

1. With reference to the parliament of India consider the following statements?

1. A private members bill is a bill presented by a member of parliament who is not elected but only nominated by the President of India

2. Recently, a private members bill has been passed in the parliament of the India or the first time in its history.

Which of the statements given above is are correct.

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) both 1 and 2 (d) neither 1 nor 2

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

A Private Member's bill is introduced by any member of Parliament other than a minister. Its introduction in the House requires one month's notice.

Its drafting is the responsibility of the member concerned. A Member of Parliament (MP) who is not a Minister in the Union Cabinet is called a Private Member.

Bills introduced by such members are called Private Member's Bills. A Private member bill can be introduced in either the Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha.

Bills introduced by ministers are called Government Bills.

The last Private Member's Bill passed by parliament was the Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Bill, 1968, which became an act on August 9, 1970.

Rajya Sabha has passed the Rights of Transgender Persons Bill, 2014 on April 24, 2015

2. With reference to the difference between the culture of Rigvedic Aryans and Indus Valley people, which of the following statements is are correct ?

1. Rigvedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare whereas the people of Indus Valley civilization did not leave any evidence of using them.

2. Rigvedic Aryans knew gold, silver and copper whereas Indus Valley people knew only copper and iron.

3. Rigvedic Aryans had domesticated the horse whereas there is no evidence of Indus Valley people having been aware of this animals.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

Statement 1 is correct: Rigvedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare whereas the people of Indus Valley Civilization did not leave any evidence of using them.

Statement 2 is not correct: Various materials were used in Harappan civilisation to make beads: stones like carnelian, jasper, crystal, quartz and steatite; metals like copper, bronze and gold; and shell, faience and terracotta or burnt clay. Some beads were made of two or more stones, cemented together, some of stone with gold caps.

Statement 3 is not correct: Evidences of the horse comes from a superficial level of Mohenjo daro and from a terracotta figurine from Lothal. The remains of the horse have been reported from Surkotada belonging to around 2000BC.

A few horse's teeth have been found in the lowest stratum of the Baluchistan site of Rana Ghundal, probably dating from several centuries earlier than the foundation of Harappa.

This would indicate that horse-riding nomads found their way to N.-W. India in small numbers long before the Aryan invasion.

3. Which one of the following was a very important seaport in the Kakatiya kingdom?

- (a) Kakinada (b) Motupalli
(c) Machilipatnam (Masulipatnam) (d) Machilipatnam (Masulipatnam)

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

Motupalli was the chief port of the Kakatiyas and this port was visited by the Venitian traveller, Marco Polo

4. With reference to 'Global Climate Change Alliance', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is an initiative of the European Union.

1. It provides technical and financial support to targeted developing countries to integrate climate change into their development policies and budgets.

2. It is coordinated by World Resources Institute (WRI) and World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD).

Select the correct answering the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (a)
Solution:

The Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) was established by the European Union (EU) in 2007 to strengthen dialogue and cooperation with developing countries, in particular least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS).

Under the first pillar, the GCCA+ serves as a platform for dialogue and exchange of experience between the EU and developing countries, focusing on climate policy and bringing renewed attention to the issue of international climate finance.

Under the second pillar, the GCCA+ acts as a source of technical and financial support for the world's most climatevulnerable countries, whose populations need climate finance the most.

International organisations –notably the Centre for International Forestry Research(CIFOR), the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the UnitedNations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), the United NationsDevelopment Programme (UNDP), the United Nations EnvironmentProgramme (UNEP), UN Habitat and the World Bank – are involvedin the implementation of some GCCA-funded interventions, andalso co-finance some initiatives.

Statement 3 is not correct: Through the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHGP) World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) work with businesses to develop standards and tools that help companies measure, manage, report and reduce their carbon emissions.

5. With reference to the religious history of India,

consider the following statements:

1. Sautrantika and Sammitiya were the sects of Jainism.
2. Sarvastivadin held that the constituents of phenomena were not wholly momentary, but existed forever in a latent form.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Choice: (b)
Solution:

Statement 1 is not correct:Sautrantika and Sammitiya were the the sects of Buddhism.

Statement 2 is correct: Sarvastivadins (They who say "All is"), had the view that the constituents of phenomena (dharma) were not wholly momentary, but existed forever in a latent form.

6. Mediterranean Sea is a border of which of the following countries?

1. Jordan
2. Iraq
3. Lebanon
4. Syria

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (c)
Solution:

The countries with coastlines on the Mediterranean Sea are Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Monaco, Montenegro, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.

In addition, the Gaza Strip and the British Overseas Territories of Gibraltar and Akrotiri and Dhekelia have coastlines on the sea.

On the Eastern shore, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon and Israel have their coastline on the Mediterranean Sea

7. With reference to 'National Investment and Infrastructure Fund',

which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is an organ of NITI Aayog.
2. It has a corpus of Rs.4,00,000 crore at present.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Choice: **(b)**

Solution:

National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) is a fund created by the Government of India for enhancing infrastructure financing in the country.

Its creation was announced in the Union Budget 2015-16. Governing Council of NIIF is an advisory body - chaired by the Finance Minister. It is not an organ of NITI Aayog. Hence statement 1 is not correct.

The proposed corpus of NIIF is Rs. 40,000 Crores (around USD 6 Billion). Hence statement 2 is also not correct

The Indian government is investing 49% and the rest of the corpus is to be raised from third-party investors such as sovereign wealth funds, insurance and pension funds, endowments, etc.

NIIF's mandate includes investing in areas such as energy, transportation, housing, water, waste management and other infrastructure-related sectors in India.

NIIF currently manages three funds each with its distinctive investment mandate. The funds are registered as Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

8. The Global Infrastructure Facility is a/an

(a) ASEAN initiative to upgrade infrastructure in Asia and financed by credit from the Asian Development Bank

(b) World Bank collaboration that facilitates the preparation and structuring of complex infrastructure Public-Private Partnership (PPPs) to enable mobilization of private sector and institutional investor capital.

(c) Collaboration among the major banks of the world working with the OECD and infrastructure projects that have the potential to mobilize private investment.

(d) UNCTAD funded initiative that seeks to finance and facilitate infrastructure development in the World.

Correct Choice: **(b)**

Solution:

The Global Infrastructure Facility (GIF) is a partnership among governments, multilateral development banks, private sector investors, and financiers. It is designed to provide a new way to collaborate on preparing, structuring, and implementing complex projects that no single institution could handle on its own.

The comprehensive project support provided by the GIF draws on the combined expertise of its technical and advisory partners. This group, which includes commercial banks and institutional investors, ensures that well-structured and bankable infrastructure projects are brought to market in a way that sustainably meet the needs of governments and service users. Funding partners provide financial contributions to the GIF. Along with the World Bank Group, Canada is co-chair of the GIF's Governing Council.

9. For election to the Lok Sabha, a nomination paper can be filed by

(a) anyone residing in India.

(b) a resident of the constituency from which the election is to be contested.

(c) any citizen of India whose name appears in the electoral roll of a constituency.

(d) any citizen of India

Correct Choice: **(c)**

Solution:

A person must satisfy all following conditions to be qualified to become a member of parliament of the Lok Sabha; Must be a citizen of India. Must not be less than 25 years of age. Must be a voter for any parliamentary constituency in India.

10. Consider the following statements:

1. In India, the Himalayas are spread over five states only.
2. Western Ghats are spread over five states only.
3. Pulicat Lake is spread over two States only. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 3 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1 and 3 only

Correct Choice: **(b)**

Solution:

Statement 1 is not correct: The Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) is spreading on 10 states (administrative regions) namely, Jammu & Kashmir (now UT), Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, and hill regions of 2 states viz. Assam and West Bengal of Indian Republic. Statement 2 is not correct: Western Ghats are spread over six states, namely- Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu

Statement 3 is correct: Pulicat Lake Bird Sanctuary is a famous 481 km² located in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh and Protected area in Thiruvallur District of Tamil Nadu. It is a Ramsar site in India

11. Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) is a standard criterion for

- (a) Measuring oxygen levels in blood
(b) Computing oxygen levels in forest ecosystems
(c) Pollution assay in aquatic ecosystems
(d) Assessing oxygen levels in high altitude regions

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

Biological oxygen demand (BOD) is the amount of dissolved oxygen needed (i. e., demanded) by aerobic micro organisms to break down organic material present in a given water sample. A highly polluted water will have a high levels of biological oxygen demand (BOD)

12. With reference to the role of UN-Habitat in the United Nations Programme working towards a better urban future,

which of the statements is/are correct?

1. UN-Habitat has been mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities to provide adequate shelter for all.
2. Its partners are either governments or local urban authorities only.
3. UN-Habitat contributed to the overall objective of the United Nations system to reduce poverty and to promote access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

Statement 1 is correct: UNHabitat is the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future. Its mission is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all. Statement 1 is incorrect.

Statement 2 is not correct: It partners with a range of organizations in its endeavour. For example, governments, local authorities, NGOs, Trade unions, professionals, Academics and Researchers, Human Solidarity Groups, Indigenous People, Private Sector, Foundations, Financial Institutions.

Statement 3 is correct: In the absence of effective urban planning, the consequences of this rapid urbanization can lead to lack of proper housing and growth of slums, inadequate and outdated infrastructure – be it roads, public transport, water, sanitation, or electricity – escalating poverty and unemployment, safety and crime problems, pollution and health issues.

UN-Habitat contributes to the overall objective of a sustainable urbanization.

13. With reference to 'National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF)',

which of the statements given below is/are correct?

1. Under NSQF, a learner can acquire the certification for competency only through formal learning.
2. An outcome expected from the implementation of NSQF is the mobility between vocational and general education.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

The National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) organizes qualifications according to a series of levels of knowledge, skills and aptitude.

These levels are defined in terms of learning outcomes which the learner must possess regardless of whether they were acquired through formal, non formal or informal learning.

It provides for multiple pathways horizontal as well as vertical, both within vocational education and vocational training and among vocational education, vocational training, general education and technical education, thus linking one level of learning to another higher level.

Thus Statement 1 is not correct and statement 2 is correct.

14. In the context of Indian history, the principle of 'Dyarchy (diarchy)' refers to

- (a) Division of the central legislature into two houses. (b) Introductions of double government i.e., Central and State governments.
- (c) Having two sets of rulers; one in London and another in Delhi (d) Division of the subjects delegated to the provinces into two categories.

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

Dyarchy, also spelled diarchy, system of double government introduced by the Government of India Act (1919) for the provinces of British India. The principle of dyarchy was a division of the executive branch of each provincial government into authoritarian and popularly responsible sections

15. Consider the following in respect of 'National Career Services':

1. National Career Service is an initiative of the Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India.
2. National Career Service has been launched in a Mission Mode to improve the employment opportunities to uneducated youth of the country.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

National Career Service (NCS) project is an initiative launched by the Ministry of Labour and Employment (India) Government of India as a Mission Mode Project for establishing quick and efficient career related services. Hence statement 1 is not correct. The main stakeholders for the NCS would include:

- Unemployed candidates seeking jobs
- Students seeking career counseling
- Candidates seeking vocational / occupational guidance
- Illiterate, under-privileged sections of society, blue-collar workers seeking placements and guidance
- Person with different abilities (PWDs), ex-servicemen, veterans / senior citizens, etc.
- Employers seeking suitable candidates Thus statement 2 is correct

16. Which of the following statements best describes the term 'Scheme for Sustainable Structuring of Stressed Assets (S4A)', recently seen in the news?

- (a) It is a procedure for considering ecological costs of developmental schemes formulated by the Government (b) It is a scheme of RBI for reworking the financial structure of big corporate entities facing genuine difficulties.
- (c) It is a disinvestment plan of the Government regarding Central Public Sector Undertakings. (d) It is an important provision in 'The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code' recently implemented by the Government.

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

The S4A by RBI envisages determination of the sustainable debt level for a stressed borrower, and bifurcation of the outstanding debt into sustainable debt and equity/quasi-equity instruments which are expected to provide upside to the lenders when the borrower turns around.

17. Consider the following statements:

1. Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) to Reduce Short Lived Climate Pollutants is a unique initiative of G20 group of countries.
2. The CCAC focuses on methane, black carbon and hydrofluorocarbons.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Choice: **(b)**

Solution:

The Climate & Clean Air Coalition is the only global effort that unites governments, civil society and private sector, committed to improving air quality and protecting the climate in next few decades by reducing short-lived climate pollutants across sectors.

The Coalition's initial focus is on methane, black carbon, and HFCs. The governments of Bangladesh, Canada, Ghana, Mexico, Sweden and the United States, along with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), came together to initiate the first effort to treat these pollutants as a collective challenge.

The coalition has 53 country partners and 17 International Governmental Organizations and 45 Non governmental organization partners.

India is not a partner country however The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) is a partner NGO since 2015.

18. With reference to 'Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)' sometimes mentioned in the news while forecasting Indian monsoon, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. IOD phenomenon is characterised by a difference in sea surface temperature between tropical Western Indian Ocean and tropical Eastern Pacific Ocean.
2. An IOD phenomenon can influence an El Nino's impact on the monsoon.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Choice: **(b)**

Solution:

Statement 1 is not correct: The Indian Ocean Dipole is an irregular oscillation of sea-surface temperatures in which the western Indian Ocean becomes alternately warmer and then colder than the eastern part of the ocean.

Statement 2 is correct: an IOD can either aggravate or weaken the impact of El Nino on Indian monsoon. If there is a positive IOD, it can bring good rains to India despite of an El Nino year.

19. If you want to see gharials in their natural habitat, which one of the following is the best place to visit?

(a) Bhitarkanika Mangroves

(b) Chambal River

(c) Pulicat Lake

(d) Deepor Beel

Correct Choice: **(b)**

Solution:

National Chambal Sanctuary, also called the National Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary is a tristate protected area in northern India for the critically endangered gharial (small crocodiles), the red-crowned roof turtle and the endangered Ganges river dolphin

20. Consider the following in respect of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS):

1. Inaugural IONS was held in India in 2015 under the chairmanship of the Indian Navy.
2. IONS is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime cooperation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region. Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Choice: **(b)**

Solution:

The 'Indian Ocean Naval Symposium' (IONS) is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region by providing an open and inclusive forum for discussion of regionally relevant maritime issues.

In the process, it endeavours to generate a flow of information between naval professionals that would lead to common understanding and possibly cooperative solutions on the way ahead.

That the launch of so important a regional initiative was able to meet with such wide acceptance across the length and breadth of the Indian Ocean was in itself a unique phenomenon. There are 36 littoral in the Indian Ocean which have been geographically grouped into the following four sub-regions There are 35 members - navies of the IONS which have been geographically grouped into the following four sub-regions:- South Asian Littorals, West Asian Littorals, East African Littorals, South East Asian and Australian Littorals.

The inaugural IONS-2008 was held in New Delhi, India on 14 Feb 08. CNS, Indian Navy was designated the Chairman IONS for the period 2008-10.

The theme of the IONS-2008 was "Contemporary Trans-national Challenges – International Maritime Connectives".

Thus statement 2 is correct and statement 1 is not correct

21. The painting of Bodhisattva Padmapani is one of the most famous and oft illustrated paintings at

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| (a) Ajanta | (b) Badami |
| (c) Bagh | (d) Ellora |

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

The painting is on the back wall of the interior hall before the shrine -antechamber in Cave No. 1 at Ajanta dating back to the late fifth century

CE. The Bodhisattva is holding a padma (lotus), has large shoulders, and has three bends in the body creating a movement in the picture space. The modelling is soft.

The figure of the Bodhisattva is wearing a big crown in which detailed rendering is visible.

22. Consider the following pairs: Traditions Communities

1. Chaliah Sahib Festival - Sindhis
2. Nanda Raj Jaat Yatra - Gonds
3. Wari - Warkari
4. Santhals Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) 1 only | (b) 2 and 3 only |
| (c) 1 and 3 only | (d) None of the above |

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

Pair 1 is matched correctly: Chaliah sahib is the festival of the Sindhis which involves devotees fasting for days. Pair 2 is not matched correctly: The Nanda Devi Jat is celebrated every year in the Nanda Devi temples spread across Garhwal and Kumaon. The festival commences on the day earmarked for the Devi's visit to her maiti or parents' home and culminates with the return to her husband's home. This tradition is beautifully expressed in the folk songs of Uttarakhand. Pair 3 is not matched correctly: Pandharpur Wari or Wari (Vari) is an annual pilgrimage to Pandharpur

- the seat of the god Vitthoba in Maharashtra, innotably Dnyaneshwar and Tukaram - from the Warkari sect are taken from their respective shrines to Pandharpur honour of the deity. Palakhiscarrying the paduka (foot prints) of various saints
- most

23. Which of the following statements can help in water conservation in agriculture?

1. Reduced or zero tillage of the land
2. Applying gypsum before irrigating the field
3. Allowing crop residue to remain in the field Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

No-till farming (also called zero tillage or direct drilling) is a way of growing crops or pasture from year to year without disturbing the soil through tillage.

No-till is an agricultural technique which increases the amount of water that infiltrates into the soil and increases organic matter retention and cycling of nutrients in the soil.

Gypsum improves the ability of soil to drain and not become waterlogged thus increasing water-use efficiency of crops

24. Consider the following statements: The nation-wide 'Soil Health Card Scheme' aims at

1. expanding the cultivable area under irrigation.
2. enabling the banks to assess the quantum of loans to be granted to farmers on the basis of soil quality.
3. checking the overuse of fertilizers in farmlands. Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

(b) 3 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

Launched by the central government in February 2015, the scheme is tailor-made to issue 'Soil card' to farmers which will carry crop-wise recommendations of nutrients and fertilizers required for the individual farms. This is aimed to help farmers to improve productivity through judicious use of inputs. Thus only statement 3 is correct.

25. Consider the following pairs: Commonly used/consumed materials Unwanted or controversial chemicals likely to be found in them

1. Lipstick - Lead
2. Soft drinks - Brominated vegetable oils
3. Chinese fast food - Monosodium glutamate Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

Lead is a common impurity found in cosmetic lip products, such as lipsticks, and other cosmetics, such as eye shadows, blushes, compact powders, shampoos, and body lotions.

Brominated vegetable oil is a food additive sometimes used to keep citrus flavoring from separating out in some sodas and soft drinks. It's banned as a food additive in Europe and Japan.

MSG, is a glutamate, or salt of glutamic acid, a "non-essential" amino acid. It is a neurotransmitter - transporting messages from one nerve cell to another. Because it is said to enhance flavours, some scientists believe it "excites nerve endings" and exhibits "neuro-excitatory properties", that is the ability to stimulate neurons. It is commonly used in chinese fast food

26. Organic Light Emitting Diodes (OLEDs) are used to create digital display in many devices. What are the advantages of OLED displays over Liquid Crystal displays?

1. OLED displays can be fabricated on flexible plastic substrates.
2. Roll-up displays embedded in clothing can be made using OLEDs.
3. Transparent displays are possible using OLEDs. Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1, 2 and 3

(d) None of the above

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

All the three statements are correct with regard to OLED and they are the disadvantages of LCDs.

Flexible Organic Light Emitting Diodes (FOLED) fabricated on flexible plastic substrates can be bent or rolled while operating.

The manufacturing process of OLEDs is different to those of LCD technology. OLEDs can be printed onto almost any substrate with inkjet printer technology.

That is why new applications like displays embedded in clothes or roll-up displays are possible.

LCD technology engages a backlight, whereas OLED has no backlighting function. Hence it can be used for making transparent displays.

27. Which of the following is/are famous for Sun temples?

1. Arasavalli
2. Amarakantak
3. Omkareshwar Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

The Sun Temple is situated in Arasavalli Village in Andhra Pradesh. Sun temples are not located in Amarkantak and Omkareshwa

28. Consider the following statements:

1. In the election for Lok Sabha or State Assembly, the winning candidate must get at least 50 percent of the votes polled, to be declared elected.
2. According to the provisions laid down in the Constitution of India, in Lok Sabha, the Speaker's post goes to the majority party and the Deputy Speaker's to the Opposition. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Choice: (d)

29. Which of the following has/have occurred in India after its liberalization of economic policies in 1991?

1. Share of agriculture in GDP increased enormously.
2. Share of India's exports in world trade increased.
3. FDI inflows increased.
4. India's foreign exchange reserves increased enormously. Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

The post-reform period shows the gradual decline in the agriculture sector's contribution to the Indian economy.

India's traditional occupation, agriculture now contributes only about 15% to the GDP, down from 29 percent in 1991.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect. Share of India's exports increased since 1991.

Hence, statement 2 is correct. Before 1991, foreign investment was negligible. The first year of reform saw a total foreign investment of only \$74 million.

However, investments have steadily risen since then, except for occasional blips between 1997 and 2000 and 2008 and 2012 – owing to the global economic slowdown. As of 31 March 2016, the country has received total FDI of \$371 billion, since 1991.

The year 2008 recorded the highest FDI inflow of \$43.40 billion. The biggest spurt in inflow was between 2005 and 2006 – 175.54%. As of March 2016, India has attracted \$10.55 billion worth of FDI. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

It was India's dismal state of forex reserves that forced the government to bring in economic reforms. Now, 25 years later, forex reserves are at a record high. In 1991, it stood at just \$5.8 billion.

As of 24 June, the country's forex reserves are at \$360.8 billion. Usually, import coverage of 7-8 months is considered sufficient. The biggest jump in reserves was witnessed between 2007 and 2008 when the kitty bulged 55% to hit \$309.2 billion. Hence, statement 4 is correct.

30. What is the application of Somatic Cell Nuclear Transfer Technology?

- (a) Production of biolarvicides (b) Manufacture of biodegradable plastics
(c) Reproductive cloning of animals (d) Production of organisms free of diseases

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

somatic cell nuclear transfer technique in which the nucleus of a somatic (body) cell is transferred to the cytoplasm of an enucleated egg (an egg that has had its own nucleus removed).

Once inside the egg, the somatic nucleus is reprogrammed by egg cytoplasmic factors to become a zygote (fertilized egg) nucleus.

The egg is allowed to develop to the blastocyst stage, at which point a culture of embryonic stem cells (ESCs) can be created from the inner cell mass of the blastocyst. Mouse, monkey, and human ESCs have been made using SCNT; human ESCs have potential applications in both medicine and research.

The most practical application of SCNT is in the reproductive cloning of farm animals that have exceptional qualities, such as the ability to produce large quantities of milk

31. Consider the following statements:

1. National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) helps in promoting the financial inclusion in the country.
2. NPCI has launched RuPay, a card payment scheme. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

(NPCI) is an umbrella organization for all retail payments system in India.

It was set up with the guidance and support of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA).

The core objective was to consolidate and integrate the multiple systems with varying service levels into nation-wide uniform and standard business process for all retail payment systems. The other objective was to facilitate an affordable payment mechanism to benefit the common man across the country and help financial inclusion. Thus statement 1 is correct.

It offers many products and services which include RuPay card, BHIM app, Unified payment interface among others. Thus statement 2 is correct

32. The term 'M-STrIPES' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of

- (a) Captive breeding of Wild Fauna (b) Maintenance of Tiger Reserves
(c) Indigenous Satellite Navigation System (d) Security of National Highways

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

Monitoring System for Tigers'- Intensive Protection and Ecological Status is a software monitoring system launched by the Indian Government in 2010 in some tiger reserves to reduce vulnerability of Tigers.

The system would enable field managers to assist intensity and spatial coverage of patrols in a geographic information system (GIS) domain.

33. What is/are the most likely advantages of implementing 'Goods and Services Tax (GST)'?

1. It will replace multiple taxes collected by multiple authorities and will thus create a single market in India.
1. It will drastically reduce the 'Current Account Deficit' of India and will enable it to increase its foreign exchange reserves.
2. It will enormously increase the growth and size of economy of India and will enable it to overtake China in the near future.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

GST is one indirect tax for the whole nation, which will make India one unified common market.

Hence, statement 1 is correct. There is no information which says GST will drastically reduce the CAD of India. Neither it is true that it will enable India to take over China.

Hence, statements 2 and 3 are not correct.

34. Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA)' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of negotiations held between India and

- (a) European Union (b) Gulf Cooperation Council
(c) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (d) Shanghai Cooperation Organization

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

The FTA talks with EU have been deadlocked since 2013 after 16 rounds of negotiations.

Last year EU raised its concern over what it called India's "unilateral termination" of existing Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) with "a significant number of" EU member countries.

35. Consider the following statements:

1. India has ratified to Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) of WTO.
2. TFA is a part of WTO's Bali Ministerial Package of 2013.
3. TFA came into force in January 2016. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Choice: (a)
 Solution:

The TFA is the WTO's first-ever multilateral accord that aims to simplify customs regulations for the cross-border movement of goods.

It was an outcome of WTO's 9th Bali (Indonesia) ministerial package of 2013. India ratified it in April 2016. It came into force in February 2017. Thus statement 3 is not correct.

36. What is the importance of developing Chabahar Port by India?

- (a) India's trade with African countries will enormously increase. (b) India's relations with oil-producing Arab countries will be strengthened
 (c) India will not depend on Pakistan for access to Afghanistan and Central Asia. (d) Pakistan will facilitate and protect the installation of a gas pipeline between Iraq and India

Correct Choice: (c)
 Solution:

India and Iran signed a series of agreements that allowed New Delhi to use the port of Chabahar to access Central Asia and Afghanistan without depending upon Pakistan.

37. In India, it is legally mandatory for which of the following to report on cyber security incidents?

1. Service providers
 2. Data centres
 3. Body corporate
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (d)
 Solution:

The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team shall serve as the national agency for performing the following functions in the area of cyber security,—

- (a) collection, analysis and dissemination of information on cyber incidents;
 (b) forecast and alerts of cyber security incidents;
 (c) emergency measures for handling cyber security incidents;
 (d) coordination of cyber incidents response activities;
 (e) issue guidelines, advisories, vulnerability notes and white papers relating to information security practices, procedures, prevention, response and reporting of cyber incidents;
 (f) such other functions relating to cyber security as may be prescribed.

Any service provider, intermediaries, data centers, body corporate or person who fails to provide the information called for or comply with the above section shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees or with both

38. Right to vote and to be elected in India is a

- (a) Fundamental Right (b) Natural Right
 (c) Constitutional Right (d) Legal Right

Correct Choice: (d)
 Solution:

According to Supreme Court judgment *Jyoti Basu vs Debi Ghosal* - A right to elect, fundamental though it is to democracy, is, anomalously neither a fundamental right nor a Common Law Right. It is a statutory right. So is the right to be elected, and the right to dispute an election.

As per NCERT One of the important decisions of the framers of the Indian Constitution was to guarantee every adult citizen in India, the right to vote i.e. universal adult franchise. The article 326 of the Constitution provides for the right to vote and to be elected in India. What is true of the right to vote is also true of right to contest election. All citizens have the right to stand for election and become the representative of the people.

39. What is the purpose of 'evolved Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (eLISA)' project?

- (a) To detect neutrinos (b) To detect gravitational waves
 (c) To detect the effectiveness of missile defence system (d) To study the effect of solar flares on our communication systems

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

eLISA is a spectacular plan of setting into space three spacecraft, a mother and two daughter spacecraft, which will fly in a triangular formation, trailing the earth in its orbit around the sun at a distance of over 50 million km.

Laser interferometers will accurately measure changes in the distance between these cubes. If they should be affected by a gravitational wave, the minute changes in this distance are measure by the interferometer.

40. What is the purpose of 'Vidyanjali Yojana'?

1. To enable the famous foreign educational institutions to open their campuses in India.
2. To increase the quality of education provided in government schools by taking help from the private sector and the community.
3. To encourage voluntary monetary contributions from private individuals and organizations so as to improve the infrastructure facilities for primary and secondary schools.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 2 only

(b) 3 only

(c) 1 and 2 only

(d) 1 and 2 only

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

The Ministry of HRD recently launched the Vidyanjali scheme aimed at boosting the education system by delivering volunteer teachers to government schools.

It will not replace the regular and professionally qualified teachers in the government schools.

The volunteer's responsibility is towards overall development of the child, not academics.

The volunteer service will be used in developing skills like public speaking, creative writing, counseling, music and dance.

41. What is the aim of the programme 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan'?

(a) Achieving 100% literacy by promoting collaboration between voluntary organizations and government's education system and local communities.

(b) Connecting institutions of higher education with local communities to address development challenges through appropriate technologies.

(c) Strengthening India's scientific research institutions in order to make India a scientific and technological power

(d) Developing human capital by allocating special funds for health care and education of rural and urban poor, and organizing skill development programmes and vocational training for them

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

Under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) 2.0-a flagship program of MHRD, GOI 688 institutions are selected on a Challenge Mode (426 technical and 262 non- technical) which are reputed Higher Educational Institutes (both public and private) of the country, which have adopted total no. of 3555 villages for their development through UBA.

Also, scope for providing Subject Expert Groups assistance and Regional Coordinating Institutes to handhold and guide the participating institutions have been strengthened.

IIT Delhi has been designated to function as the National Coordinating Institute for this program. objectives

To engage faculty and students of higher educational institutions in understanding rural realities.

Identify and select existing innovative technologies, enable customization of technologies or devise implementation methods for innovative solutions as required by people.

To allow higher educational institutions to contribute to devising systems for smooth implementation of various Government Programs.

The programme aims to connect institutions of higher education, including Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Indian Institutes of Science Education & Research (IISERs) etc. with local communities to address the development challenges through appropriate technologies.

42. Consider the following statements:

1. The Election Commission of India is a five member body.
2. Union Ministry of Home Affairs decides the election schedule for the conduct of both general elections and bye-elections.
3. Election Commission resolves the disputes relating to splits/mergers of recognized political parties.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 3 only

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

Only statement 3 is correct. Election Commission of India is a 3 member body and it is the election commission which decides the election schedule for both general elections and bye elections.

It is also the function of election commission to resolve the disputes relating to splits/mergers of recognized political parties.

43. In India, if a species of tortoise is declared protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, what does it imply?

(a) It enjoys the same level of protection as the tiger.

(b) It no longer exists in the wild, a few individuals are under captive protection; and not it is impossible to prevent its extinction

(c) It is endemic to a particular region of India.

(d) Both (b) and (c) stated above are correct in this context.

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

The Act provides for the protection of wild animals, birds and plants; and for matters connected therewith or ancillary or incidental thereto.

It has six schedules which give varying degrees of protection. Schedule I and part II of Schedule II provide absolute protection - offences under these are prescribed the highest penalties. Species listed in Schedule III and Schedule IV are also protected, but the penalties are much lower. Schedule V includes the animals which may be hunted.

44. In India, Judicial Review implies

(a) the power of the Judiciary to pronounce upon the constitutionality of laws and executive orders

(b) the power of the Judiciary to question the wisdom of the laws enacted by the Legislatures.

(c) the power of the Judiciary to review all the legislative enactments before they are assented to by the President.

(d) the power of the Judiciary to review its own judgements given earlier in similar or different cases.

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

Judicial review is the power of judiciary to examine the constitutionality of legislative enactments and executive orders of both the Central and state governments.

On examination, if they are found to be violative of the Constitution (ultra-vires), they can be declared as illegal, unconstitutional and invalid (null and void). Consequently, they cannot be enforced by the government.

The constitutional validity of a legislative enactment or an executive order can be challenged in a high court of supreme court on the following three grounds:

(a) it infringes the fundamental rights (Part III),

(b) it is outside the competence of the authority which has framed it, and

(c) it is repugnant to the constitutional provisions

45. With reference to Indian freedom struggle, consider the following events:

1. Mutiny in Royal Indian Navy

2. Quit Indian Movement launched

3. Second Round Table Conference

What is the correct chronological sequence of the above events?

(a) 1-2-3

(b) 2-1-3

(c) 3-2-1

(d) 3-1-2

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

Second Round Table Conference took place on 7th September 1931.

The Quit India Movement, also known as the August Movement was a Civil Disobedience Movement launched by Gandhi Ji on 8th August 1942.

Royal Indian Navy (RIN) mutiny was a rebellion launched on February 18, 1946, by seamen on the HMIS Talwar. Hence correct chronological sequence of the above events are 3-2-1

46. Consider the following statements:

1. Tax revenue as a percent of GDP of India has steadily increased in the last decade.

2. Fiscal deficit as a percent of GDP of India has steadily increased in the last decade. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

Service tax, personal income tax and corporation tax have been reduced in the recent past to boost aggregate demand, so as to protect the economy from global recession

Excise duty rates have been reduced in the recent past to boost aggregate demand, so as to protect the economy from global recession hence tax revenue as a percent of GDP of India has steadily not increase in the last decade . Hence statement 1 is not correct.

Fiscal deficit as a percent of GDP of India has not steadily increased in the last decade. Hence statement 2 is not correct

47. Recently there was a proposal to translocate some of the lions from their habitat in Gujarat to which one of the following sites?

(a) Corbett National Park

(b) Kuno Palpur Wildlife Sanctuary

(c) Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary

(d) Sariska National Park

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

An environment ministry's expert committee approved Kuno Palpur in Madhya Pradesh as the second home for Asiatic lions found only in Gir national park.

However, the Gujarat government will not share lions unless 33 studies as mandated by international wildlife watchdog IUCN is completed

48. Which of the following are not necessarily the consequences of the proclamation of the President's rule in a State?

1. Dissolution of the State Legislative Assembly
2. Removal of the Council of Ministers in the State
3. Dissolution of the local bodies

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

When the President's Rule is imposed in a state, the President dismisses the state council of ministers headed by the chief minister.

The state governor, on behalf of the President, carries on the state administration with the help of the chief secretary of the state or the advisors appointed by the President. This is the reason why a proclamation under Article 356 is popularly known as the imposition of 'President's Rule' in a state.

Further, the President either suspends or dissolves the state legislative assembly. The Parliament passes the state legislative bills and the state budget.

The President's Rule does not lead to dissolution of local bodies. Hence, the answer is 1 and 3 only

49. Which of the following are envisaged by the Right against Exploitation in the Constitution of India?

1. Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour
 2. Abolition of untouchability
 3. Protection of the interests of minorities
 4. Prohibition of employment of children in factories and mines
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 4 only

(b) 2, 3 and 4 only

(c) 1 and 4 only

(d) 1 and 4 only

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

Article - 23

Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour.-

(1) Traffic in human beings and begar and other similar forms of forced labour are prohibited and any contravention of this provision shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law.

(2) Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from imposing compulsory service for public purpose, and in imposing such service the State shall not make any discrimination on grounds only of religion, race, caste or class or any of them. Article - 24

Prohibition of employment of children in factories, etc.-

No child below the age of fourteen years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employment. Provided that nothing in this sub-clause shall authorise the detention of any person beyond the maximum period prescribed by any law made by Parliament under sub-clause (b) of clause (7); or such person is detained in accordance with the provisions of any law made by Parliament under sub-clauses (a) and (b) of clause (7)

50. Which of the following is geographically closest to Great Nicobar?

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| (a) Sumatra | (b) Borneo |
| (c) Java | (d) Sri Lanka |

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

Great Nicobar is the southernmost and largest of the Nicobar Islands of India, north of Sumatra. Sumatra is closest to Great Nicobar.

The distance between the two places is 1,192 kms. The distance from Great Nicobar to Borneo is 2,398 kms.

51. Out of the following statements, choose the one that brings out the principle underlying the Cabinet form of Government:

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) An arrangement for minimizing the criticism against the Government whose responsibilities are complex and hard to carry out the satisfaction of all. | (b) A mechanism for speeding up the activities of the Government whose responsibilities are increasing day by day. |
| (c) A mechanism of parliamentary democracy for ensuring collective responsibility of the Government to the people. | (d) A device for strengthening the hands of the head of the Government whose hold over the people is in a state of decline. |

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

The Parliamentary system is also known as the 'Westminster' model of government, responsible government and cabinet government.

The Constitution establishes the parliamentary system not only at the Centre but also in the states. The features of parliamentary government in India are:

- (a) Presence of nominal and real executives;
- (b) Majority party rule,
- (c) Collective responsibility of the executive to the legislature,
- (d) Membership of the ministers in the legislature,
- (e) Leadership of the prime minister or the chief minister,
- (f) Dissolution of the lower House (Lok Sabha or Assembly).

52. Which one of the following is not a feature to Indian federalism?

- | | |
|---|---|
| (a) There is an independent judiciary in India. | (b) Powers have been clearly divided between the Centre and the States. |
| (c) The federating units have been given unequal representation in the Rajya Sabha. | (d) It is the result of an agreement among the federating units |

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

The Constitution of India establishes a federal system of government. It contains all the usual features of a federation, viz., two government, division of powers, written Constitution, super-macy of Constitution, rigidity of Constitution, independent judiciary and bicameralism.

Moreover, the term 'Federation' has nowhere been used in the Constitution. Article 1, on the other hand, describes India as a 'Union of States' which implies two things: one, Indian Federation is not the result of an agreement by the states; and two, no state has the right to secede from the federation.

53. The object of the Butler Committee of 1927 was to

(a) Define the jurisdiction of the Central and Provincial Governments

(b) Define the powers of the Secretary of State for India.

(c) Impose censorship on national press

(d) Improve the relationship between the Government of India and the Indian States.

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

The Report of the Butler Committee on the relations between the Indian States and British India .

The Committee advise that the Viceroy (instead of the Governor-General in Council) should represent the Crown in all dealings with the States.

This proposed change is comparable with the new Imperial arrangement by which the Governor-General of a Dominion is High Commissioner for the Dominion's Protectorates. The Committee sympathize with the fear of the Native Princes that their States might pass without their consent under a new Government in British India responsible to an Indian Legislature, and they plainly express the opinion that no such transference should be made without the consent of the Princes.

54. The term 'Domestic Content Requirement' is sometimes seen in the news with reference to

(a) Developing solar power production in our country

(b) Granting licenses to foreign T.V. channels in our country

(c) Exporting our food products to other countries

(d) Permitting foreign educational institutions to set up their campuses in our country

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

'Domestic Content Requirement', recently in news, is related to development of solar power production.

The World Trade Organization had ruled against India's domestic content policy for solar cells and modules; India appealed the ruling in a bid to keep DCR rules in place for government procurement.

The case against India was originally filed in 2013, following the announcement of DCR in JNNSM Phase II policy and after India decided to file an antidumping case against the U.S., China, Malaysia and Taiwan

55. Consider the following statements:

1.The Nuclear Security Summits are periodically held under the aegis of the United Nations

1. The International Panel on Fissile Materials is an organ of International Atomic Energy Agency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Both 1 and 2

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

Nuclear Security Summits are an United States-led initiative and are not under the aegis of the United Nations.

The International Panel on Fissile Materials (IPFM) was founded in January 2006 and is an independent group of armscontrol and nonproliferation experts (and not an organ of International Atomic Energy Agency) from both nuclear weapon and non-nuclear weapon states.

Its members include nuclear experts from seventeen countries: Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Iran, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, South Korea, Russia, South Africa, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States

56. Who among the following can join the National Pension System (NPS) ?

(a) Resident Indian citizens only

(b) Persons of age from 21 to 55 only

(c) All State Government employees joining the services after the state of notification by the respective State Governments

(d) All Central Government employees including those of Armed Forces joining the services on or after 1st April, 2004

Correct Choice: (c)

2. It provides the farmers access to nationwide market, with prices commensurate with the quality of their produce.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

National Agriculture Market (NAM) is a pan-India electronic trading portal which networks the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

NAM promotes uniformity, streamlining of procedures across the integrated markets, removes information asymmetry between buyers and sellers and promotes real time price discovery, based on actual demand and supply, promotes transparency in auction process, and access to a nationwide market for the farmer, with prices commensurate with quality of his produce and online payment and availability of better quality produce and at more reasonable prices to the consumer.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

61. With reference to the 'National Intellectual Property Rights Policy', consider the following statements:

1. It reiterates India's commitment to the Doha Development Agenda and the TRIPS Agreement.
2. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion is the nodal agency for regulating intellectual property rights in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

The Union Cabinet approved the National Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy in 2016 that will lay the future roadmap for intellectual property in India.

This policy shall weave in the strengths of the Government, research and development organizations, educational institutions, corporate entities including MSMEs, start-ups and other stakeholders in the creation of an innovation-conducive environment, which stimulates creativity and innovation across sectors, as also facilitates a stable, transparent and service-oriented IPR administration in the country.

The Policy recognizes that India has a well-established TRIPS-compliant legislative, administrative and judicial framework to safeguard IPRs, which meets its international obligations while utilizing the flexibilities provided in the international regime to address its developmental concerns. It reiterates India's commitment to the Doha Development Agenda and the TRIPS agreement.

Hence statement 1 is correct.

These objectives are sought to be achieved through detailed action points. The action by different Ministries/ Departments shall be monitored by DIPP which shall be the nodal department to coordinate, guide and oversee implementation and future development of IPRs in India.

Hence statement 2 is correct.

62. According to the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which of the following animals cannot be hunted by any person except under some provisions provided by law?

1. Gharial
2. Indian wild ass
3. Wild buffalo

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

Gharial (*Gravialis gangeticus*), Indian Wild Ass (*Equus hemionus khur*) and Wild Buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*) are all mentioned under Schedule I for the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

63. Which of the following statements is/are true of the Fundamental Duties of an Indian citizen?

1. A legislative process has been provided to enforce these duties.
2. They are correlative to legal duties.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

There is no legislative process provided to enforce the Fundamental duties and they are not correlative to legal duties. Like the Directive Principles, the fundamental duties are also nonjusticiable.

The Constitution does not provide for their direct enforcement by the courts. Moreover, there is no legal sanction against their violation.

64. Consider the following pairs:

1. Radhakanta Deb – First President of the British Indian Association
2. Gazulu Lakshminarasu Chetty – Founder of the Madras Mahajana Sabha
3. Surendranath Banerjee – Founder of the Indian Association

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

The British Indian Association was established on 31 October 1851. The first committee of the association was composed of : Raja Radhakanta Deb – President, Raja Kalikrishna Deb – Vice-President, Debendranath Tagore – secretary, Digambar Mitra – Asst Secretary. In May 1884, M. Veeraraghavachariar, G. Subramania Iyer and P. Anandacharlu established the Madras Mahajana Sabha.

65. Which one of the following objectives is not embodied in the Preamble to the Constitution of India?

- (a) Liberty of thought (b) Economic liberty
(c) Liberty of expression (d) Liberty of belief

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

The Preamble secures to all citizens of India liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship, through their Fundamental Rights, enforceable in court of law, in case of violation.

The ideals of liberty, equality and fraternity in our Preamble have been taken from the French Revolution (1789–1799).

66. With reference to the 'Quality Council of India (QCI)', consider the following statements:

1. QCI was set up jointly by the Government of India and the Indian Industry.
2. Chairman of QCI is appointed by the Prime Minister on the recommendations of the industry to the Government.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

Quality Council of India (QCI) was set up jointly by the Government of India and the Indian Industry represented by the three premier industry associations i.e. Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), to establish and operate national accreditation structure and promote quality through National Quality Campaign.

Chairman of QCI is appointed by the Prime Minister on recommendation of the industry to the government.

The Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, is the nodal ministry for QCI

67. What is the purpose of setting up of Small Finance Banks (SFBs) in India?

1. To supply credit to small business units

2. To supply credit to small and marginal farmers
3. To encourage young entrepreneurs to set up business particularly in rural areas.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (a)

68. With reference to 'Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD)', consider the following statements:

1. The first APMCHUD was held in India in 2006 on the theme 'Emerging Urban Forms – Policy Responses and Governance Structure'.
2. India hosts all the Annual Ministerial Conferences in partnership with ADB, APEC and ASEAN.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Choice: (d)

69. Democracy's superior virtue lies in the fact that it calls into activity

- | | |
|--|--|
| (a) the intelligence and character of ordinary men and women | (b) the methods for strengthening executive leadership |
| (c) superior individual with dynamism and vision. | (d) a band on dedicated party workers |

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

The object of government according to Mill's views, being the attainment of values and virtues in men, their selfdevelopment, it is essential that the government should be of those whose self development is being sought. This is only possible if the people participate in the making and working of their government or the government is truly representative.

"Virtue and intelligence should become genuine attributes of character in a citizen.....and then through participation, people at large, would be able to control the rulers by influencing the character and direction of public policy"

70. Which of the following is a most likely consequence of implementing the 'Unified Payments Interface (UPI)?

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) Mobile wallets will not be necessary for online payments | (b) Digital currency will totally replace the physical currency in about two decades. |
| (c) FDI inflows will drastically increase. | (d) Direct transfer of subsidies to poor people will become very effective. |

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

UPI is a payment system that allows money transfer between any two bank accounts by using a smartphone. UPI allows a customer to pay directly from a bank account to different merchants, both online and offline, without the hassle of typing credit card details, IFSC code, or net banking/wallet passwords.

71. The terms 'Event Horizon', 'Singularity', 'String Theory' and 'Standard Model' are sometimes seen in the news in the context of

- | | |
|---|---|
| (a) Observation and understanding of the Universe | (b) Study of the solar and the lunar eclipses |
| (c) Placing satellites in the orbit of the Earth | (d) Origin and evolution of living organisms on the earth |

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

The terms - 'Event Horizon' - boundary in space-time, 'Singularity' - location in spacetime where the gravitational field of a celestial body becomes infinite, 'String Theory' - links together all physical aspects, and 'Standard Model' - unifying the four fundamental forces, are related to the observations and understanding of the Universe.

72. With reference to agriculture in India, how can the technique of 'genome sequencing', often seen in the news, be used in the immediate future?

1. Genome sequencing can be used to identify genetic markers for disease resistance and drought tolerance in various crop plants.
2. This technique helps in reducing the time required to develop new varieties of crop plants.
3. It can be used to decipher the hostpathogen relationships in crops.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- | | |
|------------|------------------|
| (a) 1 only | (b) 2 and 3 only |
|------------|------------------|

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

All the statements are correct.

Genome sequencing is figuring out the order of DNA nucleotides, or bases, in a genome—the order of As, Cs, Gs, and Ts that make up an organism's DNA.

Genome sequencing of wild varieties of plants can be used to identify disease resistance and drought tolerance genes in various plants and develop new varieties of crop plants in lesser time.

Genome sequencing of crop plants can be helpful in deciphering and understanding the host-pathogen relationship in crops.

73. The main advantage of the parliamentary form of governments is that

(a) the executive and legislature work independently

(b) it provides continuity of policy and is more efficient

(c) the executive remains responsible to the legislature

(d) the head of the government cannot be changed without election

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

The Parliamentary system is also known as the 'Westminster' model of government, responsible government and cabinet government. The Constitution establishes the parliamentary system not only at the Centre but also in the states. The features of parliamentary government in India are: (a) Presence of nominal and real executives; (b) Majority party rule, (c) Collective responsibility of the executive to the legislature, (d) Membership of the ministers in the legislature, (e) Leadership of the prime minister or the chief minister, (f) Dissolution of the lower House (Lok Sabha or Assembly).

74. In the context of India, which one of the following is the correct relationship between Rights and Duties?

(a) Rights are correlative with Duties.

(b) Rights are personal and hence independent of society and Duties.

(c) Rights, not Duties, are important for the advancement of the personality of the citizen.

(d) Duties, not Rights, are important for the stability of the State

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

Rights are what we want others to do for us whereas the duties are those acts which we should perform for others. Thus, a right comes with an obligation to show respect for the rights of others. The obligations that accompany rights are in the form of duties.

75. The mind of the makers of the Constitution of India is reflected in which of the following?

(a) The Preamble

(b) The Fundamental Rights

(c) The Directive Principles of State Policy

(d) The Fundamental Duties

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

In the Berubari Union case (1960), the Supreme Court said that the Preamble shows the general purposes behind the several provisions in the Constitution, and is thus a key to the minds of the makers of the Constitution.

76. If you travel by road from Kohima to Kottayam, what is the minimum number of States within India through which you can travel, including the origin and the destination?

(a) 6

(b) 7

(c) 8

(d) 9

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

The shortest route from Kohima (Nagaland) to Kottayam (Kerala) passes through the following states: Nagaland-Assam-West Bengal-Odisha-Andhra Pradesh-Tamil Nadu-Kerala

77. The Parliament of India exercises control over the functions of the Council of Ministers through

1. Adjournment motion

2. Questions hour

3. Supplementary question Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

The Parliament exercises control over the ministers through various devices like question hour, discussions, adjournment motion, no confidence motion, etc.

78. From the ecological point of view, which one of the following assumes importance in being a good link between the Eastern Ghats and the Western Ghats?

- (a) Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (b) Nallamala Forest
(c) Nagarhole National Park (d) Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

Sathyamangalam forest range is a significant wildlife corridor in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve between the Western Ghats and the rest of the Eastern Ghats. Located in the Erode district of Tamil Nadu, the Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve is the largest wildlife sanctuary in the state.

With a forest area of 1,411.6 square kilometres, the reserve is a part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve and lies between the Western Ghats and the rest of the Eastern Ghats.

Situated in a key position between the Western and Eastern Ghats, the Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve boasts of a wide variety of fauna.

The reserve also adjoins four other protected areas -- Billigiriranga Swamy Temple Wildlife Sanctuary, Sigur Plateau, Mudumalai National Park and Bandipur National Park.

79. One of the implications of equality in society is the absence of

- (a) Privileges (b) Restraints
(c) Competition (d) Ideology

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

The term 'equality' means the absence of special privileges to any section of the society, and the provision of adequate opportunities for all individuals without any discrimination.

80. Consider the following statements in respect of Trade Related Analysis of Fauna and Flora in Commerce (TRAFFIC):

1. TRAFFIC is a bureau under United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
2. The mission of TRAFFIC is to ensure that trade in wild plants and animals is not a threat to the conservation of nature. Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network, is the leading non-governmental organization working globally on trade in wild animals and plants in the context of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. TRAFFIC was established in 1976 by IUCN and WWF to respond to the growing threats posed by illegal wildlife trade and overexploitation. It is not a bureau under UNEP.

81. Which principle among the following was added to the Directive Principles of State Policy by the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution?

- (a) Equal pay for equal work for both men and women (b) Participation of workers in the management of industries
(c) Right to work, education and public assistance (d) Securing living wage and human conditions of work to workers

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 added four new Directive Principles to the original list. They require the State:

1. To secure opportunities for healthy development of children (Article 39).
2. To promote equal justice and to provide free legal aid to the poor (Article 39 A).
3. To take steps to secure the participation of workers in the management of industries (Article 43 A).
4. To protect and improve the environment and to safeguard forests and wild life (Article 48 A).

82. Which one of the following statements is correct?

- (a) Rights are claims of the State against the citizens. (b) Rights are privileges which are incorporated in the Constitution of a State.
(c) Rights are claims of the citizens against the State. (d) Rights are privileges of a few citizens against the many

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

Rights are legal and moral entitlements or claims of a person over other fellow beings, over society and over the government.

83. Which of the following gives 'Global Gender Gap Index' ranking to the countries of the world?

(a) World Economic Forum

(b) UN Human Rights Council

(c) UN Women

(d) World Health Organization

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

Global Gender Gap Index is released by World Economic Forum. As per the Global Gender Gap Report 2016, India ranks at 87th in respect of Global Gender Gap Index (GGI) among 144 countries of the World. As per the GGR, India climbed 21 spots to rank 87th in 2016, which is an improvement from being ranked at 108th in 2015.

84. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Smart India Hackathon 2017?

1. It is a centrally sponsored scheme for developing every city of our country into Smart Cities in a decade.
2. It is an initiative to identify new digital technology innovations for solving the many problems faced by our country.
3. It is a programme aimed at making all the financial transactions in our country completely digital in a decade. Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 3 only

(d) 2 and 3 only

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

Smart India Hackathon 2017 was a 36 hrs non-stop digital product development competition during which teams of thousands of technology students built innovative digital solutions for the problems posted by 29 different central govt.

ministries/ departments e.g. Ministry of Railways, External Affairs, Ministry of Defense, ISRO, Ministry of Tourism, Dept. of Atomic Energy, etc.

Smart India Hackathon 2017, has been launched to build Digital India and to engage the youth directly with nation building.

For the first time, govt. departments were directly engaging with students and challenging them to build digital solutions to improve their efficiency, plug revenue leakages and corruption

85. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the 'Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)?

1. It decides the RBI's benchmark interest rates.
2. It is a 12-member body including the Governor of RBI and is reconstituted every year.
3. It functions under the chairmanship of the Union Finance Minister. Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only

(b) 1 and 2 only

(c) 3 only

(d) 2 and 3 only

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 (RBI Act) has been amended by the Finance Act, 2016, to provide for a statutory and institutionalised framework for a Monetary Policy Committee.

It would be entrusted with the task of fixing the benchmark policy rate (repo rate) required to contain inflation within the specified target level.

Hence Statement 1 is correct. As per the provisions of the RBI Act, out of the six Members of Monetary Policy Committee, three Members will be from the RBI and the other three Members of MPC will be appointed by the Central Government.

Hence statement 2 is not correct. The Governor of the Bank— ex officio Chairperson of MPC.

Hence statement 3 is not correct.

86. With reference to Manipuri Sankirtana, consider the following statements:

1. It is a song and dance performance.
2. Cymbals are the only musical instruments used in the performance.
3. It is performed to narrate the life and deeds of Lord Krishna. 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) 1 only

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

Sankirtana encompasses an array of arts performed to mark religious occasions and various stages in the life of the Vaishnava people of the Manipur plains.

Sankirtana practices centre on the temple, where performers narrate the lives and deeds of Krishna through song and dance. Hence, statement 1 and 3 are correct.

In a typical performance, two drummers and about ten singerdancers perform in a hall or domestic courtyard encircled by seated devotees. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

87. Who among the following was/were associated with the introduction of Ryotwari Settlement in India during the British Rule?

1. Lord Cornwallis
 2. Alexander Read
 3. Thomas Munro
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

In the British territories in the south there was a similar move away from the idea of Permanent Settlement.

The new system that was devised came to be known as the ryotwar (or ryotwari).

It was tried on a small scale by Captain Alexander Reed in some of the areas that were taken over by the Company after the wars with Tipu Sultan.

Subsequently developed by Thomas Munro, this system was gradually extended all over south India. Lord Cornwallis was associated with Zamindari/ Permanent Settlement

88. In the context of solving pollution problems, what is/are the advantage/advantages of bioremediation technique?

1. It is a technique for cleaning up pollution by enhancing the same biodegradation process that occurs in nature.
2. Any contaminant with heavy metals such as cadmium and lead can be readily and completely treated by bioremediation using microorganisms.
3. Genetic engineering can be used to create microorganisms specifically designed for bioremediation. Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

Statement 1 is correct. Bioremediation is treatment that uses naturally occurring organisms to break down hazardous substances into less toxic or non-toxic substances.

It uses microorganisms to degrade organic contaminants in soil, groundwater, sludge, and solids.

The microorganisms break down contaminants by using them as an energy source or cometabolizing them with an energy source.

Statement 2 is not correct. Not all contaminants are easily treated by bioremediation using microorganisms.

For example, heavy metals such as cadmium and lead are not readily absorbed or captured by microorganisms.

Statement 3 is correct. Genetic engineering has been used to create organisms designed for specific purposes. For e.g. bacterium *Deinococcus radiodurans* (the most radioresistant organism known) has been modified to consume and digest toluene and ionic mercury from highly radioactive nuclear waste.

89. The Trade Disputes Act of 1929 provided for

- (a) the participation of workers in the management of industries. (b) arbitrary powers to the management to quell industrial disputes.
(c) an intervention by the British Court in the event of a trade dispute (d) a system of tribunals and a ban on strikes.

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

Trade Disputes Act (TDA), 1929 made compulsory the appointment of Courts of Inquiry and Consultation Boards for settling industrial disputes; • made illegal the strikes in public utility services like posts, railways, water and electricity, unless each individual worker planning to go on strike gave an advance notice of one month to the administration; • forbade trade union activity of coercive or purely political nature and even sympathetic strikes.

90. Local self-government can be best explained as an exercise in

- (a) Federalism (b) Democratic decentralization
(c) Administrative delegation (d) Direct democracy

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

In January 1957, the Government of India appointed a committee to examine the working of the Community Development Programme (1952) and the National Extension Service (1953) and to suggest measures for their better working. The chairman of this committee was Balwant Rai G Mehta. The committee submitted its report in November 1957 and recommended the establishment of the scheme of 'democratic decentralisation', which ultimately came to be known as Panchayati Raj.

91. Consider the following statements: With reference to the Constitution of India, the Directive Principles of State Policy constitute limitations upon

1. legislative function.
2. executive function. Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

Directive Principles of state policy cannot act as constraints/limitations on the government because they are not enforceable and they are fundamental to the governance of a country. Fundamental Rights operate as limitations on the tyranny of the executive and arbitrary laws of the legislature.

92. The term 'Digital Single Market Strategy' seen in the news refers to

- (a) ASEAN (b) BRICS
(c) EU (d) G20

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

The Digital Single Market strategy was adopted by European Union on the 6 May 2015 and includes 16 specific initiatives which aims to open up digital opportunities for people and business and enhance Europe's position as a world leader in the digital economy.

93. At one of the place in India, if you stand on the seashore and watch the sea, you will find that the sea water recedes from the shore line a few kilometres and comes back to the shore, twice a day, and you can actually walk on the sea floor when the water recedes. This unique phenomenon is seen at

- (a) Bhavnagar (b) Bheemunipatnam
(c) Chandipur (d) Nagapattinam

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

Chandipur is located in Balasore district. This beach is unique in the whole world no where on earth you can find a beach where the sea water retreats inside the sea from 1km to 5Km every day and it again comes back to the shore slowly during high tide. This happens twice every day. It is also known as Odisha's Hide and Seek Beach. Bhavnagar has highest tidal range in India.

94. With reference to the 'Prohibition of Benami Property Transaction Act, 1988 (PBPT Act)', consider the following statements:

1. A property transaction is not treated as a benami transaction if the owner of the property is not aware of the transaction.
2. Properties held benami are liable for confiscation by the Government.
3. The Act provides for three authorities for investigations but does not provide for any appellate mechanism. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

Salient features of Prohibition of Benami Property Transaction Act, 1988 (PBPT Act)-

- The PBPT Act defines benami transactions, prohibits them and further provides that violation of the PBPT Act is punishable with imprisonment and fine. The PBPT Act prohibits recovery of the property held benami from benamidar by the real owner.
- The definition of a benami transaction has been widened to include a transaction made in a fictitious name; where the owner is not aware or denies knowledge of the ownership of the property or the person providing the consideration for the property is not traceable.
- Properties held benami are liable for confiscation by the Government without payment of compensation.
- An appellate mechanism has been provided under the PBPT Act in the form of Adjudicating Authority and Appellate Tribunal.

95. Due to some reasons, if there is a huge fall in the population of species of butterflies, what could be its likely consequence/consequences?

1. Pollination of some plants could be adversely affected.
2. There could be a drastic increase in the fungal infections of some cultivated plants.
3. It could lead to a fall in the population of some species of wasps, spiders and birds. Select the correct using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (c)

Solution:

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. Butterflies are pollinating insects. They help in pollination of many flowering plants.

Butterflies also act as a lower member of the food chain. A number of animals, including birds and mice feed on butterfly.

As populations of butterfly diminish, so will populations of birds and other animals that rely on them as a food source. This loss of the butterfly is the beginning of the "butterfly effect."

Statement 2 is not correct. Fungi is just one of the foods which butterfly prefer. Similarly, butterfly is one of the agents which helps in the distribution of fungi spores. If there is a huge fall in the population of species of butterflies (which is not a specific statement), there cannot be a drastic increase in the fungal infections of some cultivated plants ("drastic increase" and "some cultivated plants" are words which are vague and extreme).

96. It is possible to produce algae based biofuels, but what is/are the likely limitation(s) of developing countries in promoting this industry?

1. Production of algae based biofuels is possible in seas only and not on continents.
2. Setting up and engineering the algae based biofuels production requires high level of expertise/ technology until the construction is complete
3. Economically viable production necessitates the setting up of large scale facilities which may raise ecological and social concerns. Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

Statement 1 is incorrect. Production of algal biofuel is possible both in seas and on continents.

They can grow on marginal or non-crop land and also on brackish or polluted water. Land based systems are more developed than sea based systems.

Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Developing and engineering ABB technology requires a high level of expertise until construction is finished.

Innovation for higher productivity also requires some knowledge and/or experience. All Algal based biofuel concepts require significant capital investment.

Access to this technology by the poor may be difficult. Large -scale facilities are more economically viable, but are also more likely to have higher social and ecological impacts.

97. Which of the following are the objectives of 'National Nutrition Mission'?

1. To create awareness relating to malnutrition among pregnant women and lactating mothers.
2. To reduce the incidence of anaemia among young children, adolescent girls and women.
3. To promote the consumption of millets, coarse cereals and unpolished rice.
4. To promote the consumption of poultry eggs. Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

The Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition or POSHAN Abhiyaan or National Nutrition Mission, is Government of India's flagship programme to improve nutritional outcomes for children, pregnant women and lactating mothers. Launched by the Prime Minister on the occasion of the International Women's Day on 8 March, 2018 from Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan, the POSHAN (Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition) Abhiyaan directs the attention of the country towards the problem of malnutrition and address it in a mission-mode.

There are two components of the National Nutrition Mission as follows:

1. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign against malnutrition
2. Multi -sectoral Nutrition Programme For implementation of POSHAN Abhiyaan the four point strategy/pillars of the mission are:

Inter-sectoral convergence for better service delivery

Use of technology (ICT) for real time growth monitoring and tracking of women and children

Intensified health and nutrition services for the first 1000 days

Jan Andolan To create awareness relating to malnutrition amongst pregnant women, lactating mothers, promote healthy lactating practices and importance of balanced nutrition;

98. Consider the following statements:

1. The Factories Act, 1881 was passed with a view to fix the wages of industrial workers and to allow the workers to form trade unions.
2. N. M. Lokhande was a pioneer in organizing the labour movement in British India. Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Choice: (b)

Solution:

factory act 1881 main points

1.For the first time British tried to improve the working conditions of laborers. 2.This act is applicable only to factories using mechanical powers,employing not less than 100 workers. 3.The act prohibited employment of children under the age 7. 4.children between the age 7-12 were to work for maximum 9 hours. 5.Dangerous machines should be fenced properly to avoid accidents. 6.The act had a provision of one hour rest during the working period. 7.4 days leave in a month for workers was made compulsory. 8.To supervise the implementation of this act,inspectors are appointed.

Hence there is no provision for fixed wage and formation of trade unions. Narayan Meghaji Lokhande was a pioneer of the labour movement in India.

He is remembered not only for ameliorating the working conditions of textile mill-hands in the 19th century but also for his courageous initiatives on caste and communal issues.

99. In the context of mitigating the impending global warming due to anthropogenic emissions of carbon dioxide, which of the following can be potential sites for carbon sequestration?

1. Abandoned and uneconomic coal seams
2. Depleted oil and gas reservoirs
3. Subterranean deep saline formations Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Choice: (d)

Solution:

Carbon sequestration is the process involved in carbon capture and the long-term storage of atmospheric carbon dioxide. Suitable storage locations might include geologic formations such as deep saline formations (sedimentary rocks whose pore spaces are saturated with water containing high concentrations of dissolved salts), depleted oil and gas reservoirs, or the deep ,ocean saline formations or deep, unminable coal beds.

100. Recognition of Prior Learning Scheme' is sometimes mentioned in the news with reference to

(a) Certifying the skills acquire by construction workers through traditional channels.

(b) nrolling the persons in Universities for distance learning programmes.

(c) Reserving some skilled jobs to rural and urban poor in some public sector undertakings.

(d) Certifying the skills acquired by trainees under the National Skill Development Programme.

Correct Choice: (a)

Solution:

The Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is an assessment of the skills acquired by the individual through experience, observation and self learning.

The assessment, which is followed by a certification, gives an edge to an otherwise informal worker. It provides the employee with the confidence, social recognition and empowerment that are necessary to negotiate his future employment.

Following successful assessment, a candidate is given a financial reward, in addition to certification.