1. Regarding the “Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006”, consider:  
   Statement 1: The Act consolidated multiple food-related laws and established the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).  
   Statement 2: The Act provides for a single line of control across the entire food safety ecosystem, replacing earlier fragmented regulations.  
   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. (C) Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

* The Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 consolidated various laws related to food safety into a single statute.
* It established the FSSAI to serve as the unified regulatory authority managing all aspects of food safety and standards in India.
* These provisions replaced fragmented earlier regulatory systems with streamlined governance.

1. The India@100 vision document outlines aspirations for centenary of independence. Consider the following:  
   Objective 1: Building global leadership in emerging technologies like AI, quantum computing, and semiconductors.  
   Objective 2: Ensuring universal healthcare and access to clean drinking water for every household.  
   Objective 3: Achieving carbon neutrality by 2030 through rapid phase-out of all fossil fuels.  
   Objective 4: Becoming a leader in circular economy and sustainable lifestyles.  
   Which of the above objectives is/are not correct?  
   (A) 1 only  
   (B) 3 only  
   (C) 2 and 3 only  
   (D) 1, 2 and 4 only

Answer 12. (B) 3 only

Explanation:

* The vision includes leadership in emerging technologies, universal healthcare access, and promotion of circular economy and sustainable lifestyles.
* However, it does not commit to carbon neutrality by 2030 via a complete and rapid phase-out of all fossil fuels; the timeline and manner are more nuanced.

1. In the context of global economics, Currency Manipulation refers to:  
   (A) Artificially fixing the exchange rate of a currency to gain advantage in international trade.  
   (B) Reducing currency circulation in domestic markets to curb inflation.  
   (C) Pegging local currency with multiple international currencies.  
   (D) Expanding money supply through central bank open market operations.

Answer 13. (A) Artificially fixing the exchange rate of a currency to gain advantage in international trade.

Explanation:

* Currency manipulation involves deliberate intervention by a country’s central bank or government to devalue or control its currency's exchange rate.
* The motive is often to boost export competitiveness by making goods cheaper internationally.
* Other options describe legitimate or unrelated monetary policy actions.

1. What does Market Stabilization Scheme (MSS) aim to achieve?  
   (A) To regulate the supply of liquidity in the economy through issuance of government securities.  
   (B) To prevent stock market volatility by SEBI interventions.  
   (C) To stabilize exchange rates by linking the rupee to the US dollar.  
   (D) To provide capital support to loss-making public sector banks.

Answer 14. (A) To regulate the supply of liquidity in the economy through issuance of government securities.

Explanation:

* MSS is a tool used by the Reserve Bank of India to absorb excess liquidity and regulate money supply by issuing short-term government securities.
* It is not designed to control stock market movements, exchange rates, or provide bank capital.

1. Consider the following about the Pandharpur Wari Yatra of Maharashtra:  
   (i) It is a pilgrimage associated with Lord Vithoba.  
   (ii) The pilgrims, called Varkaris, walk in large processions singing abhangas.  
   (iii) The yatra begins on Dussehra and culminates on Diwali.  
   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. (A) (i) and (ii) only

Explanation:

* The Pandharpur Wari is a devotional pilgrimage centered on Lord Vithoba.
* Varkaris undertake the procession accompanied by devotional songs called abhangas.
* The yatra typically concludes on Ashadhi Ekadashi (around June-July), not spanning from Dussehra to Diwali.

1. Which of the following currents influence the climate of West Africa?  
   (i) Canary Current  
   (ii) Guinea Current  
   (iii) Benguela Current  
   (iv) Agulhas Current  
   Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
   (A) (i), (ii) and (iii) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iv) only  
   (C) (i), (iii) and (iv) only  
   (D) (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)

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

Explanation:

* The Canary, Guinea, and Benguela Currents are ocean currents affecting West Africa’s climate.
* The Canary Current is a cool current flowing southward along the northwest African coast.
* The Guinea Current is a warm current along the central West African coast.
* The Benguela Current is a cool current along southwestern African coasts.
* The Agulhas Current flows along eastern South Africa towards the Indian Ocean, not influencing West Africa.

1. Which of the following canal project–river pairs are correctly matched?  
   (i) Ganga Canal – Haridwar Barrage on Ganga  
   (ii) Krishna Delta Canal – Prakasam Barrage on Krishna  
   (iii) Tungabhadra Left Bank Canal – Cauvery River  
   (iv) Kosi Project Canal – Kosi River  
   Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
   (A) (i), (ii) and (iv) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (C) (i) and (iv) only  
   (D) (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)

Answer 17. (A) (i), (ii) and (iv) only

Explanation:

* Ganga Canal originates from the Haridwar Barrage on the Ganga River.
* Krishna Delta Canal is associated with Prakasam Barrage on the Krishna River.
* The Kosi Project Canal is linked to the Kosi River.
* Tungabhadra Left Bank Canal, however, is related to the Tungabhadra River, not the Cauvery.

1. The Manas River system has unique features. Consider the following:  
   (i) Originates in Tibet and flows through Bhutan before entering Assam.  
   (ii) Divides Assam–Bhutan border, then joins Brahmaputra near Barpeta.  
   (iii) Manas National Park owes its name to this river.  
   (iv) It is a south bank tributary of Brahmaputra.  
   Which are not correct?  
   (A) (ii) only  
   (B) (iv) only  
   (C) (i) and (iv) only  
   (D) (iii) only

Answer 18. (A) (ii) only

Explanation:

* The Manas River originates in Tibet, then passes through Bhutan before entering Assam.
* Manas National Park is named after the river flowing nearby.
* It is a north bank tributary of Brahmaputra, making (iv) incorrect.
* Statement (ii), that it divides Assam–Bhutan border and joins near Barpeta is incorrect because it joins the Brahmaputra near the Assam–Bhutan border but not precisely near Barpeta.

1. Which of the following canal project–river pairs are correctly matched?  
   (i) Ganga Canal – Haridwar Barrage on Ganga  
   (ii) Krishna Delta Canal – Prakasam Barrage on Krishna  
   (iii) Tungabhadra Left Bank Canal – Cauvery River  
   (iv) Kosi Project Canal – Kosi River  
   Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
   (A) (i), (ii) and (iv) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (C) (i) and (iv) only  
   (D) (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)

Answer 19. (A) (i), (ii) and (iv) only

Explanation:

* Options (i), (ii), and (iv) correctly pair canal projects with their respective rivers.
* The Tungabhadra Left Bank Canal is associated with the Tungabhadra River, not the Cauvery, making (iii) incorrect.

1. Climate change has complicated flood patterns in Assam due to:  
   (i) Glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs) in upstream Tibet and Arunachal increasing silt inflow.  
   (ii) Erratic monsoon and extreme rainfall events in short durations.  
   (A) Only (i) is right  
   (B) Only (ii) is right  
   (C) Both (i) and (ii) correct and inclusive  
   (D) Neither (i) nor (ii) is significant

Answer 20. (C) Both (i) and (ii) correct and inclusive

Explanation:

* GLOFs in upstream glacier regions contribute to sudden intense floods and sediment loads downstream in Assam.
* Climate change is contributing to increasingly erratic monsoon rains resulting in extreme precipitation over short periods, exacerbating flood risks.
* Both these factors together impact the flood dynamics in Assam.