



APPSC - GROUP-II, Prelims - TEST 1 (19-11-2023)

1. Consider the following pairs:

Type of Burial	Harappan Site
1. Double Burial	Lothal
2. Dog with Human Burial	Ropar
3. Urn Burial	Mohenjodaro

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched ?

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| 1) 1 and 2 | 2) 2 only |
| 3) 1 and 3 | 4) 3 only |

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- Double Burial (a male and female skeleton) is found at Lothal and Rangpur. Hence, Pair 1 is correctly matched.
- Ropar is a Harappan city on the banks of river Sutlej. Here, excavations revealed dog with human burial. Hence, Pair 2 is correctly matched.

At Harappa we find the following :

1. Cemetery H and R 37
2. Coffin burial
3. Urn Burial (Found at Harappa not mohenjo daro). Hence, Pair 3 is incorrectly matched.

About Mohenjodaro :

- The site of Mohenjo Daro, literally meaning 'Mound of the Dead' is one of the important sites of IVC. The site is famous for its elaborate town planning with street grids with brick pavements, developed water supply, drainage, and covered sewerage systems, homes with toilets, and monumental buildings such as the Great Granary and the Great Bath.

2. Which one of the following is not a Harappan site?

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1) Rakhigarhi | 2) Ropar |
| 3) Bhagawanpura | 4) Kalibangan |

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- The site of bhagwanpura was associated with the Painted Grey ware culture which was associated with the Vedic aryaans. The rest of the sites belong to the Harappan cultural zone.

Explanation for Option 1:

- Rakhigarhi is the largest Harappan site in the Indian subcontinent. A cylindrical seal with five Harappan characters on one side and a symbol of an alligator on the other is an important find from this site. It is among the five iconic sites announced by the Union Finance Minister during the Budget Speech in 2020. The other such sites are Hastinapur in Uttar Pradesh, Sivasagar in Assam, Dholavira in Gujarat and Adichanallur in Tamil Nadu

Explanation for Option 2

- At Ropar, There is an indication of burying a dog beneath the human grave.
- Other discoveries include Characteristic Harappan pottery, cert blades, beads, faience decorations, and an engraved seal with typical information pictographs.

Explanation for Option 4

- Kalibangan ('black bangles') has also provided proof of the world's first documented "Earthquake. "The earthquake, which occurred around 2600 BC, is thought to have led to the collapse of the Indus Valley Civilization.
- The discovery of fire altars at Kalibangan reveals that the locals were ritualistic and believed in fire worship.

3. Regarding the religion of Indus Valley Civilisation, consider the following statements:

1. It was concerned with the fertility cult

2. The female deities dominate the male deities

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect ?

- 1) 1 only 2) 2 only
3) Both 1 and 2 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- Harappan religion was associated with fertility cult indirectly. For example, the worship of male and female sex organs, the cult of mother goddess all represent fertility cult. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Excavations at various Harappan sites like Mohenjodaro (most of the female figurines were discovered) unearthed a large number of terracotta female models identified with mother goddesses. So there was the predominance of the female deities. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

4. Consider the following statements about Harappan Script:

1. It was deciphered by James Prinsep
2. It was written from left to right
3. The largest inscription with harappan script comes from dholavira

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- The Harappan Civilisation marks the first use of script in the Indian subcontinent. The script has not yet been deciphered despite numerous attempts and claims. Hence statement 1 is Incorrect. James Prinsep deciphered edicts of the Mauryan emperor Ashoka.
- Latest research by Iravatham Mahadevan has established that the script was written from right to left. Hence statement 2 is Incorrect.

- Most of the writings are short and appear on seals. The largest harappan inscription comes from Dholavira. As it has large sized letters, it has been considered as a signboard. Hence statement 3 is correct.

- About James Prinsep

- The most important contribution to the demystification of both Ashoka and Buddha came from the work of James Prinsep. He was able to break the code of the Brahmi script after carefully studying the script of certain rock and pillar edicts and comparing it with that on a gateway of an important Buddhist stupa, that at Sanchi in Central India

- About Harappan Script:-

- The Indus Script and Languages is the earliest form of writing known on the Indian subcontinent and was established by the Indus Valley Civilization. The origin of this script is unknown. Thousands of inscriptions have been discovered at 60 excavation sites. Majority are brief, the average length is five signs, and none are greater than 26 signs. Seals and seal imprints, pottery, bronze tools, stoneware bangles, bones, shells, ladles, ivory, and tiny tablets made of steatite, bronze, and copper have all been found with Indus lettering on them.

5. With reference to Harappan Civilisation, consider the following statements:

1. It marks the beginning of use of stone as a medium of sculpting in India.
2. The famous figure of the dancing girl is an example of it.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1) 1 only 2) 2 only
3) Both 1 and 2 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- There is no known precedent of stone sculpting in the subcontinent prior to the Harappan times. The HC is marked by the

first stone sculpture in the subcontinent. Hence, statement 1 is correct. Two male statues in stone – the Bearded Man (priest-king) and a torso in red sandstone.

- The nude male torso made of red sandstone is an example of it. The famous figure of the dancing girl is a tradition of metal sculpting (Bronze). Hence statement 2 is Incorrect.

6. Consider the following features:

1. A competent ruling authority
2. Town Planning
3. Absence of script
4. Hand thrown pottery

Which of the above is/are the features of Harappan Urbanism ?

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

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- Although much is not known about the ruling class of the Harappans, the uniform town planning, standard weights and measurements, uniformity in the size of bricks and the civic maintenance all point to a competent ruling authority.
- Hence, statements 1 and 2 are correct.
- The pottery used by the Harappans is wheel thrown and not hand thrown. Hence, statement 4 is incorrect.
- Harappans script is yet to be deciphered. Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.
- For script related information refer question 4.
- About Harappan Pottery:
- A lot of pottery has been excavated. Plain and painted pottery are found – plain is more common. Plain pottery is generally made of red clay, with or without a fine red or grey slip. Black painted pottery has a fine coating of red slip with painted geometric and animal designs.

7. Which of the following Harappan sites, the agricultural field bears clear furrow marks made by the use of plough?

- 1) Banawali
- 2) Harappa
- 3) Kalibangan
- 4) Kot Diji

Answer: 3

- The familiarity of the Harappans with plough cultivation is proved by the discovery of terracotta models of plough from Banawali and Jawaiwala. From Kalibangan (Rajasthan) we get the evidence of a ploughed agricultural field which bears clear furrow marks both vertically and horizontally. Hence, C is the correct answer.

About Banawali:

- Banawali is an Indus Valley Civilization era archaeological site in Haryana. The decline of urban life in Banawali and Kalibangan appears to have occurred unexpectedly.

About Kot Diji:

- Kot Diji represents the phase leading up to the Mature Harappan Phase.

8. The probable function of Granaries found at Harappa and Mohenjo Daro is to

- 1) Store grains collected as war booty
- 2) Function as central banks where grains are collected as taxes
- 3) Function as central banks where grains are collected as tributes
- 4) Both (2) and (3)

Answer: 4

- The Harappan civilisation was capable of generating a profuse amount of crops much in excess of the immediate need of the cultivators. The Granaries found at Harappa and Mohenjo Daro, according to R and B Allchin, as both of them were located in the citadel of the two cities they are of the view that it functioned as central banks where grains were collected as taxes or tributes.

9. The evidence of Paddy cultivation in the Harappan cultural zone comes from ?

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1) Lothal | 2) Harappa |
| 3) Kalibangan | 4) Mehrgarh |

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- The Harappans grew a wide variety of crops like wheat, barley, pulses and lentils. Remains of rice have been found only from Rangpur and Lothal, both in Gujarat. Hence, the correct answer is A.
- For Kalibangan related Information refer Q 2
- For Mehrgarh related Information refer Q 23
- Explanation for option B:-
- Harappa was excavated by a team led by the archaeologist Daya Ram Sahni in 1921 and the most important Indus Valley Civilization sites.

Major findings:

1. Two sandstone statues depicting human anatomy
2. Ekkas (Bullock carts)
3. Two rows of six Granaries
4. workmen quarters
5. Bronze sculpture of a dog chasing a deer
6. Red sandstone male torso
7. Sculpture of mother goddess
8. Pottery with an Indus script on it.
9. Terracotta figurines

10. Consider the following

1. High rainfall
2. Ground water
3. Inundation of fields

Which of the above is/are used as sources of irrigation by Harappans?

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1) 2 and 3 only | 2) 2 only |
| 3) 3 only | 4) All of the above |

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- The HC has a distinctive feature in the widespread use of wells which helped access water from underground. Flood water in the Indus basin seems to have been utilised by what is known as

Inundation irrigation. Hence, statements 2 and 3 are correct.

- The pollen grain analysis from Rajasthan lakes indicates a long wet phase (5510BC-2230BC) in the Harappan area. This points out that the rainfall was much higher than the current times and it facilitated agriculture. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

11. Consider the following animals:

1. Humped Bull
2. Water buffalo
3. Sheep
4. Goat

Which of the above are domesticated by the Harappans?

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1) 2,3 and 4 | 2) 3 and 4 |
| 3) 1,3 and 4 | 4) All of the above |

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- Bones of cattle, oxen (both humped and humpless varieties) along with bones of goat and sheep have been found during excavations. Hence, statements 1,3 and 4 are correct.
- The water buffalo appears on the seal but no bones of it have been discovered. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

12. Which of the following animal figures is/are part of the Daimabad hoard ?

1. A pair of yoked oxen pulling a chariot like carriage
2. An elephant
3. A buffalo
4. A rhinoceros
5. A Unicorn

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 1) 1,2,3 and 4 | 2) 2,4 and 5 |
| 3) 1,2,4 and 5 | 4) All of the above |

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- Bronze was used as a medium for metal sculpting during the Harappan times. The four bronze animal figures from Daimabad are:

1. A pair of yoked oxen pulling a chariot like carriage
2. An elephant
3. A buffalo
4. A rhinoceros

Hence, statements 1,2,3 and 4 are correct.

- Unicorn is a mythical animal which is found only on the Harappan seals. Hence, statement 5 is incorrect.

13. The earliest known evidence of the manufacture of cotton cloth in the world comes from

- 1) Mohenjodaro 2) Dilman
- 3) Harappa 4) Rangpur

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- The cultivation of cotton plants was conducive to the textile industry during the mature Harappan times. Mohenjodaro has yielded minute fragments of dyed woven cloth-these are the earliest known evidence of manufacture of cotton cloth in the world. Hence, the correct answer is 1.

For Harappa related information refer Q 9 About Dilmun

- It is an ancient kingdom that was contemporary to the IVC in the Persian gulf region and famous for trade relations with the Harappans

About Rangpur

- Rangpur is an ancient archaeological site located near Vanala on Gujarat's Saurashtra Peninsula. It dates from the Indus Valley Civilization and is located to the northwest of the bigger site of Lothal, on the peninsula between the Gulfs of Khambhat and Kutch. Rangpur yielded a large number of plant remnants. Rice, bajra, and millet were discovered.

14. Shortughai in the Afghanistan region, is used as an outpost by the Harappans to procure

- 1) Copper 2) Lapis Lazuli
- 3) Agate 4) Tin

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- The Harappan long distance trade was considerably prompted by the urge to procure raw materials. The following table gives the various sources from which they were procured:

Raw Material	Source
1. Copper	Khetri Mines, Oman Peninsula
2. Agate, Chalcedony and carnelian	Western India and Saurashtra
3. Lapis Lazuli	Badakhshan region, Afghanistan
4. Gold	Kolar, Karnataka
5. Tin	Uncertain. Possibly South-East Asia

15. The Harappan cities and towns have two distinct sectors — the citadel and lower town. Departures from this usual layout is visible at

- 1) Lothal 2) Kalibangan
- 3) Banawali 4) Dholavira

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- Departures from the usual urban layout are visible at dholavira. The entire city divided into three instead of the usual two sectors:
1. The upper city
 2. Middle city
 3. Lower city

In no other Harappan city this tripartite division of the city is repeated.

About Lothal:

- Lothal was a thriving trade centre in ancient times, with its trade of beads, gems and ornaments reaching West Asia and Africa. The meaning of Lothal is "the mound of the dead. It had the world's earliest known dock, which connected the city to an ancient course of the Sabarmati River on the trade route between Harappan cities in Sindh and the peninsula of Saurashtra.

About Kalibangan

Refer Q 2

- About Banawali:
- Banawali is an Indus Valley Civilization era archaeological site in Haryana. The decline of urban life in Banawali and Kalibangan appears to have occurred unexpectedly.

16. The Harappan city in which the citadel itself is divided into two sectors is

- 1) Kalibangan
- 2) Lothal
- 3) Dholavira
- 4) Banawali

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- Kalibangan shares with the other Harappan cities of dividing the city into two sectors- citadel and lower town. But only at Kalibangan one finds that the citadel itself is divided into two sectors - northern and southern ones.

About Lothal:

Refer Q 15

About Banawali and Dholavira:

Refer Q 15

17. The major destination of Harappan trade was

- 1) Egyptians
- 2) Chinese
- 3) Mesopotamians
- 4) South-east Asia

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- The discovery of a number of seals in Mesopotamia and the discovery of a cuneiform tablet depicting the trade relations points out the intimate contacts between the Harappans and the Mesopotamians.
- It is unknown to us if the Harappans had any trade relations with Chinese and southeast Asia on account of the large distance and the difficulties in means of communication.

18. Which of the following represents the most significant features of Mature Harappan Civilisation?

1. Use of sun dried mud bricks
2. Monuments with perfect arches

3. Standard weights and measurements
4. Town Planning
5. Long Distance Trade

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- 1) 1,3,4 and 5 only
- 2) 2,3 and 4 only
- 3) 3,4 and 5 only
- 4) All of the above

Answer: 3

Explanation:

The hallmarks of the Mature Harappan civilisation are

1. The use of burnt bricks and not sun dried.
2. Standard weights and measurements
3. Town Planning
4. Long Distance Trade

Hence, statements 3,4 and 5 are correct.

The monuments with perfect arches came up only in Mughal India. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

19. Which of the following metals are not known to the Harappans ?

- 1) Iron, Silver and bronze but not tin
- 2) Copper, gold and silver but not iron
- 3) Iron, Silver and bronze but not gold
- 4) Copper, gold and iron but not silver

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- Harappan civilization is a Bronze Age civilization. They had knowledge of copper, tin, bronze, silver and gold. Iron was not known to the Harappans. The role of iron can be seen in the Indian sub-continent in the later vedic age.

For details refer Q 14.

20. Consider the following pairs:

Indus Sites	Location on Rivers
1. Harappa	Indus
2. Lothal	Bhogava
3. Kalibangan	Ghaggar
4. Mohenjo Daro	Ravi

How many pairs given above are incorrectly matched ?

- 1) Only one pair
- 2) Only two pairs

- 3) Only three pairs 4) None of the pair

Answer: 2

Explanation:

Location of Indus sites and rivers:

1. Mohenjo Daro - Indus
2. Harappa - Ravi
3. Kalibangan - Ghaggar
4. Chanhudaro and Ropar - Sutlej
5. Lothal - Bhogava
6. Sutkagendor - Dashk

21. The horned god on the seal who is represented in a sitting posture of a yogi placing one foot on the other. He is surrounded by which of the following animals ?

1. Deer
2. Tiger
3. Elephant
4. Buffalo
5. Unicorn

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 1) 1,2,4 and 5 | 2) 1,3 and 4 |
| 3) 1,2,3 and 4 | 4) All of the above |

Answer:3

Explanation:

- The most striking god of the Harappan culture is the horned god on the seals. He is represented in a sitting posture of a yogi placing one foot on the other. He is surrounded by an elephant, a tiger, a rhinoceros and has a buffalo below his throne. At his feet appear two deer. Hence, statements 1,2,3 and 4 are correct.
- Although Unicorn appears on a number of seals it is absent on the proto-shiva type of seal.

22. The largest Burnt Brick structure in the Harappan cultural zone is

- 1) Dockyard of Lothal
- 2) Granaries
- 3) The Pillared Assembly hall
- 4) The Great Bath

Answer:2

Explanation:

- The largest Burnt Brick structure in the Harappan cultural zone are the granaries found at Mohenjodaro. (Refer Q 8)
- The granary was the largest structure in Mohenjo Daro and in Harappa there were about six granaries or storehouses. These were used for storing grain.

Lothal Dockyard:

Refer Q 15

The Great Bath

- Great Bath is located to the east of the granary in the Mohenjodaro. It is the earliest water tank in the ancient world. The floor of the bath had five layers. It was so watertight that even today it holds water. There were changing rooms. People probably used it during festivals and religious ceremonies.

23. Which among the following sites gives the evidence of a continuous habitation from the times of Stone Age to the dawn of first civilization ?

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1) Kot Diji | 2) Mehrgarh |
| 3) Damb Sadat | 4) Amri |

Answer:2

Explanation:

- Mehrgarh located in the Kachi district of Balochistan province in Pakistan shows a very long occupation of the site since 7000-10,000 BCE. The very prolonged occupation points to the sedentary nature of the settlers, the bulk of whom therefore must be farmers. Excavations at Mehrgarh clearly show how the ground was getting ready for the emergence and efflorescence of the mature Harappan civilisation from 2,600 BCE. Hence, the correct answer is 2.
- About Kot Diji, Damb Sadat and Amri:-
- All the three are Neolithic sites and preceded the early Harappan phase.

24. Match List-I (Geographical boundaries) with List II (Directions) and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

List II(Directions)

1. North
2. East
3. West
4. South

Codes:

- 1) 1-B, 2-A, 3-D, 4-C
- 2) 1-A, 2-C, 3-B, 4- D
- 3) 1-D, 2-B, 3-C, 4-A
- 4) 1-C, 2-D, 3- A, 4- B

Answer: 4

Explanation:

The geographical extremes of the harappan civilisation is as follows:

1. Manda - Northernmost site
2. Daimabad - southernmost site
3. Alamgirpur - easternmost site
4. Sutkagendor - westernmost site

25. Consider the following statements :

1. The Buddhist text Anguttara Nikaya presents a list of 16 Mahajanapadas
2. The Maximum concentration of these Mahajanapadas are in the Ganga Valley.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 only
- 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2
- 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer:3

Explanation:

- The Anguttara Nikaya (a part of sutta pitaka) enlists 16 large territorial polity's which existed during the lifetime of Buddha. The Mahabharata presents a list of Mahajanapadas but it varies to some extent from that of the Anguttara Nikaya. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Almost all Mahajanapadas except the Asmaka Mahajanapada were situated in Northern India and partly in central India. North India, especially the Ganga Valley witnessed the maximum concentration of

List-I(Geographical boundaries)

- A. Sutkagendor
- B. Daimabad
- C. Manda
- D. Alamgirpur

Mahajanapadas. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Note:

- No Mahajanapada in Peninsular India and North-East India.

26. Match List-I (Mahajanapada) with List II(Kings) and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

List I (Mahajanapadas)

1. Kosala
2. Vatsa
3. Avanti
4. Magadha

List II (Kings)

- a. Bimbisara
- b. Prasannajit
- c. Udayana
- d. Pradyota

Codes:

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

Answer:1

Explanation :

During the age of Buddha, the following are the most powerful Mahajanapada

1. Kosala - Prasannajit
2. Magadha - Bimbisara
3. Avanti - Pradyota
4. Vatsa - Udayana

27. Which of the following Mahajanapadas was described with scorn in the later vedic texts ?

- 1) Asmaka Mahajanapada
- 2) Anga Mahajanapada
- 3) Magadha Mahajanapada
- 4) Kosala Mahajanapada

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- The Magadha Mahajanapada as an area and also in terms of people was far removed from the cradle land of vedic culture and was described with scorn in the later vedic literatures.

28. Which of the following Mahajanapadas was/were defeated and annexed by the Magadha King Bimbisara?

1. Anga
2. Kasi
3. Kosala

Select the answer using the codes given below:

- 1) 1 only 2) 1 and 2
3) 1 and 3 4) 3 only

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- The marriage with Kosala devi procured for Magadha the village of Kashi as dowry to provide bath money to the new queen of Kashi. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect. Strengthened by these alliances Bimbisara defeated and annexed Anga. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Kosala was defeated and annexed by Ajatasatru and not Bimbisara. Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.

29. The 'battle of ten kings' was fought on the banks of which of the following rivers?

- 1) Ravi 2) Sarayu
3) Sutlej 4) Beas

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- A major battle was fought on one side by ten chiefs and on the other by Sudhas, the chief of Tritsu-Bharatas. Celebrated as the most important political event of the Rigvedic times, the 'battle of ten kings' took place on the banks of river Ravi (Parushni). Sudhas are said to have defeated the confederacy of 10 tribes. Hence, the correct answer is 1.

30. With reference to the administration of Vedic India, consider the following statements :

1. Sabha was attended by the people in general and also by the ruler
2. Samithi was attended by the prosperous persons (Maghavan)

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 only 2) 2 only
3) Both 1 and 2 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- The growing authority of the later vedic raja was checked by two popular assemblies — the Sabha and Samithi
- Sabha: To it often went the prosperous persons that is Maghavan. It was the place for recreation as it was a place for the game of Dice. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.
- Samithi: It was attended by the people in general and also by the ruler. Activities in it are often marked by debates and discussions. The topics of discussions are wars, exile of a ruler etc. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

31. Arrange the following administrative units of the Rig vedic period in the ascending order:

1. Grama
2. Kula
3. Jana
4. Visha

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- During the Early Vedic age, the lowest unit of administration was the Family (Kula). Next comes Grama which is a village. Then a group of villages called Visha. Lastly comes Jana which is the highest unit of administration.

32. Consider the following statements:

1. Agriculture was the main occupation of Rig vedic Aryans
2. Sedentary life based on agriculture began during the Rig Vedic Age.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 only 2) 2 only
3) Both 1 and 2 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- The Rig Veda repeatedly emphasises the importance of cattle wealth. Although

known and practised by the early Aryans, it was only secondary to cattle-keeping in the Rigvedic economy. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

- As agriculture was not the main occupation, settled life based on villages did not emerge during the Early Vedic age. The Rigvedic people were not entirely nomadic but semi-pastoralists who did not experience a fully sedentary society. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

33. The term 'varna' in the Rigveda means

- 1) Caste
- 2) Occupation
- 3) Colour
- 4) Salvation

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- The Rigveda more frequently speaks of the two varnas— Arya varna (Indo-Aryan speakers) and Dasa/Dasyu Varna between whom a hostile relation is often said to have existed. The Dasa/Dasyu Varna is often described as of dark skin, of unintelligible speech and also without speech. Hence, the correct answer is 3.

34. The Rig Vedic Aryans composed hymns to please their deities. Arrange the deities in ascending order on the basis of the number of hymns to whom it were dedicated :

- 1) Indra-Agni-Varuna-Surya
- 2) Surya-Varuna-Agni-Indra
- 3) Varuna-Agni-Surya-Indra
- 4) Agni-Indra-Varuna-Surya

Answer: 2

Explanation:

Indra - 250 hymns

- The most important god was Indra. To him were 250 hymns addressed and he figures in another 50 hymns along with other gods. He was the war god.
- Agni - 200 hymns
- To him 200 hymns were addressed. He was the purifier and was the linkage between the humans and gods.
- Varuna- 46 Hymns
- Surya-10 hymns

- Surya was the sun god to whom about 10 hymns of praises were composed.

35. Consider the following :

1. The Brahmins and Kshatriyas were only called dvijas
2. Vaishyas and Shudras were completely denied the status of dvijas

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- 1) 1 only
- 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2
- 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- The first 3 varnas Brahmins, Kshatriyas and vaishyas were called the dvijas and they were entitled to the sacred initiation ceremony. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.
- The Shudra was completely denied this status and his only duty was to serve the upper 3 varnas. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

36. The Rig Vedic deity Varuna is depicted as 'ritsyagopa'. The meaning of 'ritsyagopa' is

- 1) Upholder of cosmic order
- 2) God of sacrifice
- 3) Destroyer of cosmic order
- 4) God of rain

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- Varuna was an important god during the early vedic period. The most unique thing about him was that he was the protector of the cosmic order (Rita). So, he was called 'ritsyagopa'. Hence, the correct answer is 1.

37. Consider the following features about Rig vedic religion:

1. Polytheism
2. Nature worship
3. Belief in life after death
4. Salvation

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 and 3 2) 1 and 2
3) 1,3 and 4 4) All of the above

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- Worship of nature was the features of Rig vedic religion. They observed the forces of nature and whatever mysteries they could not solve simply worshipped them. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The nature of Rig vedic religion was polytheistic. They worshipped a number of gods like Indra, Agni and Varuna. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Rig vedic religion was having a materialistic and this worldly approach to life i.e., they were worshipping gods in order to ensure material happiness. They were not seeking salvation or nirvana. Hence, statements 3 and 4 are incorrect.

38. With reference to the later vedic polity, consider the following statements:

1. The position of king gained prestige during this phase
2. Sabha and samiti lost their relevance
3. Standing army and independent bureaucracy developed for the first time

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 and 3 2) 1 only
3) 2 and 3 4) 1 and 2

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- Upto the later vedic age the power and position of king increased. This is indicated by sacrifices like ashwamedha, vajapeya and Rajasuya that were attached to his office. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- With the increase in power of the king the two popular assemblies Sabha and samiti lost their relevance. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- The number of royal officers increased during this period. But an independent professional bureaucracy and standing

army did not come into existence. Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.

- Bimbisara is the First to create a standing army called "Shrenik Bimbisara"

39. Consider the following statements about taxation during the later vedic age

1. Bali was a voluntary tax
2. Shulka and Bhaga were regular taxes

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 only 2) 2 only
3) Both 1 and 2 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- Taxation system was not fully established during this period. But it improved compared to the early vedic period as there was a better scope of surplus.
- Bali became a regular tax. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.
- Bhaga (1/16 of land production) and Shulka(tolls) emerged as new taxes. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

40. The four agricultural activities of ploughing, sowing, harvesting and threshing were mentioned in

- 1) Satapatha brahmana
- 2) Boghazkoi inscription
- 3) Aitareya brahmana
- 4) Mittani inscription

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- The four agricultural activities of ploughing, sowing, harvesting and threshing figure prominently in Satapatha brahmana.
- Mittani and Boghazkoi Inscription:
- These inscriptions throw light on the migration pattern of Aryans and are issued by the tribal chiefdoms of Central Asia.

41. With reference to the social structure of later vedic age, consider the following statements:

1. The concept of Gotra emerged during this period.

2. The four Ashramas originated during this period

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 only 2) 2 only
3) Both 1 and 2 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- The concept of Gotra emerged during this period. Gotras were decided on the basis of the names of seven important sages. They were first owned by Brahmanas who offered to the Kshatriyas and later to the vaishya yajamanas also. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The concept of ashrams originated during this period. Currently there are 4 ashrams - Brahmacharya, Grihasta, vanaprastha and Sanyasa. During this period only 3 ashrams evolved. The fourth one was added later. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

42. Consider the following pairs:

Vedas	Subject Matter
1. Rigveda	Book of Hymns
2. Samaveda	Deals with Music
3. Yajurveda	Methods of sacrifice
4. Atharva Veda	Deals with Black magic

How many pairs given above are correctly matched ?

- 1) Only one pair 2) Only two pairs
3) Only three pairs 4) All four pairs

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- The Rig Veda consists of various 1028 hymns and mantras. It is divided into 10 mandalas(books). Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.
- The Sama Veda set the tunes to the hymns mentioned in the Rig Veda. Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.
- Yajurveda is a vast corpus of information on sacrificial ceremonies, theology and

philosophy. Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.

- Atharva Veda contains charms and spells to ward off evils and diseases. Its contents throw light on the beliefs and practices of the non-aryans. Hence, pair 4 is correctly matched.

43. The term "Ratnin" during the later vedic period denotes

- 1) King
2) A body of Merchants
3) Patrons of Sacrifice
4) A body of officers

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- Satapatha Brahmana informs us about a group of 12 officers called Ratnins. Hence the correct answer is 4.
- Patrons of Sacrifice - Yajamana
- A body of Merchants - term absent during Vedic age
- King - Rajan

44. A critique of the utility of yajna ritual and sacrifice as a means to salvation appeared for the first time in

- 1) Upanishads 2) Puranas
3) Aranyakas 4) Jatakas

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- A strong reaction to the centrality of sacrificial rituals comes in the Aranyakas and Upanishads. As Aranyakas are composed much before the Upanishads the correct answer is 3. As the name itself indicates it was concerned with priests who led an ascetic life in forests and did not uphold the importance of cult of sacrifices.

Puranas :

Refer questions Q 94 and 95

45. Assertion(A):

Rig Vedic society was a matriarchal society

Reason(R):

Women were given due respect and honour in the rig vedic society

Codes

- 1) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is the correct explanation for A
- 2) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is not the correct explanation for A
- 3) (A) is true but (R) is false
- 4) (A) is false but (R) is true

Answer:4

Explanation:

- The vedic society was patriarchal. Such a society invariably placed women in a position secondary to male members in the family. Hence, (A) is incorrect.
- Although the birth of male was desired by the parents, the daughter once born was not neglected. In the later vedic times her birth would be viewed as a source of sorrow. Post-puberty marriages, women like Apala, Ghosa composing vedic hymns and participating in war indicates that they were given due respect and honour in the rig vedic society. Hence, (R) is correct.

46. Assertion(A):

Most of the Harappan Cities were located on the banks of river due to lack of fresh water sources in the region

Reason(R) :

The groundwater was saline in most of the Harappan settlements

Codes

- 1) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is the correct explanation for A
- 2) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is not the correct explanation for A
- 3) (A) is true but (R) is false
- 4) (A) is false but (R) is true

Answer:1

Explanation:

- Due to the sudden rise in the sea level of the Arabian Sea there was the intrusion of saltwater in the region. Especially in west Pakistan salinity of the soil increased which made the groundwater more saline. Hence, most of the Harappan towns were

located on the banks of the rivers. Hence, A and R both are true and R is the correct explanation for 1

47. Assertion(A):

Harappan people had a conservative mindset.

Reason(R): Very few changes were noticed in the entire time range of civilisation

Codes

- 1) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is the correct explanation for A
- 2) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is not the correct explanation for A
- 3) (A) is true but (R) is false
- 4) (A) is false but (R) is true

Answer:1

Explanation:

- When we look at the technological advancements made by the harappans, the changes in the pottery used by them we can clearly infer that they were having a very conservative mindset. Hence, A and R both are true and R is the correct explanation for 1

48. Assertion(A):

Iron played an important role in political sphere and not in economic sphere during later vedic age

Reason(R):

The technology of regulating heat and fire to melt iron for giving a definitive shape was not evolved

Codes

- 1) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is the correct explanation for A
- 2) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is not the correct explanation for A
- 3) (A) is true but (R) is false
- 4) (A) is false but (R) is true

Answer:1

Explanation:

- During the later vedic period, iron played an important role in the politics of the time. It was the iron implements that paved the way for the emergence of Mahajanapadas. For example, Magadha

which had vast iron resources used weapons made of Iron. Iron began to play an important role during and after 600 BCE as the technology of regulating heat and fire to melt iron for giving a definitive stage was developed. Thus making it possible for the use of Iron implements and the surplus so generated resulted in the second urbanisation.

Hence, A and R both are true and R is the correct explanation for 1

49. Assertion(A):

In Buddhist texts, Vaishyas were given superior status to the Brahmanas.

Reason(R):

Vaishyas gave huge donations to the Buddhist monasteries.

Codes

- 1) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is the correct explanation for A
- 2) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is not the correct explanation for A
- 3) (A) is true but (R) is false
- 4) (A) is false but (R) is true

Answer:4

Explanation:

- In Buddhism the most importance was given to the Kshatriyas followed by the Brahmanas. The Vaishyas occupied the position next to the Brahmanas. Hence, A is false and R is true.

50. Assertion(A):

In Mauryan India, there was the prevalence of several sects and religions

Reason(R):

The Mauryan state under Ashoka adopted Buddhism as the state religion

Codes

- 1) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is the correct explanation for A
- 2) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is not the correct explanation for A
- 3) (A) is true but (R) is false
- 4) (A) is false but (R) is true

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- The Mauryan rulers followed the policy of religious toleration. This policy resulted in the efflorescence of several sects and religions like Ajivikas, Buddhists, Jains and Brahmanism etc.
- Ashoka was a devout Buddhist in his personal capacity. Although he took several measures to promote buddhism he did not make it a state religion and followed the policy of toleration. Hence, A is true and R is false.

51. Assertion(A):

Chandra Gupta II married his daughter to the Vakataka ruler

Reason(R):

Chandra Gupta II with the help of vakatakas defeated the Sakas.

Codes

- 1) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is the correct explanation for A
- 2) Both (A) and (R) are true and R is not the correct explanation for A
- 3) (A) is true but (R) is false
- 4) (A) is false but (R) is true

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- Chandra Gupta II married his daughter Prabhavati Gupta to the Vakataka ruler Rudra Sena II. The reason for the marriage was to enlist the cooperation of Vakatakas to oust the Sakas from the western India and to get access to the rich ports of Gujarat. Hence, A and R both are true and R is the correct explanation for 1

52. Consider the following:

1. Lion
2. Deer
3. Horse
4. Elephant
5. Bull
6. Rhinoceros

Which of the above animals are engraved on the abacus of the Ashokan pillars ?

- 1) 1,3,4 and 5 2) 3,4,5 and 6
3) 1, 2,5 and 6 4) All of the above

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- One of Ashoka's first artistic programs was to erect the pillars that are now scattered throughout what was the Mauryan empire. The pillars vary from 40 to 50 feet in height. They are cut from two different types of stone one for the shaft and another for the capital. The shaft was almost always cut from a single piece of stone. Labourers cut and dragged the stone from quarries in Mathura and Chunar. Only 19 of the original pillars survive and many are in fragments. Lion, horse, elephant and bull were part of the Pillars. Deer and Rhinoceros were not engraved on the abacus of the Ashokan pillars

53. Megasthenes, the Seleukidian envoy visited the Mauryan Capital during the reign of ?

- 1) Ashoka 2) Bindusara
3) Chandragupta 4) Pushyamitra

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- Megasthenes, the Seleukidian envoy, visited the Mauryan Capital during the reign of Chandragupta. His account Indica gives his impressions about India especially north India during the times of Chandragupta Maurya. But unfortunately, his account is lost and comes to us only from the quotations and summaries made by later Greek classical writers.

54. Consider the following literary sources:

1. Arthashastra
2. Rajatarangini
3. Indica

Which of the above-mentioned sources gives us the information about Mauryas?

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

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- Megasthenes account Indica gives his impressions about India especially north India during the times of Chandragupta Maurya. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Arthashastra is ascribed to Kautilya, considered to have been the chief minister of Chandragupta Maurya. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Some incidents occurred during the reign of Chandragupta Maurya figure in the late Jaina sources and also Rajatarangini written by Kalhana. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

55. Consider the following inscriptions

1. Inscriptions of Barabar hills
2. Mahasthan inscription
3. Sohgaure

Which of the above is/are associated with Chandragupta Maurya?

- 1) 1 and 2 2) 2 and 3
3) 1,2 and 3 4) 1 and 3

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- Barabar hills were donated to Ajivika monks by Ashoka. If you eliminate option 1 the answer is 2.
- Mahasthan and Sohgaure inscriptions do not carry any names of a Mauryan ruler but are usually ascribed to Chandragupta based on the phraseology and contents of the record.

56. Consider the following

"Kautilya as a contemporary of Chandragupta Maurya and that he was actually running the administration of the Mauryan realm"

The above mentioned is the theme of which drama ?

- 1) Mudrarakshasa 2) Hitopadesha
3) Charudatta 4) Malavikagnimitra

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- The cherished notion that the author of arthashastra Kautilya was a contemporary of Chandragupta Maurya and that as an exponent of "realpolitik," he was actually

running the administration of the Mauryan realm stems from the Sanskrit drama Mudrarakshasa written by Vishakhadatta.

Malavikagnimitra:-

- Kalidasa's Malavikagnimitram is a Sanskrit drama. It is based on several incidents during Pushyamitra Shunga's rule. The narrative of Agnimitra, the Shunga Emperor at Vidisha, and his love for the lovely handmaiden of his principal queen is told in Malavikagnimitram

Charudatta:

- Bhasa was the author of a drama called Daridra Charudatta, which was later refashioned as Mrichchhakatika. It is a love affair of young brahmin Charudatta with a wealthy courtesan

Hitopadesha and Panchatantra:

- Both written by Vishnu Sharma are a list of short stories

57. Consider the provisions of first international treaty signed between Chandragupta Maurya and Seleucus nikator:

1. Gifting of 500 elephants to Seleucus nikator
2. Cession of kandahar to Seleucus nikator
3. Cession of balochistan to Chandragupta Maurya
4. Recognition of Inter-marriages between Greeks and Indians

Which of the statements mentioned above are correct?

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1) 1,2 and 3 | 2) 1,2 and 4 |
| 3) 1,3 and 4 | 4) All of the above |

Answer: 3

Explanation:

The following are the provisions of the treaty:

1. Gifting of 500 elephants to Seleucus nikator
2. Cession of balochistan, kandahar and propanisadai (areas to the south-east of Hindu Kush) to Chandragupta Maurya. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect. If you eliminate 2 you will arrive at the answer.

3. Recognition of Inter-marriages between Greeks and Indians. These are common in the north west borderland of the subcontinent noted for its fluidity in socio-cultural life and the practice was given an official recognition in the treaty.

58. The Mauryan king who maintained the diplomatic linkages with Greek rulers of west Asia and requested for fine wine, figs and a philosopher is

- 1) Bimbisara
- 2) Ashoka
- 3) Bindusara
- 4) Chandragupta Maurya

Answer: 3

- Bindusara maintained diplomatic linkages with Greek rulers of west Asia and requested for fine wine, figs and a philosopher. King Antiochus I of Syria agreed to send him wine and figs but not philosopher as he was not purchasable.

59. The Nanda rule over Kalinga is attested to by

- 1) Mandasor inscription
- 2) Nanaghat inscription
- 3) Bhitari inscription
- 4) Hathigumpha Inscription

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- The Nanda conquest of Kalinga is attested to by the Hathigumpha Inscription of Kharavela recording the Nanda occupation of Kalinga. This was the first attempt by Magadha to expand to the south and Kalinga stood as a corridor between the north India and the Northern part of the peninsula.
- Nanaghat inscription :-
- The Nanaghat Inscription of the Satavahana queen Naganik is important in terms of the origins of Satavahana rule because it records the governance and prowess of the third Satavahana king, Satakarni I, as well as his performance of various sacrifices.
- Bhitari inscription:-

- Bhitari Inscription is issued by Skandagupta who ruled from AD 455 to 467. He composed the Bhitari Inscription which was written in 19 lines that describe the ancestors of Skandagupta, about himself and his achievements.
- Mandasor inscription:-
- Mandsaur inscription gives us historical details about the period of Yashodharman and Kumargupta. It is an important inscription to know about the historical events of the Gupta age

60. With reference to the geographical expansion of the Mauryas consider the following statements :

1. The credit for annexing extensive areas to the Mauryan state goes to Chandragupta Maurya.
2. Bindusara did not contribute to the expansion of the Mauryan state
3. Ashoka has only one military conquest to his credit

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1) 1 and 2 2) 1 and 3
- 3) 2 and 3 4) All of the above

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- The Maurya empire expanded to a nearly pan-India proportions during the reign of Ashoka. Ashoka has only one military conquest that is Kalinga. Bindusara did not contribute to the expansion and he retained the territories inherited from his father. Hence, statements 1,2 and 3 are correct.

61. Which emperor is said to have taken sallekhanas under the influence of Jaina monk Bhadrabahu ?

- 1) Kharavela
- 2) Narasimha Varman
- 3) Chandragupta Maurya
- 4) Pulakesin II

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- Towards the end of his tenure Chandragupta is said to have turned a devotee of Jainism and under the influence of his mentor the Jain monk Bhadrabahu went to Karnataka where he died.
- Kharavela, Narasimha Varman and Pulakesin II are not the contemporaries of Bhadrabahu. By this logic, you can arrive at the answer.

62. Which Rock Edict furnishes information about Ashoka's conquest of Kalinga ?

- 1) Rock edict XIII 2) Rock edict X
- 3) Rock edict IX 4) Rock edict XII

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- The reign of Ashoka has witnessed only one military conquest. The Rock edict XIII furnishes information about Ashoka's conquest of Kalinga
- Rock edict X -denounces fame and glory
- Rock edict IX - respect to elders, abstaining from killing of animals
- Rock edict XII - appeal for toleration among sects.

63. Consider the following geographical areas:

1. Gujarat
2. Andhra Desha
3. Chola
4. Pandya
5. Satyaputra
6. Kerala putra

Which of the above-mentioned areas are unconquered areas (avijita) mentioned by emperor Ashoka?

- 1) 1,3,4 and 5 2) 3,4,5 and 6
- 3) 1,3,4,5 and 6 4) 2,3,4,5 and 6

Answer: 2

Explanation :

- The discovery of Ashokan inscriptions for Bairat and Junagadh indicates the Mauryan rule over Gujarat.
- The discovery of Ashokan inscriptions for Brahmagiri and Siddapur indicates the Mauryan rule over Andhra. Hence,

statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. If you eliminate 1 and 2 you'll arrive at the answer.

- The rest of the territories Chola, Cheras, Pandyas, Satyaputra and Kerala putra are mentioned as avijita areas in Rock edict II and XIII.

64. With reference to the central administration of the Mauryas, consider the following statements:

1. The Mauryan kings took grand titles like Maharajadhiraja and Chakravarthi
2. The Mauryan kings did not have the power to frame laws and worked to uphold the established norms of shastras

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 only
- 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2
- 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- The Mauryan emperor was the pivotal figure in statecraft. They assumed the simple title of Raja. Grand titles like Maharajadhiraja and Chakravarthi
- We're absent from the Mauryan inscriptions.
- While the dharmashastras oppose the making of the laws by the kings and they preach the king to uphold the established norms. But this is not the case with Arthashastra. It recognises the right of the king to frame rules and laws. In fact the Ashokan edicts are laws made by the king. Hence, statements 1 and 2 are incorrect

65. Consider the following pairs:

Mahamatras	Functions
1. Antamahamatras	In charge of frontier areas
2. Vachabhumikamahamatras	In charge of pasture grounds
3. Dhammama-hamatras	In charge of Law of Piety
4. Striadyhaks	In charge of women

-hamahamatras

How many pairs given above are correctly matched ?

- 1) Only one pair
- 2) Only two pairs
- 3) Only three pairs
- 4) All four pairs

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- The highest officials under Ashoka are designated as Mahamatras. The important officials and their functions are as follows:

1. Antamahamatras - incharge of frontier areas
2. Vachabhumikamahamatras - incharge of pasture grounds
3. Dhammamahamatras - incharge of Law of Piety
4. Striadyakshamahamatras - incharge of women

- You can simply answer this question by literally interpreting the terms like Anta (frontier), stri(women), Bhumi (ground).

66. Match List-I (terms used in Mauryan administration) with List II (meaning) and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

List I (terms)	List II (meanings)
1. Aprahat	a. Land Measurement
2. Dhutaka	b. Collector of taxes
3. Shaulika	c. Spies
4. Pataka	d. Cultivable land

Codes:

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

Answer:4

Explanation:

67. The function of Samaharta in the Mauryan Administration is to

- (a) Keeper of Royal records
- (b) To collect secret information for the state
- (c) To supervise the collection of revenue
- (d) Chief palace of guards

Answer: 3

Explanation :

- According to Arthashastra the collection of revenues is entrusted with a high ranking officer called Samaharta. He should supervise the collection of revenue from the following 7 heads:

1. Urban areas
2. Rural areas
3. Mines
4. Irrigation
5. Forests
6. Pasture grounds
7. Trade

For explanation of other terms refer Q 66

68. **"All men are my children and just as I desire for children that they should obtain welfare and happiness, both in this world and next, the same do I desire for all men."**

This Paternalistic attitude of Ashoka is found in which of the following inscriptions ?

- 1) Jadugada inscription
- 2) Mandasor inscription
- 3) Dhauri inscription
- 4) Sanchi inscription

Answer 3

Explanation

- The two separate Kalinga/Special edicts are unique to Dhauri. They record specific instructions from Ashoka to his local officers on maintaining their conduct in his newly conquered territory. In order to earn trust among his conquered subjects, Ashoka instructed his officers to avoid any harassment, unjust punishment, or forceful subjection.
- Special Rock Edict (SRE 2)
- Addressing the Mahamatras of Samapa, "Ashoka proclaims that all his subjects are just like his own children and he wishes their welfare and happiness both in this world and the other as he desires for his own children. He orders his officials to be free from anger and hurry so that nobody will be punished without trial." This reflects the Paternalistic attitude of the

Monarch. Hence, Option C is the correct answer.

- Jadugada inscription:
- The rock edict inscriptions, engraved in Prakrit language in Brahmi script, have information about the better administrative policies based on Ashoka's humanitarian consideration
- Sanchi inscription:
- The Sanchi inscription of Chandragupta II is an epigraphic record documenting a donation to the Buddhist establishment
- Mandasor inscription:

Refer Q 59

69. **Consider the following list**

List I(Provinces)	List II(Capitals)
-------------------	-------------------

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| 1. Uttarapatha | Pataliputra |
| 2. Dakshinapatha | Suvarnagiri |
| 3. Avanthi Patha | Ujjain |
| 4. Prachyapatha | Kalinga |

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched ?

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1) 1 and 3 | 2) 2 and 3 |
| 3) 2,3 and 4 | 4) 3 and 4 |

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- The Mauryan empire was divided into 5 provinces:
- 1. Uttarapatha (North) - Taxila
- 2. Dakshinapatha - Suvarnagiri
- 3. Avanthi Patha -Ujjain
- 4. Prachyapatha(east) - Kalinga
- 5. Central province(magadha)- Pataliputra

70. **The function of Sitakhyaksha under the Mauryan state was to**

- 1) Manage trade
- 2) Manage royal farming
- 3) Manage royal treasury
- 4) Manage royal mining

Answer: 2

Explanation:

The following are the functions of various officers under the Manuryan state :

1. Manage trade - Samsthadyaksha
2. Manage royal farming - Sitakhyaksha
3. Manage royal treasury -
kosthagaradhyaksha
4. Manage royal mining - akaradhyaksha

71. Arthashastra mentions the “saptanga” theory. Which of the following is not a part of the seven limbs of the state ?

- 1) Foe
- 2) Durga
- 3) Varnashrama Dharma
- 4) Kosa

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- The “saptanga” theory states that the state had 7 essential limbs. They are as follows:
1. King
 2. A high ranking functionary and minister
 3. Rastra (state)
 4. Durga (fort)
 5. Kosa (treasury)
 6. Danda (army)
 7. Mitra (foe and friend)

72. The rock edicts talk about Dhamma. In this context, consider the following pairs

Rock Edict (RE) Content related to Dhamma

- | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| 1. RE V | Appointment of Dhamma mahamatras |
| 2. RE II | Social welfare measures |
| 3. RE III | Tours of inspection |

Which of the pairs are correctly matched ?

- 1) None of the pairs
- 2) Only one pair
- 3) Only two pairs
- 4) All three pairs

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- The RE which talk about Dhamma are as follows:
- RE I - Prohibition of animal sacrifice
- RE II - measures of social welfare. Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.
- RE III - talks about giving respect to Brahmanas and sramanas is a virtue and

also tours of inspection which is to be undertaken by certain category of officials. Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.

- RE V - Appointment of Dhamma mahamatras. Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.

73. Consider the following :

1. Non-Injury
2. Little accumulation of wealth
3. Attachment to morality
4. Purity of heart
5. Obedience to parents

Which of the above are the codes prescribed by Ashoka as a part of his policy of Dhamma ?

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1) 2,4 and 5 | 2) 2,3 and 4 |
| 3) 1,3 and 5 | 4) All of the above |

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- Major RE XII is a further Explanation of the policy of Dhamma. RE XII along with other edicts prescribes the following codes to be followed by subjects:

1. Non-Injury
2. Little accumulation of wealth
3. Attachment to morality
4. Purity of heart
5. Obedience to parents
6. Truthfulness
7. Respect towards teachers

74. Ashoka instructed the following to Dhamma-mahamattas in which of the following edicts? “You could bring your reports to me at any time, irrespective of the activity that I may be engaged in.”

- 1) Major Rock Edict VI
- 2) Major Rock Edict XIII
- 3) Major Rock Edict X
- 4) Major Rock Edict II

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- Major Rock Edict VI is an instruction to the Dhamma-mahamattas. They are told that they could bring any reports to him at any time, irrespective of the activity that he

may be engaged in. The second part of the edict deals with speedy administration and smooth transaction of business

- Rock Edict X and XIII - refer Q 62
- Rock Edict II - refer Q 63

75. Consider the following :

1. Weak successors
2. Huna invasions
3. Pacifist policy of Ashoka
4. Financial Crisis

Which of the above are the causes for the downfall of the Mauryan dynasty?

- 1 and 3
- 1, 2 and 3
- 1, 3 and 4
- All of the above

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- The factors responsible for the decline of large empires like the Mauryas can be more than one. After Ashoka the empire got fragmented and there was a quick succession of rulers which weakened the imperial control over administration. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The Buddhist text divyavadana mentions that because of the Pacifist policy of Ashoka the Mauryas could not withstand the Greek invasions and the revolts in provinces. Hence, statement 3 is correct. Huna invasions led to the downfall of the Guptas and not the Mauryas. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect
- The large amounts of money spent under Ashoka for public works and tours of Ashoka and his officials has weakened the financial base. Further the decreasing content of silver in the punch marked coins also points to the poor financial condition of the state. Hence, statement 4 is correct.

76. Consider the following literary works during the Gupta age:

1. Meghaduta
2. Kiratarjuniya
3. Ritusamhara
4. Raghuvamsa

Which of the above epics is/are written by Kalidasa?

- 1, 2 and 4
- 1, 3 and 4
- 3 and 4 only
- All of the above

Answer: 2

Explanation:

Kiratarjuniya was written by Bhairavi.

Kalidasa wrote the following

1. Meghaduta
2. Ritusamhara and
3. Raghuvamsa

77. The policy of Grahana-Moksha Anugraha was followed by

- Chandragupta I
- Samudragupta
- Kumara Gupta
- Chandragupta II

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- Samudragupta followed a different policy in trans-Vindhyan territories - capturing the defeated enemy and then favouring by releasing the captive as the victor was sure of his suzerainty. (Grahana-Moksha Anugraha) Simply put the defeated territories of south India were not annexed to the empire and they continued to exist.
- Note:
- Later the same policy was employed by Alauddin Khalji where he preferred the policy of direct control over north India while accepting the tributes from the southern states.

78. The Allahabad Prashasti of Samudragupta was composed by

- Bhairavi
- Keerthisena
- Harisena
- Bhanabatta

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- Samudragupta was the most outstanding figure of his family. His stupendous efforts to raise the Guptas as the supreme political power were presented to us by his court poet Harisena in the Allahabad Prashasti
- Bhanabatta:

- Banabhatta was the court poet of King Harsha Vardhana, who reigned from 606 AD to 647 AD in north India first from Thanesar and later Kannauj. The Harshacharita (biography of Harsha) and Kadambari are his most important writings

Bhairavi:

Refer Q 76

79. Consider the following inscriptions:

1. Eran stone inscription
2. Mehrauli Iron Pillar Inscription
3. Junagadh inscription

Which of these are associated with Chandragupta II ?

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

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- Eran stone inscription (in Malwa) is associated with Samudragupta. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.
- The Iron Pillar at Mehrauli near Qutub minar is associated with Chandragupta II. Hence, statement 2 is correct. Junagadh inscription which earlier contains the inscription of emperors like Asoka and Rudradaman also had information related to the rule of Skanda Gupta and not Chandragupta II. Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.

80. With reference to the administration of the Guptas, consider the following statements:

1. Decentralisation of administration was the hallmark of Guptas
2. Appointment of officers became hereditary

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 only
- 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2
- 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- Growing decentralisation was one of the significant features of the Guptan

administration. This phenomenon should be viewed in the context of changing socio-economic structure of the time. Due to emerging feudalism and the phenomenon of land grants decentralising tendencies were encouraged. The state was shedding off much of its responsibilities. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- A significant feature in the administrative system is the tendency to appoint high ranking officers on a hereditary basis. For example, Shikara swamy and Prithvi Sena served Chandragupta II and Kumaragupta respectively. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

81. As compared to the Mauryan administration, which of the following statements are true about the Gupta administration?

1. The power and position of King decreased
2. The governors had more power during the Gupta period.
3. The governor had the power to appoint the district level officers

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- 1) 2 and 3 only
- 2) 1 and 2
- 3) 1 and 3
- 4) All of the above

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- Whereas the Mauryas had preferred to take the title like Devanampiya, Guptan kings took high sounding titles like Maharajadhiraja, Parameswara. But these pompous titles don't prove that the kings gained in actual power; rather it seems there were subordinate kings and intermediaries under them. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The Guptan empire was divided into provinces called Bhuktis headed by Uparika Maharaja. But during this period the element of supervision declined and they were enjoying more powers as

compared to the Mauryas. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

- Moreover, in most of the cases the district officers were appointed by provincial governors. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

82. Consider the following Pairs:

List I (Officers of Guptas)	List II (Functions)
1. Sandhivigraha	External affairs
2. Maha Dandanayaka	Judicial Department
3. Kumara Amatya	Highest administrative officer
4. Mahaprathihara	Guard of the palace

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched ?

- 1) Only one pair
- 2) Only two pairs
- 3) Only three pairs
- 4) All four pairs

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- During the Guptan period the number of officers decreased in comparison to the Mauryan period. The following are the list of officers and their functions
1. Kumara Amatya (a group of highest officers)
 2. Sandhivigraha (foreign affairs)
 3. Dandanayaka and Mahadandanayaka (judicial department)
 4. Mahabaladhikrita (military commanders)
 5. Mahaprathihara (Guard of the palace)

83. Consider the following statements about Fa-Hein:

1. He visited India during the reign of Chandragupta I
2. The main objective of his visit was to collect Buddhist texts

Which of the statements mentioned above is/are incorrect ?

- 1) 1 only
- 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2
- 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- Fa-Hein along with 3 other Chinese monks came to India around 400 AD during the reign of Chandragupta II and not Chandragupta I. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.
- During their stay, they visited many important places in north India and collected Buddhist texts which indeed was the main object of their visit. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

84. Which of the following text portrays the successful campaigns of Chandragupta II against the Saka king ?

- 1) Malavikagnimitra
- 2) Devichandraguptam
- 3) Mrichchakatikam
- 4) Mudrarakshasa

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- The 7th century dramatist Vishakadatta in his drama Devichandraguptam narrates that Chandragupta II had an elder brother Ramagupta. He was defeated by the Saka king and tried to buy peace by offering his chief queen Dhruvadevi. In order to maintain the family's prestige and glory Chandragupta II killed the Saka king and dethroned Ramagupta and married Dhruvadevi.

Malavikagnimitra:

Refer Q 56

Mrichchakatikam:

Refer Q 56

Mudrarakshasa:

Refer Q 56

85. Consider the following statements about Gupta literature :

1. Upper caste male and female characters in the literature spoke Sanskrit
2. Shudras in the literature spoke Prakrit

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 only
- 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2
- 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- As far as the language of Gupta literature is concerned, women and shudras both the characters in the play, were prohibited from speaking Sanskrit and they spoke Prakrit. Only the male characters of the upper three varnas were allowed to speak Sanskrit. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect and statement 2 is correct.

86. Consider the following dynasties of Ancient India:

1. Satavahanas
2. Guptas
3. Vakatakas
4. Mauryas

Which of these dynasties contributed to the development of cave painting at Ajanta?

- 1) 2 and 4
- 2) 1 and 2
- 3) 1,2 and 3
- 4) All of the above

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- The Mauryan art is primarily the court art and the dynasty was not associated with the development of art and architecture at Ajanta. Satavahanas, Guptas and vakatakas contributed to the development of Ajanta caves. Hence, statements 1,2 and 3 are correct.

87. The earliest example of Gupta architecture is found at

- 1) Deogarh temple
- 2) Bhitari temple
- 3) Sanchi temple
- 4) Konark Sun temple

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- The Gupta period marks the initial phase of building structural temples made of

stone/brick. The earliest structural temples were at Sanchi and Tigawa. Sun temple was not associated with the Guptas.

- Sun temple:
- It was built by the king Narasimhadeva I of the Eastern Ganga dynasty in the years around 1250 and is dedicated to the Hindu deity "Surya"

Deogarh temple and Bhitari temple:-

Refer Q 89

88. Consider the following pairs:

Author	Title
1. Varahamihira	Brihat Siddantha
2. Vishnu Sharma	Panchatantra
3. Dandin	Dasa kumara Charita
4. Ashvaghosha	Buddha Charita

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- 1) Only one pair
- 2) Only two pairs
- 3) Only three pairs
- 4) All four pairs

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- Varahamihira wrote Brihat Siddantha
- Vishnu Sharma wrote Panchatantra
- Dandin wrote Dasa kumara Charita
- Ashvaghosha wrote Buddha Charita

All the pairs given above are correctly matched.

89. Consider the following:

1. Brick temple at Bhitargaon
2. Vishnu Temple at Deogarh
3. Durga temple at Aihole

Which of the above temples are associated with the Guptas?

- 1) 1 only
- 2) 1 and 2
- 3) 3 only
- 4) 2 and 3

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- While the initial temples of Guptas were found at Sanchi and Tigawa, significant developments on the architectural style are noticeable in the temples at

Bhitargaon and Deogarh. Both of these were associated with Guptas. Hence, statements 1 and 2 are correct.

- Durga temple at Aihole is associated with the Chalukyas. Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.

90. The terms dronavapa, adhavapa and Kulyavapa during Gupta age connote

- 1) Forced labour
- 2) Irrigation tax
- 3) Units of land measurements
- 4) Punch Marked coins

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- Copper plates of Gupta period throw light on systems of land measurement. In these plates the size of plots are expressed in dronavapa, adhavapa, pataka and Kulyavapa.
1. Forced labour - Visthi
 2. Irrigation tax - Bidakbhagam
 3. Punch Marked coins -Aahat coins

91. With reference to the scholars of ancient India, consider the following statements ?

1. Kalidasa is the contemporary of Chandragupta II
2. Banabhatta is a Contemporary of Harshavarshana

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1) 1 only
- 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2
- 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 3

Explanation :

- Kalidasa is a part of the navaratnas in the court of Chandragupta II. Refer Q 76.
- Banabhatta is the court poet of Harshavarshana. Refer Q 78.
- Hence, statements 1 and 2 are correct.

92. With reference to the post-Mauryan period in ancient india, the towns Barbaricum, Muziris and Barygaza were well known as

- 1) Places of exquisite stone art and architecture
- 2) Ports handling foreign trade

- 3) Capital cities
- 4) Important pilgrim centres

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- Barbaricum was a port in the middle mouth of river Indus.
- Barygaza was the outstanding port in western India.
- Muziris was the outstanding port in the Malabar coast
- All these ports were famous in post Mauryan India for handling of foreign trade.

93. With reference to the Gupta administration, which one of the following is the correct sequence in ascending order in terms of size?

- 1) Grama - Vithi- Vishaya - Bhukti
- 2) Grama - Vishaya - Vithi - Bhukti
- 3) Bhukti - Vishaya - Vithi - Grama
- 4) Vithi - Grama - Vishaya - Bhukti

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- The Gupta empire is divided into a number of provinces called Bhukti.
- Bhuktis are divided into a number of districts called Vishaya
- A group of villages is called Vithi
- Grama is the smallest unit of administration.

94. Consider the following pairs

Upanishad	Subject
	Matter
1. Mundaka Upanishad	Satyameva Jayate
2. Chandogya Upanishad	Treat your mother, father and guest as lord
3. Tattiriya Upanishad	OM
4. Katha Upanishad	"Rise, awake!" Slogan of Vivekananda

Which of the pairs mentioned above are correctly matched?

- 1) only one pair
- 2) Only two pairs
- 3) Only three pairs
- 4) All four pairs

Answer: 2

Explanation:

Excerpts from Upanishads:

1. Tattiriya Upanishad:- Satyam vada, Dahrnam chara, Matru devo bhava, pitru devo bhava. Hence, pair 2 is incorrectly matched.
2. Chandogya Upanishad:- Significance of OM discussed. Ashrama system mentioned. Hence, pair 3 is incorrectly matched.
3. Katha Upanishad: "Rise, awake! Having obtained these boons, understand them" slogan adopted by Vivekananda
4. Mundaka Upanishad - Satyameva Jayate mentioned

95. Consider the following statements about puranas:

1. They deal with the creation, destruction and recreation of the world
2. Most of them are compiled during the Gupta period,

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1) 1 only 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 3

Explanation:

Traditionally, the puranas expound five subjects:-

1. The creation of the world - Sarga
2. The destruction and recreation - Pratisarga
3. Genealogies of gods and patriarchs - Vamsa
4. Reigns of Manus of various world periods- manvantaras
5. The history of the solar and the lunar royal dynasties - Vamsa Charita

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- Most of the puranas are compiled between 300 BCE - 500 BCE that is during the Gupta age. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

96. Consider the following regarding literature:

1. Shiksha
2. Jyotisha
3. Griha sutra
4. Vyakarana

Which of the above mentioned literature forms part of Vedangas ?

- 1) 1,2 and 4 2) 2,3 and 4
- 3) 1,3 and 4 4) All of the above

Answer: 4

Explanation:

The Vedangas derived inspiration from the vedas. These are 6 in number

1. Shiksha - deals with pronunciation
2. Jyotisha - astronomy
3. Srauta + Griha + dharma sutra = kalpa - deals with rituals
4. Vyakarana - grammar
5. Nirukala - etymology
6. Chhanda - metre

Hence, all the statements mentioned above are correct.

97. Consider the following statements about chaityas and Viharas:

1. Vihara is a place of worship and it has a stupa installed in it
2. Chaityas are the places for monks and nuns to live

Which of the statements mentioned is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 only 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- The Chaitya was a rock-cut architecture at the end of which stood a stupa for worship. Some of the famous examples are Ajanta, Ellora, Bhaja, Karle, Bagh, Nasik and Kanheri. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

- The vihara is a monastery meant for the residence of monks and nuns. Some of the famous examples are Ajanta, Ellora, Bhaja, Karle, Bagh, Nasik and Kanheri. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

98. The school of sculpture that gave emphasis of sensual pleasure is

- 1) Gandhara 2) Mathura
- 3) Amaravati 4) Sarnath

Answer: 3

Explanation:

Amaravati School of Art:

- The Amaravati style of art developed and flourished in India for approximately six centuries, from 200 to 100 BC, with no outside influences. The Amravati stupas are made of striking white marble. In human, animal, and floral forms, Amaravati sculptures have a sense of movement and vitality, as well as profound and serene naturalism. Amravati, Nagarjunikonda, Goli, Ghantasala, and Vengi are notable locales where this style flourished. The Amaravati school of art gave emphasis on sensual pleasure.
- Gandhara School of Art:
- It is uniquely associated with the Greco-Roman style of art. This style of art was closely associated with Mahayana Buddhism. The main theme of this art was Lord Buddha and Bodhisattvas. The art was in idea and conception was Indian and in execution it was foreign. One example of the Gandhara style of art is the Bamiyan Buddha statues.
- Mathura School of Art:
- The Mathura School of Art flourished mostly during the reign of Kushana ruler Kanishka in the first century AD. Mathura was the traditional centre of activity for this school, with Sarnath and Kosambi also playing key roles. Spotted red sandstone was utilised in the sculptures here. The representations of Buddha, Bodhisattvas,

Vishnu, Shiva, Yakshas, Yakshinis, Jinas, and others found in the Mathura school depict the city's life and assimilation character as a result of Brahmanism, Jainism, and Buddhism's religious fervour.

99. Which inscription talks about the defeat of Harshavardhana by the chalukya king Pulakesin II ?

- 1) Aihole inscription
- 2) Nigalisagar inscription
- 3) Rumendei inscription
- 4) Junagadh inscription

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- The Aihole inscription composed by Ravikirti talks about the defeat of the lord of north India, Harshavardhana at the hands of Pulakesin II.

Nigalisagar inscription:-

- Nigali Sagar is in Nepal. The edict ascertains the fact that Emperor Asoka enlarged the Kanakamuni Buddha's stupa and worshipped it.

Rumendei inscription:-

- Rummindei Pillar Inscription (Lumbini Pillar Edict) depicts that Ashoka travelled to the Buddha's birthplace. He reduced the taxes of the people living in that area.

Junagadh inscription:-

Refer Q 79

100. The rock-cut elephant coming out with fore parts of the body from the natural rock is found at

- 1) Didarganj 2) Chunar
- 3) Sarnath 4) Dhauli

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- The rock-cut elephant at Dhauli coming out with fore parts of the body from the natural rock is artistically far superior to the many Mauryan sculptures
- Didarganj Yakshi:-
- Two of the most famous sculptures of the Mauryan period are those of Yaksha and Yakshi. They were objects of worship

related to all three religions – Jainism, Hinduism, and Buddhism. The earliest mention of yakshi can be found in Silappadikaram. Didargunj Yakshi was found at Didarganj, Patna

101. Consider the following statements about Upanishads:

1. It rejected Vedic ritualism
2. It gave emphasis over the relation between Brahma and soul
3. Its objective was to make certain corrections in the existing religion so as to strengthen its position vis-à-vis other sects.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1) 1 and 2 | 2) 1 and 3 |
| 3) 2 and 3 | 4) 1,2 and 3 |

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- By around 600 BCE vedic religion became ritualistic in nature and was running counter to the socio-economic needs of the time. So, Upanishads rejected Vedic ritualism and gave emphasis over the relation between Brahma and soul. According to it, Brahma and soul are one and the Same and whatever difference appears between them is due to the ignorance about their relationship. Hence, statements 1 and 2 are correct.
- Unlike Buddhism and Jainism, whose objective was to deny the existence of vedic religion completely, the objective of upanishads was to make certain corrections in the existing religion so as to strengthen its position vis-à-vis other sects. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

102. Consider the following:

1. Multiplicity of sects
2. Ideological debates
3. Asceticism
4. Concept of Karma and rebirth
5. Salvation

Which of the above are the features of religion during the age of Mahajanapadas?

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 1) 1,2,3 and 5 | 2) 1,2,3 and 4 |
| 3) 3 and 5 | 4) All of the above |

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- 600 BCE marks the age of Intellectual revolution in India. The Multiplicity of sects was the common feature of the time. According to the Buddhist texts there were nearly 62 sects and according to Jaina texts there were nearly 362 sects. Above all there was an ideological conflict among different scholars and thinkers. Hence, statements 1 and 2 are correct.
- Most of the sects believed in Asceticism and the concept of karma, rebirth and salvation. Hence, statements 3,4 and 5 are correct.

103. Consider the following

1. Buddha
2. Sangha
3. Bodhisattva
4. Dharma

Which of the above is not a part of triratnas of Buddhism?

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| 1) 1 and 3 | 2) 2 and 3 |
| 3) 3 only | 4) 4 only |

Answer: 3

Explanation:

The three jewels of Buddhism are

1. Buddha
2. Sangha
3. Dharma

Bodhisattva:-

- The concept of Bodhisattva is central to the Hinayana sect of Buddhism. Bodhisattva is a compassionate one on his way to enlightenment. He delays achieving his own salvation to help all sentient beings on their path to it.

104. Among the many sects, why has Buddhism become a popular religion ?

1. Practical approach to life
2. Royal patronage

3. Language of masses
4. Carted to the interest of poor
5. Carted to the interest of rich

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- 1) 1,2 and 3 2) 1,2,3 and 4
- 3) 1,2,3 and 5 4) All of the above

Answer: 4

Explanation:

The reasons are as follows:

1. Unlike Jainism, it adopted a practical approach to life as it emphasised over the "middle path" Hence, statement 1 is correct.
2. It catered to the interest of both the rich and the poor. It favoured the rich by emphasising on the principle of "non-stealing" but at the same time it favoured the poor people by promoting the principle of "non-accumulation" of wealth. Hence, statements 4 and 5 are correct.
3. It adopted the language of common people that is Pali. So it could reach the masses. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
4. It enjoyed royal patronage. The rulers of Magadha like bimbisara and ajatasatru gave patronage to it. Later kings like Ashoka and Kanishka converted it into a world religion. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

105. Consider the following statements about Buddhism:

1. It developed an alternative model of social relations
2. The Buddhist monastery became free of higher Varna domination.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 only 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- Despite opposing the caste system, it could not develop any alternative model

of social relations. It made a compromise with the caste system. Pali text had tried to change the hierarchy of caste in the following manner

1. Kshatriya
2. Brahmanas
3. Vaishyas
4. Shudra

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

- Buddhism could not break brahmanical dominance and Buddha could not be free from high class consciousness completely. Even in the Buddhist monastery there was the domination of the higher varnas. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

106. The first sermon was delivered by Buddha at

- 1) Sarnath 2) Sanchi
- 3) Lumbini 4) Kusinagara

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- Buddha after getting enlightened gave his first sermon at the deer park at Sarnath, in the outskirts of Varanasi to his first 5 disciples - an act celebrated as the turning of the wheel of Law (Dharmachakra pravartana)
- Kusinagara is the place of death of Buddha.
- Lumbini is the birth place of Buddha

107. Consider the following statements about Nalanda university:

1. It was a Buddhist centre of learning.
2. Hiuen Tsang studied here
3. It played a pivotal role for spreading of buddhism

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 1) 1 and 2 2) 1 and 3
- 3) 2 and 3 4) 1,2 and 3

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- Nalanda university was an important centre of buddhism in ancient India. Hiuen Tsang came to India and studied Buddhist philosophy here. He was also involved in a

number of debates and discussions. It played an important role in the spread of Buddhism in Eastern India and to southeast Asia and China.

Hence, statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct.

108. Which of the following were common to both Buddhism and Jainism ?

1. Opposition to Brahmanical supremacy
2. Liberal attitude towards trade
3. Appealed to downtrodden sections
4. Extreme cult of non-violence

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 1) 1 and 3 | 2) 1 and 2 |
| 3) 1, 2 and 3 | 4) All of the above |

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- Cult of non-violence was taken to the point of absurdity by the Jains, while in Buddhism it remained in reasonable limits. Hence, statement 4 is incorrect.
- Rest of the statements are common to both the religions.
- Opposition to Brahmanical supremacy:-
- Both Buddhism and Jainism were the religions started by Kshatriyas and they challenged the supremacy of Brahmanas
- Liberal attitude towards trade :-
- Refer Q 110
- Appealed to downtrodden sections:-
- Both the religions appealed to the economically powerful Vaishyas who donated lavishly to Buddhism and the socially downtrodden Shudras.
- Hence, statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct.

109. The theory of anekantavada is a core philosophy of which of the following religions?

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1) Buddhism | 2) Jainism |
| 3) Nihilism | 4) Charvakism |

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- The theory of anekantavada is a core philosophy of Jainism. According to this

philosophy the truth can be one or more than one, static and mobile, at the same time.

- Buddhism : Theory of causation
- Charvakism - Material school. Direct perception as the only means of establishing and accepting any truth

110. With reference to the history of ancient India, which of the following was/were not common to both Buddhism and Brahmanism

1. Non-Violence
2. Money lending and usury
3. Attitude towards prostitutes

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: 4

Explanation:

The following are the differences between Buddhism and Brahmanism

1. Non-Violence
 - a. In Buddhism Non-Violence was emphasised
 - b. In Brahmanism animal sacrifice was advocated
2. Money lending and usury
 - a. It was condemned by Brahmanas
 - b. Supported by Buddhism and Jainism
3. Attitude towards prostitutes
 - a. Apastamba forbids Brahmanas to accept food from the prostitutes.
 - b. The Buddha order did not bar the entry of them

Hence, statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct.

111. With reference to the religious history of India, consider the following statements :

1. Madhyamika and Yogacara schools are associated with Hinayanism
2. Nagarjuna was the founder of Madhyamika school of philosophy
3. Maitreyanatha was the founder of Yogacara school of philosophy

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) 1 and 2 2) 1 and 3
3) 2 and 3 4) All of the above

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- Mahayanism had two chief philosophical schools:

1. Madhyamika School

a. Nagarjuna was the founder

2. Yogacara school

a. Maitreyanatha was the founder

Hence, statements 2 and 3 are correct and 1 is incorrect

112. Consider the following statements

1. Buddha as a teacher

2. Idol worship

3. Use of Sanskrit

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

1) 1 and 3 2) 2 and 3

3) 2 only 4) 3 only

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- Elements of devotionalism came to dominate Mahayana Buddhism which started deification of Buddha and his worship in the form of images in shrines. Hence, statement 2 is correct. It also marked the greater use of Sanskrit in Buddhist scriptures. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- Buddha was considered as a teacher by Hinayanism. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

113. Consider the following statements about the outcomes of fourth Buddhist council:

1. Strict division of sangha into Mahayana and Hinayana

2. Deliberations of the council were conducted in Pali

3. Final compilation of Tripitakas

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1) 1 only 2) 1 and 3

3) 1 and 2 4) All of the above

Answer: 1

Explanation:

The fourth Buddhist council was conducted in kudalavan in Kashmir under the presidency of Vasumitra. The results of it are as follows:

1. There is the strict division of sangha into Mahayana and Hinayana. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
2. Codification of Sarvastivadin doctrines as Mhavibhasa
3. Conduct of deliberations of council in Sanskrit instead of Pali. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.
4. Spread of Buddhism to other parts of the world.

Final compilation of Tripitakas was done in the Third Buddhist council. Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.

114. The third Buddhist council was held under the presidentship of

1) Mahakasyapa 2) Rishabhanatha

3) Vasumitra 4) Moggaliputta Tissa

Answer: 4

Explanation:

According to the Buddhist texts, the third Buddhist council was held during the reign of Ashoka under the presidentship of Moggaliputta Tissa

Rishabhanatha was a Jaina tirthankara.

115. The king who admonished the monks and nuns for fomenting schism in the sangha is

1) Kanishka 2) Kalasoka

3) Ashoka 4) Ajatashatru

Answer: 3

Explanation:

Schism Edicts at Sarnath, Kosam and Sanchi:

- As per these edicts, Ashoka admonished the monks and nuns for fomenting schism in the sangha and ordered the excommunication of such monks and nuns by making them wear white dress, white being inauspicious to the Buddhist monastic life.

- Kanishka organised the 4th Buddhist council.

Kalasoka organised the 4th Buddhist council.

116. Setthi-Gahapati figures prominently in Buddhist Pali literature. The meaning of the term is

- 1) House Holder
- 2) Land holder
- 3) Merchant
- 4) A person holding fabulous wealth

Answer: 4

Explanation:

Gahapati —land holder

Setthi — Merchant

- Setthi-Gahapati - A major land holder who did partial investment in trade and commerce.

His functions are as follows:

1. A major landholder
2. An employer of labourers
3. Tax payer
4. Proximity to king
5. Provision of army to the king

117. Consider the following sects:

1. Buddhism
2. Jainism
3. Lokayata
4. Charvakism

Which of the above sects are called Nastikas by Panini ?

- 1) 1 and 2
- 2) 3 and 4
- 3) 1,2 and 4
- 4) All of the above

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- In his book on grammar Astadhyayi, Panini uses the term nastikas (does not mean atheists) for describing the sects who do not subscribe to the authority and infallibility of the vedic tradition. Hence, all the statements are correct.

118. Consider the following principles of Jainism:

1. Non injury
2. Truth
3. Non accumulation of wealth
4. Non stealing

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 1) 1 and 2
- 2) 1 and 4
- 3) 1,2 and 4
- 4) All of the above

Answer: 4

Explanation:

The following are the foundational principles of Jainism

1. Non injury
2. Truth
3. Non accumulation of wealth
4. Non stealing
5. Celibacy

119. With reference to Jainism, consider the following statements:

1. Mahavira laid the four foundational principles of Jainism
2. Parsvanatha added the vow of celibacy to it

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect ?

- 1) 1 only
- 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2
- 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 3

Explanation:

Jaina Tirthankaras :

First one - Rishabhanatha

23rd one - Parsvanatha. He gave the four foundational principles of the Jaina way of life:

1. Non injury
2. Truth
3. Non accumulation of wealth
4. Non stealing

24th one - Mahavira

He added the vow of Celibacy to the Jaina way of life

120. During whose stewardship the Jaina community experienced its first major schism?

- 1) Sudharma
- 2) Ashvaghosha
- 3) Bhadrabahu
- 4) Sthulabahu

Answer: 3

Explanation:

- The division occurred mainly due to famine in Magadha which compelled a group led by Bhadrabahu to move South India. During the 12 years famine, the

group in South India stuck to the strict practices while the group in Magadha adopted a more lax attitude and started wearing white clothes. After the end of famine, when the Southern group came back to Magadha, the changed practices led to the division of Jainism into two sects. During the stewardship of Bhadrabahu, the Jaina community experienced its first major schism as they were subdivided into two major sects :

1. Svetambara (white clad)
 2. Digambara (sky clad or the naked)
- Ashvaghosha was the vice-president of 4th Buddhist council.

121. Regarding the foundational values of Buddhism, consider the following statements:

1. The entire existence is full of sorrows and sufferings
2. The eightfold path is a way to end sorrows and sufferings

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1) 1 only
- 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2
- 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 3

Explanation

Four noble truths:

1. The entire existence is full of sorrows and sufferings
 2. It's possible to explain the genesis of sufferings
 3. It's possible to bring an end to suffering
 4. There is a way to bring an end to suffering.
- As a way Buddha suggested the 8 folded path.

Hence, statements 1 and 2 are correct.

122. Consider the following

1. Right effort
2. Right intention
3. Right speech
4. Right property

Which of the above is/are part of the eightfold path of Buddhism?

- 1) 1,2 and 4
- 2) 1,3 and 4
- 3) 2,3 and 4
- 4) 1,2 and 3

Answer: 4

Explanation:

The eightfold path that enabled the individual to attain nirvana are as follows:

1. Right effort
2. Right intention
3. Right speech
4. Right views
5. Right concentration
6. Right mindfulness
7. Right livelihood
8. Right action

Hence, statements 1,2 and 3 are correct.

123. The second Buddhist council was held at

- 1) Vaishali
- 2) Kashmir
- 3) Rajagriha
- 4) Pataliputra

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- In and around 383 BC, the Second Buddhist council was held at Vaishali presided over by Yassa.

Pataliputra : third council

Kashmir: Fourth council

Rajagriha: first council.

124. Which Buddhist council is noted for the compilation and codification of Vinaya and Sutta pitikas ?

- 1) First Buddhist council
- 2) Second Buddhist council
- 3) Third Buddhist council
- 4) Fourth Buddhist council

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- Soon after the demise of Buddha in 483 BC, the first Buddhist council was held at Rajagriha under the presidency of Mahakassapa. The sangha suffered from fissures in the discipline and regulations, hence the need was felt to codify the teachings of the Buddha into canons. The first Buddhist council is noted for the compilation and codification of Vinaya and Sutta pitikas

Fourth Buddhist council:-

Refer Q 113

125. Recently, which of the following texts was included by UNESCO on the list of literature signifying world human heritage ?

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1) Rig Veda | 2) Milindapanho |
| 3) Manusmriti | 4) Astadhyayi |

Answer: 1

Explanation:

- Recently, the Rigveda was included by UNESCO on the list of literature signifying world human heritage.

Astadhyayi:-

Refer Q 117

126. With regard to the Jaina philosophy, consider the following statements:

- The human personality is formed of soul and matter.
- Matter is indestructible
- Salvation is possible through the progress of the soul.

Which of the statements are correct?

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1) 1 and 2 | 2) 1 and 3 |
| 3) 2 and 3 | 4) 1,2 and 3 |

Answer: 2

Explanation:

- Jaina philosophy is that of Dualism. It believes that human personality is formed of two elements
 - Soul (Jiva) --- indestructible
 - Matter (Ajiva) --- destructible
- The salvation of an individual is possible through the progress of the soul. Hence, statements 1 and 3 are correct and statement 2 is incorrect.

Summary :

- In short, the soul and matter by coming into contact with each other creates energies which cause birth and death and various experiences in life. These energies already created could be destroyed by a course of discipline leading to salvation.

127. Consider the following:

- Idol worship
- Inclusion of women into the sangha

3. Bhakti movement

4. Invasion of Turks

Which of the statements mentioned above are responsible for the decline of Buddhism?

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| 1) 1 and 2 | 2) 1,2 and 3 |
| 3) 1 and 3 | 4) 1,2,3 and 4 |

Answer: 4

Explanation:

Causes for the decline of Buddhism:

- Incorporating brahmanical rituals and ceremonies such as idol worship, receiving gifts and practising sexual mysticism which the tenants of buddhism did not allow. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Revival of brahmanism
- Rise of vaishnavism and bhagavatism which gave stress on love and denounced unnecessary vedic rituals. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- Deterioration in the moral standard of monks and nuns living in the Buddhist Sanghas (because of Inclusion of women into the sangha). Hence, statement 4 is correct.
- Invasion of Huns and Turks in the form of Mohammad Bin Bakthiyar Khalji who destroyed Nalanda university in the 12th century. Hence, statement 4 is correct.

128. Match List-I (events of Buddha's life) with List II (Symbols) and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

List I

- Birth
- Great renunciation
- Nirvana
- Death

List II

- Bodhi tree
- Stupa
- Horse
- Lotus

Codes:

- 1-a, 2-b, 3-d, 4-c
- 1-b, 2-a, 3-c, 4-d
- 1-c, 2-d, 3-b, 4-a
- 1-d, 2-c, 3-a, 4-b

Answer: 4

Explanation:

Five events and their symbols:

1. Birth - lotus or bull
2. Great renunciation - horse
3. Nirvana - Bodhi tree
4. First sermon - eight spoked wheel
5. Death - stupa

129. With reference to the science and technology of ancient India, consider the following statements:

1. The Value of 'pi' was first calculated by Aryabhatta
2. Siddhanta Shiromani written by Brahmagupta is text on Mathematics

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1) 1 only 2) 2 only
- 3) Both 1 and 2 4) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 4

Explanation:

- The Value of 'pi' was first calculated by Baudhayana. 'Pi' is useful in calculating the area and circumference of a circle. Pythagoras theory is already found in the salvasutras written by him centuries ago. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.
- Siddhanta Shiromani is written by Bhaskaracharya who introduced the cyclic methods to solve algebraic equations. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

130. Which of the following structures were built by Mauryans?

1. Sanchi stupa
2. The caves at Barabar hills
3. Sarnath Pillar

Select the correct options using the codes given below:

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Mauryan Art and Architecture
Pillars

- The pillars erected by Asoka furnish the finest specimen of the Mauryan art. Asokan pillars with inscriptions were found in places like Delhi, Allahabad,

Rummindei, Sanchi and Saranath. Their tops were crowned with figures of animals like lions, elephants and bulls. The Saranath pillar with four lions standing back to back is the most magnificent. The Indian government adopted this capital with some modifications as its state emblem.

Stupas

- Asoka built a number of stupas throughout his empire but majority of them were destroyed during foreign invasions. Only a few have survived. The best example is the famous Sanchi stupa with massive dimensions. It was originally built with bricks but later enlarged after the time of Asoka.

Caves

- The caves presented to the Ajivikas by Asoka and his son Dasaratha remain an important heritage of the Mauryas. Their interior walls are polished like mirrors. These were meant to be residences of monks. The caves at Barabar hills near Bodh Gaya are wonderful pieces of Mauryan architecture.

131. Recently, Ministry of Jal Shakti launched PRAYAG portal which monitors real- time analysis of:

- 1) Ganga 2) Yamuna
- 3) Brahmaputra 4) Ganga & Yamuna

Answer: 4

- Explanation: PRAYAG stands for Platform for Real-time Analysis of Yamuna, Ganga, and their Tributaries at the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) office in New Delhi. It is a Real-Time Monitoring Centre for planning and monitoring projects, river water quality, etc. Monitoring will be done through various online dashboards such as Ganga Tarang Portal, Jajmau Plant through Online Drone Data, PMT Tool Dashboard, Ganga Districts Performance Monitoring System, etc.

Explanation for option 1:

- The Ganga river system outspreads in India, Tibet (China), Nepal and Bangladesh. It is the largest river basin in India and accounts for about one-fourth of the total area of the country. It covers states of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh and Union Territory of Delhi.
- The Ganga is formed from the 6 headstreams and their five confluences. The Alaknanda River meets the Dhauliganga River at Vishnuprayag, the Nandakini River at Nandprayag, the Pindar River to form the Ganga main stream. The Bhagirathi, considered to be the source stream: rises at the foot of Gangotri Glacier, at Gaumukh. From Devapryag the river is called as Ganga. Ganga debouches [emerge from a confined space into a wide, open area] from the hills into the plain area at It is joined by the Yamuna at Allahabad. Near Rajmahal Hills it turns to the south-east. At Farraka, it bifurcates into Bhagirathi-Hugli in West Bengal and Padma-Meghna in Bangladesh (it ceases to be known as the Ganga after Farraka).

Explanation for option 2:

- Yamuna river flows in States- Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi. Important Cities on its Bank Haryana: Yamuna Nagar, Delhi: New Delhi, Uttar Pradesh: Noida, Mathura, Agra, Firozabad, Etawah, Auraiya and Prayagraj.
- Originates from Yamunotri, Banderpooch peaks, Uttarkashi district, Uttarakhand, India., Total Length 1,376 km (855 mi), Discharge in Ganga at Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh.
- Tributaries: Left Bank: Hindon, Tons, Hanuman Ganga, Sasur Khaderi.

- Right Bank: Giri, Baghain, Sabi, Chambal, Betwa, Sindh, Ken.

Explanation for option 3:

- Brahmaputra River originates in Chemyungdung Glacier in the Kailash Range of Tibet. It traverses eastward longitudinally for 1,200 km in southern Tibet (known as Yarlung Tsangpo in Tibet).
- Other names 1. Yarlung Tsangpo (Tibetan name)

2. Dihang (in Arunachal Pradesh)

3. Brahmaputra (in Assam)

4. Jamuna (in Bangladesh)

Tributaries: Left Side Tributaries: Dibang, Lohit, Dhansiri, Kelong, Kapili, Dikhu Right Side Tributaries: Kameng, Manas, Raidak, Subansiri, Teesta

132. The 2023 International Prize in Statistics has been awarded to:

- 1) C. R. Rao
- 2) James Maynard
- 3) Akshay Venkatesh
- 4) Maryna Viazovska

Answer: 1

- Explanation: The 2023 International Prize in Statistics has been awarded to Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao.
- International Prize in Statistics: It is awarded to an individual or group once every two years "for significant breakthroughs utilising statistics to improve science, technology, and human welfare." The prize is modelled after the Nobel Prize, Abel Prize, Fields Medal, and Turing Award, and it carries an \$80,000 monetary award. The International Prize in Statistics and the COPSS Presidents' Award are the two top honours in statistics.
- Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao, an Indian-American statistician, has been awarded the 2023 International Prize in Statistics, the statistical equivalent of the Nobel Prize.
- Explanation for option 2:

- Maryna is only the second woman to receive the award, which is awarded to mathematicians under 40, since it was created in 1936. The four awardees of the prestigious prize include: France's Hugo Duminil-Copin (36 years)- Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques US-based June Huh (39 years) – Princeton University Britain's James Maynard (35 years) – University of Oxford Ukraine's Maryna Viazovska (37 years) – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology.
- Value Addition:
- The Fields Medal is a prize awarded to two, three, or four mathematicians under 40 years of age at the International Congress of the International Mathematical Union (IMU), a meeting that takes place every four years. The name of the award honours the Canadian mathematician John Charles Fields. The Fields Medal is regarded as one of the highest honors a mathematician can receive, and has been described as the Nobel Prize of Mathematics, although there are several major differences, including frequency of award, number of awards, age limits, monetary value, and award criteria.

133. Which organisation has released the World Energy Transitions Outlook?

- 1) International Renewable Energy Agency
- 2) United Nations Environment Program
- 3) World Bank Group
- 4) World Economic Forum

Answer: 1

- Explanation: Recently, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) launched the World Energy Transitions Outlook 2022 at the Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue.
- Energy transition refers to the global energy sector's shift from fossil-based systems of energy production and consumption including oil, natural gas and

coal to renewable energy sources like wind and solar, as well as lithium-ion batteries.

- Other index released by it: International Energy Agency- Southeast Asia Energy Outlook.
- Explanation for Option 4:
- WEF (World Economic Forum) releases the following reports:
- Global Competitiveness Report (GCR), Global Gender Gap Report, Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report, Global Information Technology Report.
- Explanation for Option 2:
- UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) reports:
- Actions on Air Quality, Emissions Gap Report, Global Environment Outlook.
- Explanation for Option 3:
- Some of the reports released by the World Bank (WB) include World Development Report, Global Economic Prospects Report, Remittance Report, Ease of Doing Business Report, Ease Of Living Index, India Development Update, Universal Health Coverage Index, The Service Trade Restriction Index.

134. Which Pharma company has launched vaccine "Shingrix" in India to prevent shingles.

- 1) Bharat Biotech
- 2) GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)
- 3) Zydus
- 4) Dr. Reddys

Answer: 2

- Explanation: GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Pharma has launched vaccine "Shingrix" in India to prevent shingles. Shingles is caused by the reactivation of the varicella zoster virus (VZV), same virus that causes chickenpox. Those suffering from diabetes, heart disease and kidney diseases were at an increased risk of

developing shingles because of weakened immunity.

- Shingrix aims to prevent shingles (herpes zoster) and post-herpetic neuralgia in adults aged 50 years or more. It is the world's first non-live, recombinant subunit vaccine to be given intramuscularly in two doses. It was approved by US Food and Drug Administration and European Commission.

Explanation for option 1:

- COVAXIN®, India's indigenous COVID-19 vaccine by Bharat Biotech is developed in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) - National Institute of Virology (NIV). The indigenous, inactivated vaccine is developed and manufactured in Bharat Biotech's BSL-3 (Bio-Safety Level 3) high containment facility. The vaccine is developed using Whole-Virion Inactivated Vero Cell derived platform technology.

Explanation for option 3:

- India has started phase I/II clinical trials of Covid-19 vaccine - ZyCoV-D, designed and developed by Zydus (a pharmaceutical company) with support from the Department of Biotechnology (DBT). The adaptive phase I/II clinical trials will assess the safety, tolerability and immunogenicity of the vaccine.

135. Recently, JUICE (Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer) MISSION was launched by:

- 1) NASA
- 2) European Space Agency
- 3) ISRO
- 4) Chinese Space Agency

Answer: 2

- Explanation: Recently, the European Space Agency is set to launch the Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer (Juice) mission to explore Jupiter and its icy moons, namely Ganymede, Callisto, and Europe. Launched from French Guiana on an

Ariane 5 launcher. The mission is set to reach Jupiter in 2031. The spacecraft was constructed by Airbus Defence and Space, a division of the Airbus group.

- Value addition:
- Fifth in line from the Sun, Jupiter is, by far, the largest planet in the solar system – more than twice as massive as all the other planets combined. Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are called Jovian or Gas Giant Planets. These have thick atmosphere, mostly of helium and hydrogen. Jupiter's iconic Great Red Spot is a giant storm bigger than Earth that has raged for hundreds of years. Jupiter rotates once about every 10 hours (a Jovian day), but takes about 12 Earth years to complete one orbit of the Sun (a Jovian year). Jupiter has more than 75 moons. The planet Jupiter's four largest moons are called the Galilean satellites after Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei, who first observed them in 1610. These large moons, named Io, Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto, are each distinctive world. In 1979, the Voyager mission discovered Jupiter's faint ring system. Nine spacecraft have visited Jupiter. Seven flew by and two have orbited the gas giant. The Galileo probe (NASA) which orbited the planet between 1995 and 2003. Juno (NASA) has been circling the planet since 2016.

136. Which Operation India carried out to evacuate its nationals owing to the current crisis in Sudan?

- 1) Operation Ganga
- 2) Operation Devi shakti
- 3) Operation Kaveri
- 4) Operation Maitri

Answer: 3

- Explanation: India has started 'Operation Kaveri' to evacuate its nationals owing to the Current Crisis in Sudan. Around 3,000 Indians are stuck in various parts of Sudan,

including capital Khartoum and in distant provinces like Darfur.

- Operation Kaveri is a codename for India's evacuation effort to bring back its citizens stranded in Sudan amid intense fighting between the army and a rival paramilitary force there. The operation involves the deployment of Indian Navy's INS Sumedha, a stealth offshore patrol vessel, and two Indian Air Force C-130J special operations aircraft on standby in Jeddah. There are about 2,800 Indian nationals in Sudan, and there is also a settled Indian community of about 1,200 in the country.
- Explanation for Option 1:
- Operation Ganga (2022): It is an evacuation mission to bring back all the Indian nationals who are currently stranded. The tensions between Russia and Ukraine are currently heightened, with war erupting in Ukraine military launched a series of attacks recently.
- Explanation for Option 2:
- Operation Devi Shakti was an operation carried out by the Indian Armed forces to evacuate Indian citizens and foreign nationals stuck in Afghanistan after the collapse of the Ashraf Ghani government.
- Explanation for Option 4:
- Operation Maitri is the rescue and relief operation in Nepal by the Government of India and Indian Armed Forces in the aftermath of the 2015 Nepal earthquake. The aircrafts Indian Air Force mobilised for the rescue operation were: Ilyushin Il-76. C-130J Hercules.

137. Recently, MAHARISHI initiative for Millets And otHer Ancient Grains was launched in the meetings of:

- 1) BRICS
- 2) G20
- 3) ASEAN
- 4) BIMSTEC

Answer: 2

- Explanation: G20 Meetings of Agricultural Chief Scientists (MACS) 2023 in Varanasi under India's Presidency saw the launch of MAHARISHI Initiative.
- MAHARISHI stands for Millets And otHer Ancient Grains International Research Initiative. MAHARISHI secretariat shall be housed at Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad with technical support from ICRISAT, One CGIAR Centres and other international organisations.
- Focus areas of MAHARISHI are: Establish mechanisms to connect researchers and institutions working in identified grain crops to enhance the dissemination of research findings and identify research gaps and needs. Establish web platforms to connect researchers, exchange data, share communication products and thematic briefs to encourage research & information sharing. Organise capacity building activities and international workshops & conferences. Performance identification and recognition to scientists.

138. Which one of the following GI tags is not from Andhra Pradesh?

- 1) Bobbili Veena
- 2) Udayagiri Wooden Cutlery
- 3) Etikoppaka Toys
- 4) Pochampally Ikat

Answer: 4

- Explanation: GI Tags in Andhra Pradesh:
- Allagadda Stone Carving, Andhra Pradesh Leather Puppetry, Bobbili Veena, Budithi Bell & Brass Metal Craft, Dharmavaram Handloom Pattu Sarres And Paavadas, Durgi Stone Carvings, Etikoppaka Toys, Kondapalli Bommallu, Machilipatnam Kalamkari, Mangalagiri Sarees and Fabrics, Srikalahasthi Kalamkari, Udayagiri Wooden Cutlery, Uppada Jamdani Sarees, Venkatagiri Sarees, Araku Valley Arabica Coffee, Banaganapalle Mangoes, Guntur

Sannam Chilli, Bandar Laddu, Tirupathi Laddu.

- Explanation for option 4:
- GI Tags in Telangana: Pochampally Ikat, Silver Filigree of Karimnagar, Nirmal toys and craft, Nirmal furniture, Nirmal paintings, Gadwal Sarees, Hyderabad Haleem, Cheriya Paintings, Pambathi Metal Craft, Siddipet Gollabhamma, Narayanpet Handloom Sarees, Banaganapalle Mangoes, Pochampally Ikat Logo, Adilabad Dokra, Warangal Durries.
- Value Addition:
- GI Tag or Geographical Indication Tags are facilitated to the products, both natural or man-made which are associated with a particular geographical region in the country. It is an acknowledgment of intellectual property. GI tags are facilitated by the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999. These tags are issued under the Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

139. SLINEX-23 is a Bilateral Maritime Exercise between which countries?

- 1) India- USA
- 2) Indonesia- Sri Lanka
- 3) India- Sri Lanka
- 4) India- Seychelles

Answer: 3

- Explanation: SLINEX-23: It is a Bilateral Maritime Exercise between India and Sri Lanka.
- The 10th edition of the maritime Exercise SLINEX - 2023 recently began in Colombo. SLINEX-2023 will aim to enhance interoperability, improve mutual understanding and exchange best practices and procedures in multi-faceted Maritime operations between both Navies. The exercise is being conducted in two phases, the Harbour Phase followed

by the Sea Phase. The Indian Navy will be represented by INS Kiltan (Advanced Anti Submarine Warfare Corvette) and INS Savitri (Offshore Patrol Vessel), while the Sri Lanka Navy will have SLNS Gajabahu (Advance Offshore Patrol Vessel) and SLNS Sagara (OPV) in the exercise. SLINEX is in consonance with India's policy of 'Neighbourhood First' and Prime Ministers' vision of 'Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)'.

- Value Addition- Other Exercises in news: Exercise Kavach: Conducted by Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC), it is joint military exercise involving the assets of Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard.
- Exercise Cope India 23: It is a bilateral Air Exercise between the Indian Air Force and United States Air Force.
- Exercise Orion: It is a multilateral exercise. Besides Indian Airforce and French Air and Space Force (FASF), Air Forces from Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Spain and United States of America would also be flying in this exercise.
- INIOCHOS-23: Indian Air Force will participate in Exercise INIOCHOS-23, a multi-national air exercise hosted by the Greece Air Force.

140. National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) has discovered the presence of rare-earth elements (REEs) in which district of Andhra Pradesh?

- 1) Anantapur
- 2) East Godavari
- 3) Srikakulam
- 4) Chittoor

Answer: 1

- Explanation: Scientists at the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) in Hyderabad have discovered the presence of rare-earth elements (REEs) in Anantapur district, Andhra Pradesh.
- Rare-earth elements (REEs) are a group of 17 elements, including lanthanum, cerium, praseodymium, neodymium,

yttrium, hafnium, tantalum, niobium, zirconium, and scandium. These elements are widely used in modern electronics, such as smartphones, computers, jet aircraft, and other products, due to their unique magnetic, optical, and catalytic properties. These elements are crucial components in various electronic devices and have industrial applications in sectors like imaging, aerospace, and defense.

- **SHORE Project and discovery of REEs** The discovery was part of a study funded by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) under a project called 'Shallow subsurface imaging Of India for Resource Exploration' (SHORE).
- **Value Addition:**
- **Mica:** Andhra Pradesh is the largest mica producing state of India. The mica mining area lies in Nellore district and is 100 km long and 25 km wide. Nellore mica is generally light green in colour; it is generally stained and spotted. The other districts with workable mica deposits are Vishakhapatnam, West Godavari, Shah mine in Gudur taluka is the deepest with mining being done at 300 m depth. The state production of Mica is almost 72 per cent of all India production. In the recent years, share of Andhra Pradesh has increased in respect to mica production.
- **Limestone:** Andhra Pradesh possesses about one-third of the total reserves of the cement grade limestone in the country. Extensive deposits occur in Kadapa, Kurnool Guntur
- **Uranium:** The Tummalapalle Mine is a uranium mine in Tumalapalli village located in Kadapa of the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. Results from a research conducted by the Atomic Energy Commission of India in 2011 made the analysts conclude that this mine might have one of the largest reserves of uranium in the world.

- **Asbestos:** Andhra Pradesh is the largest producer of Asbestos in India. Kadapa district of Andhra Pradesh have Asbestos mines.

141. The first ever Global Buddhist Summit 2023 was organised by International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) and:

- 1) Ministry of Culture
- 2) Ministry of External Affairs
- 3) Ministry of Rural Development
- 4) Ministry of Home Affairs

Answer: 1

- **Explanation:** Recently, the Ministry of Culture in partnership with International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) has organized the 1st Global Buddhist Summit 2023, which aims to enhance cultural and diplomatic relations with other countries. It saw the participation of delegates from nearly 30 countries, including Taiwan, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, and Mongolia.
- **Global Buddhist Summit** was the first-ever Global Buddhist Summit organized by the Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC).
- **THE MAIN THEME** of the summit was Responses to Contemporary Challenges: Philosophy to Praxis. Sub Themes of the summit were: Buddha Dhamma Pilgrimage, Living Heritage and Buddha Relics: a resilient foundation to India's centuries-old cultural links to countries in South, Southeast and East Asia. Buddha Dhamma and Peace Buddha Dhamma: Environmental Crisis, Health and Sustainability Preservation of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition.
- **Value Addition:**
- **GREAT EVENTS OF BUDDHA'S LIFE-SYMBOLS**
- **Avakranti** (conception or descent) - White Elephant
- **Jati** (birth)- Lotus and Bull
- **Mahabhinishkramana** (Great Renunciation)- Horse

- Nirvana/ Sambodhi (enlightenment)- Bodhi tree
- Dharmachakra Parivarthana (first Sermon)- Wheel
- Mahaparinirvana (Death)- Stupa

142. With reference to Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) consider the following.

- A. It was established by the E.U, USA and Canada.
- B. It maintains "black list" of nations as uncooperative tax havens.
- C. India is a member country of OECD.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1) A only 2) A, C only
- 3) A, B only 4) A, B, C

Answer: 3

- Explanation: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD): It is an international organisation of 38 countries committed to democracy and the market economy.
- OECD members are typically democratic countries that support free-market economies. The OECD was established on Dec. 14, 1960, by 18 European nations, plus the United States and Canada. Headquarters: Paris, France. Hence statement A is correct.
- The stated goal of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is to shape policies that foster prosperity, equality, opportunity and well-being for all.
- The OECD maintains a so-called "black list" of nations that are considered uncooperative tax havens. Hence statement B is correct. India is one of the many non-member economies with which the OECD has working relationships in addition to its member countries. Hence statement C is incorrect.

143. "YSR Law Nestham" by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh is not applicable to who among the following?

- 1) Junior Advocated of Less than 35 years
- 2) Law graduate passed out in 2016 and after
- 3) Resident/domicile of A.P
- 4) Non-Practicing Advocate

Answer: 4

- Explanation: Being implemented since December 2019, the scheme "YSR Law Nestham" by the Law Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh provides a monthly stipend of an amount of ₹ 5,000/- to the Junior Advocates. The applicant should be in the rolls of Advocates being maintained by the Andhra Pradesh State Bar Council under Section 17 of the Advocates Act, 1961. Only the Law Graduates, who passed out in the year 2016 and afterward are only eligible.
- Eligibility: The applicant should be a resident/domicile of the state of Andhra Pradesh. 2. The applicant shall possess Bachelor's Degree in Law. 3. The applicant should be a Law Graduate, who passed out in the year 2016 and afterward. 4. The name of the applicant shall be entered in the rolls of Advocates being maintained by the Andhra Pradesh State Bar Council under Section 17 of the Advocates Act, 1961. 5. The Junior Advocates, who started practice and have not crossed the first three (3) years of practice, as of the date of issue of the Government Order, are eligible for a stipend for the remaining period. 6. The Junior Advocate shall not exceed Thirty-Five (35) years as of the date of issue of the Government Order. 7. This is a "One Family, One Benefit" scheme ("Family" means Husband, Wife, and their Children).
- Exclusions @ 1. The Junior Advocates, who have crossed the first three (3) years of practice, as of the date of issue of the G.O., are not eligible. 2. The Applicant possessing four-wheelers in his name is not eligible. 3. A Non-Practicing Advocates are not eligible.

144. Which of the following are the member countries of G7?

- A. USA
- B. India
- C. Canada
- D. France
- E. China

Select the correct option:

- 1) A, C, D 2) A, B, C, D
- 3) A, B, D 4) A, B, D, E

Answer: 1

- Explanation: Group of Seven (G7): It is an intergovernmental organization that was formed in 1975. The bloc meets annually to discuss issues of common interest like global economic governance, international security and energy policy.
- The G7 countries are the UK, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the US. All the G7 countries and India are a part of G20. The G7 does not have a formal charter or a secretariat.
- The presidency, which rotates among member countries each year, is in charge of setting the agenda. Sherpas, ministers and envoys hammer out policy initiatives before the summit. The 49th G7 summit was held in Hiroshima, Japan.

145. With reference to Zero Shadow Day consider the following.

- A. It means the Sun does not cast a shadow of an object at solar noon.
- B. Bengaluru and at all places along the 130 north Latitude experienced it on April 25, 2023.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1) A only 2) B only
- 3) Both A and B 4) Neither A nor B

Answer: 3

- Explanation: At 12:17 PM IST on April 25, Bengaluru and at all places along the 130 north Latitude experienced a 'Zero Shadow Day'. Hence statement A is correct.

- A ZSD is a day on which the Sun does not cast a shadow of an object at solar noon, when the sun will be exactly at the zenith position (highest point in the sky) ZSD happens twice a year for locations in the tropics (between the Tropic of Cancer at +23.5 degrees of latitude and the Tropic of Capricorn at -23.5 degrees of latitude). Hence statement B is correct. So, places north of Ranchi in India does not have Zero shadow day.
- One ZSD falls during Uttarayan (movement of the Sun from south to north from winter solstice to summer solstice) and one other during Dakshinayan (back from north to south). The dates will vary for different locations on Earth.
- Uttarayan and Dakshinayan happen because Earth's rotation axis is tilted at an angle of roughly 23.5° to the axis of revolution around the Sun. When the Sun is at the zenith its rays make the shadow exactly under it, making it look like no shadow.

146. Under Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Defence Systems Integration Complex is situated in which district?

- 1) Sri Satya Sai district
- 2) Nandyal
- 3) Kakinada
- 4) NTR district

Answer: 1

- Explanation: Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has sanctioned Rs 384 crore under phase-one towards construction of a unit of Defence Systems Integration Complex at Palasamudram in Sri Satya Sai district. Besides manufacturing missiles and testing radar, it has decided to develop the facility as a defence system integrated complex to manufacture state-of-art defence equipment. Under the chairmanship of BEL director Parthasarathy, the Capital Investment Committee of the PSU, met at

Machilipatnam and decided to invite tenders for the project, a statement released to this effect said. The progress of the facility will be reviewed every six months.

- It may be noted that Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC) had allotted 914 acres to BEL in 2016 to establish the facility. The firm had obtained land conversion and environmental clearances only in 2020. However, the progress of the project was hit due to the pandemic. The construction of the unit could not take off due to several other restraints and as budget had not been allotted. Subsequently, APIIC had asked BEL to surrender the land and also pay Rs 5 crore towards penalty as the project could not be realised in time.

147. Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary in the recent news is situated in:

- 1) Gujarat
- 2) Bihar
- 3) Madhya Pradesh
- 4) Chhatisgarh

Answer: 3

- Explanation: Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister recently announced that Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary will be developed as a second home for cheetahs within six months
- Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary is location in northwestern Madhya Pradesh, with one of its boundaries running along the border of Rajasthan. The sanctuary was notified in 1974 and is spread over an area of km.
- Landscape: A major part of the sanctuary consists of vast open landscapes with sparse vegetation and rocky terrain, with small patches of dense forests. River Chambal flows through the sanctuary, dividing it into two parts. Vegetation: Northern tropical dry deciduous forest,

Northern tropical dry mixed deciduous forest and Dry deciduous scrub.

- Flora: The principal tree species found here are Khair, Salai, Kardhai, Dhawda, Tendu and Palash.
- Fauna: Herbivores like Chinkara, Nilgai and Spotted Deer, and carnivores like the Indian Leopard, Striped Hyena and Jackal are found in good numbers in the region. It also has a good population of crocodiles, fish, otters and turtles.
- The sanctuary has many places of historical, archeological and religious importance such as Chaurasigarh, Chaturbhujnath temple, Bhadkaji rock paintings, Narsinghjar Hinglajgarh fort, Taxakeshwar temple

148. With reference to the LIGO-India Project consider the following.

- A. It aims to detect gravitational waves from the universe.
- B. It will be located in the ASR district of Andhra Pradesh.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1) A only
- 2) B only
- 3) Both A and B
- 4) Neither A nor B

Answer: 1

- Explanation: Recently, the government approved the construction of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) project after seven years of in-principle approval. It will be built by the Department of Atomic Energy and the Department of Science and Technology with the U.S. National Science Foundation and several national and international research institutions.
- The LIGO-India Project aims to detect gravitational waves from the universe. Hence statement A is correct. The Indian LIGO would have two perpendicularly placed 4-km long vacuum chambers, that constitute the most sensitive interferometers in the world. It is

expected to begin scientific runs from 2030.

- Location: It will be located in the Hingoli district of Maharashtra, about 450 km east of Mumbai. Hence statement 2 is incorrect. Purpose and Significance: It will be the fifth node of the planned network and will bring India into a prestigious international scientific experiment. It will make India a unique platform that brings together the frontiers of science and technology of the quantum and the cosmos.

149. Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) rating of which Tiger reserve improved from good to very good?

- 1) Dudhwa Tiger reserve
- 2) Sundarbans Tiger reserve
- 3) Nagarjunasagar-Srisaillam Tiger reserve
- 4) Manas National Park

Answer: 3

- Explanation: The MEE rating of Nagarjunasagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve has gone from good to very good as per the 5th cycle of Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) conducted by the Centre.
- It is defined as the assessment of how well protected areas are being managed. The ratings are assigned in four categories - Very Good, Good, Fair, Poor. It has been adopted from IUCN's WCPA (World Commission on Protected Areas) framework of MEE. The government has been using the MEE to assess tiger reserves across the country since its inception in 2006. It is increasingly being used by governments and international bodies to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the protected area management systems.
- Value Addition:
- Nagarjunasagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve (NSTR): It is located in the Nallamala hill ranges (an offshoot of the Eastern Ghats)

of Andhra Pradesh and spreads across the undivided districts of Guntur, Prakasam and Kurnool. It attained the status of a Tiger Reserve in 1983. This is the largest tiger reserve in the country, spreading over an area of 5937 Sq. Km. It is named after two major dams in the area, Nagarjuna Sagar Dam and Srisaillam Dam. Two wildlife Sanctuaries, namely Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary and Gundla Brahmeswaram Wildlife Sanctuary (GBM), constitute the Tiger Reserve. The river Krishna traverses through this Reserve for a linear distance of around 270 Kilometers.

- Topography: It consists of plateau, ridges, gorges and deep valleys. Vegetation: Tropical dry deciduous forests having an undergrowth of bamboo and grass.
- Flora: The habitat has several endemics like *Andrographis nallamalayana*, *Eriolaena lushingtonii*, *Crotalaria madurensis* Var, *Dicliptera beddomei* and *Premna hamiltonii*.
- Fauna: Top faunal species include Tiger, Leopard, Wolf, Wild Dog and Jackal. The prey species are represented by Sambar, Chital, Chowsingha, Chinkara, Mouse Deer, Wild boar and Porcupine. The river Krishna has Muggers, Otters and Turtles.

150. Who is the first Indian woman to be named as a 'Wisden Cricketer of the Year'?

- 1) Smriti Mandhana
- 2) Mithali Raj
- 3) Deepti Sharma
- 4) Harmanpreet Kaur

Answer: 4

- Explanation: Harmanpreet Kaur became the first Indian woman to be named as one of Wisden's five Cricketers of the Year. She led Mumbai Indians to win the inaugural Women's Premier League in March. Suryakumar Yadav was named Wisden's Leading T20 Cricketer of the Year. At present, Suryakumar Yadav remains at number one position in the ICC T20 men's rankings.