1. The “Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP)” focuses on:  
   (i) Empowering women farmers  
   (ii) Providing self-employment and skill development  
   (iii) Reducing agricultural subsidies  
   (iv) Encouraging women’s participation in agricultural decision-making  
   Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
   (A) (i) and (ii) only  
   (B) (i), (ii), and (iv) only  
   (C) (iii) and (iv) only  
   (D) All of the above

Answer 81. (B) (i), (ii), and (iv) only

Explanation:

* MKSP is designed to empower women farmers by building their capacities in sustainable agriculture and allied livelihoods.
* The programme fosters self-employment through training, credit linkages, and enterprise development in farm and non-farm activities.
* It explicitly seeks to enhance women’s agency in farm-level and community-level decision-making, including access to entitlements and land-related rights.
* Reducing agricultural subsidies is not an MKSP objective, so (iii) is excluded.

1. Which of the following are the main pillars of the Inclusive Development Index (IDI)?  
   (A) Growth and development  
   (B) Inclusion  
   (C) Intergenerational equity  
   (D) All of the above

Answer 82. (D) All of the above

Explanation:

* The IDI rests on three pillars: growth and development, inclusion, and intergenerational equity/sustainability.
* Together these pillars measure not only output but also distributional outcomes and long-term stewardship of resources.
* Hence all options listed constitute the primary pillars.

1. The Assam Oil Plantations Labour Act was enacted in which year?  
   (A) 1950  
   (B) 1951  
   (C) 1960  
   (D) 1948

Answer 83. (B) 1951

Explanation:

* The Plantations Labour Act was enacted in 1951 to regulate working conditions and welfare in plantations across India, including Assam’s tea sector.
* It provides for facilities such as housing, medical care, creches, canteens, and welfare measures for plantation workers.
* Therefore, the relevant enactment year is 1951.

1. The “Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY)” is focused on:  
   (A) Strengthening rural electric infrastructure and feeder separation  
   (B) Promoting wind energy projects  
   (C) Providing subsidies for electric appliances  
   (D) Setting up nuclear power plants in rural India

Answer 84. (A) Strengthening rural electric infrastructure and feeder separation

Explanation:

* DDUGJY targets rural power distribution reforms with key components such as feeder separation for agricultural and non-agricultural loads.
* It includes strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution infrastructure and metering at multiple levels for reliable rural supply.
* It does not directly finance wind or nuclear projects nor appliance subsidies as its core mandate.

1. Which one of the following best describes “extractive institutions”?  
   (A) Institutions that promote innovation and economic inclusivity  
   (B) Institutions designed to extract resources and concentrate power  
   (C) Institutions ensuring social welfare and equity  
   (D) Institutions regulating financial markets

Answer 85. (B) Institutions designed to extract resources and concentrate power

Explanation:

* Extractive institutions concentrate political and economic power in the hands of a narrow elite.
* They enable rent extraction, discourage broad-based innovation, and perpetuate inequality.
* This contrasts with inclusive institutions that secure property rights and open opportunities widely.

1. Which team won the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup in 2025?  
   (A) Australia  
   (B) England  
   (C) India  
   (D) South Africa

Answer 86. (No official winner yet)

Explanation:

* As of the current timeframe, the 2025 ICC Women’s Cricket World Cup schedule has been announced but the tournament is scheduled later in the year.
* No champion has been declared, so selecting a winner from the options would be speculative.
* An answer will be determinable only after the tournament concludes.

1. The recommendations of the Finance Commission are:  
   (A) Binding on the Central Government  
   (B) Binding on the State Governments  
   (C) Advisory and not binding on either Centre or States  
   (D) Binding on both Centre and States

Answer 87. (C) Advisory and not binding on either Centre or States

Explanation:

* The Finance Commission’s recommendations are advisory; the Union government typically accepts them with modifications via Presidential Orders.
* States and the Centre implement the accepted portions through budgetary processes and transfers.
* They are not legally binding on either tier of government.

1. The newest permanent research station established by India in Antarctica is:  
   (A) Maitri  
   (B) Bharati  
   (C) Dakshin Gangotri  
   (D) Himadri

Answer 88. (B) Bharati

Explanation:

* India’s Antarctic stations include Dakshin Gangotri (first, now a supply base), Maitri (operational), and Bharati (the newest permanent station, operational since 2012).
* Himadri is India’s station in the Arctic, not Antarctica.
* Hence, Bharati is the latest permanent Antarctic base.

1. Which town hosted the 10th National Games of India in Northeast India in 2007, the first time in the region?  
   (A) Guwahati  
   (B) Shillong  
   (C) Agartala  
   (D) Kohima

Answer 89. (A) Guwahati

Explanation:

* The 33rd National Games of India were held in 2007 in Guwahati, marking the first time the event took place in Northeast India.
* The event catalyzed sports infrastructure development in Assam, including stadia and training facilities.
* Thus, Guwahati is the correct host city.

1. Who presided over the Assam Legislative Council in 1937?  
   (A) Nepolion Hazarika  
   (B) Kuladhar Saikia  
   (C) Surendra Nath Barooah  
   (D) Bidhu Madhav Phukan

Answer 90. (C) Surendra Nath Barooah

Explanation:

* During the late colonial period, the Assam Legislative Council saw Assamese leadership in presiding roles coinciding with legislative reforms under dyarchy and provincial autonomy.
* Surendra Nath Barooah is recorded as presiding over the Council in 1937.
* The other listed names do not correspond to the presiding officer for that year.