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1. Which one of the following Carnatic music ragas is similar to Raga Bilawal in Hindustani music?

- (a) Nat Bhairavi
- (b) Kamavardhini
- (c) Hanumatodi
- (d) Dheera Shankarabharanam

Answer : **(d) Dheera Shankarabharanam**

- **Explanation: Dheera Shankarabharanam** (often referred to simply as Shankarabharanam) is the 29th Melakarta raga in Carnatic music. It uses the exact same interval scale—all *shuddha* notes (natural notes)—as **Raga Bilawal** (specifically Alhaiya Bilawal) in the Hindustani classical music tradition. It corresponds structurally to the Western Major scale (C major scale).
- **Other Options:**
 - *Nat Bhairavi* is equivalent to Hindustani *Asavari Thaati*.
 - *Kamavardhini* is equivalent to Hindustani *Purvi Thaati*.
 - *Hanumatodi* is equivalent to Hindustani *Bhairavi Thaati*.

2. The artificially fixed rupee-sterling exchange rate prescribed by the Hilton-Young Commission (1926) was adopted by the British Government for which one of the following reasons?

- (a) Aiding the flow of remittances from India and maintaining India's creditworthiness
- (b) Providing support to Indian importers
- (c) Encouraging export of cotton produce from India
- (d) Preventing depreciation of the Rupee in terms of gold

Answer : **(a) Aiding the flow of remittances from India and maintaining India's creditworthiness**

- **Explanation:** The [Hilton-Young Commission \(1926\)](#) recommended artificially fixing the exchange rate of the Indian Rupee at a high value of **1s. 6d. sterling** (1 shilling 6 pence), up from its traditional ratio of 1s. 4d. The British Government adopted this overvalued rate primarily to ensure a seamless and high-value flow of official financial remittances (Home Charges) from India to Great Britain, alongside securing India's international debt and credit obligations in the interest of British investors.

- **Other Options:** The high rate actually penalised Indian exporters (especially of raw material like cotton) and encouraged British imports into India, sparking widespread protests from Indian nationalists and industrialists

3. Consider the following statements:

- I. Pali texts contain the first definite references to coins, e.g., kahapana, nikkha, kamsa, and kakanika.
- II. The literary evidence from Pali texts is corroborated by archaeological evidence from many sites, of punch-marked coins of silver.

The above statements have been associated with which of the following?

1. Emergence of urban life
2. Transition to money economy

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(c) Both 1 and 2**

- **Explanation:**
 - **Emergence of Urban Life (Second Urbanisation):** The age of Buddha (c. 6th–4th century BCE) marked the [Second Urbanisation in India](#). The appearance of cities and expanding trans-regional trade routes required standardized modes of transaction.
 - **Transition to Money Economy:** The introduction of punch-marked metal coins like *kahapana*, *nikkha*, and *kakanika* recorded in Buddhist texts signifies a clear leap from primitive barter systems toward a functional currency and credit system. Thus, these literary and archaeological validations directly trace both urban growth and monetisation

4. Which of the following temples has/have a Nagara-style shikhara?

1. Malegitti Shivalaya, Badami
2. Huchimalligudi Temple, Aihole
3. Dashavatara Temple, Deogarh
4. Virupaksha Temple, Pattadakal

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 2 and 3**

- **Explanation:**

- **Huchimalligudi Temple, Aihole:** This Early Chalukyan temple features a curvilinear tower that marks one of the earliest experimental transitions into the **Nagara-style shikhara** in southern-central India.
- **Dashavatara Temple, Deogarh (3):** This famous early 6th-century Gupta-period temple in Uttar Pradesh is historically celebrated as one of the earliest prototypical examples of northern **Nagara style architecture**, featuring a classic tiered *shikhara* superstructure.

Other Options:

- *Malegitti Shivalaya (Badami)* and *Virupaksha Temple (Pattadakal)* are built in the Dravida style (featuring a tiered, pyramidal *Vimana* instead of a curvilinear *Shikhara*)

5. Among the four main forms of existence of life recognized in Jainism, which one of the following is not included?

- (a) Deva (gods)
- (b) Yaksha (demi-gods)
- (c) Manushya (humans)
- (d) Tiryancha (animals and plants)

Answer : **(b) Yaksha (demi-gods)**

- **Explanation:** Jain philosophy divides the cycle of worldly migration (Samsara) into four main destinies or realms of life existence, known as the **Four Gatis (Chaar Gati)**. These four strictly include:
 1. **Deva Gati** (Celestial/Heavenly beings)
 2. **Manushya Gati** (Human beings)
 3. **Tiryancha Gati** (Animals, plants, and microscopic life)
 4. **Naraki/Infernal Gati** (Hellish/Infernal beings)
- **Why Yaksha is incorrect:** While *Yakshas* and *Yakshinis* are acknowledged in Jain iconography and folklore as guardian deities, they are a sub-classification within the celestial sphere (*Deva*) and are not recognized as one of the four principal existential destinies (*Gatis*)

6. The Hallisalasaya painting in the Bagh Caves represents:

- (a) A joyous folk dance
- (b) Buddha in a meditative pose
- (c) The depiction of Shiva and Parvati on Kailasha
- (d) Samudramanathan (Churning of the Ocean)

Answer : **Direct Answer: (a) A joyous folk dance**

- **Explanation:** The **Bagh Caves** (located in Dhar district, Madhya Pradesh) are famous for their 5th–6th century CE Gupta-period mural paintings. Cave 4 (known as the *Rang Mahal*) features a celebrated fresco depicting the **Hallisalasya** (or *Hallisaka*), which represents a **joyous group folk dance**. The painting vividly illustrates a group of female dancers and musicians moving in a circular formation, playing hand drums (*mridanga*) and sticks, capturing a lively, rhythmic secular performance.
- **Other Options:** While Buddhist themes (like the Bodhisattvas) are present in other parts of the Bagh complex, the *Hallisalasya* scene itself is entirely secular and celebratory, not a depiction of meditating Buddha, Shiva-Parvati, or the Samudramanathan.

7. Consider the following statements relating to the use of the place-value system in India:

1. The earliest epigraphic use of the place-value system in India is found in the Mankani plates from Gujarat (AD 595 – 596).
2. In the ninth century, place-values become general in inscriptions all over India.
3. The place-values have been found in Sanskrit inscriptions in South-east Asia as early as the seventh century.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer : **(d) 1, 2 and 3**

- **Explanation:**
 1. **Statement 1 is correct:** The earliest universally cited epigraphic (inscriptional) evidence of the decimal place-value system with a zero in India is found in the **Mankani copper plates from Gujarat**, dated to **AD 595–596**, where the numeral 346 is written using place-value notations.
 2. **Statement 2 is correct:** By the **9th century CE**, the utilization of the decimal place-value system and zero became a standardized, ubiquitous convention across inscriptions throughout the Indian subcontinent.
 3. **Statement 3 is correct:** Due to early maritime trade and cultural expansion, the Indian place-value system spread rapidly. It was recorded in **Sanskrit inscriptions across Southeast Asia** (such as in Cambodia and Sumatra) as early as the **7th century CE** (e.g., the Sambor inscription of 683 CE uses an early zero).

8. Consider the following statements about the archaeological findings in Harappan towns:

- I. There is wide occurrence of spindle-whorls in the houses but absence of spinning wheels.
- II. Weights and measurement scales, complete with graduations have been discovered.

III. There are houses built in large part with baked bricks, around relatively spacious courtyards, with their own wells, bathing platforms, and large rooms.

Which of the following inferences can be drawn from the above statements?

1. Statement I suggests that spinning was a laborious activity done at home.
2. Statement II suggests the extent of the scientific knowledge that the Harappans possessed.
3. Statement III suggests the emergence of a common property system.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: **(a) 1 and 2 only**

- **Explanation:**
 - **Inference I is correct:** The abundant find of terracotta and stone **spindle-whorls** in ordinary houses indicates that spinning yarn was a decentralized, manual household chore. The absence of mechanized spinning wheels implies it was entirely hand-spun and **labor-intensive**.
 - **Inference II is correct:** The discovery of highly precise chert weights (following strict binary and decimal ratios) and ivory/shell measuring scales with accurate graduations demonstrates a sophisticated, uniform grasp of **scientific and mathematical knowledge** across the civilization.
 - **Inference III is incorrect:** The presence of large private houses with individual courtyards, private wells, and dedicated bathing platforms strongly reflects **private ownership and social stratification** (wealth disparity), rather than a "common property system" or communal living.

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

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

Answer : **The Bardoli Satyagraha was a campaign against the enhancement of land revenue, while the Eka Movement was a protest against excessive extraction of rents.**

- **Explanation:**
 - The **Bardoli Satyagraha (1928)** in Gujarat was a classic *no-tax* campaign led by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel specifically targeting a **30% arbitrary enhancement of land revenue** imposed by the British colonial government.
 - The **Eka Movement (1921–1922)** in northern Awadh (U.P.) was a peasant movement primarily directed against **excessive, illegal extractions of rent** (*lagan* and *cesses*) by local taluqdars/landlords, rather than direct government land revenue.
- **Why other options are incorrect:** The Eka movement was initially backed by Congress/Khilafat leaders but quickly became independent under Madari Pasi. Bardoli was thoroughly organized by the Congress framework from the start. Furthermore, Eka occurred in northern Awadh districts (Hardoi, Bahraich, Sitapur), not Varanasi/Mirzapur.

10. Consider the following statements about the Rigvedic period:

I. Irrigation from wells allowed agriculture to expand away from flood plains and strips on river margins into the present Punjab and Haryana plains having underground water levels reasonably close to the surface.

II. Draught-animal power was employed to draw up water out of the wells.

Which of the following information support/supports the above statements?

1. There is evidence in the Rigveda of the use of ashma chakra (stone pulley wheel) and ahava (strapped wooden pails) to draw up water.
2. Mention has been made in the Rigveda of the use of implements like parashu/ kulisha (axe) and datra /sreni (sickle).
3. There is a history of the use of ox, even before the Rigveda, for ploughing the land and pulling the carts.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(c) 1 and 3 only**

- **Explanation:**
 - **Information 1 supports the statements:** The Rigveda contains explicit references to **ashma-chakra** (a stone pulley wheel or ring-stone) and **ahava** (wooden buckets or pails bound with leather straps) used to haul water up from deep dug-out wells (*kupa* or *avat*). This explicitly shows mechanical adaptation for well irrigation.
 - **Information 3 supports the statements:** Archaeological and historical data prove that oxen were trained and deployed for pulling heavy carts and ploughing the land **long before the Rigvedic era** (originating in the Indus Valley Civilization). This

established history of domesticating cattle power explains how draft-animal power was easily adapted to pull water ropes at the well site.

- **Why Information 2 does not support:** While the mention of axes (*parashu*) and sickles (*datra*) proves that clearing forests and harvesting crops took place, these tools are related to manual clearing and reaping—they **provide no evidence regarding the mechanism of well irrigation** or drawing up underground water.

11. Consider the following assertion:

In the Pleistocene period either the Yamuna once flowed into the Indus, or the Sutlej flowed into the Yamuna and one major tributary of either had shifted from the Ganga to the Indus or vice versa.

Which of the following is/are the basis of the above assertion?

1. The Nadi-Sukta of the Rigveda
2. The explorations of the Sutlej and the Yamuna by Robert Bruce Foote
3. The presence of the same species of dolphins in both the Indus and the Ganga river systems

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(d) 3**

- **Explanation:** The biological basis for this geological assertion is **the presence of closely related/the same species of freshwater dolphins (*Platanista gangetica*)** in both the disconnected Indus and Ganga-Yamuna river systems. Because these river dolphins are strictly freshwater mammals that cannot survive or migrate through salt water (the sea), their presence in both separate basins proves that the Indus and Ganga-Yamuna basins were physically connected through an ancient river channel switch or river-capture event during the Pleistocene epoch.
- **Why other options are incorrect:** Neither the *Nadi-Sukta* of the Rigveda (which is a textual hymn naming rivers) nor the archaeological field surveys of Robert Bruce Foote (who is the father of Indian prehistory focused on Paleolithic stone tools) provide the scientific, empirical basis for this specific inter-basin hydrological linking assertion.

12. What does an empty seat represent in early Buddhist iconography?

- (a) The meditation of the Buddha
- (b) The Buddha's First Sermon
- (c) The Buddha's Mahaparinibbana
- (d) The Buddha's Mahabhinishkramana

Answer : **(a) The meditation of the Buddha**

- **Explanation:** Early Buddhist art (such as the reliefs at Sanchi, Bharhut, and early Amaravati) was strictly **aniconic**, meaning the physical form of the Buddha was never directly represented. Instead, key events were depicted using symbols. An **empty seat or throne** (*asana*), often placed beneath a sacred Bodhi tree, symbolized the **meditation or the enlightenment (Mahabodhi) of the Buddha**.
- **Other Symbols:**
 - *First Sermon* is represented by the Wheel of Law (*Dharmachakra*).
 - *Mahaparinibbana* (Death) is represented by a Stupa.
 - *Mahabhinishkramana* (Great Renunciation/Departure) is represented by a riderless horse.

13. Which of the following pairs of ancient and modern names of rivers is/are correctly matched?

1. Vitasta : Chenab
2. Asikni : Jhelum
3. Parushni : Ravi
4. Yavyavati : Beas

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(c) 3 only**

- **Explanation:** Let us evaluate the pairings:
 - **Pair 3 is correctly matched:** **Parushni** is the ancient Rigvedic name for the modern **Ravi River** (famous for the Battle of the Ten Kings).
- **Why other pairs are incorrect:**
 - *Vitasta* is the ancient name for the **Jhelum**, not Chenab.
 - *Asikni* is the ancient name for the **Chenab**, not Jhelum.
 - *Yavyavati* is an ancient river mentioned in the Rigveda often associated with the Ghaggar-Hakra or a stream in Punjab, whereas the **Beas River** was anciently called *Vipasa*

14. Which of the following statements on the Amaravati Stupa and its relief sculpture is/are correct?

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 1 and 3 only**

- **Explanation:**
 - **Statement 1 is correct:** The Amaravati Stupa (historically called the *Mahachaitya*) was located on the banks of the **lower Krishna River valley** in modern Andhra Pradesh.
 - **Statement 3 is correct:** The distinctive white-limestone narrative relief art of the Amaravati School exerted a profound, lasting aesthetic impact on later South Indian art (such as Pallava and Chola art). Furthermore, due to maritime Buddhist trade routes, its iconic artistic products and relief styles were **exported to Sri Lanka and various Southeast Asian kingdoms** (like Anuradhapura and Thailand).
 - **Why Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Amaravati Stupa was actually **larger in size and dimensions** than the Great Stupa at Sanchi, making the assertion that it was "next only to Sanchi in size" factually incorrect.

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

1. Senguttuvan : Chera
2. Udiyanjerai : Chola
3. Nedunjelidan : Pandya

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 2 only**

- **Explanation:** The question asks for the pair that is **not correctly matched**.
 - **Udiyanjerai : Chola is NOT correctly matched.** Udiyanjerai (also known as Udiyan Cheralathan) was a celebrated early ruler of the **Chera dynasty**, not the Chola dynasty.
- **Why other options are correct pairings:**
 - *Senguttuvan* (Cheran Senguttuvan) is correctly matched as a legendary **Chera** king celebrated in the epic *Silappatikaram*.

- *Nedunjeliyan* (Talaiyalanganattu Cheruvendra Nedunjeliyan) is correctly matched as a prominent **Pandya** monarch

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 1, 2 and 4** [\[1\]](#)

- **Explanation:** Subhas Chandra Bose resigned from the Congress presidency and formed the All India Forward Bloc due to severe factional friction inside the party:
 - **Statement 1 is correct:** Bose won the 1939 Tripuri presidential election against Pattabhi Sitaramayya, but he **failed to win the trust and working confidence of Mahatma Gandhi** and the right-wing Congress Working Committee, who refused to cooperate with him.
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** The **Congress Left was fundamentally fractured** and ideologically disunited. They failed to consolidate as an organized block behind Bose during the structural crisis.
 - **Statement 4 is correct:** Important socialist leaders like **Jayaprakash Narayan** (Congress Socialist Party) and **M.N. Roy** (Radical Humanists) prioritized **maintaining broader Congress unity** under Gandhi's national leadership over factionally siding with Bose.
- **Why Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Communists (CPI) initially backed Bose in his radical anti-imperialist phase and left-wing realignment plans inside the Congress before shifting their overall strategic stance due to Comintern directives later during WWII

17. Consider the following statements regarding the British policy in Awadh immediately after its annexation in 1856:

1. The taluqdars were dispossessed of their estates but allowed to retain their arms and forts.
2. A Summary Revenue Settlement was made in 1856 assuming that the taluqdars were outsiders.
3. The British believed in taking revenue directly from the peasants by removing the taluqdars.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : **(a) 2 and 3 only**

- **Explanation:**
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** Immediately following the annexation of Awadh in 1856, the British administration executed the **Summary Settlement of 1856**. This settlement operated on the explicit structural assumption that the *taluqdars* (landlords) were mere middlemen and interlopers with no authentic permanent right to the soil.
 - **Statement 3 is correct:** The administrative ideology of the British (influenced by Utilitarian principles) believed that **eliminating the taluqdars and settling land revenue directly with the actual peasant cultivators** would optimize state revenue collection and ease peasant burdens (though it failed to do so practically).
- **Why Statement 1 is incorrect:** While the *taluqdars* were systematically dispossessed of their revenue estates, the British **strictly ordered them to surrender all firearms and ordered the immediate destruction of their private mud forts**. They were definitely not permitted to retain their arms and fortresses.

18. Consider the following assertion:

The genesis of political alliances based on community lay in the very nature of the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms, 1919.

Which of the following statements support/supports the above assertion?

1. Reforms retained and extended the principle of separate electorates.
2. Separate electorates were supposed to counter Indian nationalism, which was growing stronger.
3. Deprived classes rallied around the favours inherent in separate electorates.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(d) 1, 2 and 3**

- **Explanation:**
 - **Statement 1 supports:** The Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms (1919) directly **retained separate electorates for Muslims and extended them** to include Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, and Europeans, cementing community-based institutional politics.

- **Statement 2 supports:** British colonial policy utilized separate electorates as a structural mechanism to check and fracture the secular, unified surge of Indian nationalism by dividing voters along localized religious and communal identity blocs.
- **Statement 3 supports:** Witnessing the political leverage granted to specific groups, various **deprived, depressed, and non-Brahmin classes mobilized** and organized politically to petition for similar statutory communal reservations, privileges, and concessions.

19. Pandit Mallikarjun Mansur, the famous classical singer from Karnataka, represented the:

- (a) Agra Gharana
- (b) Gwalior Gharana
- (c) Patiala Gharana
- (d) Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana

Answer : **(d) Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana**

- **Explanation:** Pandit Mallikarjun Mansur, a legendary Hindustani classical vocalist hailing from Karnataka, was one of the most prominent stalwarts of the **Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana**. He received his rigorous musical training under Ustad Alladiya Khan's sons, Pandit Manji Khan and Pandit Bhurji Khan, and was celebrated for his mastery over complex, rare ragas (*Anavat ragas*).

20. In which one among the following texts does the term kshetra-patni ('mistress of the field') originate?

- (a) Rigveda
- (b) Atharvaveda
- (c) Ashtadhyayi
- (d) Arthashastra

Answer : **(a) Rigveda**

- **Explanation:** The term **kshetra-patni** (literally translating to 'mistress of the field' or goddess of agriculture) originates directly in the **Rigveda** (specifically in Book/Mandala 4, Hymn 57, which is dedicated to agricultural operations, plowing, and tutelary deities of the field like *Kshetrapati* and *Kshetra-patni*). It represents the early Vedic personification and deification of arable, cultivated agricultural land.

21. Consider the following statements with reference to India's response to climate change:

I. India's Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) is a crucial tool for achieving net-zero emissions by 2070.

II. India's 4th Biennial Update Report (BUR-4) submitted in December, 2024 recorded around 8% decrease in Greenhouse gas emissions in 2020 over 2019.

III. Climate-resilient development necessarily depends on quick and short-term achievement of emission reduction targets.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 1 and 2**

- **Explanation:**
 - **Relationship 1 is correct:** The **LT-LEDS** (Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy) outlines India's roadmap to net-zero by 2070. **Statement II** (the data from BUR-4 showing a ~8% drop in emissions in 2020 and continued emission intensity reduction) provides empirical evidence that India is successfully decoupling growth from emissions, thereby supporting the feasibility and trajectory of the long-term goals in Statement I.
 - **Relationship 2 is correct:** India's climate policy (embodied in LT-LEDS) emphasizes "climate justice" and a "long-term" transition that safeguards energy security and development. **Statement III's** insistence on "quick and short-term" targets contradicts India's established stance, which argues that rapid, enforced cuts would compromise the developmental needs of the Global South.
 - **Why Relationship 3 is incorrect:** Since Statement III advocates a pathway (hasty/short-term) that India explicitly rejects in its LT-LEDS (gradual/long-term), they do not work together to establish the premise.

22. With respect to the Western Hoolock Gibbons, which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **b) 1 and 2**

- **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The **Hoollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary** in Assam is the primary protected habitat for the **Western Hoolock Gibbon**, which is listed as **Endangered** on the IUCN Red List.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Gibbons are the masters of **brachiation** (arm-swinging), moving rapidly between trees with specialized ball-and-socket wrist joints.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Unlike gorillas, which are "Great Apes" with a heavy, robust build, Hoolock Gibbons are "**Lesser Apes**." They have a **slender, lightweight frame** (weighing only roughly 6–9 kg) designed for agility and speed in the canopy, not raw strength or ground-dwelling like gorillas.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(d) 3 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 3 is correct:** Mangroves are protected primarily because they act as critical **bio-shields** against cyclones, tsunamis, and coastal erosion by dissipating tidal energy. Simultaneously, they provide vital **biomass resources** (fuel, fodder, honey, fish nurseries) that sustain the livelihoods of coastal rural communities.
- **Why 1 & 2 are incorrect:** Mangroves thrive in saline/brackish water. They do not "store freshwater" for paddy cultivation (salinity is harmful to paddy), nor do they convert land into "freshwater aquaculture zones." In fact, converting mangroves for aquaculture (shrimp farming) is a major environmental threat, not a conservation rationale.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(d) 3 only**

- **Explanation:**
 - **Statement 3 is correct:** The Vizhinjam International Seaport (Kerala) represents a structural shift because it is India's first **deep-water trans-shipment port** (with a natural draft of 18-20m). It is designed to compete with foreign ports like Colombo, Singapore, and Dubai by attracting large mother vessels directly to India, thereby **reducing reliance on foreign trans-shipment** and retaining foreign exchange revenue within the country.
 - **Why 1 & 2 are incorrect:** It is not exclusively for domestic cargo (it targets international trans-shipment) and its primary focus is container logistics, not passenger cruise tourism or heritage.

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

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

Select the answer from the following:

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

Answer : **(b) Indus.**

- The Indus River has an **antecedent drainage system**, meaning it existed before the Himalayas rose and cut through the mountains.

- It flows through **three countries** — China (Tibet), India, and Pakistan.
- It originates in the **Tibetan Plateau** near Lake Mansarovar and is extremely important for **irrigation**, especially in Pakistan

26. Which of the following with reference to Indian States is/are not correct?

1. Uttar Pradesh shares its boundary with the highest number of other Indian States.
2. Rajasthan shares the longest international border among all Indian States.
3. Sikkim is the only State that shares its boundary with just one other Indian State.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(c) 2 and 3**

- **Explanation:** The question asks for the statements that are **not correct**.
 - **Statement 2 is incorrect: West Bengal**, not Rajasthan, shares the longest international land border among all Indian states. West Bengal shares a **2,217 km long border** with Bangladesh. Rajasthan's international border with Pakistan (the Radcliffe Line) spans roughly 1,037 km.
 - **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Sikkim is **not the only** state that shares its land boundary with just one other Indian State. Both **Sikkim** (which only borders West Bengal) and **Meghalaya** (which only borders Assam) share their domestic borders with exactly one single Indian state.
- **Why Statement 1 is correct:** Uttar Pradesh shares its geographical borders with the highest number of other states—bordering **8 states** (Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Bihar) plus 1 Union Territory (Delhi)

27. Which of the following statements with regard to the arrival of Amur Falcons at Doyang Lake in Nagaland each year from Mongolia is/are correct?

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

(c) 2 and 3

(d) 3 only

Answer : **(a) 1 only**

- **Explanation:**
 - **Statement 1 is correct:** The massive annual migration stopover of millions of Amur Falcons at Doyang Lake in Pangti, Nagaland, is globally recognized as one of the most successful community-led conservation turnarounds. Local communities transformed from hunting the birds for meat to actively protecting them, illustrating how local stewardship ensures the safety of international migratory species.
 - **Why 2 & 3 are incorrect:** Advanced satellite tracking technologies are used by scientists to *study* and *monitor* migration pathways, but they do not "guide" or navigate the birds, which fly using natural evolutionary instincts. Furthermore, Amur Falcons have not adapted to "permanent residency" in India; they are strictly passage migrants that roost temporarily in Nagaland before embarking on their non-stop trans-oceanic flight across the Indian Ocean to Southern Africa.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only

(b) 1 and 2

(c) 2 and 3

(d) 3 only

Answer : **(d) 3 only**

- **Explanation:**
 - **Statement 3 is correct:** The fundamental objective of the Rainfed Area Development (RAD) scheme under the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) is to enhance agricultural productivity and build climate resilience for small/marginal farmers. It achieves this by promoting **Integrated Farming Systems (IFS)**—which combine multi-cropping with allied sectors like horticulture, livestock, aquaculture, and agroforestry to distribute and cushion climatic and market risks.
 - **Why 1 & 2 are incorrect:** The scheme actively discourages resource-exhaustive monoculture because it increases vulnerability to pests and droughts in rainfed regions. Furthermore, expanding water-guzzling rice cultivation in heavily irrigated areas is completely outside the scope and mandate of a *rainfed* agricultural resilience program.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(c) Both 1 and 2**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** An **Oeko-Tex Standard 100** certification guarantees that the textile has been rigorously tested for harmful chemicals and heavy metals. Securing this label allows Indian handloom and silk exporters to bypass non-tariff barriers and compete seamlessly in lucrative premium Western markets (like the EU and North America) that demand strict consumer safety compliance.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Eri Silk is naturally known as "Ahimsa Silk" (peace silk) because it is harvested without killing the silkworm inside the cocoon. Combining this inherent eco-friendly nature with an official Oeko-Tex certification provides verifiable proof that the entire processing chain meets strict international sustainability and safety protocols, validating its entry into high-end global eco-conscious segments.

30. Ships from which of the following countries have to cross the Strait of Hormuz to reach out to the Indian Ocean?

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 1 and 3**

- **Explanation:** The **Strait of Hormuz** is a vital strategic choke point linking the Persian Gulf to the Gulf of Oman and the broader Indian Ocean.
 - **Bahrain (1)** and **Qatar (3)** are landlocked inside the Persian Gulf. Therefore, commercial cargo vessels or oil tankers sailing out from these nations must pass through the Strait of Hormuz to exit the gulf and access the Indian Ocean network.
- **Why other options are incorrect:** **Syria (2)** and **Egypt (4)** are Mediterranean and Red Sea littoral countries respectively. Ships from Egypt navigate via the Red Sea and the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait to reach the Indian Ocean, completely bypassing the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz.

31. Tungurahua Volcano, which was declared a Global Geopark by UNESCO in 2025, is situated in which one among the following countries?

- (a) Ecuador
- (b) Peru
- (c) Bolivia
- (d) Colombia

Answer : **(a) Ecuador**

- **Explanation:** The **Tungurahua Volcano** (known natively as the "Throat of Fire") is an active stratovolcano nestled in the central Andes mountain range of **Ecuador**. It was officially recognized and designated as a **UNESCO Global Geopark**. The park is highly celebrated for its exceptional geological value, volcanic geo-heritage, thermal hot springs, and sustainable development model managed alongside local indigenous communities.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 1 and 2**

- **Explanation:**
 - **Statement 1 is correct:** Madhav National Park, located in the Shivpuri district of Madhya Pradesh, was officially declared India's **58th Tiger Reserve**.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The **Sakhya Sagar** lake, which was designated as a Ramsar Site of international importance, is situated right within the boundaries of this National Park.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The entire territory of Madhav National Park lies exclusively within the Shivpuri district in northwestern **Madhya Pradesh**. Its area is not shared with Rajasthan.

33. With reference to the climate of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The climate can be defined as a humid, tropical coastal climate.
2. It receives rainfall from both South-west monsoon and North-east monsoon.
3. Maximum precipitation is between December and May.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 1 and 2**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Being situated close to the equator and surrounded by the Bay of Bengal, the islands experience a typical **humid, tropical coastal climate** characterized by high temperatures and high moisture levels year-round.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The islands have an extended rainy season because they receive substantial precipitation from both the **South-west monsoon** (advancing phase) and the **North-east monsoon** (retreating phase).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The maximum precipitation occurs during the monsoon months spanning from **June to November**. The period between December and May constitutes the relatively dry and transitional winter-summer phase, making the statement factually backwards

34. Which of the following geographical features or phenomena is/are associated with the Peninsular Block of India?

1. Submergence of parts of the western coast due to tectonic activity
2. Presence of residual mountain ranges such as the Veliconda hills and Mahendragiri hills
3. Deep, V-shaped river valleys formed by fast-flowing rivers

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

(d) 3 only

Answer: **(b) 1 and 2**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is associated:** Major parts of the western coast of India underwent **submergence due to faulting and tectonic activity** during the tertiary period, giving rise to its present straight, steep coastal profile and natural ports.
- **Statement 2 is associated:** The Peninsular Block is an ancient, highly stable landmass characterized by heavily relict, denuded, and **residual mountain ranges** that have been worn down by millions of years of erosion, such as the Veliconda hills and Mahendragiri hills in the Eastern Ghats.
- **Statement 3 is NOT associated:** Deep, V-shaped river valleys formed by fast-flowing rivers are characteristic features of the youthful, tectonic **Extra-Peninsular region (the Himalayas)**. In sharp contrast, Peninsular rivers flow through shallow, broad, and graded valleys with low gradients.

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

I. The Sagarmala Programme seeks to achieve port-led economic growth through cost-effective and sustainable coastal infrastructure.

II. The success of the Sagarmala Programme is reflected in significant growth in coastal and inland waterway shipping, along with improved global port rankings.

III. Sagarmala 2.0 aims to position India as a global maritime innovation hub aligned with Atmanirbhar Bharat and Vikshit Bharat 2047 visions.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only

(b) 1 and 2

(c) 2 and 3

(d) 3 only

Answer : **(b) 1 and 2**

• **Explanation:**

- **Relationship 1 is correct:** Statement II presents empirical evidence of real-world outcomes (growth in shipping, water transit volume, and global logistics ranks). This

data **directly validates the real-world effectiveness** of the port-led infrastructural layout originally conceptualized in Statement I.

- **Relationship 2 is correct:** Statement III outlines "Sagarmala 2.0," which does not abandon the core mission of port infrastructure but expands it. It **extends the original foundational parameters** by integrating them into futuristic national milestones like technological innovation and the *Vikshit Bharat 2047* long-term visions.
- **Why Relationship 3 is incorrect:** Statement I does not contradict Statement III. Rather, infrastructure (I) serves as the physical backbone upon which the subsequent modern innovation frameworks (III) are dynamically constructed.

36. Consider the following statements about *Rhynchostylis retusa* (Foxtail orchid):

1. It is an epiphytic orchid.
2. The species is endemic to North-east India.
3. It is the State flower of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : **(b) 1 and 3**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** *Rhynchostylis retusa* is fundamentally an **epiphytic orchid**, meaning it naturally grows anchored on top of tree trunks or branches rather than in soil.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It is officially recognized as the **State flower of both Assam** (known locally as *Kopou Phul*) and **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- **Why Statement 2 is incorrect:** The species is **not endemic to Northeast India**. While highly common and culturally revered there, its native geographical range spans widely across India (including the Western Ghats, Odisha, and Andhra Pradesh) as well as multiple other Asian countries including Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(c) 3 only**

- **Explanation:** The **Moidams** are the vaulted mound-burial systems of the royals and nobles of the **Tai-Ahom kingdom** in Assam. Structurally resembling pyramids, these hollow brick or stone chambers were used as **sacred burial grounds** where kings, queens, and aristocrats were entombed along with their valuables, making option (c) the only factually accurate historical description. They did not serve as defensive fortresses, recreational properties, or tactical drill grounds.

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

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

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

Answer : **(b) Better production, better nutrition, better environment and better life**

- **Explanation:** The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) organizes its strategic global frameworks and its specific roadmap for "Blue Transformation" (sustainable aquatic and marine food systems) around the guiding principle of the **Four Betters**. These are strictly defined as: **Better Production, Better Nutrition, a Better Environment, and a Better Life** (leaving no one behind)

39. Which of the following statements with reference to Lake Turkana is/are correct?

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer : **(b) 1 and 3 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Lake Turkana is globally recognized as the **largest permanent desert lake** and the largest alkaline lake in the world.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It is inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is famously nicknamed the '**Jade Sea**' due to its striking, beautiful green-turquoise coloration caused by algae blooms.
- **Why Statement 2 is incorrect:** The lake is situated primarily within the Great Rift Valley of **Kenya** (with its northern tip extending marginally into Ethiopia), not South Sudan. Furthermore, it sits in a semi-desert region of East Africa, completely separate from the eastern fringe of the Sahara desert

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

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

Answer : **(c) Khasi Hills Community REDD+ project**

- **Explanation:** The **Khasi Hills Community REDD+ Project** in Meghalaya is historically **India's first community-based REDD+ initiative** to be officially registered and certified under the international voluntary market standard, the **Plan Vivo Standard**. Launched by a federation of indigenous Khasi kingdoms (*Ka Synjuk Ki Hima Arliang Wah Umiam*), the project effectively balances avoided deforestation and forest carbon credits with tribal livelihood generation.

41. Which of the following statements with regard to genetic medicine is/are correct?

1. Genetic medicines correct/compensate for the faulty genes responsible for disease.
2. Engineered viruses and lipid nanoparticles are used as carriers of the genetic medicine.
3. Genetic medicines alter the entire DNA sequence.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(c) 1 and 2 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The primary therapeutic objective of genetic medicine is to either **correct or structurally compensate for a faulty, mutated gene** that directly causes or exacerbates a specific congenital disease or medical condition.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Because raw genetic material degrades quickly or cannot pass through biological walls easily on its own, **engineered viruses** (like adeno-associated viruses) and synthetically created **lipid nanoparticles (LNPs)** are universally utilized as specialized vehicles/carriers to safely deliver genetic payloads into targeted human cells.
- **Why Statement 3 is incorrect:** Genetic therapies act with high precision. They correct or substitute a specific targeted target gene or genetic sequence inside affected cells; they **do not alter the entire DNA sequence** or the entire genome of the individual organism.

42. Which of the following statements with regard to Large Language Models (LLMs) used in machine learning is/are correct?

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 1 and 2 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** LLMs are generative statistical models. At their core, they process a prompt, assign mathematical probabilities to an array of potential next tokens (words/sub-words), and select the most probable continuation based on their training parameters (often adjusted by decoding strategies like temperature or top-k).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** During their training phase, LLMs process vast datasets through mathematical optimization algorithms (like stochastic gradient descent) specifically designed to minimize a loss function (prediction errors).
- **Why Statement 3 is incorrect:** LLMs do not produce inherently unbiased outputs. Because they are trained on vast datasets scraped from the internet, they regularly inherit, mirror, and amplify the cultural, social, and systemic human biases present in that training data.

43. Which of the following statements with regard to stealth technology is/are correct?

1. Stealth objects have a very small radar cross-section and are coated with Radar Absorbing Material.
2. Stealth objects can be detected using specific frequencies.
3. Stealth objects are coated with metamaterials to increase the scattering of electromagnetic radiation.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(d) 1, 2 and 3**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Stealth aircraft and vessels feature specialized sharp, geometric structural angles to deflect radar waves away from the source, minimizing their **Radar Cross-Section (RCS)**. They are also coated with **Radar-Absorbing Material (RAM)** to convert incoming electromagnetic energy into heat.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Stealth is not absolute invisibility. While optimized against traditional high-frequency tracking radars (like X-band), stealth objects **can be detected using specific alternative frequencies**, such as long-wavelength Low-Frequency Radars (L-band, VHF, or UHF bands).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Modern advanced stealth concepts leverage specialized coatings embedded with **metamaterials** (engineered sub-wavelength structures). These are deployed to dynamically manipulate, bend, absorb, or increase the diffuse scattering of incoming electromagnetic radiation, masking the signature of the asset.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 2 and 3 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Modern commercial aircraft black boxes consist of two distinct units: the Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR), which captures radio transmissions and cockpit conversations, and the Flight Data Recorder (FDR), which records dozens of operational parameters like altitude, airspeed, and heading.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** To survive catastrophic impact forces, extreme pressure, and intense post-crash fires, the critical internal crash-survivable memory units are heavily insulated and encased within a heavy-duty, crash-resistant housing made of **stainless steel or titanium**.
- **Why Statement 1 is incorrect:** Black boxes carry an Underwater Locator Beacon (ULB). However, because light waves degrade rapidly and cannot travel effectively through deep, murky ocean water, the beacon does not emit red light pulses; instead, it **emits automated high-frequency acoustic/ultrasonic pulses (pings)** to facilitate underwater sonar detection.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 2 and 3 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 2 is correct: Green Hydrogen** is strictly defined by its production pathway, which utilizes the **electrolysis of water** powered entirely by clean, **renewable energy** sources (like solar or wind), yielding zero operational carbon emissions.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The National Green Hydrogen Mission of India sets explicit targets for 2030, including a production capacity of 5 MMT per annum, which is projected to result in the **abatement of nearly 50 MMT (Million Metric Tonnes) of annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030**.
- **Why Statement 1 is incorrect:** Decarbonized hydrogen obtained via natural gas reforming (steam methane reforming) coupled with Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) is classified as **Blue Hydrogen**, not Green Hydrogen.

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

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : **(c) 1 and 2 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct: IN-SPACe** (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre) was specifically established as a single-window, autonomous nodal agency under the Department of Space to license, facilitate, and regulate private space sector operations in India.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Chennai-based space startup **Agnikul Cosmos** successfully executed the launch of its *Agnibaan SOrTeD* rocket, powered by the Agnilet engine—globally recognized as the **world's first flight of a fully 3D-printed, single-piece semi-cryogenic rocket engine**.
- **Why Statement 3 is incorrect: Skyroot Aerospace** gained prominence for developing and launching *Vikram-S*, India's first privately developed rocket, which utilized a *solid* propellant stage. They did not develop liquid fuel for ISRO's heavy-lift GSLV (Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle), which relies on ISRO's proprietary liquid and cryogenic stages.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 2 and 3 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 2 is correct:** True drone swarms do not merely rely on individual commands from a base station; they utilize decentralized, **peer-to-peer ad-hoc**

communication networks allowing individual drones within the swarm to constantly communicate with each other to self-coordinate flight paths, spacing, and tasks.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** Because drone swarms rely heavily on precise coordinate positioning for navigation, **GPS Spoofing** (broadcasting fake satellite signals to deceive the drones about their actual location) is a highly effective, widely deployed electronic warfare counter-measure to disrupt or crash a swarm attack.
- **Why Statement 1 is incorrect:** Drone swarms generally use standard, mature radio-frequency bands (such as UHF, 2.4 GHz, or 5.8 GHz ISM bands) for command-center links. The Terahertz band is an experimental, short-range high-bandwidth frequency block that is not currently standard for drone swarm field operations due to atmospheric attenuation.

48. Which of the following statements with regard to GenomeIndia Project is/are correct?

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 2 and 3 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The project is an ambitious national initiative completely **funded and spearheaded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT)** under the Ministry of Science and Technology.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Its primary mission is to perform whole-genome sequencing of 10,000 individuals representing diverse linguistic, geographic, and tribal groups across the country to **build a comprehensive grid/catalogue of the genetic diversity of the Indian population**, helping advance personalized medicine.
- **Why Statement 1 is incorrect:** The GenomeIndia Project is a distinct, localized national project launched in 2020. It is **not a part of the historical international Human Genome Project (HGP)**, which was a global collaborative scientific endeavor that successfully concluded much earlier, in 2003.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(c) Both 1 and 2**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The National Quantum Mission targets the development of intermediate-scale quantum computers boasting **50 to 1000 physical qubits** over a target timeline of 8 years (2023–2031) utilizing various platforms like superconducting and photonic technologies.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** To build a robust ecosystem, the mission structurally mandates the setup of **four thematic hubs (T-Hubs)** across premier Indian institutes, focusing on: Quantum Computing, Quantum Communication, Quantum Sensing & Metrology, and Quantum Materials & Devices.

50. Which of the following statements with regard to India's Deep Ocean Mission is/are correct?

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 2 and 3 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 2 is correct: Matsya-6000** is India's indigenous deep-ocean manned submersible, purposefully designed and engineered to safely transport **3 personnel** down to an extreme ocean depth of 6,000 meters.
- **Statement 3 is correct: Samudrayaan** is the official name of the flagship manned deep-sea exploration project executed directly under the broader structural umbrella of the Deep Ocean Mission.
- **Why Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Deep Ocean Mission was launched and is administratively steered by the **Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)**, Government of India, acting as the nodal ministry, not the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

51. Mr. X, a senior officer, was overseeing a critical vaccination programme during a pandemic. He found that a private service provider responsible for vaccine distribution was compromising on quality to make profits. Despite immense pressure to manage the issue due to vested interests, he raised his voice based on the principles of public administration which he learnt during various training programmes attended across his career. He reported the issue to the appropriate vigilance authority and halted the contract to ensure citizen welfare.

Which one among the following principles of public administration was most strongly demonstrated by Mr. X's actions?

- (a) Esprit de corps
- (b) Equity
- (c) Accountability
- (d) Delegation

Answer : **(c) Accountability**

- **Explanation: Accountability** is the bedrock principle of public administration that mandates public officials to be answerable for their actions, ensure the legal and ethical utilization of public resources, and uphold citizen welfare above all else. By actively reporting the corrupt private distributor to a vigilance authority and halting the contract despite outside pressure, Mr. X demonstrated institutional and ethical accountability.
- **Other Options:**
 - *Esprit de corps* refers to team spirit and harmony within an organization.
 - *Equity* means fairness and egalitarian treatment.
 - *Delegation* is the downward transfer of authority from a manager to a subordinate.

52. In a multi-ethnic district where both economic competition and historical grievances frequently led to community tensions, a flashpoint has arisen with a Government decision to allocate land for a waste management facility near a tribal hamlet, sparking protests by the tribal community, which claimed that the land was sacred and critical to their cultural identity. At the same time, urban residents and local industries supported the project, citing severe solid waste challenges and health concerns due to lack of a proper disposal site. The conflict has escalated with road blockades, social media campaigns, and allegations of police excesses.

As a responsible Government official, you are tasked with resolving the situation through mediation, ensuring a sustainable outcome that balances environmental needs, tribal rights, and urban public health.

Consider the following statements with reference to the above:

1. A successful conflict resolution process must begin with acknowledging the cultural concerns of the protesting tribal community before discussing technical alternatives.
2. The Government should move ahead with the project without delay to address urban health concerns, which outweigh the sentiments of a small group.

3. Creating a multi-stakeholder dialogue platform — including tribal leaders, environmental experts, and municipal representatives — to build mutual understanding and help de-escalate tensions.
4. Conducting an independent Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and sharing findings transparently with both sides to facilitate evidence-based decision-making.

Which of the statements given above would contribute to the resolution process?

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

Answer : **(a) 1, 3 and 4 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statements 1, 3, and 4 contribute positively:** In public administration, sustainable conflict resolution requires empathy, transparency, and collaborative governance. Building trust requires **acknowledging cultural concerns (1)**, de-escalating tensions through a **multi-stakeholder platform (3)**, and grounding the final decision-making process in an **independent, transparent Impact Assessment (4)**.
- **Why Statement 2 is incorrect:** Moving ahead blindly with the project by dismissing the tribal hamlet's deep cultural concerns would breach statutory tribal protections, violate the principles of participatory democracy, and likely escalate the law-and-order crisis.

53. Ms. X is a mid-level civil service official working in the urban development department of a major city. Recently, she was involved in approving a contract for a public infrastructure project — a new community park. During the approval process, she received a piece of confidential information indicating that one of the shortlisted contractors had a history of poor workmanship and allegations of corruption in other cities, though nothing had been legally proven. The Head of the Department, Mr. Y, advised her not to disclose this information to the project committee or the public because it could delay the project and damage the city's reputation. However, Ms. X believed that withholding such information compromised transparency and public trust.

What amongst the following should Ms. X do now?

1. Immediately disclose the information to the project committee and the public
2. Recommend removing the contractor from the shortlist to protect the project's integrity
3. Propose a 'limited disclosure' to an oversight committee, while keeping the information confidential from the public for the time being

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer : **c) 2 and 3 only**

- **Explanation:** As a responsible civil servant, Ms. X must balance absolute transparency with formal administrative procedures and natural justice.
 - **Course 2 is correct:** To protect public funds and project integrity, she should formalize her concerns by officially **recommending the removal of the contractor** from the shortlist based on her documentation.
 - **Course 3 is correct:** Proposing a **limited disclosure to an internal oversight/vigilance committee** ensures the matter is thoroughly investigated by the right institutional mechanism without prematurely leaking unproven allegations to the general public, which avoids groundless defamation and project delays.
 - **Why Course 1 is incorrect:** Immediately leaking unproven allegations directly to the public violates civil service conduct rules and breaches confidentiality protocols, especially when the contractor's guilt has not been legally established.

54. X was addressing a seminar on the meaning of the term 'law' as provided under Article 13, Part III of the Constitution of India. X explained that the meaning of the term 'law' in the Constitution of India was very comprehensive. It included ordinances, orders and even rules and regulations. Y pointed out that the term 'law' in Article 13 also included custom or usage having in the territory of India the force of law, to which X was not convinced.

Based on the above, select the correct conclusion from the options given below:

- (a) X is correct in the interpretation of law, including the view on non-inclusion of custom.
- (b) The view of Y that 'law' included custom is not correct.
- (c) The views of both X and Y are correct.
- (d) The view of only Y is correct.

Answer : **(c) The views of both X and Y are correct.**

- **Explanation:** Article 13(3)(a) of the Indian Constitution provides an inclusive, wide-ranging definition of the term 'law'. It explicitly states: *“law’ includes any Ordinance, order, bye-law, rule, regulation, notification, **custom or usage having in the territory of India the force of law.**”*
 - X is correct that the definition is comprehensive and covers ordinances, rules, and regulations.
 - Y is also entirely correct that it includes customs and long-standing usages. Since both their individual statements accurately state what is contained within Article 13, their views are complementary and correct.

55. Consider the following statements with reference to the Constitution of India:

1. There is no Article in the Constitution of India that specifies that the Constitution of India will be officially called the 'Constitution of India'.

2. There is no Article in the Constitution of India that specifies that the Indian Independence Act, 1947 and the Government of India Act, 1935 stand repealed.
3. There is no Article in the Constitution of India that mentions 26th January, 1950 as the date of the commencement of the Constitution of India.

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

- (a) All three statements are correct.
- (b) There is no correct statement.
- (c) There are two correct statements that include statement 3.
- (d) There is only one correct statement.

Answer : **(b) There is no correct statement.**

- **Explanation:** The question asks to evaluate the three statements, all of which assert that "there is no Article" for these matters. However, **the Indian Constitution explicitly contains Articles for all three provisions:**

1. **Article 393 (Short Title):** Explicitly states, "*This Constitution may be called the Constitution of India.*" (Making Statement 1 false).
2. **Article 395 (Repeals):** Explicitly declares that the **Indian Independence Act, 1947, and the Government of India Act, 1935**, are hereby **repealed**. (Making Statement 2 false).
3. **Article 394 (Commencement):** Explicitly states that the remaining provisions of this Constitution shall come into force on the **twenty-sixth day of January, 1950**, which day is referred to in this Constitution as the **commencement of this Constitution**. (Making Statement 3 false).

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

1. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, an Act passed by the Parliament of India in 2018, mandates reservation in education and employment, places a legal duty on Governments to ensure accessibility and non-discrimination.
2. The Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan focuses on achieving universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities across three key domains — built infrastructure, transport systems and information and communication technology.
3. The National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC) is a public sector organisation set up by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs as a not-for-profit company to promote entrepreneurship among Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(b) 2 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The **Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan** (Accessible India Campaign) is a flagship national campaign designed to achieve universal accessibility for PwDs across its three targeted core pillars: the built environment, transportation systems, and information & communication technology (ICT) ecosystems.
- **Why Statement 1 is incorrect:** The landmark Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act was passed by the Parliament of India in **2016**, not 2018.
- **Why Statement 3 is incorrect:** The National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC) is an apex apex financial institution administratively set up under the **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**, not the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

57. Consider the following statements about the provisions pertaining to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in India:

1. Provisions regarding the administration of the Tribal Areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram are given in the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
2. Some tribes of India are entitled to exemption from paying Income Tax on certain incomes.
3. The Constitution of India provides for reservation of seats in Panchayats for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

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

- (a) There are two correct statements, that include statement 2.
- (b) There are two correct statements, that are statements 1 and 3.
- (c) There is only one correct statement.
- (d) All three statements are correct.

Answer : **(a) There are two correct statements, that include statement 2.**

• **Explanation:** Let us evaluate each statement carefully:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Provisions regarding the administration of the Tribal Areas in the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram (the AMTM states) are laid out in the **Sixth Schedule** of the Constitution of India, not the Fifth Schedule. The Fifth Schedule applies to Scheduled Areas outside of these four specific northeastern states.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under Section 10(26) of the Income Tax Act, 1961, members of scheduled tribes residing in specific regions (such as Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, and parts of Assam and Meghalaya) are **exempt from paying income tax** on income generated within those areas or via dividend/interest income earned there.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** Article 243D(2) of the Constitution explicitly mandates that out of the total number of seats reserved for SCs and STs in Panchayats, **not less than one-third must be reserved for women** belonging to the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes respectively.

58. Consider the following statements in respect of questions asked by the Members in the Parliament of India:

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

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

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

Answer : **(c) There is only one correct statement.**

- **Explanation:** Let us break down the statements based on the Rules of Procedure of Parliament:
 - **Statement 1 is incorrect:** *Unstarred questions* are those to which a member desires a **written answer** to be laid on the table of the House, rather than an oral explanation.
 - **Statement 2 is incorrect:** *Starred questions* are distinguished by an asterisk mark and denote those to which a member desires an **oral answer** on the floor of the House.
 - **Statement 3 is correct:** Because an unstarred question receives only a printed written response and is not discussed orally during Question Hour, **no supplementary questions can be asked** on it. Supplementary questions can only follow oral answers given to starred questions.

Since only Statement 3 is correct, there is exactly one correct statement

59. Consider the following statements about the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the Parliament of India:

1. Although members of this Committee are elected from both Houses of Parliament, the Chairperson of this Committee is appointed by the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.
2. Twenty members are elected by the Rajya Sabha and ten members by the Lok Sabha.
3. No Minister, except for the Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, is eligible to be a member of this Committee.
4. Members are elected for a fixed term of two years from the date they enter their office.

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

- (a) There are four correct statements.
- (b) There is only one correct statement, that is statement 2.

(c) There are two correct statements, that include statement 1.

(d) There is no correct statement.

Answer : **(d) There is no correct statement.**

- **Explanation:** Let us verify the statutory rules governing this Parliamentary Committee:
 - **Statement 1 is incorrect:** While it is a joint committee with members from both houses, the Chairperson is appointed by the **Speaker of the Lok Sabha**, not the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.
 - **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Committee consists of **30 members** in total, out of which **20 are elected by the Lok Sabha** and **10 are elected by the Rajya Sabha** (a 2:1 operational ratio). The statement states the reverse numbers.
 - **Statement 3 is incorrect:** According to parliamentary conventions, **no Minister whatsoever** is eligible to be elected or continue as a member of this committee. There is no special exception for the Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment.
 - **Statement 4 is incorrect:** The members of this committee are elected for a fixed term of **one year**, not two years.

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

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3

(b) 1 and 2 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1 only

Answer : **(b) 1 and 2 only**

- **Explanation:**
 - **Statements 1 and 2 are correct:** Envisioned as India's indigenous equivalent to Israel's Iron Dome or the US Golden Dome, **Mission Sudarshan Chakra** is a major multi-layered, AI-enabled national air defence initiative spearheaded by the DRDO. It is designed to combine surveillance, cyber protection, and interception networks into a seamless system capable of countering ballistic missiles, hypersonic weapons, cruise missiles, and swarm drone attacks.
 - **Why Statement 3 is incorrect:** The mission's deployment plan (staged between 2030 and 2035) focuses strictly on erecting an automated air-defence and missile umbrella

protecting **strategic military assets, civilian population hubs, and critical infrastructure sites**. It is an external aerospace interception shield, not a local police surveillance system aiming to physically "cover all public places.

61. Consider the following statements about river bridges connecting India with neighbouring countries:

1. 'Maitri Setu', built over Feni river, connects Ramgarh in India with Sabroom in Bangladesh.
2. Jhulaghat suspension bridge connects India with Myanmar.
3. Mechi bridge and its approaches connect Panitanki Bypass in India with Kakarvitta in Nepal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : **(d) 3 only**

- **Explanation:** Let us match the cross-border bridge locations:
 - **Statement 3 is correct:** The **Mechi Bridge** is a major international border transit facility constructed over the Mechi River. It links the Panitanki Bypass in West Bengal, India directly with Kakarvitta in Nepal, expanding sub-regional trade under the BBIN framework.
 - **Why Statement 1 is incorrect:** While 'Maitri Setu' is built over the Feni River, it connects **Sabroom in Tripura (India)** with **Ramgarh in Chittagong (Bangladesh)**. The statement flips the domestic towns, as Ramgarh is in Bangladesh and Sabroom is in India.
 - **Why Statement 2 is incorrect:** The **Jhulaghat suspension bridge** spans the Kali River and acts as a vital historical border link connecting the Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand, **India with western Nepal**, completely unrelated to Myanmar.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 only

(d) 2 only

Answer : **(c) 1 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The core procedural purpose of a **Zero FIR** (codified under Section 173 of the BNSS, 2023) is to allow an informant to lodge an information report at **any police station**, irrespective of whether the location of the cognizable offence falls inside or outside that police station's territorial jurisdiction. It is registered with a serial number of '0' and subsequently transferred to the jurisdictional station. Note that it is exclusively meant for *cognizable* offenses; however, the mechanism itself explicitly bypasses territorial limits.
- **Why Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Officer-in-Charge at a non-jurisdictional police station must record the details, assign it a zero number, and immediately transfer the file to the competent jurisdiction. They do not initiate a preliminary enquiry or seek special permissions to investigate a crime that occurred outside their territory.
- **Why Statement 3 is incorrect:** Under Section 173 of the BNSS, an informant *may* choose to provide information electronically, but it is **not obligatory**. Oral or written statements provided physically are fully valid.

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

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

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

(a) 1

(b) 2

(c) 3

(d) None

Answer : **Answer: (a) 1**

- **Row 1 is Incorrect:** The **Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB)** is the nodal agency for coordinating and strengthening intelligence-gathering activities related to economic offences. It operates under the Department of Revenue, **Ministry of Finance**—not the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **Row 2 is Incorrect:** The **Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO)** is a statutory multi-disciplinary organization that investigates complex corporate frauds. It operates under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs**—not the Ministry of Finance.
- **Row 3 is Correct:** The **Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)** is the premier investigating agency of India tasked with preserving values in public life and maintaining the integrity of the national economy. It functions under the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions**

64. Which of the following international conventions have not been ratified by India?

1. Employment Policy Convention
2. Abolition of Forced Labour Convention
3. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
4. Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War
5. Convention on Reduction of Statelessness

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(d) 3, 4 and 5**

- **Explanation:** Let us check India's ratification record for each convention:
 1. *Employment Policy Convention, 1964 (ILO No. 122):* **Ratified** by India in 1998.
 2. *Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (ILO No. 105):* **Ratified** by India in 2000.
 3. *Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers:* **Not Ratified** by India.
 4. *Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons (Fourth Geneva Convention):* India is a party to the Geneva Conventions of 1949; however, specific supplementary international protocols or implementation frameworks regarding non-signatory civilian protections have exclusions. (In standard international law checklists, India has **not ratified** the 1977 Additional Protocols I and II relating to the Protection of Victims of International and Non-International Armed Conflicts).
 5. *Convention on Reduction of Statelessness (1961):* India is **not a signatory** and has **not ratified** this convention.

Therefore, conventions 3, 4, and 5 have not been ratified by India.

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

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : **(a) 1, 2 and 3**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The India–AI Impact Summit 2026 (held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi) built its conceptual framework around three foundational **Sutras: People, Planet, and Progress**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The preamble to the New Delhi Declaration explicitly incorporates the **Charter for the Democratic Diffusion of AI** as a voluntary, non-binding architecture designed to democratize resources, promote affordable datasets, and bridge the technology divide while respecting domestic sovereignty.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The landmark **New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact** structured its multilateral action plan around **Seven Chakras (Pillars)**, which explicitly encompass: *Access for Social Empowerment, AI for Science, Secure and Trusted AI, Human Capital, Economic Growth & Social Good, Resilient & Efficient AI, and Democratizing AI Resources*.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **a) 1 and 2**

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The [Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project](#) connects Kolkata (India) to Sittwe Port in **Myanmar** (an ASEAN member country) via sea, followed by river transport up to Paletwa and road transport into Mizoram. It is a foundational pillar of India's **Act East Policy**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The **India-Myanmar-Thailand (IMT) Trilateral Highway** directly aims to link Moreh in Manipur (India) with Mae Sot in **Thailand** through **Myanmar**. Both Myanmar and Thailand are prominent **ASEAN member countries**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The **Agartala-Akhaura Rail Line** is a cross-border bilateral connectivity infrastructure project between **India and Bangladesh**. Bangladesh is a South Asian country and a member of SAARC/BIMSTEC, **not** a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

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

List I

(Project Supported by India)

- A. Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project
B. Restoration of Stor Palace
C. District Hospital at Dickoya
D. Institute of Security and Law Enforcement Studies

List II

(Country)

1. Maldives
2. Afghanistan
3. Bhutan
4. Sri Lanka

Code :

A B C D

(a) 1 4 2 3

(b) 3 2 4 1

(c) 3 4 2 1

(d) 1 2 4 3

Answer : **(b) 3 2 4 1**

- **A. Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project (3):** A major 720MW run-of-the-river power plant developed with India's assistance in **Bhutan**.
- **B. Restoration of Stor Palace (2):** An iconic heritage building (also known as the Darul Aman Palace area complex) restored under India's development assistance program in Kabul, **Afghanistan**.
- **C. District Hospital at Dickoya (4):** A state-of-the-art emergency and referral healthcare facility built with Indian funding assistance in **Sri Lanka**.
- **D. Institute of Security and Law Enforcement Studies (1):** A premium law enforcement academy set up through Indian grant assistance in Addu City, **Maldives**.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2

(b) 1 and 3

(c) 1 only

(d) 2 only

Answer : **(a) 1 and 2**

• **Explanation:**

1. **Su-30 MKI Fighter Jets (1) is correct:** These heavy twin-engine fighters have been extensively **manufactured under license** in India by the state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) at its Nashik division.
2. **T-90 MK-III Tanks (2) is correct:** The advanced T-90 Bhishma MK-III main battle tanks are **manufactured under license** by [Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited \(AVNL\)](#) at its Heavy Vehicles Factory (HVF) in Avadi, Chennai.
3. **Akula Class Submarine (3) is incorrect:** India has operated Akula-class nuclear-powered attack submarines (leased from Russia under names like INS Chakra), but they are **built entirely in Russian shipyards**, not manufactured or built in India

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

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : **(c) 2 and 3 only**

• **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The '**Colombo Process**' is a Regional Consultative Process regarding overseas employment and contractual labor. While its decision-making relies on consensus, its decisions are strictly **non-binding**, flexible, and informal.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The '**Abu Dhabi Dialogue**' (established in 2008) is a **voluntary, non-binding consultative platform** that brings together Asian countries of origin and destination to expand safe and regular contractual labor mobility.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The '**Global Forum for Migration and Development**' (**GFMD**) was created following a proposal by former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in 2006. It functions as a **voluntary, non-binding forum** outside the formal UN structure to handle migration and development cohesively.

70. Consider the following UN organisations/ agencies:

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

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

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

Answer : **UN Organizations**

Direct Answer: (a) 1

- **Explanation:** Among the organizations listed, **only 1 organization (UNHCR)** has been awarded the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize twice:
 1. **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR):** Awarded twice—first in **1954** and again in **1981**.
- **The other organizations have only won it once:**
 - *World Food Programme (WFP):* Awarded once in **2020**.
 - *United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF):* Awarded once in **1965**.
 - *International Labour Organisation (ILO):* Awarded once in **1969**.

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

List I

(UN Peacekeeping Operation)

- A. UNMIL
- B. MINURCAT
- C. MINUSTAH
- D. UNMISSET

List II

(Period of Operation)

2007 – 2010

2002 – 2005

2003 – 2018

2004 – 2017

Code :

A B C D

(a) 3 4 1 2

(b) 3 1 4 2

(c) 2 1 4 3

(d) 2 4 1 3

Answer : **b) 3 1 4 2**

- **A. UNMIL (3):** The *United Nations Mission in Liberia* operated from **2003 – 2018**.
- **B. MINURCAT (1):** The *United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad* operated from **2007 – 2010**.

- **C. MINUSTAH (4):** The *United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti* operated from **2004 – 2017**.
- **D. UNMISET (2):** The *United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor* operated from **2002 – 2005**

73. Which one of the following pairs is not correctly matched?

(Indian Army Corps)

(a) 3 Corps : Dimapur

(b) 4 Corps : Tezpur

(c) 14 Corps : Leh

(d) 33 Corps : Srinagar

Answer: **(d) 33 Corps : Srinagar**

- **Explanation:** The question asks for the pair that is **not correctly matched**.
 - **33 Corps (XXXIII Corps) is headquartered at Sukna** (near Siliguri in North Bengal), where it is responsible for defending the sensitive borders of North Bengal, Sikkim, and the Siliguri Corridor. It is not located in Srinagar. (Srinagar is the headquarters of the **15 Corps**).
- **Why other pairs are correct:**
 - *3 Corps* is correctly headquartered at **Dimapur**, Nagaland.
 - *4 Corps* is correctly headquartered at **Tezpur**, Assam.
 - *14 Corps* (Fire and Fury Corps) is correctly headquartered at **Leh**, Ladakh.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2

(b) 2 only

(c) 1 and 3

(d) 2 and 3

Answer : **(a) 1 and 2**

- **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Union Cabinet approved the extension and implementation framework of the Revamped Centrally Sponsored Scheme of RGSA from **1st April, 2022 to 31st March, 2026** (aligned to the 15th Finance Commission period cycle).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The primary goal of the revamped mission is to build and upgrade the **governance capabilities of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)**, focusing explicitly on localizing and delivering the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** at the grass-roots level across 9 core themes.
- **Why Statement 3 is incorrect:** The scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, meaning funding is shared. The standard funding pattern is **60:40 between the Centre and States** respectively. For Northeast states, Himalayan/Hilly states, and the UT of Jammu & Kashmir, it is **90:10**. The Centre only provides **100% funding for other Union Territories** without a legislature

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

1. Belarus
2. Poland
3. Germany
4. Switzerland

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(c) 2 and 3**

- **Explanation:** Let us check the European Union integration status of the listed countries:
 - **Poland (2)** joined the European Union during the landmark 2004 expansion wave.
 - **Germany (3)** is a foundational, core member state of the European Union (originally part of the European Coal and Steel Community).
- **Why other options are incorrect:**
 - *Belarus (1)* is not an EU member and maintains close geopolitical alignment with Russia.
 - *Switzerland (4)* is famously neutral and has **never been a member state** of the European Union (though it participates tightly in the single market via bilateral treaties and is part of the Schengen Area).

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

List I (INTERPOL Notice)

- A. Silver Notice

- B. Blue Notice
- C. Black Notice
- D. Green Notice

List II (Description)

1. To seek information on unidentified bodies
2. To collect additional information about a person's identity, location, or activities in relation to a criminal investigation
3. To provide warning about a person's criminal activities, where the person is considered to be a possible threat to public safety
4. To identify and trace criminal assets

Code:

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

Answer : (c) 4 2 1 3

• **Explanation:**

- **A. Silver Notice (4):** This is a new notice type introduced to help **identify, trace, and freeze criminal assets** (illicit financial flows).
- **B. Blue Notice (2):** Used to collect additional information about a person's **identity, location, or activities** in relation to a crime.
- **C. Black Notice (1):** Used to seek information on **unidentified bodies**.
- **D. Green Notice (3):** Used to provide **warnings and intelligence** about persons who have committed criminal offenses and are likely to repeat them in other countries (public safety threat).

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3

(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 2 only

(d) 3 only

Answer : **(b) 1 and 3 only**

- **Explanation:** The **NIRANTAR** (National Institute for Research and Application of Natural Resources to Transform, Adapt and Build Resilience) platform integrates existing MoEFCC institutions into thematic verticals without creating new bodies.
 - **Statement 1 is Correct:** The **Botanical Survey of India (BSI)**, Kolkata, is the lead institute for the **Ecosystem Survey and Analysis** vertical (often co-led with FSI/ZSI, but BSI presents the vertical's progress).
 - **Statement 2 is Incorrect:** The lead institute for the **Research and Management of Ecosystem Service** vertical is the **Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE)**, Dehradun, not the Central Zoo Authority (CZA). CZA is a participating institute under this vertical.
 - **Statement 3 is Correct:** The lead institute for the **Capacity Development Support** vertical is the **Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM)**, Bhopal.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

(a) 2 and 3

(b) 1 and 4

(c) 3 and 4

(d) 1 only

Answer : **(b) 1 and 4**

- **Explanation:** The question asks for statements that are **not correct**.
 - **Statement 1 is Not Correct:** The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on traditional medicine was signed between the **All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA)** and the **Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin**, not the University of Hamburg.
 - **Statement 4 is Not Correct:** During the visit, Germany announced the opening of a new **Honorary Consul in Ahmedabad** (Gujarat), not in Lucknow.

- **Why 2 & 3 are Correct:** The visit did result in an MoU/JDoI on sports cooperation (including Hockey) and the establishment of a new bilateral dialogue mechanism focused on the Indo-Pacific.

79. Which of the following statements about DHRUV64 is/are correct?

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : (c) Both 1 and 2

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) launched [DHRUV64](#) as the third chip fabricated under the **Digital India RISC-V (DIR-V) Programme**, succeeding the THEJAS32 and THEJAS64 chips.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is officially designated as India's first homegrown **1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor**, designed by C-DAC to reduce dependency on foreign hardware.

80. The Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) recently introduced a national standard to test and assess bomb disposal system. Which of the following statements with regard to this system is/are correct?

1. The new standard is known as IS 19445 : 2025.
2. It will improve interoperability of equipment across agencies.
3. It was developed by TBRL, DRDO in collaboration with the 30th Central Scientific Research Institute, Russia.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : (c) 1 and 2 only

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) introduced the dedicated national standard designated as **IS 19445 : 2025** (*Bomb Disposal Systems — Performance Evaluation and Requirements*).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The unified framework provides standardized testing protocols for blast and splinter effects, ensuring safety compliance and drastically **improving equipment interoperability** across military, paramilitary, and state police forces.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The standard was developed entirely through a domestic consensus-based panel (**PGD 28/P1**) under the convenorship of the **Terminal Ballistic Research Laboratory (TBRL), DRDO**, in active collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs and Indian security agencies—**not** the 30th Central Scientific Research Institute of Russia.

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

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

Answer : (c) John Clarke

- **Identification:** John Clarke was born in **Cambridge, UK**, in 1942.
- **Academic Affiliation:** He was serving as a professor at the **University of California, Berkeley, USA**, when his prize was declared.
- **The Nobel Prize:** He was jointly awarded the **2025 Nobel Prize in Physics** alongside Michel H. Devoret and John M. Martinis for discovering macroscopic quantum mechanical tunnelling and energy quantisation within an electric circuit.

82. Which of the following statements with regard to the Grand Slam Tennis Tournaments is/are correct?

1. The tournaments have a shared governance structure establishing the partnership among the four Grand Slam tournaments.
2. They are open for entry to all internationally ranked tennis players above the age of 14.
3. There is a limitation on the number of 'Wild Cards' a player may receive to compete in a Grand Slam Tournament.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : (d) 1, 2 and 3

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Grand Slam tournaments operate via a [shared governance framework](#) (the Grand Slam Board), which facilitates standard cooperation, rule alignment, and financial synchronization across the four events (Australian Open, Roland Garros, Wimbledon, and US Open).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under the official Age Eligibility Rules enforced by the ATP and WTA, the minimum age required to compete in a professional tennis or major entry event is **14 years**.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** There are strict limits on the number of "Wild Cards" any single player can receive globally within a season (e.g., restricted numbers based on age brackets and tour guidelines) to protect the integrity of direct ranking systems.

83. Which one of the following pairs of semiconductor plants in India and their locations is not correctly matched?

- (a) CG Power and Industrial Solutions Pvt. Ltd. in partnership with Renesas Electronics and STARS Microelectronics : Gujarat
- (b) Tata Semiconductor Assembly and Test Pvt. Ltd. : Assam
- (c) HCL-Foxconn Joint Venture India Chip Ltd. : Madhya Pradesh
- (d) SicSem Pvt. Ltd. : Odisha

Answer : **(c) HCL-Foxconn Joint Venture India Chip Ltd. : Madhya Pradesh**

- **Why it's not correctly matched:** The [HCL-Foxconn joint venture semiconductor facility](#) was approved by the Union Cabinet to be set up in **Jewar, Uttar Pradesh** (near the Noida International Airport)—**not** in Madhya Pradesh.
- All other options match their correct states: CG Power in Gujarat, Tata Semiconductor in Assam, and SicSem in Odisha.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(a) 1 only**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The [Bharat Forecast System \(BharatFS\)](#) is an indigenously developed weather model operating at an ultra-precise 6 km resolution grid, intended specifically to deliver highly localized data at the **Panchayat or cluster of panchayats level**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It was developed by the **Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune**, and operationalized by the India Meteorological Department (IMD)—**not** by IIT Delhi.

85. Consider the following statements with regard to the film 'Boong':

1. The film has recently won the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Award in the Children's and Family Film category.
2. The film is directed by Lakshmi Priya Devi.

3. This is the first Indian film to win a BAFTA award in the Children's and Family Film category.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : **(a) 1, 2 and 3**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Manipuri-language film *Boong* won the prestigious **Best Children's and Family Film award** at the 79th British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Awards.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The critically acclaimed coming-of-age movie was written and directed by **Lakshmipriya Devi**.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It created historical cinematic precedence by becoming the **first Indian production ever to win** a BAFTA trophy in this specialized category

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **Features of Blockchain Technology**

Answer: **(c) 1, 2 and 4**

- **Statements 1, 2, and 4 are correct:** They characterize the main immutable properties of a decentralized ledger. Distributed ledger copying allows quick syncing across independent network computers. Advanced cryptography makes retrospectively modifying or deleting verified entries practically impossible.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** A *Consortium blockchain* is entirely private or semi-private, governed by a pre-selected group of nodes. The combination of public and private attributes where selector privileges can be altered dynamically is defined as a *Hybrid blockchain*.

87. An e-commerce revenue model where the seller has control over pricing but doesn't keep products in stock and instead transfers customer orders and shipment details to a third-party supplier, who then ships the goods directly to the customer, is called:

- (a) Dropshipping Model
- (b) Affiliate Revenue Model
- (c) Transaction Fee Revenue Model
- (d) Agency Revenue Model

Answer : **Dropshipping Model**

- **Definition: Dropshipping** is the exact supply-chain management process where the merchant acts as an intermediary, sets their own consumer price margins, retains no physical inventory, and directly forwards customer fulfillment metrics to a manufacturer or wholesaler who coordinates end-point delivery.

88. Which one of the following correctly represents the three key sub-indices of the Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

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

Answer : **(c) Access, Usage, and Quality**

- **Explanation:** The Composite Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) conceptualized by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) captures information on various aspects of financial inclusion across three key sub-indices/parameters:

1. **Access (35% weightage):** Evaluates banking infrastructure, points of service, and availability.
2. **Usage (45% weightage):** Evaluates the active consumption of savings, investments, and insurance.
3. **Quality (20% weightage):** Focuses on aspects like financial literacy, consumer protection, and service inequalities.

89. Which one of the following best describes the key objective of India's 'Open Network for Digital Commerce' (ONDC) initiative?

- (a) To allow government control over all digital commerce transactions
- (b) To replace private e-commerce players

(c) To break the dominance of large e-commerce platforms by enabling interoperability across networks

(d) To mandate UPI-based payments for all online transactions

Answer : **(c) To break the dominance of large e-commerce platforms by enabling interoperability across networks**

- **Explanation:** The primary goal of India's **ONDC** initiative is to shift digital commerce from a platform-centric model (dominated by specific corporate giants) to an **open, decentralized network**. By enforcing protocol-level interoperability, any buyer on any connected application can seamlessly view and transact with any seller on the network, leveling the playing field for small retail merchants.

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

(a) UPI is a real-time payment system but Digital Rupee is akin to sovereign paper currency.

(b) In case of UPI, settlement for end users happens instantly as the money gets immediately debited or credited but in case of Digital Rupee, there is no settlement as the wallet balance gets transferred to another wallet.

(c) UPI transactions are recorded by banks and reflected in bank statements but in case of Digital Rupee, no data is captured in bank statements as transactions are from one wallet to another.

(d) In both the cases (UPI and Digital Rupee), the liability lies with the users and their respective banks.

Answer : **(d) In both the cases (UPI and Digital Rupee), the liability lies with the users and their respective banks.**

- **Why it is NOT correct:** For **UPI**, the underlying funds reside in commercial bank deposits, meaning the primary transactional and financial liability lies with the user's commercial bank. Conversely, the **Digital Rupee (₹)** is a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) issued as a direct legal tender. Therefore, it constitutes a **direct sovereign liability of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**, not a commercial bank liability.
- *Statements (a), (b), and (c) are completely accurate descriptions of how UPI and Digital Rupee settle and record data.*

91. Which of the following statements about Real-World Assets (RWA) Tokenization are correct?

1. Tokenization is the process of turning real world assets into digital tokens using blockchain technology.
2. Tokenization of real world assets offers 24x7 access, promoting financial inclusion.
3. Tokenization of real world assets will allow the access to high growth investment opportunities for individuals in India.

Select the answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 2 only

(d) 1 and 3 only

Answer : **(a) 1, 2 and 3**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** RWA tokenization explicitly involves transforming ownership of tangible/intangible physical assets (like real estate, bonds, or commodities) into digital fractions utilizing decentralized **blockchain technology**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Blockchain-based operation allows fractional assets to be traded round-the-clock (**24x7 access**), significantly lowering the entry barrier for retail investors and promoting global financial inclusion.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Tokenization permits fractional investment, allowing common individuals in India to tap into previously illiquid, high-capital, and **high-growth asset classes** (such as commercial infrastructure or premium bonds) with small capital outlays.

92. A bond whose proceeds are used only to finance or refinance a combination of both environmental and social projects is called:

(a) Green Bond

(b) Social Bond

(c) Sustainability Bond

(d) Sovereign Bond

Answer: . **Environmental and Social Project Bonds**

Answer: (c) Sustainability Bond

- **Explanation:**
 - **Green Bonds** are strictly designated for environmental and climate-mitigation initiatives.
 - **Social Bonds** target positive social welfare outcomes for marginalized groups.
 - **Sustainability Bonds** are the specific classification where the collected proceeds are legally earmarked to finance/refinance a **blended combination of both environmental and social projects** simultaneously.

93. Which of the following statements about M1xchange's role in Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) financing is/are correct?

1. M1xchange provides collateral based loans to MSMEs.
2. M1xchange facilitates discounting of invoices and Bills of Exchange for MSMEs.
3. M1xchange functions as a credit rating agency for MSMEs.

Select the answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3

(b) 2 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1 only

Answer : **M1xchange's Role in MSME Financing**

Answer: **(b) 2 only**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** M1xchange operates as a Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) platform where financing is strictly based on trade receivables (invoices). It offers **completely collateral-free financing** on a "without recourse" basis.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Its foundational function under the RBI framework is to serve as a digital marketplace that [facilitates the discounting of invoices and Bills of Exchange](#) raised by MSME suppliers against corporate buyers.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** M1xchange functions as an open electronic transaction exchange connecting buyers, sellers, and financiers. It does **not** act as a credit rating agency.

94. Which one of the following best describes the 'Crowding Out Effect' in the context of fiscal policy?

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

Answer: **(b) A situation where Government borrowing leads to higher interest rates, which reduces private investment**

- **Explanation:** The '**Crowding Out Effect**' refers to an economic phenomenon where increased government spending and borrowing raise the demand for loanable funds. This pushes up market interest rates, making borrowing more expensive for private businesses, which ultimately reduces private sector capital investment.

95. Which of the following statements about Rare Earth Elements (REEs) and Critical Minerals is/are correct?

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(a) 1 and 3 only**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Modern high-tech industries, including advanced AI chips, permanent magnets in robotics, and space exploration components, heavily rely on REEs.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** China leads global REE mining by a huge margin. However, the next largest producers are countries like the **United States, Myanmar, and Australia**—not India.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Union Cabinet approved and launched the [National Critical Mineral Mission \(NCMM\)](#) with an initial multi-year layout to build domestic self-reliance.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** Rare Earth Elements comprise a group of **17 chemically similar metallic elements** (the 15 lanthanides plus scandium and yttrium), not 13.

96. Which of the following statements about insurance in aviation sector is/are correct?

1. 'Aviation Hull Insurance' covers the physical aircraft, including the body, engine, and on-board equipment.
2. Under the Montreal Convention, adopted in 1999 by over 130 countries, including India, airlines are strictly liable to pay compensation to the family/nominee of every deceased passenger without requiring the family to prove fault.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : **(c) Both 1 and 2**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Aviation Hull Insurance specifically protects against physical loss or damage to the **structure of the aircraft itself**, along with its engines and installed operational equipment.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The **Montreal Convention (1999)** introduces a strict (fault-independent) two-tier liability system. Airlines are strictly liable for passenger injury or death up to a set limit of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) without the family needing to prove negligence.

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

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

Select the answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : **(c) Both 1 and 2**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Crowdfunding is fundamentally the structural gathering of micro-contributions from a **large network of public investors via specialized web-based platforms**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It bypasses standard bureaucratic banking institutions and venture capital underwriting, allowing Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to raise initial funds quickly at an optimized cost of capital

99. Consider the following statements about the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) in India:

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : **(a) 1 and 4**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Unlike commercial banks, NBFCs **cannot accept demand deposits** (such as current or savings accounts); they can only accept fixed-term deposits if specifically authorized.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Not *all* NBFCs register with the RBI. Certain categories are regulated by other bodies (e.g., Housing Finance Companies by NHB, Insurance companies by IRDAI, and Merchant Banking companies by SEBI).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** NBFCs do not form part of the payment and settlement system and **cannot issue cheques drawn on themselves**.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** The **DICGC insurance coverage** (up to ₹5 lakh) is strictly limited to depositors of commercial and cooperative banks; it **does not extend to depositors of deposit-taking NBFCs**.

100. Consider the following statements about Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI):

1. MPI is calculated using Alkire-Foster methodology.
2. MPI calculated by NITI Aayog has a total of twelve indicators.
3. Maternal Health and Bank Account are common indicators in the MPI of NITI Aayog and MPI of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 1, 2 and 3

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 2 only

Answer : **(a) 1 and 2 only**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Both global and national MPI variants utilize the globally accepted **Alkire-Foster (AF) counting methodology**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The National MPI published by NITI Aayog retains the 10 global indicators and adds **two distinct indicators (Maternal Health and Bank Account)**, bringing its total to **12 indicators**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Maternal Health and Bank Accounts are explicitly added into NITI Aayog's customized Indian MPI framework to track financial inclusion; they are **not part of the 10 indicators used in the global UNDP MPI**.