director of Enforcement.**
 - There are five regional offices at Mumbai, Chennai, Chandigarh, Kolkata and Delhi headed by Special Directors of Enforcement.
 - ◆ **Recruitment:** Recruitment of the officers is done **directly and by drawing officers** from other investigation agencies. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- It comprises officers of **IRS (Indian Revenue Services)**, **IPS (Indian Police Services)** and **IAS (Indian Administrative Services)** such as Income Tax officer, Excise officer, Customs officer, and police.

◆ **Tenure:** Two years, but directors' tenure can be extended from two to five years by giving three annual extensions.

- The **Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946 (for ED)** and the **Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) Act, 2003** (for CV Commissioners) have been amended to give the government the power to keep the two chiefs in their posts for one year after they have completed their two-year terms.

131.

Ans: C

Exp:

SAMADHAN Doctrine:

- It is the one-stop solution for the **LWE problem**. Hence, **option c is the correct answer**.
- It encompasses the entire strategy of government from **short-term policy to long-term policy** formulated at different levels. **SAMADHAN stands for:**
 - ◆ **S** – Smart Leadership
 - ◆ **A** – Aggressive Strategy
 - ◆ **M** – Motivation and Training
 - ◆ **A** – Actionable Intelligence
 - ◆ **D** – Dashboard Based KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) and KRAs (Key Result Areas)
 - ◆ **H** – Harnessing Technology
 - ◆ **A** – Action plan for each Theatre
 - ◆ **N** – No access to Financing

132.

Ans: (c)

Exp:

- National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building – Mission Karmayogi' aims to enhance citizen experience for government services and improve availability of a competent workforce. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- **Karmayogi Bharat** is a **Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) set-up under Section 8** of the **Companies Act, 2013** by the **Department of Personnel and Training** as a 100% Government owned Company. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

133.

Ans: B

Exp:

Multiple Indicator Survey (MIS):

About:

- The **National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)** carried out the Multiple Indicator Survey (MIS) covering the entire country in its 78th round. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- A MIS is a type of survey designed to collect data on a range of key **indicators related to the well-being of individuals, households, and communities**. The survey typically covers topics such as health, education, water and sanitation, nutrition, and child protection. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

Findings:

- **Drinking Water Accessibility:**

- ◆ **Kerala, Manipur, Nagaland, and Jharkhand have less than 90% access** to an improved source of drinking water.
- ◆ Among major states, **Assam, Jharkhand, Bihar, and Odisha are among the worst** in access to tapped drinking water for both rural and urban households. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

- **Access to an Exclusive Toilet:**

- ◆ Among the major states **Bihar, Jharkhand, and Odisha have the lowest proportion** of rural households with access to an exclusive toilet.

- **LPG Connections for Cooking:**

- ◆ In the states like **Chhattisgarh, Odisha, West Bengal, Nagaland** and Madhya Pradesh, for more than 70% of households, **firewood is the primary source of energy for cooking**. These states along with Jharkhand have less than 25% of households using **LPG for cooking**– the lowest among all states and UTs

- **Education, Employment, or Training:**

- ◆ Among big states, **Uttarakhand, Odisha, Kerala, and Delhi have the highest proportion (more than 20%) of men aged 15 to 24** who were not in **education, employment, or training** at the time of the survey.
- ◆ For **females**, the proportion was **highest in Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Odisha, Gujarat, West Bengal, and Bihar**.

134.

Ans: A

Expl:

- GeM is an Online Market platform was setup in 2016 to facilitate procurement of goods and services by the government ministries, departments, public sector undertakings (PSU) etc. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - It has been envisaged as National Procurement Portal of India.
- It has been developed by Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (Ministry of Commerce and Industry) with technical support of National e-governance Division (Ministry of Electronic and Information Technology).
 - It functions under Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D), Ministry of Commerce and Industry. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
 - GeM is a completely paperless, cashless and system driven e-market place that enables procurement of common use goods and services with minimal human interface. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

