



1 Rabindranath Tagore's objections to 'Nationalism' and 'Patriotism' were that

1. A nation is an organised self-interest of a people and not a voluntary self-expression of individuals as social beings.
2. Racial organization of any nation was unacceptable because it suppresses diversity for the expedience of cultural security.

◦ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only ✓
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None

◦ Your Answer : A

◦ Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Below is a brief account of his views on nationalism (more than what is mentioned in NCERT).

Tagore's foremost objection to nationalism lies in its very nature and purpose as an institution. The fact that it is a social construction, a mechanical organisation, modelled with certain utilitarian objectives in mind, makes it unpalatable to Tagore, who was a champion of creation over construction, imagination over reason and the natural over the artificial and the man-made: "Construction is for a purpose, it expresses our wants; but creation is for itself, it expresses our very beings"..

As a formation, based on needs and wants rather than truth and love, it could not, Tagore suggests, contribute much to the moral/spiritual fulfilment of mankind. To him, race was a more natural, and therefore acceptable, social unit than the nation, and he envisioned a "rainbow" world in which races would live together in amity, keeping their "distinct characteristics but all attached to the stem of humanity by the bond of love."

He took the view that since nationalism emerged in the post-religious laboratory of industrial-capitalism, it was only an "organisation of politics and commerce" that brings "harvests of wealth," or "a carnival of materialism," by spreading tentacles of greed, selfishness, power and prosperity, or churning up the baser instincts of mankind, and sacrificing in the process "the moral man, the complete man... to make room for the political and the commercial man, the man of limited purpose."

Nationalism, according to Tagore, is not expressive of the living bonds in society; it is not a voluntary self-expression of individuals as social beings, where human relationships are naturally regulated, "so that men can develop ideals of life in cooperation with one another," but a political and commercial union of a group of people, in which they come together to maximize their profit, progress and power; it is "the organised self-interest of a people, where it is least human and least spiritual."

Q Source: Additional Research: Page 108: Chapter 6: 11th NCERT: Political Theory



2 With reference to the Outer Space Treaty, its obligations and provisions, consider the following statements.

1. It prohibits the launching of ballistic missiles, which could be armed with WMD warheads, through space.
2. China is not a party to the treaty.
3. The treaty explicitly forbids any government to claim a celestial resource such as the Moon or a planet.
4. It allows state parties to hold bilateral or multilateral military exercises in space or on celestial bodies.
5. As per the treaty, if a State launches a space object, and retains jurisdiction and control over that object, it is also liable for damages caused by their space object.

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : A

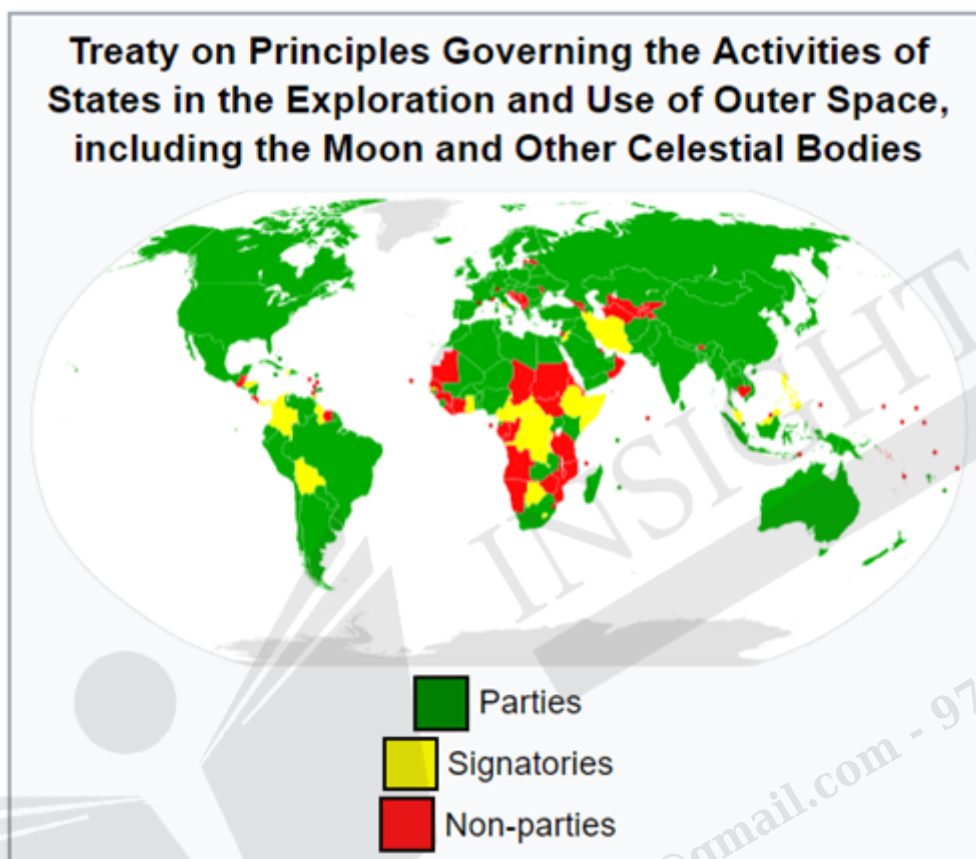
◦ Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Space exploration is governed by a complex series of international treaties and agreements which have been in place for years. The first and probably most important of them is the Outer Space Treaty. The treaty was initially signed by the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union on January 27, 1967 and it came into effect from October 10, 1967. The treaty was initially called 'Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and other Celestial bodies.

Statement 1: The treaty forbids countries from deploying "nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction" in outer space. The term "weapons of mass destruction" is not defined, but it is commonly understood to include nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. The treaty, however, does not prohibit the launching of ballistic missiles, which could be armed with WMD warheads, through space.

Statement 2: China is a member.



Statement 3 and 4: The treaty's key arms control provisions are in Article IV. States-parties commit not to:

- Place in orbit around the Earth or other celestial bodies any nuclear weapons or objects carrying WMD.
- Install WMD on celestial bodies or station WMD in outer space in any other manner.
- Establish military bases or installations, test "any type of weapons," or conduct military exercises on the moon and other celestial bodies.
- The treaty explicitly forbids any government to claim a celestial resource such as the Moon or a planet.

Statement 5: Article II of the Treaty states that "outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, is not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty, by means of use or occupation, or by any other means".

- However, the State that launches a space object retains jurisdiction and control over that object.



- The State is also liable for damages caused by their space object.
- Article VI of the Outer Space Treaty deals with international responsibility, stating that "the activities of non-governmental entities in outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall require authorization and continuing supervision by the appropriate State Party to the Treaty" and that States Parties shall bear international responsibility for national space activities whether carried out by governmental or non-governmental entities.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/07/insights-daily-current-affairs-07-june-2018/>

3 With reference to the writ of Certiorari, consider the following statements.

1. It can be issued only by the Supreme Court, and not by High courts.
2. Certiorari can be issued to call for the record or papers and proceedings of an Act or Ordinance.
3. It is not applicable to tribunals.
4. It cannot be issued for cases when the case has not been even heard by a court of law.

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : C

◦ Correct Answer : C

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1, 2 and 3: A writ of certiorari or a writ in the nature of certiorari can only be issued by the Supreme court under Art. 32 and a High court under Art. 226 to direct , inferior courts , tribunals or authorities to transmit to the court the record of proceedings disposed of or pending therein for scrutiny , and , if necessary , for quashing the same . But a writ of certiorari can never be issued to call for the record or papers and proceedings of an Act or Ordinance and for quashing such an Act or Ordinance.

Statement 4: There is a fundamental distinction between writs of prohibition and certiorari. They are issued at different stages of proceedings. When an inferior court takes up a hearing for a matter over which it has no jurisdiction, the person against whom hearing is taken can move the superior court for writ of prohibition on which order would be issued forbidding the inferior court from continuing the proceedings.

On the other hand if the court hears the matter and gives the decision , the party would need to move to superior court to quash the decision / order on the ground of want of jurisdiction.

Q Source: Additional Research: Page 41: Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work



4 Common Services Centers (CSCs) are a strategic cornerstone of which of the following flagship programmes of the Government of India?

- A. MGNREGA
- B. Digital India programme ✓
- C. National Nutrition Mission ✗
- D. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : B

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Even though it might be useful in all major schemes, it was seen as a strategic intervention for Digital India to succeed.

CSCs are the access points for delivery of various electronic services to villages in India, thereby contributing to a digitally and financially inclusive society.

CSCs enable the three vision areas of the Digital India programme:

- Digital infrastructure as a core utility to every citizen.
- Governance and services on demand.
- Digital empowerment of citizens.

Significance of CSCs:

CSCs are more than service delivery points in rural India. They are positioned as change agents, promoting rural entrepreneurship and building rural capacities and livelihoods. They are enablers of community participation and collective action for engendering social change through a bottom-up approach with key focus on the rural citizen.

The CSC project, which forms a strategic component of the National eGovernance Plan was approved by the Government in May 2006, as part of its commitment in the National Common Minimum Programme to introduce e-governance on a massive scale.

Q Source: Frequently in news

5 Consider the following statements.

1. WIPO Copyright Treaty has provisions to extend the protection of copyrights contained therein to the digital environment.
2. WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty recognizes moral rights of the performers for the first time & provides exclusive economic rights to them.



- Which of the above is/are correct?
 - A. 1 only
 - B. 2 only ❌
 - C. Both 1 and 2 ✅
 - D. None

- Your Answer : B
- Correct Answer : C

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: It provides additional protections for copyright to respond to advances in information technology since the formation of previous copyright treaties before it.

The WCT and WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty, are together termed WIPO "internet treaties"

Both the treaties provide framework for creators and right owners to use technical tools to protect their works and safeguard information about their use i.e. Protection of Technological Protection Measures (TPMs) and Rights Management Information (RMI).

Statement 1: It came in force on March 6, 2002 and has been adopted by 96 contracting parties till date and is A Special agreement under Berne Convention (for protection of literary and artistic works). It has provisions to extend the protection of copyrights contained therein to the digital environment. Further it recognises the rights specific to digital environment, of making work available, to address "on-demand" and other interactive modes of access.

Statement 2: WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty:

It came in force on May 20, 2002 and has 96 contracting parties as its members. WPPT deals with rights of two kinds of beneficiaries, particularly in digital environment - (i) Performers (actors, singers, musicians etc.) (ii) Producers of Phonograms (Sound recordings). The treaty empowers right owners in their negotiations with new digital platforms and distributors. It recognizes moral rights of the performers for the first time & provides exclusive economic rights to them.

Q Source: Surprise questions

6 The concept of Special Category Status states emerged based on the

- A. Gadgil formula in 1969 ✅
 - B. Second amendment to the Constitution of India
 - C. States Reorganization Commission, 1956
 - D. Post-liberalization (1991) discourse
- Your Answer : A
 - Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**



Learning: There is no provision of SCS in the Constitution; the Central government extends financial assistance to states that are at a comparative disadvantage against others. The concept of SCS emerged in 1969 when the Gadgil formula (that determined Central assistance to states) was approved.

Some prominent guidelines for getting SCS status:

- Must be economically backward with poor infrastructure.
- The states must be located in hilly and challenging terrain.
- They should have low population density and significant tribal population.
- Should be strategically situated along the borders of neighbouring countries.

What kind of assistance do SCS States receive?

- The SCS States used to receive block grants based on the Gadgil-Mukherjee formula, which effectively allowed for nearly 30 per cent of the Total Central Assistance to be transferred to SCS States as late as 2009-10.
- Following the constitution of the NITI Aayog (after the dissolution of the Planning Commission) and the recommendations of the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC), Central plan assistance to SCS States has been subsumed in an increased devolution of the divisible pool to all States (from 32% in the 13th FC recommendations to 42%) and do not any longer appear in plan expenditure.
- The FFC also recommended variables such as “forest cover” to be included in devolution, with a weightage of 7.5 in the criteria and which could benefit north-eastern States that were previously given SCS assistance. Besides, assistance to Centrally Sponsored Schemes for SCS States was given with 90% Central share and 10% State share.

Q Source: Frequently in news

- 7 The most important characteristic of India's foreign trade throughout the colonial period was the generation of a large export surplus. However, this was problematic because
1. Several essential commodities like food grains became conspicuous by their acute scarcity in the domestic market.
 2. It led to an unprecedented flow of gold and silver into India which devalued the Indian currency.
 3. The surplus was used to make payments for the expenses incurred by an office set up by the colonial government in Britain leading to drain of wealth.



- Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

- Your Answer : B
- Correct Answer : B

- **Answer Justification :**

Justification and Learning: significant aspect of India's foreign trade during the British rule was the favourable balance of trade, i.e., excess of exports over imports. Theoretically, it implies a great advantage. But our foreign ruler was rather in an averse mood to confer any benefits to India.

Practically, export surplus represented a drain of India's wealth and resources. Britain habitually maintained export surplus because India had to make considerable payments to Britain for which no visible return was made.

These payments included Home Charges (comprising interest on public debt, civil and military expenditure, interest and profits on private foreign capital, service charges for using foreign banking, insurance, and shipping business, etc.). Thus the drain facilitated the penetration and exploitation of India by foreign capital. This drain exposed the exploitative nature of the foreign ruler.

Statement 1 and 2: Several essential commodities—food grains, clothes, kerosene etc. — became conspicuous by their acute scarcity in the domestic market. Furthermore, this export surplus did not result in any flow of gold or silver into India.

Q Source: Revision: Additional Research: Chapter 1: Class XII Social Change and Development in India

- 8** Consider the following statements.

1. Clouded leopard and Red Panda are facing habitat loss and poaching threat for their Meat and medicinal uses.
2. Northern River Terrapin is largely found in Rajasthan.
3. Arabian Sea Humpback whales migrate towards India's west coast from the Gulf (middle-east).

- Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : C

- **Answer Justification :**



Justification: Statement 1: Terrapins have been exploited for illegal trade across borders, especially for its meat and carapace. Clouded leopard and Red Panda are facing habitat loss and poaching threat for their meat, medicine and pelts.

Statement 2: While the Northern River Terrapin is largely found in West Bengal, the clouded leopard is found in Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim and Assam while the Red Panda is largely found in Sikkim, western Arunachal Pradesh, North Bengal and parts of Meghalaya.

Statement 3: Arabian Sea Humpback Whale is facing threats from accidental entanglement in fishing gears, ship strikes and seismic explorations. Humpback whales migrate towards India's west coast from Oman and there have been several instances of these gargantuan species getting beached on Maharashtra's long coastline.

India is a party to the International Whaling commission that is committed to the protection of whales and its habitats in Indian waters.

Q Source: This is based on the a question on inclusion of certain species in critical wildlife species conservation plan of MoEFCC asked in the last test

9 It is a compulsory termination of Indian citizenship by the Central government, if

1. The citizen has shown disloyalty to the Constitution of India
2. The citizen has been ordinarily resident out of India for four years continuously

◦ Which of the above is/are correct?

A. 1 only ✓

B. 2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. None ✗

◦ Your Answer : D

◦ Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Some other cases are:

- the citizen has obtained the citizenship by fraud:
- the citizen has shown disloyalty to the Constitution of India (but not to the laws, because most law breakers are only imprisoned or punished):
- the citizen has unlawfully traded or communicated with the enemy during a war;
- the citizen has, within five years after registration or naturalisation, been imprisoned in any country for two years; and



- the citizen has been ordinarily resident out of India for seven years continuously.

Q Source: Chapter 6: Indian Polity: M Laxmikanth

10 The major purpose of the IndIGO consortium, with support from the USA, is to

1. Set up the LIGO-India detector, which would help enhance the network of gravitational wave detectors worldwide
2. Make findings about cosmic radiation widely available so that it strengthens research synergy in theoretical physics

◦ Which of the above is/are correct?

A. 1 only ✓

B. 2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. None

◦ Your Answer : A

◦ Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: INDIGO, or IndIGO (Indian Initiative in Gravitational-wave Observations) is a consortium of Indian gravitational-wave physicists.

This is an initiative to set up advanced experimental facilities for a multi-institutional observatory project in gravitational-wave astronomy.

Since 2009, the IndIGO Consortium has been planning a roadmap for gravitational-wave astronomy and a phased strategy towards Indian participation in realizing a gravitational-wave observatory in the Asia-Pacific region. IndIGO is the Indian partner (along with the LIGO Laboratory in U.S.) in planning the LIGO-India project

The network includes the two LIGO detectors in the US (in Hanford and Livingston), the Virgo and GEO600 detectors in Europe, and the proposed KAGRA detector in Japan. By simultaneous detection of the same event on these multiple detectors, a precise location in the sky can be pinpointed for the source of the detected waves.

For example, the first detected gravitational waves by LIGO could only pinpoint the location of the black hole merger source to a broad area of the southern hemisphere sky. Using triangulation, this location information could be improved if the signal was detected on more than two detectors.

Another important goal of IndIGO is to train scientists for successfully operating the LIGO-India detector, when commissioned. Previous studies have shown that a detector operational in India would improve source localization significantly, by an order of magnitude or more, depending on the region of the sky.

Q Source: Revision: Previous test:

http://www.mea.gov.in/Portal/ForeignRelation/India_US_brief.pdf



11 The Constitution confers which of the following rights and privileges on the citizens of India but denies the same to aliens?

1. Right to education
2. Right to freedom of speech and expression
3. Right against exploitation

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : D

◦ Correct Answer : C

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: These rights are not available to the foreigners (friendly aliens):

- Right against discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth (Article 15).
- Right to equality of opportunity in the matter of public employment (Article 16).
- Right to freedom of speech and expression, assembly, association, movement, residence and profession (Article 19).
- Cultural and educational rights (Articles 29 and 30).
- Right to vote in elections to the Lok Sabha and state legislative assembly.
- Right to contest for the membership of the Parliament and the state legislature.
- Eligibility to hold certain public offices, that is, President of India, Vice-President of India, judges of the Supreme Court and the high courts, governor of states, attorney general of India and advocate general of states.

Q Source: Chapter 6: Indian Polity: M Laxmikanth

12 The government cannot impose restrictions on the practice of freedom of religion on which of the following grounds?



- A. Public order ✖
- B. Public health
- C. Morality
- D. National Integrity ✔

- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: In India, everyone is free to choose a religion and practice that religion. Freedom of religion also includes the freedom of conscience. This means that a person may choose any religion or may choose not to follow any religion.

Freedom of religion includes the freedom to profess, follow and propagate any religion. Freedom of religion is subject to certain limitations.

The government can impose restrictions on the practice of freedom of religion in order to protect public order, morality and health. This means that the freedom of religion is not an unlimited right. The government can interfere in religious matters for rooting out certain social evils. For example in the past, the government has taken steps banning practices like sati, bigamy or human sacrifice. Such restrictions cannot be opposed in the name of interference in right to freedom of religion.

Q Source: Page 38: Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

13 Consider the following statements.

1. Under the RISE scheme, any deemed university in India can borrow from a Rs 1,00,000 crore corpus over the next several years to expand and build new infrastructure.
2. Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) was created as a Special Purpose Vehicle, supported by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), with a consortium of private sector banks to serve as its promoter.

- Which of the above is/are correct?
 - A. 1 only
 - B. 2 only
 - C. Both 1 and 2
 - D. None ✔

- Your Answer :
- Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1: Under RISE, all centrally-funded institutes (CFIs), including central universities, IITs, IIMs, NITs and IISERs, can borrow from a Rs 1,00,000 crore corpus over the next four years to expand and build new infrastructure. The initiative aims to step up investments in research and related infrastructure in premier educational institutions, including health institutions.



Statement 2: Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) would be suitably structured for funding this initiative. The manner in which investment in institutions is provided is likely to be the same as is practised in HEFA, but there may be different windows for different institutions.

The Union Cabinet had approved HEFA in September 2016 as a Special Purpose Vehicle with a public sector bank (Canara Bank). It would be jointly funded by the promoter/bank and the MHRD with an authorised capital of ₹2,000 crore. The government equity would be ₹1,000 crore.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/07/05/insights-daily-current-affairs-05-july-2018/>

14 With reference to the “Guidelines for the media in addressing the issue of child sexual abuse” by the National Human Rights Commission, consider the following statements.

1. Media should not bring the issue of child sexual abuse into the realm of public knowledge and public debate to save the child from unnecessary harassment.
2. Under no circumstances should the media disclose or reveal the identity of the victim.
3. Media should document and widely disseminate Best Practices on Prevention of child sexual abuse.

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : B

◦ Correct Answer : B

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Due to the increasing number of such cases and their exposure in media, NHRC had issues guidelines on its website:

These are:

- Media should bring the issue of child sexual abuse into the realm of public knowledge and public debate. It is important that the issue of sexual abuse is presented as a serious violation of rights, not only as an offence against children.
- Media should, through sensitive and meaningful projection and coverage of the issue, be instrumental in creating a sense of moral indignation and outrage over incidents of child sexual abuse.
- When media reports an incident of sexual abuse it should also report subsequently on actions taken by concerned authorities and continue to report till action is taken to punish the abusers.



- Media should not unwittingly glorify the act of sexual abuse by giving undue prominence to the perpetrator.
- Media needs to develop a system wherein viewers/audience can comment/evaluate on the quality and impact of the programmes being aired and telecast.
- • Media should document and widely disseminate Best Practices on Prevention of child sexual abuse, action taken against abusers, work of selected NGOs, etc.

Q Source: Additional Research: Page 42 (Blue Box): Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

<http://nhrc.nic.in/Documents/Guidelinesforthemedias.pdf>

15 Consider the following statements.

Assertion (A): The structure of earth can be understood by observing the passage of earthquake waves through different layers of earth.

Reason (R): Some type of earthquake waves do not travel through liquid material in earth's layers.

- In the context of the above, which of these is correct?
 - A. A is correct, and R is an appropriate explanation of A. ✓
 - B. A is correct, but R is not an appropriate explanation of A. ✗
 - C. A is correct, but R is incorrect.
 - D. Both A and R are incorrect.

- Your Answer : B
- Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Earthquake waves get recorded in seismographs located at far off locations. However, there exist some specific areas where the waves are not reported. Such a zone is called the 'shadow zone'.

It is due to the S wave. There are two types of body waves generated during an earthquake. They are called P and S-waves.

An important fact about S-waves is that they can travel only through solid materials. This characteristic of the S-waves is quite important as it has helped scientists to understand the structure of the interior of the earth.

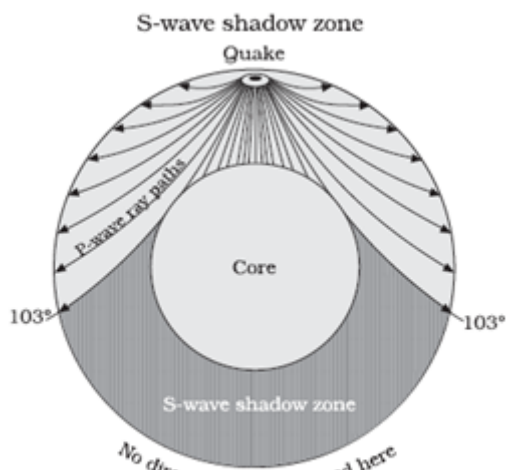


Figure 3.2 (a) and (b) : Earthquake Shadow Zones

Q Source: Revision: Page 24: Chapter 3: Fundamentals of Physical Geography: 11th NCERT

16 The Reserve Bank of India has decided to set up a public credit registry (PCR) in a modular and phased manner. How this decision would be helpful to the Indian economy?

1. A PCR would fill in the credit information gap since there are no privately-owned credit information companies (CICs) in India.
2. The PCR will serve as a registry of all credit contracts for all lending in India and any lending by an Indian institution to a company incorporated in India.
3. It can help banks and regulators in early intervention and effective restructuring of stressed bank credits.

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : B

◦ Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: The PCR will essentially provide a single-point and real-time source for financial liabilities of a person or entity. The decision is based on the report of RBI appointed task force led by YM Deosthalee.

Statement 1: Currently, there are multiple granular credit information repositories in India, each with distinct objective and coverage. Within the RBI, CRILC is a borrower-level supervisory dataset with a threshold in aggregate exposure of Rs 5 crore. Also, there are four privately-owned credit information companies (CICs) in India.



The RBI has mandated all its regulated entity to submit credit information individually to all four CICs. CICs offer, based on this unique access to the credit data, value added services like credit scoring and analytics to the member credit institutions and to the borrowers.

Learning: The PCR will be the single point of mandatory reporting for all material events for each loan, notwithstanding any threshold in the loan amount or type of borrower. The PCR will serve as a registry of all credit contracts, duly verified by reporting institutions, for all lending in India and any lending by an Indian institution to a company incorporated in India.

Need for a public registry:

Credit information is spread over multiple systems in bits and pieces, making it difficult to get a comprehensive view of the financial liabilities of a person or entity. A PCR aims to remove information asymmetry to foster the level of access to credit, and to strengthen the credit culture in the economy.

Also, a comprehensive credit information repository covering all types of credit facilities (funded and non-funded) extended by all credit institutions – commercial banks, cooperative banks, NBFCs, MFIs – and also covering borrowings from other sources, including external commercial borrowings and borrowing from market, is essential to ascertain the total indebtedness of a legal or natural person.

Benefits of having a PCR:

- A PCR can potentially help banks in credit assessment and pricing of credit as well as in making risk-based, dynamic and counter-cyclical provisioning.
- The PCR can also help the RBI in understanding if transmission of monetary policy is working, and if not, where are the bottlenecks.
- Further, it can help supervisors, regulators and banks in early intervention and effective restructuring of stressed bank credits.
- A PCR will also help banks and regulators as credit information is a 'public good' and its utility is to the credit market at large and to society in general.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/07/insights-daily-current-affairs-07-june-2018/>

17 Nations that have the capability to launch Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) are

- A. China, France, Russia, the United States and India
- B. China, France, Russia, the United States, Britain, Israel and India ✓
- C. Germany, Russia, China, the United States, Britain, Israel and India
- D. China, France, Russia, the United States, Britain and Israel



- Your Answer : B
- Correct Answer : B

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: At present, India has in its armoury the Agni series — Agni-1 with 700 km range, Agni-2 with 2,000 km range, Agni-3 and Agni-4 with 2,500 km to more than 3,500 km range.

With the Agni-V missile, India has joined an elite club of nations that possess the ICBM launch capability. Only the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council – China, France, Russia, the United States and Britain, along with Israel, have so far possessed such long-range missiles.

Agni-5 Ballistic Missile is a surface-to-surface missile which can carry nuclear warhead weighing 1.5 tonnes to a distance of over 5,000 km and is the longest missile in India's arsenal capable of reaching most parts of China.

The missile features many new indigenously-developed technologies, including the very high accuracy Ring Laser Gyro based Inertial Navigation System (RINS), and the most modern and accurate Micro Navigation System (MINS) which improves the accuracy of the missile.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/04/insights-daily-current-affairs-04-june-2018/>

18 Which of these seas is NOT included in the China Seas?

- A. The Yellow Sea
- B. The East China Sea
- C. The South China Sea
- D. The Cametos Sea ✓

- Your Answer : D
- Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: The China Seas consist of a series of marginal seas in the Western Pacific Ocean, around China. They are the major components signifying the transition from the continent of Asia to the Pacific Ocean. They have been described in terms of their collective vastness and complexity:

The four seas of China, the Bohai Sea, the Huanghai Sea, the East China Sea, and the South China Sea, occupy a total area of about 4.7 million km², half of the area of China mainland. These seas are located in the southeastern margin of the Eurasian continent and subject to the interactions between the Eurasian, Pacific, and Indian-Australian plates. The seas have complicated geology and rich natural resources.




Q Source: Revision: Map-based questions: China

19 Which of the following is/are crucial to establish a Plural society?

1. National identity should be defined in an inclusive manner.
2. There should be equal treatment and protection of the law for members of diverse cultural and social groups.

◦ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 
- D. None

◦ Your Answer : C

◦ Correct Answer : C

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: A plural society is composed of different ethnic groups or cultural traditions, or in the political structure of which ethnic or cultural differences are reflected.

To uphold this, the kinds of group rights which have been granted in different countries include constitutional protection for the language, cultures and religion, of minority groups and their members.

In some cases identified communities also have the right to representation as a group in legislative bodies and other state institutions.



Such rights may be justified on the grounds that they provide equal treatment and protection of the law for members of these groups as well as protection for the cultural identity of the group.

Different groups need to be granted recognition as a part of the national community. This means that the national identity has to be defined in an inclusive manner which can recognise the importance and unique contribution of all the cultural communities

Q Source: Page 107: Chapter 6: 11th NCERT: Political Theory

20 When the British took over Indian (colonial) states, some famous towns lost their courts and thus their artisans and court gentry. These include

1. Thanjavur
2. Dhaka
3. Murhidabad

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : B

◦ Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: In India the impact of the very same British industrialisation led to deindustrialisation in some sectors. And decline of old urban centres. Just as manufacturing boomed in Britain, traditional exports of cotton and silk manufactures from India declined in the face of Manchester competition.

This period also saw the further decline of cities such as Surat and Masulipatnam while Bombay and Madras grew.

From the end of the 19th century, with the installation of mechanised factory industries, some towns became much more heavily populated.

Urban luxury manufactures like the high quality silks and cottons of Dacca or Murshidabad must have been hit first by the almost simultaneous collapse of indigeneous court demand and the external market on which these had largely depended.

Village crafts in the interior, and particularly, in regions other than eastern India where British penetration was earliest and deepest, probably survived much longer, coming to be seriously affected only with the spread of railways.

Q Source: Revision: Chapter 1: Class XII Social Change and Development in India

21 When a lower court has considered a case going beyond its jurisdiction, which of the following writs can be issued against the lower court?



1. Mandamus
2. Certiorari
3. Prohibition

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : B

◦ Correct Answer : B

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Mandamus is issued when the court finds that a particular office holder is not doing legal duty and thereby is infringing on the right of an individual.

Prohibition writ is issued by a higher court (High Court or Supreme Court) when a lower court has considered a case going beyond its jurisdiction.

Certiorari under Art. 226 is issued for correcting gross error of jurisdiction i.e. when a subordinate court is found to have acted (1) without jurisdiction or by assuming jurisdiction where there exists none, or (2) in excess of its jurisdiction by over stepping or crossing the limits of jurisdiction or (3) acting in flagrant disregard of law or rules of procedure or acting in violation of principles of natural justice where there is no procedure specified and thereby occasioning failure of justice.

Q Source: Page 41: Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

22 Consider the following statements.

1. Wildlife Institute of India (WII) has roped in grassroot-level volunteers, called Ganga Praharis, to protect the bio-diversity of river Ganga.
2. Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation project is being sponsored by National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) under the aegis of the Namami Gange programme.

◦ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only ✗
- C. Both 1 and 2 ✓
- D. None

◦ Your Answer : B

◦ Correct Answer : C

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: A group of 427 trained volunteers, called Ganga Praharis, are reaching to each and every house in areas along river Ganga to educate them about the importance of protecting river's



bio-diversity. They are spread over Ganga basin states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar and West Bengal.

They are new grassroot-level volunteers to protect the bio-diversity of river Ganga. They are roped-in by Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun as part of the "Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation" project being sponsored by National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) under the aegis of the Namami Gange programme.

Ganga Praharis are well trained in ecological monitoring of Ganga aqua life, plantation techniques, awareness creation and community mobilization. They are trained through a series of national, state and site level workshops in diverse skills such as ecological surveys, rescue and rehabilitation of aquatic species, awareness meetings, social interactions and green livelihood skills.

Roles and functions:

The Ganga Praharis will be linked to various local environmental authorities, non-governmental stakeholders in their respective states and various other national, academic and research institutions for their capacity development.

Not only do these Ganga Praharis performing the task of conserving the deteriorating biodiversity of river Ganga, they are also motivating other people to spread the clean Ganga message, thus, contributing in making clean Ganga mission a mass movement.

The Ganga Praharis will be the role models in inspiring other members of the community to join hands in the efforts for conservation of the biodiversity of river Ganga. Thus, each Prahari shall work on the model of 'Each One Make Ten'.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/05/insights-daily-current-affairs-05-june-2018/>

23 A sizeable portion of the undivided country's highly irrigated and fertile land went to Pakistan; this had an adverse impact upon India's output from the agriculture sector. One of most adversely affected crops/sectors was

- A. Sugar
- B. Rice
- C. Millets ❌
- D. Jute ✅

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: This division particularly affected India's jute industry since almost the whole of the jute producing area became part of East Pakistan (now Bangladesh).

India's jute goods industry (in which the country had enjoyed a world monopoly so far), thus, suffered heavily for lack of raw material.



Jute Textile Industry presently is one of the major Industries in the Eastern India, particularly in West Bengal. Jute supports around 40 Lakh farm families and provides direct employment to 2.6 Lakh Industrial Workers and 1.4 Lakh in the tertiary sector.

Q Source: Jute sector woes are frequently in news

24 Consider the following statement.

'It is not from the benevolence of the butcher, the brewer, of the baker, that we expect our dinner, but from their regard to their own interest. We address ourselves, not to their humanity but to their self-love, and never talk to them of our own necessities but of their advantage'

◦ This statement above advocates

- A. Barter economy ✗
- B. Command economy
- C. Mixed economy
- D. Market economy ✓

◦ Your Answer : A

◦ Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: This was a statement made by Adam Smith.

It basically talks about the invisible hand of the market.

The invisible hand is a term used by Adam Smith to describe the unintended social benefits of an individual's self-interested actions. The phrase was employed by Smith with respect to income distribution (1759) and production (1776). The exact phrase is used just three times in Smith's writings, but has come to capture his notion that individuals' efforts to pursue their own interest may frequently benefit society more than if their actions were directly intending to benefit society.

Q Source: Revision: Chapter 1: 12th NCERT Macroeconomics

25 An inflation index, such as CPI, may from GDP deflator because

1. GDP deflator takes into account all goods and services produced in the economy, unlike CPI.
2. GDP deflator includes the prices of imported goods, unlike CPI.

◦ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only ✓
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None

◦ Your Answer : A

◦ Correct Answer : A



◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: GDP deflator is basically nominal GDP divided by real GDP (when production is calculated at constant prices). Here are some of the differences:

- The goods purchased by consumers do not represent all the goods which are produced in a country. GDP deflator takes into account all such goods and services.
- CPI includes prices of goods consumed by the representative consumer, hence it includes prices of imported goods. GDP deflator does not include prices of imported goods.
- The weights are constant in CPI – but they differ according to production level of each good in GDP deflator.

Q Source: Revision: Page 26: 12th NCERT Macroeconomics

26 Which of the following is important for the concept of Citizenship to be upheld in a country?

1. Elimination of unreasonable inequality between nationals
2. Equal rights bestowed upon nationals without unreasonable discrimination
3. Direct or indirect participation in the country's governance

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : D

◦ Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: The description given in NCERT is clear and comprehensive to understand citizenship. We are putting it up verbatim here, it answers all the statements.

- Citizenship is not merely a legal concept. It is also closely related to larger notions of equality and rights. A widely accepted formulation of this relationship was provided by the British sociologist, T. H. Marshall (1893-1981).
- In his book *Citizenship and Social Class* (1950), Marshall defined citizenship as “a status bestowed on those who are full members of a community. All who possess the status are equal with respect to the rights and duties with which the status is endowed.”



- The key concept in Marshall's idea of citizenship is that of 'equality'. This implies two things: first, that quality of the given rights and duties improve. Second, that the quantity of people upon whom they are bestowed grows.
- Marshall sees citizenship as involving three kinds of rights: civil, political and social. Civil rights protect the individual's life, liberty and property. Political rights enable the individual to participate in the process of governance. Social rights give the individual access to education and employment.

Together they make it possible for the citizen to lead a life of dignity. Marshall saw social class as a 'system of inequality'. Citizenship ensures equality by countering the divisive effects of class hierarchy. It thus facilitates the creation of a better-integrated and harmonious community.

Q Source: Page 87: Chapter 6: 11th NCERT: Political Theory

27 INDOPACOM, recently seen in news, is

- A. A joint force of the littoral nations of the Indian Ocean
- B. Series of agreements concerning the utilization of resources in the Indo-Pacific region ✖
- C. A free trade area consisting of the RIM-PAC countries
- D. Combatant command of USA in Indo-Asia-Pacific region ✔

- Your Answer : B
- Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Formerly known as United States Pacific Command, it is a unified combatant command of the United States Armed Forces responsible for the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. It is the oldest and largest of the unified combatant commands.

- The US military has renamed its Pacific Command to US-Indo Pacific Command, underlining the growing connectivity between India and Pacific Oceans. The symbolic move came in recognition of the growing importance of the Indian Ocean in US strategic thinking.
- Also, renaming the combatant command is strategically significant, in that it reflects a recognition within the U.S. government that East Asia and the Indian Ocean Region are gradually becoming a single competitive space. It's also shrewd marketing — a way of reaffirming to New Delhi and to the rest of the world that India is, and ought to be, an indispensable pole of the future Asian order.

Learning: U.S. Indo-Pacific Command is considered critical by the USA for "a region open to investment and free, fair and reciprocal trade, not bound by any nation's predatory economics or threat of coercion, for the Indo-Pacific has many belts and many roads."



- The renaming reflects the existing geographic coverage of the command and the acknowledgment of the increasing connectedness between the two oceans — Pacific and India —, but also, more broadly, the process of India's re-entry into the US government's "Asia" orbit."
- The US move comes in the wake of a series of measures by China that have raised tensions in the South China Sea. China claims almost all of the South China Sea. Vietnam, Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan have counter claims over the area. The US also rejects China's claims of ownership of the area.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/05/31/insights-daily-current-affairs-31-may-2018/>

28 Article 14 of the Constitution forbids class legislation. What is implied by this?

1. Laws that discriminate between people based on unreasonable classification stand void.
2. Class legislation applies only to private individuals.

◦ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only ✓
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None

◦ Your Answer : A

◦ Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 2: Article 14 says that the State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India. This provision confers rights on all persons whether citizens or foreigners. Moreover, the word 'person' includes legal persons, viz, statutory corporations, companies, registered societies or any other type of legal person. So, 2 is wrong.

Statement 1: The Supreme Court held that where equals and unequals are treated differently, Article 14 does not apply. While Article 14 forbids class legislation, it permits reasonable classification of persons, subjects and transactions by the law. But the classification should not be arbitrary, artificial or evasive. Rather, it should be based on an intelligible differential and substantial distinction.

For e.g. a special law can be made for transgender as this classification is reasonable and just, but classification made solely on grounds of financial or economic status may be challenged in the courts for being based in unreasonable classification.

Q Source: Chapter 7: Indian Polity: M Laxmikanth



29 With reference to the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), consider the following statements.

Assertion (A): Serving or former higher judiciary members cannot be appointed as chairperson or members of NCDRC.

Reason (R): Any person aggrieved by an order of NCDRC can appeal against such order to the Supreme Court of India.

- In the context of the above, which of these is correct?
 - A. A is correct, and R is an appropriate explanation of A.
 - B. A is correct, but R is not an appropriate explanation of A.
 - C. A is incorrect, but R is correct. ✓
 - D. Both A and R are incorrect.

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : C

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Former Supreme Court judge Justice R K Agrawal has been recently appointed the President of the NCDRC.

The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), India is a quasi-judicial commission in India which was set up in 1988 under the Consumer Protection Act of 1986. The commission is headed by a sitting or retired judge of the Supreme Court of India.

Statement R: Section 23 of Consumer Protection Act, 1986, provides that any person aggrieved by an order of NCDRC, may prefer an Appeal against such order to Supreme Court of India within a period of 30 days.

Section 21 of Consumer Protection Act, 1986 posits that the National Consumer shall have jurisdiction to entertain a complaint valued more than one crore and also have Appellate and Revisional jurisdiction from the orders of State Commissions or the District fora as the case may be.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/05/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-30-may-2018/>

30 Why recent research indicates that Ruthenium (Ru), an element of the periodic table, can be helpful in scaling of magnetic or computer memories?

1. It oxidizes readily using voltage or potential difference found in small batteries.
2. It is a ferromagnetic material and stable at high temperatures, with melting point over 2000 °C.

- Which of the above is/are correct?
 - A. 1 only
 - B. 2 only ✓
 - C. Both 1 and 2
 - D. None

- Your Answer : B
- Correct Answer : B



◦ **Answer Justification :**

Concept: Ferromagnetism is the basic mechanism by which certain materials form permanent magnets, or are attracted to magnets.

So far, only three single elements were found to be ferromagnetic at room temperature: iron (Fe), cobalt (Co), and nickel (Ni); the rare earth element gadolinium (Gd) nearly misses by only 8 degrees Celsius.

Magnetic materials are very important in industry and modern technology and have been used for fundamental studies and in many everyday applications such as sensors, electric motors, generators, hard disk media, and most recently spintronic memories.

Justification: A platinum-group chemical element called ruthenium (Ru) is the fourth single element to have unique ferromagnetic properties at room temperature.

From an application perspective, Ru is interesting because it does not oxidize easily and theoretical predictions indicate it is particularly temperature-stable, which is an important property allowing scaling of magnetic memories.

Learning: Like the other metals of the platinum group, ruthenium is inert to most other chemicals.

Most ruthenium produced is used in wear-resistant electrical contacts and thick-film resistors.

A minor application for ruthenium is in platinum alloys and as a chemistry catalyst. A new application of ruthenium is as the capping layer for extreme ultraviolet photomasks.

Ruthenium is generally found in ores with the other platinum group metals in the Ural Mountains and in North and South America. Small but commercially important quantities are also found in pentlandite extracted from Sudbury, Ontario and in pyroxenite deposits in South Africa.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/05/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-30-may-2018/>

31 Match the following Geographical Indication (GI) tags with the location they are associated with.

1. Chau mask: Purulia
2. Dokras: Jaisalmer
3. Patachitra: Kanpur

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : A

◦ Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**



Justification: Statement 1 and 2: Chau mask of Purulia, the wooden mask of Kushmandi, the Patachitra, the Dokras of Bengal, and Madhurkathi (a kind of mat) have been presented with the Geographical Indication (GI) tag by the Geographical Indication Registry and Intellectual Property India.

GI tags for these five rural crafts would not only help the artisans create their own brand but would also provide legal protection to artisans practising the crafts against attempts to duplicate them in other regions. It will also have a direct impact on the occupation of 5,000-6,000 families in the State.

Statement 3: Pattachitra is a general term for traditional, cloth-based scroll painting, based in the eastern Indian states of West Bengal and Odisha.

Patrachitras are a component of an ancient Bengali narrative art, originally serving as a visual device during the performance of a song.

A GI is primarily an agricultural, natural or a manufactured product (handicrafts and industrial goods) originating from a definite geographical territory.

Q Source: Additional Research:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/05/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-30-may-2018/>

32 One of the richest bird regions of the Country, it has been declared as an 'Important Bird Area' (IBA) by Birdlife International. It was also the place where Project Tiger was first launched in 1973. The protected area referred to in this statement is

- A. Bhitarkanika
- B. Corbett ✓
- C. Gir
- D. Ranthambore ✗

- Your Answer : D
- Correct Answer : B

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: Corbett National Park is situated in the foothills of the Sub- Himalayan belt in Nainital districts of Uttarakhand state in India.

Established in the year 1936 as Hailey National Park, Corbett has the glory of being India's oldest and most prestigious National Park. It is also being honored as the place where Project Tiger was first launched in 1973. This unique tiger territory is best known as the father who gave birth of the Project Tiger in India to protect the most endangered species and the Royal of India called Tigers.

Corbett National Park covers an area of 521 sq. km and together with the neighboring Sonanadi Wildlife Sanctuary and Reserve Forest areas, forms the Corbett Tiger Reserve.

Corbett is one of the richest bird regions of the Country and has been declared as an 'Important Bird Area' (IBA) by Birdlife International.



Context: A plea seeking a stay on the construction of a link road linking Kotdwar to Ramnagar through the Corbett Tiger Reserve has led the National Green Tribunal to seek responses from the Uttarakhand government and the Centre.

The petition alleges that the construction of the road through the park was in violation of previous Supreme Court orders that prohibited the construction of any road through the Corbett Tiger Reserve.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/05/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-30-may-2018/>

33 What are the powers and privileges of the nominated member of the Rajya Sabha that are NOT available to the indirectly elected members of the Rajya Sabha?

1. A nominated member is exempted from filing his assets and liabilities under the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951
 2. A nominated member is allowed six months, should he decide to join a political party after he has taken his seat in the House.
- Which of the above is/are correct?
- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only ✗
- C. Both 1 and 2 ✓
- D. None
- Your Answer : B
- Correct Answer : C
- **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Under article 80 of the Constitution, the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) is composed of not more than 250 members, of whom 12 are nominated by the President of India from amongst persons who have special knowledge or practical experience in respect of such matters as literature, science, art and social service.

Powers and privileges:

- Nominated members enjoy all powers, privileges and immunities available to an elected member of Parliament.
- They take part in the proceedings of the House as any other member.
- They, however, are not entitled to vote in the election of the President of India.
- But in the election of the Vice-President of India, they have a right to vote.



- A nominated member is allowed six months, should he decide to join a political party after he has taken his seat in the House in terms of article 99 of the Constitution.
- A nominated member has also been exempted from filing his assets and liabilities under Section 75A of the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951 which requires the elected member to do so within 90 days of his making or subscribing oath/affirmation.
- Under MPLADS, the Nominated Members of the Rajya Sabha may select any Districts from any State in the Country for implementation of their choice of work under the scheme.
- In exercise of the powers conferred by Article 80 of the Constitution of India, and on the advice of the Prime Minister, the President of India has made four nominations to the Rajya Sabha.

The nominated members recently are- Ram Shakal, Rakesh Sinha, Raghunath Mohapatra and Sonal Mansingh.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/07/16/insights-daily-current-affairs-16-july-2018/>

34 Consider the following statements about Nokma and the related Village Council.

1. They were the earliest political systems of the Mizos.
 2. A Nokma has the sole authority to distribute the land to the villagers.
 3. Nokma system derives authority from hereditary lineage rather than the political affiliation, gender or economic wealth of the native.
- Which of the above is/are correct?
 - A. 1 and 3 only
 - B. 1 and 2 only
 - C. 2 only ✓
 - D. None of the above
 - Your Answer :
 - Correct Answer : C
 - **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1 and 2: Nokma and the Village Council were the earliest political systems of the Garos.

Village Headmen always remain the centre stage of decision making process in most of the tribal communities in the world.

Nokma (Village Headman) also has very important role in agriculture in Garo Hills of Meghalaya, India because he has the sole authority to distribute the land to the villagers and also provides some directions according to Garo customary laws.



They were the only political systems that existed among them prior to the advent of the British.

Statement 3: In matrilineal Garo society, women as head of a particular clan in a village enjoy rights over land and natural resources in an A'king land (community land/area). Head of a particular clan is given the title of a nokma, the village head.

Traditionally, a woman is a village head while the husband is supposed to assist her. But over the years, things have changed and men are at the centre stage for taking decisions related to village affairs.

In Garo society, female descendants are recognised as rightful owners of the A'king land belonging to a particular mahari (clan). The female is, therefore, conferred the title of nokma and all the powers relating to the land are her birthright to be exercised on the advice of the chras (maternal uncles) of the clan.

The role of Nokmas, traditional custodians of the land, is important in supporting the move towards co-existence between man and animal and helping conservationists for the success of ecological initiatives.

Q Source: https://www.telegraphindia.com/1170309/jsp/northeast/story_139706.jsp

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/05/29/insights-daily-current-affairs-29-may-2018/>

35 Consider the following statements. S-400 Triumf, which was recently in news, is

1. An air defence missile system
 2. Sold by the USA to India
- Which of the above is/are correct?
- A. 1 only ✓
 - B. 2 only
 - C. Both 1 and 2
 - D. None

◦ Your Answer : A

◦ Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: S-400 is known as Russia's most advanced long-range surface-to-air missile defence system.

India has concluded price negotiations with Russia for a nearly Rs 40,000 crore deal to procure S-400 Triumf air defence missile systems for the Indian Air Force.

In 2016, India and Russia had signed an agreement on the 'Triumf' interceptor-based missile system which can destroy incoming hostile aircraft, missiles and even drones at ranges of up to 400 km.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/05/29/insights-daily-current-affairs-29-may-2018/>



36 Right to freedom granted under Articles 19 to 22 cover which of these rights?

1. Right to freedom of speech, movement and expression
2. Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases
3. Prohibition of traffic in human beings
4. Right to freedom against bonded labour

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : A

◦ Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: It consists of

- Protection of six rights regarding freedom of: (i) speech and expression, (ii) assembly, (iii) association, (iv) movement, (v) residence, and (vi) profession (Article 19).
- Protection in respect of conviction for offences (Article 20).
- Protection of life and personal liberty (Article 21).
- Right to elementary education (Article 21A).
- Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases (Article 22).

Right against exploitation (Articles 23-24) cover

- Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour (Article 23).
- Prohibition of employment of children in factories, etc. (Article 24).

Q Source: Chapter 7: Indian Polity: M Laxmikanth

37 What importance does the place Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, hold in Gandhiji's life?

- A. It was from here that he launched his first Satyagraha.



- B. This was the first place where he was imprisoned for protesting against the government.
- C. He was thrown off the train's first class compartment at this station which led him to work against racial discrimination. ✓
- D. His first major nationalist writing was based on events held in this place, that later find a mention in his book, "Truth is God"

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : C

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Context: External Affairs Minister recently undertook a train journey from Pentrich to Pietermaritzburg reminding ourselves of Gandhi's heritage.

Learning: It is a railway station in South Africa where a young Mahatma Gandhi was thrown out of a "Whites-only" compartment 125 years ago. On June 7, 1893, Gandhi, then a young lawyer, was thrown off the train's first class compartment at Pietermaritzburg station after he refused to give up his seat as ordered by racially prejudiced officials.

The incident led him to develop his Satyagraha principles of peaceful resistance and mobilize people in South Africa and in India against the discriminatory rules of the British.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/11/insights-daily-current-affairs-02-june-2018/>

38 How does Track I diplomacy differ from Track II diplomacy?

1. Track I diplomacy concerns urgent issues of international security and peace, whereas Track II is primarily concerned with economic matters.
2. Track I diplomacy is the interaction between state actors conducted largely through official channels, whereas Track II diplomacy is informal and involves non-state actors.
3. Track I diplomacy engages in the establishment of concrete agreements between nations, whereas Track II diplomacy primarily concerns conflict resolution.

- Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

- Your Answer : D
- Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Track II or "backchannel diplomacy" is the practice of "non-governmental, informal and unofficial contacts and activities between private citizens or groups of individuals, sometimes called 'non-state actors'".

It contrasts with track I diplomacy, which is official, governmental diplomacy that occur inside



official government channels.

However, track two diplomacy is not a substitute for track one diplomacy. Rather, it is there to assist official actors to manage and resolve conflicts by exploring possible solutions derived from the public view and without the requirements of formal negotiation or bargaining for advantage.

In addition, the term track 1.5 diplomacy is used by some analysts to define a situation where official and non-official actors cooperate in conflict resolution.

Q Source: Based on the Shangri-la conference

39 Consider the popular books published during the Colonial period and their authors.

1. Economic History of India: D.H. Buchanan
2. India Divided: James Mill
3. The Land Systems of British India: Powell Baden

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : D

◦ Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Here are some of the famous books from which NCERTs often draw, and they are quite famous in their own regard:


- BADEN-POWELL, B.H. 1892. The Land Systems of British India, Vols I, II and III. Oxford Clarendon Press, Oxford.
- BUCHANAN, D.H. 1966. Development of Capitalist Enterprise in India. Frank Cass and Co, London.
- CHANDRA, BIPAN. 1993. 'The Colonial Legacy' in Bimal Jalan (ed.), The Indian Economy: Problems and Prospects. Penguin Books, New Delhi.
- DUTT, R.C. 1963. Economic History of India, Vols. I and II. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, New Delhi.
- KUMAR, D. AND MEGHNAD DESAI (Eds.). 1983. Cambridge Economic History of India. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.



- MILL, JAMES. 1972. History of British India. Associated Publishing House, New Delhi.
- PRASAD, RAJENDRA. 1946. India Divided. Hind Kitabs, Bombay.
- SEN, AMARTYA. 1999. Poverty and Famines. Oxford University Press, New Delhi

Q Source: Revision: Chapter 1: 12th NCERT Macroeconomics references

40 Apart from the political identity, which of the following is the most essential characteristic of people, inhabiting a territory, that it comes to be identified as a nation?

- A. Common ethnicity or descent
- B. Common language
- C. Common religion
- D. Common beliefs and history 

- Your Answer : D
- Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: It is commonly believed that nations are constituted by a group who share certain features such as descent, or language, or religion or ethnicity. But there is in fact no common set of characteristics which is present in all nations.

Many nations do not have a common language, Canada is an example here. Canada includes English speaking as well as French speaking peoples.

India also has a large number of languages which are spoken in different regions and by different communities. Nor do many nations have a common religion to unite them. The same could be said of other characteristics such as race or descent.

A nation is to a great extent an 'imagined' community, held together by the collective beliefs, aspirations and imaginations of its members. It is based on certain assumptions which people make about the collective whole with which they identify.

The chapter describes it beautifully from Page 101 onwards.

Q Source: Page 101 onwards: Chapter 6: 11th NCERT: Political Theory

41 Consider the following about the recently published Global Peace Index, 2018.

1. It was published by Oxfam, an international NGO.
2. It reports that Finland is the most peaceful country and Syria is the least peaceful.
3. India's performance in the index has consistently deteriorated in last one decade.



- Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : B

- **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Australia-based Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), world's leading think tank that develops metrics to analyse peace and quantify its economic value, has released the 12th edition of the Global Peace Index (GPI), or measure of global peacefulness.

Performance of India:

India has moved up four places to the 137th rank among 163 countries. The improvement is due to a reduction in the level of violent crime driven by increased law enforcement. India was ranked 141 last year.

India was also among the countries with the biggest decreases in the number of deaths, along with Sri Lanka, Chad, Colombia, and Uganda.

Global performance:

Iceland remains the most peaceful country in the world, a position it has held since 2008. New Zealand, Austria, Portugal and Denmark also sit in the top five most peaceful rankings.

Syria remains the least peaceful country in the world, a position it has held for the past five years. Afghanistan, South Sudan, Iraq and Somalia comprise the remaining least peaceful countries.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/07/insights-daily-current-affairs-07-june-2018/>

42 The Reserve Bank of India has decided to allow urban co-operative banks (UCB) to convert into small finance banks (SFB), a move aimed at bringing these entities into mainstream banking. Consider the following about Small Finance Banks (SFBs).

1. They can disburse small loans, but cannot take credit deposits.
2. They cannot distribute or invest in risky assets such as mutual funds or insurance products.
3. Priority sector lending guidelines are not applicable to them.
4. They cannot lend to big corporates.
5. They can set up subsidiaries to undertake non-banking financial services activities.
6. They cannot serve as a business correspondent of any bank.

- Select the correct answer using the codes below.

A. 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
B. 2, 4 and 5 only
C. 4 and 6 only ✓



D. 3, 5 and 6 only

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : C

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Concept, Justification and Learning: It has been decided to allow voluntary transition of UCBs meeting the prescribed criteria into SFBs.

UCBs currently face regulation by both the RBI and the respective State governments. By turning into SFBs, they will be regulated only by the RBI.

What are small finance banks?

The small finance bank will primarily undertake basic banking activities of acceptance of deposits and lending to unserved and underserved sections including small business units, small and marginal farmers, micro and small industries and unorganised sector entities.

What they can do?

- Take small deposits and disburse loans.
- Distribute mutual funds, insurance products and other simple third-party financial products.
- Lend 75% of their total adjusted net bank credit to priority sector.
- Maximum loan size would be 10% of capital funds to single borrower, 15% to a group.
- Minimum 50% of loans should be up to 25 lakhs.

What they cannot do?

- Lend to big corporates and groups.
- Cannot open branches with prior RBI approval for first five years.
- Other financial activities of the promoter must not mingle with the bank.
- It cannot set up subsidiaries to undertake non-banking financial services activities.



- Cannot be a business correspondent of any bank.

The guidelines they need to follow:

- Promoter must contribute minimum 40% equity capital and should be brought down to 30% in 10 years.
- Minimum paid-up capital would be Rs 100 cr.
- Capital adequacy ratio should be 15% of risk weighted assets, Tier-I should be 7.5%.
- Foreign shareholding capped at 74% of paid capital, FPIs cannot hold more than 24%.
- Priority sector lending requirement of 75% of total adjusted net bank credit.
- 50% of loans must be up to Rs 25 lakh.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/07/insights-daily-current-affairs-07-june-2018/>

43 Consider the following rights of the Indian citizens.

1. No citizen can be denied his or her life except by procedure as laid down under the law.
2. Usually, no one can be arrested without being told the grounds for such an arrest.
3. It is mandatory for the police to take an arrested person to the nearest magistrate within 24 hours.
4. If the government feels that a person can be a threat to law and order or to the peace and security of the nation, it can detain or arrest that person.

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : A

◦ Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1, 2 and 3: The foremost right among rights to freedom is the right to life and personal liberty. No citizen can be denied his or her life except by procedure as laid down under the law.

Similarly no one can be denied his/her personal liberty. That means no one can be arrested without



being told the grounds for such an arrest. If arrested, the person has the right to defend himself by a lawyer of his choice.

Also, it is mandatory for the police to take that person to the nearest magistrate within 24 hours. The magistrate, who is not part of the police, will decide whether the arrest is justified or not.

Statement 4: Ordinarily, a person would be arrested after he or she has reportedly committed some offence. However there are exceptions to this. Sometimes a person can be arrested simply out of an apprehension that he or she is likely to engage in unlawful activity and imprisoned for some time without following the above mentioned procedure. This is known as preventive detention. It means that if the government feels that a person can be a threat to law and order or to the peace and security of the nation, it can detain or arrest that person. This preventive detention can be extended only for three months. After three months such a case is brought before an advisory board for review.

Q Source: Page 35: Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

44 Identify the INCORRECT statement.

- A. The rainfall over India is in part orographic, associated with tropical depressions originating in the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. ✗
- B. On an average, the summer monsoon accounts for more than 85 per cent of the precipitation in India.
- C. Brahmaputra and Ganga particularly their northern tributaries, Mahanadi, Godavari and West Flowing Rivers originating from the Western Ghats are found to be surplus in water resources.
- D. 85 percentage of drought prone area in India falls in the States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Haryana and Maharashtra. ✓

- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Option A: Orographic rainfall depends on the presence of mountains across Monsoon winds. Rainfall around Western Ghats and North-eastern India (entrance of Monsoon winds) is orographic.

Option B and C: This is a statement lifted from

http://www.india-wris.nrsc.gov.in/wrpinfo/index.php?title=Inter_Basin_Water_Transfer_Links

Option D: it is not these states, but other states that account for the largest portion of drought prone areas.

Large areas in the States of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu face recurring droughts. As much as 85 percentage of drought prone area falls in these States.



- On the other hand, floods are a recurring feature, particularly in Brahmaputra and Ganga rivers, in which almost 60 per cent of the river flows of our country occur.
- The uncertainty of occurrence of rainfall marked by prolonged dry spells and fluctuations in seasonal and annual rainfall is a serious problem for the country. Large parts of Haryana, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are not only in deficit in rainfall but also subject to large variations, resulting in frequent droughts and causing immense hardship to the population and enormous loss to the nation.

Learning: One of the most effective ways to increase the irrigation potential for increasing the food grain production, mitigate floods and droughts and reduce regional imbalance in the availability of water is the Inter Basin Water Transfer (IBWT) from the surplus rivers to deficit areas.

Brahmaputra and Ganga particularly their northern tributaries, Mahanadi, Godavari and West Flowing Rivers originating from the Western Ghats are found to be surplus in water resources.

If we can build storage reservoirs on these rivers and connect them to other parts of the country, regional imbalances could be reduced significantly and lot of benefits by way of additional irrigation, domestic and industrial water supply, hydropower generation, navigational facilities etc. would accrue.

Q Source: Additional Research:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/07/insights-daily-current-affairs-07-june-2018/>

http://www.india-wris.nrsc.gov.in/wrpinfo/index.php?title=Inter_Basin_Water_Transfer_Links

45 The oldest trade union federation in India is

- A. Hind Mazdoor Sabha
- B. All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) ✓
- C. Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC)
- D. Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS)

- Your Answer : B
- Correct Answer : B

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: AITUC was founded in 1920 in Bombay by Lala Lajpat Rai, Joseph Baptista, N. M. Joshi, Diwan Chaman Lall and a few others.

Until 1945 when unions became organised on party lines, it was the primary trade union organisation in India. Since then, it has been associated with the Communist Party of India.

AITUC is a founder member of the World Federation of Trade Unions.



Accusing the Centre of running an “anti-worker government”, leading trade union body AITUC is planning to launch a nationwide campaign against the government.

A list of national-level CTUOs as recognised by the Ministry of Labour, Government of India can be found here

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trade_unions_in_India#Central_Trade_Union_Organisations_\(CTUOs\)_of_India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trade_unions_in_India#Central_Trade_Union_Organisations_(CTUOs)_of_India)

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/05/insights-daily-current-affairs-05-june-2018/>

46 Consider the following statements about NASA’s Parker solar probe.

1. It will travel through the sun’s atmosphere, closer to its surface than any spacecraft before.
2. It will determine the structure and dynamics of the plasma and magnetic fields at the sources of the solar wind.

◦ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 ☒
- D. None

◦ Your Answer : C

◦ Correct Answer : C

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: NASA’s historic Parker Solar Probe mission will revolutionize our understanding of the sun, where changing conditions can propagate out into the solar system, affecting Earth and other worlds. Parker Solar Probe will travel through the sun’s atmosphere, closer to the surface than any spacecraft before it, facing brutal heat and radiation conditions — and ultimately providing humanity with the closest-ever observations of a star.

In order to unlock the mysteries of the sun’s atmosphere, Parker Solar Probe will use Venus’ gravity during seven flybys over nearly seven years to gradually bring its orbit closer to the sun. The spacecraft will fly through the sun’s atmosphere as close as 3.9 million miles to our star’s surface, well within the orbit of Mercury and more than seven times closer than any spacecraft has come before.

The primary science goals for the mission are to trace how energy and heat move through the solar corona and to explore what accelerates the solar wind as well as solar energetic particles.

Parker Solar Probe has three detailed science objectives:

- Trace the flow of energy that heats and accelerates the solar corona and solar wind.
- Determine the structure and dynamics of the plasma and magnetic fields at the sources of the solar wind.



- Explore mechanisms that accelerate and transport energetic particles.

Q Source: Frequently in news since last one year

47 With reference to Article 35A of the Constitution of India, which was recently seen in news, consider the following statements.

1. The article empowers the Parliament to define 'permanent residents' of the state of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K).
2. A person who is not a permanent resident of Jammu and Kashmir is not allowed to buy or own properties in the state of J&K.
3. A non-permanent resident can vote in J&K state Assembly elections but cannot contest elections to the state Assembly.

◦ Which of the above is/are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only ❌

B. 2 only ✅

C. 2 and 3 only

D. None of the above

◦ Your Answer : A

◦ Correct Answer : B

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1: Article 35A is a provision in the Constitution that empowers the Jammu and Kashmir legislature to define permanent residents of the state along with their special rights and privileges.. It was added through the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 1954, issued under Article 370.

This Article has an intricate relationship with Article 370.

Statement 2 and 3: Jammu and Kashmir Assembly defined Permanent Resident as a person who was a state subject on May 14, 1954 or who had been a resident of the state for 10 years and has "lawfully acquired immovable property in the state."

A person who is not a permanent resident of Jammu and Kashmir is not allowed to buy or own properties in the state or vote in state Assembly election or contest election to the state Assembly. An outsider cannot get a job in the Jammu and Kashmir government.

Learning: The Centre has decided not to file any "counter-affidavit" on Article 35A, which has been challenged in the Supreme Court through a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petition. The Supreme Court has scheduled further hearing for August 6.

Arguments against Article 35A:

The petition says Article 35 A is against the "very spirit of oneness of India" as it creates a "class within a class of Indian citizens". Restricting citizens from other States from getting employment or buying property within Jammu and Kashmir is a violation of fundamental rights under Articles 14,



19 and 21 of the Constitution.

Also, the parliamentary route of lawmaking was bypassed when the President incorporated Article 35A into the Constitution. Article 368 (i) of the Constitution empowers only Parliament to amend the Constitution.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-06-june-2018/>

48 With reference to the GeoIntelligence Asia 2018 Seminar, consider the following statements.

1. The seminar brings together various stakeholders to examine the latest geospatial technology solutions in military and security applications.
2. This is first of its kind of seminar being held in Asia.
3. The seminar recognized the crucial need of distancing Geointelligence from border security operations in view of the impending threat posed by such juxtaposition.

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : C

◦ Correct Answer : C

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1 and 2: The Eleventh edition of GeoIntelligence Asia 2018 is being held in New Delhi. It is organised by GeoSpatial Media and Communication with Directorate General of Information System as Knowledge Partners and Military Survey as Co-organisers.

The seminar brings together the military, security officials including BSF and Police Forces, Government and industry together to examine the latest technology solutions and on the critical role of geospatial technology in military and security applications.

Statement 3: Geospatial data is invaluable to the border security operations, to deliver accurate situational awareness information, enabling quick and secure decision-making, while mitigating risks, and increasing national security.

So, geospatial intelligence is a critical foundation for many aspects of defense and internal security. It offers the capability of monitoring, predicting and countering threats, while helping strategize and support various field operations.

It facilitates multi-source information sharing and integration across agencies and organizations by providing a common framework on which other information is based.

The use of big data, advanced geospatial analytics software and sophisticated imaging technologies from (very) high-resolution remote sensing satellites, UAVs and other sensors, enables seamless flow of information in pre-, real-time and post-combat operations.



Real-time views and insights of impacted regions are keys to improving emergency response times, especially in vulnerable areas such as a country's border.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-06-june-2018/>

49 Consider the following statements.

1. Genetically Modified Food cannot be fortified.
2. Rice fortification is the practice of making rice drought proof.
3. Presently, no regulations exist on food fortification in India.

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : A

◦ Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Concept: Fortification is the practice of deliberately increasing the content of an essential micronutrient, i.e. vitamins and minerals (including trace elements) in a food, so as to improve the nutritional quality of the food supply and provide a public health benefit with minimal risk to health. Rice fortification is the practice of increasing the content of essential micronutrients in rice and to improve the nutritional quality of the rice.

Justification: Statement 1: So, any food whether GM or non-GM can be fortified.

Statement 2: Regular milled rice is low in micronutrients and serves primarily as a source of carbohydrate only. The fortification of rice is a major opportunity to improve nutrition.

Fortified rice contains Vitamin A, Vitamin B1, Vitamin B12, Folic Acid, Iron and Zinc.

The government is planning to provide fortified rice (enriched with essential vitamins and minerals) to all the poor under National Food Security Act (NFSA) across the country, which would cost about Rs 12,000 to Rs 14,000 crore annually. To begin with the scheme is likely to cover the 115 'aspirational' districts across the country.

The proposal is being prepared with the support of Niti Aayog under the National Nutrition Mission.

Statement 3: Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has formulated a comprehensive regulation on fortification of foods namely 'Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2016'.

These regulations set the standards for food fortification and encourage the production, manufacture, distribution, sale and consumption of fortified foods.

The regulations also provide for specific role of FSSAI in promotion for food fortification and to



make fortification mandatory. This sets the premise for the national summit on fortification of food.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-06-june-2018/>

50 Externality is often cited as a reason as to why GDP is not a good indicator of social welfare. What does it imply?

1. Calculation of GDP does not take into account non-monetary services.
2. Income or GDP may not be well distributed in all social sections of the population.

◦ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only ✗
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None ✓

◦ Your Answer : A

◦ Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: S1 and S2: These are also critiques of GDP, but they do not mean Externalities.

Externalities refer to the benefits (or harms) a firm or an individual causes to another for which they are not paid (or penalised).

Externalities do not have any market in which they can be bought and sold. For example, let us suppose there is an oil refinery which refines crude petroleum and sells it in the market. The output of the refinery is the amount of oil it refines. We can estimate the value added of the refinery by deducting the value of intermediate goods used by the refinery (crude oil in this case) from the value of its output.

The value added of the refinery will be counted as part of the GDP of the economy. But in carrying out the production the refinery may also be polluting the nearby river. This may cause harm to the people who use the water of the river. Hence their utility will fall.

Pollution may also kill fish or other organisms of the river on which fish survive. As a result the fishermen of the river may be losing their income and utility. Such harmful effects that the refinery is inflicting on others, for which it does not have to bear any cost, are called externalities. In this case, the GDP is not taking into account such negative externalities.

Therefore, if we take GDP as a measure of welfare of the economy we shall be overestimating the actual welfare. This was an example of negative externality. There can be cases of positive externalities as well. In such cases GDP will underestimate the actual welfare of the economy.

Q Source: Revision: Page 28: 12th NCERT Macroeconomics

51 The right to livelihood was recognizes as a right under Article 21 of the Constitution in which of the following cases?



- A. Vishaka Judgment
- B. Olga Tellis vs Bombay Municipal Corporation ✓
- C. State of Madras vs. Champak Dorairajan ✗
- D. Golaknath Case

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : B

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: The Supreme Court gave an important decision regarding the rights of slum-dwellers in Bombay in response to a Public Interest Litigation filed by a social activist, Olga Tellis against Bombay Municipal Corporation in 1985.

The petition claimed the right to live on pavements or in slums because there was no alternative accommodation available close to their place of work. If they were forced to move they would lose their livelihood as well.

The Supreme Court said, "Article 21 of the Constitution which guaranteed the right to life included the right to livelihood. Therefore if pavement dwellers were to be evicted they should first be provided alternative accommodation under the right to shelter."

Q Source: Page 88: Chapter 6: 11th NCERT: Political Theory

52 In India, citizenship can be acquired by

1. Birth
2. Descent
3. Registration
4. Naturalisation
5. Inclusion of territory

- Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : C

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: The provisions about citizenship in the Constitution can be found in Part Three and in subsequent laws passed by Parliament.

The Constitution adopted an essentially democratic and inclusive notion of citizenship. In India, citizenship can be acquired by birth, descent, registration, naturalisation (someone staying for a long period in India), or inclusion of territory (India acquiring a territory).



The rights and obligations of citizens are listed in the Constitution. There is also a provision that the state should not discriminate against citizens on the grounds of race/caste/sex/place of birth, or any of them. The rights of religious and linguistic minorities are also protected.

Q Source: Page 92: Chapter 6: 11th NCERT: Political Theory

53 The Indian plate borders

1. Somail Plate
2. Arabian Plate
3. Australian Plate

◦ Which of the above is/are correct?

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

◦ Your Answer : B

◦ Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: In the east, the Indian plate extends through Rakinyoma Mountains of Myanmar towards the island arc along the Java Trench.

The Western margin follows Kirthar Mountain of Pakistan.

The subduction zone along the Himalayas forms the northern plate boundary in the form of continent— continent convergence.



Q Source: Revision: Page 37: Fundamentals of Physical Geography: 11th NCERT

54 Which of the following gives a right to self-determination for people?

1. Indian constitution
2. United Nations Charter
3. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

◦ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

◦ Your Answer : C

◦ Correct Answer : C

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1: Indian constitution cannot give a right to self-determination because by virtue of this right people can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

If that was the case, J&K and some other NE secessionist movement would not have been opposed by the government.

This is a nice article from EPW on India's position on self-determination

<http://164.100.47.193/fileupload/current/Where%20Does%20India%20Stand.pdf>



Statement 2: UN Charter clearly recognizes this right.

Statement 3: In accordance with the wishes of the UNGA expressed in 1952, both the ICCPR and the ICESCR (adopted by the GA in 1966) included the right of self-determination in their Common Article 1.

Since the decisions of the GA are of recommendatory nature, and therefore deprived of any binding value; the inclusion of the right to self-determination to two multilateral covenants meant that from then on this right would enjoy a higher ranking in the hierarchy of legal norms.

Q Source: Additional Research: Page 106: Chapter 6: 11th NCERT: Political Theory

<http://sam.gov.tr/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/BurakCopAndDoganEymirlioglu.pdf>

<http://www.unpo.org/article/4957>

55 Ensemble Prediction Systems (EPS), recently seen in news, are related to

- A. Weather forecasting ✓
- B. Geographical Information System (GIS)
- C. Smart Grids
- D. Tactical attack strategy ✗

- Your Answer : D
- Correct Answer : A

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has commissioned two very high resolution (12 km grid scale) state-of-the-art global Ensemble Prediction Systems (EPS) for generating operational 10-days probabilistic forecasts of weather. The EPS involves the generation of multiple forecasts using slightly varying initial conditions.

Ensemble forecasting provides localised predictions of a 12 km resolution compared to 23 kilometers in the earlier system.

The new model has been developed jointly by Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology and National Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting.

With this new model, India joins the US with a model that predicts with a 12 km resolution. Only the 'European Center for Medium Range Weather Forecast' has a, better, nine-kilometer resolution.

Better forecasts lead to better management agriculture and water resources. It also helps promote tourism, solar and wind energy.

Q Source: <http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/04/insights-daily-current-affairs-04-june-2018/>

56 Which of the following is NOT a listed objective of the Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC)?



- A. Providing employment in rural areas
- B. Providing salable articles relating to Khadi
- C. Creating self-reliance amongst people and building up a strong rural community spirit
- D. Mentor rural Self-Help groups to access institutionalised finance ✓

- Your Answer : D
- Correct Answer : D

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament (Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act of 1956). In April 1957, it took over the work of former All India Khadi and Village Industries Board.

It is an apex organization under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, with regard to khadi and village industries within India, which seeks to - “plan, promote, facilitate, organise and assist in the establishment and development of khadi and village industries in the rural areas in coordination with other agencies engaged in rural development wherever necessary.”

The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has launched its, in-house developed, single-umbrella e-marketing system named Khadi Institution Management and Information System (KIMIS). The system can be accessed from anywhere in the country for the sale and purchase of Khadi and Village Industries products.

The Commission has three main objectives which guide its functioning. These are:

- The Social Objective - Providing employment in rural areas.
- The Economic Objective - Providing salable articles.
- The Wider Objective - Creating self-reliance amongst people and building up a strong rural community spirit.

Q Source: Revision:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/07/04/insights-daily-current-affairs-04-july-2018/>

57 Consider the following statements with reference to the similarities and differences between Indian and South African constitution.

1. Both constitutions were drafted and ratified nearly at the same time.
2. The South African constitution guarantees the right to higher education unlike the Indian constitution.
3. A special constitutional court enforces the rights enshrined in the South African constitution unlike India where the Higher Judiciary enforces these rights.

- Select the correct answer using the codes below.



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

- Your Answer :
- Correct Answer : B

◦ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1: The South African Constitution was inaugurated in December 1996.

Its creation and promulgation took place at a time when South Africa still faced the threat of a civil war after the dissolution of the Apartheid government.

Statement 2 and 3: It grants perhaps the most extensive range of rights to the citizens. A special constitutional court enforces the rights enshrined in the constitution. Some of the Rights included in the constitution of South Africa include:

- Right to Dignity
- Right to Privacy
- Right to fair labour practices
- Right to healthy environment and right to protection of environment
- Right to adequate housing
- Right to health care, food, water and social security

58 The Nehru Report of 1928

1. Was a memorandum outlining a proposed new dominion status constitution for India
2. Was prepared by a committee of the Indian National Congress (INC)
3. Contained a Bill of Rights unlike the Government of India Act, 1935 that was passed later

- Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : C



▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 2: It was prepared by an All Parties Conference chaired by Motilal Nehru with his son Jawaharlal Nehru acting as secretary.

There were nine other members in this committee. The final report was signed by Motilal Nehru, Ali Imam, Tej Bahadur Sapru, Madhav Shrihari Aney, Mangal Singh, Shuaib Qureshi, Subhas Chandra Bose, and G. R. Pradhan. Qureshi disagreed with some of the recommendations.

Some of the important elements of the report

- Unlike the eventual Government of India Act 1935 it contained a Bill of Rights.
- All power of government and all authority - legislative, executive and judicial - are derived from the people and the same shall be exercised through organisations established by, or under, and in accord with, this Constitution.
- There shall be no state religion; men and women shall have equal rights as citizens.
- There should be federal form of government with residuary powers vested in the centre. (Some scholars, such as Moore 1988 considered the Nehru Report proposal as essentially unitary rather than federal);
- It included a description of the machinery of government including a proposal for the creation of a Supreme Court and a suggestion that the provinces should be linguistically determined.
- It did not provide for separate electorates for any community or weightage for minorities. Both of these were liberally provided in the eventual Government of India Act 1935. However, it did allow for the reservation of minority seats in provinces having a minorities of at least ten percent, but this was to be in strict proportion to the size of the community.
- The language of the Union shall be Indian, which may be written either in Devanagari (Hindi/Sanskrit), Telugu, Kannada, Marathi, Gujarati, Bengali or Tamil in character. The use of the English language shall be permitted.
- The Nehru Report, along with that of the Simon Commission was available to participants in the three Indian Round Table Conferences (1930-1932).

Q Source: Additional Research: Page 28: Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work



59 Methanol can be used as an

1. Energy producing fuel
2. Transportation fuel
3. Cooking fuel

▪ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

▪ Your Answer : D

▪ Correct Answer : D

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Methanol is a promising fuel as it is clean, cheaper than fossil fuels and a good substitute for heavy fuels. India imports methanol from Saudi Arabia and Iran at present. Across the world, methanol is emerging as a clean, sustainable transportation fuel of the future.

Methanol can be used as an energy producing fuel, transportation fuel and cooking fuel, cutting down India's oil import bill by an estimated 20% over the next few years. Unlike CNG, using methanol as a transportation fuel would require minimal alteration in the vehicles.

Methanol is a clean-burning fuel that produces fewer smog-causing emissions — such as sulphur oxides (SOx), nitrogen oxides (NOx) and particulate matter — and can improve air quality and related human health issues.

Methanol is most commonly produced on a commercial scale from natural gas. It can also be produced from renewable sources such as biomass and recycled carbon dioxide.

As a high-octane vehicle fuel, methanol offers excellent acceleration and power. It also improves vehicle efficiency.

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-06-june-2018/>

60 Consider the following constitutional provision:

"Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making any provision for the reservation of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens which, in the opinion of the State, is not adequately represented in the services under the State."

▪ This can be found under:

- A. Fundamental rights
- B. Directive principles of State Policy
- C. Fundamental duties
- D. Schedule Five



- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: This is Article 16(4) of the constitution which ensures equality of opportunity in public employment.

In fact Article 16(4) of the constitution explicitly clarifies that a policy like reservation will not be seen as a violation of right to equality. If you see the spirit of the Constitution, this is required for the fulfilment of the right to equality of opportunity.

Q Source: Page 32: Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

61 What is/are the qualifications to be a Legal entity in India?

1. It should be an entity which acts like a natural person through a designated person
2. Its acts are processed within the ambit of law.

- Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 ☒
- D. None

- Your Answer :
- Correct Answer : C

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: A legal entity means an entity which acts like a natural person but only through a designated person, whose acts are processed within the ambit of law. This means the animal kingdom could be represented by a custodian.

It can be an association, corporation, partnership, proprietorship, trust, or individual that has legal standing in the eyes of law.

A legal entity has legal capacity to enter into agreements or contracts, assume obligations, incur and pay debts, sue and be sued in its own right, and to be held responsible for its actions.

Q Source: Recently in news

62 Which of the following clearly shows the importance of carbon dioxide in earth's atmosphere?

1. It is essential for the growth of plants.
2. It is the most abundant gas in the atmosphere after nitrogen and oxygen.
3. It absorbs the heat directly incoming from the Sun thus warming the planet.
4. Ocean absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere to form carbonate rocks.

- Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

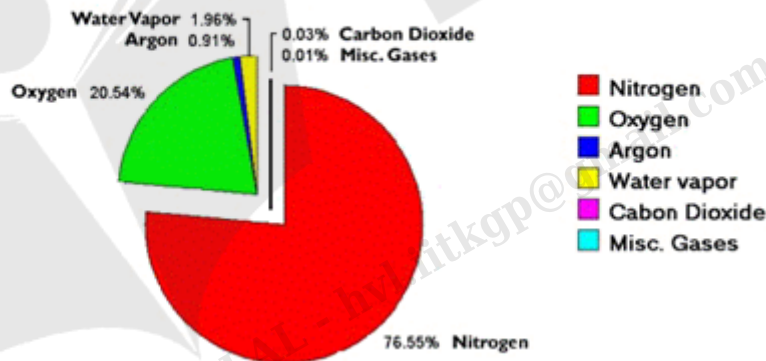
- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1 : Green plants use CO₂ gas to prepare their food through photosynthesis.

Statement 2: Argon is the next abundant gas.

The Gases That Comprise Earth's Atmosphere



Statement 3: Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere does not absorb the incoming visible radiations coming from the sun blocks the out going infrared radiations radiated by earth. By absorbing infrared radiations, the atmosphere gets heated. This is known as Green house Effect. The heated atmosphere keeps the earth warm. Thus carbon dioxide helps in keeping the earth warmer by blocking the infrared radiations.

Statement 4: When carbon dioxide (CO₂) is absorbed by seawater, chemical reactions occur that reduce seawater pH, carbonate ion concentration, and saturation states of biologically important calcium carbonate minerals.

- It is called "ocean acidification".
- Calcium carbonate minerals are the building blocks for the skeletons and shells of many marine organisms.

Learning: Volcanic outgassing and wildfires are two significant natural sources of CO₂ in Earth's atmosphere. Respiration, the process by which organisms liberate energy from food, emits carbon dioxide.



Carbon dioxide is the most abundant gas in the atmospheres of Mars and Venus.

Q Source: Revision: Additional Research: Page 35: NCERT 6th Geography: The Earth Our Habitat

63 Under the writ of Habeas Corpus

1. The court can order that the arrested person should be presented before it.
2. The court cannot reverse the order of an executive authority which led to arresting the person

▪ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only ✓
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None

▪ Your Answer : A

▪ Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: The courts can issue various special orders known as writs. Habeas corpus is one such writ.

A writ of habeas corpus means that the court orders that the arrested person should be presented before it.

It can also order to set free an arrested person if the manner or grounds of arrest are not lawful or satisfactory.

Q Source: Page 41: Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

64 The iron catastrophe, a postulated major event early in the history of Earth, refers to

- A. Concentration of iron deposits due to inter-glacial periods
- B. Sinking of iron to the centre of the earth leading to an overall restructuring ✓
- C. Erosion of minerals from earth's crust due to solar winds
- D. None of the above

▪ Your Answer : B

▪ Correct Answer : B

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: The original accretion of the Earth's material into a spherical mass is thought to have resulted in a relatively uniform composition.

- While residual heat from the collision of the material that formed the Earth was significant, heating from radioactive materials in this mass gradually increased the



temperature until a critical condition was reached.

- As material became molten enough to allow movement, the denser iron and nickel, evenly distributed throughout the mass, began to migrate to the centre of the planet to form the core.
- This happened about 4.5 billion years ago. 3) In the third step the compression itself began to heat the interior of the Earth; also there was heat
- Proceeding slowly at first, it sped up to catastrophic proportions - hence it is called the iron catastrophe.
- It was the iron catastrophe that set up the overall structure of the Earth.

Q Source: Revision: Additional Research: Chapter 2: Goh Cheng Leong - Certificate Physical and Human Geography

65 If we did NOT use an Indian Standard Time, the actual time difference between which of the following places would be more than 1 hour?

- A. Ranchi and Kolkata
- B. Agra and Kanpur
- C. Patiala and Chandigarh
- D. Dwarka and Dibrugarh ✓

- Your Answer : D
- Correct Answer : D

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: The difference in time is created by longitude differences. Difference of 15 degrees creates a difference of 1 hour.

Agra and Kanpur both are in UP, Chandigarh and Patiala both in Haryana; Ranchi and Kolkata situated not far by. These places are unlikely to have a time difference of one hour.

Based on the longitudes of Dwarka (Gujarat) and Dibrugarh (Assam), there will be a difference of about 1 hour and 45 minutes in the local times of Dwarka and Dibrugarh.

Q Source: Revision: Page 15: NCERT 6th Geography: The Earth Our Habitat

66 Mandamus can be issued when

1. The Government denies to itself a jurisdiction which it undoubtedly has under the law
2. Government is under a moral obligation to act on a particular matter, even if it has no duty under the law



- Which of the above is/are correct?
 - A. 1 only ✓
 - B. 2 only ✗
 - C. Both 1 and 2
 - D. None

- Your Answer : B
- Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: The function of mandamus is to keep the public authorities within the limits of their jurisdiction while exercising public functions.

Mandamus can be issued to any kind of authority in respect of any type of function - administrative, legislative, quasi-judicial, judicial. Mandamus is used to enforce the performance of public duties by public authorities.

Mandamus can be issued when the Government denies to itself a jurisdiction which it undoubtedly has under the law, or where an authority vested with a power improperly refuses to exercise it.

Statement 2: Mandamus is not issued when Government is under no duty under the law.

When an authority fails in its legal duty to implement an order of a tribunal, mandamus can be issued directing the authority to do so. Thus, when the appellate transport tribunal accepted the applications of the petitioner for grant of permits, mandamus was issued to the concerned authority to issue the permits to the petitioner in terms of the tribunal order.

Mandamus is issued to enforce a mandatory duty which may not necessarily be a statutory duty.

Q Source: Additional Research: Page 41: Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

67 People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) is a human rights body formed in India in 1976 by the socialist leader

- A. Jayaprakash Narayan ✓
- B. Vinoba Bhave
- C. E.M.S Namboodiripad
- D. Narayan Ganesh Gore

- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Background and Learning: When Indira Gandhi was found guilty of violating electoral laws by the Allahabad High Court, Narayan called for Indira to resign, and advocated a program of



social transformation. He asked the military and police to disregard unconstitutional and immoral orders.

However, Janata Party opposition leaders and dissenting members of her party, Congress were arrested, beginning The Emergency. Narayan was detained at Chandigarh, and when released in 1976, formed the PUCL to oppose the suppression of civil and political rights during the emergency.

The organization was thrown into disarray by his death and the election of the Janata party to power, which promised to enact the PUCL platform.

Narayan originally intended PUCL to be an organisation free from political ideologies, bringing those concerned about defending civil liberties and human rights from different backgrounds onto a common platform

After the return of Indira Gandhi to power in the 1980 elections in India, the organisation regained momentum and was renamed as the People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL). Its founding conference was held in November 1980.

Q Source: Additional Research: Page 42 (Blue Box): Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

68 Consider the following statements.

1. Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) coordinates the relationship between NHRIs and the United Nations human rights system.
2. The Asia Pacific Forum (APF) is the only regional networks of national human rights institutions (NHRIs) that is independent and exclusive of the GANHRI.

▪ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only ✓
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None

▪ Your Answer :

▪ Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1: Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions is unique as the only non-UN body whose internal accreditation system, based on compliance with the 1993 Paris Principles, grants access to UN committees.

Institutions accredited by the Subcommittee for Accreditation (SCA) of the GANHRI with "A status", meaning full compliance with the Paris Principles, are usually accorded speaking rights and seating at human rights treaty bodies and other UN organs, mainly to the Human Rights Council.

The GANHRI representative often presents statements on behalf of individual NHRIs or the

regional groups.

The GANHRI is constituted as a non-profit entity under Swiss law, and has one member of staff representing it at the United Nations Office at Geneva.


Statement 2: The Asia Pacific Forum (APF) is one of four regional networks of national human rights institutions (NHRIs) within the International Co-ordinating Committee of NHRIs. The APF formerly accredited NHRIs for compliance with the United Nations' Paris Principles, but now acknowledges the accreditation decisions of an ICC sub-committee on which the APF has one of the four (regional) seats.

The APF is unique among the four regional networks in having close working relations with non-governmental organisations in its region

Q Source: Additional Research: Page 42 (Blue Box): Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

<http://nhrc.nic.in/importantlinks.htm>

69 Which of the following limit the effectiveness of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) as an inflation targeting tool?

1. WPI excludes services sector.
 2. WPI inflation does not necessarily reflect what a household pays.
- Which of the above is/are correct?
 - A. 1 only
 - B. 2 only
 - C. Both 1 and 2 
 - D. None

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : C

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: We have covered inflation components broadly in the last test, hence this discussion is kept short and to the point.

Statement 1: WPI considers only goods and not services market which count for nearly 65% of our economy. This seriously limits the effectiveness of WPI.

Statement 2: Moreover, WPI rates are mostly captured from mandis or places of wholesale business. Therefore, they don't include prices at household consumer level.

WPI is also not consistent with global practices as most of the nations either use CPI or PPI.

Q Source: Page 28-29: 12th Macroeconomics NCERT

70 Redshift from gravity means that



- A. When light moves away from an object with gravity, it is stretched into longer wavelengths ✓
- B. Gravitational waves interact with selective parts of the light spectrum depending on the frequency of the light source
- C. When light enters a gravity-vacuum, it disperses into its constituent colours
- D. When light moves away from an object with gravity, it is stretched into shorter wavelengths

- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: In physics, redshift happens when light or other electromagnetic radiation from an object is increased in wavelength, or shifted to the red end of the spectrum. In general, whether or not the radiation is within the visible spectrum, "redder" means an increase in wavelength - equivalent to a lower frequency and a lower photon energy, in accordance with, respectively, the wave and quantum theories of light.

Some redshifts are an example of the Doppler effect, familiar in the change of apparent pitches of sirens and frequency of the sound waves emitted by speeding vehicles. A redshift occurs whenever a light source moves away from an observer. A special instance of this is the cosmological redshift, which is due to the expansion of the universe,

Learning: Redshift is a part of several things that were predicted by General relativity theory which includes:

- As light gets closer to the sun, it bends towards the sun twice as much as classical physics (the system used before general relativity) predicts.
- The perihelion of the planet Mercury rotates along its orbit more than is expected under Newtonian physics. General relativity accounts for the difference between what is seen and what is expected without it.
- When light moves away from an object with gravity (moving away from the center of the valley), it is stretched into longer wavelengths. This was confirmed by the Pound-Rebka experiment.
- The Shapiro delay. Light appears to slow down when it passes close to a massive object. This was first seen in the 1960s by space probes headed towards the planet Venus.

Alternatives to Einstein's general theory of relativity:

Alternatives to Einstein's general theory of relativity predict that compact objects with extremely strong gravity, like neutron stars, fall a little differently than objects of lesser mass.



That difference, these alternate theories predict, would be due to a compact object's so-called gravitational binding energy – the gravitational energy that holds it together.

However, to date, Einstein's equations have passed all tests, from careful laboratory studies to observations of planets in our solar system.

Q Source: Surprise questions:

<https://phys.org/news/2018-07-einstein-againweak-strong-gravity-fall.html>

71 With reference to the Fundamental Duties of citizens, consider the following statements.

Assertion (A): Constitution does not make the enjoyment of fundamental rights dependent or conditional upon fulfilment of duties.

Reason (R): The Constitution does not have an explicit provision about enforcing these duties.

- In the context of the above, which of these is correct?
 - A. A is correct, and R is an appropriate explanation of A. ✓
 - B. A is incorrect, but R is correct
 - C. A is correct, but R is incorrect.
 - D. Both A and R are incorrect.

- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: In 1976, the 42nd amendment to the Constitution was passed. Among other things, this amendment inserted a list of Fundamental Duties of Citizens. In all, ten duties were enumerated. However, the Constitution does not say anything about enforcing these duties.

As citizens, we must abide by the Constitution, defend our country, promote harmony among all citizens, protect the environment.

However, it must be noted that our Constitution does not make the enjoyment of rights dependent or conditional upon fulfilment of duties. In this sense, the inclusion of fundamental duties has not changed the status of our fundamental rights.

Q Source: Page 44: Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

72 Which of these are non-justiciable rights under the Constitution?

1. Right against economic exploitation
2. Equal pay for equal work for men and women

- Which of the above is/are correct?
 - A. 1 only
 - B. 2 only ✗
 - C. Both 1 and 2 ✓
 - D. None



- Your Answer : B
- Correct Answer : C

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Some other non-justiciable rights are Right to work; and Right of children to free and compulsory education.

All the ideals enshrined in the DPSP can be seen as non-justiciable unless and otherwise special circumstances permit their interpretation by the courts.

At times, DPSPs can be enforced even at the cost of certain fundamental rights, in which case they can be seen as justiciable.

Q Source: Page 45: Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

73 Consider the following statements.

#5218

1. The National Cadet Corps (NCC) is a Tri-Services Organization, comprising the Army, Navy and Air Force, engaged in grooming the youth of the country into disciplined and patriotic citizens.
 2. National Service Scheme (NSS) is a Centrally Sector Scheme with the primary objective of developing the personality and character of the student youth through voluntary community service.
- Which of the above is/are correct?
 - A. 1 only
 - B. 2 only
 - C. Both 1 and 2 ✓
 - D. None

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : C

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1: The National Cadet Corps (NCC) is a youth development movement. It came into existence under the National Cadet Corps Act XXXI of 1948.

It is a Tri-Services Organization, comprising the Army, Navy and Air Force, engaged in grooming the youth of the country into disciplined and patriotic citizens.

It has enormous potential for nation building. The NCC provides opportunities to the youth of the country for their all-round development with a sense of Duty, Commitment, Dedication, Discipline and Moral Values so that they become able leaders and useful citizens.

The NCC provides exposure to the cadets in a wide range of activities., with a distinct emphasis on Social Services, Discipline and Adventure Training. The NCC is open to all regular students of schools and colleges on a voluntary basis. The students have no liability



for active military service.

Statement 2: NSS is a Centrally Sector Scheme. The Scheme was launched in the year 1969 with the primary objective of developing the personality and character of the student youth through voluntary community service.

The ideological orientation of the NSS is inspired by the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi. Very appropriately, the motto of NSS is "NOT ME, BUT YOU".

NSS is being implemented in Senior Secondary Schools, Colleges and Universities. The design of the NSS envisages that each educational institution covered under the Scheme has at least one NSS unit comprising of normally 100 student volunteers, led by a teacher designated as Programme Officer (PO). Each NSS unit adopts a village or slum for taking up its activities.

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/07/18/insights-daily-current-affairs-18-july-2018/>

74 Arrange the following events in chronological order:

1. First World War begins
2. Treaty of Versailles
3. Proclamation of the Weimar Republic

▪ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 123 ✓
- B. 213
- C. 132
- D. 231

▪ Your Answer : A

▪ Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: The date is mentioned first and then the event:

- August 1, 1914

First World War begins.

- Nov. 9, 1918

Germany capitulates, ending the war.

- Jun 28, 1919



Treaty of Versailles.

- November 9, 1918

Proclamation of the Weimar Republic

The Weimar Republic is so called because the assembly that adopted its constitution met at Weimar, Germany from 6 February 1919 to 11 August 1919, but this name only became mainstream after 1933.

- January 30, 1933 is the date for the mainstream acknowledgement, but the republic was founded much before in 1919.

Hitler becomes Chancellor of Germany.

- September 1, 1939

Germany invades Poland. Beginning of the Second World War.

- June 22, 1941

Germany invades the USSR.

- June 23, 1941

Mass murder of the Jews begins.

- December 8 1941

The United States joins Second World War.

- Jan 27, 1945

Allied victory in Europe.

Q Source: Page 70: Chapter 3: 9th NCERT: History

75 Right to Equality in the Indian constitution does NOT include this right?



- A. Equal access to shops, bathing ghats and hotels to citizens
- B. Abolition of titles
- C. Equal protection of laws
- D. Rights of the accused and convicts ✓

- Your Answer : D
- Correct Answer : D

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: Right to Equality includes the following laws:

- Equality before law
- Equal protection of laws
- Prohibition on discrimination on ground of religion
- Equal access to shops, bathing ghats, hotels etc.
- Equality of opportunity in employment
- Abolition of titles
- Abolition of untouchability

Q Source: Page 31: Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

76 Gopabandhu Sambadika Swasthya Bima Yojana launched by the Odisha government focuses on which target population?

- A. Adolescents ✗
- B. Aanganwadi Workers
- C. Journalists ✓
- D. Taxi drivers

- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : C

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: Under the scheme, journalists from across the state will get health insurance



coverage up to Rs 2 lakh.

At least five members of a journalist's family would be covered under the scheme.

The scribes will get their health insurance card from the District Information and Public Relations Officer (DIPRO) in their respective districts.

The health insurance scheme for working journalists will be implemented with effect from June 1, 2018.

Gopabandhu Das (1877–1928) was a social worker, reformer, political activist, journalist, poet and essayist from Odisha. He was popularly known as Utkalamani (Jewel of Utkal or Orissa).

He won election to the Legislative Council that had been created in 1909 under the terms of the Morley-Minto Reforms.

He became the first president of Utkal Pradesh Congress Committee in 1920, holding the post until 1928, and he welcomed Gandhi to the province in 1921.

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/04/insights-daily-current-affairs-04-june-2018/>

77 Acting on the Supreme Court's direction, the Centre recently constituted a Cauvery Water Management Authority (CMA) to address the dispute over sharing of river water among

- A. Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Puducherry ✓
- B. Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala
- C. Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka
- D. Karnataka, Kerala, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry

- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: The authority would comprise a chairman, eight members besides a secretary. The authority will exercise power and discharge such duty for "sufficient and expedient for securing compliance and implementation" of the Supreme Court order in relation to "storage, apportionment, regulation and control of Cauvery waters".

It can also seek the help of the central government for implementation of the award and take appropriate action.

- The authority will supervise operation of reservoirs and with regulation of water releases there from with the assistance of regulation committee.
- The authority will also look at regulated release of water by Karnataka, at the inter-state contact point presently identified as Billigundulu gauge and discharge station, located

on the common border of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

- The authority at the beginning of the water year (June 1 each year) would determine the total residual storage in the specified reservoirs.
- The authority has also been tasked to advise the states to take suitable measures to improve water use efficiency, by way of promoting micro-irrigation (drip and sprinkler), change in cropping pattern, improved agronomic practices, system deficiency correction and command area development.
- It has to also prepare an annual report covering the activities of the authority for the preceding year. The Centre will initially contribute a sum of Rs 2 crore for the functioning of the authority.

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/04/insights-daily-current-affairs-04-june-2018/>

78 The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) may take which of the following steps upon the completion of its inquiry?

1. It may recommend to the concerned Government or authority the initiation of proceedings for prosecution
2. Approach the Supreme Court or the High Court concerned for such directions, orders or writs as that Court may deem necessary
3. Impose a fine on the perpetrator as a punishment and grant immediate relief to the victim

- Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

- Your Answer : D
- Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: It is only an advisory agency, and has the powers of a civil court when it is investigating a case, but it cannot take punitive action on its own:

1) Where the inquiry discloses the commission of violation of human right or negligence in the prevention of violation of human rights by a public servant, it may recommend to the concerned Government or authority the initiation of proceedings for prosecution or such other action as the Commission may deem fit against the concerned person or persons;

2) Approach the Supreme Court or the High Court concerned for such directions, orders or



writes as that Court may deem necessary;

3) Recommend to the concerned Government or authority for the grant of such immediate interim relief to the victim or the members of his family as the Commission may consider necessary.

Q Source: Additional Research: Page 42 (Blue Box): Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

79 The Chandrabhaga beach on the Konark coast of Odisha will be the first in Asia to get the Blue Flag certification. What is a Blue flag certification?

- A. It signifies the best conservation practices regarding sea mammals and other species.
- B. It shows best management practices in coastal cargo management.
- C. It is a sign of good deep sea fish harvest.
- D. It means that a beach certifies for certain environment and tourism-related conditions.



- Your Answer : D
- Correct Answer : D

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: Launched in December 2017 by the Environment Ministry, the prime objective of the Blue Flag project is to enhance standards of cleanliness, upkeep and basic amenities at beaches. Under the project, each state or union territory has been asked to nominate a beach which will be funded through the ongoing Integrated Coastal Management Programme.

Twelve more beaches in the country are being developed by the Society for Integrated Coastal Management (SICOM), an Environment Ministry's body working for the management of coastal areas, in accordance with the Blue Flag standards.

Criteria for certification:

To achieve the Blue Flag standards, a beach has to strictly comply with 33 environment and tourism-related conditions. The standards were established by the Copenhagen-based Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) in 1985. For example- a beach must be plastic-free and equipped with a waste management system. Clean water should be available for tourists, apart from international amenities. The beach should have facilities for studying the environmental impact around the area.

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/04/insights-daily-current-affairs-04-june-2018/>

80 Mediterranean Sea touches which of the following European countries?

1. Estonia
2. Greece
3. Spain
4. Ukraine

- Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : C

- **Answer Justification :**

Justification:



Q Source: Revision: Map-based questions: Europe

81 The Union Cabinet approved the policy framework to streamline production sharing contracts signed in the pre-New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and NELP periods. Consider the following about NELP and the associated Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP).

1. It seeks to give Public sector companies a fair upper hand over Private sector companies in



- exploration and production of hydrocarbons.
2. It ditches the Revenue Sharing Contract model for the production sharing contract model.
 3. It seeks to give marketing and pricing freedom to the agencies involved.

- Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : C

- **Answer Justification :**

Justification: New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) was conceptualized by the Government of India, during 1997-98 to provide an equal platform to both Public and Private sector companies in exploration and production of hydrocarbons.

It provided for establishment of Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) as a nodal agency for its implementation.

It was introduced to boost the production of oil and natural gas and providing level playing field for both public and private players.

Before implementation of the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) in 1999, a mere 11% of Indian sedimentary basins were under exploration, which has now increased extensively over the years.

About Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP):

Government of India launched a new policy regime for Exploration & Production (E&P) sector namely Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP) in 2016 which is paradigm shift from earlier policy regime.

The main features of new Policy regime are Revenue Sharing Contract, single Licence for exploration and production of conventional as well as unconventional Hydrocarbon resources, marketing & pricing freedom, etc.

Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) under HELP, is main innovative feature wherein investor can carve out Blocks of their own interest and submit an Expression of Interest (Eoi) throughout the year. Based on the areas for which expression of interest has been expressed bidding will be conducted every 6 months.

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/07/19/insights-daily-current-affairs-19-july-2018/>

82 Consider the following statements.

1. Right to Property is a constitutional right in India.



2. Right to Information is a fundamental right in India.

▪ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only ✗
- C. Both 1 and 2 ✓
- D. None

▪ Your Answer : B

▪ Correct Answer : C

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: RTI is a Fundamental Right (FR) guaranteed under Part 3, Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India.

Further it is a Constitutional Right (CR), as all FR are constitutional rights but not vice versa. Example : Article 300A - Right To Property is a CR but not FR.

In Secretary General, Supreme Court of India v. Subhash Chandra Agarwal, 2010, the Delhi High Court held:

The Right to Information Act is not repository of the right to information. Its repository is the constitutional rights guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a). The Act is merely an instrument that lays down statutory procedure in the exercise of this right...

According to the learned author [Referring to S.P. Sathe, Right to Information, Lexis Nexis], the right to information is not confined to Article 19(1)(a) but is also situated in Article 14 (equality before the law and equal protection of law) and Article 21 (right to life and personal liberty).

The right to information may not always have a linkage with the freedom of speech. If a citizen gets information, certainly his capacity to speak will be enhanced. But many a time, he needs information, which may have nothing to do with his desire to speak.

This means that any restriction placed on the RTI would be subjected to scrutiny by courts as would be applicable to a fundamental right.

Q Source: Page 47: Chapter 2: 11th NCERT: Indian Constitution at Work

83 The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was established in 1988 by

- A. World Meteorological Organization
- B. United Nations Environment Programme ✗
- C. Both (a) and (b) ✓
- D. None of the above

▪ Your Answer : B

▪ Correct Answer : C



▪ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: The World Meteorological Organization and UNEP established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 1988.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is an agency of United Nations and coordinates its environmental activities, assisting developing countries in implementing environmentally sound policies and practices.

UNEP has overall responsibility for environmental problems among United Nations agencies but talks on addressing global warming are overseen by the Bonn-based Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Its activities cover a wide range of issues regarding the atmosphere, marine and terrestrial ecosystems, environmental governance and green economy.

UNEP has also been active in funding and implementing environment related development projects.

UNEP is also one of several Implementing Agencies for the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, and it is also a member of the United Nations Development Group.

The International Cyanide Management Code, a program of best practice for the chemical's use at gold mining operations, was developed under UNEP's aegis.

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/07/18/insights-daily-current-affairs-18-july-2018/>

84 With reference to The Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (Convention), consider the following statements.

1. The Convention protects children and their families against the risks of illegal, irregular, premature or ill-prepared adoptions abroad.
2. For Hague adoptions, the authorities in both countries must agree to go ahead with the adoption.

▪ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only ❌
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 ✅
- D. None

▪ Your Answer : A

▪ Correct Answer : C

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: To do this, the Hague Convention puts:



- Safeguards in place to make sure that all intercountry adoptions are in the best interests of the child and respects their human rights,
- A system in place of cooperation among countries to guarantee that these safeguards are respected, and to prevent the abduction of, sale of, or traffic in children.
- For Hague adoptions, the authorities in both countries must agree to go ahead with the adoption. For non-Hague adoptions, requirements may vary from one country to another. The Hague Convention does not allow private adoptions in the child's home country.
- Adoption is handled by the provinces and territories, and they all have and follow laws implementing the Hague Convention.

Taking cognizance of the recent cases of illegal adoptions, Ministry of Women and Child Development directs state governments to ensure registration of all child care institutions and linking to CARA within the next one month.

The mandatory registration of CCIs and linking to Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) has been provided in Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/07/17/insights-daily-current-affairs-17-july-2018/>

85 The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Madras has commissioned the Local Electrode Atom Probe (LEAP) microscope. What is special about the microscope?

1. It is claimed to be world's first remotely operable LEAP microscope.
2. It can produce a see through version of the atom where all major sub-atomic particles are clearly visible.

- Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only ✓
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None ✗

- Your Answer : D
- Correct Answer : A

▪ Answer Justification :

Justification: It is claimed to be world's first remotely operable LEAP microscope, as it can be remotely operated through special terminal by researchers divided geographically.

LEAP is high-performance microscope that can provide a precise atom-by-atom view of materials. It provides atomic-scale insights into metallic, which will influence wide spectrum



of industries ranging from steel to automobiles and energy to transportation sector. It will also give major thrust to research in nanotechnology, among other fields

The remotely operable LEAP microscope has been developed in a collaborative exercise involving eight top research institutions in country, spearheaded by IIT-M. Other partner institutions are IITs of Bombay, Delhi, Kanpur, Kharagpur and Ropar, International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI) and Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences (BRNS).

Potential applications:

- Local Electrode Atom Probe (LEAP) allows the user to extract atoms from materials sequentially and are detected using a Time of Flight Mass spectrometer.
- This facility will be able to provide atomic-scale insights into metallic materials thereby impacting a wide spectrum of industries ranging from steel to automobiles and energy to transportation sector.

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/07/17/insights-daily-current-affairs-17-july-2018/>

86 The validity of Environmental Kuznets curve would lead us to believe that

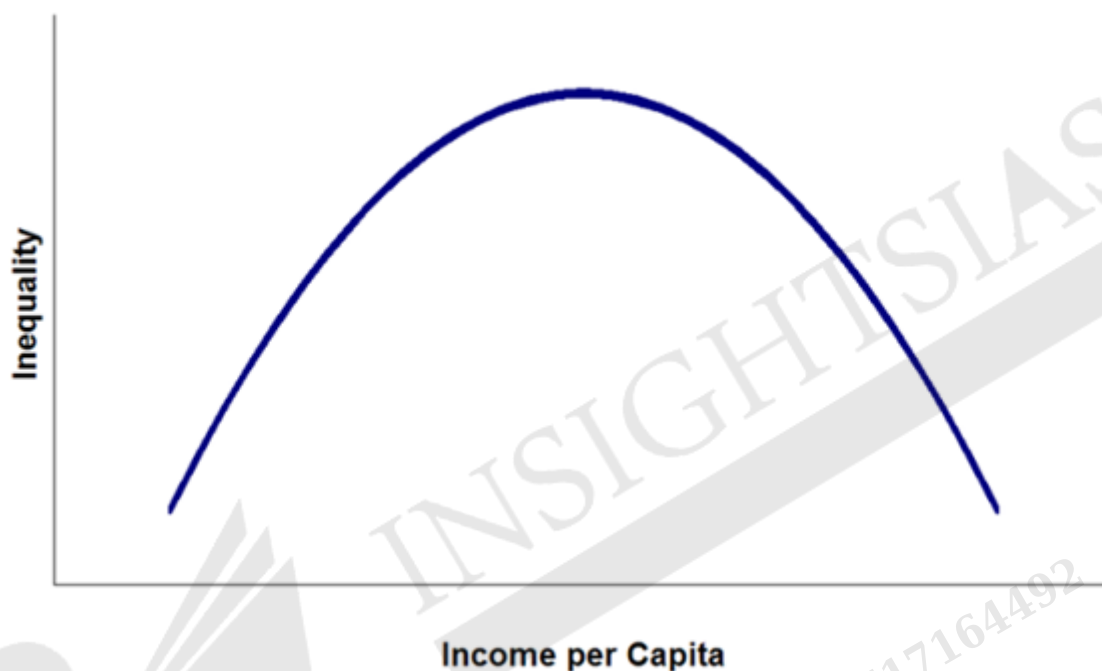
- A. Pollution is an acceptable side-effect of GDP growth. ✓
- B. GDP growth and environmental degradation cannot go together.
- C. Natural resources are being depleted at a rapid and irreplaceable rate.
- D. Benefits of ecological resources will be evenly distributed in an economy.

- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Concept: This was covered in one of the editorial articles at Insightsonindia.

In economics, a Kuznets curve graphs the hypothesis that as an economy develops, market forces first increase and then decrease economic inequality. The hypothesis was first advanced by economist Simon Kuznets in the 1950s and '60s.



The environmental Kuznets curve is a hypothesized relationship between environmental quality and economic development: various indicators of environmental degradation tend to get worse as modern economic growth occurs until average income reaches a certain point over the course of development. The EKC suggests, in sum, that "the solution to pollution is economic growth."

Justification: Although the subject of continuing debate, there is considerable evidence to support the application of environmental Kuznets curve for various environmental health indicators, such as water and air pollution, which show the inverted U-shaped curve as per capita income and/or GDP rise

For e.g. many economists highlighting the "environmental Kuznets curve" point that 'relationship between GDP per capita and the concentration of sulphur dioxide in the local air' is an inverted U curve.

Issues: Such a relationship leads to the postulation that people from 'developing countries can't place a weight on natural environment' and should consider pollution as an acceptable side-effect of GDP growth.

However, this inverted U curve is found primarily for local pollutants that lead to short-term damages (sulphur, particulates) and not for pollutants that lead to long term and dispersed costs (carbon dioxide). In addition, the inverted U curve hides systemic consequences of emissions. We are long past treating natural capital as a luxury. In fact, it is a necessity.

India routinely suffers from high levels of air pollution that impose costs on local transport, health and liveability in urban and rural areas.

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/05/30/insights-into-editorial-natural-capital-in-the-21st-century/>



87 Which of the following is NOT a part of the JAM Trinity?

- A. A Bank account
- B. Mobile phone
- C. Aadhar Number
- D. PAN Card ✓

- Your Answer : D
- Correct Answer : D

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: DBT by leveraging the JAM (Jan Dhan, Aadhaar and Mobiles) trinity and the technological prowess offers to drastically improve the benefit delivery system in the country. The JAM Trinity will enable this novel system to transfer benefits in a leakage-proof, well targeted, cashless and timely manner.

Acknowledging that problems have been experienced by three Union Territories (UTs) in the implementation of direct benefit transfer (DBT) for food subsidy, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has advised States that are planning to shift to cash transfer to be cautious while effecting the migration.

- Cash transfer mode reduces the need for large physical movement of food grains.
- Given the wide inter-State and intra-State variations in food consumption habits, the DBT provides “greater autonomy” to beneficiaries to choose their consumption basket, apart from enhancing dietary diversity.
- It also reduces the leakage in the PDS, as the Central government has to absorb a huge food subsidy bill under the existing system of distribution of food grains in fulfilment of provisions of the National Food Security Act (NFSA).

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/07/16/insights-daily-current-affairs-16-july-2018/>

88 The Ninth Schedule was initially created outside the ambit of Judicial Review in order to pursue

- A. Nationalisation and land distribution ✓
- B. Acquisition of foreign territories
- C. Shun fundamental rights during an emergency
- D. Easy changes in Schedule fifth and sixth clauses

- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : A



▪ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: The first amendment to the Indian Constitution added the Ninth Schedule to it. It was introduced to address judicial review decisions especially about abridging certain fundamental rights.

The state wanted to pursue nationalisation, take away lands from the zamindars, re-distribute them, and make special provisions for the socially and economically backward. This would have violated certain FRs, thus the need for 9th schedule to shield executive and legislative actions from Judicial review.

I.R. Coelho by L.Rs. v. State of Tamil Nadu case raised the following questions: Is it permissible to make the 9th Schedule immunized from the Judicial Review of the Supreme Court? Whether the Basic Structure test would include Judicial Review of Ninth Schedule laws on the touchstone of Fundamental rights?

The court ruled that it is absolutely not permissible to make the Ninth Schedule immunized from the Judicial Review of the Constitution.

The court said that the Doctrine of Basic Structure is the very essence of the Constitution of India and therefore, there cannot be any act, rules or regulations which can overrule the Basic Structure doctrine.

Q Source: Chapter 7: Indian Polity: M Laxmikanth

89 State legislatures can make laws to enforce

1. Fundamental Rights
2. Directive Principles of State Policy
3. Fundamental Duties

▪ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

▪ Your Answer : C

▪ Correct Answer : B

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1: Most of them are directly enforceable (self-executed) while a few of them can be enforced on the basis of a law made for giving effect to them.

Such a law can be made only by the Parliament and not by state legislatures so that uniformity throughout the country is maintained (Article 35). So, 1 is incorrect.

Statement 2: For e.g. Tamilnadu government came up with many schemes to universalize food distribution, health care, education etc which fulfil provisions of DPSP. So, 2 is correct.



Statement 3: For e.g. environmental conservation and forests fall in concurrent lists, the preservation of which also falls under fundamental duties. State legislatures can make laws on these matters, so, 3 is correct.

Q Source: Chapter 7: Indian Polity: M Laxmikanth

90 Consider the following states and their state animals.

1. Andhra Pradesh: Spotted Deer
2. Telangana: Blackbuck
3. Tamil Nadu: Nilgiri Tahr
4. Kerala: Indian giant squirrel

▪ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

▪ Your Answer : B

▪ Correct Answer : C

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1 and 2: Please exchange the options.

Statement 4: It is Indian elephant.

Learning: Four years after the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, the government of the residual state has announced its state symbols.

- State bird: Rama Chiluka (psittacula krameri) or rose ringed parakeet.
- State animal: Blackbuck (antelope cervicapra) or Krishna Jinka.
- State tree: Neem (azadirachta indica) or Vepa Chettu.

State symbols of Telangana:

- State bird: Palapitta.
- State animal: Jinka or spotted deer.
- State tree: Jammi Chettu (prosopis cineraria).



- State flower: Tangidi Puvvu (senna auriculata).

The list of other state symbols can be found here

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Indian_state_animals

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/05/31/insights-daily-current-affairs-31-may-2018/>

91 Supreme Court has been vested with 'original' and 'wide' powers for defending the fundamental rights of citizens. What do you understand by original powers of SC?

1. SC holds this power exclusively.
2. Citizens may approach the SC directly without necessarily going through appeals from lower courts.

- Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only ✓
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None

- Your Answer : B

- Correct Answer : B

▪ Answer Justification :

Justification: Supreme Court has been constituted as the defender and guarantor of the fundamental rights of the citizens. It has been vested with the 'original' and 'wide' powers for that purpose.

- Original, because an aggrieved citizen can directly go to the Supreme Court, not necessarily by way of appeal.
- Wide, because its power is not restricted to issuing of orders or directions but also writs of all kinds.

Statement 1: In case of the enforcement of Fundamental Rights, the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is original but not exclusive. It is concurrent with the jurisdiction of the high court under Article 226.

It vests original powers in the high court to issue directions, orders and writs of all kinds for the enforcement of the Fundamental Rights. It means when the Fundamental Rights of a citizen are violated, the aggrieved party has the option of moving either the high court or the Supreme Court directly.

Q Source: Chapter 7: Indian Polity: M Laxmikanth



92 Consider the following statements.

1. The IISS Asia Security Summit is also known as the Shangri-La Dialogue (SLD).
2. Munich Security Conference has its origins in the First Gulf War, 1991.
3. The Raisina Dialogue, a multilateral conference, held annually in New Delhi is hosted by the Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS).

▪ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

▪ Your Answer : C

▪ Correct Answer : C

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1: The Shangri-La Dialogue (SLD) is a "Track One" inter-governmental security forum held annually by an independent think tank, the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) which is attended by defense ministers, permanent heads of ministries and military chiefs of 28 Asia-Pacific states. The forum gets its name from the Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore where it has been held since 2002.

The summit serves to cultivate a sense of community among the most important policymakers in the defence and security community in the region.

Statement 2: Munich Security Conference is an annual conference on international security policy that has taken place in Munich, Bavaria since 1963. Former names are Wehrkundetagung and Münchner Konferenz für Sicherheitspolitik.

It is the world's largest gathering of its kind.

Over the past four decades the Munich Security Conference has become the most important independent forum for the exchange of views by international security policy decision-makers.

Statement 3: The Raisina Dialogue is a multilateral conference held annually in New Delhi. Since its inception in 2016, the conference has emerged as India's flagship conference on geopolitics and geo-economics. The conference is hosted by the Observer Research Foundation, an independent think tank, in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs of India.

The conference is structured as a multi-stakeholder, cross-sectoral discussion, involving a variety of global policymakers including heads of state, cabinet ministers and local government officials. In addition, The Dialogue also welcomes major private sector executives, as well as members of the media and academia. It is designed on the lines of Singapore's Shangri-La Dialogue.

Q Source: Additional Research:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/11/insights-daily-current-affairs-02-june-2018/>



93 Consider the following about the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

1. CDM allows industrialized countries to buy certified emission reduction (CER) and to invest in emission reductions in developing economies.
2. "Additionality" is ignored as an assessment factor for qualifying projects under CDM.

▪ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only ✓
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None

▪ Your Answer : A

▪ Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1: The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), defined the Protocol, allows a country with an emission-reduction or emission-limitation commitment under the Kyoto Protocol (Annex B Party) to implement an emission-reduction project in developing countries. Such projects can earn saleable certified emission reduction (CER) credits, each equivalent to one tonne of CO₂, which can be counted towards meeting Kyoto targets.

Statement 2: If emission reduction in a project would have happened anyway, it is not counted as part of CDM. In order to maintain the environmental effectiveness of the Kyoto Protocol, emission savings from the CDM must be additional (World Bank, 2010). Without additionality, the CDM amounts to an income transfer to non-Annex I countries. Additionality is, however, difficult to prove, and is the subject of vigorous debate.

Assessing additionality is costly and has created delays (bottlenecks) in approving CDM projects as per World Bank (2010).

Q Source: Frequently in news

94 Section 141 and 144 of Criminal Procedure Code (1973) that are often heard in news deal with

1. Reasonable restrictions on freedom of assembly
2. Powers of civilian administration to impose martial law

▪ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only ✓
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None

▪ Your Answer : A

▪ Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**



Justification: Under Sec 144, a magistrate can restrain an assembly, meeting or procession if there is a risk of obstruction, annoyance or danger to human life, health or safety or a disturbance of the public tranquillity or a riot or any affray.

Under Section 141 of the Indian Penal Code, an assembly of five or more persons becomes unlawful if the object is (a) to resist the execution of any law or legal process; (b) to forcibly occupy the property of some person; (c) to commit any mischief or criminal trespass; (d) to force some person to do an illegal act; and (e) to threaten the government or its officials on exercising lawful powers.

Q Source: Current Affairs + lifted from Chapter 7: Indian Polity: M Laxmikanth

95 Which of these constitutional provisions give the Judiciary the power of Judicial Review?

1. Article 13 which says laws ultra vires the constitution shall be void
2. Article 32 which gives Supreme Court the power to issue writs
3. Article 226 which gives High Courts the power to issue writs

▪ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

▪ Your Answer : D

▪ Correct Answer : D

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1: Article 13 declares that all laws that are inconsistent with or in derogation of any of the fundamental rights shall be void. In other words, it expressly provides for the doctrine of judicial review.

Statement 2 and 3: This power has been conferred on the Supreme Court (Article 32) and the High Courts (Article 226) that can declare a law unconstitutional and invalid on the ground of contravention of any of the Fundamental Rights.

Q Source: Chapter 7: Indian Polity: M Laxmikanth

96 Consider the following statements. Partnership to Advance Clean Energy (PACE-D)

1. Is a flagship programme of the USA and India
2. Works in India to promote low-carbon growth through clean energy and innovative financing mechanisms

▪ Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 ☒
- D. None



- Your Answer : C
- Correct Answer : C

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: The U.S.-India bilateral PACE program focuses on spurring low-carbon development by supporting research and deployment of clean energy through PACE-R (research) and PACE-D (deployment) initiatives, and promoting energy access through its PEACE initiative.

Launched in 2009, PACE is a genuine “whole-of-government” initiative that provides a platform for engagement by a diverse array of government agencies.

Through PACE, the U.S. and India cooperate on key issues to support the Government of India’s goal to deploy 175 GW of renewable energy by 2022; and reduce emissions intensity of its GDP by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 from its 2005 level. These interventions include policy and regulatory frameworks to scale up clean energy deployment, pilot projects to demonstrate innovative business models, financing mechanisms to unlock new sources of capital for projects, and capacity building to develop a trained workforce. PACE has mobilized over USD 2.5 billion since 2009 to support clean energy deployment.

PACE-D includes three key components, energy efficiency, renewable energy, and cleaner fossil technology and works at both the state and central level. The website provides access to program resources, events, and in-depth information on individual components of the project.

Q Source: Revision: Previous test:

http://www.mea.gov.in/Portal/ForeignRelation/India_US_brief.pdf

<https://www.climatelinks.org/resources/partnership-advance-clean-energy-deployment-pace-d-india>

97 The Menaka case (1978) is famously known for

- A. Wider interpretation of the Article 21 ✓
- B. Judicious rebalancing of fundamental rights and directive principles
- C. Evolution of the ‘rarest of rare’ doctrine
- D. Clarifying the provisions related to President’s rule

- Your Answer : A
- Correct Answer : A

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: In the Menaka case (1978), the Supreme Court overruled its judgement in the Gopalan case by taking a wider interpretation of the Article 21. Therefore, it ruled that the right to life and personal liberty of a person can be deprived by a law provided the procedure prescribed by that law is reasonable, fair and just.



- In other words, it has introduced the American expression 'due process of law'. In effect, the protection under Article 21 should be available not only against arbitrary executive action but also against arbitrary legislative action.
- Further, the court held that the 'right to life' as embodied in Article 21 is not merely confined to animal existence or survival but it includes within its ambit the right to live with human dignity and all those aspects of life which go to make a man's life meaningful, complete and worth living.
- It also ruled that the expression 'Personal Liberty' in Article 21 is of the widest amplitude and it covers a variety of rights that go to constitute the personal liberties of a man.

Q Source: Chapter 7: Indian Polity: M Laxmikanth

98 Which of these constitutional bodies are functionally autonomous from the government?

1. Election Commission of India
2. Comptroller and Auditor-General of India
3. State Public Service Commissions

▪ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

▪ Your Answer : B

▪ Correct Answer : D

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: The Indian Constitution not only provides for the legislative, executive and judicial organs of the government (Central and state) but also establishes certain independent bodies. They are envisaged by the Constitution as the bulwarks of the democratic system of Government in India.

Statement 1: Election Commission ensures free and fair elections to the Parliament, the state legislatures, the office of President of India and the office of Vice-president of India.

Statement 2: Comptroller and Auditor-General of India audits the accounts of the Central and state governments. He acts as the guardian of public purse and comments on the legality and propriety of government expenditure.

Statement 3: Union Public Service Commission to conduct examinations for recruitment to all-India services and higher Central services and to advise the President on disciplinary matters.



State Public Service Commissions in every state conduct examinations for recruitment to state services and advise the governor on disciplinary matters.

Q Source: Frequently in news due to their autonomy

99 With reference to the regulation and development of groundwater in India, consider the following statements.

1. Atal Bhujal Yojana is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) focussing exclusively on hard rock aquifers.
2. Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) is regulating ground water development in all the States and UTs of India.
3. CGWA was constituted under the Water (Protection) Act, 1986.
4. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is a subordinate office of the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India.

▪ Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

▪ Your Answer : C

▪ Correct Answer : D

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Justification: Statement 1: It is a Rs.6000 crore Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. The scheme aims to improve ground water management in priority areas in the country through community participation. The scheme is to be implemented over a period of five years from 2018-19 to 2022-23, with World Bank assistance.

- The priority areas identified under the scheme fall in the states of Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. These States represent about 25% of the total number of over-exploited, critical and semi-critical blocks in terms of ground water in India.
- They also cover two major types of groundwater systems found in India - alluvial and hard rock aquifers- and have varying degrees of institutional readiness and experience in groundwater management.

Statement 2 and 3: Only 13 of India's states and Union Territories have enacted a legislation on the lines of a Model Bill suggested by the Union Government to regulate and control development and management of groundwater in the country. In the rest CGWA regulates groundwater development.



The states and UTs that have adopted such a legislation are undivided Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Lakshadweep, Kerala, Puducherry, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Assam and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) was constituted under sub-section (3) of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the purposes of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the country. The Authority is engaged in various activities related to regulation of ground water development to ensure its long-term sustainability.

Statement 4: Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), a subordinate office of the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India, is the National Apex Agency entrusted with the responsibilities of providing scientific inputs for management, exploration, monitoring, assessment, augmentation and regulation of ground water resources of the country.

Central Ground Water Board was established in 1970 by renaming the Exploratory Tube wells Organization under the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. It was merged with the Ground Water Wing of the Geological Survey of India during 1972.

Learning: About the Atal Bhujal Yojana: Funds under the scheme will be provided to the states for strengthening the institutions responsible for ground water governance, as well as for encouraging community involvement for improving ground water management to foster behavioural changes that promote conservation and efficient use of water.

The scheme will also facilitate convergence of ongoing Government schemes in the states by incentivizing their focussed implementation in identified priority areas.

The implementation of the scheme is expected to have several positive outcomes like better understanding of the ground water regime, focused and integrated community based approach for addressing issues related to ground water depletion, sustainable ground water management through convergence of on-going and new schemes, adoption of efficient water use practices to reduce ground water use for irrigation and augmentation of ground water resources in targeted areas.

Q Source:

<http://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/06/07/insights-daily-current-affairs-07-june-2018/>

<http://cgwb.gov.in/aboutcgwb.html>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=171858>

<http://www.indiawaterreview.in/Story/News/13-indian-states-uts-enact-law-to-regulate-ground-water/1561/1#.W1BWe9IzbiU>

100 The process and qualifications required for gaining Indian citizenship can be altered by

- A. An executive resolution
- B. A Parliamentary legislation ✓
- C. A special constitutional amendment



D. A special constitutional amendment with consent from majority of states

- Your Answer : B
- Correct Answer : B

▪ **Answer Justification :**

Learning: Parliament shall have the power to make any provision with respect to the acquisition and termination of citizenship and all other matters relating to citizenship (Article 11).

Every person who is or is deemed to be a citizen of India shall continue to be such citizen, subject to the provisions of any law made by Parliament (Article 10).

The Citizenship Act (1955) provides for acquisition and loss of citizenship after the commencement of the Constitution. This Act has been amended several times.

Q Source: Chapter 6: Indian Polity: M Laxmikanth