



APTI PLUS
Academy for Civil Services

PRELIMS 2019

**GET THE QUESTION PAPER OF
GS-1 WITH ANSWER KEYS**

**ANSWER KEYS
WITH DETAILED
EXPLANATION**

**CUT OFF
ANALYSIS**

**NO. OF
QUESTIONS FROM
EACH SUBJECT**

**DIFFICULTY
LEVEL**

SET-A

Q1. With reference to Mughal India, what is/are the difference/differences between Jagirdar and Zamindar?

1. Jagirdars were holders of land assignments in lieu of judicial and police duties, whereas Zamindars were holders of revenue rights without obligation to perform any duty other than revenue collection.
2. Land assignments to Jagirdars were hereditary and revenue rights of Zamindars were not hereditary.

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

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation:

- Under jagirdari system, it was not land that was assigned, but the income from the land was given to the jagirdars. So both options are incorrect.
- https://www.academia.edu/33049266/Jagirdari_System

Q2. With reference to land reforms in independent India, which one of the following statements is correct?

- a. The ceiling laws were aimed at family holdings and not individual holdings.
- b. The major aim of land reforms was providing agricultural land to all the landless.
- c. It resulted in cultivation of cash crops as a predominant form of cultivation.
- d. land reforms permitted no exemptions to the ceiling limits.

Answer: B

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation:

https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/52880/12/12_chapter%206.pdf

Q3. The Global Competition Report is published by the

- a. International Monetary Fund
- b. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- c. World Economic Forum
- d. World Bank

Answer: C

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation: Self explanatory

Q4. Consider the following statements about "The Charter Act Of 1813":

1. It ended the trade monopoly of the East India Company in India except for trade in tea and trade with China.
2. It asserted the sovereignty of the British crown over the Indian territories held by the company.
3. The revenues of India were now controlled by the British Parliament.

Which of the statements given below are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1,2 and 3

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation:

- Statement 3 is incorrect as revenue of India was still controlled by EIC in 1813.
- Other 2 options are correct.

Q5. With reference to Swadeshi movement, consider the following statements:

1. It contributed to the revival of the indigenous artisan crafts and industries.
2. The National Council of education was established as a part of swadeshi movement.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation:

Both statements are correct. Given as it is in Modern India by Spectrum publication.

Q6. Consider the following pairs:

Movement/Organisation	Leader
1. All India Anti Untouchability league	: Mahatma Gandhi
2. All India Kisan Sabha	: Swami Sahujanand Saraswati
3. Self-Respect Movement	: E.V Ramaswami Naicker

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

- a. 1 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1,2 and 3

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation:

All statements are correct. Given as it is in Modern India by Spectrum publication.

Q7. Which of the following is not a Harrapan site?

- a. Chanhudaro
- b. Kot diji
- c. Sohgaura
- d. Desalpur

Answer: c

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

Self-explanatory

Q8. In which of the following relief sculpture inscriptions is 'Ranyo Ashoka'(King Ashoka) mentioned along with the stone portrait of Ashoka?

- a. Kanganahalli
- b. Sanchi
- c. Shahbazgarhi
- d. Sohgaura

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

The Kanaganahalli statue of Asoka Raya may be compared with the portrayal of a king on Sanchi torana panels.

<http://bharatkalyan97.blogspot.com/2011/07/asoka-on-ancient-indian-sculptures.html?m=1>

Q9. Consider the following

- 1. Deification of the Buddha.
- 2. Treading the path of Bodhisattvas
- 3. Image worship and rituals

Which of the above is/are the feature/features of Mahayana Buddhism?

- a. 1 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1,2 and 3

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation: All these are features of Mahayana Buddhism.

Q10. With reference to forced labour (VISHTI) in India during the Gupta period, which one of the following statements is correct?

- a. it was considered a source of income for the state, a sort of tax paid by the people.
- b. it was totally absent in the Madhya Pradesh and Kathiawar regions of the Gupta empire.
- c. the forced labourer was entitled to weekly wages
- d. the eldest son of the labourer was sent as the forced labourer.

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation: Self- explanatory

Q11. Building Kalyaana Mandapas was a notable feature in the temple construction in the kingdom of

- Chalukya
- Chandela
- Rashtrakuta
- Vijayanagara

Answer: d

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

Kalyaan Mandap was a big hall in Vijayanagara Temples, that was used as marriage hall.

Q12. Consider the following statements:

- In the revenue administration of Delhi Sultanate, the in charge of revenue collection was known as 'Amil'
- The Iqta System of sultans of elhi was an ancient indigenous institution.
- The office of 'Mir Bakshi' came into existence during the reign of Khalji Sultans of Delhi.

Which of the above is/are the true?

- 1 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 3 only
- 1,2 and 3

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

- Iqta was not indigenous.
- 'Mir Bakshi' was under Mughal-empire

Q13. Consider the following statements:

- Saint Nimbarka was a contemporary of Akbar.
- Saint Kabir was greatly influenced by Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi.

Which of the above is/are true?

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

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

- Saint Nimbarka was born much before Akbar.
- Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi was born after Saint Kabir.

Q14. With reference to the British colonial rule in India, consider the following statements:

1. Mahatma Gandhi was instrumental in the abolition of the system of 'Indentured Labour'.
2. In Lord Chelmsford's "War Conference", Mahatma Gandhi did not support the resolution on recruiting Indians for world war.
3. Consequent upon the breaking of Salt Law by Indian people, the Indian National Congress was declared illegal by the colonial rulers

Which of the above is/are the correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1,2 and 3

Answer: b

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation:

Statement 2 is incorrect as Gandhi ji supported the resolution.

Q15. With reference to Indian National Movement, consider the following pairs:

- | Person | Position Held |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru | : President, All India Liberal Federation |
| 2. K.C. Neogy | : Member, The Constituent Assembly |
| 3. P.C Joshi | : General Secretary, Communist Party of India |

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

- a. 1 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 3 only
- d. 1,2 and 3

Answer: d

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation: All are correct.

Q16. With reference to Mian Tansen, which one of the following statements is not correct?

- a. Tansen was the title given to him by Emperor Akbar.
- b. Tansen composed Dhrupada on Hindu gods and goddesses.
- c. Tansen composed songs on his patrons.
- d. Tansen invented many ragas.

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

The title of 'Tansen ' was given by Raja Vikramjit Singh of Gwalior. Akbar gave the title of 'Mian'

Q17. Who among of the following Mughal Emperors shifted emphasis from illustrated manuscripts to album and individual portrait?

- a. Humayun
- b. Akbar

- c. Jahangir
- d. Shah Jahan

Answer: c

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation:

Akbar was fond of manuscripts and Jahangir later shifted focus on individual potrait and album.

Q18. Which one of the following national parks lies completely in the temperate alpine zone?

- a. Manas National Park
- b. Namdapha National Park
- c. Neora Valley National Park
- d. Valley of Flowers national Park

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation:

Valley of flowers is famous for its alpine meadows. It wholly lies in temperate alpine zone.

Q19. Atal Innovation Mission is set up under the

- a. Department of sciences and technology
- b. Ministry of labour and employment
- c. NITI Aayog
- d. Ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship.

Answer: c

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation:

Self-explanatory

Q20. On 21st June, The Sun

- a. does not set below the horizon at Artic Circle
- b. does not set below the horizon at Antarctic Circle
- c. shines vertically overhead at noon on the Equator.
- d. Shines vertically overhead at the Tropic of Capricorn

Answer: a

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation:

The Sun doesn't set in Northern hemisphere on and above the Artic Circle on Summer Solstice. It shines vertically overhead at the Tropic of Cancer.

Q21. Which one of the following groups of plants was domesticated in the "New World" and introduced into the "Old World"?

- a. Tobacco, cocoa and rubber.
- b. tobacco, cotton and rubber
- c. cotton, coffee and sugarcane
- d. Rubber, coffee and wheat

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

Cotton, wheat, coffee and sugarcane were domesticated in old world.

Q22. Consider the following Statements:

1. Asiatic Lion is naturally found in India only.
 2. Double humped camel is naturally found in India only
 3. One horned rhinoceros is naturally found in India only.
- Which of the above given statements is/are the correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1,2 and 3

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation:

- The double-hump camel is a native of Gobi desert, and is found on a vast expanse of cold-desert areas across Mongolia, China, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and parts of Afghanistan.
- One horned rhinoceros is also found in Indonesia.

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/specials/india-interior/two-humps-one-job-in-nubra-valley/article7900544.ece>

Q23. Consider the following pairs:

Famous Place	River
1. Pandharpur	: Chandrabhaga
2. Tiruchirappalli	: Cauvery
3. Hampi	: Malaprabhu

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

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1,2 and 3

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

- Hampi is on Tungabhadra River.

Q24. In a given year in India, official poverty lines are higher in some states than in others because

- a. poverty rates vary from state to state
- b. price levels vary from state to state
- c. gross state product varies from state to state
- d. quality of public distribution varies from state to state

Answer: B

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

For 2011-12, for rural areas the national poverty line using the Tendulkar methodology is estimated at Rs. 816 per capita per month and Rs. 1,000 per capita per month in urban areas.

Thus, for a family of five, the all India poverty line in terms of consumption expenditure would amount to about Rs. 4,080 per month in rural areas and Rs. 5,000 per month in urban areas.

These poverty lines would vary from State to State because of inter-state price differentials.

http://planningcommission.nic.in/news/pre_pov2307.pdf

Q25. In the context of which of the following do some scientists suggest the use of cirrus cloud thinning technique and the injection of sulphate aerosol into stratosphere?

- a. Creating the artificial rains in some regions
- b. reducing the frequency and intensity of tropical cyclones
- c. reducing the adverse effects of solar wind on the earth
- d. reducing the global warming.

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation:

Thin cirrus cloud reflect more incoming sunlight and sulphate aerosol also reflect the incoming sunlight thus reducing the amount of sunlight incident on Earth.

Q26. In the context of which one of the following are the terms 'Pyrolysis and plasma gasification' mentioned?

- a. Extraction of rare earth elements
- b. Natural gas extraction technologies
- c. Hydrogen fuel-based automobiles
- d. Waste to energy technologies

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation:

'Pyrolysis and plasma gasification' are method of converting waste to energy.

Q27. Which of the following are in Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve?

- a. Neyyar, Peppara and Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuaries and Kalakad mundanthurai Tiger Reserve
- b. Mudumalai, Sathyamangalam and Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuaries and silent valley national park
- c. Kaundinya, Gundla Brahmeswaram and Papikonda wildlife sanctuaries, and mukurthi national park.
- d. Kawal and Sri Venkateswara wildlife Sanctuaries and Nagarjunasagar-Srisuilaam Tiger Reserve

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation:

Neyyar, Peppara and Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuaries and Kalakad mundanthurai Tiger Reserve are part of Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve

Q28. Consider the following statements:

- Some species of turtles are herbivores
- Some species of fish are herbivores
- Some species of marine mammals are herbivores
- Some species of snakes are viviparous

Which of the above given statements are the correct?

- 1 and 3 only
- 2,3 and 4 only
- 2 and 4 only
- 1,2,3 and 4

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

- Sea turtles may be carnivorous (meat eating), herbivorous (plant eating), or omnivorous (eating both meat and plants).
- Fishes may be carnivorous (meat eating), herbivorous (plant eating), or omnivorous (eating both meat and plants).
- Marine mammals may be carnivorous (meat eating), herbivorous (plant eating), or omnivorous (eating both meat and plants).
- Some Snakes that are viviparous nourish their developing young through a placenta and yolk sac, something that is highly unusual among reptiles

Q29. Consider the following pairs

Wildlife	Naturally Found In
1. Blue Finned Mahseer	: Cauvery River
2. Irrawaddy Dolphin	: Chambal River
3. Rusty Spotted Cat	: Eastern Ghata

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

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1,2 and 3

Answer: C

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

Irrawaddy dolphin is not found in Chambal river. They are found in Irrawady river.

Q30. Why is there a great concern about the 'Microbeads' that are released into environment?

- They are considered harmful to marine ecosystems
- They are considered to cause skin cancer in children.
- They are small enough to be absorbed by crop plants in irrigated fields
- They are often found to be used as food adulterants.

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

Clouds of discarded microbeads make up a toxic debris that settles on river and ocean floors. Marine worms ingest these toxins and then, when they're eaten by fish or other predators, the fish gobble up microbead poisons along with the worms.

Q31. Recently there was a growing awareness in our country about the importance of Himalayan nettle (*Girardinia Diversifolia*) because it is found to be a sustainable source of:

- Anti-malarial drug
- biodiesel
- pulp for paper industry
- textile fibre

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

Himalayan Giant Nettle is commonly called “Allo” (*Girardinia diversifolia*) in Nepal. The fiber extracted from “Allo” is one of the income sources for people living in rural mountainous region of Nepal.

Q32. For the measurement/estimation of which of the following are satellite images/remote sensing data used?

- Chlorophyll content in the vegetation of a specific location
- Greenhouse gas emissions from rice paddies of a specific location
- Land surface temperatures of a specific location

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 3 only
- 1,2 and 3

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation:

- Self-Explanatory

Q33. Consider the following states:

- Chhattisgarh
- Madhya Pradesh
- Maharashtra
- Odisha

With reference to the states mentioned above, in terms of percentage of forest cover to the total area of state, which one of the following is the correct ascending order?

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

Answer: C

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

Self-Explanatory

Q34. Which of the following statements are correct about the deposits of 'Methane Hydrate'?

1. Global warming might trigger the release of methane gas from these deposits.
 2. Large deposits of 'Methane hydrate' are found in arctic tundra and under the seafloor.
 3. Methane in atmosphere oxidizes to carbon dioxide after a decade or two.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a. 1 and 2 only
 - b. 2 and 3 only
 - c. 1 and 3 only
 - d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation –

Statement 1 is correct: Scientists concerned that global warming may release huge stores of methane from reservoirs beneath Arctic tundra and deposits of marine hydrates -- a theory known as the "clathrate gun" hypothesis -- have turned to geologic history to search for evidence of significant methane release during past warming events.

Statement 2 is correct: Vast amounts of methane hydrate are buried in sediments on the continental shelves and slopes. Four different kinds of geological settings have the temperature and pressure conditions suitable for the formation and stability of methane hydrates:

- Sediment and sedimentary rock units below Arctic permafrost
- Sedimentary deposits along continental margins
- Deep-water sediments of inland lakes and seas, and
- Under the Antarctic ice.

Statement 3 is correct as the main mechanism for removal of methane from the earth's atmosphere is oxidation within the troposphere by the hydroxyl radical (OH). A hydroxyl radical is a negatively charged oxygen atom bonded to a hydrogen atom (OH). Hydroxyl radicals are a form of "sink" because they "scrub" the atmosphere clean of pollutant molecules and break them down. For this reason OH is known as the 'cleanser of the atmosphere'. After reacting with OH, atmospheric methane is converted to CO₂ by a long series of chemical reactions. Some of the methane present in the troposphere passes into the stratosphere where the same process scrubs the atmosphere clean of methane there."

Q35. Consider the following:

1. Carbon Monoxide
2. Methane
3. Ozone
4. Sulphur dioxide

Which of the above are released into atmosphere due to the burning of crop/ biomass residue?

- a. 1 and 2 only

- b. 2,3 and 4 only
- c. 1 and 4 only
- d. 1,2,3 and 4

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation - crop residue/biomass residue burning not only emits poisonous gases such as SO₂, CH₄, CO₂, CO, N₂O, NO_x, NO, NO₂, OC, BC, TC, NMHCs, SVOCs, VOCs, O₃ etc; but also influences the quality of environment at large.

Q36. Consider the following pairs

Sea	Bordering country
1. Adriatic Sea	: Albania
2. Black Sea	: Croatia
3. Caspian Sea	: Kazakhstan
4. Mediterranean Sea	: Morocco
5. Red Sea	: Syria

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

- a. 1,2 and 4 only
- b. 1,3 and 4 only
- c. 2 and 5 only
- d. 1,2,3,4 and 5

Answer: B

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation - Black Sea does not border Croatia. Red Sea does not border Syria

Q37. Among the following, which one is the largest exporter of rice in the world in the last five years?

- a. China
- b. India
- c. Myanmar
- d. Vietnam

Answer: (b)

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation - India [US\$7.4 billion (30.1% of total rice exports)] is the country that exported the highest dollar value worth of rice during 2018.

Q38. Consider the following pairs:

Glacier	River
1. Bandarpunch	: Yamuna
2. Bara Shigri	: Chenab
3. Milam	: Mandakini
4. Siachen	: Nubra
5. Zemu	: Manas

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

- a. 1,2 and 4
- b. 1,3 and 4
- c. 2 and 5

d. 3 and 5

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation:

Origin Glacier	Rivers
Bandarpunch	Yamuna
Bara Shigri	Chenab
Milam	Gori Ganga
Siachen	Nubra
Zemu	Teesta

Q39. In India, the use of carbofuran, methyl parathion, phorate and triazophos is viewed with apprehension.

These chemicals are used as

- a. Pesticides in agriculture
- b. preservatives in processed foods
- c. fruit ripening agents
- d. moisturising agents in cosmetics

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation - The carbofuran, methyl parathion, phorate and triazophos are pesticides used in agriculture.

Q40. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Under Ramsar Convention, it is mandatory on the part of the Government of India to protect and conserve all the wetlands in the territory of India.
- 2. The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules,2010 were framed by the Government of India based on the recommendations of Ramsar Convention
- 3. The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules,2010 also encompass regions of the wetlands as determined by the authority.

Which of the above given statements are the correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 3 only
- d. 1,2 and 3

Answer: C

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation - " Statement 1 is not correct: Ramsar Convention, is the intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.It is not mandatory for the governments to adopt the Convention.

Statement 2 is not correct : These rules were not framed on the recommendations of the Ramsar Convention.

Statement 3 is correct : Under the Wetland Rules , 2010, ""wetland"" means an area or of marsh, fen, peat land or water; natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water, the depth of which at low tide does not

exceed six metres and includes all inland waters such as lakes, reservoir, tanks, backwaters, lagoon, creeks, estuaries and manmade wetland and the zone of direct influence on wetlands that is to say the drainage area or catchment region of the wetlands as determined by the authority but does not include main river channels, paddy fields and the coastal wetland covered under the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment and Forest"

Q41. Consider the following statements:

1. Agricultural soils release nitrogen oxide into environment
2. Cattle release ammonia into environment
3. Poultry industry releases reactive nitrogen compounds into environment

Which of the above given statements are the correct?

- a. 1 and 3 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 2 only
- d. 1,2 and 3

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation –

Nitrous oxide is emitted into the atmosphere as a result of biomass burning, and biological processes in soils. Biomass burning is not only an instantaneous source of nitrous oxide, but it results in a longer term enhancement of the biogenic production of this gas.

Ruminant animals do not efficiently utilize dietary nitrogen. Excess nitrogen fed in the form of feed proteins is excreted in manure (urine + faeces). Dairy cows on average secrete in milk 25 to 35 percent of the nitrogen they consume and almost all the remaining nitrogen is excreted in urine and faeces with about half of the nitrogen excreted in urine. Approximately 60 to 80 percent of the nitrogen in urine is in the form of urea. Nitrogen in manure can be converted to ammonia through bacterial degradation, primarily the conversion of urinary urea to ammonia. Urease, an enzyme produced by microorganisms in faeces, reacts with urinary urea to form ammonia. Urease activity in faeces is high and rapidly converts urea to ammonia after excretion.

Q42. What is common to the places known as Aliyar, Isapur and Kangsabati?

- a. Recently discovered uranium deposits
- b. Tropical Rain forests
- c. Underground cave systems
- d. Water reservoirs

Answer: D

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation - Kangsabati Reservoir Project in West Bengal Isapur Dam is an earthfill dam on Penganga river in the state of Maharashtra in India. The Aliyar Dam was constructed during 1959-1969 across the Aliyar river, in the state of Tamil Nadu.

Q43. In the context of proposals to the use of hydrogen-enriched CNG(H-CNG) as fuel for buses in public transport, consider the following statements:

1. The main advantage of the use of H-CNG is the elimination of carbon monoxide emissions.
 2. H-CNG as fuel reduces carbon dioxide and hydrocarbon emissions.
 3. Hydrogen up to one-fifth by volume can be blended with CNG as fuel for buses.
 4. H-CNG makes the fuel less expensive than CNG
- Which of the above given statements are the correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 4 only
- d. 1,2,3 and 4

Answer: B

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation –

Statement 1 is incorrect: H-CNG reduces the emission of Carbon Monoxide up to 70% but does not eliminate it.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Current cost of H₂ is more than the cost of Natural Gas.

Q44. Why are dewdrops not formed on a cloudy night?

- a. Clouds absorb the radiation released from the Earth's Surface.
- b. clouds reflect the Earth's radiation
- c. The earth's surface would have low temperature on cloudy nights
- d. Clouds deflect the blowing wind to ground level.

Answer: B

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation - When there is cloudy weather condition, terrestrial radiation is radiated back to the earth's surface after reflection from clouds. This leads to formation of hothouse (Greenhouse) condition due to which temperature on earth's surface is relatively higher. Hence, condition becomes unfavorable for the formation of dew.

Q45. Consider the following statements:

1. The 44th Amendment to the Constitution of India introduced an Article placing the election of the Prime Minister beyond Judicial review.
2. The Supreme Court of India struck down the 99th Amendments to the violative of the Independence of Judiciary.

Which of the above given statements are the correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (b)

Explanation – statement 2 is correct 99th amendment was declared null and void for violating independence of judiciary by bringing in executive in selection process of judges.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The 39th Amendment Act (1975) kept the election of the President, the Vice President, the Prime Minister and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha beyond the scrutiny of the Indian courts. In the Indira Nehru Gandhi case (1975) court said that this provision was beyond the amending power of Parliament as it affected the basic structure of the constitution.

Q46. Consider the following statements:

1. The motion to impeach a judge of the supreme court of India cannot be rejected by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha as per the Judge (Inquiry) Act, 1965.
2. The Constitution of India defines and gives details of what constitutes 'Incapacity and proved misbehaviour' of the judges of the Supreme Court of India.
3. The details of the process of impeachment of the judges of the Supreme Court of India are given in the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
4. If the motion for the impeachment of a judge is taken up for voting, the law requires the motion to be backed by each House of the parliament and supported by a majority of total membership of that house and by not less than two thirds of total members of that house present and voting.

Which of the above given statements are the correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 3 only
- c. 3 and 4 only
- d. 1,3 and 4

Answer: C

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation - Statement 1 is incorrect and 3 is correct. The Judges Enquiry Act (1968) regulates the procedure relating to the removal of a judge of the Supreme Court by the process of impeachment: It says, the Speaker/Chairman may admit the motion or refuse to admit it. Statement 2 is incorrect. A judge of a high court can be removed from his office by an order of the President. The grounds of removal are two—proved misbehaviour or incapacity. But, the words are not defined in the Article 124.

Statement 4 is correct. A judge of a high court can be removed from his office by an order of the President. The President can issue the removal order only after an address by the Parliament has been presented to him in the same session for such removal. The address must be supported by a special majority of each House of Parliament (i.e., a majority of the total membership of that House and majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting).

Q47. The Ninth Schedule was introduced in the constitution of India during the prime ministership of

- a. Jawaharlal Nehru
- b. Lal Bahadur Shastri
- c. Indira Gandhi
- d. Moraji Desai

Answer – A

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation - The First Amendment in 1951 marked the addition of the Ninth Schedule to the Constitution

Q48. Consider the following statements:

1. Coal sector was nationalised by the Government of India under Indira Gandhi.
2. Now, coals blocks are allocated on lottery basis.
3. Till recently, India imported coal to meet the shortages of domestic supply, but now India is self-sufficient in coal production.

Which of the above given statements are the correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 3 only
- d. 1,2 and 3

Answer: A

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation - Statement 1 is correct: The nationalisation was done in two phases, the first with the coking coal mines in 1971-72 and then with the non-coking coal mines in 1973. In October, 1971, the Coking Coal Mines (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1971 provided for taking over in public interest of the management of coking coal mines and coke oven plants pending nationalisation. This was followed by the Coking Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1972 under which the coking coal mines and the coke oven plants other than those with the Tata Iron & Steel Company Limited and Indian Iron & Steel Company Limited, were nationalised and brought under the Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), a new Central Government Undertaking. Another enactment, namely the Coal Mines (Taking Over of Management) Act, 1973, extended the right of the Government of India to take over the management of the coking and non-coking coal mines in seven States including the coking coal mines taken over in 1971.

Statement 2 is incorrect, as under the new policy, mines will be auctioned to the firm offering the highest per tonne price.

Statement 3 is incorrect, as due to high demand and poor average quality, India is forced to import high quality coal to meet the requirements of steel plants. India's coal imports have risen from 49.79 million metric tons (0.05488 billion short tons) in 2007-08 to 190.95 million metric tons (0.21049 billion short tons) in 2016-17.

Q49. Consider the following statements:

1. The Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959 exempts several posts from disqualification on the grounds of 'Office of Profit'.
2. The Above-mentioned act was amended five times.
3. The term 'Office of Profit' is well defined in the Constitution Of India.

Which of the above given statements are the correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 3 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1,2 and 3

Answer – A

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation - It has not been defined in Constitution or Representation of the People Act, 1951.

Q50. Under which Schedule of the Constitution of India can the transfer of tribal land to private parties for mining be declared null and void?

- a. Third Schedule
- b. Fifth Schedule
- c. Ninth Schedule
- d. Twelfth Schedule.

Answer- B

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation - Fifth Schedule

- The key objective is to provide protection to the tribals living in the Scheduled Areas from alienation of their lands and natural resources to non-tribals.
- In these areas, the Governor has been given plenary powers as far as their administration is concerned.
- Under this schedule the transfer of tribal land to private parties for mining be declared null and void
- The executive power of the Union extends to the giving of directions to the State as to the administration of these areas.

Q51. Consider the following statements about Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in India:

1. PVTGs reside in 18 States and one Union Territory.
 2. A Stagnant or declining population is one of the criteria for determining PVTG status.
 3. There are 95 PVTGs officially notified in the country so far.
 4. Irular and Konda Reddi tribes are included in the list of PVTGs.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1,2 and 3
- (b) 2,3 and 4
- (c) 1,2 and 4
- (d) 1,3 and 4

Answer – C

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation - Statement 1 is correct and 3 is incorrect. 75 tribal groups have been categorized by Ministry of Home Affairs as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG)s. PVTGs reside in 18 States and UT of A&N Islands.

Statement 2 is correct. In 1973, the Dhebar Commission created Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) as a separate category, who are less developed among the tribal groups. In 2006, the Government renamed the PTGs as PVTGs. PVTGs have some basic characteristics -mostly homogenous, with a small population, relatively physically isolated, social institutes cast in a simple

mould, absence of written language, relatively simple technology and a slower rate of change or declining population etc.
Statement 4 is correct. Both the tribes are part of PVTGs

Q52. With reference to the constitution of India, prohibitions or limitations or provisions contained in ordinary laws cannot act as prohibitions or limitations on the constitutional powers under Article 142. It could mean which one of the following?

- (a) The decisions taken by the Election Commission of India while discharging its duties cannot be challenged in any court of law.
- (b) The Supreme Court of India is not constrained in the exercise of its powers by laws made by the Parliament.
- (c) In the event of grave financial crisis in the country, the President of India can declare Financial Emergency without the counsel from the Cabinet.
- (d) State Legislatures cannot make laws on certain matters without the concurrence of Union Legislature.

Answer – B

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation - Article 142 provides that “the Supreme Court in the exercise of its jurisdiction may pass such decree or make such order as is necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it.” Thus, the article grants extraordinary powers to the judiciary to do complete justice. The SC will not be bound by any law existing in the country

Q53. With reference to the Legislative Assembly of a State in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Governor makes a customary address to Members of the House at the commencement of the first session of the year.
- 2. When a State Legislature does not have a rule on a particular matter, it follows the Lok Sabha rule on that matter.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer – A

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation - "Statement 1 is correct. In a number of circumstances, the position of Governor is similar to that of President at the level of Union. A governor is an integral part of the state legislature, though not a member of the state legislature. Thus, he can address the state legislature at the commencement of the first session after each general election and the first session of each year.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Article 208 states that, A House of the Legislature of a State may make rules for regulating its procedure and the conduct of its business. Until such rules are made, the rules of procedure and standing orders in force immediately before the commencement of this Constitution with respect to the Legislature for the corresponding Province shall have effect. The Speaker may make any modifications and adaptations.

Q54. Consider the following statements:

1. The United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) has a 'Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air'.
2. The UNCAC is the ever-first legally binding global anti-corruption instrument.
3. A highlight of United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) is the inclusion of a specific chapter aimed at returning assets to their rightful owners from whom they had been taken illicitly.
4. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is mandated by its member States to assist in the implementation of both UNCAC and UNTOC.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2,3 and 4 only
- (c) 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1,2,3 and 4

Answer – C

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation - The United Nations Convention against Corruption is the only legally binding universal anti-corruption instrument. The Convention's far-reaching approach and the mandatory character of many of its provisions make it a unique tool for developing a comprehensive response to a global problem. The vast majority of United Nations Member States are parties to the Convention.

The Convention covers five main areas: preventive measures, criminalization and law enforcement, international cooperation, asset recovery, and technical assistance and information exchange. The Convention covers many different forms of corruption, such as bribery, trading in influence, abuse of functions, and various acts of corruption in the private sector.

3rd statement is incorrect as asset recovery is related to United Nations Convention against Corruption

Q55. Consider the following statements:

1. As per recent amendment to the Indian Forest Act, 1927, forest dwellers have the right to fell the bamboos grown on forest areas.
2. As per the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Acts, 2006, bamboo is a minor forest produce.
3. The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 allows ownership of minor forest produce to forest dwellers.

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

Answer – B

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation – statement 1 is wrong as amendment is for bamboos outside forest areas

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/bamboo-not-a-tree-parliament-passes-bill-amending-forest-act/article22287886.ece>

Q56. Which Article of the Constitution of India safeguards one's right to marry the person of one's choice?

- (a) Article 19
- (b) Article 21
- (c) Article 25
- (d) Article 29

Answer – B

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation - "The right to marry a person of one's choice is integral to Article 21 (right to life and liberty) of the Constitution", the Supreme Court said and set aside a 2017 order of the Kerala High Court which annulled the marriage of Kerala Muslim convert girl Hadiya and Shefin Jahan.

Q57. Consider the following statements:

1. According to the Indian Patents Act, a biological process to create a seed can be patented in India.
2. In India, there is no Intellectual Property Appellate Board.
3. Plant varieties are not eligible to be patented in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer – C

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation - Indian Patent Act

- A patent is an exclusive right granted to an inventor to prevent others from making, using, producing, selling and distributing the patented invention. A patent on seeds would prevent farmers from saving and exchanging seed.
- Statement 1 is incorrect and statement 3 is correct: In our Patent Law we introduced a clause Article 3j which clearly states that the following are not inventions, hence not patentable: "plants and animals in whole or in any part thereof other than microorganisms; but including seeds, varieties, and species, and essentially biological processes for production or propagation of plants and animals".
- Statement 2 is incorrect: The Intellectual Property Appellate Board (IPAB) was constituted on September 15, 2003 by the Indian Government to hear and resolve the appeals against the decisions of the registrar under the Indian Trademarks Act, 1999 and the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.
- Since April 2, 2007, IPAB has been authorized to hear and adjudicate upon the appeals from most of the decisions, orders or directions made by the Patent Controller under the Patents Act. Therefore all pending

appeals of Indian High Courts under the Patents Act were transferred to IPAB

Q58. Consider the following statements:

The Environment Protection Act, 1986 empowers the Government of India to:

1. state the requirement of public participation in the process of environmental protection, and the procedure and manner in which it is sought
2. lay down the standards for emission or discharge of environmental pollutants from various sources

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer – B

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation – Environment Protection Act, 1986

Power of Central Government to take measures to protect and improve environment.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government shall have the power to take all such measures as it deems necessary or expedient for the purpose of protecting and improving the quality of the environment and preventing, controlling and abating environmental pollution.

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of sub-section (1), such measures may include measures with respect to all or any of the following matters, namely:—

(i) co-ordination of actions by the State Governments, officers and other authorities—

(a) under this Act, or the rules made thereunder; or

(b) under any other law for the time being in force which is relatable to the objects of this Act;

(ii) planning and execution of a nation-wide programme for the prevention, control and abatement of environmental pollution;

(iii) laying down standards for the quality of environment in its various aspects;

(iv) laying down standards for emission or discharge of environmental pollutants from various sources whatsoever: Provided that different standards for emission or discharge may be laid down under this clause from different sources having regard to the quality or composition of the emission or discharge of environmental pollutants from such sources;

(v) restriction of areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards;

(vi) laying down procedures and safeguards for the prevention of accidents which may cause environmental pollution and remedial measures for such accidents;

- (vii) laying down procedures and safeguards for the handling of hazardous substances;
- (viii) examination of such manufacturing processes, materials and substances as are likely to cause environmental pollution;
- (ix) carrying out and sponsoring investigations and research relating to problems of environmental pollution;
- (x) inspection of any premises, plant, equipment, machinery, manufacturing or other processes, materials or substances and giving, by order, of such directions to such authorities, officers or persons as it may consider necessary to take steps for the prevention, control and abatement of environmental pollution;
- (xi) establishment or recognition of environmental laboratories and institutes to carry out the functions entrusted to such environmental laboratories and institutes under this Act;
- (xii) collection and dissemination of information in respect of matters relating to environmental pollution;
- (xiii) preparation of manuals, codes or guides relating to the prevention, control and abatement of environmental pollution;
- (xiv) such other matters as the Central Government deems necessary or expedient for the purpose of securing the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

Q 59. As per the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 in India, which one of the following statements is correct?

- (a) Waste generator has to segregate waste into five categories.
- (b) The Rules are applicable to notified urban local bodies, notified towns and all industrial townships only.
- (c) The Rules provide for exact and elaborate criteria for the identification of sites for landfills and waste processing facilities.
- (d) It is mandatory on the part of waste generator in one district cannot be moved to another district.

Answer – C

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation - Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016

The new rules have mandated the source segregation of waste in order to channelize the waste to wealth by recovery, reuse and recycle.

Statement (a) is incorrect: Waste generators would now have to now segregate waste into three streams

Statement (b) is incorrect: The Rules are applicable beyond municipal areas and will extend to urban agglomerations, census towns, notified industrial townships, areas under the control of Indian Railways, airports, airbase, port and harbour, defence establishments, special economic zones, State and Central government organizations, places of pilgrims, religious & historical importance.

Statement (c) is correct: Waste processing facilities will have to be set up by all local bodies having a population of 1 million or more within two years. The landfill site shall be 100 meters away from a river, 200 meters from a

pond, 500 meters away from highways, habitations, public parks and water supply wells and 20 km away from airports/airbase.

Statement (d) is incorrect: The bio-degradable waste should be processed, treated and disposed of through composting or bio-methanation within the premises as far as possible. The residual waste shall be given to the waste collectors or agency as directed by the local authority.

Q60. Consider the following statements:

As per the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Central (Amendment) Rules, 2018

1. if rules for fixed-term employment are implemented, it becomes easier for the firms/companies to lay off workers
2. no notice of termination of employment shall be necessary in the case of temporary workman

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer – C

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation - Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Central (Amendment) Rules, 2018

- Fixed-term employment for all sectors will make it easier for companies to hire-and-fire workers. If rules for fixed term employment are implemented, it become easier for the firms/companies to lay off workers
- No notice of termination of employment shall be necessary in the case of temporary workman.
- Provided that a temporary workman, who has completed three months continuous service, shall be given two weeks' notice of the intention to terminate his employment if such termination is not in accordance with the terms of the contract of his employment

Q61. The Service Area Approach was implemented under the purview of

- (a) Integrated Rural Development Programme
- (b) Lead Bank Scheme
- (c) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
- (d) National Skill Development Mission

Answer – B

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation - Service area approach is an alternative and improved method of Lead Bank Scheme for deployment of bank credit for rural development. The main idea behind this approach is that every village in the country, however remote, would have an access to banking facilities by providing more of productive lending based on the local conditions and genuine needs of villagers. This new approach will also promote deposit mobilisation to augment resources for lending and improve recycling of credit, impart developmental thrust to bank credit, enhance field orientation and

motivation of bank managers and increase co-operation between bank officials and local developmental agencies.

Q62. With reference to the management of minor minerals in India, consider the following statements:

1. Sand is a 'minor mineral' according to the prevailing law in the country.
2. State Governments have the power to grant mining leases of minor minerals, but the powers regarding the formation of rules related to the grant of minor minerals lie with the Central Government.
3. State Governments have the power to frame rules to prevent illegal mining of minor minerals.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer:A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Explanation - According to section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 "Minor Minerals" means building stones, gravel, ordinary clay, ordinary sand other than sand used for prescribed purposes[1], and any other mineral which the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, declare to be a minor mineral. (For the purposes of this Act, the word "minerals" includes all minerals except mineral oils- natural gas and petroleum)

The central government has the power to notify "minor minerals" under section 3 (e) of the MMDR Act, 1957. On the other hand, as per Section 15 of the MMDR Act, 1957 State Governments have complete powers for making Rules for grant of concessions in respect of extraction of minor minerals and levy and collection of royalty on minor minerals.

Q63. Consider the following statements:

1. Most of India's external debt is owed by governmental entities.
2. All of India's external debt is denominated in US dollars.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer:D

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation - The external debt of India is the total debt the country owes to foreign creditors. The debtors can be the Union government, state governments, corporations or citizens of India. The debt includes money owed to private commercial banks, foreign governments, or international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank.

India's external debt is held in multiple currencies, the largest of which is the United States dollar. As on 31 December 2017, 48.2% of the country's

debt was held in U.S. dollars. The rest of the debt is held in Indian rupees (37.3%), special drawing rights (5.7%), Japanese yen (4.6%), Euros (3.2%) and other currencies (1%).

Most of India's external debt is in form of ECB and NRI deposits.

Q64. Which of the following is not included in the assets of a commercial bank in India?

- (a) Advances
- (b) Deposits
- (c) Investments
- (d) Money at call and short notice

Answer: B

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation – Deposits are liabilities to bank

Q65. In the context of India, which of the following factors is/are contributor/contributors to reducing the risk of a currency crisis?

1. The foreign currency earnings of India's IT sector
2. Increasing the government expenditure
3. Remittances from Indians abroad

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer – B

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Explanation - Currency crisis risk is reduced by increase in foreign exchange inflow in the current account of BoP. In this question statement 1 and 3 are inflows in the current account and hence reduce the risk, whereas 2 are not related to currency risk directly.

Q66. Which one of the following suggested that the Governor should be an eminent person from outside the state and should be a detached figure without intense political links or should not have taken part in politics in the recent past?

- (a) First Administrative Reforms Commission (1966)
- (b) Rajamannar Committee (1969)
- (c) Sarkaria Commission (1983)
- (d) National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (2000)

Answer – C

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Explanation – The Sarkaria Commission's charter was to examine the relationship and balance of power between state and central governments in the country and suggest changes within the framework of Constitution of India. In spite of the large size of its reports – the Commission recommended, by and large, status quo in the Centre-State relations, especially in the areas, relating to legislative matters, role of Governors and use of Article 356.

On the issue of appointment of the Governors, it made some important recommendations as given in the following:

The Governor should be eminent in some walk of life and from outside the state. He should be a detached figure without intense political links or should not have taken part in politics in recent past. Besides, he should not be a member of the ruling party.

Q67. Which of the following is issued by registered foreign portfolio investors to overseas investors who want to be part of the Indian themselves directly?

- (a) Certificate of Deposit
- (b) Commercial Paper
- (c) Promissory Note
- (d) Participatory Note

Answer- D

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Participatory notes (P-notes) are issued by registered FPIs to overseas investors who wish to be a part of the Indian stock market without registering themselves directly after going through a due diligence process.

<https://www.businesstoday.in/current/economy-politics/investment-in-participatory-notes-rises-to-rs-81220-crore-till-april-end/story/352088.html>

Q68. Consider the following statements:

1. As per law, the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority exists at both National and State levels.
2. People's participation is mandatory in the compensatory afforestation programmes carried out under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund 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

Answer-A

Level of Difficulty: Medium

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/streamlining-forest-protection-law-30183>

Q69. In India, which of the following review the independent regulators in sectors like telecommunication, insurance, electricity, etc?

1. Ad Hoc Committees set up by the Parliament.
2. Parliamentary Department Related Standing Committees
3. Finance Commission
4. Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission
5. NITI Ayog

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 1,3 and 4
- (c) 3,4 and 5

(d) 2 and 5

Answer- A

Level of Difficulty: Medium

The Parliamentary committees are of two kinds - Standing or permanent committees and Ad hoc committees. The former are elected or appointed periodically and they work on a continuous basis. The latter are created on an ad hoc basis as the need arises and they are dissolved after they complete the task assigned to them.

<http://www.tec.gov.in/committees/>

Q 70. With reference to India's Five-Year Plans, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. From the Second Five-Year Plan, there was a determined thrust towards substitution of basic and capital good industries.
2. The Fourth Five-Year Plan adopted the objective of correcting the earlier trend of increased concentration of wealth and economic power.
3. In the Fifth Five-Year Plan, for the first time, the financial sector was included as an integral part of the Plan.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer- A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

<http://planningcommission.nic.in/plans/planrel/fiveyr/4th/4ppre.htm>

Q71. With reference to The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), consider the following statements:

1. AIIB has more than 80-member nations.
2. India is the largest stakeholder in AIIB.
3. AIIB does not have any member from outside Asia.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer- A

Level of Difficulty: Easy

<https://www.aiib.org/en/about-aiib/index.html>

Q72. What was the purpose of Inter-Creditor Agreement signed by Indian Banks and financial institutions recently?

- a) To lessen the Government of India's perennial burden of fiscal deficit and current account deficit
- b) To support the infrastructure projects of Central and State Governments

- c) To act as an independent regulator in case of applications for loans of Rs. 50 crore or more
- d) To aim at faster resolution of stressed assets of Rs. 50 crore or more which are under consortium lending

Answer- D

Level of Difficulty: Medium

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/guidelines-on-inter-creditor-agreement-next-week/articleshow/65490962.cms>

Q73. The Chairman of the public sector banks are selected by the:

- a) Banks Board Bureau
- b) Reserve Bank of India
- c) Union Ministry of Finance
- d) Management of concerned bank

Answer- A

Level of Difficulty: Easy

<https://www.livemint.com/Opinion/GgTaUs5JX4ugJZV3uKaL9N/How-public-sector-bank-CEOs-are-selected.html>

Q74. Consider the following statements:

1. Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is the first regulatory body set up by the Government of India.
2. One of the tasks of PNGRB is to ensure competitive markets for gas.
3. Appeals against the decisions of PNGRB go before Appellate Tribunals for Electricity.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer-B

Level of Difficulty: Easy

<http://www.pngrb.gov.in/about-us.html>

Q75. With reference to communication technologies, what is/are the difference/differences between LTE (Long-Term Evolution) and VoLTE(Voice over Long-Term Evolution)?

1. LTE is commonly marketed as 3G and VoLTE is commonly marketed as advanced 3G.
 2. LTE is data-only technology and VoLTE is voice-only technology.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Answer-D

Level of Difficulty: Medium

<https://techwelkin.com/difference-between-lte-and-volte-4g>

Q76. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act, 2017?

1. Pregnant women are entitled for three months pre-delivery and three months post-delivery paid leave.
2. Enterprises with crèches must allow the mother maximum six crèche visits daily.
3. Women with two children get reduced entitlements.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer-C

Level of Difficulty: Medium

<https://www.prsindia.org/sites/default/files/The%20Maternity%20Benefit%20%28Amendment%29%20Act%2C%202017.pdf>

Q77. Which one of the following is not a sub-index of the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index?

- a) Maintenance of law and order
- b) Paying taxes
- c) Registering property
- d) Dealing with construction permits.

Answer-A

Level of Difficulty: Easy

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ease_of_doing_business_index

Q78. In India, 'extended producer responsibility' was introduced as an important feature in which of the following?

- a) The Bio-medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998.
- b) The Recycled Plastic (Manufacturing and Usage) Rules, 1999.
- c) The e-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011.
- d) The Food Safety and Standard Regulations, 2011.

Answer-c

Level of Difficulty: Easy

<http://www.rna-cs.com/e-waste-management-and-handling-rules-2011/>

Q79. The economic cost of food grains to the Food Corporation of India is Minimum Support Price and bonus (if any) paid to the farmers plus

- a) Transportation cost only
- b) Interest cost only
- c) Procurement incidentals and distribution cost
- d) Procurement incidentals and charges for godowns

Answer-C

Level of Difficulty: Medium

<http://fci.gov.in/finances.php?view=23>

Q80. In the context of any country, which one of the following would be considered as part of its social capital?

- a) The proportion of literates in the population
- b) The stock of its buildings, other infrastructure and machines
- c) The size of the population in the working age group
- d) The level of mutual trust and harmony in the society

Answer-D

Level of Difficulty: Easy

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_capital

Q81. With reference to the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

- 1. No High Court shall have jurisdiction to declare any central law to be constitutionally invalid.
- 2. An amendment to the Constitution of India cannot be called into question by the Supreme Court 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 and 2

Answer-d

Level of Difficulty: Easy

<https://www.livelaw.in/provisions-central-legislation-struck-high-court-cannot-selectively-applied-states-madras-hc/>

Q82. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) exchange rates are calculated by comparing the prices of the same basket of goods and services in different countries.
- 2. In terms of PPP dollars, India is the sixth largest economy in the world.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Answer-A

Level of Difficulty: Medium

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_\(PPP\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_(PPP))

Q83. With reference to the cultivation of Kharif crops in India in the last five years, consider the following statements:

- 1. Area under rice cultivation is the highest.
- 2. Area under the cultivation of jowar is more than that of oilseeds.
- 3. Area of cotton cultivation is more than that of sugarcane.
- 4. Area under sugarcane cultivation has steadily decreased.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only

- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer-A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

<http://www.commoditiescontrol.com/eagritrader/common/newsdetail.php?type=MKN&itemid=486459&cid1=,6,&varietyid=,25>

Q84. Among the agricultural commodities imported by India, which on the following accounts for the highest import in terms of value in the last five years?

- a) Spices
- b) Fresh fruits
- c) Pulses
- d) Vegetable oils

Answer-D

Level of Difficulty: Hard

<http://www.cogencis.com/newssection/govt-to-launch-new-national-mission-for-vegetable-oils-to-stem-import/>

Q85. In the context of polity, which one of the following would you accept as the most appropriate definition of liberty?

- a) Protection against the tyranny of political rulers
- b) Absence of restraint
- c) Opportunity to do whatever one likes
- d) Opportunity to develop oneself fully

Answer-B

Level of Difficulty: Medium

<http://www.yourarticlelibrary.com/essay/liberty-definition-features-types-and-essential-safeguards-of-liberty/40364>

Q86. Which one of the following is not the most likely measure the Government/RBI takes to stop slide of Indian rupee?

- a) Curbing imports of non-essential goods and promoting exports
- b) Encouraging Indian borrowers to issue rupee denominated Masala Bonds.
- c) Easing conditions relating to external commercial borrowing
- d) Following an expansionary monetary policy

Answer-D

Level of Difficulty: Medium

Q87. Consider the following statements:

The Reserve Bank of India's recent directives relating to the 'Storage of Payment System Data', popularly known as data diktat, command the payment system providers that

1. They shall ensure that entire data relating to the payment systems operated by them are stored in a system only in India.

2. They shall ensure that the systems are owned and operated by public sector enterprises
3. They shall submit the consolidated system audit report to the Comptroller and Auditor General of India by the end of the calendar year

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer-A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

<https://thewire.in/business/rbi-payment-data-localisation-india>

Q88. Which of the following adopted a law on data protection and privacy for its citizen known as 'General Data Protection Regulation' in April 2016 and started implementation of it from 25th May 2018?

- a) Australia
- b) Canada
- c) The European Union
- d) The United States of America

Answer-C

Level of Difficulty: Easy

<https://eugdpr.org>

Q89. Recently, India signed a deal known as 'Action Plan for Prioritization and Implementation of Cooperation Areas in the Nuclear Field' with which of the following countries?

- a) Japan
- b) Russia
- c) The United Kingdom
- d) The United States of America

Answer-B

Level of Difficulty: Easy

<https://dae.nic.in/?q=node/1136>

Q90. The money multiplier in an economy increases with which one of the following?

- a) Increase in the cash reserve ratio
- b) Increase in the banking habit of the population
- c) Increase in the statutory liquidity ratio
- d) Increase in the population of the country

Answer-B

Level of Difficulty: Medium

<http://www.economicdiscussion.net/money-supply/money-creation-by-the-banking-system/16138>

Q91. In the context of digital technologies for entertainment, consider the following statement:

1. In Augmented Reality (AR), a stimulated environment is created and the physical world is completely shut out.
2. In Virtual Reality (VR), images generated from a computer are projected onto real-life objects or surroundings.
3. AR allows individuals to be present in the world and improves the experience using the camera of smart-phone or PC.
4. VR closes the world, and transposes an individual, providing complete immersion experience.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 3 and 4
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) 4 only

Answer-B

Level of Difficulty: Medium

<https://www.fi.edu/difference-between-ar-vr-and-mr>

Q92. The word 'Denisovan' is sometimes mentioned in media in reference to

- a) Fossils of a kind of dinosaurs
- b) An early human species
- c) A cave system found in North-East India
- d) A geological period in the history of Indian subcontinent

Answer-B

Level of Difficulty: Hard

<https://genographic.nationalgeographic.com/denisovan/>

Q93. With reference to the recent development in science, which one of the following statements is not correct?

- a) Functional chromosome can be created by joining segments of DNA taken from cells of different species.
- b) Pieces of artificial functional DNA can be created in laboratories.
- c) A piece of DNA taken out from an animal cell can be made to replicate outside a living cell in a laboratory.
- d) Cells taken out from plants and animals can be made to undergo cell division in laboratory petri-dishes.

Answer-A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

Q94. Consider the following statements:

A digital signature is

1. An electronic record that identifies the certifying authority issuing it
2. Used to serve as a proof of identity of an individual to access information or server on Internet
3. An electronic method of signing an electronic document and ensuring that the original content is unchanged

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer-D

Level of Difficulty: Hard

<https://cleartax.in/s/digital-signature-certificate-get-dsc>

Q95. In the context of wearable technology, which of the following tasks is/are accomplished by wearable devices?

- 1. Location identification of a person
- 2. Sleep monitoring of a person
- 3. Assisting the hearing-impaired person

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

Answer-D

Level of Difficulty: Medium

<https://www.govtech.com/fs/news/8-Mind-blowing-Uses-of-Wearable-Technology-Seriously.html>

Q96. 'RNA interference (RNAi)' technology has gained popularity in the last few years. Why?

- 1. It is used for developing gene silencing therapies
- 2. It can be used in developing therapies for the treatment of cancer
- 3. It can be used to develop hormone replacement therapies
- 4. It can be used to produce crop plants that are resistant to viral pathogens

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) 1, 2 and 4
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) 1 and 4 only

Answer- A

Level of Difficulty: Hard

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/probe/docs/techrnai/>

Q97. Recently, scientists observed the merger of giant 'blackholes' billions of light years away from the Earth. What is the significance of this observation?

- a) 'Higgs boson particles' were detected
- b) 'Gravitational waves' were detected
- c) Possibility of inter-galactic space travel through 'wormhole' was confirmed
- d) It enabled the scientists to understand 'singularity'

Answer-B

Level of Difficulty: Medium

<https://cosmosmagazine.com/space/gravitational-waves-biggest-black-hole-merger-ever-detected-revealed>

Q98. Which of the following are the reasons for the occurrence of multi-drug resistance in microbial pathogens in India?

1. Genetic predisposition of some people
2. Taken incorrect doses of antibiotics to cure diseases
3. Using antibiotics in livestock farming
4. Multiple chronic diseases in some people

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4
- d) 2, 3 and 4

Answer-D

Level of Difficulty: Medium

<https://www.niaid.nih.gov/research/antimicrobial-resistance-causes>

Q99. What is Cas9 protein that is often mentioned in news?

- a) A molecular scissors used in targeted gene editing
- b) A biosensor used in the accurate detection of pathogens in patients
- c) A gene that makes plants pest-resistant
- d) A herbicidal substance synthesized in genetically modified crops

Answer-A

Level of Difficulty: Easy

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cas9>

Q100. Which one of the following statements is not correct?

- a) Hepatitis B virus is transmitted much like HIV
- b) Hepatitis B, unlike Hepatitis C, does not have a vaccine
- c) Globally, the number of people infected with Hepatitis B and C viruses are several times more than those infected with HIV
- d) Some of those infected with Hepatitis B and C viruses do not show the symptoms for many years.

Answer- B

Level of Difficulty: Easy

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/hepatitis-c/expert-answers/hepatitis-c-vaccine/faq-20110002>