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Test Booklet Series

TEST BOOKLET

C

GENERAL STUDIES (P) 2026 – Test – 6322

Time Allowed: Two Hours

Maximum Marks: 200

INSTRUCTIONS

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS BOOKLET DOES **NOT** HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TURN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS, ETC. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.
2. ENCODE CLEARLY THE TEST BOOKLET SERIES **A, B, C OR D** AS THE CASE MAY BE IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACE IN THE ANSWER SHEET.
3. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside. **Do NOT** write anything else on the Test Booklet.
4. This Test Booklet contains **100** items (Questions). Each item is printed in **English**. Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response with you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.
5. You have to mark all your responses **ONLY** on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See direction in the answers sheet.
6. All items carry equal marks. Attempt all items. Your total marks will depend only on the number of **correct responses** marked by you in the answer sheet. For **every incorrect** response **1/3rd of the allotted marks** will be deducted.
7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer sheet the response to various items in the Test booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the answer sheets as per instruction sent to you with your Admission Certificate.
8. After you have completed filling in all responses on the answer sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to Invigilator only the answer sheet. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.
9. Sheet for rough work are appended in the Test Booklet at the end.

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO

- 1.** The ‘Tattvabodhini Sabha’, which later merged with the Brahmo Samaj, was founded by:
- Debendranath Tagore
 - Keshab Chandra Sen
 - Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar
 - Rammohan Ghosh
- 2.** With reference to the Sanyasi Rebellion, consider the following statements:
- It was caused by the dispossession of peasants and rise in land revenue demands under the British.
 - The rebellion found mention in the literary work Anandamath by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee.
 - It was primarily confined to the Bombay Presidency.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- 1 and 2 only
 - 2 and 3 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 1, 2 and 3
- 3.** Which of the following was *not* the achievement of the moderate phase of the Indian National Congress?
- They exposed the basic exploitative character of the British rule.
 - They widened their democratic base through increase in scope of their demands.
 - They trained people in political work through popularization of modern ideas.
 - They created a feeling of a common nation to rally against a common enemy.
- 4.** Who among the following authored Tuhfat-ul-Muwahhidin (A Gift to Monotheists)?
- Syed Ahmad Khan
 - Dayanand Saraswati
 - Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar
 - Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- 5.** With reference to the Maratha state system, consider the following pairs:
- | <i>Functionary</i> | <i>Role</i> |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Mirasdars | : Resident Cultivators |
| 2. Datil | : Village Headman |
| 3. Kamavisdars | : Revenue Collectors |
- How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - All three
 - None
- 6.** With reference to Landholders' Society founded in 1837-38, consider the following statements:
- It was a political association prominent in the Bengal region.
 - It aimed to strengthen the vested interests of Zamindars.
 - It was later merged with the British Indian Association.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 and 2 only
 - 2 and 3 only
 - 1 only
 - 1, 2 and 3

- 7.** Consider the following statements regarding the PM e-Drive Scheme:
1. The scheme has been launched to promote the adoption of electric vehicles.
 2. All passenger and transport vehicles are covered under this scheme except two-wheelers.
 3. PM e-Drive Scheme is an initiative by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None
- 8.** The "Awaza Programme of Action", sometimes seen in the news, is related to which of the following?
- (a) Women empowerment and gender equality
 - (b) Small Island Developing States
 - (c) Landlocked Developing Countries
 - (d) War-torn Countries
- 9.** The drought of 1865 followed by famine the following year affected Orissa, Madras, Northern Bengal and Bihar.
- Which of the following Commission was appointed for investigation of the famine in the above mentioned regions?
- (a) Antony MacDonnell Commission
 - (b) Saddler Commission
 - (c) James Lyall Commission
 - (d) George Campbell Commission
- 10.** The term 'BharatGen AI' is talked about in the context of:
- (a) India's indigenous AI satellite navigation programme
 - (b) An open-source AI model developed for Indian languages and domains
 - (c) A genome-editing tool designed for agricultural crops
 - (d) A digital payment platform launched by the RBI for financial inclusion
- 11.** With reference to the British Policy of 'Ring Fence', which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. It was used by Warren Hastings in British India.
 2. Its aim was to barricade all trading ports of British East India Company in India.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 12.** Consider the following statements regarding Hepatitis D:
1. It is an inflammation of the liver caused by the hepatitis D virus.
 2. It only affects people who already have contracted Hepatitis C.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2

- 13.** In the context of the East India Company's territorial expansion in the late 18th century, the Poligars' Revolt (1795–1805) can best be described as:
- A purely agrarian uprising against excessive taxation.
 - A series of localized conflicts over succession among Tamil chiefs.
 - A resistance of local military chieftains against erosion of their sovereignty and revenue rights by the East India Company.
 - A revolt instigated by the French during their rivalry with the British in South India.
- 14.** Consider the following statements with reference to Bundela Rebellion:
- The rebellion preceded the revolt of 1857.
 - It was a direct reaction to increased taxation in the Sagar-Narmada region of Bundelkhand.
 - The important leaders associated with the rebellion were Tantia Tope and Rani Laxmibai
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 1 and 2 only
 - 1, 2 and 3
 - 2 and 3 only
- 15.** Which of the following events happened the earliest?
- Passage of Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act after the Deccan riots in the Bombay Presidency.
 - Appointment of Strachey Commission to deal with famines.
 - Founding of the Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental (MAO) College.
 - Holding of the first Delhi Durbar to formally proclaim Queen Victoria as the Empress of India.
- 16.** Consider the following pairs:
- | Policy/ Action | Associated Governor-General |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Doctrine of Lapse | : Lord Dalhousie |
| 2. The Policy of Ring-Fence | : John Lawrence |
| 3. Subsidiary Alliance | : Warren Hastings |
- How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - All three
 - None

- 17.** Consider the following statements regarding DigiLocker:
1. DigiLocker is a digital document wallet launched under the Digital India initiative in 2015.
 2. Documents issued through DigiLocker are legally at par with physical originals.
 3. The platform is developed and managed by the National e-Governance Division (NeGD) of MeitY.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 18.** With reference to cultural developments in 18th-century India, consider the following statements:
1. Shuja-ud-Daula constructed the Bada Imambara in Lucknow, noted for its grand arched hall and Mughal-Awadhi architecture.
 2. Sawai Jai Singh II established five astronomical observatories at Delhi, Jaipur, Benares, Ujjain and Mathura.
 3. Warren Hastings founded the Calcutta Madrasah in 1781 to promote the study of Islamic law and Persian literature.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None
- 19.** Consider the following pairs :
- | Colonial Governors | Nationalities |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Joseph Fran ois Dupleix | : Portuguese |
| 2. Afonso de Albuquerque | : French |
| 3. Nuno da Cunha | : Dutch |
- How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None
- 20.** The term ‘Ideonella sakaiensis’ is talked about in the news in the context of:
- (a) A newly engineered rice variety resistant to pests and diseases
 - (b) A fungus used in bioremediation of oil spills in marine ecosystems
 - (c) A satellite imaging technology for tracking climate change impacts
 - (d) A bacterium capable of breaking down and digesting plastics like Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)
- 21.** Consider the following statements regarding the Sikh reform movement:
1. Baba Ram Singh was the founder of the Nirankari movement.
 2. Namdharis wore white clothes with a white turban and carried a rosary to further set them apart from all others.
 3. Nirankaris follow a set of rituals modeled after Guru Gobind Singh’s founding of the Khalsa.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 3 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 2 only
 - (d) 2 only

- 22.** With reference to the Banaras Rebellion of 1781, consider the following statements:
1. It broke out during the governorship of Warren Hastings.
 2. The immediate cause was the attempt of the Company to extract increased revenue from Raja Chait Singh of Banaras.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 23.** Arrange the following battles/events of the Carnatic Wars in chronological order:
1. Battle of Adyar
 2. Battle of Ambur
 3. Siege of Arcot
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1-3-2
 - (b) 1-2-3
 - (c) 2-1-3
 - (d) 3-1-2
- 24.** Which among the following events happened earliest?
- (a) Establishment of Fort William College, Calcutta
 - (b) Publication of Kesari newspaper by Bal Gangadhar Tilak
 - (c) Founding of Ramakrishna Mission by Swami Vivekananda
 - (d) Raja Ram Mohan Roy published Sambad Kaumudi
- 25.** The Battle of Chinhat is associated with which of the following events?.
- (a) Revolt of 1857
 - (b) First Carnatic War
 - (c) First Anglo-Mysore War
 - (d) First Anglo-Burmese War
- 26.** "Vande Mataram" was sung for the first time at the Indian National Congress session in 1896 by:
- (a) Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
 - (b) Sarojini Naidu
 - (c) Surendranath Banerjee
 - (d) Rabindranath Tagore
- 27.** The term "Dikus" in the context of tribal uprisings referred to:
- (a) Indian social reformers working in tribal areas
 - (b) Educated tribal elites advocating reform
 - (c) Missionaries teaching religious doctrines
 - (d) Outsiders like moneylenders, traders, and zamindars exploiting tribal communities
- 28.** Consider the following statements regarding Doctrine of Lapse:
1. It was introduced by Lord Dalhousie.
 2. It derecognised the adopted sons of the deceased princes as legal heirs.
 3. Awadh was the first state to be annexed under this doctrine.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3

- 29.** In the context of Indian kingdoms during the British period, Asaf-ud-Daula was the ruler of which of the following regions?
- Mysore
 - Awadh
 - Hyderabad
 - Bengal
- 30.** With reference to the Anglo–Nepal War, consider the following statements:
- The war was primarily triggered by border disputes in the Terai and Kumaon regions.
 - The war ended with the Treaty of Yandabo.
 - Nepal withdrew from Sikkim after the war.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - All three
 - None
- 31.** Consider the following pairs:
- | Social Movement | Associated leader |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Faraizi Movement | : Dudu Mian |
| Ahmadiyya Movement | : Mirza Ghulam Ahmad |
| Wahabi Movement | : Syed Ahmed Barelvī |
- Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
- 1 and 3 only
 - 3 only
 - 1 and 2 only
 - 1, 2 and 3
- 32.** Regarding the Battle of Colachel (1741), consider the following statements:
- It was fought between the Kingdom of Travancore and the Dutch East India Company.
 - It marked a rare defeat of a European power by an Indian kingdom.
 - The French actively supported the Dutch in this battle.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 1 and 2 only
 - 2 and 3 only
 - 1, 2 and 3
- 33.** Arrange the following events in the correct chronological order.
- The Battle of Buxar
 - Third Battle of Panipat
 - Battle of Wandiwash
- Select the correct answer using the code below.
- 3-2-1
 - 1-2-3
 - 2-3-1
 - 2-1-3
- 34.** Consider the following statements regarding the Eco-Sensitive Zones:
- As per Supreme Court, a minimum radius of 25 km around all protected areas must be declared as Eco-Sensitive Zone.
 - They are declared by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in consultation with the State Governments.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2

- 35.** Consider the following statements:
- Statement-I:** The Indian Councils Act of 1892 expanded the representation of Indians in the legislative councils.
- Statement-II:** Under the Act, members were elected directly by Indian citizens through voting rights.
- Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
 - (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct but Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
 - (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
 - (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.
- 36.** Recently, Kuttimathan Kani, the forest elder who gave a wonder herb to the world but died in poverty. In this regard, from which state the Kani community belongs?
- (a) Kerala
 - (b) Odisha
 - (c) Arunachal Pradesh
 - (d) Sikkim
- 37.** The Fowler Commission was appointed by the British government to
- (a) Reform currency system in India
 - (b) Operationalize the Famine Code
 - (c) Develop framework for National Press
 - (d) Ensure Planned development of Presidency towns
- 38.** Consider the following statements regarding Conocarpus trees:
1. It is a fast-growing exotic tree species that is tolerant to heat, salinity, air and dust pollution.
 2. It is native to the coastal regions of Australia.
 3. Conocarpus trees are used for their numerous medicinal values in India.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None
- 39.** Joint Credit Mechanism, sometimes seen in the news, is related to which of the following?
- (a) United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
 - (b) Kyoto Protocol
 - (c) Paris Agreement
 - (d) United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

- 40.** Recently an IUCN–TRAFFIC report commends India's improved monitoring and surveillance. In this context, the Greater Indian Rhinoceros is found in which of the following protected areas of India?
- Silent Valley National Park
 - Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary
 - Keibul-Lamjao National Park
 - Pench National Park
- 41.** With reference to the early Portuguese expansion in the Indian Ocean, consider the following statements:
- The Cartaz system forced Indian ships to buy passes from the Portuguese in India.
 - The Portuguese cooperated with Arab merchants to dominate navigation in the Indian Ocean.
 - In 1611, the English defeated a Portuguese squadron near Swally (Surat), convincing Jahangir to allow them a factory at Surat.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 1 and 2 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 2 and 3 only
- 42.** With reference to the Treaty of Amritsar (1809), consider the following provisions:
- The East India Company recognized Ranjit Singh's sovereignty over territories lying west of the Sutlej.
 - Through this treaty the Company obtained the right to station troops in Lahore.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2
- 43.** Consider the following statements regarding the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC):
- It is the only global, legally binding instrument through which governments commit to act and cooperate against organised crime.
 - India has not ratified this treaty till date. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2
- 44.** 'Prabuddha Bharata', 'Udbodhan' and 'Vedanta Kesari' are associated with which of the following socio-religious reform associations?
- Arya Samaj
 - Brahmo Samaj
 - Ramakrishna Mission
 - Veda Samaj
- 45.** With reference to railway development in 19th century India, consider the following statements:
- English capitalists were assured of a guaranteed return on their investments, backed by the Indian Government.
 - Railway companies imported engines, rails, and machinery directly from Britain, ensuring profits for British manufacturers.
 - The expansion of railways actively encouraged the growth of India's iron and steel industries, creating strong backward linkages.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - All three
 - None

46. Consider the following pairs:

Movement	Leader
Self-Respect Movement	E. V. Ramasamy Naicker (Periyar)
Moplah Rebellion	: Vasudev Balwant Phadke
Eka Movement	: Madari Pasi
Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?	
(a) 1 and 2 only	
(b) 2 and 3 only	
(c) 1 and 3 only	
(d) 1, 2 and 3	

47. Consider the following:

1. G. Subramania Iyer
2. P. Ananda Charlu
3. M. Viraraghavachari
4. P. Rangiah Naidu
5. C. Rajgopalchari

How many of the above mentioned personalities were associated with the Madras Mahajan Sabha?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) Only four
- (d) All five

48. With reference to the Indian Universities Act of 1904, consider the following statements:

1. The act was passed on the recommendations of the Raleigh Commission.
2. The act relaxed the conditions of affiliation of private colleges so as to promote research in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

49. Consider the following pairs :

Event	Governor-General
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1. Foundation of the : John Shore

Asiatic Society of Bengal

2. Vellore Mutiny : George Barlow

3. First Anglo-Burmese War : Lord Amherst

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

50. With reference to Indian history, Max Muller, Monier Williams, Roth and Sassoon were associated with:

- (a) Construction of railways in Colonial India
- (b) Indological and Orientalist studies
- (c) Revenue settlement and administration under the East India Company
- (d) Establishment of Churches in Princely States

51. Consider the following statements regarding Theosophical society:

1. Annie Besant was the founding member of Theosophical society.
2. This society believed that a special relationship could be established between a person's soul and God through prayers.
3. It rejected the Hindu beliefs regarding the theory of reincarnation.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

- 52.** Match the regions with the country:

<i>Area</i>	<i>Country/Region</i>
-------------	-----------------------

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|----------------|
| 1. Bamako | : | Mali |
| 2. Samarkand | : | Somalia |
| 3. Shabelle region | : | Uzbekistan |
| 4. Solomon Islands | : | Pacific region |

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

- 53.** With reference to the Dual Government in Bengal (1765–1772), consider the following statements:

- 1. It led to a decline of effective law and order in the countryside.
- 2. It strengthened the Nawab's independent authority.
- 3. It aggravated the Bengal famine of 1769–70.
- 4. It was abolished in 1772 by Warren Hastings.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

- 54.** With reference to Indian History, C.N. Mudaliar, T.M. Nair and P. Tyagaraja were associated with

- (a) formation of Deccan Education Society.
- (b) Mahatma Gandhi's colleagues in his Champaran Satyagraha.
- (c) formation of Justice movement.
- (d) appointed as a non-official members of the Viceroy's Legislative Council under Indian Councils Act of 1861.

- 55.** Consider the following statements regarding the Air Quality Life Index:

- 1. The AQI is developed by the Central Pollution Control Board in India.
- 2. It measures the impact of air pollution on life expectancy by converting particulate pollution into potential years of life lost.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- 56.** The object of the Wood's Despatch of 1854 was to:

- (a) reform the Indian police system.
- (b) provide comprehensive guidelines for education in India.
- (c) increase the land revenue demand from zamindars.
- (d) establish Fort William College.

- 57.** Consider the following statements with respect to the Raja Ram Mohan Roy:

- 1. The title 'Raja' to Raja Ram Mohan Roy was given by followers of Brahmo Samaj.
- 2. The first society founded by him was Brahmo Samaj.
- 3. He denounced the practice of idol worship in Hinduism.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

- 58.** With which of the following countries India signed the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement?
- Australia
 - United Arab Emirates
 - Britain
 - Japan
- 59.** Consider the following statements regarding UN Women:
- UN Women is the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and women's empowerment.
 - Its headquarters are located in Geneva, Switzerland.
 - India is currently serving as a member of the Executive Board of the UN Women.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 1, 2 and 3
- 60.** Consider the following pairs:
- | <i>Works</i> | <i>Associated with</i> |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Sudharak | : Gopal Ganesh Agarkar |
| Stri Purush Tulna | : Pandita Ramabai |
| Digdarshan | : Balshastri Jambhekar |
- How many of the pairs are correctly matched?
- Only one pair
 - Only two pairs
 - All three pairs
 - None of the pairs
- 61.** Consider the following statements:
- Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee was the first President of the Indian National Congress.
 - Mahatma Gandhi has presided over only one session of the Indian National Congress.
 - Mahadev Govind Ranade has never presided over any session of the Indian National Congress.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 and 2 only
 - 2 and 3 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 1, 2 and 3
- 62.** Consider the following statements regarding Satya Shodhak Samaj:
- It was founded with Mahatma Jyotiba Phule as its first secretary and Savitribai Phule as its first president.
 - A member at Satya Shodhak Samaj had to take an oath in the name of god and declare his allegiance to British rule.
 - It rejected the idea of the caste system and the basic four-fold division of society.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 and 3 only
 - 1 and 2 only
 - 2 and 3 only
 - 3 only
- 63.** The term 'CMIP6' is often seen in the news is related:
- An international initiative for standardising climate model experiments and projections
 - A mission of ISRO for developing advanced weather satellites
 - A genetic engineering project for creating climate-resilient crops
 - A programme of UNEP for monitoring global forest cover

- 64.** Which of the following rulers did *not* support the 1857 revolt?
- Holkars of Indore
 - Maharaja of Kashmir
 - Rulers of Patiala
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- 1, 2 and 3
 - 1 and 2 only
 - 2 and 3 only
 - 1 and 3 only
- 65.** The terms ‘MARPOL’ and ‘BWM Convention’, sometimes seen in the news, are related to a set of international rules governing
- Protection of intellectual property in maritime trade
 - Pollution control and prevention of pathogens from ships
 - Regulation of fishing quotas in international waters
 - Conservation of endangered coral reefs in the Indian Ocean
- 66.** In the context of British expansion in India during the mid-19th century, the battles of Mudki, Ferozeshah, Aliwal, and Sobraon were fought in the course of
- The First Anglo-Sikh War
 - The First Anglo-Maratha War
 - The First Anglo-Afghan War
 - The First Anglo-Burmese War
- 67.** Which of the following best describes the Dutch East India Company’s trade strategy in India?
- It primarily focused on exporting Indian spices directly to Europe.
 - It relied on textiles from Coromandel and Bengal to obtain spices in the Indonesian archipelago.
 - It aimed at expanding its territorial base in India by capturing the native kingdoms.
 - It solely focused on controlling the sea routes to India.
- 68.** With reference to Pitt’s India Act of 1784, consider the following statements:
- It distinguished between the commercial and political functions of the East India Company.
 - It expanded the Governor-General’s Council in India from three to four members
 - It established the Supreme Court at Calcutta.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 1 and 2 only
 - 1, 2 and 3
 - 2 and 3 only
- 69.** Who among the following had given the title of ‘Mahatma’ to Jyotiba Phule?
- Vithalrao Krishnaji Vandekar
 - B.R Ambedkar
 - Gopal Ganesh Agarkar
 - Dadabhai Naoroji

- 70.** With reference to the Hunter Education Commission of 1882, consider the following statements:
1. It emphasised the promotion of vernacular languages at the primary level.
 2. It recommended that the state should withdraw from direct responsibility of collegiate (higher) education.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 71.** Which of the following occurred during Viceroyship of Lord Ripon?
1. Enactment of the First Factory Act
 2. Repeal of Vernacular Press Act
 3. Appointment of Hunter Commission to suggest education reforms
 4. Invasion of Afghanistan from British India
 5. Ilbert bill controversy
- Select the correct answer using code given below.
- (a) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
 - (b) 1 and 4 only
 - (c) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
 - (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
- 72.** Which one of the following statements is correct regarding the Deoband Movement?
- (a) Haji Shariatullah laid the foundation of the Deoband Movement.
 - (b) Its objective was to propagate pure teachings of the Quran among the muslims.
 - (c) Deoband school aimed to prepare its students for government jobs.
 - (d) Deoband school condemned the formation of Indian National Congress.
- 73.** The report "Securing Rights, Enabling Futures: Policy Lessons from Forest Rights Act (FRA) and Future Pathways", recently released, is published by:
- (a) World Economic Forum
 - (b) Institute for Economics and Peace
 - (c) United Nations Development Programme
 - (d) Stockholm International Peace Research Institute
- 74.** With reference to the Permanent Settlement of 1793, consider the following statements:
1. The Permanent Settlement was rarely extended beyond the Bengal Presidency.
 2. If a Zamindar failed to pay the Company's revenue demand on time, his estate could be auctioned.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 75.** With reference to Narayan Meghaji Lokhande, consider the following statements:
1. He is considered as the Father of Trade Union Movement in India.
 2. He was member of the Factory Labour Commission whose work led to enactment of the Factory Act of 1891.
 3. He was conferred the title of 'Rao Bahadur' for his activities in social reforms.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 1 and 3 only
 - (c) 2 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3

- 76.** With reference to Indian history, who was the first Indian to qualify for the Indian Civil Service examination in 1864?
- (a) Satyendra Prasad Sinha
(b) Romesh Chunder Dutt
(c) Dadabhai Naoroji
(d) Satyendranath Tagore
- 77.** Consider the following statements about the establishment of the Shreemati Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Women's University in Bombay in 1916:
1. It was the first Women's University in India.
 2. The University was founded by Dr. Dhondo Keshav Karve.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 78.** The "Khatbandi system" introduced in India during British rule referred to
- (a) A military system of grouping soldiers into units for efficient deployment.
 - (b) A communication system linking villages through post routes.
 - (c) A revenue system where rent was fixed on the basis of the average produce of a village.
 - (d) A contract which bound the weaving community to supply cloth exclusively to the Company's agents.
- 79.** With reference to the Kitchener-Curzon dispute, consider the following statements:
1. The dispute was related to the removal of the post of military-member from Viceroy's Executive Council.
 2. The dispute finally led to the resignation of Lord Kitchener.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 80.** Consider the following statements regarding FASTag in India:
1. It is based on Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology for toll collection.
 2. It is linked to a prepaid digital wallet or bank account to enable toll payments.
 3. It is compulsory for all vehicles in India, including two-wheelers.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
- 81.** Consider the following organizations:
1. Servants of India Society
 2. Deccan Educational Society
 3. Seva Sadan
 4. Indian Social Conference
- M.G. Ranade were associated with which of the above organizations?
- (a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

- 82.** What does the Advance Authorisation Scheme, sometimes seen in the news, refer to?
- A scheme that allows duty-free import of inputs used in the manufacture of export products, subject to fulfilment of export obligations.
 - An RBI initiative permitting authorised banks to provide advance forex to exporters at concessional rates.
 - A government program to provide credit guarantee and concessional loans to MSMEs engaged in export activities.
 - A WTO mechanism that exempts developing countries from tariffs on agricultural imports up to a fixed threshold.
- 83.** Consider the following statements about the Indian Council Act, 1861:
- The Act empowered the Governor-General to issue an ordinance in case of emergency.
 - It restored the legislative powers of making laws to the provinces of Madras and Bombay.
 - The act empowered the legislative council to discuss executive action.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 1 and 2 only
 - 1, 2 and 3
 - 2 and 3 only
- 84.** Which of the following countries is **not** a full-time member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation?
- China
 - Afghanistan
 - India
 - Iran
- 85.** Consider the following statements regarding Rahnumai Mazdayasnan Sabha:
- It was a Parsi reform movement founded by a group of English educated Parsis for the restoration of the Zoroastrian religion.
 - The views of the Sabha were projected through the newspaper Hitavada.
 - It was organized under the leadership of Pherozeshah Mehta.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- None
 - 1 only
 - 2 only
 - 2 and 3 only
- 86.** With reference to British administrative reforms, consider the following statements:
- The Regulating Act of 1773 established a Supreme Court at Calcutta.
 - The Charter Act of 1833 abolished the trade monopoly of the East India Company, except for trade in tea and with China.
 - The Indian Councils Act of 1892 allowed provincial legislative council members to be elected directly by all citizens.
- Which of the statements given above is/are **not correct**?
- 1 and 2 only
 - 2 and 3 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 1, 2 and 3

87. The organization was founded primarily to oppose the social reform movements initiated by leaders like Henry Derozio. It sought to preserve traditional socio-religious practices, opposed the abolition of Sati, yet supported the spread of Western education among girls.

Which among the following organizations is being described in the above passage?

- (a) Veda Samaj
- (b) Dharma Sabha
- (c) Satyashodhak Samaj
- (d) Social Service League

88. Consider the following pairs:

Organization / Founder

Association

The Indian League : Sisir Kumar Ghosh

Poona Sarvajanik : Bal Gangadhar Tilak
Sabha

Bombay Presidency : Badruddin Tyabji
Association

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

89. What does the “De Minimis” rule, sometimes seen in the news, imply?

- (a) The minimum support price (MSP) fixed for agricultural commodities.
- (b) A trade policy that keeps imports under some value free from excess taxes.
- (c) The minimum percentage of votes required for recognition of a political party as a national party.
- (d) RBI’s guideline for the minimum capital adequacy ratio in Indian banks.

90. Consider the following pairs:

Exercise	Partner Country
1. Yudh Kaushal	: USA
2. Passage Exercise	: UK
3. Bright Star 2025	: Nepal

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

91. Consider the following statements about Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar:

- 1. He played a significant role in the passing of the Hindu Widows’ Remarriage Act, 1856.
- 2. He served as the Principal of Sanskrit College, Calcutta.
- 3. He opposed the introduction of Western education in India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

92. With reference to educational developments under colonial rule, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Sanskrit College at Benaras was established in 1791 by Jonathan Duncan.
- 2. In his Minute on Education (1835), Thomas Macaulay argued that limited government resources should be devoted to promoting Western science and literature.
- 3. The Wood’s Despatch (1854) laid emphasis on female education, vocational training, and teachers’ training institutions.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

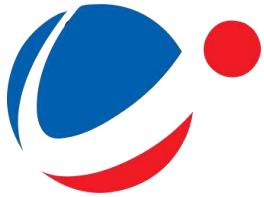
- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

- 93.** Consider the following statements regarding the Charter Act of 1813:
1. It ended the East India Company's monopoly over trade with India except tea and trade with China.
 2. It authorised the British Crown to appoint the Governor-General directly.
 3. A new provision was made for the establishment of Universities in Calcutta, Madras and Bombay and an amount of 1 Lakh rupees was set aside for this purpose.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None
- 94.** With reference to Indian history, consider the following statements:
1. The Indigo Revolt took place in Punjab against British revenue policies.
 2. The Vellore Mutiny was the first large-scale military rebellion against the British in South India.
 3. The Kol Rebellion was confined mainly to the Bombay Presidency.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) 2 and 3 only
 - (d) 3 only
- 95.** In the late 18th century, tensions between Mysore and the British escalated into the Second Anglo-Mysore War (1780–1784). The immediate trigger for this conflict was the British capture of which French settlement on the east coast of India?
- (a) Vishakhapatnam
 - (b) Mahe
 - (c) Masulipatnam
 - (d) Tuticorin
- 96.** Consider the following statements regarding Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA) rating system in India:
1. The GRIHA rating system has been developed by the International Renewable Energy Agency.
 2. It has been adopted as the national rating system for green buildings by the Government of India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 97.** Consider the following statements:
- Statement-I: Indian shipbuilding industry declined in the 19th century.
- Statement-II: Indian merchants gradually abandoned shipping activities in favour of more profitable inland trade.
- Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
 - (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct but Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
 - (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
 - (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>98. With reference to Mysore's trade policies under Tipu Sultan, consider the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trade centres were set up under state control and supervised by trained officials. 2. Private deposits were accepted by the state for investment, with fixed returns. 3. Export of pepper, sandalwood and cardamom was encouraged to compete with the British. <p>How many of the statements given above are correct?</p> <p>(a) Only one
 (b) Only two
 (c) All three
 (d) None</p> | <p>100. Consider the following statements regarding the Pre-Congress associations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Indian Association demanded simultaneous holding of exams for the Indian Civil Services in India in addition to London. 2. The British Indian Association demanded separation of executive from judicial functions. 3. Bangabhasha Prakashika Sabha protested against reduction of the age limit for candidates of the Indian Civil Service examination in 1877. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>(a) 1 and 3 only
 (b) 2 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 3
 (d) 1 and 2 only</p> |
|---|--|
- 99.** With reference to the East India Company's early expansion in Bengal, consider the following statements about the Treaty of Alinagar:
1. It was signed between Robert Clive and Siraj-ud-Daulah.
 2. It reaffirmed the earlier privileges granted by the Mughal Emperor to the company.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2
 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

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ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS GENERAL STUDIES (P) TEST – 6322 (2026)

Q 1.A

- Tattvabodhini Sabha was founded in 1839 at Calcutta by Debendranath Tagore to revive and systematize the Vedantic, rational-theist ideas earlier championed by Raja Ram Mohan Roy.
- It functioned as an intellectual forum (weekly meetings, scriptural study) and soon became the ideological engine of the Brahmo movement.
- In 1843, under Debendranath's leadership, the Brahmo Samaj was energetically revived; the Sabha's members and ideas effectively fed into/merged with the Brahmo Samaj soon after, and the Sabha was later absorbed into it.
- The Sabha also launched the Tattvabodhini Patrika (1843), edited initially by Akshay Kumar Datta, to popularize these ideas.
- Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
- Keshab Chandra Sen: A later Brahmo leader; he spearheaded a reformist wing that led to the Brahmo Samaj of India (1866), he did not found the Tattvabodhini Sabha.
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy: He founded the Atmiya Sabha (1815) and the Brahmo Sabha (1828), but not the Tattvabodhini Sabha.
- Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar was an Indian educator and social reformer. He was the most prominent campaigner for Hindu widow remarriage and petitioned the Legislative council despite severe opposition and a counter-petition against the proposal with nearly four times more signatures by Radhakanta Deb and the Dharma Sabha. He was the principal of the Sanskrit College and opposed the monopoly of Sanskrit only to upper castes. He was not the founding member of Tattvabodhini Sabha.
- 1815 – Atmiya Sabha (Raja Ram Mohan Roy)
- 1828 – Brahmo Sabha (Raja Ram Mohan Roy)
- 1839 – Tattvabodhini Sabha (Debendranath Tagore)
- 1843 – Revival of Brahmo Samaj under Debendranath; Tattvabodhini Patrika begins
- 1866 – Split: Adi Brahmo Samaj (Debendranath) & Brahmo Samaj of India (Keshab Chandra Sen)

Q 2.A

- The Sanyasi–Fakir uprisings of the late eighteenth century were rooted in economic distress and social disruption. Rising land-revenue demands, arbitrary exactions by zamindars and revenue agents, and the dispossession or impoverishment of peasants weakened the traditional rural economy. Itinerant Hindu sannyasis and Muslim fakirs, whose livelihoods partly depended on pilgrimage, alms and the support of rural communities, were directly affected by these changes and by food shortages; this economic squeeze and social dislocation contributed to the outbreaks of violence and resistance against Company officials and local moneylenders. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's novel Anandamath (published in 1882) is a historical fiction set against the background of the earlier Sanyasi–Fakir disturbances in Bengal. Although the novel is a dramatized and nationalistic treatment rather than a documentary history, it clearly draws on the memory and imagery of the late-eighteenth-century ascetic uprisings; the book and its hymn "Vande Mataram" popularized a romanticized image of those struggles. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- The Sanyasi–Fakir unrest was primarily located in Bengal and adjacent regions (including parts of present-day Bihar and eastern Bengal), not in the Bombay Presidency. The Bombay Presidency witnessed other agrarian disturbances (for example, the Deccan Riots of 1875), but the Sanyasi–Fakir phenomenon is historically associated with eastern India. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

Q 3.B

- The moderate phase of the Indian National Congress can be analysed in the following manner:
- The early nationalists did a great deal to awaken the national sentiment, even though they could not draw the masses to them.
- They represented the most progressive forces of the time.
- **They were able to create a wide national awakening of all Indians having common interests and the need to rally around a common program against a common enemy, and above all, the feeling of belonging to one nation.**
- **They trained people in political work and popularised modern ideas.**
- They exposed the basically exploitative character of colonial rule, thus undermining its moral foundations.
- Their political work was based on hard realities, and not on shallow sentiments, religion, etc.
- They were able to establish the basic political truth that India should be ruled in the interest of Indians.
- They created a solid base for a more vigorous, militant, mass-based national movement in the years that followed.
- **However, they failed to widen their democratic base and the scope of their demands.**
- The moderate phase of the national movement had a narrow social base and the masses played a passive role. This was because the early nationalists lacked political faith in the masses; they felt that there were numerous divisions and subdivisions in Indian society, and the masses were generally ignorant and had conservative ideas and thoughts. The Moderates felt that these heterogeneous elements had first to be welded into a nation before they entered the political sphere. But they failed to realize that it was only during a freedom struggle and with political participation that these diverse elements could come together.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 4.D

- **Tuhfat-ul-Muwahhidin** (literally “Gift to Monotheists”) is an early-19th century tract written by **Raja Ram Mohan Roy**. He wrote in Persian and Arabic as well as in Bengali and English; this particular text is part of his theological and polemical writings in which he argued against idolatry and superstition and defended the idea of a single, formless God. The work reflects Roy’s engagement in inter-religious debate and his attempt to present a rational, Scripture-based critique of popular Hindu practices to both Muslim and Christian audiences. **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**
- In the tract Roy used scriptural reasoning and comparative arguments to show that the essential teachings of the Vedas and other classical texts supported monotheism and rational religion. The aim was twofold: (i) to challenge polytheistic and ritualistic practices that he regarded as irrational and socially harmful, and (ii) to create a theological and moral basis for social and educational reforms in India. The pamphlet is therefore often cited as an early example of modern, rationalist critique in the Indian reform tradition.
- Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar was a social reformer and educator famed for his work on widow remarriage, women’s education and for authoring Bengali prose primers. Dayanand Saraswati is known for the Sanskrit-based reformist work Satyarth Prakash (Light of Truth) and for founding the Arya Samaj. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan wrote works such as Asar-us-Sanadid and founded the Tahzib-ul-Akhlaq journal and the MAO College (Aligarh).

Q 5.C

- The agrarian and revenue structure of the Maratha state was layered and functionally divided.
- **Resident cultivators (Mirasdars) were permanent tenants who enjoyed hereditary rights of occupancy.**
 - Alongside them were Uparis, or temporary cultivators, without such secure tenure.
 - This dual tenancy pattern was especially pronounced in south Maharashtra and Gujarat, reflecting regional complexity.
 - **Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- Under the Peshwas, the baseline for revenue settlements was the tankha, i.e., a permanent standard assessment fixed for each village, usually carried forward from earlier times.
 - Later, during the 1750s–1760s, the kamal (completion) settlement was introduced.
 - This was more refined—it measured and classified lands by quality, fixing the king’s share at one-sixth of the produce.
- **The distribution of revenue burden (whether under tankha or kamal) within a village was not micromanaged by the state.**

- Instead, it was entrusted to the Datil (village headman) or the village assembly itself, ensuring local responsibility in revenue allocation. Hence pair 2 is correctly matched.
- At the same time, the state imposed extra collections under the head of “village expenses”, carefully recorded by officials, indicating the growing fiscal complexity of the Maratha system.
- Finally, the Kamavisdars (also called Mamlatdars) acted as the key revenue collectors, intermediating between village society and the higher Maratha authority.
 - Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.

Q 6.D

- The landholders' society the first political association of modern India was founded in 1837- at Calcutta. The basic purpose was to promote and protect the class interests of landlords and zamindars. Its zone of influence was limited to erstwhile Bengal province only. Hence statements 1 and 2 are correct.
- The British Indian Association was founded on October 29, 1851, at Calcutta. The Landholders' society of 1837 and Bengal British India society of 1843 later merged with the British Indian association in 1851. Raja Radhakant Deb who was associated with erstwhile Bengal landholders society assigned the position of president in the merged body of British Indian association with Debendra Nath Tagore as its secretary. Hence statement 3 is correct.

Q 7.A

- Context: Ministry of Heavy Industries extends the tenure of the PM E-DRIVE Scheme by 2 years from 31 March 2026 to 31 March 2028.
- The scheme was launched by the Ministry of Heavy Industries, with Cabinet approval under the guidance of the Prime Minister on September 29, 2024. It is implemented from October 1, 2024 to March 31, 2028, subsuming the earlier interim EMPS 2024 (Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme). Hence, statement 3 is not correct.
- Eligible Categories
 - e-2 Wheelers (e-2Ws)
 - e-3 Wheelers (e-3Ws) including registered e-rickshaws & e-carts and L5
 - e-Ambulances
 - e-Trucks
 - e-Buses
 - Charging infra
 - Upgradation of Testing Agencies
- Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- The PM e-Drive scheme (Prime Minister's Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement) was launched in October 2024. It aims to promote electric and hybrid vehicles, reduce dependence on imported fossil fuels, cut emissions, and strengthen domestic EV manufacturing. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Q 8.C

- Context: Third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC3) opened in Awaza, Turkmenistan.
- About Awaza Programme of Action
 - The Awaza Programme of Action for the Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2024–2034 (APoA) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 24 December 2024 under resolution A/ RES/79/233, the APoA represents a renewed and strengthened global commitment to support the development aspirations of the 32 LLDCs.
 - The APoA draws on lessons learned from the Vienna Programme of Action (2014–2024) and seeks to ensure that progress accelerates, especially in such areas as trade facilitation, structural transformation, transport connectivity, technology, climate resilience, and the mobilization of international support.
 - The aim is to align national-level actions, regional integration efforts, and global policy frameworks to place LLDCs on a more dynamic and inclusive path to sustainable development, while safeguarding them against future shocks and disasters.
- Hence, option (c) is the correct answer

Q 9.D

- The drought of 1865 followed by famine the following year affected Orissa, Madras, Northern Bengal and Bihar. The calamity was most severe in Orissa, hence the name the 'Orissa Famine.'
- The Government officers though forewarned took no steps to meet the approach of the calamity and when it came looked helpless. The Government adhered to the principles of free trade and the law of demand and supply. The Government did provide employment to the able-bodied, leaving the work of charitable relief to the voluntary agency. Since voluntary agencies did very little, the famine took a heavy toll of life. It was estimated that 13, lakh persons died in Orissa alone.
- The Orissa calamity proved a turning point in the history of Indian famines for it was followed by the **appointment of a Committee under the chairmanship of Sir George Campbell to report on the matter. Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**
 - The Committee made recommendations which in some measure anticipated those of the Royal Commission of 1880. The old doctrine that the Public was responsible for the relief of the helpless was abandoned. The Government was expected to borrow money in order to afford finance for the building of railways and canals. Further, the district officers were made responsible for saving all preventable deaths.
- **Other Famine Commissions**
 - **First Famine Commission (1880):** After the famine of 1876-78 Government of India appointed the **first Famine Commission in 1778 under John Strachey**, which submitted its Report in 1880. It formulated general principles of famine-relief policy and suggested preventive and protective measures for famine relief.
 - **Second Famine Commission (1898):** The famine of 1896-97 led to the appointment of the **second commission under James Lyall**. It mostly endorsed earlier recommendations and recommended a freer grant of gratuitous relief, a more liberal remission of land revenue, and special attention to weaker sections.
 - **Third Famine Commission (1901):** The famine of 1899-1900 led to the appointment of the **Third Famine Commission in 1901 under Antony MacDonnell**.
 - **Woodhead Commission (1944):** The Bengal famine of 1943 led to the appointment of the Woodhead Commission. It recommended the creation of the All-India Food Council, monopoly procurement and distribution of food grains through a chain of fair-price shops, etc.
- The **Saddler commission was set up in 1917 to study and report on problems of Calcutta University** but its recommendations were applicable more or less to other universities also. It reviewed the entire field from school education to university education. It held the view that, for the improvement of university education, the improvement of secondary education was a necessary pre-condition.

Q 10.B

- **Context: Union Minister informed that BharatGen AI initiative will cover all 22 scheduled Indian languages by 2026.**
- **BharatGen AI**
 - About: India's first-of-its-kind, indigenously developed, Artificial Intelligence (AI) based, government-funded, Multimodal Large Language Model (LLM) for Indian language spanning text, speech, and vision-language systems.
 - Implementation: Under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) of the Department of Science and Technology.
 - Led by the Technology Innovation Hub (TIH) for IoT and IoE at IIT Bombay.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer**

Q 11.A

- **Warren Hastings took charge as the Governor General (1774)** when the British were to encounter the powerful combinations of the Marathas, Mysore and Hyderabad. **He followed a policy of ring-fence which aimed at creating buffer zones to defend the Company's frontiers.** For example, the Company undertook to organise the defence of frontiers of Awadh to safeguard its territory from the Afghan invaders and the Marathas.
- **Hence, only statement 1 is correct.**

Q 12.A

- **Recent Context: WHO Has Classified Hepatitis D As Cancer-Causing, Like Hepatitis B And C.**
- Hepatitis D virus (HDV) is a virus that requires hepatitis B virus (HBV) for its replication. Chronic HDV occurs only in people living with HBV. HDV affects globally nearly 5% (an estimated 12 million) of people who have a chronic infection with HBV. Chronic HDV infection is considered the most severe form of chronic viral hepatitis due to more rapid progression towards liver-related death and hepatocellular carcinoma. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Hepatitis D is a severe liver infection that is unique because it requires the simultaneous presence of the hepatitis B virus (HBV) to infect a person, a process called coinfection or superinfection. It leads to a more serious liver disease than HBV infection alone and was recently classified as carcinogenic to humans by the World Health Organisation (WHO). Prevention is achieved by getting the hepatitis B vaccine, as HDV cannot infect someone without HBV. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 13.C

- Between 1795 and 1805, the Poligars of South India mounted a determined resistance against the East India Company.
 - **Traditionally autonomous chieftains, the Poligars resented the 1781 transfer of Tinneveli and Carnatic provinces to the Company, which eroded their sovereignty and imposed heavy taxation.**
- Led by Veerapandiya Kattabomman of Panjalankurichi, the first phase (1795–1799) saw open defiance of Company authority.
 - Though betrayed and executed, his revolt inspired a wider uprising in 1801, when his brother Oomathurai and the Marudu brothers of Sivaganga mobilised forces, even capturing forts and issuing proclamations calling for mass resistance to alien rule.
- The Company retaliated with overwhelming force—Panjalankurichi fort was razed, leaders executed or imprisoned, and by 1805 even the Poligars of North Arcot who opposed the loss of their kaval (village police) rights were subdued.
- **Though crushed, the revolt was significant. It was not a mere tax protest but an early, organised challenge to colonial encroachment, symbolising the clash between traditional sovereignty and the Company's centralising power.**
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 14.B

- The Bundela Rebellion of 1842 in the Sagar–Narmada region of Bundelkhand wasn't driven by Bengali indigo prices, forced tea plantations, or the abolition of zamindari rights. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **Instead, it was a direct reaction to increased taxation—specifically land tax—following a brief and artificially induced cotton boom. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- The area had experienced a temporary surge in cotton cultivation, which was encouraged by British officials hoping to boost land revenue. As a consequence, colonial authorities raised the land tax sharply to capture this windfall.
- The heavy tax burden proved impossible for longstanding zamindars and agricultural communities to pay.
- Resentment boiled over, culminating in open revolt led by Bundela chieftains such as Jawahar Singh of Chandrapur and Madhukar Shah of Narhat, who defied British officials and rallied local support. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 15.C

- **Correct sequence of the events:**
 - Founding of the Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental (MAO) College - **1875**
 - Holding of the first Delhi Durbar to formally proclaim Queen Victoria as the Empress of India - **1877**
 - Passage of Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act after the Deccan riots in the Bombay Presidency - **1879**
 - Appointment of Strachey Commission to deal with famines - **1880**
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**
- **Additional Information:**
 - **Aligarh Movement began in the mid-late 19th century as Sir Syed Ahmad Khan's programme for modern education and socio-political revival of Indian Muslims after 1857;** its major institutional landmark was the **founding of the Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental (MAO) College in 1875 at Aligarh by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan** (later became Aligarh Muslim University). Its aim was the promotion of Western education (especially English and science), modern curriculum, political awakening of Indian Muslims.

- The **Deccan Riots of 1875** were a series of peasant uprisings that occurred in the Deccan region of western India against the oppressive policies of moneylenders and landlords.
 - The riots were largely non-violent in nature, with few instances of violence reported. The primary objective was to destroy the documentation that bound the peasants to debt.
 - The British government initially dismissed the unrest as minor; however, as the agitation grew, they recognized the need for intervention.
 - **Following measures were taken by the colonial government:**
 - ✓ **Deccan Riots Inquiry Commission:** In response to the riots, the British government established the "Deccan Riots Inquiry Commission" in 1877 to investigate the causes of the unrest.
 - ✓ **Deccan Agriculturists Relief Act of 1879:** Following the commission's findings, the "Agriculturists Relief Act" was enacted in 1879.
 - ✓ This legislation aimed to protect farmers from being arrested or imprisoned for failing to repay debts, providing some relief to the indebted peasantry.
 - ✓ **Regulation of Moneylending Practices:** The Act aimed to curb the exploitative practices that had contributed to the agrarian crisis.
- **Three Delhi Durbars** took place in the British India time period.
 - **The first Delhi Durbar, held on January 1, 1877, was to formally proclaim Queen Victoria as the Empress of India.** This event was orchestrated by the British government to consolidate their empire and reinforce their sovereignty over India. It was also an opportunity to display the pomp and power of the British Empire to the Indian princes and the public.
 - **The second Delhi Durbar was held on January 1, 1903, to celebrate the coronation of King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra as Emperor and Empress of India.** Lord Curzon, the Viceroy of India, organised this Durbar, which was larger and more magnificent than the first. It served to demonstrate the splendor and majesty of the British monarchy and to strengthen the ties between the British crown and the Indian princes.
 - **The third and final Delhi Durbar was held on December 12, 1911, to celebrate the coronation of King George V and Queen Mary as Emperor and Empress of India.** This Durbar was historically significant because it was the only one attended by the reigning monarch himself.
 - **During the period of Lord Lytton, a Strachey Commission of 1880 was created to develop a general strategy and principles to deal with the famines.** The Strachey Commission came out with the recommendation on whose basis a Famine Code was developed. However, in due course of time, the Famine Code was developed. However, in due course of time, the Famine Code was forgotten and remained defunct till the next attack of famine occurred in India.

Q 16.A

- The **Doctrine of Lapse** was a policy introduced by Lord Dalhousie, who served as the Governor-General of India from 1848 to 1856. Under this policy, any princely state under the suzerainty of the British East India Company would automatically lapse to the Company if the ruler died without a natural male heir. Several states, including Jhansi, Satara, and Sambalpur, were annexed using this doctrine. This policy aimed to expand British territories in India without direct military conquest and was one of the major causes of unrest leading up to the 1857 Revolt. **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- The **Policy of Ring-Fence** was implemented by Warren Hastings (1773–1785). This policy aimed to safeguard British interests in India by limiting interference in the internal affairs of Indian states unless necessary, creating a "ring-fence" of security and stability around British-controlled territories. **Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- **Subsidiary Alliance** was the brainchild of Lord Wellesley, designed to bring Indian princely states under British influence without outright conquest. Under a Subsidiary Alliance, Indian rulers were required to maintain British troops at their own expense and were forbidden from forming alliances with other powers or waging war independently. **Hence, pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

Q 17.D

- **Context:** National e-Governance Division (NeGD) has successfully enabled Pan-India integration of nearly 2000 e-Government services on DigiLocker and e-District platforms.
- DigiLocker was launched in July 2015 under the Digital India initiative as a secure cloud-based platform to issue, store, and verify documents and certificates digitally. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- As per the Information Technology Act, 2000 and the notification issued by the Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) in 2016, documents issued in DigiLocker are legally recognized at par with physical originals.

For example: Driving Licence, Vehicle RC, CBSE certificates in DigiLocker have the same validity as originals. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- DigiLocker is developed and managed by the National e-Governance Division (NeGD), which is part of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- DigiLocker has emerged as a robust pillar of India's digital public infrastructure by successfully addressing challenges of interoperability, data security and multi-stakeholder coordination. Its innovative and resilient framework has enabled ease of access, inclusivity and reliability, empowering citizens across the country with trusted digital services.

Q 18.B

- The late 18th century was a period when India was undergoing both political upheaval and cultural reassertion. Even as the East India Company was consolidating its power, Indian rulers and colonial administrators contributed in significant ways to architecture, science, and education.
- **One of the most iconic monuments of this era was the Bada Imambara in Lucknow, commissioned by Asaf-ud-Daula, the Nawab of Awadh.**
 - Built in 1784 as a famine-relief project, the structure not only served a religious function but also became a symbol of Awadhi culture and identity.
 - Its central hall, built without any supporting beams, remains one of the largest of its kind in the world, showcasing the sophistication of Mughal–Awadhi architecture.
 - **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **At the same time, scientific curiosity was nurtured by Sawai Jai Singh II of Jaipur, a Rajput ruler with a keen interest in astronomy.**
 - Between 1724 and 1737, he constructed five astronomical observatories (Jantar Mantars) at Delhi, Jaipur, Benares, Ujjain, and Mathura.
 - These observatories reflected a blend of traditional Indian astronomy and Mughal patronage with European techniques, symbolizing an Indian attempt to engage with global scientific developments.
 - **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Warren Hastings, the first Governor-General of Bengal, also played a role in cultural and educational developments. In 1781, he established the Calcutta Madrasah to promote the study of Islamic law and Persian literature.**
 - This institution reflected the Company's early Orientalist policy, which aimed to govern Indians through their own laws and traditions, while also cultivating loyalty among local elites.
 - **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 19.D

- During the age of European expansion into Asia, powerful governors and viceroys played a decisive role in shaping the destiny of colonial empires.
- **Joseph François Dupleix, a French governor of Pondicherry in the mid-18th century, became one of the most famous figures of French expansion in India. Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
 - He sought to extend French influence beyond mere trade into political dominance by intervening in succession disputes of Indian rulers.
 - His rivalry with Robert Clive during the Carnatic wars symbolized the Anglo–French struggle for supremacy in India.
- **Afonso de Albuquerque, the Portuguese governor of Goa in the early 16th century, is remembered as the true founder of the Portuguese empire in Asia. Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
 - Known as the "Lion of the Seas," Albuquerque consolidated Portuguese power by capturing Goa (1510) and Malacca (1511).
 - His naval policies established Portuguese dominance in the Indian Ocean for over a century.
- **Nuno da Cunha, another Portuguese governor (1529–1538), further expanded Portuguese authority on the western coast of India.**
 - **He shifted the Portuguese capital from Cochin to Goa, consolidating it as the political and commercial centre of their Asian possessions.**
 - **Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

Q 20.D

- **Context:** Scientists are exploring microbial degradation as a solution to plastic pollution, utilizing bacteria and fungi to break down plastics.
- Ideonella sakaiensis is a species of bacterium that has gained significant scientific interest for its unique ability to break down and consume polyethylene terephthalate (PET), a common plastic used in products like plastic bottles and synthetic fibers.
- The bacterium was first isolated in 2016 by a team of Japanese researchers from a sediment sample collected outside a plastic bottle recycling facility in Sakai City, Japan. Its discovery was remarkable because it was the first organism identified that could use PET as its sole carbon and energy source. This ability is thought to be a recent evolutionary adaptation, as PET has only been in widespread use for about 70 years.
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 21.D

- **Nirankaris:**
 - **Baba Dayal Das (1783-1855) was the founder of this movement of purification and return.** In the 1840s, he called for the return of Sikhism to its origins and emphasized the worship of God as Nirankari (formless). Such an approach meant a rejection of idols, rituals associated with idolatry, and the priests who conducted these rituals. Stressing the importance and authority of Guru Nanak and the Adi Granth, he prohibited eating meat, drinking liquor, lying, cheating, using false weights, etc. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
 - Before his death, Dayal Das named his son, **Baba Darbara Singh** (1814-70), as his successor. Determined to cut all ties with Hinduism, Darbara Singh began to issue hukamnamas (statements describing both doctrines and approved rituals). Under him, the Nirankaris had their most rapid period of expansion; for in fifteen years he opened forty new subcentres.
 - **Rattan Chand, younger brother, and successor of Darbara Singh**, also established new centers and appointed biredars (leaders) for each congregation or sangat.
 - The biredars oversaw these groups and were charged with reciting the hukamnamas every fifteen days. Thus they provided a tie between the head of the Nirankari movement and its members.
 - Between 1909 and 1947, **Baba Gurdit Singh, son and successor of Rattan Chand**, headed the movement.
 - **The Nirankaris emphasized Guru Nanak and Sikhism before the establishment of the Khalsa by Guru Gobind Singh at Anandpur.** In this, they pursued a path open to both orthodox Sikhs, kesadharis, and the non-baptized ranks of the sahajdharis, but drew members mainly from the urban non-Jat section of the Sikh community. Their dependence on Guru Nanak and early Sikhism for their model of 'pure' religion separated them from another movement, the Namdhari. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
- **Namdharis:**
 - **Baba Ram Singh** (1816-85) was the founder of this movement. In 1841, he became a discipline of Balak Singh of the. Those who accepted Balak Singh's leadership saw him as a reincarnation of Guru Gobind Singh. Before his death, **Balak Singh chose Ram Singh as his successor.**
 - **In 1857, Ram Singh formally inaugurated the Namdhari movement with a set of rituals modeled after Guru Gobind Singh founded the Khalsa.**
 - To initiate followers into the new community, Ram Singh used a recitation of gurbani (hymns from the Granth Sahib), ardas (the Sikh prayer), a flag, and baptism.
 - **Every baptized Sikh was required to wear the five symbols.** Instead of the sword, Ram Singh required them to keep a lathi. In addition, the Namdhari wore white clothes with a white turban and carried a rosary to further set them apart from all others. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - The Namdhari were to abandon the worship of gods, goddesses, idols, graves, tombs, trees, and snakes. They were also told to abstain from drinking, stealing, adultery, falsehood, slandering, backbiting and cheating. Further, the consumption of beef was strictly forbidden, since the protection of cattle remained one of the Namdhari's most ardently held values.

Q 22.C

- The Banaras Rebellion of 1781, led by Raja Chait Singh, was a major early resistance against the East India Company's growing political dominance and revenue demands.
- **It broke out during the governorship of Warren Hastings, who was simultaneously managing wars against the Marathas, Haider Ali of Mysore, and European rivals such as the French and Dutch.**
 - **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

- The immediate cause was Warren Hastings' insistence on extracting increased revenue contributions and military support from Raja Chait Singh of Banaras.
 - Chait Singh, already resentful of the Company's encroachment on his autonomy, refused to comply fully. When Hastings attempted to place him under arrest at Ramnagar, the situation escalated into open revolt.
 - Hence statement 2 is correct.
- The rebellion did not remain confined to Banaras. It spread into Bihar, where several zamindars and regional leaders raised the banner of revolt.
 - Rup Narayan Singh of Buxar, the Ujjainia Rajputs, Fateh Sahi of Husepur, and other local chieftains actively supported Chait Singh.
- The rebellion disrupted Company communications. Postal (Dawk) routes between Patna and Banaras were cut off, and armed bands lined the banks of the Ganges to attack English boats.
- Though the rebellion was eventually suppressed, it highlighted the fragile legitimacy of Company authority outside Bengal proper.
 - Chait Singh himself fled to Awadh and later sought Maratha assistance, but he never regained his throne.

Q 23.B

- **Battle of Adyar (1746):** Fought during the First Carnatic War, the French forces defeated the Nawab of Carnatic's huge but poorly disciplined army near the Adyar River.
 - This was a turning point because it demonstrated how even a small, well-trained European force could rout a much larger Indian army.
- **Battle of Ambur (1749):** Occurred in the Second Carnatic War, when the French-supported Chanda Sahib and Muzaffar Jang defeated and killed Nawab Anwar-ud-din of Carnatic.
 - This shifted the balance of power temporarily in favour of the French.
- **Siege of Arcot (1751):** A dramatic episode where Robert Clive, with a small force, captured and defended Arcot for 53 days against Chanda Sahib's much larger army.
 - This enhanced British prestige and marked the decline of French influence in the Carnatic.
- Hence option (b) is the correct answer

Q 24.A

- **Fort William College (also known as the College of Fort William)** was an academy of oriental studies and a centre of learning, founded in 1800 by Lord Wellesley, then Governor-General of British India, located within the Fort William complex in Calcutta.
- **Bal Gangadhar Tilak founded the Marathi newspaper Kesari in 1881.** He was a prominent leader of the Indian Independence movement and used the newspaper to voice his opinions and critique British rule, notably through inflammatory articles about British actions during the 1897 bubonic plague outbreak.
- **Swami Vivekananda founded the Ramakrishna Mission on May 1, 1897, at Belur, West Bengal.** The mission was established to spread the spiritual teachings of Vedanta as embodied by Ramakrishna Paramahamsa and to promote the social welfare of humankind through service. Its core motto is that serving humanity is the best way to serve God.
- **Raja Ram Mohan Roy founded and edited the Bengali weekly newspaper Sambad Kaumudi in 1821,** which was published in Kolkata. He used the newspaper to promote social reform, most notably advocating for the abolition of Sati, and also to spread ideas about modern education and rational thinking.
- Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

Q 25.A

- The battle of Chinhat was fought on June 30, 1857, in Chinhat, near Lucknow during the revolt of 1857. The East India Company's army led by Sir Henry Lawrence, the Chief Commissioner of Oudh, had obtained intelligence of a small troop of rebels led by sepoy mutineer Barkat Ahmad heading towards Lucknow. Sir Henry Lawrence was killed and British forces retreated and took shelter at the British Residency at Lucknow. For the coming five months, the British residency saw a siege. It ended only in November after a relief mission led by the new commander-in-chief in India Sir Colin Campbell was able to take back control of the city and evacuate the defendants and civilians from the residency. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
- Maulvi Ahmadullah Shah played an important part in the revolt of 1857. In 1856, he was seen moving from village to village preaching jihad (religious war) against the British and urging people to rebel. He moved in a palanquin, with drumbeaters in front and followers at the rear. He was therefore popularly called Danka Shah – the maulvi with the drum (danka). Subsequently, in 1857, he was jailed in Faizabad. When released, he was elected by the mutinous 22nd Native Infantry as their leader. He fought in the famous Battle of Chinhat in which the British forces under Henry Lawrence were defeated.

Q 26.D

- Vande Mataram is a song written in Bengali by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in the 1870s, which he included in his 1882 Bengali novel Anandamath.
- The poem was first sung by Rabindranath Tagore in the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress. The first two verses of the song were adopted as the National Song of India in October 1937 by the Congress Working Committee prior to the end of colonial rule in August 1947. Hence option (d) is the correct answer.

Q 27.D

- In historical context, especially relating to tribal communities in India, Dikus refers to outsiders who caused distress and dependency among the tribal populations. This term was used by tribal communities, particularly in the Chota Nagpur region, to describe groups like moneylenders, traders, landlords, missionaries, and British officials, all of whom were perceived as intruders who exploited them for profit.
- British revenue reforms (Permanent Settlement, Ryotwari, Mahalwari) allowed zamindars, traders, and moneylenders to enter tribal areas and extract rents, often illegally. Tribals, unfamiliar with these laws, saw such outsiders as intruders, the Dikus.
- Examples:
 - Munda Ulgulan (1899–1900) led by Birsa Munda was directed against Dikus.
 - Santhal Rebellion (1855–56) targeted similar outsiders exploiting tribal lands.
- Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

Q 28.A

- Statement 1 is correct: The Doctrine of Lapse was introduced by Lord Dalhousie. It was the chief instrument of his policy of annexation.
- Statement 2 is correct: Under this Doctrine, when the ruler of a protected state died without a natural heir, his state was not to pass to an adopted heir as sanctioned by the age-old tradition of the country. Instead, it was to be annexed to the British dominions unless the adoption had been clearly approved earlier by the British authorities. Many states, including Satara in 1848 and Nagpur and Jhansi in 1854, were annexed by applying this doctrine.
- Statement 3 is not correct: Satara was the first state to be annexed under the Doctrine of Lapse. The Nawab of Avadh had many heirs and could not therefore be covered by the Doctrine of Lapse. Lord Dalhousie was keen on annexing the kingdom of Avadh. He accused Nawab Wajid Ali Shah of having misgoverned his state and refusing to introduce reforms. His state was therefore annexed in 1856.

Q 29.B

- The reign of Asaf-ud-Daula in Awadh marks an important transitional phase in the history of Awadh, where both internal developments and growing British influence reshaped the state.
- One of the most striking changes during his reign was the transfer of the capital from Faizabad to Lucknow. This shift was not just geographical but symbolic.
 - Lucknow, with its cultural vibrancy and architectural grandeur, soon grew into a thriving political and cultural hub, famous for its Nawabi traditions.
 - Hence option (b) is the correct answer.
- Politically, his reign was also marked by growing British interference. In 1775, soon after his accession, the East India Company secured control over Benaras and its surrounding territories.
 - This came as part of the continuing financial and political negotiations between the Nawab and the Company, with Awadh becoming increasingly dependent on British support.
 - The loss of Benaras symbolized not only a territorial setback but also the erosion of Awadh's fiscal base, which had historically drawn strength from the revenues of the region.

Q 30.B

- The Anglo-Nepal War (1814–1816) was a significant conflict between the East India Company and the Gorkha rulers of Nepal.
 - The confrontation was born out of territorial disputes, particularly in the Himalayan foothills covering Kumaon, Garhwal, and the Terai plains.
 - Hence statement 1 is correct.
 - The Gorkhas had expanded aggressively, encroaching upon areas claimed by local rulers under British protection, which became the immediate trigger for the war.

- The war concluded not with the Treaty of Yandabo (which actually ended the First Anglo-Burmese War in 1826), but with the Treaty of Sagauli in 1816.
 - Under this treaty, Nepal ceded Kumaon, Garhwal, and Sikkim territories, and allowed the placement of a British Resident at Kathmandu.
 - Hence statement 2 is not correct.
- One of the major consequences of the Treaty of Sagauli was Nepal's withdrawal from Sikkim, thereby losing control over its eastern territorial claims. Sikkim came under British influence, strengthening the Company's hold over the eastern Himalayan region.
 - Hence statement 3 is correct.

Q 31.D

- **Ahmadiyya Movement:** The Ahmadiyya forms a sect of Islam which originated from India. It was founded by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in 1889. It was based on liberal principles. The movement spread Western liberal education among the Indian Muslims. They believed in separating the mosque from the State as well as in human rights and tolerance. Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched
- **Faraizi Movement:** The movement, also called the Fara'idi Movement because of its emphasis on the Islamic pillars of faith, was founded by Haji Shariatullah in 1818. It aimed at the eradication of social innovations or un-Islamic practices current among the Muslims of the region and draw their attention to their duties as Muslims. Under the leadership of Haji's son, Dudu Mian, the movement became revolutionary from 1840 onwards. He gave the movement an organisational system from the village to the provincial level with a khalifa or authorise deputy at every level. Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched
- **Wahabi/Walliullah Movement:** The earliest organized Muslim response to the western influences appeared in the form of Wahabi movement. The teachings of Abdul Wahab of Arabia and the preachings of Shah Walliullah (1702-1763) inspired this essentially revivalist response to Western influences. He was the first Indian Muslim leader of the 18th century to organise Muslims around the two-fold ideals of this movement:
 - desirability of harmony among the four schools of Muslim jurisprudence which had divided the Indian Muslims he sought to integrate the best elements of the four schools);
 - recognition of the role of individual conscience in religion where conflicting interpretations were derived from the Quran and the Hadis.
- The teachings of Walliullah were further popularised by Shah Abdul Aziz and Syed Ahmed Barelv who also gave them a political perspective. Syed Ahmed called for a return to the pure Islam and the kind of society that had existed in the Arabia of the Prophet's time. Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched

Q 32.B

- The Battle of Colachel (1741) holds a special place in the history of India and Asia as it was one of the first occasions when a European colonial power was decisively defeated by an Indian kingdom.
 - Hence statements 1 and 2 are correct.
 - The confrontation was between the Kingdom of Travancore under Marthanda Varma and the Dutch East India Company, commanded by Admiral Eustachius De Lannoy.
- Travancore, which had been a loose federation of chieftaincies earlier, had been consolidated under Marthanda Varma's aggressive leadership. His territorial expansion and refusal to honour the Dutch monopoly contracts with local rulers alarmed the Company.
 - In response, the Dutch, aided by neighbouring rulers of Cochin and Kayamkulam, prepared their forces at Colachel near Quilon to check Travancore's advance.
- The battle itself was a turning point. Dutch forces initially inflicted damage by burning villages and attacking fortifications, but the Travancore army, supported by defectors such as Carl August Duijvenschot and with indirect English assistance, managed to withstand them.
- Significantly, the French actually supported Travancore, not the Dutch, in exchange for commercial concessions. This directly contradicts the notion that the French were on the Dutch side.
 - Hence statement 3 is not correct.
- The decisive moment came in August 1741, when an accidental burning shot struck a Dutch gunpowder barrel, destroying their provisions. With their supplies depleted and reinforcements delayed—partly due to the loyalty of the local Mukkuvar fishing community to Travancore—the Dutch were forced to surrender.
- The consequences were long-lasting. The defeat ended Dutch colonial ambitions in India, leading them to sign the Treaty of Mavelikkara (1753) with Travancore, formally curtailing their influence

Q 33.A

- **Battle of Wandiwash (1760)**
 - Part of the Third Carnatic War, fought between the British and the French in South India.
 - Led to the decline of French power in India and the consolidation of British supremacy.
- **Third Battle of Panipat (1761):** Fought between the Marathas and Ahmad Shah Abdali (Afghan ruler). One of the largest battles of the 18th century in India, marking a significant setback for the Marathas.
- **Battle of Buxar (1764) :**

Fought between the British East India Company and the combined forces of Mir Qasim, Shuja-ud-Daula, and the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II.
Resulted in the British gaining Diwani rights in Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa
- **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 34.B

- **Context:** Recently, Uttarakhand Government granted in-Principle approval for "Netala bypass project" in the fragile Bhagirathi Eco-sensitive Zone (ESZ) despite previous rejections by the Supreme Court's High-Powered Committee (HPC) due to ecological and social concerns.
- The National Environment Policy (2006) defined the Eco-Sensitive Zones "as areas/zones with identified environmental resources having incomparable values which require special attention for their conservation" because of its landscape, wildlife, biodiversity, historical and natural values.
- Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs) are not notified under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. They are notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, using its rule-making powers. They are created around Protected Areas (PAs) like National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries to act as "shock absorbers" or transition zones.
- In June 2022, the Supreme Court directed that a minimum 1 km area around all PAs should be notified as ESZs. Later, The Supreme Court modified its previous judgment regarding Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ) around protected forests, stating that ESZs cannot be uniform across the entire country, and instead need to be tailored to the specific protected area. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The MoEFCC, under the Environment Protection Act, 1986, notifies ESZs in consultation with respective State Governments. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 35.C

- **Indian Councils Act, 1892**
- In 1885, the Indian National Congress was founded. The Congress saw reform of the councils as the "root of all other reforms". It was in response to the Congress demand that the legislative councils be expanded that the number of non-official members was increased both in the central (Imperial) and provincial legislative councils by the Indian Councils Act, 1892. **Hence, statement I is correct.**
- The Legislative Council of the Governor-General (or the Indian Legislative Council, as it came to be known) was enlarged.
- The universities, district boards, municipalities, zamindars, trade bodies and chambers of commerce were empowered to recommend members to the provincial councils. Thus was introduced the principle of representation.
- **Though the term 'election' was firmly avoided in the Act, an element of indirect election was accepted in the selection of some of the non-official members.**
- The members of the legislatures were now entitled to express their views upon financial statements which were henceforth to be made on the floor of the legislatures.
- They could also put questions within certain limits to the executive on matters of public interest after giving six days' notice.
- The Act did not introduce direct elections by Indian citizens. Instead it introduced a very limited, indirect, and controlled method of representation: certain local bodies and institutions (for example, municipalities, district boards, universities, zamindars, chambers of commerce and similar bodies) could recommend names to the government. The formal power of appointment/nomination, however, remained with the government.
- **Hence, statement II is not correct.**

Q 36.A

- **Context:** Kuttimathan Kani, the forest elder who gave a wonder herb to the world but died in poverty.
- Kuttimathan Kani, the forest elder who revealed Arogyapacha, has died in poverty at 72. His discovery once inspired the world's first biodiversity benefit-sharing model.
- To the outside world, Kuttimathan Kani was the man who first revealed the secrets of Trichopus zeylanicus, known locally as Arogyapacha, the "ginseng of Kerala" that once set off a global debate on biopiracy, benefit-sharing and the ethics of conservation.
- Kani community:
 - The Kani (or Kanikkar) tribal community are indigenous forest dwellers of the Agasthyamalai hills in the Western Ghats of Southern India, primarily in Kerala and parts of Tamil Nadu.
 - Traditionally nomadic, they now lead more settled lives but maintain a deep, age-old relationship with the forests, relying on them for sustenance and cultural practices.
 - The community is known for its traditional medical knowledge, famously demonstrated through the discovery of the rejuvenating plant Arogyapacha (Trichopus zeylanicus), which led to a landmark Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) agreement with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Indian government.
- **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer**

Q 37.A

- The **Fowler Committee** was appointed by the **British government in 1898 to reform the Indian Currency system**.
- Until 1892, silver was the metal on which Indian currency and coinage had largely been based. The Fowler Committee recommended the continuance of the Indian Government proposals made in 1892 and implemented in 1893. It concurred with the Government of India in its decision not to revert to the silver standard. It further **recommended establishing a gold currency**, making the sovereign legal tender. Also recommended was opening the Indian mints to the unrestricted coinage of gold, receiving gold and reissuing them as coins. The exchange rate for gold was to be fixed at 15 rupees to the sovereign or 15.4d. per rupee (one shilling and four pence), as originally contemplated in 1893. **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**
- In **1926 the Royal Commission on Indian Currency (Hilton Young Commission)** recommended the establishment of a central bank to be called the '**Reserve Bank of India**'.

Q 38.A

- **Context:** Recently, a government-appointed panel has recommended the Supreme Court to ban a exotic tree species called **Conocarpus**
- Conocarpus (esp. Conocarpus erectus, Buttonwood) is an exotic ornamental tree introduced in India for greening and urban plantation. It is fast-growing and shows tolerance to heat, salinity, drought, air and dust pollution, which made it popular in coastal and urban areas. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Conocarpus tree has 2 species:- One is native to the coastal areas of tropical America, and parts of West Africa and The other is found in arid coastal zones of Somalia and Yemen and across eastern and northern Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Concerns:**
 - Threat to biodiversity: Offers little sustenance for native insects, birds, or mammals and is invasive. (also known as "green desert")
 - Threat to ecosystem: Excessive groundwater consumption
 - Public health: Allergenic pollen
- A Supreme Court-appointed expert panel recently recommended a nationwide ban on Conocarpus trees due to their allergenic pollen, adverse environmental impacts like water consumption and disruption of native ecosystems, and other issues like root damage to infrastructure. **While some states like Gujarat and Tamil Nadu have already imposed bans, the panel called for a uniform national approach, urging the Supreme Court to direct the environment ministry to list the tree as invasive and encourage replacement with native species. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 39.C

- **Context: India and Japan have signed a memorandum of cooperation on a joint credit mechanism under the Paris Agreement, aiming to enhance investment and carbon trading.**
- India's Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change signed a memorandum of cooperation with the government of Japan on joint credit mechanism (JCM) under Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). They also signed long-term agreements worth ¥10 trillion (nearly Rs 6 trillion) for economic security, covering artificial intelligence, defense, semiconductors and critical minerals such as rare earths.
- The Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) is a bilateral initiative started by Japan in 2013 to cut greenhouse gas emissions by facilitating the spread of low-carbon technologies and infrastructure to developing countries. Under the JCM, the emissions reductions achieved through these projects are quantitatively assessed and credited to the partner countries, including Japan, helping them meet their climate targets under Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement while promoting sustainable development in partner countries.
- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 40.B

- **Context: An IUCN–TRAFFIC report commends India's improved monitoring and surveillance, which has sharply reduced Greater One-horned Rhino poaching.**
- The Indian rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*), also known as the greater one-horned rhinoceros, great Indian rhinoceros or Indian rhino, is a species of rhinoceros found in the Indian subcontinent. **Pobitora is the second largest living rhinoceros species. Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary has the highest density of one-horned rhinos in the world and second highest concentration in Assam after Kaziranga National Park.** It is often called 'Mini Kaziranga' due to similar landscape and vegetation. **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**
- The greater one-horned rhinoceros is listed as Vulnerable, not Endangered, on the IUCN Red List. The Greater One-Horned Rhino is listed in CITES Appendix I (highest protection). In India, it is protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- Indian Rhino = single horn (unlike African White/Black rhinos with two horns). Its thick, folded skin gives an armour-plated appearance, a unique feature distinguishing it from African species.

Q 41.C

- The arrival of the Portuguese in the Indian Ocean at the end of the 15th century marked a turning point in the history of maritime trade in Asia. Armed with superior naval technology and gunpowder, they sought not just commercial opportunities but also political control over sea routes.
- **The Cartaz system stands out as a symbol of Portuguese dominance. This system required Indian ships to obtain a pass or cartaz from the Portuguese Viceroy of Goa in order to sail safely. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - Without such a license, ships could be seized or destroyed.
 - This coercive mechanism allowed the Portuguese to regulate and tax maritime trade, reinforcing their naval monopoly.
- **The idea that the Portuguese cooperated with Arab merchants to dominate navigation is incorrect.**
 - **In fact, they achieved supremacy by violently displacing Arab traders, who had maintained a flourishing monopoly over Indian Ocean navigation before their arrival.**
 - The Portuguese ruthlessly broke this monopoly through naval battles, piracy, and fortified coastal outposts. Far from partners, the Arabs were their earliest victims.
 - **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- **The Battle of Swally in 1611 highlighted the beginning of the Portuguese decline. Here, the English East India Company defeated a Portuguese squadron near Surat.**
 - This victory impressed the Mughal Emperor Jahangir, who had previously relied on Portuguese power in the region.
 - Convinced of English naval strength, he granted the Company permission to establish a factory at Surat in 1613.
 - This not only marked the weakening of Portuguese dominance but also the firm entry of the English into Mughal India.
 - **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 42.A

- The Treaty of Amritsar (1809) was signed between Maharaja Ranjit Singh and the East India Company after British anxieties about a potential Franco-Persian threat to India during the Napoleonic Wars.
- **The Company recognized Ranjit Singh's sovereignty west of the Sutlej, thereby legitimizing his rule over Punjab proper.**
- **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- In return, Ranjit Singh withdrew from Cis-Sutlej Sikh states (Patiala, Nabha, Jind etc.), which were placed under British protection.
- **Importantly, this treaty was not a defensive alliance; rather, it was a non-aggression and territorial demarcation pact.**
- **It did not allow the British to station troops in Lahore.**
 - **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- This treaty was the first formal recognition by the British of Ranjit Singh as a sovereign ruler of Punjab.
 - Unlike many Indian rulers bound by Subsidiary Alliances, Ranjit Singh retained full independence in his internal and external affairs (except east of Sutlej).
- The treaty ensured that Punjab would remain a buffer state between the Company and possible French/Persian advances.

Q 43.A

- **Context: Recently, UNTOC and the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) have been invoked by India in the extradition request of a fugitive offender.**
- The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted by General Assembly resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, is the main international instrument in the fight against transnational organized crime. It opened for signature by Member States at a High-level Political Conference convened for that purpose in Palermo, Italy, on 12-15 December 2000 and entered into force on 29 September 2003.
- It is supplemented by three protocols targeting human trafficking, migrant smuggling, and illicit firearms manufacturing, and trafficking. UNTOC (also known as Palermo Convention), it is the only global, legally binding instrument through which governments commit to act and cooperate against organized crime. The UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) serves as Secretariat to UNTOC. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Statement "India did not ratify the UNTOC" is false; India ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNCAC) on May 5, 2011, following its signing in 2002. This makes India legally bound to implement the Convention's provisions against transnational organized crime. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 44.C

- **Prabuddha Bharata or Awakened India is an english-language monthly journal of the Ramakrishna Mission.**
- Prabuddha Bharata was founded in 1896 by P. Aiyasami, B. R. Rajam Iyer, G. G. Narasimhacharya, and B. V. Kamesvara Iyer, in Madras (now Chennai), at the behest of Swami Vivekananda.
- It is the "longest-running" monthly English magazine of the country.
- It carries articles on social sciences and humanities comprising historical, psychological, cultural and social sciences themes.
- Luminaries like Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Sister Nivedita, Sri Aurobindo, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan etc. wrote in the journal.
- **Other publications from Ramakrishna mission:**
 - **Udbodhan, Bengali Monthly started by Swami Vivekananda in January 1899,**
 - **Vedanta Kesari is cultural and spiritual magazines in English. It was started in 1914**
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 45.B

- The coming of railways in India during the mid-19th century is often portrayed as a hallmark of modernisation. Yet, a closer look at its financial and industrial underpinnings reveals that railway construction was essentially designed to serve British interests rather than Indian development.
- **Railway construction was financed by private British capitalists under a scheme that assured them a 5% return on investment, guaranteed by the Indian Government.**

- This meant that even if railway companies incurred losses, the deficit would be covered from Indian revenues. Naturally, this made railway investment extremely attractive to English capitalists.
- **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **The rolling stock, engines, rails, and much of the machinery were imported from Britain.**
 - Thus, the demand generated by Indian railways directly boosted British industries, turning India into a captive market for British capital goods.
 - **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **While in theory railways could have created backward linkages for Indian industries (like iron and steel), in practice the opposite happened.**
 - Britain ensured that Indian railways depended on British imports, thereby delaying the growth of indigenous industries like Tata Iron and Steel until the early 20th century.
 - **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 46.C

- The **Self-Respect Movement, formally launched in 1925 in Tamil Nadu, was led by Periyar** (Erode Venkatappa Ramasamy). The movement sought social equality, opposed caste discrimination, and promoted rationalist and progressive social reforms. There were numerous other movements demanding that the ban on the entry of lower castes into temples be lifted. Sri Narayana Guru in Kerala led a lifelong struggle against upper caste domination. He coined the slogan “one religion, one caste, one God for mankind”, which his disciple Sahadaran Ayyapan changed into “no religion, no caste, no God for mankind”. **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- Hike in revenue demand and reduction of field size, coupled with the oppression of officials, resulted in widespread peasant unrest among the Moplahs of Malabar. Twenty-two rebellions took place between 1836 and 1854. None, however, proved successful. (The second Moplah uprising occurred after the Moplahs came to be organised by the Congress and the Khilafat supporters during the Non-cooperation Movement. But Hindu-Muslim differences distanced the Congress and the Moplahs from each other. By 1921, the Moplahs had been subdued.) **Vasudev Balwant Phadke (1845–1883) was an earlier revolutionary who fought against British rule in Maharashtra in the 1870s and is unrelated to the Moplah Rebellion.** Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.
- The Eka Movement (1921–22), a peasant movement in the Awadh region of Uttar Pradesh, was **led locally by Madari Pasi**, who mobilized peasants against oppressive landlords and revenue collection practices. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

Q 47.C

- **Madras Mahajana Sabha**, considered a predecessor of the Indian National Congress, was started on May 16, 1884, in the presence of G. Subramania Iyer, M. Viraraghavachari, P. Ananda Charlu, P. Rangiah Naidu, Balaji Rao, and Salem Ramaswamy Mudaliar. It sought to represent the views and needs of people to the British government. It also aimed to coordinate the activities of local associations and to provide a focus for the non-official intelligence spreading through the Madras Presidency.
- **C. Rajagopalachari was not associated with Madras Mahajana Sabha.**
- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 48.A

- In September 1901, **Lord Curzon summoned the highest educational officers of the Government throughout India and representatives of universities at a round table conference at Simla**. The Conference opened with a speech by the Viceroy in which he surveyed the whole field of education in India. This was followed by the **appointment of a Commission under the presidency of Sir Thomas Raleigh on 27 January 1902** to enquire into the condition and prospects of universities in India and to recommend proposals for improving their constitution and working. Evidently, the Commission was precluded from reporting on primary or secondary education. As a result of the **report of the recommendations of the Commission the Indian Universities Act was passed in 1904**. The main objective of the Act was to improve the condition of education in India and upgrade the system to a better level. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Main Provisions of Indian Universities Act, 1904
 - The Indian Universities Act, 1904 laid down that the number of Fellows of a university shall not be less than fifty or more than a hundred and a Fellow should normally hold office for a period of six years instead of for life.

- The Indian Universities Act, 1904 introduced the principle of election in the constitution of the Senate. According to this Act., 20 fellows are to be elected in the Universities of Madras, Calcutta, and Bombay and 15 in other Universities.
- **The rules in regard to granting recognition were made more strict. In order to raise the standards of education, the Syndicate could call for the inspection of colleges imparting higher education. The private colleges were required to keep a proper standard of efficiency. The Government approval was necessary for grant of affiliation or disaffiliation of colleges. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Government reserved the right to make amendments and reforms and give approval to the rules framed by the Senates of the University and also it can frame regulations itself if the Senate fails to frame these regulations in time.
- Hence, The Government's control over the universities was further increased by vesting the government with powers to veto the regulations passed by the Senate of a university. The Government could also make additions or alterations in the regulations framed by the Senate and even frame regulations itself over and above the head of the Senate.

Q 49.B

- The late 18th and early 19th centuries were crucial in the consolidation of Company rule in India, and many landmark events occurred under different Governors-General.
- **The Asiatic Society of Bengal, a pioneering institution for the study of Oriental culture, languages, and history, was established in 1784 by Sir William Jones during the tenure of Warren Hastings.**
 - It was not under John Shore, whose period as Governor-General began later, in 1793.
- **The Vellore Mutiny of 1806, often called a precursor to the Revolt of 1857, broke out under Sir George Barlow.**
 - It was triggered by controversial dress-code regulations imposed on Indian sepoys, alongside simmering resentment over harsh Company policies.
- **The First Anglo-Burmese War (1824–1826) took place during the tenure of Lord Amherst.**
 - Though costly and unpopular in Britain due to its heavy financial burden, it extended Company territories to include Assam, Manipur, and parts of Arakan.
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer**

Q 50.B

- **Friedrich Max Muller (1823–1900)** was a German-born philologist and one of the founders of Western Indology and comparative religion. He edited the monumental Sacred Books of the East and made major contributions to Vedic and Sanskrit studies.
- **Sir Monier Monier-Williams (1819–1899)** was a Boden Professor of Sanskrit at Oxford; author of the standard Sanskrit–English Dictionary (1872) and an influential teacher and translator of Sanskrit works in the 19th century.
- **David Sassoon** (and the Sassoon family) was a prominent Baghdadi Jewish merchants and philanthropists based in Bombay who funded institutions (libraries, schools, hospitals) and thereby supported the preservation, publication and study of books and learning in colonial India (e.g., the David Sassoon Library). Their patronage aided the broader intellectual and cultural infrastructure in which Orientalist scholarship operated.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 51.A

- **The Theosophical Society was founded in late 1875, in New York City, by Russian noble woman, Helena Petrovna Blavatsky, and an American attorney, Colonel Henry Steel Olcott, along with another attorney, William Quan Judge.**
- **The society believed that a special relationship could be established between a person's soul and God by contemplation, prayer, revelation, etc. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- **It accepted the Hindu beliefs in reincarnation and karma, and drew inspiration from the philosophy of the Upanishads and samkhya, yoga and Vedanta schools of thought. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- It opposed child marriage and advocated the abolition of caste discrimination, uplift of outcastes, improvement in the condition of widows.

- In India, the movement became somewhat popular with the **election of Annie Besant (1847-1933) as its president** after the death of Olcott in 1907. Hence, Annie Besant was **not a founding member of Theosophical Society**. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

Q 52.B

- Context: KSrelief (Saudi aid agency) delivers food aid in Somalia's Middle Shabelle region.
 - Mali's military said it had carried out airstrikes in the gold-rich western region of Kayes after al Qaeda-linked militants took steps to impose a blockade on fuel imports to the landlocked West African country's capital, Bamako. **Bamako is the capital and largest city of Mali, located along the Niger River in West Africa**. Historically significant as a shipping center, it has evolved into the cultural, administrative, and economic heart of the nation since being named the capital of French Sudan in the early 20th century. Hence, Pair 1 is correctly matched.
 - In chess, Indian players made a strong start at the FIDE Grand Swiss Tournament in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. Samarkand is a historic city in Uzbekistan and the capital of the Samarkand Region, famous for its location on the ancient Silk Road. Hence, Pair 2 is not correctly matched.
 - "Shabelle region" refers to administrative regions in Somalia named after the Shebelle River. The two main regions are Lower Shabelle (Shabeellaha Hoose) and Middle Shabelle (Shabeellaha Dhexe), both located in southern Somalia, known for agriculture and coastline. There is also a Shabelle Zone in Ethiopia's Somali Region, formerly known as Gode, located near the border with Somalia. Hence, Pair 3 is not correctly matched.
 - The Solomon Islands is an island group (archipelago) in the western South Pacific Ocean, north-east of Australia. The archipelago is in the Melanesian subregion and bioregion of Oceania and forms the eastern boundary of the Solomon Sea. Hence, Pair 4 is correctly matched.

Q 53.C

- The Dual Government system in Bengal, introduced by the East India Company after acquiring the Diwani rights in 1765, remains one of the most infamous experiments in colonial administration.
 - Under this arrangement, the Company collected revenue, while the Nawab retained nominal control over administration and justice. In reality, this duality meant neither side took full responsibility for governance.
- One direct consequence was the collapse of law and order in the countryside. With the Nawab stripped of resources and authority, and the Company focused narrowly on revenue extraction, the peasantry was left unprotected against exploitation.
 - Hence statement 1 is correct
- At the same time, far from strengthening the Nawab's authority, the system reduced him to a mere puppet, undermining any vestiges of sovereignty. Hence statement 2 is not correct.
- The devastating Bengal famine of 1769–70, in which nearly one-third of the population perished, further exposed the flaws of the system.
 - With the Company draining resources to finance its trade and military expansion, relief measures were minimal. Scholars widely agree that the famine's severity was aggravated by this exploitative dual arrangement.
 - Hence statement 3 is correct.
- Ultimately, the system was recognized as both inefficient and disastrous. In 1772, Warren Hastings formally abolished the Dual Government, taking direct control of revenue and administration in Bengal. This marked a critical step toward the Company's centralized rule, paving the way for a more consolidated colonial state.
 - Hence statement 4 is correct.

Q 54.C

- Justice Movement: This movement in Madras Presidency was started by C.N. Mudaliar, T.M. Nair and P. Tyagaraja to secure jobs and representation for the non-brahmins in the legislature. Justice Party, was formed to challenge the dominance of the Vedic Brahmins in the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu. It opposed the Congress as a Brahman dominated organisation, and claimed separate communal representation for the non-Brahmans. E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker, or Periyar, was elected as a president of Justice party. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

- **Mahatma Gandhi's key colleagues** in the Champaran Satyagraha included farmer Raj Kumar Shukla, who invited Gandhi to the region, and Bihar lawyers like Rajendra Prasad, Brajkishore Prasad, JB Kripalani, and Mazharul Haque.
- **Maharaja of Patiala, Sir Dinkar Rao and Raja of Banaras** was appointed as a non-official member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council in 1862 by Lord Canning, under the Indian Councils Act of 1861.
- The Deccan Education Society (DES) was established in October 1884. **M.G. Ranade, V.G. Chidronkar, G.G. Agarkar (founders)** were associated with the Deccan Education Society.

Q 55.B

- **Context:** The 2025 Annual Update of the Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) has been released.
- Developed by the University of Chicago's Milton Friedman Distinguished Service Professor in Economics Michael Greenstone and his team at the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC), the AQLI is rooted in peer-reviewed research that quantifies the causal relationship between long-term human exposure to air pollution and life expectancy. It is a part of EPIC's Clean Air Program, which works to bring actionable information about air pollution to every corner of the globe in order to motivate action and lay guideposts for efficient air pollution policies. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) converts air pollution concentrations into their impact on life expectancy. Through the AQLI's hyper-local data, users anywhere on Earth can zoom into their district and see how much longer they would live if policies were to reduce pollution to meet the World Health Organization's guideline, a national standard, or a user-defined target. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 56.B

- The Wood's Despatch was a landmark document prepared by Sir Charles Wood, the President of the Board of Control of the East India Company, and sent to Lord Dalhousie, the Governor-General of India, in 1854.
- It is often called the "Magna Carta of English Education in India" because it laid the foundation for modern education policy in India.
- Key Objectives of the Wood's Despatch:
- **Promotion of Education:**
 - Recommended the establishment of a system of primary, secondary, and higher education in India.
 - Emphasized the spread of education through vernacular languages at the primary level.
- **Teacher Training:**
 - Suggested the training of teachers for primary schools.
- **Universities:**
 - Recommended the establishment of universities in major cities (Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras), which later became a reality in 1857.
- **State Aid and Private Effort:**
 - Encouraged government aid for private education and promoted Anglo-vernacular schools.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 57.A

- Raja Ram Mohan Roy was born in Radhanagar in Bengal Presidency in 1772 to a Brahmin family. Raja Rammohan Roy is known as "The Father of Indian Renaissance". **He was conferred the title of Raja by Mughal emperor Akbar II in 1831 to convince the British government for the welfare of India.** **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **The first society founded by Raja Ram Mohan Roy was the Atmiya Sabha in 1815.** Raja Ram Mohan Roy founded Brahmo Sabha in 1828, which was later called Brahmo Samaj. The principles of Brahmo Samaj were as follows-
 - Belief in Monotheism and to free Hinduism from evils.
 - **Opposing idolatry and the dominance of priests.**
 - Improving the situation of women. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct but statement 3 is correct.**
- **Raja Ram Mohan Roy in 1803, published his first book, 'Tuhfat-ul- Muwahhidin', or "A Gift to Monotheism" in which he argues for monotheism.** He also worked as the editor of Bengali newspaper "Sambad Kaumudi" (the Moon of Intelligence) (1821) and the Persian newspaper "Mirat-Ul-Akbar" (the Mirror of News).

Q 58.C

- **Context: India and the UK signed the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), marking a major milestone in their partnership.**
- India and the United Kingdom have signed the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), a bilateral free trade agreement marking a major milestone in their longstanding partnership.
- The India–UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) is designed to open new avenues for trade and investment, while protecting India's core economic interests. It combines tariff reduction, simpler rules for trade, strong provisions for services, and measures that make professional mobility easier.
- CETA provides an unprecedented duty-free access to 99 per cent of India's exports to the UK, covering nearly 100% of the trade value. This includes labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, leather, marine products, gems and jewellery, and toys as well as high-growth sectors like engineering goods, chemicals, and auto components.
- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 59.C

- Context: India contributes US\$ 500,000 to UN Women
- UN Women is the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. In July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly created UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, to address such challenges. In doing so, UN Member States took an historic step in accelerating the Organization's goals on gender equality and the empowerment of women. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- UN Women's headquarters are located in New York, United States. While UN Women does have a liaison office in Geneva, its primary headquarters is in the UN's New York office. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- India is proud to be one of the founding members of the Executive Board of the UN Women. India is currently serving as a member of the Executive Board of the UN Women. Women-led Development is one of the priorities of India's G20 presidency. India continues to serve as a board member and is committed to gender equality and women's empowerment, aligning with UN Women's mission. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 60.B

- **Balshastri Jambhekar** (1812-1846) was a pioneer of social reform through journalism in Bombay; he attacked brahminical orthodoxy and tried to reform popular Hinduism. In 1840, he started **Digdarshan** which published articles on scientific subjects as well as history. He also started the newspaper Darpan in 1832. Known as the father of Marathi journalism, Jambhekar used the Darpan to awaken the people to awareness of social reforms, such as widow remarriage, and to instil in the masses a scientific approach to life. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**
- **Gopal Ganesh Agarkar** (1856-1895) was an educationist and social reformer from Maharashtra. A strong advocate of the power of human reason, he criticised the blind dependence on tradition and false glorification of the past. He was a co founder of the New English School, the Deccan Education Society and Fergusson College. **He started his own periodical, Sudharak, which spoke against untouchability and the caste system.** **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- **Tarabai shinde**, a woman educated at home at Poona, published a book, **Stripurushtulna**, (a comparison between women and men), criticising the social differences between men and women (men dominant society). **Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**

Q 61.D

- **Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee** was the first President of the Indian National Congress. He presided over the inaugural session of the Congress in 1885 at Bombay (venue: Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit college). **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Mahatma Gandhi** presided over the 39th session of the Indian National Congress held in Belgaum (now Belagavi) in December 1924. This was the only session he ever presided over. The session was significant for its emphasis on national unity and communal harmony, and it marked a pivotal moment in India's freedom struggle. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Mahadev Govind Ranade** (18 January 1842–16 January 1901), popularly referred to as Nyayamurti Ranade (Justice Ranade), was an Indian scholar, social reformer, judge and author. He was one of the founding members of the Indian National Congress party but never presided over any session of the Indian National Congress. Although he had held several designations such as Member of the Bombay Legislative Council and Member of the Finance Committee at the Centre. He was also a judge of the Bombay High Court, Maharashtra. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 62.C

- Satya Shodhak was founded in 1873 (Truth-Seeking Society) with Mahatma Jyotiba Phule as its first president and treasurer and Narayanrao Govindrao Kadalak was elected as its first secretary. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The main objects of the samaj were :-
 - To redeem the Shudras and Ati-Shudras from the influence of Brahmanical scriptures under which the Brahmin priests fleeced them to make them conscious of their human rights and to liberate them from mental and religious slavery.
 - All men are the children of one God, who is thus their parent
 - There is no requirement of an intermediary such as a priest or a preceptor to approach the mother or father to offer his prayer to god.
- A member at Satya Shodhak Samaj had to take an oath in the name of god Khanderao and declare his allegiance to British rule. **Hence statement 2 is correct.** Membership of the samaj was extended to all the castes including Mahars, Mangs, Jews and Muslims.
- The main objectives of the organisation were to liberate the Shudras and Ati Shudras and to prevent their exploitation by the upper caste like Brahmins. It opposed idolatry and denounced the chaturvarnya system (the caste system). It propounded the spread of rational thinking and rejected the need for a Brahman priestly class as educational and religious leaders. It believed neither in the caste system nor in the basic four-fold division of society. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 63.A

- **Context: Under various scenarios of the latest Sixth Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP6) climate models, scientists expected the frequency of extreme rainfall events to increase during the latter part of the 21st century, rather than the immediate future.**
- CMIP is a project of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) providing climate projections to understand past, present and future climate changes. CMIP and its associated data infrastructure have become essential to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and other international and national climate assessments.
- CMIP6 climate models are components of the Sixth Coupled Model Intercomparison Project, a collaborative effort to improve climate modelling by coordinating independent model intercomparison activities and experiments. These models incorporate enhanced physics, higher spatial resolutions, and new scenarios to better simulate the Earth's climate system. The resulting data, accessible to the public, are fundamental to major scientific assessments like the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report.
- **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 64.A

- **Reason for the failure of the 1857 revolt:**
 - Certain classes and groups did not join and, in fact, working against the revolt.
 - Big zamindars acted as “break-waters to storm”; even **Awadh taluqdars** backed off once promises of land restitution were spelled out. Money-lenders and merchants suffered the wrath of the mutineers badly and anyway saw their class interests better protected under British patronage.
 - Educated Indians viewed this revolt as backward-looking, supportive of the feudal order, and as a reaction of traditional conservative forces to modernity; these people had high hopes that the British would usher in an era of modernization.
 - Most Indian rulers refused to join and often gave active help to the British. **Rulers who did not participate included the**
 - > **Sindhias of Gwalior,**
 - > **the Holkars of Indore,**
 - > **the rulers of Patiala, Sindh, and other Sikh chieftains, and**
 - > **the Maharaja of Kashmir.**
 - Indeed, by one estimate, not more than one-fourth of the total area and not more than one-tenth of the total population was affected. **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 65.B

- **Context: The President of India has given her assent to the Indian Ports Act, 2025 which replaces the Indian Ports Act, 1908.**
- **'MARPOL' and 'BWM Convention'**
 - MARPOL and the Ballast Water (BWM) Convention are two key International Maritime Organization (IMO) treaties aimed at preventing marine pollution, but they address different issues: MARPOL (International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships) prevents pollution from ship operations and accidents across multiple categories, while the BWM Convention specifically targets the spread of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens via ships' ballast water and sediments.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 66.A

- By the mid-19th century, the East India Company had already subdued Mysore, the Marathas, and large parts of South and Central India. The next major power on the horizon was the Sikh kingdom of Punjab, consolidated under Maharaja Ranjit Singh. His disciplined army, trained by European officers, and his strong administration kept the British at bay.
- However, after Ranjit Singh's death in 1839, internal dissensions, court intrigues, and the rise of ambitious Sikh chiefs weakened the kingdom. **The British, expanding their influence across the Sutlej, increasingly came into conflict with the Sikh aristocracy and army (Khalsa). This tension culminated in the First Anglo Sikh war in 1845.**
- Major Battles
 - **Battle of Mudki** (December 1845) The opening engagement. The British under Sir Hugh Gough clashed with the Sikhs. The Sikhs displayed great courage, but the British managed to secure a hard-fought victory.
 - **Battle of Ferozeshah** (December 1845) A particularly bloody encounter. The British initially faltered and nearly faced defeat, but eventually captured the Sikh entrenchments. Casualties were heavy on both sides, reflecting the ferocity of the Sikh resistance.
 - **Battle of Aliwal** (January 1846) Fought under Sir Harry Smith. This battle was a decisive British victory that boosted morale after earlier uncertainties.
 - **Battle of Sobraon** (February 1846) The climactic engagement. The British stormed the Sikh fortifications across the Sutlej. Thousands of Sikhs were killed, many drowning as they attempted to retreat. This crushing defeat effectively ended the war.
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 67.B

- The Dutch East India Company (VOC), established in 1602, was one of the most powerful commercial corporations of the 17th century.
 - Unlike the Portuguese, who had focused on controlling sea routes and levying duties, the Dutch sought to build a tightly knit system of maritime trade monopolies, particularly in Southeast Asia. But in India, their strategy took a different shape.
- **The Dutch never aimed at large-scale territorial expansion in India. Instead, they concentrated on textiles, which were the backbone of their commercial network.**
- **Textiles procured from Coromandel and Bengal were exported to Southeast Asia, especially the Spice Islands (Moluccas, Banda, Celebes). There, Indian cloth was exchanged for pepper, cloves, nutmeg, and mace.**
- **These spices were then shipped to Europe, where demand was enormous and profits were high. In other words, India was not an end market, but a supply base feeding the VOC's Asian trading circuits.**
- **Exporting Indian spices directly to Europe – Not correct.**
 - The Dutch strategy in India was never centered on spices because India was not a major spice producer (except pepper in Malabar). Their real spice monopolies were in the Indonesian archipelago.
- **The Dutch did not import bullion to fund Indian merchants through loans.**
- **Monopoly through spice rights in India – Not correct**
 - While the Dutch perfected monopolies in Indonesia, in India they could not enforce similar exclusive rights. Indian rulers and merchants were too powerful, and the VOC had to compete alongside other merchants.

- **Textiles for spices exchange**
 - This was the hallmark of Dutch trade: Indian cloth went to Southeast Asia, spices came back to Europe. It was the linchpin of VOC's commercial empire.
 - **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 68.A

- The Pitt's India Act of 1784 was passed to bring the East India Company's political affairs more firmly under the control of the British Crown while keeping its commercial activities intact.
- **The Act formally distinguished between commercial and political functions. Commercial matters continued under the Court of Directors, while political and administrative matters came under a new Board of Control. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - This Board consisted of six commissioners, including two Cabinet ministers, and guided all civil and military government matters in India.
- **The Act also reduced the Governor-General's Council from four to three members, thereby streamlining decision-making and giving greater authority to the Governor-General. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- **The Supreme Court at Calcutta was not established under Pitt's India Act. It had been created earlier by the Regulating Act of 1773.**
- The Act laid the foundation of a centralised administration in India, a process completed later in the 19th century. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 69.A

- **Jyotiba Phule was an Indian social activist, anti-caste social reformer and writer.** Phule and his wife, Savitribai Phule, were pioneers of women's education in India. In 1848, he started the first school for girls in Pune. Jyotiba was an influential figure during a time when women and Shudras were denied their rights. Phule founded the Satyashodhak Samaj (Truth Seekers' Society) in 1873, with the leadership of the samaj coming from the backward classes, malis, telis, kumbis, saris and dhengars. The main aims of the movement were (i) social service, and (ii) spread of education among women and lower caste people.
- **More about Jyotiba Phule:**
 - **Dhananjay Keer, the author of Phule's biography, said that the title of Mahatma was bestowed on Phule by fellow reformer from Bombay, Vithalrao Krishnaji Vandekar.** He was the first to start schools for untouchables and girls. **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**
 - He was also appointed commissioner to the Poona municipality and served in the position until 1883. He was also a reputed author. His well known books include Gulamgiri (Slavery) and Shetkarayacha Aasud (Cultivator's Whipcord).
 - He started the Satyashodhak marriage system which involved marriage rituals and alternative verses that contained egalitarian content.

Q 70.A

- **Hunter Education Commission (1882-83)**
 - Earlier schemes had neglected primary and secondary education. When education was shifted to provinces in 1870, primary and secondary education further suffered because the provinces already had limited resources at their disposal. In 1882, the Government appointed a commission under the chairmanship of W.W. Hunter to review the progress of education in the country since the Despatch of 1854. The Hunter Commission mostly confined its recommendations to primary and secondary education. The commission-
 - > emphasised that state's special care is required for extension and improvement of primary education, and that primary education should be imparted through vernacular. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - > recommended transfer of control of primary education to newly set up district and municipal boards.
 - > recommended that secondary (High School) education should have two divisions • literary: leading up to university.
 - vocational: for commercial careers.
 - > drew attention to inadequate facilities for female education, especially outside presidency towns and made recommendations for its spread.

- The next two decades saw rapid growth and expansion of secondary and collegiate education with the participation of Indians. Also, more teaching-cum-examining universities were set up like the Punjab University (1882) and the Allahabad University (1887).
- The Commission did not recommend withdrawal from collegiate or higher education. Its primary focus was on strengthening primary education, but it also proposed the expansion of secondary and higher education to train personnel for administrative roles in the colonial government. Government oversight of universities and colleges, especially in Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras, continued. The idea of withdrawal from higher education was never part of the Hunter Commission's recommendations. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 71.A

- **Lord Ripon (1880-84)** was a staunch Liberal democrat with faith in self-government. He was appointed as the Viceroy of India in 1880. Ripon was instructed to **reverse the Afghan policy of Lytton**. As a result, **peace was made with Afghanistan** without affecting the British prestige. **Hence only option 4 is not correct.**
- **Important measures taken by Lord Ripon:**
 - **Introduction of Local Self-Government:** Ripon helped the growth of local bodies like the Municipal Committees in towns and the local boards in taluks and villages. The local bodies were given executive powers with financial resources of their own.
 - **Educational reforms:** To improve the system of Education in India, Ripon appointed a **Commission** in 1882 under the **chairmanship of Sir William Hunter**. The Commission recommended for the expansion and improvement of the elementary education of the masses.
 - **First Factory Act (1881):** Lord Ripon introduced the Factory Act of 1881 to **improve the service condition of the factory workers in India**. The Act banned the appointment of children below the age of seven in factories. It reduced the working hours for children.
 - **Ilbert Bill Agitation:** The Ilbert Bill was a legislative act introduced in 1883 during the **tenure of Viceroy Ripon and written by Sir Ilbert**. The act stipulated that Indian judges could try Europeans. The mere possibility that a European could be tried by an Indian, whom the Europeans regard as inferiors, was a point of much anger and resentment. So it was withdrawn but was reintroduced and enacted in 1884 in a severely compromised state. The passage of this bill opened the eyes of the Indians and deepened antagonism between the British and Indians.
 - He was also responsible for the **rendition of Mysore to its Hindu ruler**. Moreover, he **repealed the Vernacular Press Act** and earned much popularity among Indians.
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 72.B

- **The Deoband Movement** was begun at Deoband, in Saharanpur district (United Provinces) in 1866 by Mohammad Qasim Nanotavi (1832-80) and Rashid Ahmed Gangohi (1828-1905) to train religious leaders for the Muslim community. The Deoband Movement was organised with the twin objectives:
 - **propagating pure teachings of the Quran and Hadis among Muslims. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**
 - keeping alive the spirit of jihad against the foreign rulers.
- **On the political front, the Deoband school welcomed the formation of the Indian National Congress** and in 1888 issued a fatwa (religious decree) against Syed Ahmed Khan's organisations, the United Patriotic Association and the Mohammaden Anglo-Oriental Association.
- **Unlike Aligarh Movement**, which aimed at the welfare of Muslims through Western education and support of the British government, **Deoband school not aimed for preparing its students for government jobs or worldly careers**.

Q 73.C

- **Context: This report examines Forest Right Act (FRA) implementation over two decades in Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, and Odisha, highlighting innovations, challenges, and persistent gaps.**
- The **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** released a report titled "Securing Rights, Enabling Futures: Policy Lessons from Forest Rights Act (FRA) and Future Pathways" in August 2025, examining nearly two decades of Forest Rights Act (FRA) implementation in India.

- **Forest Rights Act, 2006**
 - Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, popularly known as FRA was enacted in 2006.
 - Objective: To undo historical injustice occurred to forest dwelling communities; ensure their livelihood & food security etc.
- **Key Recommendations from UNDP Report**
 - Recognizing forest rights holders as a category across all social protection and livelihood programs
 - Provide dedicated funds for FRA right holders under national and state schemes.
 - Link FRA with national rural livelihood mission (NRLM), ensuring gender-sensitive livelihood opportunities.
 - Introduce a sunset clause to fix an end date for recognition and vesting of rights.
 - Strengthen post-rights support, moving beyond a welfare approach to community empowerment.
 - Ensure integration of FRA with PESA (Provisions of the Panchayats Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 for holistic governance.
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 74.C

- The Permanent Settlement (1793) was a Cornwallis-era measure introduced primarily in Bengal (which then included parts of present-day Bengal, Bihar and Orissa). **As British rule expanded from Bengal to other parts of India, new systems of revenue were imposed. The Permanent Settlement was rarely extended to any region beyond Bengal.**
- **One reason was that after 1810,** agricultural prices rose, increasing the value of harvest produce, and enlarging the income of the Bengal zamindars. Since the revenue demand was fixed under the Permanent Settlement, the colonial state could not claim any share of this enhanced income. Keen on expanding its financial resources, the colonial government had to think of ways to maximise its land revenue. So in territories annexed in the nineteenth century, temporary revenue settlements were made. There were other reasons too. When officials devise policies, their thinking is deeply shaped by economic theories they are familiar with. By the 1820s, the economist
- **David Ricardo was a celebrated figure in England.** Colonial officials had learnt Ricardian ideas during their college years. In Maharashtra when British officials set about formulating the terms of the early settlement in the 1820s, they operated with some of these ideas. According to Ricardian ideas, a landowner should have a claim only to the “average rent” that prevailed at a given time. **When the land yielded more than this “average rent”, the landowner had a surplus that the state needed to tax.** If tax was not levied, cultivators were likely to turn into rentiers, and their surplus income was unlikely to be productively invested in the improvement of the land. Many British officials in India thought that the history of Bengal confirmed Ricardo’s theory. There the zamindars seemed to have turned into rentiers, leasing out land and living on the rental incomes. It was therefore necessary, the British officials now felt, to have a different system. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Zamindars had several (sometimes as many as 400) villages under them. In Company calculations the villages within one zamindari formed one revenue estate. The Company fixed the total demand over the entire estate whose revenue the zamindar contracted to pay. **The zamindar collected rent from the different villages, paid the revenue to the Company, and retained the difference as his income. He was expected to pay the Company regularly, failing which his estate could be auctioned.**
- The Permanent Settlement included a strict sale/forfeiture provision (commonly referred to as the “Sunset Law” or sale law). If a zamindar did not pay the fixed assessment by the due date (by “sunset” of that day), the estate could be declared forfeit and sold at public auction to recover the arrears. This provision produced a number of high-profile sales/auctions (for example the Burdwan auction episode in the 1790s) and led to frequent transfers of zamindari rights when zamindars defaulted. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 75.D

- Shri Narayan Meghaji Lokhande is hailed as the Father of the Trade Union Movement in India due to establishment of the Mill Hand Association in 1884 by him which marked the institutionalization of the labour movement in India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Deeply moved by the inhuman working conditions and ruthless exploitation of workers, Lokhandeji spearheaded an agitation against millowners and demanded fair wages, a healthy working environment and the protection of the rights and liberties of labour.

- His struggle resulted in the constitution of the Factory Labour Commission, of which he was made a Member. The work of this Commission led to the enactment of the Factory Act of 1891, which regulated working conditions and gave some special rights to child and female labour. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Lokhandeji's wider social commitment was reflected in the passion with which he edited the newspaper, 'Deenbandhu'. He was also deeply committed to communal harmony, having played a role in forging unity between the Hindu and Muslim Communities during the communal riots of 1893. He was an active participant in the strove hard struggle for social reform including through his involvement with the Satyoshodhak Samaj established by Mahatma Jyotiba Phule. For these activities he was conferred the title of Rao Bahadur. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 76.D

- Satyendranath Tagore, elder brother of Rabindranath Tagore, became the first Indian to successfully pass the Indian Civil Services (ICS) examination in 1864.** This was a landmark achievement, as the ICS was considered the "steel frame" of British administration in India and entry was extremely difficult for Indians due to racial and institutional barriers. His success paved the way for other Indians to enter the civil services. **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**
- Satyendra Prasad Sinha made history by becoming the first Indian to be appointed as a member of the Viceroy's Executive Council. His contributions were mostly in the legal and administrative spheres, influencing policy-making at the highest levels under British India.

Q 77.C

- Shreemati Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Women's University in Bombay was the first Women's university in India** as well as in South-East Asia. The University was founded by Dr. Dhondo Keshav Karve in 1916 for a noble cause of Women's Education. **Hence both statements 1 and 2 are correct.**
- While an instructor in mathematics at Fergusson College, Poona, Karve became concerned with breaking down orthodox Hindu opposition to widow remarriage, and he established the Widow Marriage Association in 1893.**
- In the same year, he shocked public opinion by himself marrying a widow; his first wife had died in 1891. Karve also founded (1896) an educational institution, Hindu Widows Home, in Poona, to help widows support themselves if they could not remarry.
- Karve became increasingly concerned with illiteracy among women, and on his retirement from Fergusson College, he started Shreemati Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Women's University in 1916.

Q 78.D

- In the late 18th century, Bengal's textile industry came under the heavy grip of the East India Company, which was eager to establish monopoly control over the lucrative cloth trade.
- To secure cheap supplies of textiles for export, the Company introduced the Khatbandi system, a regulatory arrangement that ostensibly sought to discipline the weaving community but in reality tightened colonial exploitation.** Hence option (d) is the correct answer.
- At its core, Khatbandi required weavers to register under specific Company-controlled "khat" or registers, where they were bound by contracts to supply cloth exclusively to the Company's gomastas (agents).
- The gomastas advanced loans to the weavers, but this advance came with coercive conditions. **The artisans were not free to sell in the open market, nor could they bargain for fairer prices.**
- The system removed the little autonomy the weavers once had and subjected them to Company diktats. **Company records often justified Khatbandi as a reform to eliminate fraudulent practices by Indian middlemen but in practice it exploited them.**
- Equally misleading is the idea that Khatbandi "ensured competition" by allowing artisans to choose between different buyers.**
 - In fact, it did the opposite. The entire system was designed to prevent competition: weavers were prohibited from selling their cloth to private traders, and any breach of contract was punished severely, sometimes even by physical coercion.**
- The consequences for Bengal's textile industry were devastating. Prices were depressed, wages stagnated, and indebtedness among artisans increased. Many weavers abandoned their craft altogether, leading to a decline in the once-flourishing Bengal textile exports.

Q 79.A

- In order to establish civilian authority over the army, the **Charter Act of 1793** very clearly gave the **ultimate control** over all matters of war and peace to the **Board of Control**. The commander-in-chief was made subservient to the Governor General, but the functional relationship between the two always a sticky point ever since the beginning of the East India Company's army. This relationship continued to be unpleasant during the period of Crown rule, and became ugly during the notorious **Curzon- Kitchener controversy in 1904-05**.
- The military member in the Viceroy's Council, generally a senior officer of the army, served as the "eyes and ears" on all matters militaries for the Governor General. The **Commander-in-Chief, Lord Kitchener**, wanted to **abolish the position of the military member** in the viceroy's council (duality of control) and centralise control and command of the army in his own hands. In his opinion the post of military member could be easily dispensed with and his charter of responsibilities could be merged with that of the Commander-in-Chief. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **Viceroy Lord Curzon objected** to it and when the home government offered a compromise formula of reducing the powers of the military member without abolishing the position, **he offered his resignation**. To his surprise, the **resignation was quickly accepted**, indicating the power of the army establishment. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- However later in **1905 the position of the military member was abolished** and the commander-in-chief became directly responsible to the viceroy's council. But the crucial **financial control of the army** was not left in his hands; for this a separate **Military Finance Department was created**, with a civilian chain of command going up to the Finance Member of the Council. This system remained in place until the end of colonial rule.

Q 80.C

- **Context: Ministry of Road Transport and Highways launched FASTag Annual Pass facility.**
- FASTag is a prepaid tag for vehicles that enables automatic toll payments on highways, reducing wait times and allowing cashless travel. FASTag helps you pay toll charges electronically, so that you can skip the hassle of paying toll physically at toll plazas. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- FASTag uses RFID technology to enable automatic toll collection when a vehicle passes through a toll plaza. The RFID tag is affixed on the vehicle's windscreen and linked to an account.
- FASTag can be linked to:
 - a prepaid wallet/account (NHAI prepaid wallet or bank wallets), or
 - a savings/current account (through UPI, NEFT, or auto debit).
 - This enables seamless toll payment without stopping at plazas. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- FASTag has been made mandatory for all 4-wheelers and above (cars, trucks, buses, etc.) since February 2021. Two-wheelers and tractors are exempt from the FASTag requirement. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 81.A

- **M.G. Ranade founding member of the Congress, Ranade played a major role in shaping the party's initial outlook towards reform.**
 - **Indian Social Conference was founded by M.G. Ranade and Raghunath Rao.** The conference advocated inter-caste marriages, opposed polygamy and kulinism. It launched the 'Pledge Movement' to inspire people to take a pledge against child marriage.
 - **Deccan Education Society (DES), founded in 1884 by a group of visionaries like M.G. Ranade, V.G. Chidronkar, G.G. Agarkar (founders)** were associated with Deccan Education Society. DES had shaped the educational landscape of India. DES emerged as a beacon of knowledge, fostering intellectual growth and holistic development
 - **The Servants of India Society: Gopal Krishna Gokhale (1866-1915), a liberal leader of the Indian National Congress, founded the Servants of India Society in 1905 with the help of M.G. Ranade.** The aim of the society was to train national missionaries for the service of India; to promote, by all constitutional means, the true interests of the Indian people; and to prepare a cadre of selfless workers who were to devote their lives to the cause of the country in a religious spirit.
 - **Ranade was also an early member of the Prarthana Samaj (Prayer Society)**, which attempted to revise and reform conservative Hindu traditions.
- **Seva Sadan: A Parsi social reformer, Behramji M. Malabari (1853-1912), founded the Seva Sadan in 1908 along with a friend, Diwan Dayaram Gidumal.** Malabari spoke vigorously against child marriage and for widow remarriage among Hindus. **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 82.A

- **Context: Union Government has extended the Export Obligation Period for products under Advance Authorisation Scheme to provide relief to textile exporters.**
- **Advance Authorisation Scheme**
- Advance Authorisation Scheme allows duty free import of inputs, which are physically incorporated in an export product. In addition to any inputs, packaging material, fuel, oil, catalyst which is consumed / utilized in the process of production of export product, is also be allowed.
- The quantity of inputs allowed for a given product is based on specific norms defined for that export product, which considers the wastage generated in the manufacturing process. DGFT provides a sector-wise list of Standard Input-Output Norms (SION) under which the exporters may choose to apply. Alternatively, exporters may apply for their own ad-hoc norms in cases where the SION does not suit the exporter.
- Advance Authorisation covers manufacturer exporters or merchant exporters tied to supporting manufacturer(s).
- **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer**

Q 83.B

- **Indian Councils Act, 1861** was an important act in the political and constitutional history of India. **Key features of Indian Councils Act, 1861:**
 - It made the viceroy nominate some Indians as non official members of his expanded council. In accordance with the act Lord Canning the then viceroy nominated three Indians to his legislative council—the Raja of Benaras, the Maharaja of Patiala and Sir Dinkar Rao.
 - It restored the legislative powers to the Bombay and Madras Presidencies that had been taken away by the Regulating Act of 1773. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - It empowered the Viceroy to make rules and orders for the more convenient transaction of business in the council.
 - It also gave recognition to the ‘portfolio’ system, introduced by Lord Canning in 1859. Under this, a member of the Viceroy’s council was made in-charge of one or more departments of the government and was authorised to issue final orders on behalf of the council on matters of his department(s).
 - It empowered the Viceroy to issue ordinances, without the concurrence of the legislative council, during an emergency. The life of such an ordinance was six months. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **However, the legislative councils established by the Act of 1861 possessed no real powers and had many weaknesses.**
- The councils could not discuss important matters and no financial matters at all without previous approval of government.
- They had no control over budget.
- They could not discuss executive action. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 84.B

- **Context: PM holds Bilateral Meeting Chinese President on the sidelines of the SCO Summit.**
- The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation emerged from the "Shanghai Five" mechanism established in 1996, initially comprising **China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan** to resolve border disputes. Subsequently, **Uzbekistan** became a member in 2000. The SCO was formally founded on June 15, 2001.
- Originally focused on regional security and counter-terrorism, the organization expanded its mandate to include economic cooperation, cultural exchanges, and energy security. **India and Pakistan** joined as full members in 2017, followed by **Iran** in 2023 and **Belarus** in 2024.
- As of 2025, the SCO includes ten countries: China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India, Pakistan, Iran, and Belarus.
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 85.B

- The Western-educated progressive Parsis like **Dadabhai Naoroji, J.B. Wacha, S.S. Bangalee and Naoroji Furdonji founded the Rahanumai Mazdayasan Sabha (Religious Reform Association) in 1851. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
- The association had for its object “**the regeneration of the social condition of the Parsis and the restoration of the Zoroastrian religion to its pristine purity**”. Hence statement 1 is correct.

- Education as the driving force of social reform was its prime objective. The Sabha campaigned ardently for the education of Parsi priests and for the spread of Western education among the Parsis, including girls.
- Through its efforts, the age of marriage was increased and Parsi women achieved emancipation.
- **The message of the reform was spread by the newspaper Rast Goftar (Truth teller). Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Hitavada** began to be published in the year 1911 to project the views of the **Servants of India Society**, founded by Gopal Krishna Gokhale in 1905 with the help of MG Ranade.

Q 86.B

- The Regulating Act of 1773 was the first legislative attempt by the British Parliament to regulate the affairs of the East India Company. **It created the Supreme Court at Calcutta, which was meant to administer justice for British subjects and later also extended jurisdiction over Indians in certain cases. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The **Charter Act of 1813 abolished the East India Company's trade monopoly in India, except for trade in tea and with China, which the company retained for another 20 years.** The Charter Act of 1833, on the other hand, further changed the East India Company's role by ending its commercial activities entirely, allowing it to function purely as an administrative body. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Indian Councils Act of 1892 allowed limited expansion of legislative councils and indirect representation. Members were nominated by local bodies (like municipalities, district boards), not elected directly by citizens. Direct elections were introduced only later (Indian Councils Act of 1909, Morley-Minto reforms). **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 87.B

- **Dharma Sabha:** Radhakant Deb founded this sabha in 1830 to oppose the social reform movements initiated by leaders like Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Henry Derozio. An orthodox society, it **stood for the preservation of the status quo in socio-religious matters, opposing even the abolition of sati.** However, **it favoured the promotion of Western education, even for girls. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**
- **The Veda Samaj:** Established in Madras (Chennai) in 1864, the Veda Samaj was inspired by the Brahmo Samaj. It worked to abolish caste distinctions and promote widow remarriage and women's education. Its members believed in one God. They condemned the superstitions and rituals of orthodox Hinduism.
- **Narayan Malhar Joshi** founded the **Social Service League** in Bombay with an aim to secure for the masses better and reasonable conditions of life and work. They organised many schools, libraries, reading rooms, day nurseries and cooperative societies.
- **Jyotiba Phule (1827-1890), founded the Satyashodhak Samaj (Truth Seekers' Society)** in 1873, with the leadership of the samaj coming from the backward classes, malis, telis, kumbis, saris and dhengars. The main aims of the movement were **(i) social service, and (ii) spread of education among women and lower caste people.**

Q 88.C

- The Indian League was started in 1875 by Sisir Kumar Ghosh with the object of "stimulating the sense of nationalism amongst the people" and of encouraging political education. **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- Poona Sarvajanik Sabha: The Poona Sarvajanik Sabha was founded in 1870 in Pune as an early political organization representing Indian public opinion. The founder was Mahadev Govind Ranade, not Bal Gangadhar Tilak. Tilak became prominent in politics later. **Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- Bombay Presidency Association was founded in 1885, this association aimed to represent Indian opinion in the Bombay Presidency and work with the British for reforms. The Bombay Presidency Association was started by Badruddin Tyabji, Pherozshah Mehta and K.T. Telang in 1885. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

Q 89.B

- **Context: The US ended its de minimis exemption on August 29, impacting imports valued at \$800 or less.**
- De minimis is a Latin term that broadly translates to "about the smallest things", often used in legal contexts to describe matters too trivial to merit concern.
- The de minimis exemption was introduced in 1938 to avoid the expense of collecting only small amounts of import duties in the US.
- At first, it applied to items worth \$1 or less, but over time the limit increased: \$5 in 1990, \$200 in 1993, and \$800 in 2015.

- The rule's threshold rose over the years, allowing e-commerce firms and global retailers that ship small packages to the US to thrive.
- The exemption was often associated with companies like Chinese e-commerce giants Shein and Temu, which delivered Americans cheap goods that could be quickly shipped from the manufacturing source - with no warehouse stock or associated overhead costs.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 90.B

- **Context: More than 700 personnel from the Armed Forces & Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff are set to participate in the Multilateral Exercise 'BRIGHT STAR 2025' from August 28 to September 10, 2025.**
- The Indian Army successfully conducted Exercise 'Yudh Kaushal' 3.0 in the Kameng region of Arunachal Pradesh, a high-altitude and extreme-climate zone of the eastern Himalayas. The large-scale drill demonstrated multi-domain operational readiness, the integration of emerging technologies, and synergy with indigenous defence industries—reflecting India's ongoing military modernization under the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat. **Hence, Pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- Passage Exercise was conducted by the Indian Navy and the United Kingdom. It featured Indian naval assets including the stealth frigate INS Tabar, a submarine, and the long-range maritime patrol aircraft P-8I. The UK's naval contingent included HMS Prince of Wales and HMS Richmond. The exercise highlighted advanced operational coordination and interoperability between the two forces. **Hence, Pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- Exercise Bright Star is a multilateral exercise hosted by Egypt in conjunction with the US since 1980 and is amongst the largest Tri-Service multilateral exercises in the region. The exercise is held biennially, with the last edition having taken place in 2023, which witnessed the participation of a host of nations including India along with troops. **Hence, Pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

Q 91.A

- Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar (1820–1891), a prominent social reformer and educationist of Bengal, played a pivotal role in advocating for the rights of Hindu widows. At that time, Hindu widows were socially ostracized and were not permitted to remarry. Vidyasagar campaigned vigorously through petitions, writings, and public advocacy to bring about legal reform in this area. **His efforts were instrumental in the passing of the Hindu Widows' Remarriage Act of 1856**, which allowed widows to remarry legally, marking a significant milestone in 19th-century social reform in India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- A product of Sanskrit College himself, **Vidyasagar returned to serve in key academic roles there, first as teacher and later as Principal (early 1850s)**. As Principal, he reorganized the curriculum, introduced more systematic teaching methods, emphasized teacher training, and sought to blend classical Sanskrit learning with modern subjects, part of his broader educational reform agenda in Bengal. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Contrary to opposing Western education, Vidyasagar was a strong supporter of it.** He believed that modern education, including Western knowledge, was essential for social progress and empowerment, particularly for women. He promoted female education, established schools for girls, and worked to modernize the Bengali educational system. Vidyasagar also prepared textbooks in the vernacular to make education more accessible, demonstrating his commitment to combining traditional Indian values with modern learning. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 92.C

- The late 18th and 19th centuries marked a critical turning point in India's educational history under the East India Company. Different policies reflected the changing priorities of colonial governance — from conserving traditional learning to introducing Western knowledge and modern institutions.
- **The Sanskrit College at Benaras (1791), founded by Jonathan Duncan, represented the early Orientalist approach. The aim was to preserve and study Hindu law, philosophy, and classical Sanskrit learning, which were thought to provide the best framework for administering Hindu society.**
 - **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- By the 1830s, however, the intellectual tide shifted with the rise of the Anglicist perspective, championed most famously by Thomas Babington Macaulay.
 - **In his Minute on Education (1835), he argued that government resources were too limited to support both Oriental learning and modern science. Instead, he proposed focusing exclusively on Western literature and sciences, which he believed would create "a class of persons Indian in blood and colour, but English in tastes and intellect."**

- Hence statement 2 is correct.
- This transition culminated in the Wood's Despatch of 1854, often described as the "Magna Carta of English education in India."
 - It laid the foundations of a modern education system, emphasizing not just English and vernacular learning but also female education, vocational and technical training, and — crucially — the establishment of teachers' training institutions to improve instructional quality.
 - Hence statement 3 is correct.

Q 93.A

- The Charter Act of 1813 renewed the East India Company's charter for another 20 years but also introduced some major changes that reshaped its commercial and administrative role in India.
- The Act abolished the Company's monopoly over Indian trade. The monopoly was retained only in the trade with China and in tea.
- **The Act did not empower the Crown to directly appoint the Governor-General.**
 - That arrangement continued to lie with the Court of Directors of the Company, though the Crown's approval was still required.
 - Direct Crown appointment only came after the Government of India Act, 1858, when the Company was abolished.
 - Hence statement 2 is not correct.
- The Act did earmark ₹1 lakh annually for the promotion of education in India.
 - However, it did not provide for the establishment of universities. The first modern universities at Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras came up only in 1857, following Wood's Despatch of 1854.
 - Hence statement 3 is not correct.
- The Act permitted Christian missionaries to preach and propagate in India legally. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

Q 94.B

- The Vellore Mutiny of 1806 was indeed the first major military rebellion against the British East India Company in South India. It was primarily caused by discontent among Indian sepoys over changes in military dress codes and cultural insensitivity, marking an important early challenge to British authority. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **In Bengal, the indigo planters, nearly all Europeans, exploited the local peasants by forcing them to grow indigo on their lands instead of the more paying crops like rice.** The planters forced the peasants to take advance sums and enter into fraudulent contracts which were then used against the peasants. The planters intimidated the peasants through kidnappings, illegal confinements, flogging, attacks on women and children, seizure of cattle, burning and demolition of houses and destruction of crops. The anger of the peasants exploded in 1859 when, led by Digambar Biswas and Bishnu Biswas of Nadia district, they decided not to grow indigo under duress and resisted the physical pressure of the planters and their lathiyals (retainers) backed by police and the courts. They also organised a counter force against the planters' attacks. The planters also tried methods like evictions and enhanced rents. The ryots replied by going on a rent strike by refusing to pay the enhanced rents and by physically resisting the attempts to evict them. Gradually, they learned to use the legal machinery and initiated legal action supported by fund collection. The Bengali intelligentsia played a significant role by supporting the peasants' cause through newspaper campaigns, organisation of mass meetings, preparing memoranda on peasants' grievances and supporting them in legal battles. The Government appointed an indigo commission to inquire into the problem of indigo cultivation. Based on its recommendations, the Government issued a notification in November 1860 that the ryots could not be compelled to grow indigo and that it would ensure that all disputes were settled by legal means. But, the planters were already closing down factories and indigo cultivation was virtually wiped out from Bengal by the end of 1860. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **The Kols, alongwith other tribes, are inhabitants of Chhotanagpur. This covered Ranchi, Singhbhum, Hazaribagh, Palamau and the western parts of Manbhumi.** The trouble in 1831 started with large-scale transfers of land from Kol headmen to outsiders like Hindu, Sikh and Muslim farmers and money-lenders who were oppressive and demanded heavy taxes. Besides, the British judicial and revenue policies badly affected the traditional social conditions of the Kols. The Kols resented this and in 1831, under the leadership of Buddho Bhagat, the Kol rebels killed or burnt about a thousand outsiders. Only after large-scale military operations could order be restored. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 95.B

- The Second Anglo-Mysore War (1780–1784) did not arise suddenly; it was the culmination of rivalries between Mysore, the British East India Company, and their European allies.
- **However, the immediate spark came from a very specific incident — the capture of Mahe, a small French settlement on the Malabar coast.**
- Mahe was more than a trading post; it was a lifeline for Haidar Ali's Mysore. Through this port, Mysore maintained its crucial supply links with the French, who had been long-standing allies and sources of military expertise, arms, and modern training.
 - Haidar Ali, deeply suspicious of British expansion in southern India, saw Mahe as vital for counter-balancing their power.
- In 1779, when the British seized Mahe, they not only eliminated a French foothold but also struck at Mysore's external connections. Haidar Ali perceived this as a deliberate provocation aimed at weakening his state's military capacity.
 - His response was swift and uncompromising: by 1780, Mysore's cavalry descended on the Carnatic plains in one of the most devastating campaigns against the Company.
- The war that followed was marked by dramatic episodes. At the Battle of Pollilur (1780), Haidar Ali's forces inflicted one of the worst defeats ever suffered by the Company in India.
 - The conflict dragged on for four years, with both sides alternating between victory and stalemate. Finally, the Treaty of Mangalore (1784) restored territories to the pre-war status quo, symbolising neither a decisive Mysorean nor British triumph but underlining Mysore's resilience.
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 96.B

- **Context: Prime Minister dedicated Kartavya Bhawan to the nation which is designed to meet GRiHA-4 green building standards with solar panels, rain water harvesting, etc.**
- GRIHA is an acronym for Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment. GRIHA is a Sanskrit word meaning – ‘Abode’. It is a rating tool that helps people assess the performance of their building against certain nationally acceptable benchmarks. It is developed by TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute). This tool has been adopted by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- GRIHA (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment) was adopted as the national rating system for green buildings by the Government of India in 2007. Developed by the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and endorsed by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), GRIHA serves as an indigenous tool to promote energy and environmental norms for sustainable habitats in India. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 97.C

- **The principal reason for the decline of the Indian shipbuilding industry in the 19th century was policy-driven economic marginalisation by the British.**
 - A combination of laws, administrative practices and commercial preferences enacted or enforced by the colonial state privileged British-built and British-registered tonnage for carrying trade, government contracts and external commerce. **Indian shipbuilders and shipowners therefore lost access to lucrative markets and were excluded from many coastal and international trades; this caused orders to dry up and yards to close. Hence, Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.**
- While technological change (the rise of iron-hulled and steam-powered ships in Europe) and the industrial scale of British shipbuilding did strengthen British commercial advantage, these were contributory factors rather than the primary cause in the Indian context. Indian yards that built excellent teak sailing vessels were competitive for a long time, but discriminatory regulations (higher port dues, restrictive registration rules, preference for British ships in carrying government traffic, and barriers to insurance and finance) undercut their business.
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 98.B

- The reign of Tipu Sultan in Mysore was marked not only by military resistance to British expansion but also by ambitious efforts to regulate and strengthen the state's economy.
- Recognising the importance of merchants in Mysore's economy, Tipu sought to bring commercial activity directly under the state.

- **He established trade centres across Mysore, which were run under the supervision of specially trained officials known as asufs.**
 - These centres acted as nodes of state-directed trade, ensuring that profits did not leak into private networks outside royal oversight.
 - **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Although the trade centres were state institutions, Tipu found ways to involve private capital while keeping control in state hands.
 - **Private individuals were permitted to deposit money in these centres, and the state guaranteed a fixed return of about 35%.**
 - This mechanism effectively turned merchants into investors whose capital could be harnessed for Mysore's state-led commerce.
 - **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Far from encouraging the export of Mysore's lucrative commodities, Tipu adopted a restrictive approach.
 - **In 1785, he imposed an embargo on the export of pepper, sandalwood, and cardamom—three highly valuable goods.**
 - **The embargo reflected a deliberate attempt to deny these resources to external rivals, particularly the British, who dominated sea-borne trade.**
 - **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
- **Tipu's hostility to the English reached a climax in 1788, when he explicitly forbade all trade with the English.** This was not merely an economic policy but a political declaration of Mysore's determination to resist colonial penetration.

Q 99.C

- The Treaty of Alinagar marked an important stage in the Company's growing political role in Bengal. After the fall of Calcutta to Siraj-ud-Daulah in 1756 and its subsequent recovery by Robert Clive, negotiations became necessary to ease immediate tensions.
- **The treaty was thus signed between Robert Clive, on behalf of the East India Company, and Siraj-ud-Daulah, the Nawab of Bengal.**
 - **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **Far from weakening the Company, the Treaty of Alinagar actually strengthened its position.**
 - By reaffirming earlier privileges granted by the Mughal Emperor (including duty-free trade and fortification rights), it allowed the Company to regain confidence and prepare for confrontation.
 - This settlement only temporarily pacified Siraj-ud-Daulah, and within months, tensions escalated into the decisive Battle of Plassey (1757), which permanently altered the balance of power in Bengal.
 - **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Q 100.D

- In 1851, the Landholders' Society and the Bengal British India Society merged into the **British Indian Association**. It sent a petition to the British Parliament demanding inclusion of some of its suggestions in the renewed Charter of the Company, such as
 - establishment of a separate legislature of a popular character;
 - **separation of executive from judicial functions; Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - reduction in salaries of higher officers
- **The Indian Association** was the most important of pre Congress associations and aimed to "promote by every legitimate means the political, intellectual and material advancement of the people." It founded in 1876 by younger nationalists of Bengal led by Surendranath Banerjea and Ananda Mohan Bose.
 - **The association demanded simultaneous holding of civil service examination in England and India and Indianisation of higher administrative posts.** It led a campaign against the repressive arms act and the vernacular press act. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **The Bangabhasha Prakashika Sabha** was formed in 1836 by associates of Raja Rammohan Roy. The association discussed topics connected with the policy and administration of the Government and sought **redress by sending petitions and memorials to the Government. Hence, statement 1 is correct.** **It was the Indian Association that protested against the reduction of age limit in 1877 for candidates of the Indian Civil Service examination.** Hence, statement 3 is not correct.