
ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

GENERAL STUDIES (P) TEST – 4131 (2024)

Q 1.B

- Sayyid Ahmad Khan was one of the most important reformers among Muslims. He was tremendously **impressed by modern scientific thought** and worked all his life to reconcile it with Islam.
- The Muslim upper class tended to avoid contact with Western education and culture, and it was mainly after the revolt of 1857 that modern ideas of education and religious reform began to appear. A beginning in this direction was made when the **Mohammedan literary society was founded at Calcutta in 1863.**
- **In 1875 he founded at Aligarh the Muhammedan Anglo-Oriental College at Aligarh** as a center for spreading Western science and culture, later this college grew into an Aligarh Muslim university. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- In his view, any interpretation of the Quran that conflicted with human reason, science, or nature was in reality a misinterpretation. He also **interpreted Quran in the light of contemporary rationalism** and science. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- He was opposed to communal friction, appealing to Hindus and Muslims to unite, he was a great believer in **religious toleration.**

Q 2.D

- 'The Philosophy of the Bomb' was written by **Bhagwati Charan Vohra** in early January 1930 as a polemical intervention into debates among nationalist circles about the **role of violence in the anti-colonial movement in India.**
- Bhagwati Charan Vohra was **part of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA)**, and he also authored the manifesto of HSRA.
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 3.A

- The **Government of India Act of 1858** ended the Company rule and the system of Double Government by the Board of Control in England and the Court of Directors of the company introduced by the Pitt's India Act, of 1784. Indian Administration came directly under the Crown. **The Act created the office of the Secretary of State who was a cabinet minister in the British cabinet.** His salary and establishment were paid from the Indian revenue. He was assisted by a council of fifteen members to make him familiar with Indian affairs.
- The Secretary of State was given the power of sending and receiving secret messages and despatches from the Governor General without the necessity of communicating them to the Indian Council. The Secretary of State was to present to the House of Commons periodically report on the moral and material progress of India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- As per the administrative changes introduced by the Government of India Act 1858, **the Governor General got an additional title of Viceroy or Crown's representative.** Thus, the **Governor-general served as the personal representative of the British Crown** in India. The **Secretary of State sat in the British Parliament** and was accountable to the Parliament. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 4.C

- In pursuance of his reactionary policies in India Lord Curzon announced the partition of Bengal in December 1903 which took effect on 16 October 1905. **A massive anti-partition movement was started in Bengal which evolved into the Swadeshi and Boycott movement.** The formal proclamation of the Swadeshi Movement was, made on 7 August 1905, in a meeting held at the Calcutta town hall. At this meeting, the famous Boycott Resolution was passed. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

- **Samitis (corps of volunteers) helped in the mobilization of the mass to support the Swadeshi Movement.** The samitis took the swadeshi message to the villages through magic lantern lectures and swadeshi songs, gave physical and moral training to the members, did social work during famines and epidemics, organized schools, trained in the swadeshi craft, and organized arbitration courts. **The Swadesh Bandhab Samiti of Ashwini Kumar Dutt is such a prominent example. Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- Indian National Congress took up the Swadeshi call and at the 1905 Banaras Session, presided over by G.K. Gokhale, a resolution supporting the Swadeshi and Boycott Movement for Bengal was passed. **During Swadeshi Movement, the big zamindars, who had so far remained loyal to the Raj, joined forces with the Congress leaders in support of the movement. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- A very important characteristic of the Movement is the active participation of women in the movement, it marked the first instance of women participating in large numbers in the national movement. The woman of the urban middle class came out in large numbers and participated in the Swadeshi movement they carried out positions and picketing work.

Q 5.A

- **Bengalee** was a newspaper started by Surendranath Banerjee in 1879. **Sanjibani** (by Krishna Kumar Mitra) and **Hitabadi** (by Dwijendranath Tagore) were journals. A powerful press campaign was Launched against the partition proposals through these journals and newspapers
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 6.B

- **To discourage and stop students to participate in the Civil Disobedience Movement, J.R. Cunningham, the then powerful Director of Public Information of Assam, issued the Cunningham circular in 1930 imposing a blanket ban on any anti-British and pro-swadeshi activity by students.**
- In Assam, a powerful agitation led by students was launched against the infamous ‘Cunningham circular’ which forced students and their guardians to furnish assurances of good behavior.
- It forced parents, guardians and students to furnish assurances of good behavior and also asked them to sign an undertaking that they would have to quit their schools and colleges if they participated in anti-government demonstrations or movements.
- The circular was aimed to forbid students from participating in political activities and so, it raised a very strong response.
- Thousands of students, throughout Assam, left their educational institutions. Many Swadeshi educational institutions like Kamrup Academy of Guwahati and Sibsagar Vidyapeeth were also established at the same time to accommodate the students leaving British Government schools & colleges.
- The Kamrup Academy, the first Swadeshi school in the Northeast, was conceived with Rai Bahadur Kalicharan Sengupta as its president and Gaurikanta Talukdar as its secretary.
- The school started functioning on July 15, 1930, and initially, lessons were imparted in both Bengali and Assamese languages. **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 7.C

- **The policy of the Indian National Congress towards the Indian states had been first enunciated in 1920 at Nagpur** when a resolution calling upon the **Princes to grant full responsible government in their States had been passed.** Simultaneously, however, the Congress, while allowing residents of the States to become members of Congress, made it clear that they could not initiate political activity in the States in the name of Congress but only in their individual capacity or as members of the local political organizations.
- In the mid-thirties, two associated developments brought about a distinct change in the situation in the Indian States.
 - **First, the Government of India Act of 1935** projected a scheme of federation in which the Indian States were to be brought into a direct constitutional relationship with British India and the States were to send representatives to the Federal Legislature.
 - **The second development was the assumption of office by Congress Ministries in the majority of the provinces in British India in 1937.** The fact that Congress was in power created a new sense of confidence and expectation in the people of the Indian States and acted as a spur to greater political activity. The Princes too had to reckon with a new political reality — the Congress was no longer just

a party in opposition but a party in power with a capacity to influence developments in contiguous Indian States.

- The **years 1938-39**, in fact, stand out as years of a new awakening in the Indian States and were witness to a large number of movements demanding responsible government and other reforms. **Praja mandals mushroomed in many States** that had earlier no such organizations. Major struggles broke out in Jaipur, Kashmir, Rajkot, Patiala, Hyderabad, Mysore, Travancore, and the Orissa States.
- **These new developments brought about a significant change in Congress policy as well.** Whereas, even in the **Haripura session in 1938**, the Congress had reiterated its policy that movements in the States should not be launched in the name of the Congress but should rely on their own independent strength and fight through local organizations, a few months later, on seeing the new spirit that was abroad among the people and their capacity to struggle. Gandhiji and the Congress changed their attitude on this question. The radicals and socialists in Congress, as well as political workers in the States, had in any case been pressing for this change for quite some time.
- Following upon this, **the Congress at Tripuri in March 1939 passed a resolution enunciating its new policy:** 'The great awakening that is taking place among the people of the States may lead to a relaxation, or to a complete removal of the restraint which the Congress imposed upon itself, thus resulting in an ever-increasing identification of the Congress with the States' peoples'. Also in 1939, the AISPC elected Jawaharlal Nehru as its President for the Ludhiana session, thus setting the seal on the fusion of the movements in Princely India and British India.
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 8.A

- **Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023:** The government has announced new **Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules 2023**, which require strays to be caught, vaccinated, neutered, and released back into the community. **The ABC 2023 rules will supersede the Animal Birth Control (Dog) Rules, 2001. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - To reduce the stray dog population by addressing animal welfare issues.
 - The **program for the sterilization and immunization of stray dogs** shall be carried out by the **respective local bodies, municipalities, municipal corporations, and panchayats, with the help of the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI)-a recognized organization.**
 - Local bodies need to implement the ABC and Anti-Rabies Program jointly.
 - In carrying out the ABC program, 'cruelty to animals should be addressed.
 - **The Rules transform stray dogs into a new class of "community animals."** Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
 - **Resident welfare associations are responsible for caring for stray dogs and feeding them at fixed intervals, away from children and the elderly.** Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**
 - The Rules provide guidelines on how to deal with human and stray dog conflicts without relocating the dogs in an area.
 - The Rules prohibit the improper disposal of solid waste and casual feeding of dogs.
 - Local authorities "will be held responsible for any violation (during birth-control procedures) and animal-human conflicts."

Q 9.C

- Gandhi's first great experiment in satyagraha came in 1917 in Champaran, a district in Bihar. **The peasantry on the indigo plantations in the district was excessively oppressed by the European planters.** They were compelled to grow indigo on at least 3/20th of their land and to sell it at prices fixed by the planters. In the Champaran Satyagraha, the Government appointed a Commission of Inquiry to go into the whole issue and nominated Gandhiji as one of its members. Armed with evidence collected from 8,000 peasants, he had little difficulty in convincing the Commission that the tinkathia system needed to be abolished and that the peasants should be compensated for the illegal enhancement of their dues. **As a compromise with the planters, he agreed that they refund only twenty-five percent of the money they had taken illegally from the peasants.** Answering critics who asked why he did not ask for a full refund, Gandhiji explained that even this refund had done enough damage to the planters' prestige and position. As was often the case, Gandhiji's assessment was correct and, within a decade, the planters left the district altogether. **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 10.A

- **Recent context: More than 181 members of the Hakki Pikki tribal community from Karnataka are stuck in violence-hit Sudan, even as the government is making efforts to bring them back.**
- The Hakki Pikki is a tribe that lives in **several states in the west and south India, especially near forest areas**. Hakki Pikkis (Hakki in Kannada means ‘bird’ and Pikki means ‘catchers’) are a **semi-nomadic tribe, traditionally of bird catchers and hunters**.
- According to the 2011 census, the Hakki Pikki population in Karnataka is 11,892, and they live majorly in Davangere, Mysuru, Kolar, Hassan and Shivmogga districts. In different regions, they are known by different names, such as **Mel-Shikari in northern Karnataka and Maharashtra**.
- The Hakki Pikki move in groups from place to place in search of livelihood. They are divided into four clans, called Gujaratia, Panwar, Kaliwala and Mewaras. These clans can be equated with castes in traditional Hindu society. In the olden days, there was a hierarchy among the clans, with the Gujaratia at the top and the Mewaras at the bottom. The forest is the main natural resource of the Hakki Pikki.
- Hakki Pikki people are believed to hail originally from the bordering districts of Gujarat and Rajasthan.
- **Hakki Pikkis in Karnataka follow Hindu traditions and celebrate all Hindu festivals**. They are non-vegetarians. The eldest son in a family is not supposed to cut his hair so that he can be identified easily.
- The tribe prefers cross-cousin marriages.
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 11.B

- The **Charter Act of 1813** was passed by the British Parliament due to increasing pressure from the British industrialists who wanted to take part in the profitable Indian trade.
- By the Charter Act of 1813, **the trade monopoly of the Company in India was ended and trade with India was thrown open to all British subjects (private merchants)**. But trade in tea and trade with China was still exclusive to the Company. **Hence option 1 is correct.**
- A humble beginning for the spread of education was made in 1813 through the Charter Act. It incorporated the principle of encouraging learned Indians and promoting the **knowledge of modern sciences in the country**. The **Act directed the Company to spend the sum of one lakh of rupees for the purpose**. But even this petty amount was not made available by Company authorities till 1823. **Hence option 2 is correct.**
- The **Charter Act of 1833 brought the Company’s monopoly of tea trade and trade with China to an end**. At the same time, the **debts of the Company were taken over by the Government of India**, which was also to pay its shareholders a 10½ percent dividend on their capital. **Hence option 3 is not correct.**

Q 12.B

- The issue which caught the popular imagination was the **fate of the members of Subhas Chandra Bose’s Indian National Army (INA), who were captured by the British in the eastern theatre of War**.
- An announcement by the Government, limiting trials of the INA personnel to those guilty of brutality or active complicity, was due to be made by the end of August 1945.
- However, before this statement could be issued, Nehru raised the demand for leniency at a meeting in Srinagar on 16 August 1945 — making the proposed statement seem a response to his call rather than an act of generosity on the part of the Government.
- The **defense of the INA prisoners** was taken up by the **Congress and Bhulabhaj Desai, Tej Bahadur Sapru, K.N. Katju, Nehru, and Asaf Ali appeared in court at the historic Red Fort trials**.
- **The Congress organized an INA Relief and Enquiry Committee, which provided small sums of money and food to the men on their release, and attempted, though with marginal success, to secure employment for these men. Hence, statement 1 is not correct and statement 2 is correct.**
- A significant feature of the INA campaign was its **wide geographical reach and the participation of diverse social groups and political parties**.
- The Muslim League, the Communist Party of India, the Unionist Party, the Akalis, the Justice Party, the Ahrars in Rawalpindi, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, the Hindu Mahasabha, and the Sikh League supported the NA cause in varying degrees.

Q 13.B

- **Francis Buchanan was a physician who came to India** and served in the Bengal Medical Service (from 1794 to 1815). For a few years, he was a surgeon to the Governor-General of India, Lord Wellesley.
- During his stay in Calcutta (present-day Kolkata), **he organized a zoo that became the Calcutta Alipore Zoo.**
- He was also in charge of the Botanical Gardens for a short period. At the request of the Government of Bengal, he undertook detailed surveys of the areas under the jurisdiction of the British East India Company. **However, he did not establish any institution in India for the study of Indian traditions/philosophy. Hence option 1 is not correct.**
- **Jonathan Duncan served as a resident of the East India Company** in the late 18th century. **He started the Sanskrit College** in Varanasi in 1791 for the **study of Hindu law and philosophy. Hence option 2 is correct.**
- **Warren Hastings was the governor-general** of Bengal between 1772-1785. He established the **Calcutta in 1781 for the study of Muslim law and related subjects.** The Calcutta Madrasah and the Sanskrit College were designed to provide a regular supply of qualified Indians to help the administration of law in the Company's court, and the knowledge of classical languages and vernaculars was useful in correspondence with Indian states. **Hence option 3 is correct.**
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 14.C

- **Marketing and Logistics Development for Promotion of Tribal Products from North-Eastern Region (PTP-NER) scheme:**
 - **Aim:** It is a **Central Sector Scheme** which aims to strengthen livelihood opportunities for tribal artisans through increased efficiency in procurement, logistics and marketing of tribal products from North Eastern States. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - **States covered:** The scheme will apply to the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim.
 - **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** is the nodal ministry and Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED) is the Nodal Agency.
 - **Key Features of the scheme:** The scheme will facilitate tribal artisans to avail opportunities of enhancing income through the provision of backward and forward linkages through incubation support, aggregation, skill and entrepreneurship development, sourcing and procurement, marketing, transportation and publicity.
 - The Central government will organize Tribal Artisans Melas (TAMs) **in April and May** to showcase tribal products. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 15.B

- **Lucknow Session of the Indian National Congress (December 1916)** was very important for the Indian freedom struggle. The session produced **two historic developments.**
 - First, the **two wings of the Congress that is the Moderates and the Extremist were reunited.**
 - Second, the session also became significant because of the famous **Congress-League Pact, popularly known as the Lucknow Pact** wherein the two organisations overcame their old differences and put out a set of common political demands before the government. An important role in bringing the two together was played by **Lokmanya Tilak and Muhammad Ali Jinnah** because the two believed that India could win self-government only through Hindu Muslim unity.
 - Together **Congress and the League passed the same resolutions at their sessions and put forward a joint scheme of political reforms** based on **separate electorate** and demand that the British government should make a declaration that it would consider self-government in India at an early date. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - The immediate effect of the signing of Lucknow Pact was that, at Lucknow was seen tremendous unity between the moderate nationalist and the militant nationalist and between the national Congress and the Muslim league aroused great political enthusiasm in the country. At the same time **it accepted the principle of separate electorate.** Thus, it left the way open to the future resurgence of communalism in Indian politics. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 16.D

- **Rehnumai Madaysan sabha was founded in 1851 by Naoroji Furdnji, Dadabhai Naoroji, S.S. Bengalee, and others. It campaigned against the entrenched orthodoxy in the religious field and initiated the modernization of Parsi social customs regarding the education of women. Hence statements 1 and 2 are correct.**
- The Rahnumai Mazdayasnan Sabha had a significant influence on both the colonial milieu and the way in which **Zoroastrianism was reinterpreted** by Western scholars. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- Scholars from the West studied the Parsis' sacred texts, rituals, and customs, and the knowledge they gained formed the foundation for religious change and the education of a new generation of Parsi priests.
- It works to promote the welfare and **interests of the Zoroastrian community** in India and to preserve and promote the teachings and traditions of Zoroastrianism. It also provides various services to the community, including education,
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 17.B

- **On 4 June 1947, the Viceroy, Mountbatten, announced at a press conference that the British would soon leave India for good on 15 August.** On 12 June, the Nizam of Hyderabad announced that on the lapse of British paramountcy, he would become a sovereign monarch. The intention was clear: **he would not accede to the Indian Union.**
- **The first open session of the Hyderabad State Congress which demanded accession to the Indian Union and the grant of responsible government** was held from 16 to 18 June. The State Congress, with the full support of the Indian National Congress, had also thwarted an attempt by the Nizam a few months earlier, to foist an undemocratic constitution on the people. The boycott of the elections launched by them received tremendous support. With this new confidence, they began to take a bold **stand against Nizam's moves.** The decision to launch the final struggle was taken by the leaders of the State Congress in consultation with the national leaders in Delhi.
 - On 13 August, the **Nizam banned the ceremonial hoisting of the national flag.** As the movement gathered force and gained momentum, the Nizam and his administration cracked down on it.
 - But the most ominous development was the encouragement given to the storm **troopers of the Ittihad ul Muslimin, the Razakars, by the State to act as a paramilitary force to attack the peoples' struggle.** Razakars were issued arms and let loose on protesting crowds; they set up camps near rebellious villages and carried out armed raids.
 - **On 29 November 1947, the Nizam signed a Standstill Agreement with the Indian Government, but simultaneously the repression was intensified, and the Razakar menace became even more acute.**
 - Many thousands of people who could afford to do so fled the State and were housed in camps in neighbouring Indian territory. **In organizing the defence against the Razakars and attacks on Razakar camps, the Communists played a very important role,** especially in the areas of Nalgonda, Warangal and Khammam that were their strongholds. Peasants were organized, given training in arms, and mobilized for the anti-Nizam struggle. In these areas, the **movement also took an anti-landlord stance** and many cruel landlords were attacked, some even killed, and illegally occupied land was returned to the original owners. Virtually all the big landlords had run away, and their land was distributed to and cultivated by those with small holdings or no land.
 - Outside the Communist strongholds in the Telengana areas, it was the State Congress that was the main vehicle for organizing popular resistance.
 - By **September 1948,** it became clear that **all negotiations to make the Nizam accede to the Union had failed.** On 13 September, 1948, the Indian Army moved in and on 18 September the Nizam surrendered. The **process of the integration of the Indian Union was finally complete.**
 - The **people welcomed the Indian Army as an army of liberation,** an army that ended the oppression of the Nizam and the Razakars. Scenes of jubilation were evident all over, and the national flag was hoisted.
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 18.B

- Bhulabhai Desai, leader of the Congress Party in the Central Legislative Assembly, met Liaquat Ali Khan, deputy leader of the Muslim League in that Assembly, and both of them came up with a draft proposal for the formation of an interim government at the centre, consisting of:

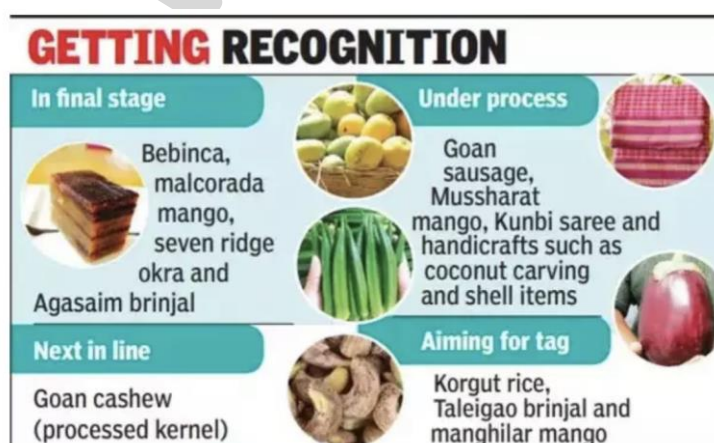
- an equal number of persons nominated by the Congress and the League in the central legislature. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- 20% reserved seats for minorities. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- No settlement could be reached between the Congress and the League on these lines, but the fact that a sort of parity between the Congress and the League was decided upon had far-reaching consequences.

Q 19.C

- **National Quantum Mission:**
 - It'll be implemented by the Department of Science & Technology (DST) under the Ministry of Science & Technology. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
 - The mission planned for 2023-2031 aims to seed, nurture, and scale up scientific and industrial R&D and create a vibrant & innovative ecosystem in Quantum Technology (QT).
 - With the launch of this mission, India will be the seventh country to have a dedicated quantum mission after the US, Austria, Finland, France, Canada and China.
 - **Salient features of NQM:**
 - ✓ It will target developing intermediate scale quantum computers with 50-100 physical qubits in 5 years and 50-1000 physical qubits in 8 years.
 - ✓ Just like bits (1 and 0) are the basic units by which computers process information, 'qubits' or 'quantum bits' are the units of process by quantum computers.
 - ✓ The mission will help develop magnetometers with high sensitivity for precision timing (atomic clocks), communications, and navigation.
 - ✓ It will also support design and synthesis of quantum materials such as superconductors, novel semiconductor structures and topological materials for fabrication of quantum devices.
 - ✓ **The mission will also help developing:**
 - Satellite based secure quantum communications between ground stations over a range of 2000 km within India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - Long distance secure quantum communications with other countries
 - Inter-city quantum key distribution over 2000 km
 - Multi-node Quantum network with quantum memories
 - ✓ Four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) would be set up in top academic and National R&D institutes on the domains of Quantum Technology:
 - Quantum computation
 - Quantum communication
 - Quantum Sensing & Metrology
 - Quantum Materials & Devices. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 20.B

- **Recent context: Tamil Nadu's Manamadurai pottery gets GI tag. Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched.**
 - The Vaigai river enriches the clay used for the Manamadurai pottery. A unique type of clay is sourced from water bodies like Nedunkulam, Nathapurakki, Sundaranadappu, Seikalathur to make these pots.
- **Four products that are unique to Goa - bebinca, malcorada mango, seven ridge okra and Agasaim brinjal - have been published in the journal of the Geographical Indication (GI) Registry, which is the final stage in the process of obtaining a GI status for these items. Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched and pair 2 is correctly matched.**



Q 21.B

- **Bal Gangadhar Tilak, the outstanding leader of militant nationalism.** Born in 1856, Tilak devoted his entire life to the service of his country. **In 1881, along with G.G. Agarkar, he founded the newspaper Kesari (in Marathi) and Mahratta (in English).** In 1888, he took over the two papers and used their columns to spread discontent against British rule and to preach national resistance to it. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **In 1893, he started the practice of using the traditional religious Ganapati festival** to propagate nationalist ideas through patriotic songs and speeches. **In 1896, he started the Shivaji festival** to stimulate nationalism among young Maharashtrians. In the same year, he **organized an all-Maharashtra campaign for the boycott of foreign cloth in protest against the imposition of the excise duty on cotton.** He was, perhaps the first among the national leaders to grasp the important role that the lower middle classes, peasants, artisans and workers could play in the national movement and, therefore, he saw the necessity of bringing them into the Congress fold. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- In pursuance of this objective, **he initiated a no-tax campaign in Maharashtra during 1896-97 with the help of the young workers of the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha.** Referring to the official famine code whose copies he got printed in Marathi and distributed by the thousand, he asked the famine-stricken peasants of Maharashtra to withhold payment of land revenue if their crops had failed.
- **In 1897, plague broke out in Poona** and the Government had to undertake severe measures of segregation and house- searches. Unlike many other leaders, **Tilak stayed in Poona, supported the Government and organized his own measures against the plague.** But he also criticized the harsh and heartless manner in which the officials dealt with the plague-stricken people. **Popular resentment against the official plague measures resulted in the assassination of Rand, the Chairman of the Plague Committee in Poona, and Lt. Ayerst by the Chaphekar brothers on 27 June 1898.**
 - The British- owned Press and the bureaucracy were quick to **portray the Rand murder as a conspiracy by the Poona Brahmins led by Tilak.** The Government investigated the possibility of directly involving Tilak in Rand's assassination. But no proof could be found. And so, the **Government decided to arrest him under Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code on the charge of sedition, that is, spreading disaffection and hatred against the Government. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - Tilak was arrested on 27 July 1879 and tried before **Justice Strachey** and a jury of six Europeans and three Indians. The charge was based on the publication in the Kesari of 15 June of a poem titled 'Shivaji's Utterances' 'read out by a young man at the Shivaji Festival and on a speech Tilak had delivered at the Festival in defense of Shivaji's killings of Afzal Khan.
 - Tilak's defense of Shivaji's killing of Afzal Khan was portrayed by the prosecution as an incitement to kill British officials. The overall accusation was that Tilak propagated the views in his newspaper, that the British had no right to stay in India and any and all means could be used to get rid of them.
 - The jury gave a 6 to 3 verdict holding Tilak guilty, the three dissenters being its Indian members. The Judge passed a barbarous sentence of rigorous imprisonment for eighteen months, and this when Tilak was a member of the Bombay Legislative Council. Simultaneously several other editors of the Bombay Presidency were tried and given similar harsh sentences.
 - Tilak's imprisonment led to widespread protests all over the country
- In 1898, the Government amended Section 124A and added a new Section 153A to the penal code, making it a criminal offence for anyone to attempt 'to bring into contempt' the Government of India or to create hatred among different classes, that is vis-a-vis Englishmen in India. This once again led to nation-wide protest.

Q 22.A

- **The Pitt's India Act was passed in 1784 to remove the defects of the regulating act of 1773** and also to establish British Parliamentary control over the company affairs in India. This Act gave the **British government supreme control over the company's affairs and its administration in India.**
- **It established six commissioners for the affairs of India,** popularly known as the Board of Control, **including two cabinet ministers.** The Board of Control was to guide and control the work of the Court of Directors and the Government of India.
- The Act placed the Government of India in the hands of the Governor-General and a Council of three so that if the Governor-General could get the support of even one member, he could have his way. The Act clearly subordinated the Bombay and Madras Presidencies to Bengal in all questions of war, diplomacy, and revenues. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The British Parliament passed a series of Acts in the late eighteenth century to regulate and control Company rule in India. It forced the Company to produce regular reports on the administration of India

and appointed committees to enquire into the affairs of the Company. **The Fifth Report was one such report produced by a Select Committee. It was submitted to the British Parliament in 1813.** It became the basis of intense parliamentary debates on the nature of the East India Company's rule in India.

- **As per the provisions of the act, the directors of the company retained the profitable right of appointing and dismissing its British officials in India.** Moreover, the Government of India was to be carried on through their agency. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 23.C

- The story of Champaran begins in the early nineteenth century when European planters had involved the cultivators in agreements that forced them to cultivate indigo on the 3/20th of their holdings (known as the tinkathia system). Towards the end of the nineteenth century, German synthetic dyes forced indigo out of the market, and the European planters of Champaran, keen to release the cultivators from the obligation of cultivating indigo, tried to turn their necessity to their advantage by securing enhancements in rent and other illegal dues as a price for the release.
- Resistance had surfaced in 1908 as well, but the exactions of the planters continued till Raj Kumar Shukla, a local man, decided to follow Gandhiji all over the country to persuade him to come to Champaran to investigate the problem. Raj Kumar Shukla's decision to get Gandhiji to Champaran is indicative of the image he had acquired as one who fought for the rights of the exploited and the poor.
- **Gandhi and his colleagues, who now included Brij Kishore, Rajendra Prasad, and other members of the Bihar intelligentsia, Mahadev Desai and Narhari Parikh, two young men from Gujarat who had thrown in their lot with Gandhiji, and J.B. Kripalani, toured the villages and from dawn to dusk recorded the statements of peasants, interrogating them to make sure that they were giving correct information. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**
- Gandhiji then turned his attention to the workers of Ahmedabad. A dispute was brewing between them and the mill owners over the question of a 'plague bonus' the employers wanted to withdraw once the epidemic had passed but the workers insisted it stay since the enhancement hardly compensated for the rise in the cost of living during the War.
- Ambalal Sarabhai, one of the leading mill owners of the town, was a friend of Gandhiji and had just saved the Sabarmati Ashram from extinction by a generous donation. The strike began and Gandhiji addressed the workers every day on the banks of the Sabarmati River. He brought out a daily news bulletin and insisted that no violence be used against employers or blacklegs. **Ambalal Sarabhai's sister, Anasuya Behn, was one of the main lieutenants of Gandhiji in this struggle in which her brother, and Gandhiji's friend, was one of the main adversaries.**

Q 24.D

- **Gandhiji returned to India on January 9th, 1915,** after starting two settlements for Indians in South Africa and launching a successful satyagraha against unfair laws and taxes on the Indian community there.
- Gandhiji was advised by his mentor **Gopalkrishna Gokhale**, who belonged to the ilk of Moderates within the Congress to tour India for a year before embarking upon any political work.
- Gokhale's instructions suited Gandhi well, as the latter realised that there was much about the country that he had not seen, or knew about. In South Africa, differences of religion, caste and language were often elided over, as the community of Indians stood as one against the imperial powers. In India, however, the differences were wide and various, and Gandhi needed time to understand them.
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 25.B

- The Punjab under Ranjit Singh: At the end of the 18th century, Ranjit Singh, chief of the Sukerchakia misl, rose into prominence.
- A strong and courageous soldier, an efficient administrator, and a skilful diplomat, he was a born leader of men. He captured Lahore in 1799 and Amritsar in 1802.
- He soon brought all Sikh chiefs west of the Sutlej under his control and established his own kingdom in the Punjab. Later, he conquered Kashmir, Peshawar, and Multan.
- The old Sikh chiefs were transformed into big zamindars and jagirdars.
- **He did not make any changes in the system of land revenue promulgated earlier by the Mughals. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The amount of land revenue was calculated on the basis of 50 per cent of the gross produce.

- **Ranjit Singh built up a powerful, disciplined, and well-equipped army along European lines with the help of European instructors. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- His new army was not confined to the Sikhs. He also recruited Gurkhas, Biharis, Oriyas, Pathans, Dogras, and Punjabi Muslims.
- **He set up modern factories to manufacture cannon at Lahore** and employed Muslim gunners to man them. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- It is said that he possessed the second best army in Asia, the first being the army of the English East India Company.
- Ranjit Singh had great capacity for choosing his ministers and officials, He was tolerant and liberal in religious matters.
- While a devout Sikh he was “known to step down from his throne to wipe the dust off the feet of Muslim mendicants with his long grey beard.” Many of his important ministers and commanders were Muslims and Hindus.
- The most prominent and trusted of his ministers was Fakir Azizuddin, while his Finance Minister was Dewan Dina Nath.
- Infact, in no sense was the Punjab, ruled by Ranjit Singh, a Sikh state, Political power was not used for exclusive Sikh benefit.

Q 26.D

- The **Karachi Congress Session in 1931**, was held following the **Gandhi–Irwin Pact**. It reflected the impact of the Left on the national movement through the **Resolution on Fundamental Rights and Economic Policy**. The socio-economic provision in the Karachi Resolution went on to influence the Constituent Assembly in drawing up Part IV of the Indian Constitution – the Directive Principles of State Policy. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Indian National Congress, on **19 December 1929**, passed the historic ‘**Purna Swaraj**’ (total independence) resolution at the **Lahore session**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The **resolutions on economic policy** was passed at the **Faizpur session in 1936**. It was, here, for the first time that Congress held its Annual Session in a backward rural setting. A large number of peasants participated in the session.

Q 27.C

- **C. Rajagopalachari, the veteran Congress leader, prepared a formula for Congress-League cooperation in 1944.**
 - It was a **tacit acceptance of the League’s demand for Pakistan.**
 - **Gandhiji supported the formula.**
- The main points in the CR Plan were:
 - Muslim League to endorse Congress's demand for independence.
 - **League to cooperate with Congress in forming a provisional government at the centre.**
 - After the end of the war, the entire population of Muslim-majority areas in North-West and North-East India was to decide by a plebiscite, whether or not to form a separate sovereign state.
 - In case of acceptance of partition, an agreement is to be made jointly for safeguarding defence, commerce, communications, etc.
 - The above terms were to be operative only if England transferred full powers to India.
 - Jinnah wanted Congress to accept the two-nation theory. He wanted only the Muslims of the North-West and North-East to vote in the plebiscite and not the entire population. He also opposed the idea of a common centre.
 - While the Congress was ready to cooperate with the League for the independence of the Indian Union, the League did not care for the independence of the Union. It was only interested in a separate nation.
 - **Hindu leaders led by Vir Savarkar condemned the Plan.**
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 28.A

- The Royal Indian Navy revolt, also known as the 1946 Naval Uprising, occurred in February 1946 and was a significant event in the Indian independence movement. The naval ratings stationed at **HMIS (His Majesty's Indian Ship) Talwar, a training establishment of the Royal Indian Navy**, went on strike and refused to obey their British officers, leading to widespread protests and demonstrations in cities like Bombay, Karachi, Calcutta, and Madras.

- The naval ratings faced racial discrimination and abusive treatment despite their qualifications and experience. They were paid less than their British counterparts and given menial tasks, while the quality of food and living conditions on the ships were poor. The arrest of a rating for scrawling "Quit India" on the HMIS Talwar was also a source of resentment. **Hence options 1 and 2 are correct.**
- The naval ratings demanded better pay, improved living conditions, and an end to racial discrimination, which was not limited to HMIS Talwar but shared by naval ratings serving in the Royal Indian Navy across India. The revolt quickly spread and involved over 20,000 ratings, leading to a widespread disruption of naval operations. The naval ratings also demanded the release of Indian National Army soldiers who were imprisoned after the INA trials.
- There was **no issue of a new recruitment policy in the Royal Indian Navy at the time of the strike.** **Hence option 3 is not correct.**

Q 29.A

- **Oil hypocrisy:**
 - A new study by the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) has found that countries that imposed crude oil sanctions on Russia used India, China, United Arab Emirates, Singapore, and Turkey as 'laundromats' for refined products.
 - During the last year, India has emerged as the leading exporter of refined oil products, followed by China and the United Arab Emirates.
 - **Major exporting port: Sikka port and Vadinar port** (Both in Gujarat) exported the highest amount of seaborne refined oil to the Price Cap Coalition countries
 - India now imports about 87% of its crude oil requirement (worth over US \$190 bn) while it exported petroleum products worth over \$86 billion (accounting for more than 21 percent of India's total commodity exports)
 - **Laundromat:** Laundromats' is a term used to describe a type of financial fraud where large amounts of money, often obtained through illegal means, are moved through a complex web of transactions and accounts to disguise their origin and make them appear legitimate.
 - **Price Cap plan:** The Price Cap Coalition is composed of Australia, Canada, the European Union, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States. **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**
 - **NOTE:** The Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) (est. 2019; HQ: Helsinki) is a non-profit think tank researching energy and air pollution. It aims at tracking the impacts of air pollution by providing data-backed research products.

Q 30.D

- **REACHOUT:**
 - Ministry of Earth Sciences is implementing an umbrella scheme Research, Education, and Training Outreach (REACHOUT) for capacity building
 - Aim of the scheme: To support various R&D activities, develop useful collaborations with international organizations, develop skilled and trained manpower in Earth Sciences, etc.
 - **It consists of the following sub-schemes:**
 - ✓ R&D in Earth System Science (RDESS).
 - ✓ International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCOcean).
 - ✓ Program for Development of Skilled Manpower in Earth System Sciences (DESK). **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 31.C

- **'Ceramic Radome' technology:**
 - A ceramic is a non-metallic, inorganic solid material that is typically produced by heating natural clay or other minerals at high temperatures. E.g. Pottery, Tiles.
 - ✓ **Properties:** The majority of ceramics are excellent insulators and can withstand high temperatures.
 - Radomes are structures or enclosures designed to protect an antenna and associated electronics from the surrounding environment and elements such as rain, UV light, etc. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - **What are Ceramic radomes?**
 - ✓ Ceramic Radome Technology is the state-of-the-art technology for shielding Missiles across the world from getting overheated. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ✓ Currently, ceramic radomes have been developed indigenously by Research Centre Imarat (RCI) which has developed India's missile arsenal.

- ✓ RCI is a DRDO laboratory for carrying out R&D in the technologies of control engineering, inertial navigation, imaging infrared seekers, radio frequency seekers and systems, onboard computers, and mission software.

Q 32.A

- In the elections to the central assembly in December 1945, **out of 102 seats, Congress won 57**, the League 30, Independents 5, Akalis 2 and Europeans 8. Congress received 91 percent of non-Muslim votes. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- In the elections to the provincial assemblies, Congress won 923 of 1585 seats, including 23 of the 38 labour seats, but was defeated by the Muslim League in the Muslim seats.
- In the NWFP, the League contested all 33 Muslim seats and won 15 of them. 19 Muslim seats were won by the Congress, and 58.75 percent of the Muslim vote went to the non-League parties.
- In Punjab, the League gained 73 seats, with its share of the Muslim vote being 65.10 percent. The League gained 83.6 percent of the Muslim vote in Bengal. It won 76 percent of the total Muslim vote in India. This was a sharp rise from the 4.8 percent vote in its tally in 1937.
- The elections of 1946 were a watershed. The results made it clear that the Congress represented the large masses of the country. It was equally clear, however, that the Muslim League spoke for most Muslims.
- The Congress was to go on to form governments in the provinces of Madras, Bombay, United Provinces, Bihar, Orissa, Central Provinces and Berar and NWFP. **The League formed ministries in Bengal and Sind.**
- In Punjab, after the 1946 elections, some negotiations between the Muslim League and Akalis were carried out with a possible coalition in mind. This had been unsuccessful, and Akalis joined with Unionists and Congress to form a coalition ministry. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 33.A

- The **peasant movement** played an important role in the fight for independence from British rule. Peasant movements were led by farmers, laborers, and rural workers who were **discontent with the oppressive policies of the British colonial government and the exploitative practices of the landlords and moneylenders.**
- **Baba Ram Singh** initiated the **Kuka Movement**, which marked the **Sikh community's** foremost resistance to the British Empire's post-1849 political structure in Punjab. This movement was a blend of political and religious beliefs and represented a notable uprising against the new British authority. **Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- **Vasudev Balwant Phadke** led the **Maharashtra-based Ramosi Uprising** as a protest against the British government's failure to take any measures against the famine. This farmer uprising took a violent turn instead of peaceful demonstrations. **Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- **The Kisan sabhas** were organized in UP mainly due to the efforts of the home rule activists. The United Provinces **Kisan Sabha** was set up in 1918 by **Gauri Shankar Mishra and Indra Narayan Dwivedi**, Madan Mohan Malaviya. **Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

Q 34.C

- **In 1897, Vivekananda founded the Ramakrishna Mission** to carry on humanitarian relief and social work. It laid emphasis not on personal salvation but on good or social service.
- **Atmiya Sabha** was established in Calcutta in 1815 by **Ram Mohan Roy**. The association conducted debates and discussions on philosophical subjects, as well as advocated for free and collective thinking and social reform.
- **Truth seeker society (Satya Shodhak)** was founded by **Jyotiba Phule in 1873** with the leadership of the samaj coming from the backward classes, malis, telis, kunbis, sans, dhangar.
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 35.D

- The foundation of the Indian National Congress in 1885 was not a sudden event or a historical accident. It was the culmination of a process of political awakening that had its beginnings in the 1860s and 1870s and took a major leap forward in the late 1870s and early 1880s.
- The year 1885 marked a turning point in this process, for that was the year the political Indians, the modern intellectuals interested in politics, who no longer saw themselves as spokesmen of narrow group interests, but as representatives of national interest vis-a-vis foreign rule, as a 'national party,' saw their

efforts bear fruit. The all-India nationalist body that they brought into being was to be the platform, the organizer, the headquarters, and the symbol of the new national spirit and politics.

- **The nationalist Indian demands of those years —**
 - **no reduction of import duties on textile import**
 - **no expansion in Afghanistan or Burma,**
 - **the right to bear arms,**
 - **freedom of the Press,**
 - **reduction of military expenditure,**
 - **higher expenditure on famine relief,**
 - **Indianization of the civil services,**
 - **the right of Indians to join the semi-military volunteer corps,**
 - **the right of Indian judges to try Europeans in criminal cases,**
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 36.D

- After deliberating amongst itself for close to three weeks, and after long discussions with delegates who had returned from London's first RTC, and with other leaders representing a cross-section of political opinion, the Congress Working Committee authorized Gandhiji to initiate discussions with the Viceroy. The fortnight-long discussion culminated on **5 March 1931 in the Gandhi-Irwin Pact**, which was variously described as a 'truce' and a provisional settlement.' The Pact was signed by Gandhiji on behalf of the Congress and by Lord Irwin on behalf of the Government, a procedure that was hardly popular with officialdom as it placed the Congress on an equal footing with the Government.
- **The Congress met at Karachi on 29 March 1931 to endorse the Gandhi-Irwin or Delhi Pact. Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru had been executed six days earlier.**
- The Karachi Resolution was passed by the Indian National Congress at its 1931 Karachi session. The Session was conducted in the shadow of three major events. First, Mahatma Gandhi had just been released from prison following his Salt Satyagraha. Second, the Gandhi-Irwin pact had just been concluded which had brought the civil disobedience movement to an end. And third, the British government had, a week before the session, executed Bhagat Singh and two of his associates in connection with the Kakori Conspiracy case. The Resolution is three pages long and is mostly written in a quasi-legal style. It reiterated the Congress Party's commitment to 'Purna Swaraj' or 'complete independence'. In addition to fundamental rights which protected civil liberties, the Resolution for the first time put forward a list of socio-economic principles/rights that the Indian state had to adhere to. These included: protections for industrial workers, abolishing of child labour, free primary education and protections for agricultural labour. The Resolution also, which seems to be a Gandhian influence, prohibited intoxicating drinks and drugs.
- **Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev were sentenced to death in the Lahore conspiracy case and ordered to be hanged on 24 March 1931. The schedule was moved forward by 11 hours and the three were hanged on 23 March 1931 at 7:30 pm in the Lahore jail.**
- **Gandhiji sailed for London on 29 August 1931 to attend the Second Round Table Conference. It was held in London from 7 September 1931 to 1 December 1931.** Nothing much was expected from the Conference for the imperialist political and financial forces, which ultimately controlled the British Government in London, were opposed to any political or economic concessions being given to India which could lead to its independence from their control. **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 37.B

- The discussions of the **Third Round Table Conference were held in December 1932. It led to the issue of a white paper in 1933**, which declared that according to the new constitution, there would be a **dyarchy at the center** and secretary of state of India. Thus, The Third Round Table Conference eventually led to the passing of the Government of India Act, 1935.
- **The Government of India Act, of 1919 introduced a new system of dyarchy** for the executive at the level of the provincial government. **The 1935 act** provided for the establishment of an **All India Federation** and a new system of government for the provinces on the basis of provincial autonomy. The federation was to be based on a union of the provinces of British India and the Princely states. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- According to The Government of India Act, 1935, the Governors-General and the Governors were to be appointed by the British government and were to be responsible for it. In the provinces, local power was to be increased and ministers were given the power to control all departments, however, **the Governors could veto their legislative actions. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 38.C

- **Ningaloo Eclipse:**
 - It is a rare 'hybrid solar eclipse', caused by the curvature of the earth's surface and a shift from annular to total eclipse. The last one was seen in 2013, and the next one will appear in 2031.
 - Its uniqueness is such that it has already been named Ningaloo, a part of western Australia from which the eclipse was most visible. The Ningaloo region is also designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
 - **Types of Solar Eclipse:**
 - ✓ **Total Solar Eclipse:** A total eclipse happens when the Moon completely blocks out the Sun while passing between the Earth and the Sun. The **Baily's Beads effect**, also known as the diamond ring effect, is a phenomenon that occurs during a total solar eclipse or annular solar eclipse.
 - ✓ **Annular Eclipse:** It happens when the Moon is at its farthest point from the Earth. The sun is covered in such a way that only a small ring-like sliver of light is seen from the sun's disc. This ring is known as the ring of fire. **Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
 - ✓ **Partial Eclipse:** It occurs when the Moon passes between the Earth and the Sun but is not perfectly aligned. Hence, only a part of the Sun appears covered. **Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
 - ✓ **Hybrid Eclipse:** A hybrid solar eclipse occurs when the eclipse is total from some locations on Earth and annular from others, due to the viewer's position relative to the Moon's shadow. **Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.**
 - ✓ It means that for some observers, the Moon appears to fully cover the Sun, resulting in a total solar eclipse, while for others, the Moon only partially covers the Sun, resulting in an annular solar eclipse.

Q 39.B

- In line with the government policy contained in Montagu's statement of August 1917, the government announced further constitutional reforms in July 1918, known as Montagu-Chelmsford or Montford Reforms. Based on these, the Government of India Act, 1919 was enacted.
- **Main Features:**
 - The Provincial Legislative Councils were enlarged and the majority of their members were to be elected. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - The Act introduced dyarchy for the executive at the level of the provincial government. The Dyarchy system provided more powers to the Provincial governments. Under this system some subjects, such as finance and law and order, were called 'reserved' subjects and remained under the direct control of the Governor; others such as education, public health, and local self-government, were called 'transferred' subjects and were to be controlled by ministers responsible to the legislatures. The Governor could overrule the ministers on any grounds that he considered special. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
 - At the centre, there were to be houses of the legislature, the lower house, the Legislative Assembly, was to have 41 nominated members in a total strength of 144. The upper house, the Council of State, was to have 26 nominated and 34 elected members. The legislature had virtually no control over the Governor-General and his Executive Council. On the other hand, the Central Government had unrestricted control over the provincial governments.
- The Indian National Congress met in a special session at Bombay in August 1918 under the presidentship of Hasan Imam to consider the reform proposals. It condemned them as disappointing and unsatisfactory. Some of the veteran Congress leaders led by Surendranath Banerjee were in favour of accepting the government proposals and left the Congress at this time. They founded the Indian Liberal Federation. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 40.D

- **The Subsidiary Alliance** played a **significant role in the expansion of British rule** in India, and many Indian states, including **Mysore, Hyderabad, and Awadh**, were forced to accept it. The policy remained in effect until the Indian Rebellion of 1857, which led to the end of the British East India Company's rule in India and the beginning of direct British rule under the British Crown. The Subsidiary Alliance was a policy **introduced by Lord Wellesley**, the Governor-General of India from 1798 to 1805, during the British colonial rule in India.
- British were **responsible for protecting their ally** from external and internal threats under the terms of the Subsidiary Alliance. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

- The Indian rulers who accepted the Subsidiary Alliance were **required to pay for the maintenance** of British troops stationed in their territories, and in return, the British promised to protect the Indian ruler from external aggression and internal rebellion. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- the stationing of a British armed contingent in the territory of the ally was a key feature of the Subsidiary Alliance. Under this policy, Indian rulers were **required to accept the presence of British troops in their territories.** **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- Under this policy, Indian rulers were required to **accept British control over their foreign policy** and were not allowed to make treaties or alliances with other powers without British permission. This condition of the Subsidiary Alliance was intended to prevent Indian rulers from forming alliances that could potentially threaten British interests in India.

Q 41.C

- Even though the Court Martial held the INA prisoners guilty, the Government felt it expedient to set them free.
- The changed attitude of the British Government is explained by several factors.
 - Firstly, the war had changed the balance of power in the world. Not Britain, but the United States of America and the Soviet Union emerged as winners of the war as big powers. Both supported India's demand for freedom. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - Secondly, even though Britain was on the winning side in the war, its economic and military power was shattered. It would take Britain years to rehabilitate itself. Moreover, there was a change of government in Britain.
 - **The Conservatives were replaced by the Labour Party many of whose members supported the Congress demands. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - The British soldiers were weary of war. Having fought and shed their blood for nearly six years, they had no desire to spend many more years away from home in India suppressing the Indian people's struggle for freedom.
 - **Thirdly, the British Indian Government could no longer rely on the Indian personnel of its civil administration and armed forces to suppress the national movement. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - The INA had shown that patriotic ideas had entered the ranks of the professional Indian army, the chief instrument of British rule in India. Another straw in the wind was the famous revolt of the Indian naval ratings at Bombay in February 1946.
 - The ratings had fought a seven-hour battle with the army and navy and had surrendered only when asked to do so by the national leaders. Moreover, there were also widespread strikes in the Indian Air Force.
 - The Indian Signal Corps at Jabalpur also went on strike.
 - The other two major instruments of British rule, the police and the bureaucracy were also showing signs of nationalist leanings.
 - They could no longer be safely used to suppress the national movement. For example, the police force in Bihar and Delhi went on strike.

Q 42.C

- US President Joe Biden visited Belfast, Northern Ireland, to mark the **25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement (GFA)**, a peace deal that brought an end to decades of sectarian violence on the island of Ireland known as “the Troubles.”
- **Good Friday Agreement**
 - The Good Friday Agreement was signed on April 10, 1998, between factions of **Northern Ireland, and the governments of Britain and Ireland.**
 - It ended 30 years of the violence in Northern Ireland which is known as ‘**The Troubles**’, has been hailed as a model deal to end long-standing conflicts.
 - It was signed to end decades of violence in Northern Ireland **among those who wished to remain with the United Kingdom (UK) and those who wanted to join Ireland.**
- **Terms of the Good Friday Agreement:**
 - Northern Ireland would continue to be a part of the UK.
 - It could join Ireland if a majority of voters on both sides supported it in a referendum.
 - People born in Northern Ireland could have Irish or British nationality or both.
 - Northern Ireland would get a new government, which would have powers over local matters, while the UK government would look after security, foreign policy, tax laws, immigration rules, etc.

- On May 22 1998, a referendum was held in Ireland and Northern Ireland, and the agreement was approved by 94% of voters in Ireland and 71% in Northern Ireland.

Q 43.D

- **In 1625 the East India Company's authorities at Surat made an attempt to fortify their factory but the chiefs of the English factory were immediately imprisoned and put in irons by the local authorities of the Mughal Empire which was still in its vigour.**
- Similarly, when the Company's English rivals made piratical attacks on Mughal shipping, the Mughal authorities imprisoned in retaliation the President of the Company at Surat and members of his Council and released them only on payment of £ 18,000.
- Conditions in the South were more favourable to the English as they did not have to face a strong Indian Government there.
- The great Vijayanagar Kingdom had been overthrown in 1565 and its place was taken by a number of petty and weak states.
- It was easy to appeal to their greed or overawe them with armed strength.
- **The English opened their first factory in the South at Masulipatam in 1611.**
- But they soon shifted the centre of their activity to Madras the lease of which was granted to them by the local Raja in 1639.
- Madras was then a strip of coastal territory six miles long and one mile broad.
- **The Raja authorised them to fortify the place, to administer it, and to coin money on condition of payment to him of half of the customs revenue of the port. Here the English built a small fort around their factory called Fort St. George.**
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 44.B

- In the late 1940s, Gandhiji decided to initiate a limited satyagraha on an individual basis. The aims were:
 - To show that nationalist patience was not due to weakness;
 - to express that Indians made no distinction between Nazism and autocracy that ruled India; and
 - to give another opportunity to the government to accept Congress's Demands peacefully.
- The carefully chosen Satyagrahis — **Vinoba Bhave** was to be the **first** Satyagrahi on 17 October 1940 and **Jawaharlal Nehru** the **second** — were surrounded by huge crowds when they appeared on the platform, and the authorities could often arrest them only after they had made their speeches. And if the Government did not arrest a Satyagrahi, he or she would not only repeat the performance but move into the villages and start a trek towards Delhi, thus participating in a movement that came to be known as the '**Delhi Chalo**' (onwards to Delhi) movement.
- **Third Satyagrahi was Brahma Datt**, one of the inmates of the Gandhi's Ashram.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 45.D

- **March, 1940: Pakistan Resolution** was passed by **Muslim League**. The **All India Muslim League** met in **Lahore** in **March 1940** and adopted a resolution that came to be known as the **Lahore Resolution** or **Pakistan Resolution**. Its the first hand demand was partition of the country and creation of Muslim nation named Pakistan. The Muslim League demanded that the areas in which the Muslims are numerically in a majority as in the North-Western and Eastern Zones of India should be grouped to constitute Independent autonomous States.
- **August, 1940: August offer** promising **Dominion Status**. On **8 August 1940**, early in the Battle of Britain, the Viceroy of India, Lord Linlithgow, made the so-called "**August Offer**" at Simla, a fresh proposal promising the expansion of the Executive Council to include more Indians, the establishment of an advisory war council, giving weight to minority opinion, and the recognition of Indians' right to frame their own constitution (after the end of the war). In return, it was hoped that all parties and communities in India would cooperate in Britain's war effort.
- **October, 1940: Individual Satyagraha movement** was **launched** to affirm the rights to speech. Individual Satyagraha was the **result of August offer**. It was started with the mass Civil Disobedience Movement by M.K Gandhi on Individual Satyagraha. This was movement for not only to seek independence but also to affirm the right of Speech. The demand of the Satyagrahi was using freedom of Speech against the war through an anti-war declaration. If government did not arrest the Satyagrahi, he or she will move repeating it in villages and start march towards Delhi ("Delhi Chalo Movement").
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 46.D

- **MAHARISHI Initiative:**
 - It will focus on Research and Awareness about agro-biodiversity, food security, and nutrition aligning with the International Year of Millets 2023. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
 - **Secretariat:** Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
 - **Technical Support:** International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), One CGIAR Centres, and other international organizations
 - Millets are known as nutri-cereals or superfoods, mainly grown on marginal land in dry areas of temperate, sub-tropical, and tropical regions.

Q 47.C

- Alfonso de Albuquerque, who succeeded Almeida as the Portuguese governor in India, was the real founder of Portuguese power in the East, a task he completed before his death.
- He secured for Portugal the strategic control of the Indian Ocean by establishing bases overlooking all the entrances to the sea.
- **There were Portuguese strongholds in East Africa, off the Red Sea, at Hormuz; in Malabar; and at Malacca. They had strongholds over the entire Asian coast from Hormuz in the Persian Gulf to Malacca in the Malaya.**
- The Portuguese, under Albuquerque, bolstered their stranglehold by introducing a permit system for other ships and exercising control over the major ship-building centers in the region.
- The nonavailability of timber in the Gulf and Red Sea regions for ship-building also helped the Portuguese in their objectives.
- **Albuquerque acquired Goa from the Sultan of Bijapur in 1510 with ease;** the principal port of the Sultan of Bijapur became “the first bit of Indian territory to be under the Europeans since the time of Alexander the Great”. **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**
- In the words of James Mill, the famous British historian of the 19th century: “The Portuguese followed their merchandise as their chief occupation, but like the English and the Dutch of the same period, had no objection to plunder when it fell in their way.”
- **The Portuguese were intolerant and fanatical in religious matters.** Their approach in this respect was particularly hateful to the people of India where religious tolerance was the rule.
- They also indulged in inhuman cruelties and lawlessness. In spite of their barbaric behavior their possessions in India survived for a century because they enjoyed control over the high seas, their soldiers and administrators maintained strict discipline.

Q 48.D

- **Logistics Performance Index**
 - It is released by the **World Bank**, which is an interactive benchmarking tool that helps countries to identify the challenges and opportunities they face in their performance on trade logistics. The 2023 LPI for the first time measures the speed of trade with indicators derived from big datasets tracking shipments.
 - India has climbed six places on the World Bank's Logistic Performance Index (LPI) 2023. India was ranked 44th on the index in 2018 and has now climbed to 38th in the 2023 listing.
- **The Thales Data Threat Report, 2023:**
 - It is a comprehensive analysis of cybersecurity trends and threats. It has revealed some concerning findings about ransomware attacks and cloud data breaches in India and globally. According to the report by **global technology company Thales**, there has been a significant increase in these attacks,
 - The report highlights a significant increase in these attacks, indicating the need for businesses to implement robust security measures to protect their sensitive data.
- **Global Food Policy Report, 2023:**
 - It is released by the **International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)**, urging stakeholders to invest in long-term solutions for building resilient and equitable food systems.
 - The report highlights multiple crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, natural disasters, civil unrest, and political instability, which have led to a rise in food insecurity worldwide from 2020-2022. **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 49.D

- Some of the features of the **Indian Independence Act of 1947**:
 - It **ended British rule in India** and declared India as an independent and sovereign state from **August 15, 1947. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - It **abolished the office of viceroy** and provided, for each dominion, a governor-general, who was to be appointed by the British King on the advice of the dominion cabinet. His Majesty's Government in Britain was to have no responsibility with respect to the Government of India or Pakistan. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - It **abolished the office of the secretary of state for India** and transferred his functions to the secretary of state for Commonwealth Affairs. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 50.B

- **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** recently announced a new scheme Mission 50K-EV4ECO to boost the electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem in the country.
- **About Mission 50K-EV4ECO:**
 - The objective of the mission is to promote the growth and development of the value chain of India's electric vehicle industry.
 - It aims at strengthening the EV ecosystem, including uptake for two, three and four-wheelers through direct and indirect lending.
 - The pilot scheme, which is the **precursor to EVOLVE scheme by SIDBI-World Bank**, has two components -direct lending and indirect lending.
 - **Under direct lending, SIDBI will directly give loans to eligible MSMEs** (including aggregators, fleet operators, and EV leasing companies) for the purchase of electric vehicles and develop charging infrastructure, including battery swapping.
 - **The indirect scheme targeted at NBFCs**, including small unrated focused and emerging NBFCs, actively engaged in EV financing, will reach out to the last mile by inducing access to funds as also reducing landed cost.
- **Key facts about SIDBI**
 - It was established under an Act of Parliament in 1990.
 - It is the Principal Financial Institution engaged in the promotion, financing & development of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector and coordination of the functions of the various institutions engaged in similar activities.

Q 51.B

- **Recent context:** PM Modi inaugurated Kochi Water Metro. The Kochi Water Metro is a project being implemented by Kochi Metro Rail Corporation Limited (KMRL) with the assistance of a German funding agency, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau.
- It includes boats that are hybrid, battery-powered, air-conditioned and disabled-friendly among other features. The water metro will operate on water bodies like any other ferry or traditional boat service, but with modern facilities, enhanced safety and security measures. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Kochi Water metro has been envisaged as a feeder service of the Kochi metro rail, which has been operational since 2017. While boats have been designed as coaches of Kochi Metro, boat terminals, passenger entry and exit gates, ticket counters and safety measures mirror the features of the metro rail service. All jetties feature electronic display boards about boat service. Announcements will be made in English, Hindi and Malayalam when the services are operating in full swing. Passenger entry and exit to boats, with air-conditioned cabins, are similar to the system in Kochi metros. **The water metro boat service will operate in the backwaters of Kochi, connecting 10 nearby islands with the mainland of Kochi. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**

Q 52.D

- **Kanpur Bolshevik conspiracy case** was a controversial court case initiated in British India in 1924.
- It was **against the newly turned communists by the British government**. The charge on them was 'to deprive King-Emperor of his sovereignty of British India, by complete separation of India from imperialistic Britain in a violent revolution.
- **S.A.Dange, Muzaffar Ahmed, Nalini Gupta and Shaukat Usmani** in the Kanpur Bolshevik Conspiracy Case, **all four were sentenced to four years of imprisonment.**
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 53.A

- The **second phase of the Indian National Army (INA)** began when **Subhas Chandra Bose** was brought to Singapore on 2 July 1943, by means of German and Japanese submarines.
- He went to Tokyo and Prime Minister Tojo declared that Japan had no territorial designs on India.
- Bose returned to Singapore and set up the Provisional Government of Free India on 21 October 1943.
- The Provisional Government then declared war on Britain and the United States and was recognised by the Axis powers and their satellites.
- **Subhas Bose set up two INA headquarters, in Rangoon and in Singapore, and began to reorganize the INA.**
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 54.C

- **C-Veda**
 - A recent study, under the C-Veda project, has evaluated and compared neurological development and generated brain-development charts across ages, similar to charts for physical growth.
 - C-Veda is **an India-UK project** (jointly funded by ICMR and UK's Newton Grant from Medical Research Council (MRC))
 - **Objective: It aims to investigate if environmental and genetic risk factors in industrialized countries and emerging societies** distinctly shape brain function and behavior. It has now established the largest neurodevelopmental database in India. **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 55.B

- **Gopal Hari Deshmukh (18 February 1823 – 9 October 1892)** was a social reformer and **rationalist from Maharashtra**. He wrote **weekly prabhakar** under the **pen name of Lokahitawadi** on social reform issues. He started a **weekly Hitechhu** and also played a leading role in founding the periodicals, **Gyan Prakash, Indu Prakash and Lokahitawadi**.
- **Narayan Malhar Joshi** founded a **social service league in Bombay** with an aim to secure for the masses better and reasonable conditions of life and work.
- **Gopal Ganesh Agarkar** was a co-founder of new english school, the **deccan education society, and Fergusson College**. He started his own **periodical sudharak** which spoke against untouchability and the caste system.
- **Jyotiba phule** founded **satyasodhak samaj in 1873** with the leadership of the samaj coming from the backward classes, malis, telis, kunbis, sans, dhangar.
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 56.C

- The **Indian Councils Act of 1861** enlarged the **Governor General's Executive Council for the purpose of making laws**. The Governor General's executive council consisted of five members. And for the purpose of the legislation, the council was reinforced by six to twelve nominated members for a two-year term. Half of these were to be nonofficials, both European and Indian not in the service of the Crown. There were similar councils in the provinces. Thus, **the act did not provide for the non-official majority. The executive council was still dominated by officials. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Central legislative council constituted under the Indian Councils Act of 1861 came to be known as the **Imperial Legislative Council**. The Council possessed **no powers at all**. It could not discuss the budget or a financial measure or any other important bill without the previous approval of the Government. It could not discuss the actions of the administration. **The council did not have the right to vote on the Budget. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- The **Charter Act of 1853 for the first time separated the legislative and executive functions of the British government** in India. The Council under the act of 1853 in its legislative capacity was to consist of 12 members. These included the Governor General, Commander-in-Chief, four members of his council and six legislative members. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 57.C

- **In June 1894** the Natal Legislature planned to introduce the Indian Franchise Bill intended for disenfranchising Indians. Having settled the lawsuit for which he had come, Gandhiji prepared to leave for India. **But on the eve of his departure from Durban, he raised the issue of the bill to disenfranchise Indians which was in the process of being passed by the Natal legislature.** The Indians in South Africa begged Gandhiji to stay on for a month and organize their protest as they could not do so

on their own, not knowing even enough English to draft petitions, and so on. Gandhiji agreed to stay on for a month and stayed for twenty years.

- **The second phase of the struggle in South Africa, which began in 1906, was characterized by the use of the method of passive resistance or civil disobedience, which Gandhiji named Satyagraha. It was first used when the Government enacted legislation making it compulsory for Indians to take out certificates of registration that held their fingerprints.** It was essential to carry these on person at all times. At a huge public meeting held on 11 September 1906, in the Empire Theatre in Johannesburg, Indians resolved that they would refuse to submit to this law and would face the consequences. The Government remained adamant, and so did the Indians. Gandhiji formed the Passive Resistance Association to conduct the campaign. The last date for registration being over, the Government started proceedings against Gandhiji and twenty-six others. The passive resisters pleaded guilty, were ordered to leave the country and, on refusing to do so, were sent to jail. Others followed, and their numbers swelled to 155. The fear of jail had disappeared, and it was popularly called King Edward's Hotel.
- **Meanwhile, the Government brought in new legislation, this time to restrict Indian immigration. The campaign widened to oppose this. In August 1908, a number of prominent Indians from Natal crossed the frontier into Transvaal to defy the new immigration laws** and were arrested. Other Indians from Transvaal opposed the laws by hawking without a license; traders who had Licenses refused to produce them. All of them were jailed. Gandhiji himself landed in jail in October 1908 and, along with the other Indians, was sentenced to a prison term involving hard physical labour and miserable conditions. At this stage, the movement reached an impasse. The more committed Satyagrahis continued to go in and out of jail, but the majority were showing signs of fatigue. Gandhiji's own legal practice had virtually ceased since 1906, the year he had started devoting all his attention to the struggle. **At this point in 1910, Gandhiji set up Tolstoy Farm, made possible through the generosity of his German architect friend, Kallenbach, to house the families of the Satyagrahis and give them a way to sustain themselves. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**
- **Further fuel was added to the already raging fire by a judgment of the Supreme Court in 1913 which invalidated all marriages not conducted according to Christian rites and registered by the Registrar of Marriages.** By implication, Hindu, Muslim and Parsi marriages were illegal and the children born through these marriages were illegitimate. The Indians treated this judgment as an insult to the honor of their women and many women were drawn into the movement because of this indignity. Gandhiji decided that the time had now come for the final struggle into which all the resisters' resources should be channeled. The campaign was launched by the illegal crossing of the border by a group of sixteen Satyagrahis, including Kasturba, Gandhiji's wife, who marched from Phoenix Settlement in Natal to Transvaal and were immediately arrested.

Q 58.B

- The first time that INC session was held in a village was at the Faizpur Session of 193 under the presidentship of Jawaharlal Nehru.
- **National Planning Committee** was set up under the leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru at the Haripura Session of 1938 under the presidentship of Subhash Chandra Bose. **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**
- The Independence Resolution was adopted by INC at the Madras session of 1927 under the presidentship of M.A. Ansari.
- New Constitution for INC was framed at the Nagpur Session of 1920 under the presidentship of C. Vijayaraghavachariar.

Q 59.B

- **Recent context: The first images for research purposes captured by NASA's Super Pressure Balloon Imaging Telescope (SuperBIT) instrument have been released.**
- The dark matter observatory consists of a telescope mounted on a balloon lofted to an altitude of 32.9 kilometres on April 16, 2023. The platform allows researchers to investigate scientific targets from a near-space environment. Using a balloon is much more economical than a launch vehicle to deploy an instrument in orbit. The super-pressure balloon can gather scientific data by circumnavigating the world for up to 100 days after deployment. The height of the balloon prevents most of the atmospheric interference for the imaging instrument on board.
- **The goal of the observatory is to map the amount of dark matter in its targets, by measuring the amount of light from distant sources that is amplified and distorted.** The targets of SuperBIT exhibit weak gravitational lensing, as against the strong gravitational lensing of more massive targets, such as galaxy clusters. **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 60.B

- **The Revolt of 1857**, also known as the First War of Indian Independence, was a widespread uprising against British rule in India. It began on May 1857, in the **town of Meerut and quickly spread throughout the country**, involving soldiers, peasants, landlords, and princes. The Revolt spread to different parts of the country: **Kanpur, Lucknow, Benares, Allahabad, Bareilly, Jagdishpur, and Jhansi**. The rebel activity was marked by intense anti-British feelings and the administration.
- **At Kanpur**, the leader was **Nana Saheb**, the adopted son of the last Peshwa, Baji Rao II. **Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- **At Bareilly, Khan Bahadur**, a descendant of the former ruler of Rohilkhand, was placed in command. **Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- **At Delhi**, the nominal and symbolic leadership belonged to the Mughal emperor, Bahadur Shah, but the real command lay with a court of soldiers headed by **General Bakht Khan**. **Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched.**
- **At Lucknow**, Begum Hazrat Mahal took over the reins. **Her son Birjis Qadir** was proclaimed the nawab and a regular administration was organized with important offices. **Hence pair 4 is correctly matched.**

Q 61.C

- **National Health Claims Exchange (HCX):**
 - The Health Claims Exchange (HCX) is a new initiative under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) that aims to bring interoperability of health claims and streamline the process of claim settlement. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - The HCX was announced by the National Health Authority (NHA) on September 23rd, 2022, as a solution to the challenges posed by the current manual and non-digital process of exchanging health insurance claims in the country.
 - **Features of HCX**
 - ✓ The HCX is designed to be interoperable, machine-readable, auditable, and verifiable, ensuring that the information being exchanged is accurate and trustworthy.
 - ✓ Insurers and third-party administrators (TPAs) are required to send responses for each e-claim submitted by providers via the HCX through standard protocols (APIs). The HCX acts as a gateway for the ecosystem, validating and routing the responses.
 - **HCX – Sandbox Environment**
 - ✓ To ensure the success and adoption of the claims network, the NHA has introduced the HCX – Sandbox Environment.
 - ✓ This is a testing ground for contributors and developers from the open community, especially those working in the Health Insurance and Healthcare Provider space, to test and contribute to the HCX ecosystem.
 - ✓ The HCX – Sandbox enables participants to test their specific components against communication standards and get certified to become a part of the system. The successful completion of the HCX – Sandbox process enables the participants to gain access to the HCX production environment. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 62.C

- **VAIBHAV Fellowship' for NRI researchers**
 - **Ministry of Science and Technology** unveiled a fellowship to bring Indian-origin researchers to higher educational institutions in India for a maximum period of two months per year. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - **Aim of the fellowship:** It aims to improve the research ecosystem of India's higher educational institutions by facilitating academic and research collaborations with the best institutions in the world through the mobility of researchers from overseas institutions to India. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - **Criteria:** Applicant should be NRI or PIO or OCI and must have obtained a Ph.D./M. D/M. S degree from a recognized University.
 - **Eligibility:**
 - ✓ The applicant should be Non-Resident Indian (NRI), Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI), currently living abroad.
 - ✓ The applicant must have obtained Ph.D./M.D/M.S degree from a recognized University.
 - ✓ Applicant must be a researcher engaged in an overseas academic / research / industrial organization with proven track record of research & development working in the top 500 QS World University Ranking

- ✓ Plan to pursue research work for minimum of 1 month to a maximum of 2 months a year in a research institution / academic institution in India, spread over 3 years.
- ✓ Applicants can submit their proposal only once in a calendar year.
- **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 63.C

- **Wagner Group**
 - According to reports in The Washington Post, it is **a network of contractors that supply soldiers for hire.**
 - It is said to have been founded by Dmitry Utkin, a former special forces officer, a member of Russia's military intelligence service, and a veteran of both Chechen wars. **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**
 - It is ostensibly private, but according to CSIS, "its management and operations are deeply intertwined with the Russian military and intelligence community" under Vladimir Putin.
 - The Wagner Group first surfaced in 2014, during Russia's annexation of Crimea. It has been involved in conflicts in Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.
 - Its forces are known to be fighting in parts of Ukraine, including during a brutal, long-running battle for the small city of Bakhmut.

Q 64.D

- Though Congress was opposed to the Government of India Act, 1935, it decided to contest the elections under the Act, though with the desired aim of showing how unpopular the Act was.
- The election campaign of Congress met with massive response, even though Gandhiji didn't address a single election meeting. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- The elections, held in February 1937, conclusively demonstrated that a large majority of Indian people supported the Congress which swept the polls in most of the provinces. Congress ministries were formed in July 1937 in seven out of eleven provinces. Later, Congress formed coalition governments in two others. Only Bengal and Punjab had non-Congress ministries. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Punjab was ruled by the Unionist Party and Bengal by a coalition of the Krishak Praja Party and the Muslim League. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 65.C

- **Recent context:** Explorers find WWII ship sunk with over 1,000 Allied prisoners of war.
- The Montevideo Maru was a ship that sunk during World War II, resulting in the loss of about 1,060 prisoners of war and civilians from 14 different countries. For 81 years, the wreckage of the ship remained elusive, until a recent discovery by the Silentworld Foundation, led by Captain Roger Turner.
- **The Montevideo Maru was a Japanese cargo ship that was used to transport prisoners of war and civilians during World War II.** On July 1, 1942, the ship was torpedoed and sunk by a US submarine in the South China Sea. The ship was carrying about 979 Australian troops and civilians, as well as prisoners from other countries, including the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and the Netherlands, among others. Tragically, no one on board survived the sinking, and it became one of the deadliest maritime disasters in Australian history. **Hence statements 1 and 2 are correct.**
- The wreck of the Montevideo Maru was located after a 12-day search at a depth of over 4000 meter (13,120 feet) — deeper than the Titanic — off Luzon island in the South China Sea, using an autonomous underwater vehicle with in-built sonar.
- The Montevideo Maru was transporting prisoners and civilians who were captured after the fall of Rabaul in Papua New Guinea. The ship was not marked as carrying POWs, and on July 1, 1942, the American submarine Sturgeon, after stalking the ship through the night, fired four torpedoes, which found their target, sinking the vessel in less than 10 minutes.

Q 66.D

- **Central Bureau of Narcotics**
 - **Central Bureau of Narcotics** is a central government organization dealing with the **international trade of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, and precursor chemicals under the ambit of various United Nations Conventions and the provisions of The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS), 1985.**
 - **Ministry of Finance** launched the unified portal of the Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN), which will instil efficiency and transparency and reduce the time taken by the pharma industry to get a trade licence. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**

- The unified portal of Central Bureau of Narcotics will instil the efficiency, transparency and accountability in department users with **twin objective to cater the need of pharma and chemical industry for synergistic growth of the drugs & pharma sector and boosting economy for “Aatma Nirbhar Bharat” and ensure availability of the “essential narcotic drugs” and medicines to the patients & their attendant families. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- Exporters, importers, and manufacturers of NDPS, and controlled substances are expected to benefit in an ecosystem which supports and harbours user-friendly, secure transactions, cloud-based storage, simplified process for applicants to obtain various licences.
- **Narcotics Control Bureau is different from Central Bureau of Narcotics**
 - Narcotics Control Bureau is the drug law enforcement and intelligence agency of India **responsible for fighting drug trafficking and the abuse of illegal substances.**
 - **It is affiliated with the Ministry of Home Affairs,** which was made responsible for administering the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.

Q 67.A

- The advance of the national movement in British India, and the accompanying increase in political consciousness about democracy, responsible government and civil liberties had an inevitable impact on the people of the princely states. In the first and second decade of the twentieth century, runaway terrorists from British India seeking shelter in the princely states became agents of politicization.
- A much more powerful influence was exercised by the Non-Cooperation and Khilafat Movement launched in 1920; around this time and under its impact, numerous local organizations of the States' people came into existence.
- **Some of the States in which praja mandals or States' People's Conferences were organized were Mysore, Hyderabad, Baroda, the Kathiawad States, the Deccan States, Jamnagar, Indore, and Nawanagar. This process came to a head in December 1927 at Bombay (first session) with the convening of the All India States' People's Conference (AISPC) which was attended by 700 political workers from the States. It was presided by Dewan Bahadur Ram Chandra Rao. The men chiefly responsible for this initiative were Balwantrao Mehta, Maniklal Kothari and G.R. Abhayankar. Hence statement 1 is correct and statement 2 is not correct.**
- The main emphasis was that people of the States should build up their own strength and demonstrate their capacity to struggle for their demands.
- **Informal links between the congress and the various organisations of the people of the States, including the AISPC, always continued to be close. In 1939, the AISPC elected Jawaharlal Nehru as its President for the Ludhiana session, thus setting the seal on the fusion of the movements in Princely India and British India.**

Q 68.C

- The victory of the Labour Party in Britain in the post-war elections had significant implications for India. Civil liberties were restored, the ban on Congress was lifted, and elections were declared both at the centre and in the provinces for the winter of 1945–1946.
- The Congress welcomed the opportunity to form ministries in the provinces and to elect representatives to the constitution-making body that would be set up.
- The election campaign became a massive exercise in the mobilisation of the people.
- **A major issue taken up in the election campaign related to the unprecedented repression witnessed against the 1942 movement. Hence option 1 is correct.**
 - A typical election speech would relate the tale of repression with all the details of brutality, move on to condemning the officials who were guilty, and end with the promise (or threat) that Congress governments would enquire into these cases and mete out punishment to the guilty officials.
- **The second issue taken up in the election campaign was that of the fate of the members of Subhas Bose's Indian National Army taken prisoner by the Allies and put on trial for brutalities and war crimes. Hence option 3 is correct.**
 - Jawaharlal Nehru hailed them as misguided patriots and called for leniency, given that big changes were imminent in India. The Congress followed this up by passing a resolution in support of the cause. Well-known Congress leaders like Bhulabhai Desai, K.N. Katju, M. Asaf Ali and Jawaharlal Nehru argued the case in court when the trials began at the historic Red Fort. In addition to legal help, Congress organised relief funds and arranged employment for the INA men. Congress election meetings were often indistinguishable from INA meetings.
- **Equal representation of Muslims and Hindus in Constituent Assembly was not specifically taken up during the election campaign of 1945. Hence option 2 is not correct.**

Q 69.C

- The British Government desperately wanted the active cooperation of Indians in the war effort during World War II.
- **To secure Indian cooperation it sent to India in March 1942 a mission headed by a Cabinet Minister, Sir Stafford Cripps, who had earlier been a radical member of the Labour Party and a strong supporter of the Indian national movement. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Even though Cripps declared that the aim of British policy in India was "the earliest possible realisation of self-government in India", detailed negotiations between him and the Congress leaders broke down. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The British Government refused to accept the Congress's demand to immediately transfer effective power to Indians.
- On the other hand, the Indian leaders could not be satisfied by mere promises for the future while the Viceroy retained his autocratic powers in the present.
- They were anxious to cooperate in the war effort, especially as the Japanese army endangered Indian territory. But they could do so, they felt, only when a national government was formed in the country.
- The failure of the Cripps Mission embittered the people of India. While they still fully sympathised with the anti-Fascist forces, they felt that the existing political situation in the country had become intolerable. The Congress now decided to take active steps to compel the British to accept the Indian demand for independence.
- The All India Congress Committee met in Bombay on 8 August 1942.
- It passed the famous 'Quit India' Resolution and proposed the start of a non-violent mass struggle under Gandhi's leadership to achieve this aim.

Q 70.C

- **Paramahansa Mandali** was a secret **socio-religious group**, established in 1849, in **Bombay** and is **closely related to Manav Dharma Sabha** which was founded in the 1840s in Surat.
- It was the first socio-religious organization in Maharashtra. Its founders of these **Mandli believed in one god**. They were primarily **interested in breaking caste rules**. At their meetings food cooked by lower caste people was taken by the members. The Mandali also advocated women's education and **widow remarriage**. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- It was started by **Durgaram Mehtaji, Dadoba Pandurang**, and a group of his friends. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Balshastri Jambhekar started Digdardshan** in 1840, which published articles on scientific subjects as well as history.

Q 71.B

- The British policy of 'Divide and Rule' found another expression in the announcement of the Communal Award in August 1932. The Award allotted to each minority a number of seats in the legislatures to be elected on the basis of a separate electorate that is Muslims would be elected only by Muslims and Sikhs only by Sikhs, and so on. Muslims, Sikhs and Christians had already been treated as minorities.
- The Award declared the Depressed Classes (Scheduled Castes of today) also to be a minority community entitled to separate electorate and thus separated them from the rest of the Hindus.
- The Congress was opposed to a separate electorate for Muslims, Sikhs and 'Christians as it encouraged the communal notion that they formed separate groups or communities having interests different from the general body of Indians. The inevitable result was to divide the Indian people and prevent the growth of a common national consciousness.
- But the idea of a separate electorate for Muslims had been accepted by Congress as far back as 1916 as a part of the compromise with the Muslim League. Hence, Congress took the position that though it was opposed to separate electorates, it was not in favour of changing the Award without the consent of the minorities.
- **Consequently, though strongly disagreeing with the Communal Award, it decided neither to accept it nor to reject it. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- But the effort to separate the Depressed Classes from the rest of the Hindus by treating them as separate political entities was vehemently opposed by all the nationalists. Gandhiji, in Yeravada jail at the time, in particular, reacted very strongly. He saw the Award as an attack on Indian unity and nationalism, harmful to both Hinduism and the Depressed Classes, for it provided no answers to the socially degraded position of the latter. Once the Depressed Classes were treated as a separate community, the question of abolishing untouchability would not arise, and the work of Hindu social reform in this respect would come to a halt.

Gandhiji argued that whatever harm separate electorates might do to Muslims or Sikhs, it did not affect the fact that they would remain Muslims or Sikhs. But while reformers like himself were working for the total eradication of untouchability, separate electorates would ensure that ‘untouchables remain untouchables in perpetuity.’ What was needed was not the protection of the so-called interests of the Depressed Classes in terms of seats in the legislatures or jobs but the ‘root arid branch’ eradication of untouchability. Gandhiji demanded that the representatives of the Depressed Classes should be elected by the general electorate under a wide if possible universal, common franchise. At the same time, he did not object to the demand for a larger number of reserved seats for the Depressed Classes. He went on a fast unto death on 20 September 1932 to enforce his demand.

- Political leaders of different political persuasions, including Madan Mohan Malaviya, M.C. Rajah and B.R. Ambedkar, now became active. **In the end, they succeeded in hammering out an agreement, known as the Poona Pact, according to which the idea of separate electorates for the Depressed Classes was abandoned but the seats reserved for them in the provincial legislatures were increased from seventy-one in the Award to 147 and in the Central Legislature to eighteen per cent of the total. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 72.C

- Lord Birkenhead, the Conservative Secretary of State responsible for the appointment of the Simon Commission, had constantly harped on the inability of Indians to formulate a concrete scheme of constitutional reforms which had the support of wide sections of Indian political opinion
- This challenge, too, was taken up and meetings of the All-Parties Conference were held in February, May and August 1928 to finalize a scheme which popularly came to be known as the Nehru Report after Motilal Nehru, its principal author.
 - This report defined Dominion Status as the form of government desired by India.
 - It also rejected the principle of separate communal electorates on which previous constitutional reforms had been based.
 - **Seats would be reserved for Muslims at the Centre and in provinces in which they were in a minority, but not in those where they had a numerical majority. Hence, option 1 is not correct.**
 - **The Report also recommended Nineteen fundamental rights including universal adult suffrage, equal rights for women, freedom to form unions and dissociation of the state from religion in any form. Hence, options 2, 3 and 4 are correct.**
 - Linguistic provinces
 - Responsible government at the Centre and in provinces
 - The Indian Parliament at the Centre consists of a 500-member House of Representatives elected on the basis of adult suffrage, a 200-member Senate to be elected by provincial councils; the House of Representatives to have a tenure of 5 years and the Senate, one of 7 years; the central government to be headed by a governor-general, appointed by the British government but paid out of Indian revenues, who would act on the advice of the central executive council responsible to the Parliament.
 - Provincial councils to have a 5-year tenure, headed by a governor acting on the advice of the provincial executive council.
 - Full protection to the cultural and religious interests of Muslims.
- A section of the Muslim League had in any case dissociated itself from these deliberations, but by the end of the year, it became clear that even the section led by Jinnah would not give up the demand for reservation of seats for Muslims, especially in Muslim majority provinces.
- The dilemma in which Motilal Nehru and other secular leaders found themselves was not one that was easy to resolve: if they conceded more to Muslim communal opinion, then Hindu communalists would withdraw support and if they satisfied the latter, then Muslim leaders would be estranged.
- In the event, no further concessions were forthcoming and Jinnah withdrew his support to the report and went ahead to propose his famous ‘Fourteen Points’ which were basally a reiteration of his objections to the Nehru Report.

Q 73.B

- **Lord Curzon (1899-1905)** was the viceroy during the **partition of Bengal in 1905**. His tenure also include the second Delhi Durbar in 1903 and the creation of the North West Frontier Province in 1901 to curb the uprising by the frontier tribes. **Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- **Lord Willingdon (1931-36)** was the viceroy during the **announcement of the Communal Award (1932)**. Further, the Second Round Table Conference (1931), and failure of the conference, and the resumption of the Civil Disobedience Movement are also associated with his tenure. **Lord Irvin was the viceroy during 1926-31. Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.**

- **Lord Reading (1921-26)** was the viceroy during the **Chauri Chaura incident (February 5, 1922)** and the subsequent withdrawal of the Non-Cooperation Movement. **Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.**
- **Lord Hardinge II (1910-16)** was the viceroy during the **Ghadar mutiny in 1915**. Further, the creation of the Bengal Presidency (like Bombay and Madras) in 1911 and the transfer of capital from Calcutta to Delhi (1911) occurred during his tenure. **Lord Chelmsford was the viceroy during 1916-21. Hence pair 4 is not correctly matched.**

Q 74.C

- In a private communication to **Zetland**, the **Secretary of State**, Linlithgow was to remark a few months later: 'I am not too keen to start talking about a period after which British rule will have ceased in India. I suspect that that day is very remote and I feel the least we say about it in all probability the better.'
- Zetland's term as Secretary of State — and the experiment with democracy represented by the 1935 Act — came to an end **with Churchill's assumption of the Prime Ministership in 1940: Zetland then offered his resignation**, feeling that his ideas and Churchill's regarding India were so different that **"I could only end by becoming an embarrassment to him."**
- On 18 October, **Zetland spoke in the House of Lords and stressed differences among Indians, especially among Hindus and Muslims. He branded the Congress as a purely Hindu organization.'**
- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 75.B

- **what is Chagas disease?**
 - Chagas disease, also called American trypanosomiasis, is a **communicable parasitic disease which is caused by the parasite protozoan Trypanosoma cruzi**.that has infected 6-7 million people and claims around 12,000 lives every year across the globe, according to WHO.
 - Chagas is currently endemic in 21 countries in the Americas, and shows an annual average incidence of 30,000 new cases, according to Pan-American Health Organisation. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **Symptoms:**
 - The systemic, chronic disease manifests as **fever, headaches, rashes and inflammatory nodules, nausea or diarrhoea and muscle or abdominal pain.**
 - A majority of the patients (70-80 per cent) show an **asymptomatic** clinical course throughout their lives, making early detection challenging. Because of this it is often referred to as the **"silent and silenced disease"**.
- **Transmission of Disease:**
 - It is caused by the **parasite protozoan Trypanosoma cruzi**. The parasites are **mainly transmitted** by a family of bugs called **'triatomines', also known as the 'kissing bug'**.
 - These blood-sucking bugs transmit the disease from infected to healthy individuals through bites and by defecating on them.
 - **Other ways of Transmission:**
 - ✓ An individual can also contract this disease through **congenital transmission (pregnant woman to their baby), blood transfusions, organ transplantation, consumption of uncooked food contaminated with faecal matter of infected bugs or even accidental laboratory exposure.**
 - ✓ **This disease, however, cannot propagate by casual contact with infected humans or animals. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Prevention and Treatment:**
 - There are **currently no vaccines available for Chagas disease**. However, the disease can be treated with antiparasitic medicines Benznidazole and Nifurtimox. These have a 100 per cent efficacy rate if the medicine is administered at the onset of the acute stage. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 76.A

- In Amritsar, the arrest of two local leaders, Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr. Satyapal on 10 April led to an attack on the town hall and the post office; telegraph wires were cut and Europeans including women were attacked. The army was called in and the city handed over to General Dyer, who issued an order prohibiting public meetings and assemblies.
- An unarmed but large crowd gathered on 13 April 1919 at Amritsar in the Jallianwalla Bagh, to protest against the arrest of the leaders Saifuddin Kitchlew and Satyapal. Jallianwalla Bagh was a large open space that was enclosed on three sides by buildings and had only one exit. General Dyer surrounded the Bagh with his army unit, closed the exit with his troop, and then ordered his men to shoot into the trapped crowd with rifles and machine guns. Thousands were killed and wounded. After this massacre, martial

law was proclaimed throughout Punjab and the people were submitted to the most uncivilized atrocities. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

- A wave of horror ran through the country as the knowledge of the Punjab happenings spread. The popular shock was expressed by the great poet and humanist Rabindranath Tagore who renounced his knighthood in the protest.
- In February 1919, Mahatma Gandhi founded the Satyagraha Sabha whose members took a pledge to disobey the Rowlatt Act and thus to court arrest and imprisonment. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Hunter Committee was appointed by the Government to enquire into the Punjab disturbances. It was just an eyewash that the House of Lords had voted in favour of General Dyer's action and that the British public had demonstrated its support by helping the Morning Post collect 30,000 pounds for General Dyer.

Q 77.B

- The orientalist-Anglicist Controversy during British rule was related to educational development in India. It erupted in the **early nineteenth century (1830s)** over the issue of the system of education and the language of modern Education to be introduced in India.
- The officials who favoured the introduction of Western scientific knowledge in India came to be known as the **Anglicists while the Orientalists** were in favour of promoting and disseminating traditional Oriental learning.
- However, the famous **Lord Macaulay's Minute of 1835 settled the row in favour of Anglicists**. The limited government resources thus were to be devoted to the teaching of Western sciences and literature through the medium of the English language alone. Thus, **Orientalist-Anglicist Controversy was settled much before the Woods despatch (1854)**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The **Wood's Dispatch** was a document dispatched from the Court of Directors and popularly named after **Sir Charles Wood, President of the Board of Control in 1854**.
- It was another important step in the development of education in India. **The Dispatch asked the Government of India to assume responsibility for the education of the masses**. It thus repudiated the "downward filtration" theory, at least on paper. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It systematised the hierarchy from vernacular primary schools in villages at the bottom, followed by Anglo-Vernacular High Schools and an affiliated college at the district level, and affiliating universities in the presidency towns of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras. It recommended English as the medium of instruction for higher studies and vernaculars at the school level.
- The despatch directed the government to establish Departments of Education at the provincial levels and affiliated Universities on the model of the London University.
- Consequently, **Departments of Education were instituted in all provinces** and affiliating universities were set up in 1857 at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras. Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, the famous Bengali novelist, became 1858 one of the first two graduates of Calcutta University.

Q 78.B

- **World War II broke Out On 1 September 1939** when Nazi Germany invaded Poland. Earlier Germany had occupied Austria in March 1938 and Czechoslovakia in 1939. Britain and France, which had been following a policy of appeasement towards Hitler, were now forced to go to Poland's aid and declare war on Germany. This they did on 3 September 1939. **The Government of India immediately declared India to be at war with Germany without consulting the Congress or the elected members of the central legislature.**
- Different opinions on the question of Indian support to British war efforts in WW2:
 - **Mahatma Gandhi advocated an unconditional support to the Allied powers. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - **Subhas Bose and other socialists leaders** such as Acharya Narendra Dev and Jaya prakash Narayan were of the **view to take advantage of the situation of World War II. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - **Nehru's View: No Indian Participation in WW2 and at the same, no opportunistic view of the situation either. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
 - The Muslim League viewed the war situation as one from which it could profit in getting a British assurance on its demands.

Q 79.A

- **The founder of the autonomous kingdom of Avadh was Saadat Khan Burhan-ul-Mulk who was appointed Governor of Avadh in 1722. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**
- He was an extremely bold, energetic, iron-willed, and intelligent person. At the time of his appointment, rebellious zamindars had raised their heads everywhere in the province. They refused to pay the land tax, organized their own private armies, erected forts, and defied the Imperial Government. For years Saadat Khan had to wage war upon them.
- He succeeded in suppressing lawlessness and disciplining the big zamindars and thus, increasing the financial resources of his government. Most of the defeated zamindars were, however, not displaced.
- They were usually confirmed in their estates after they had submitted and agreed to pay their dues (land revenue) regularly. Moreover, they continued to be refractory.
- Whenever Nawab's military hold weakened or he was engaged in some other direction, they would rebel, thus weakening Nawab's power.
- As Safdar Jang, Saadat Khan's successor, later wrote. "The Avadh chiefs were capable of creating a disturbance in the twinkling of an eye and were more dangerous than the Marathas of the Deccan".
- **Saadat Khan also carried out a fresh revenue settlement in 1723. He is said to have improved a lot of the peasants by levying equitable land revenue and by protecting him from oppression by the big zamindars.**
- Like the Bengal Nawabs, he too did not discriminate between Hindus and Muslims.
- Many of his commanders and high officials were Hindus and he curbed refractory zamindars, chiefs, and nobles irrespective of their religion.
- His troops were well-paid, well-armed, and well-trained.
- **Alivardi Khan:** Alivardi Khan was the Nawab of Bengal from 1740 to 1756. He toppled the Nasiri dynasty of Nawabs by defeating Sarfaraz Khan in 1740 and assumed power himself.
- **Safdar Jung:** Abul Mansur Mirza Muhammad Muqim Ali Khan, better known as Safdar Jang, was a major figure at the Mughal court during the declining years of the Mughal Empire. He became the second Nawab of Awadh when he succeeded Saadat Ali Khan I in 1739.
- **Shuja ud Daula:** Shuja-ud-Daula was the son of Safdar Jung. He was the Subedar and Nawab of Oudh from 5 October 1754 to 26 January 1775.

Q 80.D

- The Non-Cooperation movement was launched formally on 1 August 1920, after the expiry of the notice that Gandhiji had given to the Viceroy in his letter of 22 June. in which he had asserted the right recognized 'from time immemorial of the subject to refuse to assist a ruler who misrules.'
- The Congress met in September at Calcutta and accepted non-cooperation as its own. The main opposition, led by C.R. Das, was to the boycott of legislative councils, elections to which were to be held very soon. But even those who disagreed with the idea of a boycott accepted the Congress discipline and withdrew from the elections. The voters, too, largely stayed away. By December, when the Congress met for its annual session at Nagpur, the opposition had melted away; the elections were over and, therefore, the boycott of councils was a non-issue, and it was C.R. Das who moved the main resolution on non-cooperation.
- Gandhiji's, decision to withdraw from the Non-cooperation movement in response to the violence at Chauri Chaura raised a Controversy whose heat can still be felt in staid academic seminars and sober volumes of history. Motilal Nehru, C.R. Das, Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhas Bose, and many others have recorded their utter bewilderment on hearing the news.
- They could not understand why the whole country had to pay the price for the crazy behavior of some people in a remote village. Many in the country thought that the Mahatma had failed miserably as a leader and that his days of glory were over. Many later commentators, following, the tradition established by R. Palme Dutt in India Today, have continued to condemn the decision taken by Gandhiji, and seen in it proof of the Mahatma's concern for the propertied classes of Indian society.
- Their argument is that Gandhiji did not withdraw from the movement simply because of his belief in the necessity of non-violence. He withdrew it because the action at Chauri Chaura was a symbol and an indication of the growing militancy of the Indian masses, of their growing radicalization, of their willingness to launch an attack on the status quo of property relations. Frightened by this radical possibility and by the prospect of the movement going out of his hands and into the hands of radical forces, and in order to protect the interests of landlords and capitalists who would inevitably be at the receiving end of this violence, Gandhiji cried halt to the movement.

- They have found supportive proof in the **resolution of the Congress Working Committee of 12 February 1922** popularly known as the **Bardoli resolution** which while announcing the withdrawal, asked the peasants to pay taxes and tenants to pay rents. This, they say, was the real though hidden motive behind the historic decision of February 1922. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

Q 81.B

- The Rise of the Maratha Power
- The most important challenge to the decaying Mughal power came from the Maratha Kingdom which was the most powerful of the succession states. In fact, it alone possessed the strength to fill the political vacuum created by the disintegration of the Mughal empire.
- Moreover, it produced a number of brilliant commanders and statesmen needed for the task, But the Maratha sardars lacked unity, and they lacked the outlook and program which were necessary for founding an all-India empire,
- And so they failed to replace the Mughals. They did, however, succeed in waging continuous war against the Mughal Empire, till they destroyed it.
- **Shahu, the grandson of Shivaji, had been a prisoner in the hands of Aurangzeb since 1689.**
- **Aurangzeb had treated him and his mother with great dignity, honour, and consideration, paying full attention to their religious, caste, and other needs, hoping perhaps to arrive at a political agreement with Shahu. Shahu was released in 1707 after Aurangzeb's death. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **Very soon a civil war broke out between Shahu at Satara and his aunt Tara Bai at Kolhapur who had carried out an anti-Mughal struggle since 1700 in the name of her son Shivaji II after the death of her husband Raja Ram. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Maratha sardars, each one of whom had a large following of soldiers loyal to himself alone, began to side with one or the other contender for power. They used this opportunity to increase their power and influence by bargaining with the two contenders for power.
- Several of them were even intrigued with the Mughal viceroys of the Deccan.
- **Arising out of the conflict between Shahu and his rival at Kolhapur, a new system of Maratha government evolved under the leadership of Balaji Vishwanath, the Peshwa of King Shahu.**
- With this change began the second period—the period of Peshwa domination in Maratha history in which the Maratha state was transformed into an empire.
- Balaji Vishwanath, a Brahmin, started life as a petty revenue official and then rose step by step as an official. He rendered Shahu loyal and useful service in suppressing his enemies. He excelled in diplomacy and won over many of the big Maratha sardars to Shahu's cause.
- **In 1713, Shahu made him his Peshwa. Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- **Balaji Vishwanath gradually consolidated Shahu's hold and his own over Maratha sardars and over most of Maharashtra except for the region south of Kolhapur where Raja Ram's descendants ruled.**
- The Peshwa concentrated power in his office and eclipsed the other ministers and sardars. In fact he and his son Baji Rao made the Peshwa the functional head of the Maratha Empire.
- Balaji Vishwanath took full advantage of the internal conflicts of the Mughal officials to increase Maratha's power.

Q 82.C

- **Simon Commission** was appointed by the British government in **November 1927** to go into the question of **further constitutional reforms.**
- **All the members of the commission were Englishmen,** this announcement was greeted by a chorus of disenchantment from all sections of India as it was seen as a **violation of the principle of self-determination** and a deliberate insult to the self-respect of the Indians.
- The Congress Party decided to boycott the Commission at their session at Madras in 1927. The Muslim League led by M A Jinnah and the Hindu Mahasabha also decided to support the Congress decision.
- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 83.C

- The Conservative Government in Britain led by Winston Churchill was keen to reach a solution to the constitutional question in India. The **Viceroy, Lord Wavell,** was permitted to start negotiations with Indian leaders. Congress leaders were released from jails in June 1945.
 - The idea was to **reconstruct the governor general's executive council pending the preparation of a new constitution.**

- For this purpose, a **conference was convened by the viceroy, Lord Wavell, at Shimla in June 1945.**
- The **main proposals of the Wavell Plan** were as follows:
 - **With the exception of the governor-general and the commander-in-chief, all members of the executive council were to be Indians. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - **Caste Hindus and Muslims were to have equal representation. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - The reconstructed council was to function as an interim government within the framework of the 1935 Act (i.e. not responsible to the Central Assembly).
 - The governor general was to exercise his veto on the advice of ministers.
 - Representatives of different parties were to submit a joint list to the viceroy for nominations to the executive council. If a joint list was not possible, then separate lists were to be submitted.
 - Possibilities were to be kept open for negotiations on a new constitution once the war was finally won.
 - The League wanted all Muslim members to be League nominees because it feared that since the aims of other minorities—depressed classes, Sikhs, Christians, etc.—were the same as those of the Congress, this arrangement would reduce the League to a one-third minority. (Wavell wanted Khizr Hyat Khan as the Muslim representative from Western Punjab.)
 - The League claimed some kind of veto in the council with decisions opposed to Muslims needing a two-thirds majority for approval.
 - The Congress objected to the plan as “an attempt to reduce the Congress to the status of a purely caste Hindu party and insisted on its right to include members of all communities among its nominees”.
 - Wavell announced a breakdown of talks thus giving the League a virtual veto.
 - This strengthened the League’s position, as was evident from the elections in 1945–46, boosted Jinnah’s position; and exposed the real character of the Conservative government of Churchill.

Q 84.B

- When the All-India Congress Committee met at Bezwada (now Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh) on March 31, 1921, they devised a constructive program wherein amongst other aims, it was decided to raise one crore rupees by the end of June 1921. Bombay played the central arena of activity for Mahatma Gandhi from April to June 1921.
- He devised several measures to build the fund and strategized to raise 60 lakhs from Bombay and 40 lakhs from the rest of the country. Support for the Fund came from multiple angles and received a thunderous response, and even surpassed the target.
- The AICC, at its session at Vijayawada in March 1921, directed that for the next three months, Congressmen should concentrate on the collection of funds, enrolment of members and distribution of charkhas. As a result, a vigorous membership drive was launched and though the target of one crore members was not achieved, Congress membership reached a figure roughly of 50 lakhs.
- The overwhelming support and generosity that Bombay displayed earned itself the sobriquet “Bombay the Beautiful” by Gandhi in the Young India magazine on July 6, 1921.
- **In the Nagpur session of Congress which was held on December 1921, a decision was taken to create the All-India Tilak Memorial Swaraj Fund (in the memory of Bal Gangadhar Tilak) to raise funds for the Non-Cooperation Movement. Bombay played a central role in the collection of funds for it. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 85.C

- Lakhajiraj died in 1939 and his son **Dharmendra Singhji**, a complete contrast to the father, soon took charge of the State. The new Thakore was interested only in pleasure, and effective power fell into the hands of **Dewan Virawala**, who did nothing to stop the Thakore from frittering away the State’s wealth, and finances reached such a pass that **the State began to sell monopolies for the sale of matches, sugar, rice, and cinema licences to individual merchants.** This immediately resulted in a rise in prices and enhanced the discontent that had already emerged over the Thakore’s easy-going life-style and his disregard for popular participation in government as reflected in the lapse of the Pratinidhi Sabha as well as the increase in taxes. The ground for struggle had been prepared over several years of political work by political groups in Rajkot and Kathiawad. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The first struggle emerged under the leadership of **Jethalal Joshi**, a Gandhian worker, who organized the 800 labourers of the state-owned cotton mill into a labour union and led a twentyone day strike in 1936 to secure better working conditions. The Durbar had been forced to concede the union’s demands. This victory encouraged Joshi and **UN Dhebar** to convene, in March 1937, the first meeting of the Kathiawad Rajakiya Parishad to be held in eight years. The conference, attended by 15,000 people, **demande**

responsible government, reduction in taxes and state expenditure. Hence, statement 2 and 3 are correct.

Q 86.C

- In 1595, four Dutch ships sailed to India via the Cape of Good Hope.
- **In 1602, the Dutch East India Company was formed and the Dutch States General —the Dutch parliament—gave it a Charter empowering it to make war, conclude treaties, acquire territories and build fortresses. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- The main interest of the Dutch lay not in India but in the Indonesian Islands of Java, Sumatra, and the Spice Islands where spices were produced.
- They soon turned out the Portuguese from the Malay Straits and the Indonesian Islands and in 1623, defeated English attempts to establish themselves there.
- It appeared at the time that the Dutch had successfully seized the most important profitable part of Asian trade.
- They did not, however, entirely abandon Indian trade.
- **They also established trading depots at Surat, Broach, Cambay, and Ahmedabad in Gujarat in West India, Cochin in Kerala, Nagapatam in Madras, Masulipatam in Andhra, Chinsura in Bengal, Patna in Bihar, and Agra in Uttar Pradesh. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- In 1658 they also conquered Ceylon from the Portuguese.
- **They exported indigo, raw silk, cotton textiles, saltpetre, and opium from India.**
- **Coffee was introduced to India during the late seventeenth century.** The story goes that an Indian pilgrim to Mecca – known as Baba Budan – smuggled seven beans back to India from Yemen in 1670 (it was illegal to take coffee seeds out of Arabia at the time) and planted them in the Chandragiri hills of Karnataka.

Q 87.D

- **Damon-i-Koh was a large area of land demarcated by the British East India Company for the settlement of Santhals** near the Rajmahal hills. Santhals were given lands and persuaded to practice settled cultivation. The Santhals were to live within it, practice plough agriculture, and become settled peasants. The land grant to the Santhals stipulated that at least one-tenth of the area was to be cleared and cultivated within the first ten years. The territory was surveyed and mapped. Enclosed with boundary pillars, it was separated from both the world of the settled agriculturists of the plains and the Paharias of the hills.
- However, the Santhals soon found that the land they had brought under cultivation was slipping away from their hands. The state was levying heavy taxes on the land that the Santhals had cleared, moneylenders (dikus) were charging them high rates of interest and taking over the land when debts remained unpaid, and zamindars were asserting control over the Damin area. The discontent of the Santhals was reflected in the Santhal Revolt (1855-56).
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 88.D

- Indian newspapers in the 1870s became highly critical of **Lord Lytton's administration**, especially regarding its inhuman approach toward the victims of the famine of 1876-77. As a result, the Government decided to make a sudden strike at the Indian language newspapers, since they reached beyond the middle-class readership.
- **The Vernacular Press Act (VPA) of 1878, directed only against Indian language newspapers,** was conceived in great secrecy and passed at a single sitting of the Imperial Legislative Council. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - The Act **provided for the confiscation of the printing press, paper, and other materials of a newspaper if the Government believed that it was publishing seditious materials and had flouted an official warning. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - When the Vernacular Press Bill came up before the Council, only one Indian member, Maharaja Jitendra Mohan Tagore, the leader of the Zamindari-dominated British Indian Association was present. He voted for it.
 - **Indian nationalist opinion firmly opposed the Act.** The first great demonstration on an issue of public importance was organized in Calcutta on this question when a large meeting was held in the Town Hall. Various public bodies and the Press also campaigned against the Act.
 - **Consequently, it was repealed in 1881 by Lord Ripon. Hence statement 3 is correct.**

- Under VPA, proceedings were instituted against Som Prakash, Bharat Mihir, Dacca Prakash, and Samachar. Incidentally, the Amrita Bazar Patrika turned overnight into an English newspaper to escape the VPA.
- VPA, 1878 is also known as 'gagging act'.

Q 89.D

- On **8 August 1940**, early in the Battle of Britain, the Viceroy of India, **Lord Linlithgow**, made the so-called "**August Offer**" at Simla, a fresh proposal promising the expansion of the Executive Council to include more Indians, the establishment of an advisory war council, giving weight to minority opinion, and the recognition of Indians' right to frame their own constitution (after the end of the war). In return, it was hoped that all parties and communities in India would cooperate in Britain's war effort.
- British got into conciliatory mood owing to Hitler's advances to seek Indian Support, so this offer was proposed:
 - **Promise of the expansion of the Executive Council. Hence option 1 is correct.**
 - **Dominion status as the objective for India. Hence option 2 is correct.**
 - Promise of Constituent Assembly (mainly Indians) post WW2.
 - **No future constitution to be adopted without the consent of minorities. Hence option 3 is correct.**
- For the first time, inherent right of Indians to frame their Constitution was recognised. Both congress & Muslim League rejected it. Nehru said, "Dominion status concept is dead as a doornail."

Q 90.C

- **Landholder's Society** (Zamindari Association) was **established in 1838** to protect the landlords' interests of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. Despite its limited objectives, the Landholders' Society **marked the beginning of organized political activity** and the use of constitutional agitation methods for the redressal of grievances.
- **Bengal British Indian Society** was **organized in 1843** to protect and promote the interests of the general public. Later on, the Landholders Society and Bengal British Indian Society were merged to form **British India Association**.
- **Madras Native Association** was established in **1852** along with the Bombay Association.
- **Poona Sarvajanik Sabha** was organised in the **1870s by Justice Ranade and others**. It is mainly devoted to criticism of important legislative and administrative measures.
- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 91.A

- **Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative (APPI):**
 - The initiative is in line with the World Health Organization's (WHO) Global One Health strategy, which emphasizes the importance of multisectoral collaboration in addressing the threat of zoonotic diseases.
 - It will help to improve veterinary services and infrastructure, disease surveillance capabilities, early detection and response, build the capacity of animal health professionals, and awareness among farmers through community outreach.
 - It will create an "integrated disease reporting system for enhanced surveillance of zoonotic and other animal diseases. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - It has been launched by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying under One Health Approach to address the threat of diseases that can be transmitted from animals to humans. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - **Pillars of APPI:**
 - ✓ Disease Surveillance and Monitoring.
 - ✓ Disease Model Algorithms and Early Warning System.
 - ✓ Outbreak Investigation and Response.
 - ✓ Ecosystem Coordination.
 - ✓ Vaccine Development and Research and Development.
 - ✓ Building Disaster Resilience.
 - ✓ Funding.
 - ✓ Regulatory Framework.
 - **Aim:** The initiative aims to enhance India's preparedness and response capabilities to prevent and control zoonotic diseases, thereby safeguarding the health of both animals and humans.

- **Animal Health System Support for One Health (AHSSOH):**
 - It aims to create an ecosystem for a better animal health management system using the One Health approach.
 - The project will be implemented over a five-year period as Central sector scheme.
 - It has set a goal to cover 151 districts in five participating states, focusing on upgrading 75 district/regional laboratories, as well as strengthening 300 veterinary hospitals/dispensaries.
- **NOTE:** The NOHM is a cross-ministerial effort approved by the Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC). The NOHM will be implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in collaboration with other ministries.

Q 92.A

- By December 1920, when the Congress met for its annual session at Nagpur, the opposition had melted away; the elections were over and, therefore, the boycott of councils was a non-issue, and it was CR. Das moved the main resolution on non-cooperation. The programme of non-cooperation included within its ambit the surrender of titles and honours, boycott of government-affiliated schools and colleges, law courts, and foreign cloth, and could be extended to include resignation from government service and mass civil disobedience including the non-payment of taxes.
- National schools and colleges were to be set up, panchayats were to be established for settling disputes, hand-spinning and weaving were to be encouraged and people were asked to maintain Hindu-Muslim unity, give up untouchability and observe strict non-violence. Gandhiji promised that if the programme was fully implemented, Swaraj would be ushered in within a year. The Nagpur session, thus, committed Congress to a programme of extra-constitutional mass action.
- Many groups of revolutionary terrorists, especially in Bengal, also pledged support to the movement. To enable the Congress to fulfil its new commitment, significant changes were introduced in its creed as well as in its organizational structure. The goal of the Congress was changed from the attainment of self-government by constitutional and legal means to the attainment of Swaraj by peaceful and legitimate means. The new constitution of the Congress, the handiwork of Gandhiji, introduced other important changes.
- **The Congress was now to have a Working Committee of fifteen members to look after its day-to-day affairs. This proposal, when first made by Tilak in 1916, had been shot down by the Moderate opposition. Gandhiji, too, knew that the Congress could not guide a sustained movement unless it had a compact body that worked around the year. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Provincial Congress Committees were now to be organized on a linguistic basis so that they could keep in touch with the people by using the local language. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Congress organization was to reach down to the village and the mohalla level by the formation of village and mohalla or ward committees. **The membership fee was reduced to four annas per year to enable the poor to become members. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- Mass involvement would also enable Congress to have a regular source of income. In other ways, too, the organisational structure was both streamlined and democratized. The Congress was to use Hindi as far as possible.

Q 93.C

- Ghadar means 'revolt' or rebellion. The Ghadar party (started in 1913) was a revolutionary group organized to overthrow British rule in India. **It was organized by overseas Indian immigrants to Canada and the USA.** The party was organized around a weekly newspaper The Ghadar which was published from its headquarters, the Yugantar Ashram in San Francisco. **The founding president of the Ghadar party was Sohan Singh Bhakna and Lala Hardayal was a co-founder of this party. Hence statement 1 and 2 are correct.**
- The leadership also included Bhagwan Singh, Barkatullah, and Ram Chandra. The Ghadar militants immediately began an extensive propaganda campaign against British rule. They toured extensively, visiting mills and farms where most of the Punjabi immigrant labour worked. The Yugantar Ashram became the home and headquarters and refuge of these political workers.
- **The first issue of Ghadar was published in Urdu on 1st November 1913,** the Gurumukhi edition was letter started on 9th December. The newspaper carried the captions on the masthead: 'Angrezi Raj ka Dushman' or 'An Enemy of British Rule.' On the front page of each issue was a feature titled Angrezi Raj Ka Kacha Chittha or 'An Expose of British Rule.' This exposes consisted of 14 points enumerating the harmful effect of the British rule in India and lost two point dealt with solutions. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

- During the first World War revolutionaries of Ghadar tried to violently overthrow the British government, they called Rash Behari Bose to lead the movement in Punjab, but the movement was successfully dismantled by the British India government using intelligence (CID) and force.

Q 94.A

- Bengal was the most fertile and the richest of India's provinces. Its industries and commerce were well developed.
- As has been noted earlier, the East India Company and its servants had highly profitable trading interests in the province.
- **The Company had secured valuable privileges in 1717 under a royal *farman* by the Mughal Emperor Farrukh Siyar, which had granted the Company the freedom to export and import their goods in Bengal without paying taxes and the right to issue passes or *dastaks* for the movement of such goods. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **The Company's servants were also permitted to trade but were not covered by this *farman*.** They were required to pay the same taxes as Indian merchants. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- This *farman* was a perpetual source of conflict between the Company and the Nawabs of Bengal.
- For one, **it meant loss of revenue to the Bengal Government.**
- Secondly, the power to issue *dastaks* for the Company's goods was misused by the Company's servants to evade taxes on their private trade.
- **All the Nawabs of Bengal, from Murshid Quli Khan to Alivardi Khan, had objected to the English interpretation of the *farman* of 1717.**
- They had compelled the Company to pay lump sums to their treasury and firmly suppressed the misuse of *dastaks*.
- The. The company had been compelled to accept the authority of the Nawabs in the matter, but its servants had taken every opportunity to evade and defy this authority.

Q 95.B

- **The Charter Act of 1853** carried further the separation of the executive and the legislative functions by providing additional members of the council for the purpose of the legislation.
- The Law Member was made a full member of the Executive Council of the Governor General. The consent of the Governor General was made necessary for all legislative proposals.
- Another important provision of the act was that it dissolved the Company's patronage. **The Charter Act decreed that all recruits to the Civil Service were to be selected through a competitive examination. Till 1853, all appointments to the Civil Service were made by the directors of the East India Company,** who placated the members of the Board of Control by letting them make some of the nominations.
- The number of Directors was reduced from 24 to 18. Six of them were to be nominated by the Crown. The Company was allowed to retain possessions of the Indian territories in trust for her majesty, her heirs and successors until Parliament shall otherwise provide. Thus, no definite period was specified for the control of the company over Indian affairs.
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 96.A

- **CLEANaction**
 - The Coalition Linking Energy and Nature for Action (CLEANaction) is a partnership to protect nature during the energy transition. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - The clean energy coalition of WWF says all forms of renewable power are better than fossil fuels. CLEANaction is a partnership of several non-profits and organisations like WWF, IRENA and BirdLife International formed to protect nature during energy transition. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - It aims to highlight the need for new renewable energy generation projects to be carefully assessed for their impacts on biodiversity.
 - CLEANaction urged governments to consider the impact on nature at the earliest stage by evaluating the renewable energy value chain (from sourcing material to disposal).
 - It also urges the governments to develop national regulatory schemes that require energy developers to contribute to national conservation targets.

- **Findings**
 - ✓ Solar and wind energy: These transitions help achieve the International Energy Agency's standards of a power system capable of holding global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees Celsius. The impact of wind energy is minimal compared to other major energy technologies, such as fossil fuels, bioenergy, and nuclear energy.
 - ✓ Projects: The construction of renewable energy projects, such as hydropower dams, leads to the inundation of vast swathes of natural habitats and alters natural flow regimes and downstream habitats.
 - ✓ Bioenergy: In all its forms, including biomass, biofuel, and biogas, has a larger biodiversity impact per unit of energy than that of wind and solar.

Q 97.A

- **Recent context:** On April 23, Manipur honours to the courageous soldiers who gave up their lives during the war. The event is typically held at Kheba Ching in Khongjom, where Manipur's Chief Minister and Governor, along with other dignitaries, pay their respects to the fallen heroes.
- Khongjom Day is a significant event in the history of Manipur that commemorates the bravery of the state's soldiers who fought in the 1891 Anglo-Manipuri War. The battle occurred at Khongjom in Manipur's Thoubal district. It marked the start of the British colonialism in the region.
- After the graceful defeat at the Battle of Khongjom where the Manipuri armies fought gallantly under Major Paona Brajabashi, Manipur lost its sovereignty to the British. And, on the fateful day of 13th August 1891, martyrs of Manipur- Yubraj Tikendrajit, Thangal General were hanged in front of the public
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 98.A

- **The Doctrine of Lapse** was used to **justify the annexation of several Indian states, including Satara, Sambalpur, Jhansi, and Nagpur.** The policy was criticized by some British officials, as well as by many Indians, who saw it as a violation of their traditional rights and customs.
- The Doctrine of Lapse was a **policy introduced by Lord Dalhousie**, the Governor-General of India from 1848 to 1856, during the British colonial rule in India. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- According to this **doctrine**, any **Indian state ruled by a prince or ruler who did not have a natural heir could be annexed by the British** East India Company. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **The British annexation of Awadh**, also known as Oudh, took place in 1856 under the rule of Lord Dalhousie, the Governor-General of India. The annexation was carried out **under the pretext of misrule and maladministration** by the then Awadh ruler. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 99.B

- Fortnight-long discussions culminated on 5 March 1931 in the Gandhi-Irwin Pact, which was variously described as a 'truce' and a 'provisional settlement.' The Pact was signed by Gandhiji on behalf of the Congress and by Lord Irwin on behalf of the Government, a procedure that was hardly popular with officialdom as it placed the Congress on an equal footing with the Government.
- The terms of the agreement included
 - The immediate release of all political prisoners not convicted for violence,
 - **The remission of all fines not yet collected, the return of confiscated lands not yet sold to third parties,**
 - Lenient treatment for those government employees who had resigned.
 - **The Government also conceded the right to make salt for consumption to villages along the coast. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - As also the right to peaceful and non-aggressive picketing.
 - The Congress's demand for a public inquiry into police excesses was not accepted, but Gandhiji's insistent request for an inquiry was recorded in the agreement.
 - The Congress, on its part, agreed to discontinue the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- It was also understood that the Congress would participate in the next Round Table Conference.
- The terms on which the Pact was signed, its timing, the motives of Gandhiji in signing the Pact, his refusal to make the Pact conditional on the commutation of the death sentences of Bhagat Singh and his comrades, (even though he had tried his best to persuade the Viceroy to do so), have generated considerable controversy and debate among contemporaries and historians alike.

- The Pact has been variously seen as a betrayal, as proof of the vacillating nature of the Indian bourgeoisie and of Gandhiji succumbing to bourgeois pressure. It has been cited as evidence of Gandhiji's and the Indian bourgeoisie's fear of the mass movement taking a radical turn; a betrayal of peasants' interests because it did not immediately restore confiscated land, already sold to a third party, and so on. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

Q 100.D

- Tipu Sultan was born in November 1750 to Haidar Ali and Fatima.
- A well educated man, he could freely converse in Arabic, Persian, Kanarese and Urdu.
- Tipu was a great warrior (he was known as the 'Tiger of Mysore') and gave maximum care to the raising and maintenance of an efficient military force.
- He organised his army on the European model with Persian words of command.
- Though he took the help of the French officers to train his soldiers, he never allowed them (French) to develop into a pressure group. Like his father, Tipu realised the importance of a naval force.
- In 1796, he set up a Board of Admiralty and planned for a fleet of 22 battleships and 20 large frigates.
- Three dockyards were established at Mangalore, Wajedabad and Molidabad. However, his plans did not fructify.
- **Tipu was a patron of science and technology. He is credited as the 'pioneer of rocket technology' in India.**
- He wrote a military manual explaining the operation of rockets. **He was also a pioneer in introducing sericulture to the Mysore State.**
- Tipu was a great lover of democracy and a great diplomat.
- He gave his support to the French soldiers at Seringapatam in setting up a Jacobin Club in 1797. He ordered a salute of 2,300 cannons and 500 rockets to celebrate the occasion.
- Tipu himself became a member of the Jacobin Club and allowed himself to be called Citizen Tipu.
- **His desire to change with the times was symbolised in the introduction of a new calendar, a new system of coinage, and new scales of weights and measures.**
- His personal library contained books on such diverse subjects as religion, history, military science, medicine, and mathematics.
- He showed a keen interest in the French Revolution.
- He planted the Tree of Liberty at Seringapatam.
- **He tried to do away with the custom of giving jagirs, and thus improve state income.**
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**