

UPSC CSE Prelims 2026: Reflected in Our Content

Questions Matched from Our Preparation Sources:

Current Affairs Portal

54 Questions

Prelims Test Series

26 Questions

(including overlaps)



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PRELIMS REFLECTIONS 2026

SOURCES: IASGYAN, NISCHAY TEST SERIES, PRELIMS MIRROR OPEN MOCK

TEST SERIES BASED:

4. Which of the following statements on the **Amaravati Stupa and its relief sculptures** is/are correct ?

1. It was located in the lower Krishna valley.
2. In India, it was next only to the Sanchi Stupa in size.
3. The Amaravati school of sculpture made a lasting impact on the later South Indian sculpture, and its products were carried to Sri Lanka and South-east Asia.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
PRELIMS MIRROR 3 (Q24)	“It is an important Buddhist site located on the left bank of the Bhima River, known for an ancient Mahastupa referred to as Hama Chaitya, patronized by Mahayana Buddhism and showing strong influence of the Amaravati School of Art . Which site is being referred to?”	The UPSC question tested knowledge of the location and sculptural influence of the Amaravati Stupa. Similarity is low to moderate (35–45%) because the overlap was mainly conceptual – both focused on the Amaravati School of Art and Buddhist stupas, while the exact facts and framing differed.

5. Which of the following pairs of the king and his dynasty in early historical Tamilakam is/are not correctly matched ?

1. **Senguttuvan** : Chera
2. Udyanjeral : Chola
3. Nedunjeliyan : Pandya

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
NISCHAY 35 (Q13)	“The Pattini Cult was established by which Chera ruler? (a) Uthiyan Cheralathan (b) Nedum Cheralathan (c) Senguttuvan (d) Rama Varma Kulasekhara”	The UPSC question tested matching Sangam rulers with their dynasties in early Tamilakam. Similarity is low (25–35%) because only the ruler Senguttuvan overlapped , while the UPSC question focused on dynasty matching and multiple rulers.

19. Which one of the following statements about the **Eka Movement and Bardoli Satyagraha** is correct ?

- (a) The Eka Movement was throughout supported and organized by the Congress while Bardoli Satyagraha was initially independent of Congress influence and was only in the last stages supported by the Congress.
- (b) The Eka Movement was provided leadership by the taluqdars of Awadh, whereas the Bardoli Satyagraha was a movement of the landless labourers.
- (c) The Bardoli Satyagraha was a campaign against the enhancement of land revenue, while the Eka Movement was a protest against excessive extraction of rents.
- (d) The Eka Movement was located in the Varanasi and Mirzapur districts of the present-day U.P., while the Bardoli Satyagraha took place in Saurashtra.

Test Name	Question	Analysis
NISCHAY 19 (Q58)	“Consider the following statements about the Eka Movement : 1. Its meetings began with a religious ritual in which a hole representing the river Ganga was filled	The UPSC question tested the nature of the Eka Movement as a protest against excessive rent extraction. Similarity is

	with water. 2. The leaders of the movement were deeply interested in the principle of non-violence. 3. It was a movement solely based on the tenants and small landholders. How many of the statements given above are incorrect?"	moderate to high (55–65%) because the movement's peasant character and agrarian background were covered.
NISCHAY 35 (Q20)	"With reference to the Bardoli Satyagraha, consider the following statements: I. The movement was launched in response to a 22% increase in land revenue recommended by the Bombay Presidency administration. II. The Maxwell-Broomfield Commission was appointed by the government to conduct an inquiry into the revenue hike. III. As a result of the settlement, the increased revenue assessment was reduced to approximately 6%. How many of the statements given above are incorrect?"	The UPSC question directly tested Bardoli Satyagraha as a movement against enhancement of land revenue. Similarity is moderate to high (55–65%) because the core issue of revenue enhancement was directly covered.

Q25. Consider the following statements with reference to the Sagarmala Programme of the Government of India:

- I. The Sagarmala Programme seeks to achieve port-led economic growth through cost-effective and sustainable coastal infrastructure.
- II. The success of the Sagarmala Programme is reflected in significant growth in coastal and inland waterway shipping, along with improved global port rankings.
- III. Sagarmala 2.0 aims to position India as a global maritime innovation hub aligned with Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat 2047 visions.

Which of the following relationships among the above statements is/are correct?

1. Statement II validates the effectiveness of the strategies envisioned in statement I.
2. Statement III extends the objectives of statement I by embedding them into a future-oriented innovation framework.
3. Statement I contradicts statement III by focusing only on traditional infrastructure instead of modern innovation.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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


Test Name	Question	Analysis
PRELIMS MIRROR 1 (Q13)	Question included the Sagarmala Programme as part of broader logistics and transport initiatives. "Consider the following infrastructure initiatives: 1. India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor 2. Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor 3. Sagarmala Programme 4. National Logistics Policy	Similarity is low to moderate (30–40%) because only the broad objective of logistics and infrastructure development under Sagarmala overlapped, while the UPSC question focused specifically on programme outcomes and Sagarmala 2.0 vision.
NISCHAY 10 (Q50)	Question asked about Sagarmala Project as an initiative promoting Blue Economy in India. "Consider the following: 1. Sagarmala Project 2. Integrated Coastal Zone Management 3. O-SMART 4. Deep Ocean Mission 5. PMMSY 6. Blue Bonds – Which initiatives have been launched to promote Blue Economy in India?"	Similarity is low to moderate (30–40%) because the overlap was mainly conceptual regarding Blue Economy and port-led development, whereas the UPSC question tested analytical relationships between objectives, outcomes, and future innovation goals.

Q27. Which one of the following statements with regard to the Moidams, built by the Tai-Ahom kingdom and inscribed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, is/are correct?

1. They acted as army fortresses.
2. They were recreation centres of the Royals and Nobles.
3. They were burial grounds of the Royals and Nobles.
4. They were battle drill centres of the Royals and Nobles.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
<p>NISCHAY 7 (Q53)</p> <p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/moidams</p>  <p><i>Disclaimer: Copyright infringement not intended.</i></p> <p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ahom era 'Moidams' in Assam's Charaideo district, recommended for UNESCO World Heritage status. <p>Background and Significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 'Moidams' are mound-burial sites located in Charaideo district, Assam, which serve as the resting places for the royalty of the Ahom dynasty. These sites are considered sacred and historically significant, embodying the funerary traditions and cosmologies of the Tai-Ahom people who migrated to Assam in the 13th century. <p>UNESCO Nomination and Evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), an advisory body to UNESCO, evaluated the nomination of Ahom Moidams for World Heritage status. ICOMOS recommended their inclusion based on criteria (iii) and (iv) of UNESCO's criteria for cultural heritage properties. <p>Criteria for UNESCO Recognition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criterion (iii): Ahom Moidams bear exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition (Tai-Ahom) that has shaped the region's history. Criterion (iv): They represent an outstanding example of mound-burial systems, illustrating significant stages in human history and architectural achievement. 	<p>"The Charaideo Moidams received the UNESCO heritage status, what is it? (A) Ancient Buddhist stupas... (B) Sacred burial mounds of the Tai-Ahom royalty located in Assam ..."</p>	<p>Similarity is high (70–80%) because the UPSC question directly tested the nature of Moidams as burial grounds of Tai-Ahom royalty, which was explicitly covered in the test question.</p>

Q28. At the United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) held in June, 2025 in France, the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations demonstrated its leading voice on marine and ocean issues, especially on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for resilient livelihood and "Blue Transformation".

Which of the following combinations about the "Four Betters" proposed by FAO for "Blue Transformation" is correct?

- (a) Better production, better nutrition, better environment and better ocean
- (b) Better production, better nutrition, better environment and better life
- (c) Better coral reefs, better nutrition, better environment and better life
- (d) Better estuaries, better nutrition, better environment and better mangrove vegetation

Test Name	Question	Analysis
<p>NISCHAY 18 (Q81)</p>	<p>This question is based on the United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) held in June 2025 and sustainable marine frameworks. The declarations and key outcomes of the 3rd UN Ocean Conference (UNOC3), including SDG 14 commitments, were specifically covered</p> <p>"Consider the following statements regarding the third UN Ocean Conference (UNOC3): 1. UNOC3 adopted a declaration titled 'Our Ocean, Our Future: United for Urgent Action.' 2. It reinforced global commitments to SDG 14."</p>	<p>Similarity is low (25–35%) because the overlap was mainly thematic – both related to the UN Ocean Conference and sustainable marine governance.</p>

Q30. Which one of the following is the first Plan Vivo certified Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) project in India?

- (a) Uttarakhand REDD+ project
- (b) ICFRE-ICIMOD Transboundary REDD+ project in North-Eastern Himalayas
- (c) Khasi Hills Community REDD+ project
- (d) Sikkim MamleyKamrang Community REDD+ project

Test Name	Question	Analysis
NISCHAY 16 (Q8)	“Consider the following statements about REDD+: 1. It primarily focuses on deforestation and forest degradation in affected countries. 2. It provides incentives to countries for sustainable forest management. 3. It prioritises biodiversity conservation over livelihoods improvement.”	Similarity is low (25–35%) because the overlap was mainly conceptual through the REDD+ framework. The UPSC question specifically tested the first Plan Vivo certified REDD+ project in India, which was not directly covered.

Q34. In what way(s) does the Vizhinjam International Seaport represent a structural shift in India's maritime trade and logistics policy?

- 1. By functioning exclusively as a domestic cargo hub to reduce reliance on coastal shipping and eliminate the need for foreign collaborations.
- 2. By focusing primarily on passenger cruise tourism and heritage shipping to increase Kerala's profile as a maritime heritage destination.
- 3. By leveraging its natural deep draft and strategic location to reduce dependence on foreign transshipment ports, enhance revenue retention, and reposition India in regional maritime trade.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

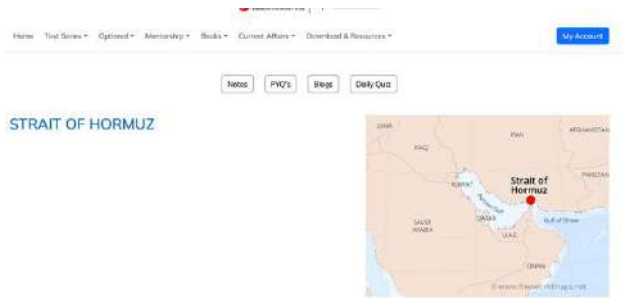
Test Name	Question	Analysis										
NISCHAY 20 (Q41)	“Which of the following has been recently developed as India’s first deepwater transshipment port? – Vizhinjam International Seaport ...”	Similarity is high (60–65%) because the UPSC question directly built upon Vizhinjam’s role as a deepwater transshipment port reducing dependence on foreign hubs like Colombo and Singapore. The conceptual core and strategic maritime significance were substantially covered.										
<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/vizhinjam-port</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Addressing Infrastructure Gap</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •India lacked deepwater ports capable of handling ultra-large container ships, leading to a reliance on foreign ports for such operations. •Vizhinjam offers a natural depth of over 18 meters, scalable to 20 meters. This depth is crucial for accommodating large vessels and mother ships effectively, making it an ideal port for handling significant maritime traffic. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transshipment Traffic</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Historically, India relied heavily on transshipment services provided by ports in Colombo, Singapore, and Klang, leading to substantial forex expenditure. •Developing Vizhinjam as a transshipment hub allows India to retain its transshipment business domestically. This reduces the need to divert traffic to foreign ports, leading to forex savings and boosting the national economy. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Economic Impact</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The project’s modern infrastructure attracts FDI, injecting capital into the economy and fostering economic growth. •Vizhinjam generates revenue through transshipment operations, taxes, and fees, contributing significantly to the state and central government finances. •The development of supporting logistics infrastructure stimulates economic activities in related sectors, creating a multiplier effect on the economy. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Competitive Advantage</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Vizhinjam’s strategic location makes it an attractive choice for shipping companies. Its proximity to international shipping routes enhances its appeal. •The port’s capability to handle Megamax container ships, some of the largest vessels in the world, gives it a competitive edge. This ability makes it a preferred choice for international shipping lines, ensuring a steady flow of maritime traffic. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Job Creation</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The project is expected to create 5,000 direct job opportunities, providing employment to the local population and boosting the region’s economic stability. •Improved logistics infrastructure leads to the growth of industrial corridors around the port, creating additional jobs in manufacturing, transportation, and related sectors. •Enhanced port facilities benefit cruise tourism, creating employment opportunities in the tourism sector, including hospitality, entertainment, and travel services. </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Addressing Infrastructure Gap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •India lacked deepwater ports capable of handling ultra-large container ships, leading to a reliance on foreign ports for such operations. •Vizhinjam offers a natural depth of over 18 meters, scalable to 20 meters. This depth is crucial for accommodating large vessels and mother ships effectively, making it an ideal port for handling significant maritime traffic. 	Transshipment Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Historically, India relied heavily on transshipment services provided by ports in Colombo, Singapore, and Klang, leading to substantial forex expenditure. •Developing Vizhinjam as a transshipment hub allows India to retain its transshipment business domestically. This reduces the need to divert traffic to foreign ports, leading to forex savings and boosting the national economy. 	Economic Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The project’s modern infrastructure attracts FDI, injecting capital into the economy and fostering economic growth. •Vizhinjam generates revenue through transshipment operations, taxes, and fees, contributing significantly to the state and central government finances. •The development of supporting logistics infrastructure stimulates economic activities in related sectors, creating a multiplier effect on the economy. 	Competitive Advantage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Vizhinjam’s strategic location makes it an attractive choice for shipping companies. Its proximity to international shipping routes enhances its appeal. •The port’s capability to handle Megamax container ships, some of the largest vessels in the world, gives it a competitive edge. This ability makes it a preferred choice for international shipping lines, ensuring a steady flow of maritime traffic. 	Job Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The project is expected to create 5,000 direct job opportunities, providing employment to the local population and boosting the region’s economic stability. •Improved logistics infrastructure leads to the growth of industrial corridors around the port, creating additional jobs in manufacturing, transportation, and related sectors. •Enhanced port facilities benefit cruise tourism, creating employment opportunities in the tourism sector, including hospitality, entertainment, and travel services.
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Q40. Ships from which of the following countries have to cross the Strait of Hormuz to reach the Indian Ocean?

1. Bahrain
2. Syria
3. Qatar
4. Egypt

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
PRELIMS MIRROR 1 (Q44) https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/strait-of-hormuz 	“With reference to the Strait of Hormuz, consider the following statements...”	Similarity is low to moderate (35–45%) because the overlap was mainly geographical and conceptual regarding the Strait of Hormuz as a strategic maritime chokepoint. However, the UPSC question specifically tested the countries whose ships must cross the strait to access the Indian Ocean, which was not directly covered. Similarity was high as map was clearly there in iasgyan website.

Q. 41. Match List I with List II and select the answer using the code given below the Lists :

List I (INTERPOL Notice)	List II (Description)
A. Silver Notice	1. To seek information on unidentified bodies
B. Blue Notice	2. To collect additional information about a person’s identity, location, or activities in relation to a criminal investigation
C. Black Notice	3. To provide warning about a person’s criminal activities, where the person is considered to be a possible threat to public safety
D. Green Notice	4. To identify and trace criminal assets

Code :

	A	B	C	D
(a)	3	1	2	4
(b)	3	2	1	4
(c)	4	2	1	3
(d)	4	1	2	3

Test Name	Question	Analysis
NISCHAY 25 (Q45)	Consider the following information: INTERPOL Purpose Notice Yellow Notice To provide a warning about a person’s criminal	Similarity is high (75–85%) because the UPSC question directly tested the purpose-based matching of different INTERPOL notices, especially Blue, Green, Silver, and Black Notices. The matching format and

<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/silver-notice</p> <p>countries. It is part of Interpol's colour-coded notices and alerts.</p>  <p>What is the Silver Notice used for?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It helps countries to locate and recover assets linked to crimes like fraud, corruption, drug trafficking, and environmental crimes. It helps countries identify and locate assets like properties, vehicles, financial accounts, and businesses. It helps countries to take legal action against these assets, such as seizure or confiscation. <p>How does the Silver Notice work?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participating countries can request information on assets linked to criminal activities. The information helps countries to identify and locate the assets. The assets can then be seized or confiscated depending on the national laws. <p>Must Read Articles: NOTICES BY INTERPOL</p>	<p>activities</p> <p>Blue Notice To collect additional information about a person's identity</p> <p>Green Notice To locate missing persons</p> <p>In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?</p> <p>Only one Only two All three None</p>	<p>conceptual approach were substantially similar.</p>
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Q44. Which of the following statements about DHRUV64 is/are correct ?

- It is the third chip fabricated under the DIR-V Programme with an overall aim to enable the creation of microprocessors for India.
- It is India's first homegrown 1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
<p>NISCHAY 34 (Q63)</p> <p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/national-technology-day-2026-history-significance-theme</p>	<p>“With reference to DHRUV64, recently unveiled by India, consider the following statements: 1. It is India’s first fully indigenously</p>	<p>Similarity is high because the UPSC question directly tested factual details about DHRUV64, including its</p>

<p>Wing Commander Shubhanshu Shukla became the first Indian on the International Space Station (ISS) in 2025, conducting microgravity research during the Axiom-4 mission.</p> <p>ISRO and NASA launched the NISAR satellite in 2025, the world's first dual-frequency synthetic aperture radar for disaster management and earth observation.</p> <p>Future plans include the Gaganyaan crewed space mission and deep-sea exploration at 6,000 metres using the indigenous MATSYA submersible.</p> <p>Semiconductors and Indigenous Microprocessors</p> <p>The Union Budget 2026-27 introduced India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) 2.0 with a ₹1,000 crore provision to push for semiconductor self-reliance and achieve advanced 3-nanometre and 2-nanometre technology nodes by 2029.</p> <p>Tata Electronics is building India's first commercial semiconductor fab in Dholera, Gujarat.</p> <p>Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) launched DHRUV64, a fully indigenous 64-bit microprocessor based on the open-source RISC-V architecture, designed to power 5G infrastructure and IoT devices securely.</p> <p>Nuclear Capabilities and Defence Indigenisation</p> <p>India advances its Three-Stage Nuclear Power Programme as the Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) at Kalpakkam nears completion, aiming to tap extensive thorium reserves.</p> <p>The Indian Navy solidified India's Nuclear Triad with successful deterrence patrols by the INS Arihant.</p> <p>Defence indigenization continues with the Tejas LCA, the INS Vikrant carrier commissioning, and enhancements to the BrahMos cruise missile.</p> <p>Source: THEHINDU</p>	<p>developed microprocessor. 2. It has been developed by C-DAC. 3. It was developed under the National Supercomputing Mission."</p> <p>indigenous nature and microprocessor identity. The conceptual domain and core factual area were substantially the same.</p>
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Attempt Daily Quiz

Q46. 'X', born in the UK, was conferred the Nobel Prize in 2025. He was a professor in an American university when this prize was announced. Identify 'X' :

- (a) Michel H. Devoret
- (b) Richard Robson
- (c) **John Clarke**
- (d) Joel Mokyr

Test Name	Question	Analysis
NISCHAY 16 (Q93) https://www.iasgyan.in/tag/nobel-prize-physics-2025	"Consider the following information about the Nobel Prize in 2025: John Clarke - Discovery of quantum mechanical tunnelling; Richard Robson - Development of metal-organic frameworks; Fred Ramsdell - Discovery relating to peripheral immune tolerance. "	Similarity is low because the UPSC question directly relied on awareness of 2025 Nobel Prize winners and associated personalities, which was covered in the test. However, the exact identification of the UK-born laureate and American university linkage required additional factual recall beyond the matching exercise.


Q51. Which of the following statements regarding the features of blockchain technology are correct?

1. Records stored in the database may be made visible to relevant stakeholders without risk of alteration.
2. Copies of the entire database are stored on multiple computers on a network, syncing within seconds.
3. Consortium blockchain is a blend of public and private blockchains allowing selective data access.
4. Mathematical algorithms make it impossible to change or delete any data once recorded and accepted.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
NISCHAY 18 (Q94) https://www.iasgyan.in/tag/blockchain-technology	Q94. Blockchain technology's potential applications extend far beyond cryptocurrency. Which of the following is a key characteristic of	Similarity is moderate to high (60-70%) because the UPSC question directly tested core blockchain features such as decentralization, distributed storage, transparency, and

<p>What is India's National Blockchain Framework?</p> <p>The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) launched the National Blockchain Framework (NBF) in 2024, with a Rs 64.76 crore budget, to establish a unified, secure, and transparent digital governance ecosystem.</p> 	<p>blockchain that makes it suitable for applications like voting and healthcare record management?</p> <p>A) Centralized control by a single trusted authority. B) The ability to easily alter or delete past records. C) Its decentralized and immutable nature. D) Dependence on a single point of failure for network operation.</p>	<p>immutability, which were conceptually covered in the test. However, UPSC additionally included consortium blockchain and technical operational details for deeper factual evaluation.</p>
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Q53. Which one of the following correctly represents the three key sub-indices of the Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) ?

- (a) Credit access, Insurance depth, and Pension coverage
- (b) Banking access, GDP contribution, and Financial literacy
- (c) Access, Usage, and Quality
- (d) Access, Affordability, and Transparency

Test Name	Question	Analysis
NISCHAY 30 (Q82) https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/financial-inclusion-index-2025-rbi-report	“Consider the following statements in the context of the RBI’s Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index)... The three broad parameters and their weights are: Access (35%), Usage (45%), and Quality (20%).”	Similarity is high because the UPSC question directly asked the three key sub-indices of the Reserve Bank of India FI-Index, which were explicitly covered in the test with exact terminology – Access, Usage, and Quality.

Q55. Which one of the following statements about Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Central Bank Digital Currency (Digital Rupee) is not correct ?

- (a) UPI is a real-time payment system but Digital Rupee is akin to sovereign paper currency.
- (b) In case of UPI, settlement for end users happens instantly as the money gets immediately debited or credited but in case of Digital Rupee, there is no settlement as the wallet balance gets transferred to another wallet.
- (c) UPI transactions are recorded by banks and reflected in bank statements but in case of Digital Rupee, no data is captured in bank statements as transactions are from one wallet to another.
- (d) In both the cases (UPI and Digital Rupee), the liability lies with the users and their respective banks.

Test Name	Question	Analysis
NISCHAY 33 (Q4) https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/central-bank-digital-currency-31	Consider the following statements: Statement-I: The Reserve Bank of India has introduced the Central Bank Digital Currency (e-Rupee). Statement-II: The e-Rupee is a legal tender issued in a digital form and is exchangeable at par with existing currency.	Similarity is low because the UPSC question directly relied on the conceptual understanding of the Reserve Bank of India Digital Rupee as sovereign digital currency, which was explicitly covered. However, the detailed comparison between UPI settlement mechanisms and wallet-based CBDC transactions required additional analytical understanding beyond the test content.

	<p>Which 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 of Statement I Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect Statement I is incorrect and Statement I is correct</p>	
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Q60. Which of the following statements about Rare Earth Elements (REEs) and Critical Minerals is/are correct?

1. Modern technological innovations including Artificial Intelligence, robotics and space exploration extensively utilise Rare Earth Elements (REEs).
2. China has the highest share in mining of REEs followed by India.
3. The Government of India launched the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) in 2025 to establish a robust framework for self-reliance in the critical mineral sector.
4. Rare Earth Elements are a set of 13 metallic elements.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
FLT 32 + NISCHAY 16 https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/rare-earth-reserves-in-india	Q6. Consider the following materials: Dysprosium Neodymium Thorium Promethium Which of the above are Rare Earth Elements that are used in high-strength permanent magnets for wind turbines? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4	Similarity is low to moderate in the Nischay tests but high from iasgyan source. The UPSC question directly draws from the same conceptual pool covered in the tests: applications of Rare Earth Elements in advanced technologies, properties and classification of REEs, and India's National Critical Mineral Mission. FLT 32 already tested REE composition, magnet applications, and misconceptions about rarity/concentration, while NISCHAY 16 covered unique magnetic/electrochemical properties and industrial

Why is India concerned about Critical Mineral Supply?

High Import Dependence: India is currently 100% import-dependent for essential minerals like lithium and cobalt, with China controlling over 70% of global lithium production and processing. (Source: Down to Earth)

Surging Future Demand: India's cumulative demand for critical energy transition minerals under a **Net Zero Scenario** is projected to reach about 169 million tonnes by 2070, which is **51% higher than the Current Policy Scenario**. (Source: NITI Aayog)

Geopolitical Concentration: Highly concentrated global supply chains leave India **vulnerable to price volatility**, supply disruptions, and strategic risks.

Supply Chain Vulnerabilities: Global chains face risks from foreign control of assets, **major producer export curbs**, and long-term offtake agreements that hinder Indian market entry.

Domestic Gaps: Despite holding resources like copper and graphite, India lacks processing infrastructure, faces mining bottlenecks, and shows slow exploration progress.

What is the Critical Mineral Recycling Scheme?

It is introduced under the **National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM)** to **promote the recovery of vital critical minerals** like lithium, cobalt, nickel, and rare earth elements from secondary waste sources.

It is **designed to act as a near-term solution to secure raw materials** for clean energy, electric vehicles (EVs), and defense sectors until domestic exploration and mining projects begin to yield results.

Duration and Fund Allocation: From FY 2025-26 to FY 2030-31. The ₹1,500 crore budget is allocated across three different waste streams:

- ₹700 crore for Lithium-ion Battery recycling.
- ₹650 crore for E-waste recycling.
- ₹135 crore for other scrap streams, such as catalytic converters from end-of-life vehicles.

Incentive Structure: Financial support provided to the recyclers is categorized into capital and operational expenditures:

- **Capital Expenditure (Capex) Subsidy:** Provides up to a **20% subsidy** on plant, machinery, equipment, and associated utilities.
- **Operational Expenditure (Opex) Support:** A performance-linked subsidy based on the incremental sales of the extracted critical minerals over a base year.

What is Rare Earth Elements (REEs)?

They are a group of **17 metallic elements** that are critical for modern high-tech industries. Despite their name, they are relatively abundant in the Earth's crust.

They are called "rare" because they are **rarely found in concentrated, economically viable deposits and are difficult to separate from surrounding materials**.

The 17 Rare Earth Elements

The group consists of the 15 lanthanides plus **scandium and yttrium**.

- **Lanthanum (La):** Used in camera lenses and petroleum refining.
- **Cerium (Ce):** The most abundant REE; used for glass polishing and catalytic converters.
- **Praseodymium (Pr):** Used in high-strength alloys for aircraft engines and flint.
- **Neodymium (Nd):** Crucial for making the world's strongest permanent magnets.
- **Promethium (Pm):** Radioactive and does not occur naturally; used in luminous paint.
- **Samarium (Sm):** Used in precision-guided weapons and nuclear reactor control rods.
- **Eurarium (Eu):** Essential for the red color in TV and smartphone screens.
- **Gadolinium (Gd):** Used in MRI contrast agents and medical imaging.
- **Terbium (Tb):** Used in energy-saving lamps and solid-state devices.
- **Dysprosium (Dy):** Added to magnets to help them function at high temperatures.
- **Holmium (Ho):** Has the highest magnetic strength of any element.
- **Erbium (Er):** Used as an amplifier in fiber-optic communications.
- **Thulium (Tm):** Used in portable X-ray machines.
- **Ytterbium (Yb):** Used in lasers and as a chemical reducing agent.
- **Lutetium (Lu):** Used in PET scans to detect tumors.
- **Scandium (Sc):** Used to create lightweight, high-strength aluminum alloys.
- **Yttrium (Y):** Widely used in superconductors and cancer treatments.

Significance

- **Technology:** They are "vitamins" for electronics, enabling the miniaturisation of smartphones, hard drives, and speakers.
- **Green Energy:** Critical for **electric vehicle (EV)** motors and wind turbines.
- **Defence:** Used in precision-guided missiles, radar systems, and night-vision goggles.
- **Geopolitics:** China currently dominates the global supply, controlling over 90% of refining capacity as of 2025.

<https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-editorials/national-critical-mineral-mission-challenges-and-opportunities>

Q11. Consider the following statements regarding Rare Earth Elements (REEs) and magnets:

Rare earth elements are extremely scarce in the Earth's crust.

Rare-earth magnets are brittle and prone to corrosion.

Rare earth ores occur in concentrated seams like coal or copper.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Q 88. Which of the following statements are correct about the Rare Earth Elements?

These elements are commonly found in high concentrations in a single location.

Some of these elements possess unique magnetic and electrochemical properties.

Lanthanum, a rare earth element, is used in the petroleum refining industry.

Select the answer using the code given

applications. The actual UPSC question largely recombined these previously tested factual themes into a statement-based format.

	below: 1 and 2 only 2 and 3 only 1 and 3 only 1, 2 and 3	
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Q64. Consider the following statements about the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) in India :

1. NBFCs cannot accept demand deposits.
2. All the NBFCs operating in India have to be registered with the RBI.
3. NBFCs form part of the payment and settlement system and can issue cheque drawn on itself.
4. Deposit insurance facility of Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) is not available to the depositors of deposit taking NBFCs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
NISCHAY 12 (Q15), NISCHAY 21 (Q68), and PRELIMS MIRROR 2 (Q5)	<p>Q 15. How many of the following statements are correct with respect to the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)?</p> <p>They can participate in the transaction of immovable property as their principal business.</p> <p>They can accept deposits from both the savings and current accounts.</p> <p>They can offer interest rates only if it is lower than the ceiling rate prescribed by the RBI.</p> <p>Q 68. Which of the following statements are correct about the Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs)?</p> <p>It is a company whose principal business may include loans or advances and any agricultural activity.</p> <p>It is mandatory for a NBFC to get itself registered with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as a deposit taking company.</p> <p>The repayment of deposits by NBFCs is not guaranteed by the Reserve Bank of India.</p> <p>Q5. Consider the following statements:</p> <p>Statement I: A Non-Banking Financial Company (NBF(c) cannot accept demand deposits from the public like traditional Commercial Banks.</p> <p>Statement II: NBFCs do not form</p>	<p>Similarity is high. The UPSC question almost directly reproduces the same conceptual areas repeatedly tested in the mock series: NBFCs cannot accept demand deposits like banks, they are outside the payment and settlement system and cannot issue cheques on themselves, and DICGC insurance protection is unavailable to NBFC depositors. PRELIMS MIRROR 2 especially mirrors the exact framing of statements 1 and 3, while NISCHAY 21 covered RBI registration and deposit-related safeguards. The overlap is both conceptual and statement-oriented.</p>


	<p>part of the payment and settlement system and cannot issue cheques drawn on themselves.</p> <p>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 explains Statement I.</p>	
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Q67. Which of the following statements with regard to Large Language Models (LLMs) used in machine learning is/are correct ?

1. LLMs assign probabilities to the next possible words and then pick the one with the highest probability.
2. LLMs process data through mathematical optimization to minimise prediction errors.
3. LLMs produce unbiased outputs.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Source Used	Analysis	
<p>Uploaded LLM notes/image only</p> 	<p>Similarity is high. The uploaded material directly contains the exact concepts asked in UPSC Q67. It explicitly states that LLMs "predict the probability of words or sequences given previous context," which directly matches Statement 1. It also explains that LLMs use deep learning and continuously improve performance using data and parameters, reflecting mathematical optimization to minimize prediction errors in Statement 2. Further, under "Challenges," the notes specifically mention "Bias and Fairness," clearly implying that LLMs do not necessarily produce unbiased outputs, thereby directly helping eliminate Statement 3. The overlap is therefore nearly direct both conceptually and terminologically.</p>	
Test Name	Full Question	Analysis
<p>PRELIMS MIRROR 3</p>	<p>Q6. Match the following: List I: A. Large Language Model B. Machine Learning C. Natural Language Processing D. Neural Network List II: 1. Model trained on large text data to generate human-like responses 2. Learning from data without explicit programming 3. Understanding and generating human language 4. Deep learning structure using interconnected nodes Select the correct answer using the code below: (a) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4 (b) A-3, B-2, C-4, D-1 (c) A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1 (d) A-2, B-4, C-3, D-1</p>	<p>Similarity is low. The UPSC question examined the functioning of Large Language Models – probabilistic next-word prediction, optimization to minimize prediction errors, and the issue of bias in outputs. PRELIMS MIRROR 3 directly introduced the concepts of LLMs, machine learning, NLP, and neural networks, thereby preparing students with the exact technological vocabulary and framework.</p>

Q70. Which of the following statements with regard to Green Hydrogen is/are correct ?

1. It is decarbonized hydrogen obtained from natural gas reforming combined with carbon capture and storage (CCS).
2. It is produced using electrolysis of water with electricity generated by renewable energy.
3. National Green Hydrogen Mission of India aims for abatement of nearly 50 MMT of annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
<p>NISCHAY 16 + NISCHAY 18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Development of green hydrogen production capacity of at least 5 MMT (Million Metric Tonne) per annum with an associated renewable energy capacity addition of about 125 GW in the country. o Over Rs. Eight lakh crore in total investments. o Creation of over Six lakh jobs. o Cumulative reduction in fossil fuel imports over Rs. One lakh crore. o Abatement of nearly 50 MMT of annual greenhouse gas emissions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mission will have wide ranging benefits- creation of export opportunities for Green Hydrogen and its derivatives; Decarbonisation of industrial, mobility and energy sectors; reduction in dependence on imported fossil fuels and feedstock; development of indigenous manufacturing capabilities; creation of employment opportunities; and development of cutting-edge technologies. • India's Green Hydrogen production capacity is likely to reach at least 5 MMT per annum, with an associated renewable energy capacity addition of about 125 GW. • The targets by 2030 are likely to bring in over Rs. 8 lakh crore investments and create over 6 lakh jobs. • Nearly 50 MMT per annum of CO2 emissions are expected to be averted by 2030. • The Mission will facilitate demand creation, production, utilization and export of Green Hydrogen. • Under the Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition Programme (SIGHT), two distinct financial incentive mechanisms – targeting domestic manufacturing of electrolyzers and production of Green Hydrogen – will be provided under the Mission. • The Mission will also support pilot projects in emerging end-use sectors and production pathways. Regions capable of supporting large scale production and/or utilization of Hydrogen will be identified and developed as Green Hydrogen Hubs. • An enabling policy framework will be developed to support establishment of Green Hydrogen ecosystem. • A robust Standards and Regulations framework will be also developed. • Further, a public-private partnership framework for R&D (Strategic Hydrogen Innovation Partnership – SHIP) will be facilitated under the Mission. R&D projects will be goal-oriented, time bound, and suitably scaled up to develop globally competitive technologies. • A coordinated skill development programme will also be undertaken under the Mission. • All concerned Ministries, Departments, agencies and institutions of the Central and State Governments will undertake focussed and coordinated steps to ensure successful achievement of the Mission objectives. • Ministry of New & Renewable Energy will be responsible for overall coordination and implementation of the Mission. <p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/green-hydrogen-1</p>	<p>Q 93. Which of the following statements are correct with respect to Hydrogen? 1. Hydrogen has the highest energy content by weight of all types of fuels. 2. There will be no interstate transmission charges under Green Hydrogen Policy until 2030. 3. Production of green hydrogen leads to emission of little amounts of greenhouse gases. Select the 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</p> <p>Q23. With reference to green hydrogen, consider the following statements: 1. It can be produced through electrolysis using wind or solar power. 2. It emits only water vapor when used in fuel cells. 3. It has lower energy density per unit mass compared to gasoline. Which of the above statements are correct? (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3 (c) 1 and 3 (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>	<p>Similarity is high. The UPSC question directly tested the method of green hydrogen production and policy-linked climate targets. NISCHAY 18 explicitly covered electrolysis using renewable energy sources like solar and wind power, which directly matches Statement 2. NISCHAY 16 reinforced Green Hydrogen Policy provisions and emissions-related understanding. Together, these tests substantially prepared students for distinguishing green hydrogen from other forms such as blue hydrogen (natural gas reforming with CCS), as well as understanding its climate mitigation role under the National Green Hydrogen Mission.</p>

Q74. Which of the following statements with regard to the National Quantum Mission (NQM) is/are correct ?

1. It aims at developing intermediate-scale quantum computers with 50–1000 physical qubits.
2. Its implementation includes setting up of four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) in academic and national R&D institutes across India.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
<p>NISCHAY 29 + IAS GYAN Source</p>	<p>Q 65. With reference to the National Quantum Mission, consider the following statements: Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) is proposed as a core technology for secure</p>	<p>Similarity is high. The IAS GYAN source directly covered the National Quantum Mission's objectives, including development of intermediate-scale quantum computers</p>

<p>National Quantum Mission</p> <p>About</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the National Quantum Mission, four thematic hubs will be established in different institutions across the country to boost research and development in the field. Four thematic hubs (T-Hubs) will be set up in top academic and national research and development institutes on the domains – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Quantum Computing, Quantum Communication, Quantum Sensing And Metrology, and Quantum Materials and devices. The hubs which will focus on generation of new knowledge through basic and applied research as well as promote R&D in areas that are mandated to them <p>Department</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mission will be led by the Department of Science & Technology under a mission director. <p>Execution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Centre will form a mission secretariat which will have a governing body to steer the work under the leadership of scientists from the quantum field. The Mission Technology Research Council will work as a scientific advisory body for the governing body. <p>Mandate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The center outlining the eight-year-long framework for the mission said that it will work at developing 20-50 qubit quantum computers and quantum communication over a distance of 2000 kilometers in the next three years. The new mission targets developing intermediate-scale quantum computers with 50-1000 physical qubits in eight years in various platforms like superconducting and photonic technology. <p><i>Note: For a perspective, the Indian achievement so far is limited to developing 2-3 qubits in a super-conducting platform.</i></p>	<p>communication. The Mission supports the development of quantum repeaters to extend communication range. Quantum communication is immune to interception as it relies on classical encryption. How many of the statements given above are correct?</p>	<p>with 50–1000 physical qubits and establishment of four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs), which were directly asked in the UPSC question. NISCHAY 29 had already familiarized students with the mission architecture, quantum communication technologies, QKD, and the broader framework of NQM. The UPSC question therefore represented a direct factual extension of concepts already discussed in both the current affairs source and test series.</p>
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Q75. Which of the following statements with regard to India's Deep Ocean Mission is/are correct ?

- It was launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India.
- Matsya-6000 has been designed to carry 3 people for deep sea exploration.
- Samudrayaan is a project under this mission.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
<p>NISCHAY 18 (Q22), and NISCHAY 35 (Q77)</p> <p>+ IAS GYAN Source</p>	<p>Q22. Which of the following statements about the 'Deep Ocean Mission' are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> It is an initiative of the Ministry of Earth Sciences. The mission addresses deep-sea mining, ocean climate, and biodiversity. It involves the development of a manned submersible 'Matsya 6000'. The mission focuses on the exploration of polymetallic nodules. <p>How many of the above statements are correct?</p> <p>A) Only one B) Only two C) Only three D) All four</p>	<p>Similarity is high. The UPSC question directly repeats factual themes already covered multiple times in the NISCHAY tests and IAS GYAN notes. NISCHAY 18 explicitly tested that the Deep Ocean Mission is an initiative of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (helping eliminate Statement 1), while also directly mentioning Matsya-6000 as a manned submersible and the mission's deep-sea exploration objectives, directly supporting Statement 2. NISCHAY 35 further covered the Samudrayaan project under the Deep Ocean Mission, directly matching Statement 3. The UPSC question is therefore almost a direct factual extraction from previously covered material with minimal conceptual modification.</p>

	<p>Q 77. Consider the following statements about the Deep Ocean Mission: It was launched in 2021 by Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) as a Central Sector Scheme with Cabinet approval. The Samudrayaan Project under the mission will enable deep-sea exploration strictly in the continental shelf. MATSYA 6000 is a self-propelled manned submersible powered by a high-density Li-Po battery. How many of the statements given above are correct?</p>	
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Q83. Consider the following statements in respect of questions asked by the Members in the Parliament of India :

1. **Unstarred questions** are those to which a Member desires an oral answer in the House.
2. **Starred questions** are those to which a Member desires a written answer.
3. No **supplementary question** can be asked on an unstarred question.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct ?

- (a) All the three statements are correct.
- (b) There are two correct statements, that include statement 2.
- (c) There is only one correct statement.
- (d) There is no correct statement.

Test Name	Question	Analysis
NISCHAY 10	<p>Q 53. Consider the following statements: Starred questions require a written answer and supplementary questions can follow. Unstarred questions require no written answer and supplementary questions cannot follow. Select the incorrect answer using the code given below: 1 only 2 only Both 1 and 2 Neither 1 nor 2</p>	<p>Similarity is high. The test directly covered the exact conceptual distinction between Starred and Unstarred Questions in Parliament that UPSC Q83 asked. The NISCHAY question specifically tested whether starred questions are oral or written and whether supplementary questions are allowed, which are the same core factual elements used in UPSC statements 1, 2, and 3. UPSC merely reframed the same parliamentary procedure concepts into a three-statement elimination format. Thus, the overlap in both theme and factual content is almost direct.</p>

Q87. Which of the following statements about a Zero First Information Report (Zero FIR) under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 is/are correct ?

1. A Zero FIR can be lodged at a police station, even though the place of commission of a cognizable/non-cognizable offence is outside the territorial jurisdiction of that police station.
2. The Officer-in-Charge of the police station where a Zero FIR has been lodged may, with the permission of the competent authority, initiate a preliminary enquiry.

3. Under Zero FIR, it is obligatory for the informant to furnish information electronically.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

<https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/zero-fir-47>

Test Name	Question	Analysis
NISCHAY 12 + NISCHAY 21	Q78. The e-Zero FIR Initiative has been launched by which of the following organisations? / Q63. Which of the following organisations has launched the e-Zero FIR Initiative?	Similarity is low. The NISCHAY tests familiarized students with the concept of Zero FIR under the evolving criminal law framework after the introduction of BNSS, 2023. While the tests focused mainly on the institutional aspect (I4C launching the initiative), the UPSC question expanded the same theme into procedural provisions of Zero FIR – territorial jurisdiction, preliminary enquiry, and electronic filing.

Source	Analysis
<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/zero-fir-47</p> <p>Context: The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has released guidelines to Union Territories to ensure that "zero FIR" registered in the local language must carry a translated copy in English when forwarded to another state.</p> <p>About Zero FIR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A zero FIR can be filed at any police station irrespective of the place and jurisdiction where the crime takes place. • As per the criminal justice system, FIR is a first step and police start an investigation based on the contents given in this. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Normally an FIR will have to be registered in a police station under whose jurisdiction the place of crime comes. ▪ However, in serious cognizable offences like rape, murder, etc, Zero FIR can be registered in any police station regardless of jurisdiction to avoid time loss. • It ensures that victims or witnesses can report crimes to any Police Station with ease, without facing any jurisdiction challenges. • Once a zero FIR is registered, then it is transferred to the appropriate police station (under whose jurisdiction the crime happened) for investigation. • It was introduced on the recommendations of the Justice Verma Committee (2013). <p>Zero FIR v/s Regular FIR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process of registering a Zero FIR is similar to a regular FIR. • In the case of Zero FIR, the police station which registered the case will number the FIR as 0. • When the case is transferred to the authorized jurisdiction, then the police station will provide a number to the case, just like a normal FIR. <p>New guidelines of the Ministry of Home Affairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ministry in its guidelines stated that an English-translated copy of Zero FIR must be attached while forwarding the FIR to another Police Station. • The guidelines ensure that the efficiency of the investigation process must not be hampered due to the language barrier. • A translated copy of Zero FIR in English will avoid the chance of misunderstanding or confusion that may arise due to the language barrier. 	<p>Similarity is low. The IASGYAN source directly explained that a Zero FIR can be filed irrespective of territorial jurisdiction, which is the core idea tested in Statement 1. Thus, the conceptual overlap is substantial, with UPSC essentially extending the already tested Zero FIR framework into a deeper legal-procedure format.</p>

Q88. With reference to the organisations under the Government of India, consider the following details :

Sl. No.	Organisation	Function	Controlling Union Ministry
1	Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB)	To coordinate between various law enforcement agencies	Ministry of Home Affairs
2	Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO)	To investigate complex corporate frauds	Ministry of Finance
3	Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	To preserve values in public life and ensure the health of the national economy	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension

In how many of the above rows are the given details correctly matched ?

- (a) 1
- (b) 2
- (c) 3
- (d) None

Test Name	Question	Analysis								
NISCHAY 25	<p>Q 76. Consider the following information:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Agency</td> <td>Nodal Ministry</td> </tr> <tr> <td>National Investigation Agency (NIA)</td> <td>Ministry of Home Affairs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)</td> <td>Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Enforcement Directorate</td> <td>Ministry of Finance</td> </tr> </table> <p>In how many of the above rows is the given information incorrectly matched?</p> <p>Only one Only two All three None</p>	Agency	Nodal Ministry	National Investigation Agency (NIA)	Ministry of Home Affairs	Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	Enforcement Directorate	Ministry of Finance	<p>Similarity is moderate. The UPSC question follows almost the identical matching format used in NISCHAY 25, where investigative and enforcement agencies were matched with their nodal ministries. The test already directly covered the CBI under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and the ED under the Ministry of Finance, thereby preparing students for ministry-agency linkage questions. UPSC simply extended the same administrative-governance framework by introducing SFIO and CEIB along with functional descriptions. The pattern, approach, and factual orientation are nearly identical.</p>
Agency	Nodal Ministry									
National Investigation Agency (NIA)	Ministry of Home Affairs									
Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions									
Enforcement Directorate	Ministry of Finance									

Source	Analysis
https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/serious-fraud-investigation-office-sfio	<p>Similarity is moderate. The source directly discusses SFIO as a specialised agency investigating serious and complex corporate frauds under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, which directly helps eliminate the incorrect ministry pairing in the UPSC question. The article substantially overlaps with the functional and administrative aspects tested in the exam.</p>
https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/central-bureau-of-investigation-cbi-autonomy-and-selection-process	<p>Similarity is moderate. The source explicitly explains the administrative control and functioning of the CBI under the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. It also discusses the role and mandate of the CBI, directly supporting one of the rows tested in UPSC. The factual overlap with the ministry-control component of the question is direct and substantial.</p>

Q90. Consider the following statements with respect to the AI Impact Summit, 2026 held in New Delhi :


- The Summit's intellectual framework was based on three foundational Sutras : People, Planning, and Progress.
- The Preamble of the Summit stresses Democratising AI Resources, which acknowledges the Charter for Democratic Diffusion of AI as a binding framework to support locally relevant innovation and strengthen resilient AI ecosystems while respecting national laws.
- The New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact was structured around seven Chakras (Pillars), which included Access for Social Empowerment, AI for Science, and Secure and Trusted AI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
NISCHAY	Q 62. Consider the following	Similarity is low to moderate. The UPSC question directly draws

35	<p>statements with respect to the New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact 2026:</p> <p>It is a legally binding treaty that mandates strict regulatory red-lines for high-risk AI applications.</p> <p>The declaration introduces the concept of 'Democratic Diffusion', shifting focus from theoretical safety to tangible real-world impact.</p> <p>It was endorsed by 92 signatories, including major global powers such as the US, UK, China, and the European Union.</p> <p>Which of the statements given above are correct?</p> <p>I and II only II and III only I and III only I, II and III</p>	<p>from the same conceptual framework tested in NISCHAY 35 – especially the New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact, Democratic Diffusion of AI, and the broader philosophy of the AI Impact Summit 2026. The test already familiarized students with the declaration’s non-binding developmental orientation, its focus on democratic diffusion, and the transition from AI regulation to AI-enabled societal impact. UPSC expanded the same ecosystem into statement-based details involving the Summit’s “Sutras,” “Chakras,” and institutional language. The overlap in terminology, theme, and factual structure is almost direct.</p>
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Source Used	Analysis
<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-editorials/india-ai-impact-summit-2026-shift-from-ai-regulation-to-development</p> <p>Key Pillars & Themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Three Sutras (Foundational Pillars): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ People: Human-centric AI that safeguards rights and ensures equitable benefits. ○ Planet: Sustainable AI innovation aligned with environmental stewardship. ○ Progress: Inclusive economic growth and improved public service delivery. • The Seven Chakras (Thematic Working Groups): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health, Agriculture, Safe & Trusted AI, Science, Inclusion for Social Empowerment, Democratizing AI Resources, and Human Capital. 	<p>Similarity is high. The editorial explains the philosophical shift from AI regulation toward developmental and inclusive AI governance, which is precisely the conceptual core of the UPSC question. It discusses democratization of AI resources, resilient AI ecosystems, and the broader policy framework underlying the New Delhi Declaration, strongly overlapping with Statements 2 and 3.</p>

Q94. Consider the following statements about platforms for multilateral co-operation :

1. The '**Colombo Process**' is a regional consultative process in which member states take binding decisions by consensus.
2. The 'Abu Dhabi Dialogue' is a voluntary non-binding consultative process among Asian countries of labour origin and destination to facilitate regional cooperation on contractual labour mobility.
3. The 'Global Forum for Migration and Development', created upon the proposal of a former UN Secretary General, is a voluntary forum whose decisions are non-binding in nature.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
FLT 32	Q70. Consider the following statements about the Colombo Process : It is a regional consultative process for managing overseas employment and contractual labour for Asian countries of origin. India has been chairing the Colombo Process for the first time since its inception in 2003. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) serves as its coordinating Secretariat and provides technical support.	Similarity is low. The FLT question directly covered the Colombo Process, its nature as a regional consultative mechanism on labour migration, and the institutional role of IOM. UPSC expanded the same conceptual framework by comparing the Colombo Process with the Abu Dhabi Dialogue and the Global Forum for Migration and Development. The core idea of voluntary, consultative, and non-binding migration governance mechanisms was already embedded in the FLT coverage.

IASGYAN BASED:

6. Which of the following factors contributed to the formation of the Forward Bloc by Subhas Chandra Bose in 1939 ?

1. Bose failed to win the confidence of Mahatma Gandhi.
2. The Congress Left was disunited and failed to support Bose.
3. The Communists did not support Bose in his endeavours.
4. The supporters of M.N. Roy and socialist leaders like Jayaprakash Narayan preferred Congress unity to supporting Bose.

Select the answer using the code given below :

Source	Content	Analysis
<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/tag/forward-bloc</p> <p><small>Early career: Bose completed his early education in Cuttack before moving to Kolkata for higher studies at Presidency College. He later went to Cambridge University in England, where he prepared for and successfully cleared the Indian Civil Services (ICS) examination. However, his nationalist convictions led him to resign from the prestigious service in 1921 to actively participate in India's struggle for independence.</small></p> <p><small>Role in the Indian National Congress (INC): Congress leadership: Bose rose rapidly within the Congress ranks and was elected President of the Indian National Congress at the Haripura Session (1938) and again at the Tripuri Session (1939). During his tenure, he strongly advocated for complete independence (Swaraj) and opposed British plans such as the proposed Indian Federation.</small></p> <p><small>Formation of the Forward Bloc: After differences with the Congress high command, Bose stepped down from the presidency in 1939 and founded the Forward Bloc. The aim was to consolidate left-wing and radical nationalist groups within the Congress framework.</small></p> <p><small>Indian National Army (INA) and the Azad Hind Government Revival of the INA: The Indian National Army (INA) was initially formed from Indian prisoners of war captured by Japan. Bose assumed its leadership in 1943, reorganizing and energizing it into a disciplined fighting force dedicated to ending British rule.</small></p> <p><small>"Delhi Chalo" Campaign: Bose inspired his troops with the rallying cry "Delhi Chalo" (March to Delhi). INA forces advanced toward India's northeastern frontiers, reaching areas near Imphal and Kohima before being forced to retreat due to strong Allied resistance in 1944-45.</small></p> <p><small>Azad Hind Government: With support from Japan, Bose established the Provisional Government of Azad Hind in exile. This government symbolized India's claim to sovereignty and coordinated military operations alongside Axis powers in Southeast Asia.</small></p>	<p>"Formation of the Forward Bloc: After differences with the Congress high command, Bose stepped down from the presidency in 1939 and founded the Forward Bloc."</p>	<p>The UPSC question tested the political reasons behind the formation of the Forward Bloc in 1939. Similarity is low to moderate (40-50%) because the content covered Bose's resignation and formation of the Forward Bloc, but did not specifically discuss the role of Congress Left, Communists, or supporters of M.N. Roy and Jayaprakash Narayan.</p>

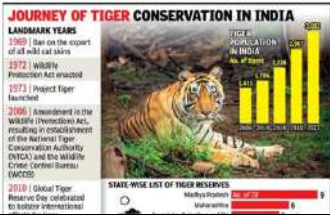
Q22. With reference to **Madhav National Park**, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It was declared a **Tiger Reserve in India in 2025**.
2. Sakhya Sagar, which is designated as a Ramsar Site, is situated within this National Park.
3. Its area is shared between Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Test Name	Content	Analysis
<p>Daily Current Affairs - "India's 58th Tiger Reserve: Madhav Tiger Reserve"</p>	<p>Content covered the declaration of Madhav Tiger Reserve as</p>	<p>The UPSC question tested factual knowledge about Madhav National Park and Tiger Reserve status.</p>

<p>INDIA'S 58TH TIGER RESERVE: MADHAV TIGER RESERVE (MADHYA PRADESH)</p> <p>Description</p> <p>Disclaimer: Copyright infringement not intended.</p> <p>Context :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the inclusion of Madhav Tiger Reserve as the 58th Tiger Reserve in India. Environment Minister made this official announcement on March 8, 2025. 	<p>India's 58th Tiger Reserve in 2025 and related conservation details.</p>	<p>Similarity is low (30%) because Statement 1 was directly covered, but Ramsar Site linkage and state-sharing aspects were not comprehensively addressed.</p>
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Q29. Which of the following statements with reference to Lake Turkana is/are correct?

- It is the largest desert lake in the world.
- The lake is situated in South Sudan along the eastern fringe of the Sahara desert.
- The lake is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is also referred to as the 'Jade Sea'.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Source	Content	Analysis																																																																					
<p><u>Daily Current Affairs - UNESCO List of World Heritage Sites in Danger</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="164 1081 802 1608"> <thead> <tr> <th>No.</th> <th>Site Name</th> <th>Country</th> <th>Criteria</th> <th>Year</th> <th>Threat</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>26</td> <td>Historic Centre of Vienna</td> <td>Vienna, Austria</td> <td>(ii), (iv), (vi)</td> <td>2001</td> <td>2017-</td> <td>New high-rise projects</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td> <td>Historic Town of Zobid</td> <td>Al Hudaydah, Yemen</td> <td>Cultural: (ii), (iv), (vi)</td> <td>1993</td> <td>2000-</td> <td>Deterioration of historic buildings</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28</td> <td>Islands and Protected Areas of the Gulf of California</td> <td>Baja California, Baja California Sur, Sonora, Sinaloa and Nayarit, Mexico</td> <td>Natural: (vii), (ix), (x)</td> <td>2005</td> <td>2019-</td> <td>Imminent extinction of the vaquita</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29</td> <td>Kahuzi-Biega National Park</td> <td>South Kivu and Maniema, Democratic Republic of the Congo</td> <td>Natural: (x)</td> <td>1980</td> <td>1997-</td> <td>Deforestation, hunting, and war</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td> <td>Lake Turkana National Parks</td> <td>Kenya</td> <td>Natural: (viii), (x)</td> <td>1997</td> <td>2018-</td> <td>Impact of Ethiopia's Gilgel Gibe III Dam on the lake's flow and ecosystem</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31</td> <td>Landmarks of Ancient Kingdom of Saba</td> <td>Marib, Yemen</td> <td>Cultural: (iii), (iv)</td> <td>2023</td> <td>2023-</td> <td>Yemen Civil War</td> </tr> <tr> <td>32</td> <td>Manovo-Gounda St Floris National Park</td> <td>Bamingui-Bangoran, Central African Republic</td> <td>Natural: (ix), (x)</td> <td>1988</td> <td>1997-</td> <td>Illegal grazing, poaching, and security issues</td> </tr> <tr> <td>33</td> <td>Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam</td> <td>Ghōr, Afghanistan</td> <td>Cultural: (ii), (iii), (iv)</td> <td>2002</td> <td>2002-</td> <td>Lack of legal protection, poor condition of the site</td> </tr> <tr> <td>34</td> <td>Medieval Monuments in</td> <td>Serbia</td> <td>Cultural: (ii), (iii)</td> <td>2004</td> <td>2006-</td> <td>March Pogrom, political</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	No.	Site Name	Country	Criteria	Year	Threat	26	Historic Centre of Vienna	Vienna, Austria	(ii), (iv), (vi)	2001	2017-	New high-rise projects	27	Historic Town of Zobid	Al Hudaydah, Yemen	Cultural: (ii), (iv), (vi)	1993	2000-	Deterioration of historic buildings	28	Islands and Protected Areas of the Gulf of California	Baja California, Baja California Sur, Sonora, Sinaloa and Nayarit, Mexico	Natural: (vii), (ix), (x)	2005	2019-	Imminent extinction of the vaquita	29	Kahuzi-Biega National Park	South Kivu and Maniema, Democratic Republic of the Congo	Natural: (x)	1980	1997-	Deforestation, hunting, and war	30	Lake Turkana National Parks	Kenya	Natural: (viii), (x)	1997	2018-	Impact of Ethiopia's Gilgel Gibe III Dam on the lake's flow and ecosystem	31	Landmarks of Ancient Kingdom of Saba	Marib, Yemen	Cultural: (iii), (iv)	2023	2023-	Yemen Civil War	32	Manovo-Gounda St Floris National Park	Bamingui-Bangoran, Central African Republic	Natural: (ix), (x)	1988	1997-	Illegal grazing, poaching, and security issues	33	Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam	Ghōr, Afghanistan	Cultural: (ii), (iii), (iv)	2002	2002-	Lack of legal protection, poor condition of the site	34	Medieval Monuments in	Serbia	Cultural: (ii), (iii)	2004	2006-	March Pogrom, political	<p>Content covered Lake Turkana National Parks as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Danger and mentioned Ethiopia's dam projects.</p>	<p>Similarity is moderate to high (50-60%) because the UPSC question directly used the UNESCO status of Lake Turkana.</p>
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<p><u>Daily Current Affairs - Nakura Dam / Kenya Geography</u></p>	<p>Content covered Kenya's geography and specifically mentioned Lake Turkana as the world's largest permanent desert lake.</p>	<p>Similarity is moderate to high (50-60%) because mentions Lake Turkana as the world's largest permanent desert lake.</p>																																																																					

<p>...orm, ultimately resulting in its collapse and the ensuing flood downstream.</p> <p>About Kenya</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya is bordered by five countries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Somalia to the northeast ◦ Ethiopia to the north ◦ South Sudan to the northwest ◦ Uganda to the west ◦ Tanzania to the south • The Indian Ocean to the southeast provides Kenya with a coastline. • The climate varies widely from tropical along the coast to temperate inland and arid in the north and northeast. • Physical Features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Mount Kenya: Africa's second-highest mountain, with diverse ecosystems. ◦ Great Rift Valley: A geological fault line stretching from northern Kenya to Mozambique, characterized by lakes, mountains, and volcanoes. • Kenya is renowned for its wildlife habitats, including the Masai Mara, where annual migrations of wildebeest and zebras occur. • The "Big Five" game animals—lion, leopard, buffalo, rhinoceros, and elephant—can be found in Kenya's national parks and reserves. • Water bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Lake Victoria: The second-largest freshwater lake in the world (shared with Uganda and Tanzania). ◦ Lake Turkana: The world's largest permanent desert lake (shared with Ethiopia). ◦ Lake Nakuru: A lake famous for its flamingo population. • Kenya's economy is the second largest in eastern and central Africa, after Ethiopia, with Nairobi serving as a major regional commercial hub. • Kenya is a member of various international organizations, including the United Nations, Commonwealth, World Bank, IMF, and World Trade Organization. • Kenya has a rich mix of ethnicities, with Bantu, Nilotic, and Cushitic groups making up the vast majority. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Bantu: The largest group, primarily farmers, including Kikuyu, Luhya, Kamba, Kisii, Meru, and Mijikenda. ◦ Nilotic: The second-largest group, historically pastoralists, including Luo, Masai, Samburu, Iteso, Turkana 		
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Q31. Consider the following statements with reference to India's response to climate change:

- I. India's **Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS)** is a crucial tool for achieving net-zero emissions by 2070.
- II. **India's 4th Biennial Update Report (BUR-4)** submitted in December, 2024 recorded around 8% decrease in Greenhouse gas emissions in 2020 over 2019.
- III. Climate-resilient development necessarily depends on quick and short-term achievement of emission reduction targets.


Which of the following relationships among the above statements is/are correct?

1. Statement I is empirically supported by statement II.
2. Statement III contradicts the approach implicit in statement I.
3. Statement I and statement III together establish the premise of long-term sustainability.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Source	Content	Analysis
<p>Daily Current Affairs - India's 4th Biennial Update Report (BUR-4)</p> <p>As part of its global climate commitments, India recently submitted its latest report detailing its greenhouse gas emission (GHG) inventory and the efforts it has taken to curb emissions.</p> <p>The report highlighted that the emissions intensity of its gross domestic product (GDP), which reflects the energy efficiency of its economic activities, fell by 36% between 2005 and 2020. The report also details emission sources and the status of targets on climate action.</p> <p>What is the Biennial Update Report (BUR)?</p> <p>Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), developing countries are required to submit a detailed report on their climate action efforts. This report, submitted as part of commitments under the Paris Climate Agreement, is called the Biennial Update Report, or BUR.</p> <p>What are the BUR-4's highlights and submissions on emissions inventory?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing greenhouse gas emissions: India's GDP emissions intensity has decreased by 36% between 2005 and 2020, on track to meet the target of a 45% reduction by 2030. • Sector emissions: energy (75.66%), agriculture (13.72%), industrial processes (8.06%) and waste (2.56%). • Greenhouse gas decomposition: CO₂ (80.53%), methane (13.32%), and nitrous oxide (5.13%). • Progress in meeting NDC targets: The emission intensity of GDP was reduced by 36% from 2005 to 2020. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-fossil fuel capacity reached 46.52%, while renewable energy capacity rose to 203.22 GW. • An additional 2.29 billion tonnes of CO₂ absorbed by afforestation (2005-2021). • India continues to strive to achieve its climate goals, including the ambitious goal of achieving net zero emissions by 2070. <p>Detected challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial needs: Better financing for mitigation and adaptation. • Technology: Advanced tools needed for renewable energy, carbon capture and efficiency improvements. • Capacity building: Strengthening institutional frameworks and workforce skills. 	<p>Content covered India's greenhouse gas emissions profile, emission intensity reduction, NDC progress, and climate targets under the UNFCCC framework.</p>	<p>Similarity is low to moderate (40-50%) because the UPSC question partially drew upon BUR-4 related climate reporting and emissions trends, but the analytical relationship-based framing was different.</p>
<p>Daily Current Affairs - India's Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS)</p>	<p>Content covered United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</p>	<p>Similarity is moderate (45-55%) because the long-term low-emission strategy and net-zero framework were</p>

<p>Context: India submitted its Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), during the 27th Conference of Parties (COP27)</p> <p>Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The two themes of "climate justice" and "sustainable lifestyles", alongside the principles of Equity and Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC), in the light of national circumstances, that India had emphasized at Paris, are at the heart of a low-carbon, low-emissions future. Similarly, the LT-LEDS has been prepared in the framework of India's right to an equitable and fair share of the global carbon budget, which is the practical implementation of India's call for "climate justice." This is essential to ensure that there are no constraints on realizing India's vision of rapid growth and economic transformation, while protecting the environment. The LT-LEDS is also informed by the vision of LIFE, Lifestyle for the Environment, that calls for a world-wide paradigm shift from mindless and destructive consumption to mindful and deliberate utilization. <p>India's road to 'net zero'</p> <p>At COP-27, India announced its long-term strategy to transition to a 'low emissions' pathway to become carbon neutral by 2070</p> <p>KEY MILESTONES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Hydrogen Mission, launched in 2023, aims to make India a green hydrogen hub At least a three-fold increase in nuclear capacity by 2032 Achieving an ethanol blending target of 20% by 2025 Maximising the use of electric vehicles, increase public transport Increased climate finance to be provided by developed nations The long-term strategy aims at keeping global temperatures well below 2 degrees Celsius and, ambitiously, 1.5 degrees Celsius by the century-end  <p>Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav at the COP-27 summit in Egypt on Monday. REUTERS</p>	<p>commitments, LT-LEDS, climate justice, and India's net-zero by 2070 strategy.</p>	<p>directly discussed, though the UPSC question required logical evaluation of inter-statement relationships rather than factual recall.</p>
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Q32. With respect to the **Western Hoolock Gibbons**, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- A Sanctuary in North-east India is home to this ape species listed as Endangered in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.
- They have specialized brachiation and can easily swing between trees.
- They possess a strong and heavy build like gorillas, yet are remarkably agile tree climbers.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Source	Content	Analysis
<p><u>Daily Current Affairs – Western Hoolock Gibbon</u></p> <p>The species inhabits the tropical and semi-evergreen forests of Northeast India, spanning Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura.</p> <p>They restrict their Indian geographic range specifically to areas south of the Brahmaputra River and east of the Dibang River.</p> <p>Beyond India, they occupy forest habitats in Bangladesh, Myanmar, and Southwest China.</p> <p>The Hoolongapar Gibbon Sanctuary in Assam's Jorhat district serves as a prominent and dedicated stronghold for the species.</p> <p>Physical Characteristics and Ecological Behavior</p> <p>Strictly arboreal (tree-dwelling) primates spend their entire lives in the forest canopy and show extreme reluctance to descend to the ground.</p> <p>Navigate the treetops using brachiation, a specialized suspensory movement where they swing hand-over-hand from branch to branch.</p> <p>Clear sexual dimorphism in coloration: males possess black fur with prominent white brows, whereas females display grey-brown fur.</p> <p>Lead a diurnal lifestyle and form monogamous family groups (usually 4-6 members), maintaining genetic diversity by choosing mates strictly outside their own family lines.</p> <p>Diet: Fruits, insects, and leaves.</p> <p>Conservation Status</p> <p>IUCN Red List: The Western Hoolock Gibbon ranks as Endangered, while the Eastern Hoolock Gibbon ranks as Vulnerable.</p> <p>Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: The Indian government grants them the highest level of legal protection by listing them under Schedule I.</p> <p>Source: INDIANEXPRESS</p>	<p>Content covered Hoolongapar Gibbon Sanctuary, arboreal lifestyle, brachiation, and IUCN status of the Western Hoolock Gibbon.</p>	<p>Similarity is high (70–80%) because the UPSC question directly tested facts explicitly covered – Endangered status, sanctuary presence in Northeast India, and specialized brachiation. However, the gorilla-like build statement was not covered and served as the elimination point.</p>

Q33. Which of the following best explain(s) the rationale for protecting mangrove ecosystems in the context of climate resilience?

- Mangroves reduce tidal energy and store freshwater, making them ideal sites for paddy cultivation in saline estuarine belts.
- Their salt-sensitive roots filter seawater, making mangroves key to converting coastal land into freshwater aquaculture zones.
- By withstanding tidal surges and offering biomass resources, mangroves function both as natural bio-shields and livelihood bases for rural communities.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Source	Content	Analysis
<p><u>Daily Current Affairs – Mangrove Ecosystem Features and Benefits</u></p> <p>WHAT are some of the special features of mangroves?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saline environment: A speciality of mangroves is that they can survive under extreme hostile environment such as high salt and low oxygen conditions. Mangrove trees contain a complex salt filtration system and complex root system that filter out 90% of the salt when come into contact with saline and brackish water. • Low oxygen: In a mangrove environment, the oxygen in soil is limited or nil. Hence the mangrove root system absorbs oxygen from the atmosphere. Mangroves have special roots for this purpose called breathing roots or pneumatophores. These roots have numerous pores through which oxygen enters the underground tissues. • Mangroves, like desert plants, store fresh water in thick succulent leaves. A waxy coating on the leaves seals in water and minimises evaporation. • Viviparous – their seeds germinate while still attached to the parent tree. Once germinated, the seedling grows into a propagule. The mature propagule then drops into the water and gets transported to a different spot, eventually taking root in a solid ground. <p>How do mangrove forests help protect against strong cyclones?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mangrove forests act as natural barriers against storm surge, coastal flooding and sea level rise. Their intricate root system stabilises the coastline, reducing erosion from storm surges. Together with the tree trunks, they work like speed-breakers to slow down the tides. • They protect shorelines from damaging winds and waves. • Mangroves also help prevent erosion by stabilising sediments with their tangled root systems. <p>What are the other benefits to the environment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mangrove thickets maintain water quality by filtering pollutants and trapping sediments originating from land. • They provide habitat for a diverse array of terrestrial organisms. Their branches provide homes for lizards, snakes and nesting birds. Many species of coastal and offshore fish and shellfish rely exclusively on mangroves as their breeding, spawning, and hatching grounds. • Mangroves also have a big impact on climate. Mangroves are powerhouses when it comes to carbon storage. Mangroves can sequester (lock away) greater amount of carbon than other trees in the peat soil beneath. They store this carbon for thousands of years. • Many people living in and around mangroves depend on them for their The trees are a source of wood for construction and fuel. The ecosystem provides local fishermen with a rich supply of fish, crabs and shellfish. The ecosystem also supports tourism. 	<p>Content covered mangroves as natural barriers against storm surges, coastline stabilizers, carbon sinks, and livelihood providers for coastal communities.</p>	<p>Similarity is high (60–70%) because the UPSC question directly tested the climate resilience and livelihood functions of mangroves, especially their role as bio-shields and community resource bases.</p>

Q35. Identify the river of the Indian sub-continent on the basis of the following information:

1. It has an antecedent drainage system.
2. It flows through three countries.
3. It originates in the Tibetan Plateau and is an important river for irrigation.
4. It does not form distributaries.

Select the answer from the following:

- (a) Brahmaputra
- (b) Indus
- (c) Sutlej
- (d) Teesta

Source	Content	Analysis
<p><u>Daily Current Affairs – Sutlej River</u></p>	<p>Content covered the Sutlej as an antecedent river originating near Lake Rakshastal in Tibet, flowing through Tibet, India, and Pakistan, and serving as a major irrigation river under the Indus basin system.</p>	<p>Similarity is high (60–70%) because the UPSC question directly relied on key identifiers explicitly covered – antecedent drainage, Tibetan origin, multi-country flow, and irrigation significance.</p>

<p>About</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Satluj, is the longest of the five rivers that flow through the historic crossroads region of Punjab in northern India and Pakistan. The Sutlej River is also known as Satadree. Sutlej is an antecedent river. An antecedent stream is a stream that maintains its original course and pattern despite the changes in underlying rock topography. It is the easternmost tributary of the Indus River. The source of the Sutlej is west of the catchment area of Lake Rakshastal in Tibet. The nascent river flows at first west-northwest for about 260 kilometres under the Tibetan name Langqen Zangbo (Elephant River or Elephant Spring) to the Shipki La pass, entering India in Himachal Pradesh state. It then has its main knee heading west-southwest for about 360 kilometres (220 mi) to meet the Beas River near Harike, Punjab. Ropar Wetland in Punjab state is located on the Sutlej river basin. Evidence suggests Indus Valley Civilisation also flourished here. Ungti Chu and Pare Chu rivers which drain southeastern part of Jammu and Kashmir state are tributaries of Sutlej river The Bhakra Dam is built around the river Sutlej to provide irrigation and other facilities to the states of Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana. The waters of the Sutlej are allocated to India under the Indus Waters Treaty between India and Pakistan, and are mostly diverted to irrigation canals in India to include Sirhind canal, Bhakra Main Line and Rajasthan canal. It has several major hydroelectric points, including the 1,325 MW Bhakra Dam, the 1,000 MW Karcham Wangtoo Hydroelectric Plant, and the 1,500 MW Nathpa Jhakri Dam. The drainage basin is mainly in India's Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and Haryana states. 		
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Q37. Which of the following statements with regard to the arrival of Amur Falcons at Doyang Lake in Nagaland each year from Mongolia is/are correct?

- It showcases how sustained local conservation efforts can contribute to the arrival and protection of international migratory birds.
- It reflects the global success of advanced tracking technologies that guide migratory birds back to their stopover sites.
- It confirms that Amur Falcons have adapted to permanent residency in India due to favourable habitat changes.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
<p><u>Daily Current Affairs - Amur Falcon Migration and Conservation</u></p> <p>Distribution and Migration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breeding Grounds: They spend the summer (May–August) in Southeastern Siberia and Northern China. The First Leg: In autumn, they fly south through Northeast India. The Great Stopover: Millions congregate at the Doyang Reservoir in Nagaland (and parts of Manipur) to fatten up on insects. The Ocean Crossing: From India, they fly non-stop across the Arabian Sea to the Horn of Africa (Somalia/Kenya). This is a 3,000 km+ continuous flight over water. Wintering Grounds: They spend the winter (November–March) in Southern Africa (South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana). The Return: In spring, they head back to Siberia, taking a more overland route through East Africa and West Asia. <p>Threats and Conservation Success</p> <p>Threats: The flocking behavior of the Amur falcon exposed them to mass hunting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2012, it was estimated that 120,000 to 140,000 birds were trapped and killed for food and profit in Pangti village, Nagaland, within just 10 days. <p>The Pangti Conservation Model: After a global campaign, local authorities and the Pangti Village Council (Nagaland) banned hunting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hunters turned into active protectors, local institutions collaborated, and ecotourism brought a sense of pride to the community. Surrounding communities in Nagaland, Manipur, and Assam have since begun setting aside lands for biodiversity protection. <p>Falcon Festivals: To raise awareness and celebrate the bird, annual "Falcon Festivals" are held across the Northeast.</p>	<p>Content covered the annual stopover of Amur Falcons at Doyang Reservoir in Nagaland, local conservation efforts, anti-hunting campaigns, and community participation in protecting migratory birds.</p>	<p>Similarity is high (60–70%) because the UPSC question directly tested the conservation-success narrative associated with Amur Falcons in Nagaland.</p>

Q38. Which among the following is/are the objective(s) of the Rainfed Area Development (RAD) initiative under the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)?

- Encouraging monoculture in rainfed areas
- Increasing rice cultivation in irrigated regions
- Enhancing productivity and minimising climatic risks through Integrated Farming Systems (IFS)

Select the answer using the code given below:

- 1 only
- 1 and 2

- (c) 2 and 3
(d) 3 only

Test Name	Question	Analysis
<p><u>Daily Current Affairs – Climate Resilient Agriculture / NMSA</u></p> <p>High Vulnerability of Rainfed Agriculture: Rainfed areas constitute about 51% of India's net sown area, providing approximately 40% of the food production, but are highly vulnerable to monsoon fluctuations (Source: Ministry of Agriculture).</p> <p>Projected Decline in Crop Yields: Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) studies project drops in major crop yields by 2050 (e.g., rainfed rice down 20%, wheat down 19.3%) due to rising temperatures and altered rainfall, threatening food security.</p> <p>Ensuring National Food Security: For a population projected to exceed 1.5 billion by 2030 (Source: UN), maintaining food self-sufficiency is a strategic imperative. CRA is key to ensuring stable production.</p> <p>Protecting Farmer Livelihoods: Climate shocks disproportionately impact 86% small and marginal farmers. CRA can protect them from crop failures and reduce input costs, thereby stabilizing their income.</p> <p>Achieving Sustainability Goals: CRA aligns with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement by promoting practices that reduce agricultural emissions and build resilience.</p> <p>India's Current Initiatives Towards Agricultural Resilience</p> <p>National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA): Launched by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in 2011, to build resilience in agriculture against climate change through strategic research, technology demonstration, capacity building, and policy guidelines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It identifies vulnerable areas, develops climate-adapted varieties (like drought-tolerant sorghum), demonstrates location-specific technologies, and trains farmers and scientists. <p>National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA): Under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), to integrate climate adaptation into agriculture. Its key components include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rainfed Area Development (RAD): Promotes integrated farming systems. On-Farm Water Management (OFWM): Focuses on increasing water-use efficiency, supporting micro-irrigation under "Per Drop More Crop". Soil Health Management (SHM): Aims to improve soil quality through soil health cards and organic inputs. 	<p>Content covered the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and Rainfed Area Development (RAD) component promoting Integrated Farming Systems (IFS) for climate resilience and productivity enhancement.</p>	<p>Similarity is high (60–70%) because the UPSC question directly tested the core objective of RAD under NMSA, especially Integrated Farming Systems and climate-risk minimisation.</p>

Q39. Which of the following is/are the most significant implication(s) of obtaining Oeko-Tex certification for Eri Silk in the global textile industry?

- It allows Indian exporters to compete in high-end markets that prioritise chemical-free products.
- It confirms that Eri Silk meets international safety, environmental, and quality standards, enabling its entry into premium eco-conscious markets.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Source	Content	Analysis
<p><u>Daily Current Affairs – Oeko-Tex Certification</u></p> <p>Oeko-Tex Certification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oeko-Tex is an international certification system designed to ensure that textiles and leather products are free from harmful substances and produced in an environmentally and socially responsible manner. The certification is highly respected in the textile industry, providing a reliable and standardized method for ensuring product safety. <p>Types of Oeko-Tex Certifications:</p> <p>Oeko-Tex offers several types of certifications, each focusing on different aspects of textile and leather product safety and sustainability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard 100 by Oeko-Tex: Focuses on testing textiles at all stages of production for harmful substances. It is one of the most widely recognized certifications. Made in Green by Oeko-Tex: Ensures that the products are not only safe from harmful substances but also produced in an environmentally friendly and socially responsible manner. Leather Standard by Oeko-Tex: Specifically for leather products, ensuring they meet similar safety standards. STP by Oeko-Tex: Certification for sustainable textile and leather products, covering the entire production process. ECO Passport by Oeko-Tex: Certification for shoes, bags, and accessories used in the textile production process, ensuring they meet safety and environmental standards. <p>Global Reach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oeko-Tex certifications are recognized globally, with partner institutes in over 60 countries. The wide recognition offers companies an advantage in expanding their product lines to multiple markets. The certification also reassures consumers about the safety and environmental responsibility of the products they purchase. <p>Criteria and Testing:</p> <p>The Oeko-Tex certification system tests for a wide range of harmful substances, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulated substances such as azo dyes, formaldehyde, and nickel. Non-regulated substances that are harmful to health but not yet legally controlled. REACH (Restriction of Hazardous Substances) compliance according to European chemical safety regulations. Product classification based on the intended use of the products, ensuring they meet specific safety criteria. 	<p>Content covered Oeko-Tex standards related to harmful substance testing, environmental responsibility, and global market acceptance for textile products.</p>	<p>Similarity is high because the UPSC question directly tested the implications of Oeko-Tex certification for accessing premium eco-conscious global markets and meeting international safety/environmental standards, both of which were explicitly covered.</p>

Q42. Which of the following statements in relation to NIRANTAR (National Institute for Research and Application of Natural Resources to Transform, Adapt and Build Resilience), a platform of institutions under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, is/are correct ?

- Ecosystem Survey and Analysis is a vertical under this platform, the lead institute of which is Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata.

2. Research and Management of Ecosystem Service is a vertical under this platform, the lead institute of which is Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi.
3. Capacity Development Support is a vertical under this platform, the lead institute of which is Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Source	Content	Analysis															
<p><u>Daily Current Affairs - NIRANTAR</u></p> <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance synergy among the Ministry's expert institutions, breaking down administrative silos to ensure the balanced and sustainable management of natural resources. Promotes a "Whole of Government" approach, integrating scientific research directly into policymaking for more effective conservation and development outcomes. <p>Key Verticals and Lead Institutions</p> <p>NIRANTAR operates through four specialized verticals.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Vertical</th> <th>Focus Area</th> <th>Lead Institution</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Research and Management of Ecosystem Services</td> <td>Achieving ecological stability and sustainable development through the scientific management of ecosystems.</td> <td>Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assessment of Bioresources</td> <td>Systematic assessment, documentation, and conservation of India's rich biodiversity.</td> <td>Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Kolkata</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resource Valorization for Green Economy</td> <td>Developing strategies for the sustainable utilization of natural resources to fuel a green economy.</td> <td>Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coastal and Marine Resources Management</td> <td>Conservation and sustainable management of coastal and marine ecosystems to build resilience.</td> <td>National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Significance of NIRANTAR Platform</p> <p>Balancing Growth & Conservation</p>	Vertical	Focus Area	Lead Institution	Research and Management of Ecosystem Services	Achieving ecological stability and sustainable development through the scientific management of ecosystems.	Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun	Assessment of Bioresources	Systematic assessment, documentation, and conservation of India's rich biodiversity.	Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Kolkata	Resource Valorization for Green Economy	Developing strategies for the sustainable utilization of natural resources to fuel a green economy.	Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal	Coastal and Marine Resources Management	Conservation and sustainable management of coastal and marine ecosystems to build resilience.	National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai	<p>Content covered the NIRANTAR platform, its verticals, and lead institutions such as BSI Kolkata, IIFM Bhopal, and NCSCM Chennai.</p>	<p>Similarity is high because the UPSC question directly tested the matching of NIRANTAR verticals with their lead institutions, which was substantially covered in the source material.</p>
Vertical	Focus Area	Lead Institution															
Research and Management of Ecosystem Services	Achieving ecological stability and sustainable development through the scientific management of ecosystems.	Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun															
Assessment of Bioresources	Systematic assessment, documentation, and conservation of India's rich biodiversity.	Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Kolkata															
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Coastal and Marine Resources Management	Conservation and sustainable management of coastal and marine ecosystems to build resilience.	National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai															

Q43. The Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany visited India in January, 2026. Which of the following is/are not correct in terms of outcomes of this visit?

1. Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the All India Institute of Ayurveda and the University of Hamburg
2. Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on Youth Hockey Development between Hockey India and the German Hockey Federation
3. Establishment of a bilateral dialogue mechanism on the Indo-Pacific
4. Opening of an Honorary Consul of Germany in Lucknow

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Source	Content	Analysis
<p><u>Daily Current Affairs - Germany Chancellor's Visit to India</u></p>	<p>Content covered outcomes such as semiconductor partnership, Indo-Pacific dialogue mechanism, renewable energy cooperation, and bilateral strategic initiatives during the German Chancellor's India visit.</p>	<p>Similarity is moderate (50-60%) because the UPSC question directly tested outcomes of the visit, especially the Indo-Pacific dialogue mechanism.</p>

Read all about: INDIA GERMANY RELATIONS | INDIA-GERMANY RELATIONS | INDIA-GERMANY RELATIONS EXPLAINED

Outcomes of German Chancellor's visit to India

Joint Declaration on:

- Strengthening the Bilateral Defence Industrial Cooperation.
- Semiconductor Ecosystem Partnership.
- Cooperation in the Field of Critical Minerals.
- Joint Cooperation in Research and Development on Bioeconomy.
- Roadmap on Higher Education.
- Framework Conditions of Global Skill Partnerships for Fair, Ethical and Sustainable Recruitment of Healthcare Professionals.
- Establishment of a National Centre of Excellence for Skilling in Renewable Energy at National Skill Training Institute, Hyderabad.

Announcements

- Visa Free transit for Indian passport holders for transiting through Germany.
- Establishment of Track 1.5 Foreign Policy and Security Dialogue.
- Establishment of Bilateral dialogue mechanism on Indo-Pacific.
- New funding commitments of EUR 1.24 billion under bilateral Green and Sustainable Development Partnership (GSDP), supporting priority projects in renewable energies, green hydrogen, PM e-Bus Sewa, and climate-resilient urban infrastructure.

India-Germany Strategic Partnership

The India-Germany Partnership is anchored by shared democratic values, a commitment to a rules-based international order, and strong economic and technological ties, crucial for addressing global challenges.

Q49. Which of the following statements with regard to India's indigenous new high resolution weather model, the 'Bharat Forecast System,' is/are correct ?

1. Its objective is to generate forecasts at the Panchayats cluster level.
2. It was developed by IIT Delhi.

Select the answer using the code given below :


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

Source	Content	Analysis																												
<p><u>Daily Current Affairs – Bharat Forecast System</u></p> <p>Context</p> <p>India has made a significant advancement in weather research with the debut of the Bharat Forecasting System (BFS) on May 26, 2025. Designed by IITM Pune and powered by the sophisticated supercomputer Arka, BFS provides the world's most exact weather forecasts with a 6 km resolution, making it a game changer.</p> <p>What is Bharat Forecasting System?</p> <p>The Bharat Forecast System is a revolutionary weather prediction model. It forecasts future weather conditions. It was developed by Indian scientists. Parthasarathy Mukhopadhyay was one of the primary scientists involved in this project.</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Name</td><td>Bharat Forecast System (BFS)</td></tr> <tr><td>Launched by</td><td>Union Earth Sciences Ministry, Government of India</td></tr> <tr><td>Powered by</td><td>Arka Supercomputer at IITM, Pune</td></tr> <tr><td>Supercomputer Capacity</td><td>11,77 Petaflops (Speed), 33 Petabytes (Storage)</td></tr> <tr><td>Replaces</td><td>Older system based on Pratyush Supercomputer</td></tr> <tr><td>Forecast Resolution</td><td>6 km x 6 km (Earlier it was 12 km x 12 km)</td></tr> <tr><td>Main Purpose</td><td>To give better and faster weather predictions</td></tr> <tr><td>Technology Used</td><td>Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML)</td></tr> <tr><td>Radar Integration</td><td>40 Doppler Weather Radars (Plan to increase to 100)</td></tr> <tr><td>Nowcast Feature</td><td>Gives very short-term 2-hour weather forecast</td></tr> <tr><td>Coverage Area</td><td>Tropical regions (30°S to 30°N), including all of India</td></tr> <tr><td>Open Access</td><td>Data available to researchers globally for free</td></tr> <tr><td>Partner Organizations</td><td>ISRO (INSAT, IRS), UK Met Office, other international bodies</td></tr> <tr><td>Helps in</td><td>Disaster warnings, agriculture planning, water management, public safety</td></tr> </table>	Name	Bharat Forecast System (BFS)	Launched by	Union Earth Sciences Ministry, Government of India	Powered by	Arka Supercomputer at IITM, Pune	Supercomputer Capacity	11,77 Petaflops (Speed), 33 Petabytes (Storage)	Replaces	Older system based on Pratyush Supercomputer	Forecast Resolution	6 km x 6 km (Earlier it was 12 km x 12 km)	Main Purpose	To give better and faster weather predictions	Technology Used	Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML)	Radar Integration	40 Doppler Weather Radars (Plan to increase to 100)	Nowcast Feature	Gives very short-term 2-hour weather forecast	Coverage Area	Tropical regions (30°S to 30°N), including all of India	Open Access	Data available to researchers globally for free	Partner Organizations	ISRO (INSAT, IRS), UK Met Office, other international bodies	Helps in	Disaster warnings, agriculture planning, water management, public safety	<p>Content covered the Bharat Forecast System developed by IITM Pune, its 6 km resolution forecasting capability, AI integration, and localized weather prediction objectives.</p>	<p>Similarity is high because the UPSC question directly tested core factual aspects of the Bharat Forecast System, especially its localized forecasting objective and institutional origin.</p>
Name	Bharat Forecast System (BFS)																													
Launched by	Union Earth Sciences Ministry, Government of India																													
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Q54. Which one of the following best describes the key objective of India's 'Open Network for Digital Commerce' (ONDC) initiative ?

- (a) To allow government control over all digital commerce transactions
- (b) To replace private e-commerce players
- (c) To break the dominance of large e-commerce platforms by enabling interoperability across networks
- (d) To mandate UPI-based payments for all online transactions

Source	Content	Analysis
<u>Current Affairs Module on ONDC</u>	"ONDC is often	Similarity is high because the UPSC

	<p>referred to as the UPI of e-commerce and aims to democratize digital commerce by moving from a platform-centric model to an open interoperable network.”</p>	<p>question directly tested the core conceptual objective of Open Network for Digital Commerce – reducing dominance of large e-commerce platforms through interoperability and open-network architecture. The framing, terminology (“interoperability”, “platform-centric model”), and objective closely mirror the source material.</p>
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Q59. Which one of the following best describes the 'Crowding Out Effect' in the context of fiscal policy?

- A situation where private investment increases due to increased Government spending
- A situation where Government borrowing leads to higher interest rates, which reduces private investment**
- A situation where an increase in taxes leads to increased private sector investment
- A situation where Government spending has no impact on aggregate demand

Source	Content	Analysis
<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/fiscal-deficit-15</p> <p>Inflationary Spiral: Borrowing from RBI, increases the supply of money in the economy, which increases the general price level. A prolonged increase in the general price level results in an inflationary spiral, i.e. borrowing from RBI > Increase in money supply > Increase in prices > Inflationary Spiral.</p> <p>National Debt: Fiscal Deficit gives birth to the national debt. It hampers GDP growth, as a large portion of the national income is spent on repaying past debts.</p> <p>Vicious Circle of High Fiscal Deficit and Low GDP Growth: When there is a high fiscal deficit constantly, it gives rise to a situation in which GDP growth remains low due to high fiscal deficit and the fiscal deficit remains high due to low GDP growth.</p> <p>Debt trap: Borrowing leads to two main problems, with respect to the repayment of loan and payment of interest, because the payment of interest again increases the revenue deficit. And more borrowing will be required to finance interest payments which results in a debt trap.</p> <p>Crowding Out: Crowding Out Effect is an outcome of Fiscal Deficit. It refers to a condition when high government borrowings because of high fiscal deficit, decreases the availability of funds for private investors. This reduces overall investment in the economy.</p> <p>Erosion of Government Credibility: High fiscal deficit destroys the credibility of the government in both domestic and international markets. This lowers down the government's credit rating, and the foreign investors will begin withdrawing money that they have invested in the domestic economy. As a result of which GDP is reduced.</p>	<p>Crowding Out: Crowding Out Effect is an outcome of Fiscal Deficit. It refers to a condition when high government borrowings because of high fiscal deficit, decreases the availability of funds for private investors. This reduces overall investment in the economy.</p>	<p>Similarity is high because the UPSC question directly tested the core concept.</p>

Q62. Which of the following statements about Crowdfunding is/are correct ?

- Crowdfunding is solicitation of funds from small amount from multiple investors through a web-based platform or networking site for a specific project.
- Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are able to raise funds at lower cost of capital without undergoing rigorous procedures.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Source	Content	Analysis
<p><u>Economy/Fintech Current Affairs Module</u></p> <p>on their investment.</p> <p>Profit-Sharing Financing: Allows investors to share in the profits generated by a business in exchange for providing capital. The investors receive a portion of the company's profits based on the terms of the agreement.</p> <p>Asset-Based Financing: Using assets, such as inventory, accounts receivable, or equipment, as collateral to secure a loan. Lenders provide funds based on the value of the assets, and the borrower must repay the loan according to the agreed terms.</p> <p>Crowdfunding: Raising small amounts of money from a large number of people, typically through online platforms. It allows businesses to access capital from a wide range of investors or supporters who contribute funds in exchange for rewards, equity, or other incentives.</p> <p>Convertible Note Financing: A type of debt that can be converted into equity in the future, usually at the discretion of the investor. It allows startups to raise capital quickly while deferring the valuation of the company until a later date.</p> <p>Mezzanine Financing: A hybrid form of financing that combines debt and equity elements. It typically involves subordinated debt or preferred equity and is used to bridge the gap between senior debt and equity financing.</p> <p>Invoice Financing: Using unpaid invoices as collateral to secure a loan. Lenders provide funds based on the value of outstanding invoices, and the borrower repays the loan when the invoices are paid.</p> <p>Trade Credit: Purchasing goods or services on credit terms from suppliers or vendors. It allows businesses to acquire inventory or raw materials without immediate payment and is often used as a short-term financing solution.</p> <p>Vendor Financing: Obtaining financing directly from a supplier or vendor. The supplier extends credit terms to the buyer, allowing them to purchase goods or services on credit and pay at a later date.</p> <p>Peer-to-Peer Lending: Borrowing money directly from individuals or investors through online platforms. It bypasses</p>	<p>Crowdfunding as an alternative financing mechanism for SMEs and startups</p>	<p>Similarity is moderate to high (60%). The UPSC question directly tests the standard definition and utility of crowdfunding – raising small amounts from multiple investors through web-based platforms and enabling SMEs/startups to access finance with relatively lower procedural barriers. The source material already covered crowdfunding's mechanism, online-platform nature, and ease of capital access, making the conceptual overlap substantial though the wording itself is not identical.</p>

Q69. Which of the following statements with regard to Black Boxes used in modern aircrafts is/are correct ?

- They carry a beacon emitting red light pulses to facilitate underwater detection.
- They record both the cockpit voice and flight data.
- Their memory units are made using either stainless steel or titanium.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

<https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/black-box>


Source Used	Analysis
<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/black-box</p> <p>Context:</p> <p>Role of the black box in uncovering the cause behind the tragic Air India AI171 plane crash in Ahmedabad.</p> <p>What is a "Black Box"?</p> <p>Contrary to its name, the "black box" is not black but is painted a bright, fluorescent orange to aid in its recovery from destruction.</p> <p>The term is a colloquialism for two separate, highly durable recording devices mandated on commercial aircraft by international regulations. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flight Data Recorder (FDR) => This device records a vast array of flight parameters. Modern FDRs can capture thousands of data points, including airspeed, altitude, heading, engine performance, and the position of flight controls like flaps and rudders. This data allows investigators to create a detailed, second-by-second reconstruction of the aircraft's flight path and operational status. Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR): The CVR records the audio environment of the cockpit. This includes conversations between the pilots, radio communications with air traffic control, and ambient sounds like engine noise, alarms, or any unusual noises that can provide vital clues about the conditions on the flight deck. <p>Built to Survive</p> <p>These recorders are housed in a Crash Survivable Memory Unit (CSMU), made of stainless steel or titanium, and are engineered to withstand extreme conditions, including immense impact forces (up to 3,400 times the force of gravity), high temperatures (over 1,000°C), and deep-sea pressure.</p> <p>They are located in the tail section of the aircraft, which often has a higher chance of surviving a crash.</p> <p>For accidents over water, they are equipped with an Underwater Locator Beacon (ULB) or "pinger" that emits a signal for at least 30 days.</p> <p>Source:</p> <p>HINDUSTAN TIMES</p>	<p>Similarity is high. The uploaded material directly covers almost every element asked in UPSC Q69. It explicitly explains that a "black box" consists of both the Flight Data Recorder (FDR) and Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR), directly supporting Statement 2. It also clearly states that the Crash Survivable Memory Unit (CSMU) is made of stainless steel or titanium, directly matching Statement 3. Additionally, the notes mention an Underwater Locator Beacon (ULB) or "pinger" that emits signals underwater, which helps eliminate Statement 1 because the beacon emits acoustic signals, not red light pulses. Thus, the conceptual and factual overlap with the UPSC question is almost direct.</p>

Q71. Consider the following statements with regard to involvement of private entities in India's space programme :

1. The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) is an autonomous agency formed to facilitate participation of private entities.
2. Agnikul Cosmos launched the world's first flight using 3D-printed rocket engine.
3. Skyroot Aerospace has developed liquid fuel for GSLV.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Source Used	Analysis
<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/private-players-in-indian-space-sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agnikul Cosmos (Established 2017): Developing a small satellite launch vehicle tailored for the needs of small satellite operators. • Manastu Space (Established 2017): Specializes in green technology for space, offering alternative fuel for boosters, refueling stations in space, and deorbiting solutions for expired satellites. • Skyroot Aerospace (Established 2018): Developing their own satellite launch vehicles and associated technologies. • Satellitez (Established 2018): Engaged in satellite communication and related services. • Pixxel (Established 2019): Focused on building a constellation of Earth observation satellites for various applications.  <p>Indian regulatory framework for private space companies</p> <p>IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Center):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created as a single-window, independent nodal agency announced on May 16, 2020, under the 'Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' stimulus package. • IN-SPACe authorizes, promotes, and supervises space activities of private non-governmental entities (NGEs) in India. <p>Functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizing and supervising NGEs' activities such as building launch vehicles, satellites, and sharing infrastructure under ISRO/DoS control. • Evaluating and issuing authorizations for space activities including launches and test firings. 	<p>Similarity is high. The uploaded notes explicitly list Agnikul Cosmos and Skyroot Aerospace under India's private space startups and separately explain the functions of IN-SPACe. The material directly builds the conceptual framework needed to solve the UPSC question. Statement 1 can be identified as correct directly from the notes, Statement 2 aligns with known current affairs repeatedly discussed in such modules, while Statement 3 can be rejected because the notes only associate Skyroot with launch vehicles and associated technologies, not GSLV liquid propulsion systems.</p>

Q72. Which of the following statements with regard to drone swarms is/are correct ?

1. They use Terahertz band of frequency to communicate with the command centre.
2. Individual drones in the swarm can communicate with other drones in the swarm.
3. GPS Spoofing is a commonly used technique to counter drone swarm attack.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Source	Analysis
<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/swarm-drones</p>	<p>The overlap with the UPSC question is substantial. The material directly covers swarm communication, decentralized control, collaborative functioning, and operational characteristics of drone swarms. While GPS spoofing is not explicitly stated in the notes, the technological framework provided makes the UPSC question highly approachable for a prepared student.</p>

<p>Technology behind Swarm Drones:</p> <p>Swarm Control and Communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swarm Algorithms: These are essential for controlling the behavior of individual drones within the swarm and ensuring coordination. • Communication Protocols: Efficient communication is crucial. Drones can communicate directly or through a central system like a ground station or a leader drone. • Decentralized Control: Swarm drones often use decentralized decision-making processes to enhance adaptability and resilience. <p>Sensing and Perception:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensors: Drones are equipped with various sensors (e.g., cameras, LIDAR, GPS) for navigation, obstacle detection, and situational awareness. • Computer Vision: Enables drones to recognize and track objects, people, or terrain features, aiding in navigation and mission execution. • Machine Learning and AI: Algorithms enable drones to learn, adapt, and make autonomous decisions based on incoming data. <p>Swarm Formation and Coordination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation Flying: Algorithms enable drones to maintain specific formations for different purposes, like maximizing coverage or minimizing vulnerability. • Collaborative Tasks: Drones can collaborate to perform tasks collectively, such as mapping an area, delivering payloads, or conducting surveillance. <p>Applications of Swarm Drones:</p> <p>Military and Defense:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveillance and Reconnaissance: Swarm drones can cover vast areas, gather intelligence, and monitor enemy movements. • Target Identification and Attack: They can identify and engage targets collectively, enhancing precision and efficiency. • Electronic Warfare: Swarm drones can disrupt enemy communication systems or provide electronic support. 	
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Q73. Which of the following statements with regard to **GenomeIndia Project is/are correct ?**

1. It is a part of the Human Genome Project.
2. The project is funded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India.
3. Its primary aim is to build a catalogue of genetic diversity of the Indian population.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Source	Analysis
<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/genome-india-project Genome India Project</p> <p>About</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking inspiration from the Human Genome Project, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) initiated the ambitious "Genome India Project" (GIP) on 3rd January 2020. It is a Central Sector Project. <p>Aim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GIP aims to collect 10,000 genetic samples from citizens across India, to build a reference genome. The genome contains all the genetic matter in an organism, i.e., the complete set of DNAs. <p>Goal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The goal of the research is to develop predictive diagnostic indicators for several high-priority diseases and other uncommon and genetic disorders. • In phase 2, the project would collect genetic samples from patients with three broad categories - cardiovascular diseases, mental illness, and cancer. • Through whole-genome sequencing, the plan is to build an exhaustive catalogue of genetic variations for the Indian population. <p>Targeted areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of the priority areas are Precision health, Rare genetic disorders, Mutation spectrum of genetic and complex diseases in the Indian population, Genetic Epidemiology of Multifactorial Lifestyle Diseases, and Translational Research. 	<p>Similarity is extremely high. The source directly states that the Genome India Project was initiated and funded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, directly supporting Statement 2. It also explicitly mentions that the project aims to build an exhaustive catalogue of genetic variations/genetic diversity of the Indian population, directly matching Statement 3. At the same time, the notes clarify that the project only takes inspiration from the Human Genome Project and is not a part of it, helping eliminate Statement 1. Thus, the overlap with the UPSC question is almost direct and conceptual preparation from the notes would make the question straightforward.</p>

Q81. Which of the following statements with regard to the **persons with disabilities in India is/are correct ?**

1. The **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act**, an Act passed by the Parliament of India in 2018, mandates reservation in education and employment, places a legal duty on Governments to ensure accessibility and non-discrimination.
2. The **Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan** focuses on achieving universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities across three key domains – built infrastructure, transport systems and information and communication technology.

3. The **National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC)** is a public sector organisation set up by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs as a not-for-profit company to promote entrepreneurship among Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Source	Content	Analysis
<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/status-of-persons-with-disabilities-pwds</p> <p>The major schemes for the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP) - aims at physical rehabilitation of persons with disabilities through the provision of assistive aids and appliances. Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)- an umbrella scheme that addresses all aspects of rehabilitation and includes projects covering various services ranging from programs for preschool and early intervention to rehabilitation of leprosy-cured persons. Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act- under the scheme funds are provided for projects to make public buildings barrier-free, support to the institutions at the regional and district level providing services to persons with disabilities, and the creation of awareness on related issues. Scheme of Incentives to Employers in the Private Sector for Providing Employment to Persons with Disabilities. Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan): The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPWD), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has conceptualized the "Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan)" as a nation-wide flagship campaign for achieving universal accessibility that will enable persons with disabilities to gain access for equal opportunity and live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life in an inclusive society. The campaign targets at enhancing the accessibility of built environment, transport system and information & communication eco-system. Composite Regional Centre for Persons with Disabilities: The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has set up Composite Regional Centre for Persons with Disabilities in various states to provide both preventive and promotional aspects of rehabilitation like education, health, employment, and vocational training, research and manpower development, rehabilitation for persons with disabilities, etc. Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS): The objectives of the scheme are: To create an enabling environment to ensure equal opportunities, equity, social justice, and empowerment of persons with disabilities and; To encourage voluntary action for ensuring effective implementation of the People with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities and Protection of Rights) Act of 1995. National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDCC) is an Apex corporation under the aegis of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and is working since 1997. It is registered as a company not for profit and provides financial assistance to the Divyangjan/Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan/PwDs) for their economic rehabilitation and provides a number of skill development programs to empower them to grow & sustain their enterprises. The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities has merged the following six scholarship schemes into an umbrella scholarship scheme titled "Scholarships for Students with Disabilities"e.f. 15th April 2017. <p>National</p> <p>Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunity, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act in 1995</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> India enacted the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunity, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act in 1995 to provide recognition to the rights and special needs of disabled people in the country. <p>Reservations for persons with disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It also provided for reservations for persons with disabilities in government jobs and higher educational institutions. While the 1995 legislation had reserved 3% of government jobs, the new legislation reserves 4%. Under the new legislation, all institutions of higher education run or funded by the government must reserve 5% of their spaces for enrolment for people with disabilities <p>Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 replaced the earlier legislation and increased the number of recognised disabilities from seven to 21. <p>Mental Health Care Act, 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The rights of persons with psychosocial disabilities are protected under the Mental Health Care Act, 2017. 	<p>Content covering Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan, Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, NHFDCC and disability welfare schemes</p>	<p>Similarity is high. The uploaded material directly covers almost every factual component asked in UPSC Q81. It explicitly explains that the Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) focuses on accessibility in the built environment, transport systems, and information & communication ecosystem, directly matching Statement 2. The notes also discuss the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (not 2018), reservations in education/employment, and accessibility obligations, which helps eliminate Statement 1 because of the incorrect year. Further, the material clearly states that the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation/National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation functions under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, not the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, helping</p>

eliminate Statement 3. Thus, the factual overlap with the UPSC question is very direct.

This question tests parliamentary procedures regarding which questions require oral vs. written answers and whether supplementary questions can follow. This was directly tested in NISCHAY 10 (Q53)

Q85. Consider the following statements about Mission Sudarshan Chakra of India :

1. It aims to enhance India’s air defence, ballistic missile defence and aerial offensive capabilities.
2. This Mission is being designed to enhance rapid, precise, and powerful defence response, reinforcing India’s strategic autonomy.
3. One of the aims of this Mission is to cover all public places of India by an expanded nationwide security shield by 2035.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Source	Analysis
<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/mission-sudarshan-chakra-strengthening-air-defence</p> <p>Context The Defence Minister announced the formation of a high-level committee at the 18th Combined Commanders' Conference in Kolkata to develop a roadmap for Mission Sudarshan Chakra, an indigenous national defence shield announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Independence Day.</p> <p>Key Outcomes of the Combined Commanders' Conference 2025 Committee Formation: A dedicated panel will prepare a "realistic action plan" for Mission Sudarshan Chakra, with a medium-term (5-year) and long-term (10-year) rollout to achieve full operational capability by 2035. Theme and Focus: "Year of Reforms – Transforming for the Future" emphasized jointness among the three services, indigenisation, innovation, and preparedness for hybrid warfare, including cyber, space, and biological threats.</p> <p>What is Mission Sudarshan Chakra? Launched by PM on August 15, 2025, the mission envisions a multi-layered, indigenous air defence network inspired by Lord Krishna's mythological Sudarshan Chakra. It aims to create a comprehensive shield for strategic (military bases) and civilian (hospitals, railways, religious sites) assets against aerial threats like missiles, drones, and aircraft. Timeline: Targets full development and integration by 2035, with phased induction of technologies over the next decade.</p> <p>Key Components Detection and Neutralisation: Robust infrastructure using AI, big data, and large language models for early warning; soft-kill (jamming) and hard-kill (missiles, directed energy weapons) options. Offensive Integration: Capabilities for overwhelming counter-strikes, including tri-service missile forces and precision-guided munitions. Technological Pillars: Cyber defence/offence, space-based assets, anti-drone systems (short/long-range), offensive drones, and indigenous fighter jet engines. Indigenisation Focus: Entirely developed domestically via DRDO and private sector, building on successes like Akashster (air defence control system) and IACCS (Integrated Air Command and Control System). Enhancing Deterrence: Positions India as a proactive power, deterring aerial aggression from neighbors like Pakistan and China by ensuring technological superiority and rapid response.</p>	<p>Similarity is high. The uploaded material almost directly mirrors the UPSC question. It explicitly states that Mission Sudarshan Chakra aims to build a multi-layered indigenous air defence network with offensive integration, counter-strike capabilities, anti-drone systems, and missile defence infrastructure, directly supporting Statements 1 and 2. The notes also repeatedly emphasize rapid response, strategic deterrence, indigenous capability, and strategic autonomy. Additionally, the source mentions protection of strategic and civilian assets such as hospitals, railways, and religious sites with phased nationwide integration by 2035, which closely resembles Statement 3. The UPSC question is essentially a condensed statement-based extraction from the same factual framework covered in the source.</p>

Q91. Which of the following connectivity projects is/are a part of cooperation between India and the ASEAN member countries ?

1. Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project
2. IMT Trilateral Highway
3. Agartala-Akhaura Rail Line

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Test Name	Question	Analysis
PRELIMS MIRROR 3	Q72. Which of the following correctly	The PRELIMS MIRROR question directly tested the exact route sequencing of the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project –

	represents the route of the Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project?	Kolkata → Sittwe → Paletwa → Lawngtlai – which is one of the most important connectivity projects linking India and Myanmar. The UPSC question similarly focused on regional connectivity initiatives involving neighbouring countries and strategic transport corridors. The conceptual overlap in infrastructure diplomacy, multimodal transit connectivity, and India’s Act East policy framework is almost direct.
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Source Used	Analysis
https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/agartala-akhaura-rail-line-project	The source discusses cross-border connectivity infrastructure between India and Bangladesh, emphasizing regional integration, trade facilitation, and strategic connectivity in South Asia. This strongly overlaps with the UPSC theme of India-supported regional transport and connectivity projects.
https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/india-myanmar-thailand-trilateral-highway	The source directly explains India’s major regional connectivity initiatives under the Act East Policy, including the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway and references to the Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project. The geographical route logic, strategic connectivity rationale, and multimodal transport concepts substantially overlap with the UPSC question framework.

Q92. Match List I with List II and select the answer using the code given below the Lists :

List I (Project Supported by India)	List II (Country)
A. Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project	1. Maldives
B. Restoration of Stor Palace	2. Afghanistan
C. District Hospital at Dickoya	3. Bhutan
D. Institute of Security and Law Enforcement Studies	4. Sri Lanka

Code :

	A	B	C	D
(a)	1	4	2	3
(b)	3	2	4	1
(c)	3	4	2	1
(d)	1	2	4	3

Source Used	Analysis
https://www.iasgyan.in/tag/mangdechhu-project	Similarity is high. The source directly discusses the Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project as an India-supported project in Bhutan, which directly matches one of the pairs in the UPSC question. It also reinforces the broader theme of India-assisted developmental and strategic infrastructure projects in neighbouring countries, which is the exact framework used in the matching question.
https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/afghanistan-rebuilding	Similarity is high. The source explicitly covers India’s developmental assistance in Afghanistan, including restoration and cultural heritage projects such as Stor Palace. This directly helps identify the correct Afghanistan pairing in the UPSC match-the-following question. The question itself largely draws from India’s neighbourhood development partnership themes repeatedly emphasized in the source material.

Q93. Which of the following items of defence hardware is/are manufactured in India ?

1. Su-30 MKI Fighter Jets
2. T-90 MK-III Tanks
3. Akula Class Submarine

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Source Used	Analysis
https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/weapons-in-news-dragon-drones-t90-bhishma-tank	Similarity is high. The source directly discusses the T-90 Bhishma tanks, including their licensed production and assembly in India through Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi. This directly supports Statement 2 of the UPSC question regarding indigenous manufacture/production of T-90 variants in India.
https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/su-30-mki	Similarity is high. The source explicitly explains that Su-30 MKI fighter jets are manufactured in India by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) under license production arrangements with Russia. This directly corresponds to Statement 1 in the UPSC question.
https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/india-russia-defence-relations	Similarity is high. The source broadly covers India-Russia defence cooperation including Su-30 MKI aircraft, T-90 tanks, submarines, and defence technology transfer. It helps distinguish between systems manufactured in India and those merely leased or imported, especially relevant for the Akula-class submarine, which India operates through leasing arrangements rather than domestic manufacturing.

Q95. Consider the following UN organisations/agencies :

1. World Food Programme
2. United Nations Children’s Fund
3. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
4. International Labour Organisation

How many of the above has/have been awarded the Nobel Prize twice ?

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

Source	Analysis
https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/nobel-foundation https://www.iasgyan.in/ig-uploads/pdf/THE_NOBEL_PRIZES.pdf	Similarity is high. The question can be directly solved using the information given in the source.

Q99. Which of the following statements with respect to the Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) is/are correct ?

1. The period of its implementation is 1st April, 2021 to 31st March, 2026.
2. The key objective of the Revamped RGSA is to develop the governance capabilities of the Panchayati Raj Institutions to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. The share of the Central funding for the Revamped RGSA is 100% for all States and Union Territories.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Source	Analysis
<p>https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/rashtriya-gram-swaraj-abhiyan-27</p>	<p>Similarity is high. The source directly covers almost every factual component used in the UPSC question. It explicitly mentions the implementation period of RGSA, its objective of strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions to achieve Sustainable Development Goals, and its governance-capacity focus for rural local bodies. The notes also discuss the centrally sponsored nature of the scheme, which helps evaluate the funding-related statement. UPSC essentially converted the same scheme details into a three-statement elimination-based prelims question with nearly direct factual overlap.</p>

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Context - The Union Government has approved the continuation of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) from April 2022 to March 2026.

Details

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister has approved the continuation of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) from 01.04.2022 to 31.03.2026.

Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan

- Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) was launched on 24th April 2018 as an umbrella scheme of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to develop and strengthen the Panchayati Raj System across India in the rural areas.
- Focus area:**
 - Basic orientation training for the Elected Representatives (ERs) of Panchayats, within 6 months of their election.
 - Capacity Building of ERs with Priority to Aspirational Districts and Mission Antyodaya clusters.
 - Strengthening of the Panchayat – SHG partnership.
 - Gram Panchayat infrastructure.
 - Use of IT for distance learning & for e-Enablement of Panchayats.
 - Institutional support for innovations.
 - To promote the provision of adequate manpower at the GP level & to provide support for technical manpower.
 - To facilitate Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT), Public Finance Management System (PFMS), use and Geo-tagging of assets in Gram Panchayats.

Significance of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan

- It will help more than 2.80 lakh Rural Local Bodies across the country to develop governance capabilities to deliver on Sustainable Development Goals through inclusive local governance with a focus on optimum utilisation of available resources.
- The key objectives of the Abhiyan:
 - Poverty free and enhanced livelihood in villages.

Q100. Which of the following countries are members of the European Union ?

- Belarus
- Poland
- Germany
- Switzerland

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Source	Analysis
https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/european-union	Similarity is high. The question can be directly solved using the map given in the source.

- European Union is an international organisation consisting of European Countries, which was formed in 1993.
- It came into force after the signing of the Maastricht Treaty by 28 countries.
- The Maastricht Treaty is also known as the Treaty of the European Union (TEU).
- Members of the EU: 27. UK made an exit from the EU on 31st January 2020
- European Union has 24 official languages
- Euro is the official currency for 19 of the 27 EU member countries
- The objectives of forming the European Union are:
 - To increase political cooperation
 - To enhance economic integration by creating a single currency the EURO.
 - Unified security and foreign policy
 - Common citizenship Rights
 - Enhanced cooperation in the areas of judiciary, immigration and asylum.
- European Union was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 2012.



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