1. Consider the following regarding the “Jaivik Bharat” logo:  
   Statement 1: The Jaivik Bharat logo launched by FSSAI serves as a unified identity for organic food certification in India.  
   Statement 2: Only products certified under the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS-India) are eligible to carry the Jaivik Bharat logo.  
   Which of the above statements is/are correct?  
   (A) 1 only  
   (B) 2 only  
   (C) Both 1 and 2  
   (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer 11. (A) 1 only

Explanation:

* The Jaivik Bharat logo was launched by FSSAI as a unified symbol for organic foods to build consumer trust and enable easy identification of certified organic produce in India.
* The use of the logo is not restricted to products under PGS-India; products certified under both PGS-India and the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) are eligible to use it.
* Therefore, only the first statement is correct, while the second is restrictive and inaccurate.

1. The National Logistics Policy (NLP) 2022 seeks to enhance India’s competitiveness. Consider the following:  
   Objective 1: To reduce logistics cost in India to below 8% of GDP by 2030.  
   Objective 2: To integrate NLP with initiatives like Sagarmala, Bharatmala, and Gati Shakti.  
   Objective 3: To develop a Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP).  
   Objective 4: To mandate railway privatization for cargo transport as a key measure.  
   Which of the above objectives is/are not correct?  
   (A) 1 and 2 only  
   (B) 4 only  
   (C) 3 only  
   (D) 2 and 4 only

Answer 12. (B) 4 only

Explanation:

* The NLP indeed aims to reduce logistics costs, integrate with major infrastructure schemes, and establish a Unified Logistics Interface Platform to streamline operations.
* However, it does not prescribe or mandate the privatization of Indian Railways for cargo transport as a policy objective.
* Thus, only Objective 4 is not correct.

1. The term Countervailing Duty (CVD) in international trade refers to:  
   (A) A duty imposed to counteract export subsidies of a trading partner.  
   (B) A duty imposed on goods from countries with which trade deficit is high.  
   (C) A reciprocal tariff agreed upon in bilateral treaties.  
   (D) A tax levied on both exports and imports to balance trade.

Answer 13. (A) A duty imposed to counteract export subsidies of a trading partner.

Explanation:

* Countervailing Duty is a tariff imposed by a country to offset subsidies made by foreign governments to their exporters, making imported goods artificially cheaper.
* It is targeted only at subsidized imports, not at countries simply for trade deficits or as general reciprocal measures.
* This mechanism helps ensure fair competition for domestic industries.

1. In banking terminology, what is meant by Net Demand and Time Liabilities (NDTL)?  
   (A) The difference between a bank’s demand deposits and its time deposits.  
   (B) Total demand and time liabilities of a bank, excluding its borrowings from other banks and RBI.  
   (C) The overdraft limit granted by RBI.  
   (D) The net reserves that a bank maintains for CRR compliance.

Answer 14. (B) Total demand and time liabilities of a bank, excluding its borrowings from other banks and RBI.

Explanation:

* NDTL refers to the total value of deposits (demand and time liabilities) that a bank must maintain cash reserve ratios for, minus inter-bank and central bank borrowings.
* It serves as the base for calculating statutory liquidity and cash reserve requirements.
* Options about overdraft, reserves, or simply the difference of deposit types are incorrect.

1. With respect to Bihu festival of Assam, consider the following:  
   (i) Bohag Bihu marks the Assamese New Year and spring season.  
   (ii) Rongali Bihu is primarily associated with cattle worship.  
   (iii) Bihu songs and dances form an integral part of its celebrations.  
   Which of the above statements are correct?  
   (A) (i) and (ii) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (C) (i) and (iii) only  
   (D) (i), (ii) and (iii)

Answer 15. (C) (i) and (iii) only

Explanation:

* Bohag Bihu, also called Rongali Bihu, is celebrated as the start of the Assamese New Year and the onset of spring, emphasizing renewal and community gathering.
* Bihu songs (bihu naam) and dances are a hallmark of the festival and an intrinsic cultural expression.
* Rongali Bihu is a secular folk fest, and while cattle worship is linked more to the Kongali (Kati) Bihu and Bhogali (Magh) Bihu as part of agricultural rituals, it is not the primary focus of Rongali Bihu.

1. Which of the following are true about the Thermohaline Circulation (Global Conveyor Belt)?  
   (i) It is driven by differences in water density due to temperature and salinity.  
   (ii) It transports warm water from the tropics to the poles and cold water to the tropics.  
   (iii) It completes one full cycle approximately every 100 years.  
   (iv) The Gulf Stream plays a role in this circulation.  
   Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
   (A) (i), (ii) and (iv) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (C) (i), (iii) and (iv) only  
   (D) (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)

Answer 16. (A) (i), (ii) and (iv) only

Explanation:

* The thermohaline circulation is sustained by differences in seawater density that arise from temperature (thermo) and salinity (haline) variations across the globe.
* It engines the global ocean conveyor belt, moving warm water from equatorial regions poleward and sending cold water back toward the tropics.
* The Gulf Stream is a component connecting with deep water flows, helping transport heat around the planet.
* The entire cycle actually takes closer to a thousand years, not just 100.

1. Which of the following project–state pairs is/are not correct?  
   (i) Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project – Telangana  
   (ii) Polavaram Project – Andhra Pradesh  
   (iii) Sharavathi Canal System – Kerala  
   (iv) Durgapur Barrage Canal Project – West Bengal  
   Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
   (A) (iii) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (C) (i) and (iv) only  
   (D) (iii) and (iv) only

Answer 17. (A) (iii) only

Explanation:

* Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation is in Telangana, Polavaram Project is in Andhra Pradesh, and Durgapur Barrage is in West Bengal as correctly matched.
* The Sharavathi canal system is actually in Karnataka, not Kerala, making (iii) the only incorrect pair.
* All other pairs reflect the correct state associations.

1. Consider the following statements about Buri Dihing River (South Bank tributary):  
   (i) Originates in the Patkai hills of Arunachal Pradesh.  
   (ii) Famous for creating the Dihing Patkai rainforest ecosystem.  
   (iii) Joins Brahmaputra near Dibrugarh.  
   (iv) Known historically as Sadiya’s “tea river,” as tea industry flourished on its banks.  
   Which statement(s) is/are not correct?  
   (A) (iii) only  
   (B) (iv) only  
   (C) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (D) (i) and (iv) only

Answer 18. (A) (iii) only

Explanation:

* The Buri Dihing originates in the Patkai hills (Arunachal Pradesh) and creates the Dihing Patkai rainforest region, an important biodiversity hotspot.
* It is historically associated with the development of tea gardens in the Sadiya region.
* However, it does not join the Brahmaputra near Dibrugarh but merges closer to the Tinsukia or Dihingmukh region, making (iii) incorrect.

1. Which of the following project–state pairs is/are not correct?  
   (i) Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project – Telangana  
   (ii) Polavaram Project – Andhra Pradesh  
   (iii) Sharavathi Canal System – Kerala  
   (iv) Durgapur Barrage Canal Project – West Bengal  
   Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
   (A) (iii) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (C) (i) and (iv) only  
   (D) (iii) and (iv) only

Answer 19. (A) (iii) only

Explanation:

* Just as in an earlier question, the Sharavathi Canal System is based in Karnataka and not in Kerala.
* All other project-state pairs are matched correctly and refer to well-known infrastructure developments in those states.
* Only (iii) is not correct.

1. The rising flood intensity in western Assam districts (Barpeta, Nalbari, Goalpara) can be explained by:  
   (i) Sudden torrents of rain-fed rivers from Bhutan Himalayas like Pagladiya and Puthimari.  
   (ii) Heavy siltation of channels reducing their carrying capacity.  
   (A) (i) only  
   (B) (ii) only  
   (C) Both (i) and (ii) inclusive to explain flooding  
   (D) Both (i) & (ii) true, but secondary causes dominate

Answer 20. (C) Both (i) and (ii) inclusive to explain flooding

Explanation:

* Sudden burst flows (torrents) from rain-fed Himalayan tributaries originating in Bhutan significantly increase discharge into river channels, triggering flash floods in downstream plains.
* Heavy siltation further aggravates the situation by lowering channel capacity, thus making the region highly susceptible to floods.
* Both factors together provide the most comprehensive explanation for observed flood intensities and patterns in these districts.