31. Who among the following was not included in the list of Padma Shri awardees for the year 2024?  
(A) Dr. Vandana Shiva  
(B) Raghuram Rajan  
(C) K. S. Chithra  
(D) Neeraj Chopra

Answer 31. (B) Raghuram Rajan

Explanation:

* Dr. Vandana Shiva, K.S. Chithra, and Neeraj Chopra were recognized with the Padma Shri award in 2024.
* Raghuram Rajan, though a distinguished economist, was not included in the list of Padma Shri awardees for 2024.

32. India’s first International Agri-Trade Centre focused on organic farming of the Northeast was established at:  
(A) Kaziranga, Assam  
(B) Guwahati, Assam  
(C) Shillong, Meghalaya  
(D) Dimapur, Nagaland

Answer 32. (C) Shillong, Meghalaya

Explanation:

* Shillong in Meghalaya hosts India’s first International Agri-Trade Centre with a focus on organic farming, promoting sustainable agriculture practices in the Northeast region.

33. Match the following Indian Presidents (List-I) with their books (List-II):  
List–I List–II  
a. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam 1. Wings of Fire  
b. Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan 2. India and the World Order  
c. Pranab Mukherjee 3. Beyond Survival  
d. K.R. Narayanan 4. Interpreting the World  
Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
(A) abcd → 1324  
(B) abcd → 1432  
(C) abcd → 1243  
(D) abcd → 1342

Answer 33. (A) abcd → 1324

Explanation:

* Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam authored "Wings of Fire."
* Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan wrote "India and the World Order."
* Pranab Mukherjee is the author of "Beyond Survival."
* K.R. Narayanan penned "Interpreting the World."

34. Consider the following statements on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989:  
(i) It prohibits forced eviction of ST and SC families from their land.  
(ii) The Act defines offences like social boycott and hate speech against SCs/STs.  
(iii) It allows anticipatory bail in cases registered under the Act without prior permission.  
(iv) The Act provides for special courts for trial of offences.  
Select the correct answer from the options given below.  
(A) Only (i), (ii), and (iv) are correct  
(B) Only (ii) is correct  
(C) None of the statements is correct  
(D) All the statements are correct

Answer 34. (A) Only (i), (ii), and (iv) are correct

Explanation:

* The Act prohibits atrocities including forced eviction and defines social boycott and hate speech as offences.
* It provides for special courts for speedy trial of offences.
* However, anticipatory bail in such cases requires prior permission; thus, (iii) is incorrect.

35. Which of the following is/are objective(s) of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Defence Manufacturing policy?  
(i) Achieving a self-reliant defence production ecosystem  
(ii) Increasing imports of defence equipment to upgrade armed forces  
(iii) Boosting export of defence products  
(iv) Encouraging private and MSME participation in defence manufacturing  
Select the correct answer:  
(A) (i), (iii), and (iv) only  
(B) (ii) and (iii) only  
(C) (i) and (ii) only  
(D) All of the above

Answer 35. (A) (i), (iii), and (iv) only

Explanation:

* The policy aims for self-reliance in defence production, boosting exports, and enhancing private and MSME involvement.
* Increasing imports contradicts the self-reliance goal, making (ii) incorrect.

36. The 105th Constitutional Amendment Act is related to:  
(A) Extension of the reservation for SCs/STs in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies  
(B) Reservation to the OBCs in educational institutions  
(C) Deregulation of interstate river water disputes  
(D) Transfer of Jammu and Kashmir to Union Territory status

Answer 36. (A) Extension of the reservation for SCs/STs in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies

Explanation:

* The 105th Amendment extended the reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies for another ten years beyond 2020.

37. The Directive Principles of State Policy are primarily contained in which part of the Constitution of India?  
(A) Part II  
(B) Part III  
(C) Part IV  
(D) Part V

Answer 37. (C) Part IV

Explanation:

* Directive Principles of State Policy are enumerated in Part IV of the Indian Constitution, guiding the state in governance.
* Part III covers Fundamental Rights, Part II deals with Citizenship, and Part V concerns the Union Government.

38. Consider the following statements concerning the Assam Accord (1985):  
(i) It was signed between the Government of India, Government of Assam and leaders of AASU.  
(ii) It fixed March 24, 1971, as the cut-off date for detection and deportation of illegal foreigners.  
(iii) Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister when the Accord was signed.  
(iv) The Accord introduced the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution.  
(A) (i), (ii), and (iii) only  
(B) (ii) and (iv) only  
(C) (i) and (iii) only  
(D) All are correct

Answer 38. (A) (i), (ii), and (iii) only

Explanation:

* The Assam Accord was signed by the Government of India, Government of Assam, and AASU leaders under PM Rajiv Gandhi's administration.
* It specified March 24, 1971, as the cut-off date for identifying illegal immigrants.
* However, the Sixth Schedule existed before the Accord and wasn’t introduced by it; thus, (iv) is incorrect.

39. Which of the following bodies are constitutional bodies?  
(i) Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)  
(ii) NITI Aayog  
(iii) Finance Commission  
(iv) Planning Commission  
Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
(A) (i) and (iii) only  
(B) (ii) and (iv) only  
(C) (i), (ii), and (iii) only  
(D) (iii) and (iv) only

Answer 39. (A) (i) and (iii) only

Explanation:

* The CAG and Finance Commission are constitutional bodies established by the Indian Constitution.
* NITI Aayog and Planning Commission are statutory or executive bodies, not constitutional.

40. Which of the following features are present in both Indian and Canadian Federalism?  
(i) Asymmetric federalism  
(ii) Separate List of federal and provincial powers  
(iii) Unitary bias during emergencies  
(iv) Abolition of states by central government without consent  
Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
(A) (i), (ii) and (iii) only  
(B) (ii) and (iv) only  
(C) (i) and (iii) only  
(D) (iv) only

Answer 40. (A) (i), (ii) and (iii) only

Explanation:

* Both India and Canada exhibit asymmetric federalism with differentiated powers among states/provinces.
* Each has a separate list defining federal and regional powers.
* In emergencies, both systems have a unitary bias granting more power to the central government.
* However, the central government cannot abolish states/provinces without consent in either system.