

Answer & Explanation for G.S. Comprehensive Test-2 held on 28th May 2017

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. The largest Buddhist monastery in India is in Himachal Pradesh.
2. The largest number of Buddhists is in Maharashtra.
3. Sikkim is the least populated State of the Indian Union.
4. Among Indian States, Gujarat has the longest coastline.

Which of the statements given above is/are **incorrect**?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2 and 4 only

Answer: A

Exp: The largest Buddhist monastery is in Arunachal Pradesh at Tawang. In Tibetan, it is called as Galden Namgye Lhatse and is the second largest Buddhist monastery in the world after Potala Palace in Lhasa.

Q2. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the code given below:

	List-I (Local wind)		List-II (Region)
A.	Fohn	1.	California
B.	Santa Ana	2.	Egypt
C.	Pampero	3.	Alps
D.	Khamsin	4.	Argentina

- A. 1:a 3:b 2:c 4:d
- B. 3:a 1:b 4:c 2:d
- C. 4:a 3:b 1:c 2:d
- D. 1:a 4:b 3:c 2:d

Answer: B

Exp: None

Q3. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

	(Committee)	(Area of Study)
1.	Anil Kakodkar Committee	Railway Safety
2.	Mata Prasad Committee	Power Transmission
3.	Mihir Shah Committee	Restructuring of Central Water Commission and Central Ground Water Board
4.	Shankar Acharya Committee	Alignment of Fiscal year with Gregorian calendar

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: D

Exp: None

Q4. Colombo Declaration is related to:

- A. Reducing road accidents
- B. MoU on understanding monsoon phenomena better with global cooperation
- C. Making Indian Ocean piracy free
- D. Making Indian Ocean a "Drug Free Zone"

Answer: D

Exp: None

Q5. The Indian Standard Time (IST) passes through the 82.30' E longitude. Consider the following statements in this regard:

1. The IST longitude passes through Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, and Andhra Pradesh.
2. Sri Lanka follows a similar time zone like IST, which is 5 hrs 30 minutes ahead of GMT.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: The IST longitude does not pass through Jharkhand.

Q6. The “Northern Sea Route” (NSR) passes through which of the following?

- A. Kara Sea to Bering Strait
- B. Strait of Dover to Novaya Zemlya
- C. Barents Sea to Chukchi Sea
- D. None of the above.

Answer: A

Exp: None

Q7. What was the practice adopted by the Vijayanagara kingdom to protect citizens within a fortified area from starvation due to sieges by enemy armies?

- A. The forts were built on hills to prevent siege by the enemy.
- B. Large granaries were built within fortified area to store grains.
- C. Large agricultural tracts were incorporated within the fortified area.
- D. Secret pathways were maintained to transport groceries into fortified areas.

Answer: C

Exp: Often, the objective of medieval sieges was to starve the defenders into submission. These sieges could last for several months and sometimes even years. Normally rulers tried to be prepared for such situations by building large granaries within fortified areas. The rulers of Vijayanagara adopted a more expensive and elaborate strategy of protecting the agricultural belt itself. A second line of fortification went round the inner core of the urban complex, and a third line surrounded the royal centre, within which each set of major buildings was surrounded by its own high walls.

Q8. Which of the following is a direct source of information about the interior of the Earth?

- A. Meteors
- B. Gravity anomaly
- C. Surface rock from mining areas
- D. Magnetic surveys

Answer: C

Exp: Direct Sources: Mining, drilling and volcanic eruption are examples of direct sources. During the process of mining and drilling, rocks and minerals are extracted which gives information that there are layers in the crust. The crust is made of many kinds of rocks and minerals. Volcanic eruption suggests that there is some zone inside the Earth which is very hot and in liquid condition. Direct sources are not very reliable because mining and drilling can be done only up to some depth only.

Q9. Which of the following text mentions the list of the 16 mahajanapadas?

1. Anguttara Nikaya
2. Bhagvati Sutta
3. Samyutta Nikaya
4. Digha Nikaya

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B

Exp: None

Q10. Which of the following are right bank tributaries of river Godavari?

1. Purna
2. Pranhita
3. Manjira
4. Hasdo

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: C

Exp: None

Q11. Consider the following statements:

1. Cote D'Ivoire is the world's largest producer of cocoa
2. Marshall Islands is a coral island
3. Gilbert Islands is a volcanic island.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: None

Q12. Which of the following statements regarding Kadamba dynasty is/are correct?

1. It was founded by Mayurasharma.

2. They were contemporaries of the Western Ganga dynasty.
3. Some Kadamba kings also performed the Ashwamedha.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Exp: None

Q13. Recently, the United States military dropped a Massive Ordnance Air Blast (MOAB), popularly called the mother of all bombs on an ISIS target in Afghanistan. Consider the following statements in this regard:

1. It is the largest non-nuclear bomb.
2. The sheer weight of the MOAB makes it impossible for it to be delivered using conventional bombers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: None

Q14. Consider the following statements about early Rig Vedic society:

1. The practice of Sati was present.
2. The society was matriarchal.
3. Polygamy was prohibited due to religious reasons.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. None of the above

Answer: D

Exp: None

Q15. Consider the following statements regarding Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD):

1. It is an atmosphere-ocean coupled phenomenon in the tropical Indian Ocean.
2. A positive IOD is associated with warmer eastern tropical Indian Ocean.
3. A negative IOD is associated with warmer western tropical Indian Ocean.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is an irregular oscillation of sea surface temperature, in which western Indian Ocean becomes alternately warmer and cooler than the eastern part. In positive IOD the eastern part becomes cooler while in negative IOD the western part becomes cooler.

Q16. What is the correct sequence of the mountain ranges of the western Himalayas as one proceeds from South to North:

- A. Karakoram, Ladakh, Zaskar and Pir Panjal
- B. Karakoram, Zaskar, Ladakh and Pir Panjal
- C. Pir Panjal, Ladakh, Zaskar and Karakoram
- D. Pir Panjal, Zaskar, Ladakh and Karakoram

Answer: D

Exp: None

Q17. With reference to the different climate financing initiatives, which one of the following is **incorrect**?

- A. Global Environment Facility (GEF) was created by UNFCCC in 2011 as an operating entity of financial mechanism of the UNFCCC.
- B. Clean Development Mechanism involves investment by developed countries in emission reduction projects in developing countries.
- C. Joint Implementation enables developed countries to carry out emission reduction projects in other developed countries.
- D. Perform Achieve Trade is a market-based trading scheme which involves trading in energy efficiency certificates to offset emissions.

Answer: A

Exp: GEF is an independently operating financial organization. It was setup as a fund under World Bank in 1991. In 1992, at the Rio Earth Summit, the GEF was restructured and moved out of the World Bank system to become a permanently, separate institution. Since 1994, however, the World Bank has served as the Trustee of the GEF Trust Fund and provided administrative services.

Today the GEF is the largest public funder of projects to improve the global environment. It provides grants for projects related to biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, the ozone layer, and persistent organic pollutants. The GEF also serves as financial mechanism for the following conventions: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC),

UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Q18. Consider the following statements with respect to the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Fund:

1. CBIT is an outcome of the Transparency International's initiatives to control corruption and to address the issue of transparency.
2. The fund will be set up by the GEF, with financial support from the developed nations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Fund is an outcome of the UNFCCC's Paris Agreement in 2015 and expected to address the issue of transparency. Its objectives are: to help developing countries monitor and report the progress on their climate actions; strengthening of national institutions of participating members in transparency related activities with respect to the Nationally Determined Contributions. The fund will be set up by the GEF, with financial support from the developed nations like US, UK, Canada etc. World Bank has been requested to act as the trustee for the fund, who was also a trustee in the initial handholding of GEF.

Q19. With reference to 'Maglev', recently in the news, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a transport method which promises to move people much faster than the conventional mode of transport.
2. It is a high speed, intercity transportation using a low- pressure tube train.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: A

Exp: Maglev is a transport method that uses magnetic levitation to move vehicles without touching the ground. With maglev, a vehicle travels along a guide way using magnets to create both lift and propulsion, thereby reducing friction to a great extent and allowing very high speeds. Indian railway is planning to experiment with Maglev trains. Whereas the **Hyperloop** technology promises to move people and goods through low-pressure

tubes far faster than commercial air travel, within earthly confines, of course. In hyper loop transportation, custom-designed capsules or pods are expected to zip smoothly through continuous steel tubes which are held at partial vacuum.

Q20. Consider the following statements about Spot Market:

1. It is an electronic trading platform that facilitates purchase and sale of specified commodities.
2. Agricultural commodities, metals and bullion can be traded on this platform.
3. It helps make profits by betting on the future value of underlying assets.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: Spot Market - It is an electronic trading platform which facilitates purchase and sale of specified commodities like agricultural commodities, metals and bullion. It provides spot delivery contracts which are immediate contracts or those in 11 days.

Derivatives Market - Derivatives are financial contracts that derive their value from an underlying asset. These could be stocks, indices, commodities, currencies, exchange rates, or the rate of interest. These help make profits by betting on the future value of the underlying assets.

Q21. Consider the following statements:

1. Nagoya Protocol deals with access to genetic resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity.
2. Cartagena Protocol puts the obligation to reduce current emissions on developed countries on the basis that they are historically responsible for the current levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Exp: Cartagena Protocol on Bio safety: The Bio safety Protocol seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology. Genetically Modified Organisms can be regulated under this

protocol. The Kyoto Protocol is based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities: it puts the obligation to reduce current emissions on developed countries on the basis that they are historically responsible for the current levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

Q22. Which of the following is NOT the function of Reserve Bank of India?

- A. It represents government as a member of the IMF and World Bank.
- B. It controls supply of money in the economy through its monetary policy.
- C. It has the sole autonomy to print all notes and mint coins.
- D. It is the custodian to India's foreign currency reserves.

Answer: C

Exp: RBI was established in 1935 under the provisions of RBI Act, 1934. The RBI has the sole autonomy to print notes; however the Government of India has the sole authority to mint coins and one rupee notes. The RBI governor is the alternate governor at the IMF while the finance minister is the governor at IMF. In both the IMF and WB the Indian government appoints a director to represent it. While the RBI has autonomy to print notes the government prints rupee 1 note and mints the coins.

Q23. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Our National song Vande Matram was first sung at the first session of the Indian National Congress.
- 2. Our National Anthem Jana Gana Mana was first sung in the 1906 Calcutta session of the Indian National Congress.
- 3. Jana Gana Mana was translated to Hindi and Urdu by Abid Ali.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Exp: Our national song 'Vande Matram', was composed in Sanskrit by Bankimchandra Chatterji. It was first sung at the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress. Indian National Anthem is the first stanza of Rabindra Nath Tagore's composition called 'Jana Gana Mana' originally composed in Sanskritized Bengali. It was translated to Hindi and Urdu by Abid Ali. It was first sung in the 1911 convention of the Congress.

Q24. The gravitation force is not the same at different latitudes on the surface. In this context consider the following statements:

- 1. It is greater near the equator and less at the poles.
- 2. The gravity values differ according to the mass of material.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: The gravitation force (g) is not the same at different latitudes on the surface. It is greater near the poles and less at the equator. This is because of the distance from the centre at the equator being greater than that at the poles. The gravity values also differ according to the mass of material. The uneven distribution of mass of material within the Earth influences this value. The reading of the gravity at different places is influenced by many other factors. These readings differ from the expected values. Such a difference is called gravity anomaly. Gravity anomalies give us information about the distribution of mass of the material in the crust of the Earth.

Q25. With reference to 'Graphene', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is about 100 times stronger than the strongest steel.
2. It conducts heat and electricity efficiently and is nearly transparent.
3. It is used in semiconductors, electronics, batteries and in composites.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. None of the above

Answer: C

Exp: Graphene is an allotrope of carbon. It is one atom thick; it is a two-dimensional, atomic-scale, honey-comb lattice in which one atom forms each vertex. It is the basic structural element of other allotropes, including graphite, charcoal, carbon nanotubes and fullerenes. World's thinnest light bulb created from Graphene.

Q26. Consider the following pairs:

	Temple	:	Place
1.	<u>Rajarani</u> Temple	:	Andhra Pradesh
2.	<u>Kailashnath</u> Temple	:	Jammu and Kashmir
3.	<u>Mundeshwari</u> Devi Temple	:	Bihar

AM & RAVI

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: D

Exp: Rajarani Temple is an 11th century Hindu temple located in Bhubaneswar. Kailasanatha temple is one of the largest rock-cut ancient Hindu temples located in Ellora, Maharashtra.

Q27. Consider the following statements:

1. Anti-dumping duty is levied on such imports that are believed to have been priced below their domestic price.
2. Countervailing Duty is levied in order to neutralize the effect of subsidies in the exporting country on the price and domestic market of the importing country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: Both the statements are correct.

Q28. With reference to the President of India, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Any dispute relating to the presidential election is referred to the Supreme Court.
2. If the President wants to resign, he addresses the resignation to the Chief Justice of India.
3. When a money bill is passed by the Parliament, the President has the power to reject the bill.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: A

Exp: If the President wants to resign, he should address his resignation letter to the Vice President of India. When a money bill is passed by the Parliament, the President has no power to reject the bill; he can return it for reconsideration.

Q29. Regarding the Earthquake waves, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Primary waves can travel through gaseous, liquid and solid materials.
2. The Secondary waves can travel only through solid materials.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: Earthquake waves are basically of two types — body waves and surface waves. Body waves are generated due to the release of energy at the focus and move in all directions travelling through the body of the Earth. The body waves interact with the surface rocks and generate new set of waves called surface waves. These waves move along the surface. There are two types of body waves. They are called P and S-waves. P-waves move faster and are the first to arrive at the surface. These are also called 'primary waves'. The P-waves are similar to sound waves. They travel through gaseous, liquid and solid materials. S-waves arrive at the surface with some time lag. These are called Secondary waves. An important fact about S-waves is that they can travel only through solid materials. This characteristic of the S-waves is quite important. It has helped scientists to understand the structure of the interior of the Earth.

Q30. Consider the following pairs:

	Famous slogan/ quotation		Associated Person
1.	<u>Inquilab Zindabad</u>	:	<u>Chandra Shekhar Azad</u>
2.	<u>The Cripps Mission was a post-dated cheque on a crashing bank</u>	:	<u>Mahatma Gandhi</u>
3.	<u>Swaraj is my birth right and I shall have it</u>	:	<u>Bal Gangadhar Tilak</u>

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: B

Exp: Inquilab Zindabad is an Urdu phrase which translates to "Long Live the Revolution!" It was first used by Bhagat Singh in 1929 when he shouted it after bombing the Central Assembly in Delhi. It became one of the rallying cries of the Indian independence movement. The famous slogan was given by Hasrat Mohani and inspired the activities of

the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association, particularly Bhagat Singh and his comrades.

Q31. With reference to the Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is an initiative of the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management of the Ministry of Finance.
2. The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) will be managing the day-to-day operations of the FFS.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Exp: The Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of "Fund of Funds for Startups" (FFS), an initiative of Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP).

Q32. Regarding the TEJASWINI Project, sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It aims at Socio-Economic Empowerment of Adolescent Girls and Young Women.
2. It is the first World Bank project in India that is solely focused on the welfare of adolescent girls and young women.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: Both the statements are correct.

Q33. Consider the following gases:

1. Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)
2. Methane (CH₄)
3. Nitrous Oxide (NO₂)
4. Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF₆)
5. Hydro Fluorocarbons (HFCs)

Which of the above mentioned gases are considered as Green House Gases (GHGs)?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

- C. 2, 4 and 5 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer: D

Exp: The Kyoto Protocol targets these Green House Gases (GHGs): Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), Methane (CH₄), Nitrous Oxide (NO₂), Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF₆) and also two groups of gases: Hydro fluorocarbons (HFCs) and Per fluorocarbons (PFCs).

Q34. With reference to the UNESCO World Heritage Site, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The List of recorded sites on the World Heritage includes both cultural and natural wonders.
2. The site which gets the world heritage site status comes under the legal territory of the UNESCO.
3. India is home to the greatest number of World Heritage Sites in the world.

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

Answer: A

Exp: A UNESCO World Heritage Site is a place that is listed by UNESCO as of special cultural or physical significance. The list is maintained by the international World Heritage Programme administered by UNESCO World Heritage Committee, composed of 21 UNESCO member states which are elected by the General Assembly. Each World Heritage Site remains part of the legal territory of the state wherein the site is located and UNESCO considers it in the interest of the international community to preserve each site. The List of recorded sites on the World Heritage includes both cultural and natural wonders. Italy is home to the greatest number of World Heritage Sites with 50 sites. India now has 35 world heritage sites, including 27 cultural heritage sites, 7 natural sites and 1 mixed site.

Q35. Regarding the Coriolis force, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The revolution of the Earth around the Sun affects the direction of the wind and this force is called the Coriolis force.
2. The Coriolis force is maximum at the equator and is absent at the poles.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2

D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: D

Exp: The rotation of the Earth about its axis affects the direction of the wind. This force is called the Coriolis force after the French physicist who described it in 1844. It deflects the wind to the right direction in the northern hemisphere and to the left in the southern hemisphere. The Coriolis force is directly proportional to the angle of latitude. It is maximum at the poles and is absent at the equator. At the equator, the Coriolis force is zero and the wind blows perpendicular to the isobars. The low pressure gets filled instead of getting intensified. That is the reason why tropical cyclones are not formed near the equator.

Q36. The International Vaccine Institute (IVI) was in the news recently, in this context which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is an international non-profit organization devoted to distribute medicine free of cost among poor people.
2. It is an initiative of the United Nations Development Programme.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Exp: International Vaccine Institute (IVI) is an international non-profit organization devoted to develop and introduce new and improved vaccines specifically for people in developing countries, especially children, against deadly infectious diseases. It was established in 1997 on the initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Q37. White Cheeked Macaque is a newly discovered primate species found in which one of the following states of India?

- A. Mizoram
- B. Sikkim
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Meghalaya

Answer: C

Exp: White Cheeked Macaque is a newly discovered primate species in India. They are found in Anjaw district of Arunachal Pradesh.

Q38. With reference to the QR code (Quick Response code), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is used for storing URLs or other information that link directly to the text, emails, websites and phone numbers.
2. It is capable of 360 degrees high speed reading.
3. It is capable of carrying information only horizontally.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: QR code (Quick Response code) is a two-dimensional (matrix) machine-readable bar code made up of black and white square. This code can be read by the camera of a Smartphone. It is used for storing URLs or other information that link directly to text, emails websites phone numbers. It is capable of 360 degrees (Omni-directional), high speed reading. QR Code can store up to 7089 digits as compared to conventional bar codes which can store max 20 digits. It encodes same amount of data in one-tenth the space of a traditional bar code. It carries information both horizontally and vertically. It has error correction capability and data stored in it can be restored even if it is partially damaged or dirty.

Q39. With reference to 'Lucky Grahak Yojana and Digi Dhan Vyapar Yojana', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. These award based schemes were launched by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.
2. National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) will be the implementing agency for these schemes.
3. Digital payments made through credit cards and e-wallets will only be covered under these schemes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: The Union Government has launched Lucky Grahak Yojana to encourage consumers and Digi Dhan Vyapar Yojana to encourage merchants for transition to digital payments. These award based schemes were launched by the NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog. National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) will be the implementing agency for these schemes. Transactions using USSD, UPI, RuPay and

Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS) will only be covered under these schemes. Digital payments made through credit cards and e-wallets won't be covered.

Q40. With reference to the spatial distribution of insolation at the Earth's surface, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Equator receives comparatively less insolation than the tropics.
2. At the same latitude, insolation is more over the ocean than over the continent.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: A

Exp: Maximum insolation is received over the subtropical deserts, where cloudiness is the least. The Equator receives comparatively less insolation than the tropics. Generally, at the same latitude insolation is more over the continent than over the ocean. In winter, the middle and higher latitudes receive less radiation than in summer.

Q41. With reference to 'LAUNCHPAD', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is a scheme for promoting innovation, rural industry and entrepreneurship.
2. It was launched by the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Exp: LAUNCHPAD is a global programme of Amazon Inc. for start-up products. It was unveiled in India recently. The start-ups can showcase their products to millions of consumers world over. Amazon provides the marketing, discovery and logistics support for these. Whereas the ASPIRE scheme for promoting innovation, rural industry and entrepreneurship was launched in 2015 by the Ministry of MSME.

Q42. Recently micro lenders, Suryoday and Utkarsh, have started Small Finance Banks (SFBs). Which of the following statements is/are correct in this context?

1. The SFBs were recommended by the Raghuram Rajan Committee.
2. The SFBs can do both deposit-taking and loan making functions.
3. The SFBs cannot sell FOREX, mutual funds, insurance, and pensions.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Exp: The Small Finance Banks (SFBs) was recommended by the Nachiket Mor Committee on financial inclusion. They are niche banks (banks that focuses and serves the needs of a certain demographic segment of the population).The SFBs are scaled down versions of commercial banks, with both deposit-taking and loan making functions. Resident individuals/ professionals carrying 10 years of experience in banking and finance and companies and societies owned and controlled by residents will be eligible to set up small finance banks. The SFBs have a minimum paid up capital of Rs.100 crore. SFBs can sell FOREX, mutual funds, insurance, pensions and can also convert into a full-fledged bank.

Q43. What is/are unique about 'Kuji Mendha', a breed found in India?

- 1. It is a threatened breed of sheep found only in coastal districts of Odisha.
- 2. They are well adapted to high ambient temperature, high humidity and heavy rains.
- 3. They are fast breeders giving multiple births and this characteristic makes them distinct from other species.

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

Answer: D

Exp: Kuji Mendha is a threatened breed of sheep found only in coastal Jagatsinghpur and Kendrapara districts of Odisha. It is declared as a rare and singular species by central government.

Q44. The 52nd amendment to the Constitution added the Tenth Schedule which laid down the process by which legislators may be disqualified on grounds of defection. With reference to it consider the following statements:

- 1. An MP or MLA is deemed to have defected if he either voluntarily resigns from his party or disobeys the directives of the party leadership on a vote.
- 2. The Speaker's or the Chairperson's decision on questions of disqualification on the ground of defection can only be challenged before the Supreme Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only

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

Answer: A

Exp: As per the Tenth Schedule the Speaker's or the Chairperson's decision on questions of disqualification on ground of defection shall be final. The law states that the decision is final and not subject to judicial review. However, the Supreme Court (Kihoto Hollohan vs Zachilhu and others, 1992) struck down part of this condition. It held that there may not be any judicial intervention until the presiding officer gives his order. However, the final decision is subject to appeal in the High Courts and Supreme Court.

Q45. With reference to the National Investment Fund (NIF), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Its creation was announced in the Union Budget 2015-16.
2. Its objective is to maximize economic impact through infrastructure development in commercially viable projects.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Exp: National Investment Fund (NIF) was created in 2005. All the proceeds from the disinvestment of Centre Public Sector Enterprises were to be channelized in this fund. 75% of the income of the NIF is used in social sector schemes such as those that promote education, health and employment while 25% is to be utilized in the revival of PSUs. This rule was relaxed during global economic slowdown and the govt. approved 100% NIF income utilization for social sector from 2009 to 2013.

National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) is a fund created by the Government of India for enhancing infrastructure financing in the country. This is different from the National Investment Fund. Its creation was announced in the Union Budget 2015-16. The objective of NIIF would be to maximize economic impact mainly through infrastructure development in commercially viable projects, both Greenfield and Brownfield, including stalled projects. It could also consider other nationally important projects, for example, in manufacturing, if commercially viable.

Q46. With reference to Lord Dalhousie and his tenure, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Second Anglo-Sikh War was fought and the Sikhs were defeated.

2. The first railway line between Bombay and Thane was opened.
3. He implemented the Doctrine of Lapse whereby in the absence of a natural heir the sovereignty of Indian states was to lapse to the British.

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

Answer: D

Exp: Lord Dalhousie served as Governor General of India from 1848 to 1856. During this period, Second Anglo-Sikh War (1849) was fought in which the Sikhs were defeated again and Dalhousie was successful in annexing the whole of Punjab to the British administration. During his tenure, first railway line between Bombay and Thane was opened in 1853 and in the same year Calcutta and Agra were connected by telegraph. His other reforms include setting up of P.W.D. and passing of the Widow Remarriage Act (1856). Dalhousie implemented the Doctrine of Lapse whereby in the absence of a natural heir, the sovereignty of Indian states was to lapse to the British and such rulers were not permitted to adopt a son to inherit their kingdoms.

Q47. India's first international exchange – India INX was inaugurated recently. Which of the following statements is/are correct in this context?

1. India INX is a subsidiary of the NSE - National Stock Exchange of India Ltd.
2. It is the world's most advanced technology platform having an order response time of 4 micro seconds.
3. It will operate for 22 hours allowing international investors and NRIs to trade conveniently from anywhere in the world.

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

Answer: B

Exp: India's first international exchange – India INX at the International Financial Service Centre (IFSC) of GIFT (Gujarat International Financial Tech) City was inaugurated at Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2017. It is a subsidiary of Bombay Stock Exchange. INX will initially trade in equity derivatives, currency derivatives and commodity derivatives which will include index and stocks. It will offer depository receipts and bonds later.

Q48. Consider the following statements:

1. Protected forests are the most restricted forests and can only be constituted by the Union Government.
2. In Protected forests most uses by local people are prohibited unless specifically allowed by a Forest Officer in the course of settlement.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Exp: It is not the protected forest but the Reserve Forest, which are the most restricted forests and may be constituted by the State Government on any forest land or waste land which is the property of the Government or on which the Government has proprietary rights. In reserved forests, most uses by local people are prohibited, unless specifically allowed by a Forest Officer in the course of settlement. Whereas under 'Protected Forests', the Government retains the power to issue rules regarding the use of such forests and retains the power to reserve the specific tree species in the protected forests. This power has been used to establish State control over trees, whose timber, fruit or other non-wood products have revenue-raising potential.

Q49. NBFCs are financial institutions that provide banking services. With reference to it, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It can accept only term deposits and not demand deposits.
2. They are not a part of the payment and settlement system and cannot issue cheques drawn on themselves.
3. Deposit insurance facility is not available to depositors of NBFCs.

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

Answer: D

Exp: All the statements are correct.

Q50. Recently, our scientists have discovered four new miniature night frogs' species, no bigger than a human thumbnail; these frogs are endemic to which part of India?

- A. Tropical rain forests of the northeast
- B. Andaman Islands
- C. Western Ghats

D. Western Himalayas

Answer: C

Exp: Scientists have discovered four new miniature night frogs' species, no bigger than a human thumbnail in Western Ghats. The four new species of miniature night frogs are Athirappilly Night Frog, Sabarimala Night Frog, Radcliffe's Night frog and Kadalar Night Frog. Night Frogs are endemic to the Western Ghats.

Q51. Consider the following statements:

1. Operation Thunderbird is the code-name of UNEP's programme to save migratory birds in India.
 2. Operation Save Kurma is a species-specific operation to save rhinos.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Exp: Operation Thunderbird is the code-name of INTERPOL's multi-national and multi-species enforcement operation for wildlife protection. In a major success in the fight against wildlife crime, Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, coordinated "OPERATION THUNDER BIRD" in India, from January 30-February 19, 2017. Operation Save Kurma is a species-specific operation on turtles.

Q52. The Inner Line Permit regulates the entry of non-domicile citizens into a restricted region. Presently it has not been imposed in which one of the following states?

- A. Arunachal Pradesh
- B. Manipur
- C. Mizoram
- D. Nagaland

Answer: B

Exp: The British used the Inner Line Permit system to safeguard their revenue-generating regions in the Northeast against raiding tribal communities from the hills. Later, it was used as an instrument to protect the tribal people and their cultures. Since Manipur is not officially a tribal state, there are constitutional challenges to implementing the ILP system here.

Q53. Consider the following statements:

1. The Earth's surface receives most of its energy in short wavelengths.

2. Carbon dioxide is transparent to the incoming solar radiation but opaque to the outgoing terrestrial radiation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: Carbon dioxide is meteorologically a very important gas as it is transparent to the incoming solar radiation but opaque to the outgoing terrestrial radiation. It absorbs a part of terrestrial radiation and reflects back some part of it towards the Earth's surface. It is largely responsible for the green house effect. The Earth's surface receives most of its energy in short wavelengths. The energy received by the Earth is known as incoming solar radiation which in short is termed as insolation.

Q54. Regarding the 'Hydro fluorocarbons (HFCs)', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. HFCs have several thousand times capacity in retaining heat in the atmosphere compared to carbon dioxide (CO₂).
- 2. HFCs had replaced Chlorofluorocarbons under the Montreal Protocol to protect Earth's Ozone layer.
- 3. At the United Nations Environment Programme Summit in Kigali, it was agreed to have a legally-binding accord to phase out HFCs.

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

Answer: D

Exp: HFCs, organic compounds that contain fluorine and hydrogen atoms, are the most common type of organ fluorine compounds. They are commonly used in air conditioning and as refrigerants in place of the older chlorofluorocarbons and hydro chlorofluorocarbons. These gases had replaced CFCs under the 1987 Montreal Protocol to protect Earth's Ozone layer. In recent times, it was found that HFCs have several thousand times capacity in retaining heat in the atmosphere compared to CO₂, a potent GHG. Thus, it can be said that HFCs have helped ozone layer but exacerbated global warming. In September 2016, the so-called New York Declaration urged a global reduction in the use of HFCs. On 15 October 2016, at the summit of the United Nations Environment Programme in Kigali, Rwanda reached a legally-binding accord to phase out HFCs in an amendment to the Montreal Protocol.

Q55. Consider the following statements:

1. Project Saksham is the income-tax (I-T) department's ambitious project to effectively utilize the vast amount of information at its disposal more effectively to track tax evaders.
2. Project Insight is a new indirect tax network (systems integration) for smooth roll-out of goods and services (GST) tax.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Exp: Project Insight, is the income-tax (I-T) department's ambitious project to effectively utilize the vast amount of information at its disposal more effectively to track tax evaders. Whereas the Project Saksham is a new indirect tax network (systems integration) for smooth roll-out of goods and services (GST) tax.

Q56. Regarding the Permanent Court of Arbitration, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is not a part of the United Nations justice system.
2. It is an inter-governmental organization in the field of dispute resolution, located at Geneva, Switzerland.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: A

Exp: The Permanent Court of Arbitration is an inter-governmental organization in the field of dispute resolution, located at the Hague in Netherlands. It is not a part of the UN system although it has observer status in UN General Assembly.

Q57. A geographical indication (GI) is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation due to that origin. Which of the following statements is/are correct in this context?

1. Darjeeling tea was the first product to be accorded GI tag in India.
2. GI does not provide legal protection to the products.
3. At the international level GI is governed by UNESCO.

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

Answer: A

Exp: At the international level, GI is governed by World Trade Organisation's (WTO's) Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). In India, GI registration is governed by the Geographical Indications of goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 which came into force in September 2003. This Act is administered by the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, who is also the Registrar of Geographical Indications. GI gives legal protection to the products. Recently Kerala's Nilambur teak was added to the list of Kerala produces with the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

Q58. Regarding Wholesale Price Index (WPI), which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. Other than manufacturing, services are also included in WPI.
- 2. Fuel & Power constitute the main components of WPI.
- 3. WPI is computed by the Office of the Economic Adviser in the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Exp: WPI reflects the rate of change in prices of all goods and services in an economy over a period of time. In India, headline inflation is measured through the WPI. Services are not included in WPI in India. It is measured on a year-on-year basis i.e., rate of change in price level in a given month vis-a-vis the corresponding month of last year. This is also known as point-to-point inflation. In India, there are three main components in WPI – Primary Articles (weight: 20.12%), Fuel & Power (weight: 14.91%) and Manufactured Products (weight: 64.97). This includes "Food Articles" in the Primary Articles (14.34%) and "Food Products" in the Manufactured Products category (9.97%). Current WPI base year is 2004-05. WPI covers all goods including intermediate goods transacted in the economy.

Q59. With reference to the 'World Environment Day', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. It is observed on 5th June every year.

2. It is observed globally by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: A

Exp: The UN General Assembly designated June 5 as World Environment Day in 1972, marking the first day of the landmark Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment. This day celebrates the natural environment and allows a global platform to raise awareness on the environmental issues worldwide, with plans to mitigate these issues as a global community. WED is observed globally by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Earth Day is an annual event celebrated on April 22. Worldwide First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day events in more than 193 countries. Earth Hour is a worldwide movement organized by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). The event is held annually encouraging individuals, communities, households and businesses to turn off their non-essential lights for one hour, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. towards the end of March, as a symbol for their commitment to the planet.

Q60. Consider the following statements:

- 1. A light year is a measure of distance and not of time.
- 2. Light travels at a speed of 300,000 km/second.
- 3. In terms of light years distance between the Sun and the Earth is 8.311 minutes of a year.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Exp: A light year is a measure of distance and not of time. Light travels at a speed of 300,000 km/second. Considering this, the distances the light will travel in one year is taken to be one light year. This equals to 9.461×10^{12} km. The mean distance between the Sun and the Earth is 149,598,000 km. In terms of light years, it is 8.311 minutes of a year.

Q61. 'Google tax / Equalisation Levy' was in the news. With reference to it, consider the following statements:

1. It will apply to payments for online advertisements made by Indian business entities to other Indian advertisement companies.
2. Only business-to-business transactions attract this levy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: Google tax / Equalisation Levy will apply to payments for online advertisements made by Indian business entities to non-residents (such as Google, Yahoo, Twitter, Facebook) where the aggregate payment in a financial year to a non-resident exceeds Rs 1 lakh. India became the first country to impose equalisation levy, popularly being called Google Tax.

Q62. Regarding PRERNA, a Government of India Scheme, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It aims to provide integrated support to women affected by violence under one roof.
2. National Population Stabilization Fund - an autonomous body of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare - has launched this scheme.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Exp: PRERNA SCHEME: It is a Responsible Parenthood Strategy under which financial incentives are given to parents of girl child to help push up the age of marriage of girls and space the birth of children in the interest of health of young mothers and infants. It is provided by 'Jansankhya Sthirtha Kosh', an autonomous body under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

SAKHI – ONE STOP CENTRE SCHEME: It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, formulated by Ministry of women and child development, a sub - scheme of Umbrella Scheme for National Mission for Empowerment of women. It aims to provide integrated support (Rescue Services, Medical/Legal assistance, Psycho - social support etc.) to women affected by violence (in private or public space) under one roof. State Government/ UT Administration will implement this scheme with 100% central assistance including funding through Nirbhaya Fund.

Q63. With reference to the Bhakti movement, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Ramanujacharya advocated Bhakti cult.
2. Bhakti cult laid emphasis on idol worship.
3. Bhakti movement helped in the spread of vernacular literature.

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

Answer: C

Exp: The Bhakti movement originated in South India during the seventh century CE, spread northwards from Tamil Nadu through Karnataka and Maharashtra, and gained wide acceptance in fifteenth-century Bengal and northern India. The movement started with the Shaiva Nayanars and the Vaisnava Alvars. Their efforts ultimately help spread bhakti poetry and ideas throughout India by the 12th – 18th century CE. Bhakti Cult laid emphasis on devotion to God.

Q64. Consider the following statements:

1. Coal Bed Methane is called sweet gas because of its lack of propane and butane.
2. On combustion Coal Bed Methane emits only carbon dioxide and water.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: Coal Bed Methane is a form of natural gas extracted from coal beds. It is called 'sweet gas' because of its lack of hydrogen sulphide. Its occurrence in underground coal mining presents a serious safety risk. It mainly consists of Methane (CH₄) with minor amounts of nitrogen (N₂), carbon dioxide (CO₂) and heavier hydrocarbons such as propane or butane in very small quantities. It is environmentally safe and a clean fuel which on combustion emits only carbon dioxide and water. It is considered as an efficient fuel and also reduces emission of greenhouse gas from coal mining.

Q65. What is 'Mesentery', recently in the news?

- A. It is a newly discovered organ in human digestive system.
- B. It is a steroid taken by bodybuilders.
- C. It is a deadly disease and one of the important causes of death in children.

D. It is a viral contagious animal disease.

Answer: A

Exp: Mesentery is a newly discovered organ in human digestive system. It connects the intestine to the abdomen. It attaches the stomach, small intestine, pancreas, spleen, and other organs to the posterior wall of the abdomen. The reclassification of this organ will also aid better understanding and treatment of abdominal and digestive diseases.

Q66. Regarding Basel Convention, consider the following statements:

1. The Basel Convention aims to reduce the movement of hazardous waste between nations.
 2. The Basel Convention does not address the movement of radioactive waste.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: The Basel Convention aims to reduce the movements of hazardous waste between nations, and specifically to prevent transfer of hazardous waste from developed to less developed countries. It does not address the movement of radioactive waste.

Q67. With reference to the Attorney General of India (AG), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The powers, privileges and immunities of the AG are similar to a member of the Parliament.
2. The AG has the right to speak, vote and to take part in the proceedings of the Lower House of the Parliament.
3. The AG cannot be a member of any Committee of the Parliament.

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

Answer: A

Exp: Article 76 mentions about AG as the highest legal officer in the country. Article 88 mentions about rights of AG with respect to the Houses of Parliament and its Committees, which includes: He has the right to speak and to take part in the proceedings of both Houses of Parliament and their joint sittings and any Committee of Parliament of which he may be a member. But he does not have the right to vote in the

Parliament. Article 105 defines that powers, privileges and immunities of AG are similar to a Member of Parliament.

Q68. Regarding Mission Indradhanush, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It aims to revamp the functioning of public sector banks so that it can compete with Private Sector Banks.
2. It has been launched by the Reserve Bank of India.
3. It is a brainchild of the Deepak Mohanty Committee.

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

Answer: A

Exp: Mission Indradhanush is the brainchild of PJ Nayak committee. It has been launched by the Ministry of Finance under the Department of Financial Services. The mission includes the seven key reforms of appointments, board of bureau, capitalisation, de-stressing, and empowerment, framework of accountability and governance reforms.

Q69. Consider the following statements:

1. Ellora was built by the Rashtrakutas.
2. The Caves and the rock-cut temples at Ellora are only Buddhist.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Exp: Ellora is one of the largest rock-cut monastery-temple caves complexes in the world, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Maharashtra, India. It is well known for its monumental caves viz. 12 Buddhist (caves 1–12), 17 Hindu Caves (caves 13–29) and 5 Jain Caves (caves 30–34). Cave 16 of Ellora features the largest single monolithic rock excavation in the world, the Kailasha temple, a chariot shaped monument dedicated to Shiva. Some Ellora caves were built by the Vakatakas, some Buddhist caves by the Chalukyas, early Jain and Hindu caves were built by the Rashtrakutas and Jain caves by the Yadavas.

Q70. Consider the following statements:

1. Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan is a nation-wide flagship campaign to help visually impaired people especially students to study maps.
2. Marrakesh Treaty is to facilitate access to published works by visually impaired persons and persons with print disabilities.
3. India has not signed the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: On International day of persons with disability (3rd December), government launched Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) as a nation-wide flagship campaign for achieving universal accessibility for persons with disabilities. The campaign targets three separate verticals for achieving universal accessibility namely the built up environment, transportation eco-system and information & communication eco-system. India is a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). Marrakesh Treaty or Marrakesh VIP Treaty is formally known as Marrakesh treaty to facilitate Access to Published works by Visually Impaired Persons and Persons with Print Disabilities. It is also called “Books for Blind” treaty.

Q71. With reference to the difference between Terrestrial and Jovian planets, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Most of the Jovian planets are much larger than the Terrestrial planets.
2. The Jovian planets were formed in the close vicinity of the parent star whereas Terrestrial planets were formed at quite a distant location.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: A

Exp: The terrestrial planets were formed in the close vicinity of the parent star and Jovian planets were formed at quite a distant location. Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars are called as the inner planets as they lay between the Sun and the belt of asteroids. The other planets are called the outer planets. Alternatively, the first four are called Terrestrial, meaning earth-like as they are made up of rock and metals, and have relatively high densities. The rest are called Jovian or Gas Giant planets. Jovian means Jupiter-like.

Most of them are much larger than the terrestrial planets and have thick atmosphere, mostly of Helium and Hydrogen.

Q72. Recently which one of the following organizations/ Ministry have launched the first ever 'Agricultural Marketing and Farmer Friendly Reforms Index' to rank States and Union Territories?

- A. Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- B. Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- C. NITI Ayog
- D. M S Swaminathan Research Foundation

Answer: C

Exp: The NITI Aayog has launched the first ever Agricultural Marketing and Farmer Friendly Reforms Index to rank States and Union Territories. The indicators used to assess represent competitiveness, efficiency and transparency in agriculture markets.

Q73. With reference to the 'Constituent Assembly of India', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. Under the August Offer, elections for the Constituent Assembly were held for the first time.
- 2. The members of the Constituent Assembly were elected directly by the people of India.
- 3. The members of the Constituent Assembly were elected by a single, transferable-vote system of proportional representation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. None of the above

Answer: B

Exp: Under the Cabinet Mission Plan of 1946, elections were held for the first time for the Constituent Assembly. The Constitution of India was drafted by the Constituent Assembly, and it was implemented under the Cabinet Mission Plan on 16 May 1946. The members of the Constituent Assembly were elected by the provincial assemblies by a single, transferable-vote system of proportional representation.

Q74. With reference to the Gandhian Socialism, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. It wanted to have nationalisation of all means of production and distribution.
- 2. It advocated equality of opportunities for all.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Exp: The main tenets of Gandhian Socialism are Social justice, Concern for the poor but not hatred for the rich and equality of opportunities for all. Gandhiji did not believe in the nationalisation of all means of production and distribution.

Q75. Consider the following statements:

1. Being a non member, the Vice-President can participate in the proceedings of either House of Parliament without having a voting right.
2. Nominated members of the Parliament have a right to vote in the Vice Presidential election but not in the Presidential election.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: It is the Attorney General, who can participate in the proceedings of either House of Parliament without having the voting right.

Q76. Regarding the Shield Volcanoes, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. They are the largest of all the volcanoes on the Earth.
2. These are the most explosive of the Earth's volcanoes.
3. The Hawaiian volcanoes are the most famous examples of it.

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

Answer: C

Exp: Shield Volcanoes are the largest of all the volcanoes on the Earth. The Hawaiian volcanoes are the most famous examples. Calderas are the most explosive of the Earth's volcanoes. They are usually so explosive that when they erupt they tend to collapse on themselves rather than building any tall structure.

Q77. Consider the following statements:

1. Keshab Chandra Sen was associated with the Prarthana Samaj.
 2. Arya Samaj was founded by Swami Dayanand Saraswati.
 3. Debendranath Tagore was associated with the Brahmo Samaj.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. None of the above

Answer: C

Exp: All the statements are correct.

Q78. Consider the following statements:

1. The Dual System of Government in Bengal was the brainchild of Lord Clive.
 2. The Doctrine of Lapse was an annexation policy purportedly devised by Lord Wellesley.
 3. Lord Ripon is known as Father of Local Self Government in India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: The Doctrine of Lapse was an annexation policy purportedly devised by Lord Dalhousie, who was the Governor General for the East India Company in India between 1848 and 1856.

Q79. Regarding the 'Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Like the Speaker of the Lok Sabha the Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly presides over the joint sessions of the Assembly.
2. The Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly can step down by submitting his resignation to the Chief Minister.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Exp: The Speaker of the Lok Sabha presides over joint sessions of the Parliament. The Constitution does not provide for joint sessions of State Legislatures even where the

State Legislatures are bicameral. The Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly can step down by submitting his resignation to the Deputy Speaker of the House.

Q80. Consider the following pairs:

	Place		In the affairs of
1.	Aleppo	:	Iraq
2.	Diego Garcia	:	Mauritius
3.	Abyei	:	China

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: B

Exp: Aleppo was the largest Syrian city before the Syrian Civil War; however, now Aleppo is likely the second-largest city in Syria after the capital Damascus. Aleppo is an ancient city, and one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world; it may have been inhabited since the 6th millennium BC.

Britain and the United States have approached India to leverage its influence with Mauritius on the contentious issue of Diego Garcia, where the US has a major military base, but is caught in claims over Mauritian sovereignty and legal rows over the return of former islanders.

The Abyei Area covers 4,000 square miles of desert, farmland, and oil fields located along the ill-defined border between Sudan and South Sudan. Abyei is claimed by both countries and has been a source of conflict in the Sudan for over 50 years.

Q81. Consider the following statements:

1. The 36th Amendment of the Constitution gave priority to Directive Principles over Fundamental Rights.
2. By the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution the Fundamental Duties of the citizens were specified.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: It was the 42nd Amendment of the Constitution which gave priority to Directive Principles over Fundamental Rights.

Q82. Regarding the 'No-confidence motion', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is moved against the entire Council of Ministers and not individual ministers.
2. There is no impact on government when the motion is passed.
3. It can be moved by any member of the Parliament.

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

Answer: A

Exp: No-confidence motion can be moved only in Lok Sabha. It is not allowed in Rajya Sabha. It is moved against the entire Council of Ministers and not against individual ministers or private members. It needs support of at least 50 members when introduced in the Lok Sabha. There is no impact on government when censure motion is passed, but the Council of Ministers need to resign and government collapses when the No-confidence motion is passed.

Q83. Consider the following statements:

1. Water vapour increases with altitude.
2. Water vapour decreases from the equator towards the poles.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: Water vapour is a variable gas in the atmosphere, which decreases with altitude. In the warm and wet tropics, it may account for four per cent of the air by volume, while in the dry and cold areas of desert and Polar Regions; it may be less than one per cent of the air. Water vapour also decreases from the equator towards the poles. It also absorbs parts of the insolation from the Sun and preserves the Earth's radiated heat. It thus, acts like a blanket allowing the Earth neither to become too cold nor too hot. Water vapour also contributes to the stability and instability in the air. As the water sources are on the Earth surface and the heating of water is high at the surface, evaporation is high. Hence, water vapour decreases as we move up. As equator receives the largest amount of insolation the evaporation here is high while in the poles there is least insolation and hence evaporation is low. Thus as we move from equator to pole the water vapour decreases.

Q84. With reference to the 'Nalanda University, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It was an important sanskrit learning centre of ancient India.
2. Hiuen Tsang, the celebrated Chinese traveller, studied here.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Exp: Nalanda University was an ancient Buddhist learning centre. It was mainly responsible for spreading Buddhism to China, Japan and South East Asia. Hiuen Tsang spent around five years in the University of Nalanda and studied there.

Q85. With reference to the election of the President of India, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The President of India is elected by the method of First Past the Post System.
2. For the Presidential election, the population of a State is taken to be the population at the last preceding census.
3. The process of election of the President of India is original and no other Constitution contains a similar procedure.

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

Answer: B

Exp: Article 52 states that there shall be a President of India. Article 54 of the Constitution says: "The President shall be elected by the members of an electoral college consisting of - (a) The elected members of both Houses of Parliament and (b) The elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of the States (including National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union Territory of Pondicherry vide the Constitution 70th amendment Act, 1992)." Thus, in the election of the President the citizens play no direct part and he is elected indirectly by the representatives of the people. The election of the President of India is done by the system of proportional representation, by the single transferable vote, as provided by Article 55(3) of the Constitution. The last preceding census is taken as the 1971 census. We have borrowed the election process of the president from many other constitutions.

Q86. Consider the following statements:

1. Copernicus Observation Program is the world's largest Earth observation programme.
 2. Devasthal Optical Telescope is India's largest ground-based optical telescope.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: Copernicus Observation Program is the world's largest Earth observation programme. It is directed by the European Commission in partnership with ESA. It consists of constellation of seven Sentinel Earth observation satellites. It aims at achieving a global, continuous, autonomous, high quality, wide range Earth observation capacity by providing accurate, timely and easily accessible information. It also aims at improving the management of the environment, understand and mitigate the effects of climate change, and ensure civil security.

Devasthal Optical Telescope is India's largest ground-based optical telescope. The telescope is the product of an Indo-Belgian collaborative effort. It is going to be operated by the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), an autonomous research body under the Department of Science and Technology. It will also be Asia's largest ground-based optical telescope, succeeding the Vainu Bappu Observatory in Kavalur, Tamil Nadu.

Q87. The atmosphere consists of different layers with varying density and temperature. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. Thickness of the troposphere is greatest at the equator because of convectional currents.
2. Mesosphere lies above the stratosphere which contains the ozone layer.
3. Radio waves transmitted from the Earth are reflected back to the Earth by ionosphere.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: The troposphere is the lowermost layer of the atmosphere. Its average height is 13 kms and extends roughly to a height of 8 km near the poles and about 18 km at the equator. Thickness of the troposphere is greatest at the equator because heat is

transported to great heights by strong convectional currents. All changes in climate and weather take place in this layer. This is the most important layer for all biological activity. The stratosphere is found above the tropopause and extends up to a height of 50 km. One important feature of the stratosphere is that it contains the ozone layer. The mesosphere lies above the stratosphere, which extends up to a height of 80 km. The upper limit of mesosphere is known as the mesopause. The ionosphere is located between 80 and 400 km above the mesopause. It contains electrically charged particles known as ions, and hence, it is known as ionosphere.

Q88. With reference to the Sambhar Salt Lake, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is India's second largest inland salt lake.
2. The Lake is spread over the Puri, Khurda and Ganjam districts of Odisha.
3. The Lake is designated as a Ramsar site.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Exp: Sambhar Salt Lake is India's largest inland salt lake. It is located in Nagaur and Jaipur districts of Rajasthan. The lake is actually an extensive saline wetland designated as a Ramsar site. It is an important wintering area for flamingos and other birds that migrate from northern Asia.

Q89. Public Financial Management System (PFMS), a web based application, which was in the news recently is administered by which one of the following departments of the Ministry of Finance?

- A. Department of Investment and Public Asset Management
- B. Department of Expenditure
- C. Department of Economic Affairs
- D. Department of Financial Services

Answer: B

Exp: Public Financial Management System (PFMS) is a web based application administered by the department of expenditure. It is an end-to-end solution for processing payments, tracking, monitoring, accounting, reconciliation and reporting. The PFMS platform compiles, collates and makes available in real-time, information regarding all government schemes, and, significantly, provides the government real-time information on resource availability and utilisation across schemes.

Q90. Recently the Inclusive Growth and Development Report was in news, it is prepared by:

- A. Niti Aayog
- B. Reserve Bank of India
- C. World Economic Forum
- D. World Bank

Answer: C

Exp: India has been ranked 60th among 79 developing economies, below neighbouring China and Pakistan, in the inclusive development index, according to a WEF's (World Economic Forum) 'Inclusive Growth and Development Report 2017'. The Inclusive Development Index has three pillars -- Growth and Development, Inclusion and Intergenerational Equity, and Sustainability.

Q91. With reference to the objectives of the Home Rule Movement, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. Establishment of self-government for India in British Empire.
- 2. To encourage common people to Participate in the Indian National Movement.
- 3. To enter the Councils and wreck the Government from within.

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

Answer: A

Exp: The objectives of the Home Rule League were: Establishment of self-government for India in British Empire and Working for national education and social and political reforms.

Q92. With reference to NETRA, which was in the news recently, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. It is the first indigenously built Airborne Early Warning and Control System.
- 2. Other than USA, Russia and Israel, India is the only country to have this system.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: The Indian Air force (IAF) has formally inducted the first indigenously built Airborne Early Warning and Control System (AEW&C) dubbed as NETRA. AEW&C NETRA system is based on Embraer aircraft (Emb-145 platform). It has self-protection suite and also mid-air refuelling capability to enhance surveillance time. This system gives 240-degree coverage of airspace. DRDO has developed three NETRA systems and its three aircraft will be based at Bhatinda, facing the Western border. With this India, joins group of other countries such as United States, Russia and Israel which have developed the AEW&C system.

Q93. Consider the following statements:

1. After the Rowlatt Act of 1919 Gandhiji started the first Civil Disobedience Movement.
 2. B. R. Ambedkar had attended all the three Round Table Conferences.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: Gandhiji organized a mass protest at an all-India level against the Rowlatt Act of 1919. It was Gandhiji's first Civil Disobedience Movement. By March 23, 1919, the volunteers started courting arrests. The three organizations viz, the Home Rule league, Muslim league and the Satyagraha Sabha along with some other small organizations coordinated and organized the biggest Satyagraha ever. On April 6, 1919, an all-India strike was organized. There was mob violence in Bombay, Ahmadabad and all other major towns. The Satyagraha lost momentum with the Jallianwala Bagh tragedy on April 13, 1919. B. R. Ambedkar had attended all the three Round Table Conferences.

Q94. Regarding Saanjhi Saanjh, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a programme to identify the problems in livelihood issues of tribal people.
2. It has been launched by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Exp: Under the aegis of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, a national newspaper dedicated to senior citizens has been launched and is called as 'Saanjhi Saanjh'. This

newspaper carries important and useful news pertaining to elderly persons besides inspirational stories. It serves as a bridge between old and new generations.

Q95. With reference to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. CEPI is a new alliance of doctors to exchange information regarding infectious disease epidemics.
2. It is headquartered in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.
3. The coalition will not focus on diseases that already have sufficient attention, but will be guided by the WHO's R&D blueprint.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Exp: CEPI is a new alliance to finance and coordinate the development of new vaccines to prevent and contain infectious disease epidemics.

Headquarter: Norwegian Institute for Public Health, in Oslo. The coalition will not focus on diseases that already have sufficient attention, but will be guided by WHO's R&D blueprint (2016), which lists eleven illnesses to focus on, including Chikungunya, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic fever.

Q96. Regarding some famous books mentioned below, which of the statements is/are correct?

1. The Wheel of History was written by Ram Manohar Lohia.
2. India Divided was written by Muhammad Ali Jinnah.
3. India Wins Freedom was written by Jawaharlal Nehru.

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

Answer: A

Exp: India Wins Freedom was written by Abdul Kalam Azad and India Divided was written by Rajendra Prasad.

Q97. Regarding the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It provides free LPG connection to an adult woman member of every household in the country.
2. PMUY is the first welfare scheme being implemented by the Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Exp: Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) provides free LPG connection with financial assistance of Rs. 1600/- per connection to an adult woman member of BPL family identified through Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) data. PMUY is the first welfare scheme being implemented by the Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. It seeks to empower women and protect their health by shifting them from traditional cooking based on unclean cooking fuels or fossil fuels to clean cooking gas.

Q98. Consider the following statements:

1. The Second Generation ethanol is made from lignocellulosic biomass or woody crops, agricultural residues or waste.
2. The foundation stone of India's first 2G (Second Generation) Ethanol Bio-refineries was laid at Nasik district of Maharashtra.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Exp: The foundation stone of India's first 2G (Second Generation) Ethanol Bio-refineries was laid at Tarkhanwala village in Bathinda, Punjab. 2nd generation ethanol is a fuel that can be manufactured from various types of biomass. Whereas 1st generation ethanol is made from the sugars and vegetable oils found in arable crops, which can be easily extracted using conventional technology. In comparison, 2nd generation ethanol is made from lignocellulosic biomass or woody crops, agricultural residues or waste, which makes it harder to extract the required fuel using conventional technology.

Q99. Regarding the Kuchipudi dance, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Kuchipudi style was conceived by Siddhendra Yogi.
2. It originated in the modern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: Kuchipudi originated in a village of Krishna district in modern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. It derives its name from this village. It is a dance-drama performance art, with its roots in the ancient Hindu Sanskrit text of Natya Shastra. The Kuchipudi style was conceived by Siddhendra Yogi, a talented Vaishnava poet of 17th century. It begins with an invocation to Lord Ganesha followed by nritta (non-narrative and abstract dancing); shabdham (narrative dancing) and natya. The dance is accompanied by song which is typically Carnatic music. The singer is accompanied by musical instruments like mridangam, violin, flute and tambura. Like other classical dances, Kuchipudi also comprises pure dance, mime and histrionics but it is the use of speech that distinguishes Kuchipudi's presentation as dance drama.

Q100. Consider the following statements:

1. Nirbhay Missile is a surface-to-surface nuclear-capable Intercontinental ballistic missile.
2. It is capable to engage several targets in a single flight.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: Nirbhay is a long range surface-to-surface nuclear-capable subsonic cruise missile developed indigenously by the DRDO. It has blended missile and aeronautical technologies which allows it to take off vertically like a missile and cruise horizontally like an aircraft. It is a two stage missile. In its first stage, it tilts horizontally. In the second stage it will cruise horizontally like an aircraft with a turbo-jet engine at a subsonic speed of 0.7 Mach. It is capable of carrying multiple payloads including nuclear warheads. It is capable to engage several targets in a single flight.