

MARCH 2021

Realize Your
Dream of Becoming
IAS/IPS

HIGHLIGHTS

UPSC Prelims GS-1 Practice Paper-2

UPSC Mains GS Practice Paper-37



ANALOG
IAS ACADEMY

PRELIMS TEST C.S.(P)

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO

T.B.C.: P-PFC-L-BJAB

3

TEST BOOKLET SERIES

Serial No. 145221

TEST BOOKLET

D

GENERAL STUDIES (PAPER – I)

Time Allowed: Two Hours

Maximum Marks: 200

INSTRUCTIONS

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS TEST BOOKLET DOES NOT HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TORN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS, ETC. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.
2. ENCODE CLEARLY THE TEST BOOKLET SERIES A, B, C OR D AS THE CASE MAY BE IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACE IN THE ANSWER SHEET.
3. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside. **DO NOT** write anything else on the Test Booklet.
4. This test Booklet contains **100** items (questions). Each item is printed both in Hindi and English. Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response, mark the response which you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.
5. You have to mark all your responses **ONLY** on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See directions in the Answer Sheet.
6. All items carry equal marks.
7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer Sheet the response to various items in the Test Booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the Answer Sheet as per instructions sent to you will your Admission Certificate.
8. After you have completed filling in all your responses on the Answer Sheet and the examination has concluded, you should handover to the Invigilator only the Answer Sheet. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.
9. **USE ONLY BALL BLACK OR BLUE PEN TO MARK IN THE ANSWER SHEET.**
10. Sheets for rough work are appended in the Test Booklet at the end.
11. **Penalty for wrong answers:**

THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTION PAPERS.

 - (i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, **one-third (0.333)** of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.
 - (ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a **wrong answer** even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to that question.
 - (iii) If a question is left blank, i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be **no penalty** for that question.

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO



1. ShadowPad, recently in news, is

- (a) A payload on the recently launched mars mission - Perseverance of NASA.
- (b) A malware used to target India's power sector.
- (c) A new star found in the solar system
- (d) None of the above

2. In India, under cyber insurance for individuals, which of the following benefits are generally covered, in addition to payment for the funds and other benefits?

- 1. Cost of restoration of the computer system in case of malware disrupting access to one's computer
- 2. Cost of a new computer if some miscreant wilfully damages it, if proved so
- 3. Cost of hiring a specialized consultant to minimize the loss in case of cyber extortion.
- 4. Cost of defence in the Court of Law if any third party files a suit

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 4 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

3. Opportunity Index 2021, recently in news, is released by

- (a) International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- (b) World Bank (WB)
- (c) UN Women
- (d) None of the above

4. The Representation of People Acts enacted by the provisional parliament of India under ___ of Indian Constitution, before the first general election

- (a) Article 324
- (b) Article 325
- (c) Article 326 Article 326
- (d) Article 327

5. Broad-based trade and investment agreement (BTIA) is in the news. It is mentioned in the context of:

- (a) India-US relations

(b) India-Sri Lanka relations

(c) India-European Union relations

(d) India- Asean relations

6. The Union Budget 2021-22 has plans of large government expenditure. Which of the following expenditures/investments will lead to human capital formation?

- 1. Education
- 2. Health
- 3. Migration
- 4. Bullet Train

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

7. India will set up a development finance institution called the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development, Finance Minister said as part of the Union Budget presentation. Consider the following statements in this context:

- 1. It will be the first development finance institution of India.
- 2. DFIs cater to the financing needs of the projects only.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
- (c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2

8. Sagar-Manthan is in the news. It is a

- (a) Naval Destroyer
- (b) Water to surface missile
- (c) Sea drilling ship
- (d) Ocean information system

9. Consider the following statements with respect to the International Criminal Court (ICC)

- 1. It is a permanent judicial body based at The Hague in the Netherlands and is the world's first permanent international criminal court.
- 2. The court has jurisdiction over crimes committed by nationals of member states and over crimes in a State that has accepted the jurisdiction of the Court.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2

10. Consider the following statements with respect to the Telecom Equipment Export Promotion Council (TEPC)

1. It has been set up by the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Communications, Government of India.
2. The council makes various recommendations to the Government for making necessary changes in various policies and procedures for promotion of Exports and Services.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2

11. Consider the following statements with respect to the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013

1. It provides a legal right to persons belonging to eligible households to receive food grains at subsidised price, called central issue prices (CIPs).
2. These subsidised prices were fixed for a period of three years from the date of commencement of the Act.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2

12. Consider the following statements with respect to the Paris Agreement, that was signed in 2016

1. The agreement's language was negotiated at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) of the UNFCCC in Paris, France, and adopted by consensus in 2015.
2. All the members of the UNFCCC are parties to the agreement.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2

13. The 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26), is scheduled to be held in

- (a) Madrid, Spain
(b) Ankara, Turkey
(c) Pretoria, South Africa
(d) Glasgow, Scotland.

14. Consider the following statements about Jan Aushadhi Medical Store, outlets established under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana

1. Over-the-counter (OTC) products from these

stores can not be purchased by any individual without a prescription.

2. Individual entrepreneurs are eligible to apply for new Jan Aushadhi stores.
3. Swasth ke Sipahi are the pharmacists of Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendra delivering essential services and medicines at doorstep of patients and elderly to fight COVID-19 outbreak.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only (b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) All of the above

15. Consider the following statements:

1. Article 145 of the Indian Constitution provides power to the Supreme Court to frame its own rules to regulate the practice and procedure of the Court.
2. The 'Master of Roster' refers to the administrative power of the Chief Justice of India only, to allocate the matters that other judges shall be hearing.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2

16. Consider the following statements about the 'Make in India' scheme:

1. It aims to increase the manufacturing sector's growth rate to 12-14% per annum in order to increase the sector's share in the economy;
2. It aims to ensure that the manufacturing sector's contribution to GDP is increased to 25% by 2025 from the current 20%.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2

17. The term 'Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) program' is mentioned in the context of:

- (a) Tariff rates
(b) Banking sector
(c) Defence priorities
(d) None of the above

18. SRISTI & BIRAC are government initiatives in the field of

- (a) Space tech
(b) Bio tech
(c) Women empowerment
(d) Defence technology

19. Consider the following statements with respect to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
1. It is a multilateral legally binding treaty also known as the Washington Convention that provides a framework, which each party adopts to protect endangered plants and animals.
 2. The day of the adoption of the CITES in 1973, is celebrated as the World Wildlife Day since 2010.
- Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?
- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2
20. Gadgil Commission report is mentioned in the context of:
- (a) Thar desert
(b) Western Ghats
(c) Himalyan regions
(d) North-East Himalayas
21. Consider the following statements with respect to the Sattras that lie at the heart of Assamese culture
1. Sattras are a monastic institution created as part of the 16th century Neo-Shaivite reformist movement started by saint-reformer Srimanta Sankaradeva.
 2. At present, Sattras are spread across the state propagating Sankaradeva's unique worship through - music (borgeet), dance (sat-triya) and theatre (bhauna).
- Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?
- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2
22. Consider the following statements with respect to Sankaradeva - a Vaishnavite saint-reformer from Assam
1. He propagated a form of Bhakti rejecting focus on vedic ritualism and focusing on devotion (bhakti) to Krishna in the form of congregational listening, singing his name and idol worship.
 2. He espoused a society based on equality and fraternity, free from caste differences, orthodox Brahmanical rituals and sacrifices.
- Which of the above statement/s is/are incorrect?
- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2
23. Consider the following statements with respect to the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notification 2018
1. It is aimed at streamlining CRZ clearances, enhancing activities in the coastal regions and promoting economic growth while keeping in mind conservation principles of coastal regions.
 2. It is based on the recommendations of the Shailesh Nayak Committee.
- Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?
- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2
24. Which of the following statements with respect to the Maitri Setu is incorrect?
- (a) The bridge connects Indian state of West Bengal with Bangladesh
(b) It is built over ferri river
(c) It will ease India's access to Chittagong Port of Bangladesh
(d) All the above are correct
25. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana is an scheme of
- (a) Ministry of Power
(b) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
(c) Ministry of Renewable Energy
(d) Ministry of Women and Child Welfare
26. Consider the following statements:
1. National Education Policy, 2020 envisions that all existing Higher Educational Institutes would evolve into multidisciplinary institutions under three categories.
 2. Cluster-based universities would increase faculty strength, both in terms of numbers and diversity of disciplines.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2
27. Consider the following statements:
1. The Institute of National Importance is a status that may be conferred only by an act of Parliament of India.
 2. National School of Drama (or NSD) comes under the Ministry of Education.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2

28. Which of the following are the benefits under Institute of Eminence scheme:

1. Government Institutions to get additional funding upto 1000 Cr.
2. Freedom to recruit faculty from outside India (limit of 25% of its faculty strength for public institution).
3. Freedom to enter into academic collaborations with other Institutions within the country.
4. Freedom to have own transparent merit based system for admission of students.
5. Freedom to admit additionally foreign students on merit subject to a maximum of 30% of the strength of admitted domestic students.

Select the correct code:

- (a) 1, 2 & 3 (b) 1, 4 & 5
(c) 1, 2, 3 & 4 (d) All of the above

29. Consider the following statements with respect to the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries Plus (OPEC+) alliance

1. It consists of both the OPEC and non-OPEC producers forming the alliance at a historic meeting in Algiers in 2016.
2. The alliance is undertaking corrections in supply in the oil markets since 2017.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2

30. The pump prices of petrol crossing the ₹ 100-per-litre mark in some States. Consider the following statements:

1. Bringing fuels under GST will make the revenue distribution equitable between Centre, states.
2. Bringing petrol-diesel under GST will have no effect on their current prices.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2. (d) Neither 1 nor 2

31. Consider the following statements regarding the Operation Greens Scheme:

1. It aims to promote Farmer Producers Organizations, agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management.
2. Union Budget for 2021-22 announced the extension of operation green scheme to cover paddy and wheat.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

32. Consider the following statements regarding the One District One Focus Product initiative:

1. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has identified the products for One District One Focus Product (ODOFP) for districts across the country.
2. The identified products will be supported under the PM Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises Scheme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

33. Consider the following statements regarding the Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information by Publi(c) Rules, 2009:

1. In a case of emergency nature, interim blocking directions may be issued by the Cabinet Secretary.
2. The requests and complaints received and actions taken are to be kept confidential.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

34. What is the mandate of NewSpace India Ltd. (NSIL)?

1. Owning satellites for Earth Observation and Communication applications and providing space-based services.
2. Building launch vehicles through Indian Industry and launch as per satellite customer requirement.
3. Technology Transfer to Indian Industry.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) All of the above

35. Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP):

1. It aims to provide generic medicines at affordable prices to the masses through dedicated outlets.

2. It is being implemented by the National Health Authority (NHA).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

36. Consider the following statements regarding the Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI):

1. It is a statutory authority.
2. It manages the facilities for cross-border movement of passengers and goods at designated points along the international borders of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

37. Consider the following statements regarding the "Waste to Wealth" Mission:

1. The mission is being implemented under the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).
2. It aims to identify, develop and deploy technologies to treat waste to generate energy, recycle materials, and extract resources of value.
3. 'Swachhta Saarthi' is a Fellowship under the mission to recognize people engaged in tackling waste management, scientifically and sustainably.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) All of the above

38. What was the mandate of the Surya Prakash Committee that have been in news recently?

- (a) Merger of Lok Sabha TV and Rajya Sabha TV
(b) Regulation of content on OTT platforms
(c) Review of Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act
(d) Framework for certification and censorship of films

39. Which of the following were the recommendations of the Justice JS Verma Committee?

1. Death penalty for the sexual assault of extreme nature
2. All marriages in India should mandatorily be registered in the presence of a magistrate
3. A separate Bill of Rights for women that

entitles a woman a life of dignity and security

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) All of the above

40. Consider the following statements regarding the recently released Digital Media Ethics Code Relating to Digital Media and OTT Platforms:

1. It provides for three-level grievance redressal mechanism at publisher, State and Central Government level.
2. It mandates the content to be self-classified by the publishers into age based categories.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

41. Consider the following statements with respect to Fuel cell based Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) System

1. The system enables conventional diesel-electric submarines to stay underwater for vastly longer periods than nuclear submarines.
2. The technology creates energy by combining hydrogen and oxygen, with only water created as a by-product.
3. The system is being designed and developed by Indian Navy.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 2 and 3 only

42. Mobilising Electric Vehicle Financing in India Report was released recently by?

- (a) NITI Aayog
(b) Ministry of Heavy Industries
(c) Rocky Mountain Institute India
(d) Both A and C

43. With respect to River Tawi, consider the following statements:

1. The river originates in Kailash Kund glacier in Jammu.
2. It is a major left bank tributary of the river Chenab.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

44. Consider the following statements with respect to Agriculture Voltage Technology

1. It is a system of generating electricity and growing cash crops simultaneously on the same piece of land.
2. It was developed by Central Arid Zone Research Institute in co-operation with Israel.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

45. Violence against Women Prevalence Estimates, 2018 was released recently by?

- (a) World Bank
(b) UN Human Rights Council
(c) World Health Organization
(d) UN Office on Drugs and Crime

46. Which of the following statements are correct with respect to Quasar

1. Quasars are very luminous objects in far-away galaxies that emit jets at radio frequencies.
2. They are only found in galaxies that have supermassive black holes which power these bright discs.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

47. Which of the following statements are correct with respect to Diphtheria

1. It is spread by close contact with someone infected, which affect the nose and throat and sometimes the skin.
2. It is primarily caused by virus of the Paramyxoviridae family.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

48. Which of the following statements are incorrect with respect to National Commission on Backward Classes (NCBC)

1. It has been accorded Constitutional Status and constituted through 102nd Amendment Act, 2018.
2. The members of the commission shall hold office for a term of five years and eligible for reappointment for any number of terms.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

49. The Miyawaki Technique is primarily applied in which of the following areas?

- (a) Self Defence
(b) Sewage Treatment
(c) Afforestation
(d) Diplomacy and Bilateral Relations

50. Consider the following statements with respect to New Umbrella Entities (NUEs) for payment systems

1. It will develop new payment methods, standards and technologies as well as operate clearing and settlement systems.
2. The entity eligible to apply as promoter for the NUE should have 15 years' experience in Banking and Finance

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

51. Consider the following statements with respect to Mission Vatsalya

1. It is an umbrella scheme under the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
2. The mission will consist of policies and schemes for protection and empowerment of women.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

52. Consider the following statements with respect to Support to Tribal Research Institute (TRIs)

1. Funding under this Scheme would be 100% grant-in-aid by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
2. Ministry of Tribal Affairs shall be the nodal Ministry for operationalizing the scheme.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

53. With respect to Schedules of Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. Fifth Schedule asks for annual reports from the Governors of each State having Scheduled Areas to the President.

2. Sixth Schedule contains recommendations relating to the ability of the autonomous regions to frame land-use policies and policies related to reserved forests.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

54. **Korku, Nihali, Kolami, Vadi and Halpati are?**

- (a) Tribal Languages
(b) Mountain Ranges
(c) Indus Valley Cities
(d) GI tagged Products

55. **Which of the following is/are the world heritage sites in India?**

1. Santiniketan
2. Dholavira: A Harappan City
3. Sacred Ensemble of Hoysalas
4. Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodh Gaya

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 4 only (b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only (d) All of the above

56. **Which of the following statements are correct with respect to Director of CBI**

1. He is appointed on the recommendation of a three-member committee consisting of the Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Chief Justice of India.
2. He has been provided security of five year tenure in office.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

57. **Which of the following statements are correct with respect to Singorgarh Fort**

1. Gond ruler Sangramshahi conquered the Singorgarh fort in early period of 16th century.
2. The fort was attacked in 1564 under the rule of Rani Durgavati.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

58. **Which of the following statements are correct with respect to Whale sharks**

1. They are one of the largest fish which feed on both meat and planktons

2. It is categorized as Endangered under the IUCN Red List.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

59. **The term ShadowPad recently in news refers to?**

- (a) Japan's rover to moon
(b) USA's security software
(c) Organization on cyber security
(d) Trojan Malware

60. **Consider the following statements with respect to MSME Credit Health Index**

1. The Index measures the credit health of India's MSME industry on two parameters i.e. growth and strength.
2. It is launched by TransUnion CIBIL in partnership with the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI)

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

61. **Consider the following statements with respect to Global Breast Cancer Initiative**

1. It aims to reduce global breast mortality by 2.5 per cent by 2040.
2. It was launched by the World Health Organization (WHO) in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

62. **Shramik Kalyan Portal is associated with which of the following?**

- (a) Indian Railways
(b) Ministry of Mines
(c) Ministry of Labour and Employment
(d) Indian Council of Agricultural Research

63. **Consider the following statements with respect to Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)**

1. The CISF is an armed force of the Union established under an Act of Parliament.
2. The CISF will also provide protection to some private sector units and important government buildings in Delhi.

3. The CISF is governed by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs and its headquarters are at New Delhi.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

64. Consider the following statements

1. In astronomical lingo, elements heavier than Hydrogen and Helium are collectively called as metals.
2. Metal content is an important parameter of the star and planets are more likely to occur around metal-rich stars.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

65. Consider the following statements with respect to SERB – PRISM

1. It is the external public portal developed as part of the Management Information System (MIS) of Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB).
2. The portal will provide information regarding projects sanctioned by Science and Engineering Board (SERB) from 2011 onwards.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are incorrect?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

66. Consider the following statements with respect to International Lunar Research Station (ILRS)

1. It is a joint initiative of ISRO and NASA to train astronauts for landing on moon
2. It will be established in moon landscapes of Challakere, Karnataka.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

67. Which of the following statements are correct with respect to National Employability through Apprenticeship Program (NETAP)

1. It is in accordance with the National Employability Enhancement Mission of the AICTE and launched by Ministry of Skill development.

2. It is funded 30% by State government and 70% by Central government.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

68. Which of the following statements are incorrect with respect to National Social Assistance Programme (NASP)

1. The amount of assistance under different components of the program ranges from Rs.1500 to Rs.5000 per month.
2. It is a centrally sponsored scheme administered by the Ministry of Rural Development.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

69. Which of the following statements are correct with respect to Genome mapping project in the Indian Ocean

1. It is aimed at understanding the biochemistry and the response of the ocean to climate change.
2. It will collect samples from various stretches of the ocean at an average depth of about 5 km.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

70. Which of the following community celebrates Herath Festival?

- (a) Kodava Tribes
(b) Kashmiri Pundits
(c) Zoroastrians
(d) Munda Tribes

71. Consider the following statements with respect to Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Nidhi (PMSSN)

1. It is a single non-lapsable reserve fund for Health in the Public Account.
2. The proceeds of share of health in the Health and Education cess levied under Finance Act, 2007 will be credited into the fund.
3. The fund will be administered and maintained by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

72. Development and Welfare Board for Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Communities (DWBDNCs) works under the aegis of?

- (a) Ministry of Home Affairs
(b) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
(c) Ministry of Rural Development
(d) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

73. Consider the following statements with respect to King Bhumibol World Soil Day - 2020 Award

1. It was awarded by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).
2. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) received the award.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

74. Exercise DUSTLIK is an annual bilateral joint military exercise between India and?

- (a) Tajikistan (b) Kazakhstan
(c) Uzbekistan (d) Turkmenistan

75. With respect to INS Karanj, consider the following statements:

1. It is the third of six Scorpene-class submarines being built under Project-75 by Mazagon Dock Limited, Goa.
2. It is a nuclear powered submarine to be commissioned into Indian Navy in collaboration with France.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

76. Consider the following statements with respect to Sun Temple at Konark

1. The temple was built by the Ganga dynasty king Anantavarman Chodaganga in the 12th century CE.
2. The Jaganmohan of the temple was filled with sand and sealed by the British in 1903 to ensure the stability of the monument.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

77. Which of the following statements are correct with respect to National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal

1. Under this, the complainant must mandatorily select the Category of crime and their State of residence to register their complaint.
2. It is an initiative of Ministry of Electronics and IT.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

78. Which of the following statements are incorrect with respect to Banks Board Bureau (BBB)

1. It is a constitutional body setup under the recommendations of Urjit Patel Committee.
2. It will take the final decision on the appointments PSU banks in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

79. Which of the following statements are correct with respect to NISAR Mission

1. It uses a dual-frequency L and S-band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) for earth observation.
2. It can produce extremely high-resolution images day and night in any weather.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

80. Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which of the following regions?

- (a) Maharashtra (b) Rajasthan
(c) Haryana (d) Delhi

81. With respect to the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991, which of the following statements is incorrect?

- (a) The Act prohibits conversion of any place of worship
- (b) The Act provides for the maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship as it existed on the day of commencement of this Act

- (c) Nothing contained in this Act shall apply to the Ram Janma Bhumi-Babri Masjid situated in Ayodhya
- (d) The Act also exempted any place of worship that is covered by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958
- 82. With respect to Sahitya Akademi Award, consider the following statements:**
1. The award will be presented to the books of literary merit published in English and Sanskrit, besides the 22 languages enumerated in the Constitution of India.
 2. The award will be presented only to Indian Nationality.
- Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?**
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 83. With respect to One Nation One Ration Card Scheme, consider the following statements:**
- (a) The scheme is being implemented for nation-wide portability of ration cards under National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013
 - (b) This system allows all NFSA beneficiaries, particularly migrant beneficiaries, to claim either full or part foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop (FPS) in the country
 - (c) The system also allows their family members back home, if any, to claim the balance foodgrains on same the ration card
 - (d) None of the above
- 84. With respect to Superior Mirage, consider the following statements:**
1. It is an optical illusion caused by a meteorological phenomenon called temperature inversion.
 2. This phenomenon is common in deserts at summer noon, due to which an inverted image of a distant tree is seen formed in hot sand below it.
- Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?**
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 85. Mera Ration Mobile App was launched recently by?**
- (a) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
(b) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (c) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(d) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- 86. Consider the following statements with respect to 1930 Dandi March**
1. Gandhi was arrested during this act of non-violent civil disobedience movement and the event continued without him.
 2. Gandhi agreed to call off this satyagraha in exchange for an equal negotiating role at a London conference on India's future.
- Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?**
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 87. Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct with respect to Seabuckthorn**
1. It produces edible fruit which is rich in vitamins, carotenoids and omega fatty acids
 2. It is found generally in arid and dry areas such as deserts.
- Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 88. Which of the following statements are incorrect with respect to Ayya Vaikunda Swamikal**
1. He lived in the Princely Kingdom of Travancore in the early decades of the 19th Century Kerala.
 2. He was a close associate of Dayananda Saraswathi, the founder of Arya Samaj.
- Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 89. Which of the following pairs are matched correctly with respective to India's Joint Space missions?**
- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Space Mission | Partnering Nation |
| TRISHNA | - CNES, France |
| NISAR | - NASA, USA |
| LUPEX Mission | - JAXA, Japan |
| `Megha-Tropiques | - CNES, France |
- Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**
- (a) 1 & 4 only (b) 2 only
(c) 3 & 4 only (d) All of the above

90. Bamiyan Buddha were located in which of the following mountain ranges?
- Karakoram
 - Hindukush
 - Khingon Mountains
 - Kirthar Mountains
91. LUPEX mission is in the news. It is a
- Moon Mission
 - Mars Mission
 - Inter Continental Ballistics Missile program of North Korea
 - Nuclear submarine program
92. Consider the following statements:
- Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) is the informal strategic dialogue with a shared objective to ensure and support a "free, open and prosperous" Indo-Arctic region.
 - It is an informal strategic forum between the United States, Japan, Australia and India.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 & 2
 - None of the above
93. Consider the following statements:
- PLI Scheme for IT hardware will cover devices such as laptops, tablets, all-in-one PCs and servers.
 - An incentive will be given on total sales of goods manufactured in India for a period of four years.
- Which of the above statements are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 & 2
 - None of the above
94. Which of the following is/are implemented under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation (BEFR) 1873
- Protected Area Permit
 - Inner Line Permit
 - Both a and b
 - Neither a nor b
95. Consider the following statements with respect to the Bamiyan Buddhas
- These were the monumental statues in Afghanistan's Bamiyan Valley, belonging to the 5th century AD.
 - Bamiyan became a major trade, cultural and religious centre, during the Buddhist Kushan Empire.
- Following the fall of the Bamiyan Buddhas, UNESCO included the remains in its list of world heritage sites in 2003.
- Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?
- 2 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 2 and 3 only
 - All of the above
96. Which of the following statements is/are correct?
- Under the provisions of the Indus Waters Treaty, all the waters of the eastern rivers are allocated to India for unrestricted use.
 - The treaty allocates 80% of the water from the six-river Indus water system to Pakistan.
- Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 & 2
 - None of the above
97. Which of the following countries is not a regular participant in Malabar Exercises?
- USA
 - Australia
 - Japan
 - India
98. Consider the following statements:
- Subnationalism is the policy of asserting the interest of one's own state/region/province, as separate from the interest of the nation.
 - Subnationalism always impedes social development.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 & 2
 - None of the above
99. Consider the following statements:
- The tenure and appointment of the state election commissioner is directed as per the law made by the state legislature.
 - The State Election Commissioner is appointed by the President.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 & 2
 - None of the above
100. Consider the following statements:
- Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) is the informal strategic dialogue within the United Nations.
 - It has a shared objective of ensuring a free, open and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 & 2
 - None of the above

PRELIMS PRACTICE PAPER KEY

1. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Shadow Pad: Recently, a steep rise in the use of malware - ShadowPad, by a Chinese group to target a large swathe of India's power sector, has been observed.

2. Answer: (b)

Explanation: Cyber cyber insurance is designed to cover the fees, expenses and legal costs associated with cyber breaches that occur after an organisation has been hacked or from theft or loss of client/employee information.

In India, cyber insurance covers (generally) the following:

- Identity theft
- Cyber bullying and cyber stalking
- Cyber extortion

Malware intrusion

- Financial loss due to unauthorized and fraudulent use of bank account, credit card and mobile wallets

Legal expenses arising out of any covered risk

- Social Media Cover
- Phishing Cover
- E-mail Spoofing
- Media Liability Claims Cover
- Cyber Extortion Cover
- Privacy Breach and Data Breach by Third Party.

3. Answer: (d)

Explanation: According to **Linkedin Opportunity Index 2021**, as many as 85 percent women missed out on a raise, promotion or work offer because of their gender in India.

4. Answer: (d)

Explanation: Article related to elections

1. 324: Superintendence, direction and control of elections to be vested in an Election Commission.
2. 325: No person to be ineligible for inclusion in, or to claim to be included in a special, electoral roll on grounds of religion, race, caste or sex.
3. 326: Elections to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assemblies of States to be on the basis of adult suffrage.

4. 327: Power of Parliament to make provision with respect to elections to Legislatures.

5. 328: Power of Legislature of a State to make provision with respect to elections to such Legislature.

6. 329: Bar to interference by courts in electoral matters.

5. Answer: (c)

Explanation: Broad-based trade and investment agreement (BTIA)

- Negotiations for a free trade pact, formally called a broad-based trade and investment agreement (BTIA), between the EU and India started in 2007, but were unofficially suspended in 2013.
- India's decision to end/suspend bilateral investment treaties it has with its partner countries, including EU members, and seek fresh pacts based on its **model investment pact** is a fresh area of concern.
- **The EU wants India to sign a single investment treaty with all members as part of the BTIA** and wants a number of items suggested in the model treaty removed, including provisions on **Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS)**.
- **The EU is now insistent that the BIT also is part of the BTIA** being negotiated and this has made the matter more complicated as there are several areas where India and the EU don't see eye to eye.
- **The EU is of the opinion** that there are too many provisions in India's model BIT which protect the government and go against the interest of the investor

6. Answer: (c)

Explanation: Investment in **education** is considered as one of the main sources of human capital. There are several other sources as well. Investments in **health, on-the-job training, migration and information** are the other sources of human capital formation. Spending on **education** by individuals is similar to spending on capital goods by companies with the objective of increasing future profits over a period of time. Likewise, individuals invest in

education with the objective of increasing their future income.

Like education, **health** is also considered as an important input for the development of a nation as much as it is important for the development of an individual. Who can work better—a sick person or a person with sound health? A sick labourer without access to medical facilities is compelled to abstain from work and there is loss of productivity. Hence, expenditure on health is an important source of human capital formation.

People **migrate** in search of jobs that fetch them higher salaries than what they may get in their native places. Unemployment is the reason for the rural-urban migration in India. Technically qualified persons, like engineers and doctors, migrate to other countries because of higher salaries that they may get in such countries. Migration in both these cases involves cost of transport, higher cost of living in the migrated places and psychic costs of living in a strange sociocultural setup. The enhanced earnings in the new place outweigh the costs of migration; hence, expenditure on migration is also a source of human capital formation. Investment to build a bullet train network is the creation of **physical capital**.

7. Answer: (d)

Explanation: *What is a Development Finance Institution?*

- These are specialized institutions set up primarily to provide development/ Project finance especially in developing countries.
- These DFIs are usually majority-owned by national governments.
- The source of capital of these banks is national or international development funds.
- This ensures their creditworthiness and their ability to provide project finance in a very competitive rate.

8. Answer: (d)

Explanation: **Sagar-Manthan: Mercantile Maritime Domain Awareness Centre(MM-DAC):** It is an information system for enhancing maritime safety, search and rescue capabilities, security and marine environment protection.

9. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **About ICC:**
- It is a **permanent** judicial body based at **The Hague in the Netherlands** and is the world's **first** permanent international criminal court.
- It is intended to complement existing national judicial systems and it may therefore exercise its jurisdiction only when national courts are unwilling or unable to prosecute criminals.
- Created by the 1988 **Rome Statute** and began functioning in 2002.
- The ICC lacks universal territorial jurisdiction, and may only investigate and prosecute crimes
- Committed by a or within the territory of member states,
- **Crimes committed by nationals of member states, or Crimes in a State that has accepted the jurisdiction of the Court,**
- Crimes in situations referred to the Court by the United Nations Security Council (as of 17 July 2018), irrespective as to whether it involves States Parties or non-States Parties.
- The ICC is intended to complement, not to replace, national criminal systems. It prosecutes cases only when States are unwilling or unable to do so genuinely.
- Difference between ICC and ICJ:
- ICJ is an organ of the UN while ICC is not.
- ICJ mainly hears disputes between nations while ICC prosecutes individuals.

10. Answer: (b)

Explanation: About the Telecom Equipment Export Promotion Council (TEPC):

- It has been set up by the **Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Ministry of Communications, Government of India.**
- It aims to promote and develop of Export of Telecom Equipment and Services.
- The council undertakes several activities aimed at exports promotion such as Commissioning of Studies to find potential markets, etc.
- The council also disseminates trade related data to its members.
- The council makes various **recommendations to the Government** for making necessary changes in various policies and procedures for promotion of Exports and Services.

11. Answer: (c)

Explanation: About the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013:

- **Provides a legal right:** To persons belonging to **eligible households** to receive food grains at subsidised price - rice at Rs 3/kg, wheat at Rs 2/kg and coarse grain at Rs 1/kg, under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).
- These are called **central issue prices (CIPs)**.
- Eligible households: Under the Act, the term eligible households comprises two categories - priority households and families covered by the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY).
- Priority households are entitled to receive 5 kg of foodgrains per person per month, whereas AAY households are entitled to 35 kg per month at the same prices.
- The Act has prescribed the coverage of 75% of the rural population and up to 50% of the urban population, which covers 81.35 crore persons (Census 2011) on all India basis.

Need for revision:

- **A revision of CIPs:** Under the Act, these subsidised prices were **fixed for a period of three years** from the date of commencement of the Act. However, the government has yet not revised the subsidised prices.
- Even the Economic Survey of 2020-21 had recommended a revision in the CIPs.
- Updating the population coverage and beneficiary identification criteria: The Act contains a provision which deals with an update of coverage of population.
- The percentage coverage under the TPDS in rural and urban areas for each State shall be determined by the Central Government on the basis of the population estimates as per the census.
- The number of beneficiaries was frozen in 2013, however, given the population increase, there have been demands from the states and union territories to update the list.
- The NITI Aayog has suggested that the national rural and urban coverage ratio be reduced from the existing 75-50 to 60-40. This will require parliamentary approval.

12. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Paris Agreement:

- It is an agreement (signed in 2016) within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), on climate change mitigation, adaptation, and finance.
- UNFCCC is a convention held in 1992 to combat climate change.
- Kyoto Protocol (1997) was another major international commitment under UNFCCC.
- **The agreement's language was negotiated by representatives of 196 state parties at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) of the UNFCCC (Paris, France) and adopted by consensus on 12 December 2015.**
- **As of now, 191 members of the UNFCCC are parties to the agreement.**
- Of the seven UNFCCC member states which have never ratified the agreement, the only major emitters are Iran, Turkey and Iraq.
- The United States withdrew from the agreement in 2020, but accepted it again and officially rejoined it recently.
- The pact seeks to keep global temperature rise to below 2 degrees celsius from pre-industrial levels, and to try and limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- For this, each country has pledged to implement targeted action plans (Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)) that will limit their greenhouse gas emissions.
- Under the agreement, rich and developed countries will provide financial and technological support to the developing world in their quest to fight and adapt to climate change.

13. Answer: (d)

Explanation: The 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference, also known as COP26, is the 26th United Nations Climate Change conference. It is scheduled to be held in **Glasgow, Scotland**, from 1 to 12 November 2021 under the presidency of the United Kingdom.

14. Answer: (c)

Explanation: Popularly known as **Swasth ke Sipahi**, the pharmacists of Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendra, are delivering essential services and medicines at doorstep of patients and elderly under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) of the Government of India to fight COVID-19 outbreak.

About Jan Aushadhi Store (JAS)

- JAS has been opened across the country.
- All therapeutic medicines are made available from Jan Aushadhi Stores.
- In addition to medicines and surgical items supplied by BPPI, Jan Aushadhi stores also sell allied medical products commonly sold in chemist shops.
- **OTC (Over-the-counter) products can be purchased by any individual without a prescription.**
- A prescription from a registered medical practitioner is necessary for the purchase of scheduled drugs.

Who can open a Jan Aushadhi store?

- State Governments or any organization / reputed NGOs / Trusts / Private hospitals / Charitable institutions / Doctors / Unemployed pharmacists/ **individual entrepreneurs** are eligible to apply for new Jan Aushadhi stores.
- The applicants shall have to employ one B Pharma / D Pharma degree holder as Pharmacist in their proposed store.

About the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP):

- Launched by: It was launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, in 2008 under the name Jan Aushadhi Campaign.
- Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) is the implementation agency for PMBJP. BPPI (Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertakings of India) has been established under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Govt. of India, with the support of all the CPSUs for coordinating procurement, supply and marketing of generic drugs through the Jan Aushadhi Stores.
- Objective: Making quality medicines available at affordable prices for all, particularly the poor and disadvantaged, through exclusive outlets "Jan Aushadhi Medical Store", so as to reduce out of pocket expenses in healthcare.

15. Answer: (a)

Explanation: Master of roster

- 'Roster' as 'a list of people's names and the jobs they have to do at a particular time.' Thus, 'Master of Roster' becomes 'A man who decides such list.'

- In the Indian legal context, the 'Master of Roster' refers to the administrative power of the Chief Justice of India and the Chief Justices of the High Courts to allocate the matters that other judges shall be hearing, respectively.
- **Article 145** of the Indian Constitution provides power to the Supreme Court to frame its own rules to regulate the practice and procedure of the Court.

16. Answer: (a)

Explanation: Only statement 1 is correct.

Make in India

In 2014, the Indian government launched the 'Make in India Initiative' in order to give thrust to the **manufacturing sector's growth rate to 12-14 per cent per annum.**

What is Make in India (Beginning of Indigenous Manufacturing):

- 'Make in India' is a major national initiative that focuses on making India a global manufacturing hub.
- It is being led by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- The policy approach was to create a conducive environment for investments, develop modern and efficient infrastructure, and open up new sectors for foreign capital.

The three major objectives were:

- To increase the manufacturing sector's growth rate to 12-14% per annum in order to increase the sector's share in the economy;
- To create 100 million additional manufacturing jobs in the economy by 2022
- To ensure that the manufacturing sector's contribution to GDP is increased to 25% by 2022 (revised to 2025) from the current 16%.

Key Thrust of the Programme: Key thrust of the programme is oriented on Cutting down in delays in manufacturing projects clearance and also develop adequate infrastructure to make it easier for companies to do business in India.

Key Sectors under the Programme: The focus of Make in India programme is on 25 sectors. These include automobiles, aviation, chemicals, IT & BPM, pharmaceuticals, construction, defence manufacturing, etc.

17. Answer: (a)

Explanation: Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) is an umbrella that comprises the bulk of preferential schemes granted by industrialized nations to developing countries.

- It involves reduced **Most Favored Nations (MFN)** Tariffs or duty-free entry of eligible products exported by beneficiary countries to the markets of donor countries.

18. Answer: (b)

Explanation: **Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)**

- It is a not-for-profit Section 8, Schedule B, Public Sector Enterprise, set up by **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)**, Government of India as an Interface Agency to strengthen and empower the emerging Biotech enterprise to undertake strategic research and innovation, addressing nationally relevant product development needs. BIRAC's aim is to play a transformative and catalytic role in **building a US\$ 100 billion Indian bioeconomy**. **SRISTI (Society for Research and Initiatives for Sustainable Technologies and Institutions)**, provides institutional support to the activities of the Honey Bee Network. SRISTI has added the GYTI **platform** to encourage innovations for grassroots and other sectors of India to encourage technologies that are frugal and on verge of technological breakthrough.

19. Answer: (a)

Explanation: About CITES:

- **A multilateral treaty:** Also known as the **Washington Convention**, to protect endangered plants and animals, it is one of the largest and oldest conservation and sustainable use agreements in existence.
- It was drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in 1963 at a meeting of members of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- The convention was opened for signature in 1973 and CITES entered into force on 1 July 1975.
- **About the World Wildlife Day:**

§ **Since 2013:** In 2013, at its 68th session (Bangkok, Thailand), the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), in its resolution, decided to proclaim **3 March** as the World Wildlife Day.

§ **Importance of 3 March:** The day marks the adoption of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1973.

- **Objective:** To ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species in the wild, and it accords varying degrees of protection to different species of animals and plants.
- **Appendix I:** Includes species threatened with extinction. Trade in specimens of these species is permitted only in exceptional circumstances e.g. Tiger, Himalayan brown bear, elephant, and Tibetan antelope.
- **Appendix II:** Includes species not necessarily threatened with extinction, but in which trade must be controlled in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival e.g. Hippopotamus, bigleaf mahogany, and the gray wolf.
- **Appendix III:** A species included at the request of a country which then needs the cooperation of other countries to help prevent illegal exploitation, e.g. walrus, Hoffmann's two-toed sloth.
- **Participation is voluntary:** And countries that have agreed to be bound by the Convention are known as Parties.
- **CITES is legally binding:** It provides a framework respected by each Party, which must adopt their own domestic legislation to implement CITES at the national level.

20. Answer: (b)

Explanation: The Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel, also known as the Gadgil Commission after its chairman Madhav Gadgil, was an environmental research commission appointed by the Ministry of Environment and Forests of India.

21. Answer: (b)

Explanation: About the Sattras:

- **Sattras are a monastic institution:** Created as part of the 16th century **Neo-Vaishnavite reformist** movement started by Vaishnavite saint-reformer Srimanta Sankaradeva (1449-1596).
- Each Sattras has a naamghar - worship hall, as its nucleus and is headed by an influential Sattradhikar.
- Monks or bhakats are inducted into Sattras at a young age.

- They may or may not be celibate, depending on the kind of Sattras they are inducted into.
- Established as centres of religious, social and cultural reforms: As the saint travelled across Assam, spreading his teachings and propagating an egalitarian society in the 16th century.
- **Spread:** At present, Sattras are spread across the state propagating Sankardeva's unique worship through art - music (**borgeet**), dance (**sattriy(a)**) and theatre (**bhauna**).
- Relationship between the Sattras and the State:
- Ahom reign: The Sattras received a lot of donations in the form of land or money from the kings. Despite that, Sattras were kept out of political control.
- Self-sufficient units: Unlike temples, Sattras did not require patronage because they were self-sufficient, grew their own food and could sustain themselves.

22. Answer: (a)

Explanation: Philosophy of Sankardeva

- Sankardeva propagated a form of Bhakti called **eka-sharana-naam-dhrama**.
- It rejects focus on vedic ritualism and focuses on devotion (bhakti) to Krishna in the form of congregational listening and singing his name (**instead of idol worship**) and deeds (Kirtan and sravan).
- His dharma was based on the four components of deva (god), naam (prayers), bhakats (devotees), and guru (teacher).
- He espoused a society based on **equality and fraternity**, free from caste differences, orthodox Brahmanical rituals and sacrifices.
- However, due to ideological differences among his disciples, the Sattras got divided (after his demise) into four independent sectarian divisions, deviating from its basic goal.

23. Answer: (c)

Explanation: CRZ Notifications 2018:

Source: DownToEarth

- It is aimed at streamlining Coastal Regulation Zone clearances, **enhancing activities in the coastal regions and promoting economic growth** while keeping in mind conservation principles of coastal regions.
- It is based on the recommendations of the **Shailesh Nayak Committee**.
- It permits temporary tourism facilities such as

shacks, toilet blocks, change rooms, drinking water facilities etc. in beaches. Such temporary tourism facilities are also now permissible in NDZ(No Development Zone) of the CRZ-III areas.

- To address pollution in coastal areas, setting up of treatment facilities have been made permissible activities in the CRZ-IB area subject to necessary safeguards.

24. Answer: (a)

Explanation: About the Maitri Setu:

- **Over Feni:** The bridge has been built over the Feni river which flows between Indian boundary in **Tripura State** and Bangladesh.
- It is a 1.9 Km long bridge that joins Sabroom in India with Ramgarh in Bangladesh.
- The construction was taken up by the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd at a project cost of Rs. 133 Crores.
- Significance:
- Maitri Setu symbolizes growing bilateral relations and friendly ties between India and Bangladesh.
- With this, Tripura is set to become the **Gateway of North East** with access to **Chittagong Port of Bangladesh**, which is just 80 Kms from Sabroom.

25. Answer: (b)

Explanation: It is a scheme of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for providing LPG connections to women from Below Poverty Line (BPL) households launched in 2016.

Target beneficiaries:

Under the scheme, **an adult woman** belonging to a **poor family** not having LPG connection in her household, is an eligible beneficiary under the expanded scheme. Release of LPG connection under this Scheme shall be in the **name of the women belonging** to the BPL family.

Initially, the Government covered the following categories under the Scheme :-

1. Beneficiaries listed in the SECC 2011 list
2. All SC/STs households beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana(PMAY) (Gramin)
3. Antyoday Anna Yojana (AAY)
4. Forest dwellers
5. Most Backward Classes (MBC)
6. Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes

7. People residing in Islands
8. People residing in river islands.

Benefits to the citizens

- Under the scheme, **five crore LPG** connections are to be provided to **BPL** households.
- The Scheme provides a financial support of **Rs 1600 for each LPG** connection to the BPL households, **interest free loan** to purchase stove and refill by Oil Marketing Companies.
- **The administrative cost** of Rs. 1600 per connection, which includes a cylinder, pressure regulator, booklet, safety hose, etc. would be borne by the Government.

26. Answer: (c)

Explanation: The **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, which is based on five fundamental pillars — access, equity, quality, affordability and accountability - has potential for an overhaul of the education system in India.

- The main thrust of NEP 2020 in higher education is to **transform HEIs into large multidisciplinary universities, colleges, and HEI clusters**, with 3,000 or more students each.
- The core of the plan for the overhaul of higher education is its structural reorganisation into large, multidisciplinary universities and colleges (at least one in or near every district), many of these **offering instruction in local languages**.
- This policy envisions that all existing HEIs would evolve into multidisciplinary institutions of following three categories by 2040 —
- **Research Intensive Universities (RUs)**
- **Teaching Universities (TUs)**
- **Autonomous Degree-granting Colleges (ACs).**
- The **current system of a fragmented education industry** is filled with multiple degree or diploma granting HEIs, such as, standalone institutions, IITs, IIMs, Central Universities, State Universities, Deemed Universities, and so on.
- This streamlining exercise of building the higher education architecture would surely help in removing confusion in the minds of recruiters and universities world over.

Benefits of Cluster Universities

- **Accelerate Institutional Networking:** Since the Cluster University concept of the new education policy speaks of merging multidisciplinary HEIs, institutional networking would obviously go uphill.

- **Fewer Resources & More Expertise:** Doctoral students are the mainstay of research in universities. It enables conducting academic research on focussed areas. It also enables pursuit of academic research and post-academic research in the same university, and results in faster deployment of results of research.
- A **university management system** can be integrated to multiply the productivity, efficiency, and final learning outcomes.
- **More Space for Student-Teacher Collaboration:** Cluster-based universities would increase faculty strength, both in terms of numbers and diversity of disciplines, and facilitate conduct of research on real life problems.

27. Answer: (a)

Explanation: Only Statement 1 is correct.

Institute of National Importance

- The Institute of National Importance is a status that may be conferred on a premier public higher education institution in India by an act of Parliament of India.
- It is an institution which "serves as a pivotal player in developing highly skilled personnel within the specified region of the country / state".
- Section 22 of The **University Grants Commission Act 1956** enables 'Degree Granting Status' to such INIs established by an Act of Parliament for conferring or granting degrees..
- These institutions are **largely funded and supervised, if not governed, by the Government of India**, mostly through the Ministry of Education.

National School of Drama (or NS(D)

- It is a theatre training institute situated at New Delhi, India. It is an autonomous organization under **the Ministry of Culture**.
- The NSD has **four regional centres** in Varanasi, Bengaluru, Agartala and Gangtok.

28. Answer: (d)

Explanation: Institute of Eminence

- Recently the govt. announced the list of Institutes of Eminence (IoE).
- Every institute which has been accorded the status of Institute of Eminence will enjoy benefits which include additional funding, autonomy in recruitment, assessment patterns etc. The

detailed benefits have been listed out below:

- Government Institutions to get **additional funding upto 1000 Cr.**
- Freedom to recruit faculty from outside India (limit of 25% of its faculty strength for public institution).
- **Freedom to enter into academic collaborations** with other Institutions within the country.
- **Freedom to have own transparent merit based system** for admission of students.
- **Freedom to admit additionally foreign students** on merit subject to a maximum of 30% of the strength of admitted domestic students.
- **Freedom to fix and charge fees** from foreign students without restriction.
- The selected Institutions under IoE shall have **complete academic and administrative autonomy.**
- The Institutions of Eminence will have **complete financial autonomy** to spend the resources raised and allocated, subject to general conditions & restrictions of the Statutes and GFR.
- Academic collaborations with foreign higher educational institutions (in top 500) would be exempt from government approvals.
- **Freedom to hire personnel from industry**, etc, as faculty who are experts in their areas but may not have the requisite higher academic qualifications.

29. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- OPEC+ refers to the alliance of crude producers, who have been undertaking corrections in supply in the oil markets since 2017.
- OPEC plus countries include Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Russia, South Sudan and Sudan.
- **The Opec and non-Opec producers first formed the alliance at a historic meeting in Algiers in 2016.**
- The aim was to undertake production restrictions to help revive a swinging market.

30. Answer: (a)

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. Statement 2 is incorrect.

Bringing petrol-diesel under GST will lead to a sharp fall in current prices. Customers are paying more in taxes than the base price for petrol

and diesel according to the latest price data for petrol and diesel.

- The highest slab under the existing GST rates is 28%. Even if petrol and diesel were to be taxed at the highest rate, the post-tax price will be much lower than what it is currently.
- **Bringing fuels under GST will make the revenue distribution equitable between Centre, states.** Union excise duties, most of which come from petrol and diesel in the post-GST phase, are a big source of these special cess collections for the centre.
- As per budget estimates for 2021-22, **basic excise duties** are only a fraction of special duties and cess levied on sale of petrol or diesel, proceeds of which will not be shared with the states.
- Because, GST proceeds are divided equitably between the centre and states, subsuming petrol and diesel under GST will end this inequitable tax distribution from sale of petrol and diesel.

31. Answer: (a)

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. In the budget speech of Union Budget 2018-19, a new Scheme "Operation Greens" was announced on the line of "Operation Flood", with an outlay of Rs.500 crore to promote Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs), agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management. Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) extended the Operation Greens Scheme from Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) to all fruits & vegetables (TOTAL) for a period of six months on pilot basis as part of Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Statement 2 is incorrect. While presenting the Union budget for the FY 2021-22, Finance Minister announced that Operation Green (OG) will be expanded beyond tomatoes, onions, and potatoes (TOP) to 22 perishable commodities. Perishable foods are those that spoil the most quickly and require refrigeration such as fruits and vegetables, dairy, fish, and meat products.

32. Answer: (c)

Explanation: Both Statements are correct.

33. Answer: (b)

Explanation: In exercise of the powers conferred by section 87 and section 69A of the Information

Technology Act 2000, the Central Government promulgated Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information by Public) Rules, 2009. Statement 1 is incorrect. Section 9 of the said rules empower the Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and IT to issue interim directions for blocking of content. Under the rules issued on 25th February, 2021, this provision has only been replaced with Secretary, Ministry of I&B because Part III of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 would be administered by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. Statement 2 is correct. Rule 16 of the IT Blocking Rules provide that strict confidentiality shall be maintained regarding all the requests and complaints received and actions taken thereof.

34. Answer: (d)

Explanation: In order to commercially exploit the products and services emanating from Indian Space Programme, the "NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)" incorporated in March 2019, as a wholly-owned Government of India under the administrative control of Department of Space (DOS)

35. Answer: (a)

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. 'Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP)' is a campaign launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals in association with Central Pharma Public Sector Undertakings, to provide quality medicines at affordable prices to the masses through dedicated outlets called 'Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendra'. These provide generic medicines at much lesser price. The potency of these medicines is same as compared to expensive branded medicines available in the open market. Statement 2 is incorrect. Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI), the implementing agency of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) is celebrating 3rd Janaushadhi Diwas on 7th March, 2021 with the theme of "Seva bhi - Rozgar bhi".

36. Answer: (c)

Explanation: Both Statements are correct

37. Answer: (b)

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The Waste to Wealth Mission is one of the nine national missions of the Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC). Statement 2 is correct. The 'Waste to Wealth Mission' of the PMSTIAC aims to identify, develop and deploy technologies to treat waste to generate energy, recycle materials, and extract resources of value. The mission will also work to identify and support the development of new technologies that promise to create a clean and green environment. Statement 3 is correct. The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India under its "Waste to Wealth" Mission recently launched the "Swachhta Saarthi Fellowship" to recognize students, community workers/self-help groups, and municipal/sanitary workers who are engaged in tackling the enormous challenge of waste management, scientifically and sustainably.

38. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

39. Answer: (B)

Explanation: Justice Verma Committee was constituted in 2012 to look into possible amendments in criminal laws to provide quicker trials and enhanced punishments for sexual assaults of extreme nature. -- The panel did not recommend the death penalty for rapists. It suggests that the punishment for rape should be rigorous imprisonment for seven years to life. It recommends that punishment for causing death or a "persistent vegetative state" should be RI for a term not be less than 20 years, but may be for life also, which shall mean the rest of the person's life. -- As a primary recommendation, all marriages in India should mandatorily be registered in the presence of a magistrate. The magistrate will ensure that the marriage has been solemnised without any demand for dowry having been made and that it has taken place with the full and free consent of both partners. -- A separate Bill of Rights for women that entitles a woman a life of dignity and security and will ensure that a woman shall have the right to have complete sexual autonomy including with respect to her relationships.

40. Answer: (B)

Explanation: The Union Government recently published the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 in which Digital Media Ethics Code Relating to Digital Media and OTT Platforms are to Be Administered by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Statement 1 is incorrect. A three-level grievance redressal mechanism has been established under the rules with different levels of self-regulation. Level-I: Self-regulation by the publishers; Level-II: Self-regulation by the self-regulating bodies of the publishers; Level-III: Oversight mechanism. Statement 2 is correct. The OTT platforms, called as the publishers of online curated content in the rules, would self-classify the content into five age based categories- U (Universal), U/A 7+, U/A 13+, U/A 16+, and A (Adult).

41. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has reached another milestone with the completion of its final Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) test recently.
- In developing the AIP technology, India joins an elite list of countries that currently only includes the United States, France, China, the United Kingdom and Russia.

Diesel and Electric Submarines

- Submarines run on diesel and electricity require a network of batteries charged by a diesel generator.
- In order for them to charge, the submarine needs to snorkel i.e. travel just under the surface of the water so that the diesel generator can be turned on and exhaust generated released via a pipe that breaches the surface.
- During this period, the submarine becomes extremely vulnerable to enemy radars and hostile submarine assets.
- In fact, some submarines are even equipped with 'diesel sniffers' which can detect the emissions released by snorkelling submarines.

Fuel Cell based Air Independent Propulsion (AIP)

- The technology create energy by combining hydrogen and oxygen, with only water created

as a by-product.

- Since these cells are extremely efficient and have minimal moving parts, they can also operate without increasing the acoustic signature of the submarine.
- Hydrogen fuel cells create no exhaust fumes which also eliminates the need to have special exhaust scrubbing and disposable machine parts.
- Fuel-cell based AIPs enable submarines to stay underwater for vastly longer periods of time than conventional diesel-electric submarines increasing their range and turning them into a far more potent and lethal adversary.
- A submarine enabled with AIP can remain submerged for weeks sometimes without surfacing.
- Despite the advantage it offers them against conventional diesel-electric submarines, they still do not have the same endurance as nuclear submarines that do not need to surface at all.

42. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- NITI Aayog and Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) India has recently released a new report 'Mobilising Electric Vehicle Financing in India'.
- The report highlights the role of finance in the India's transition to electric vehicles (EVs) and analyses that the transition will require a cumulative capital investment of USD 266 billion (Rs 19.7 lakh crore) in EVs, charging infrastructure, and batteries over the next decade.

43. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- River Tawi is a source of drinking water for thousands in Jammu and over the years, it has turned into a garbage dump, with heaps of toxic waste that pollutes its water and ecosystem dumped on its shores.
- It remains littered with plastics, medicines, bio-medical waste and industrial effluent.
River Tawi
- Tawi originates in Kailash Kund glacier located in Jammu's Baderwah.
- It flows through Doda and Udhampur districts of Jammu.
- The Tawi is a major left bank tributary of the river Chenab.
- It is a source of drinking water for more than 700,000 people in the city of Jammu.

44. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- An Agri-voltaic system with a capacity of 105 KW was developed by ICAR-Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur.
Agriculture Voltage Technology
- This technology can increase the income of farmers by generation of electricity and growing of cash crops simultaneously on the same land.
- Under the Kisan Urja Suraksha Utthan Mahabhiyan (KUSUM) scheme, there is a provision for installation of agri-voltaic system in farmers' fields with a capacity of 500 KW-2 MW.
- Moreover, National Solar Energy Federation of India (NSEFI) has documented 13 operational agri-voltaic systems in the country managed by different solar PV functionaries and public Institutes.

45. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- World Health Organization (WHO) has recently released a report titled Violence against Women Prevalence Estimates, 2018.
- According to the report, one in three women across the world, or around 736 million women, faced physical or sexual violence from their intimate partners or non-partners.
- Younger women and those in low or lower-income countries were most at risk.
- WHO conducted the study on behalf of United Nations agencies and gathered data from 2000 to 2018.
- The new statistics replaced estimates on violence against women brought out in 2013.

46. Answer: (c)

Explanation: Quasar

- The word quasar is short for "quasi-stellar radio source", most quasars are faint radio emitters.
- In addition to radio waves and visible light, quasars also emit ultraviolet rays, infrared waves, X-rays, and gamma-rays.
- Most quasars are larger than our solar system, A quasar is approximately 1 kiloparsec in width.
- Quasars are formed by the energy emitted by materials swirling around a blackhole right before being sucked into it.
- They are further categorised into the "radio-loud" and the "radio-quiet" classes.
- Recently, an international team of astronomers

has discovered the most distant 'Radio-Loud' Quasar named P172+18 with the help of European Southern Observatory's Very Large Telescope (ESO's VLT).

47. Answer: (a)

Explanation: Diphtheria

- Diphtheria is primarily caused by the bacterium *Corynebacterium diphtheria*.
- It is mainly spread by coughs and sneezes, or through close contact with someone infected.
- In most cases, the bacteria cause acute infections, driven by the diphtheria toxin, the key target of the vaccine.
- However, non-toxigenic *C. diphtheria* can also cause disease, often in the form of systemic infections.
- In high-income countries, all babies are vaccinated against the infection.
- Recently it is found that Diphtheria has started to become resistant to several classes of antibiotics and in future, it may even become immune to vaccination.

48. Answer: (b)

Explanation: National Commission on Backward Classes (NCBC)

- Article 338B deals with the structure, duties and powers of the National Commission on Backward Classes (NCBC).
- Article 342-A speaks about the power of the Indian President to notify a class as Socially and Educationally Backward (SEBC) and the power of Parliament to alter the central SEBC list.
- The Commission consists of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and three other Members in the rank & pay of Secretary to the Govt of India.
- The members shall hold office for a term of three years from the date on which the Member assumes such office.
- The Members shall not be eligible for appointment for more than two terms.

49. Answer: (c)

Explanation: Miyawaki Technique

- It is an afforestation method based on the work of Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki in the 1980s.
- The technique compresses layers of a forest shrubs, trees, canopies on small plots of land, turning them into tiny forests.
- Using this method mini forests can be grown 10

times faster and become 30 times denser and 100 times more bio-diverse than those planted through conventional methods.

- This method involves planting three to four saplings per square metre, using native varieties adapted to local conditions.
- A wide variety of species ideally 30 or more are planted to recreate layers of a natural forest.
- Recently Mumbai's eastern suburbs has become a testament to the creation of "urban forests" through the Miyawaki technique.

50. Answer: (a)

Explanation: New Umbrella Entities (NUEs) for payment system

- The RBI has the right to approve the appointment of directors as also to nominate a member on the board of the NUE.
- The entity eligible to apply as promoter or the promoter group for the NUE should be 'owned and controlled by residents'.
- The entity should have 3 years' experience in the payments ecosystem as Payment System Operator (PSO) or Payment Service Provider (PSP) or Technology Service Provider (TSP).
- Any entity holding more than 25 per cent of the paid-up capital of the NUE will be deemed to be a promoter.
- As of now the umbrella entity for providing retail payments system in India is NPCI, which is a non-profit entity, owned by banks.
- As per the RBI, no single promoter or promoter group should have more than 40 per cent investment in the capital of the entity.

51. Answer: (a)

Explanation: For effective implementation of various schemes and programmes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, all major schemes of the Ministry have been classified under 3 umbrella schemes viz.

1. **Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0** - Anganwadi Services, Poshan Abhiyan, Scheme for Adolescent Girls, National Creche Scheme
2. **Mission VATSALYA** - Child Protection Services and Child Welfare Services
3. **Mission Shakti (Mission for Protection and Empowerment for Women)**
 - SAMBAL (One Stop Centre, Mahila Police Volunteer, Women's Helpline/Swadhar/Ujjawala/Widow Homes etc.)

- SAMARTHYA (Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Creche, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana/ Gender Budgeting/Research

52. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- Under the scheme of 'Support to Tribal Research Institute (TRIs), Ministry of Tribal Affairs extends support to TRIs for carrying out various research & documentation activities including programs for documentation of tribal languages, dialects, art, culture, dance, music and development of bilingual Primers.
- Accordingly, TRIs are conducting documentation and preservation of endangered tribal languages through preparation of primers, dictionaries and organization of cultural programmes. *Support to Tribal Research Institute (TRIs)*
- The basic objective of the scheme is to strengthen the Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in their infrastructural needs, Research & documentation activities and Training & Capacity Building programmes etc.
- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), Government of India shall be the nodal Ministry for operationalizing the scheme.
- The scheme shall be a Central Sector Scheme with 100% funding by the Central Government to the TRIs directly or through State Government.
- A National Level Institute under MoTA could probably be set up to coordinate the activities of TRIs across the country, and to undertake National Level Activities. *Tribal Research Institute (TRI)*
- TRI is the research body of the Ministry of Tribal affairs at state level.
- It is envisaged that TRIs should focus on their core responsibilities as body of knowledge & research more or less as a think tank for tribal development, preservation of tribal cultural heritage, providing inputs to States for evidence based planning and appropriate legislations, capacity building of tribals and persons / institutions associated with tribal affairs, dissemination of information and creation of awareness.
- There are 26 Tribal Research Institute (TRIs) supported by ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.

53. Answer: (c)

Explanation: *Fifth Schedule*

- Fifth Schedule (3) - It asks for annual reports from the Governors to the President;
- Fifth Schedule (4) - It provides extensive executive power over Scheduled areas in order to protect them from illegal transfer of their land and to insulate them from private moneylenders;
- Fifth Schedule (5) - It asks for the formation of Tribal Advisory Councils to participate in the formulation of policy.

Sixth Schedule

- It contains wide ranging recommendations relating to the ability of the autonomous regions and autonomous districts to frame land-use policies, policies related to reserve forests, related to inheritance and marriage rules, and other important determinants of social and economic life in the areas under the sixth Schedule.

54. Answer: (a)

Explanation: *Tribal Festival, Research, information and Mass Education*

- Under the Financial Assistance for support to Centres of Excellence of the scheme "Tribal Festival, Research, information and Mass Education", financial assistance is provided to reputed Institution for carrying out research study programmes including documentation of tribal languages.
- In this regard, Ministry has sanctioned projects to Bhasha Research and Publication Centre during 2018-19 and 2019-20 which inter-alia covered activity of identification and documentation of threatened/dying languages.
- The organization has carried out documentation of Korku, Nihali, Kolami, Vadi, Halpati, Dungra Bhili, Dhavadi, Dhatti, Thali, Nahal and Seheriya languages.

55. Answer: (a)

Explanation: *World Heritage List in India*

- At present, India has 38 World Heritage Properties.
- All the sites under the Ministry are conserved as per ASI's Conservation Policy.
- At present, India has 42 sites listed under Tentative List which is a pre-requisite condition for inscription as World Heritage Site.
- 'Dholavira: A Harappan City' has been submitted for nomination of World Heritage Site in 2019-2020.

- Nomination dossiers of 'Santiniketan, India' and 'Sacred Ensemble of Hoysalas' have been submitted to UNESCO for the year 2021-22 cycle.

56. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Director of CBI

- The Director of the CBI is appointed as per section 4A of the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act of 1946.
- The Director of CBI has been provided security of two-year tenure in office by the CVC Act, 2003.
- The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act (2013) amended the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act (1946) and made the following changes with respect to appointment of the Director of CBI:
- The Central Government shall appoint the Director of CBI on the recommendation of a three-member committee consisting of the Prime Minister as Chairperson, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Chief Justice of India or Judge of the Supreme Court nominated by him.
- Later, the Delhi Special Police Establishment (Amendment) Act, 2014 made a change in the composition of the committee related to the appointment of the Director of C.B.I.
- It states that where there is no recognized leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha, then the leader of the single largest opposition party in the Lok Sabha would be a member of that committee.

57. Answer: (c)

Explanation: *Singorgarh Fort*

- It is an old hill-fort of Gondwana dynasty which is spread over hills in a forested area in Damoh district of Madhya Pradesh.
- It was residence of Gond rulers of Central India.
- In year 1308, Singorgarh was ruled by Vyaghadev Ji who was ruler of Kumhari and was under rulers of Kalinjar.
- The fort was attacked in 1564 during the last war of the Garha Kingdom dynasty, under the rule of Rani Durgavati.
- At that time, Rani Durgavati, the ruling Queen of Gondwana, resided there; she later moved to Chouragarh Fort in Narsinghpur.

Gondwana Kingdom

- Region under Gondwana Kingdom includes core region of eastern part of the Vidarbha of Maharashtra, the parts of Madhya Pradesh immediately to the north of it, and parts of the west of Chhattisgarh.
- The Gondwana Kingdom was ruled by Rajgonds, the Rajgonds are the ruling class among the Gond tribe.

58. Answer: (b)

Explanation: *Whale sharks*

- They are largest shark, and indeed largest of any fishes alive today.
- The maximum size of whale sharks is not known, but could be as large as 20m.
- Whale sharks are found in all the tropical oceans of the world.
- The whale shark is a 'filter feeder shark' which means it does not eat meat like other sharks.
- They filter sea water and feed on tiny planktons.
- It is protected under CITES: Appendix II and Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I

59. Answer: (d)

Explanation: *ShadowPad*

- It is a backdoor Trojan malware, it opens a secret path from its target system to its command-and-control servers.
- Information can be extracted or more malicious code delivered via backdoor Trojan malware.
- It is built to target supply-chain infrastructure in sectors like transportation, telecommunication, energy and more.
- It was first identified in 2017, when it was found hidden in a legitimate software produced by a company named NetSarang.
- The security analysis firm FireEye links ShadowPad to a group known as 'APT41', which is allegedly developed by Chinese-speaking actors

60. Answer: (c)

Explanation: *MSME Credit Health Index*

- The Index is published quarterly aims to provide a measure of the growth and strength of the MSME sector in India.
- Both the growth and strength indices follow the principle of higher the better.
- Growth is measured by plotting increase in exposure value (outstanding balances) over

time.

- An increasing Growth Index indicates improvement in credit growth.
- Strength is measured by decrease/increase in credit risk in terms of non-performing assets (NPA).
- An increasing Strength Index implies better asset quality and therefore denotes an improvement in the structural strength of the sector.

61. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- To mark International Women's Day, on 8 March, the World Health Organization (WHO), in collaboration with the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), is launching the Global Breast Cancer Initiative.
- It aims to reduce global breast mortality by 2.5 per cent by 2040.
- The aim is to reduce 2.5 million global deaths, particularly in low-income countries, where the progress to tackle the disease has been relatively slow.
- The primary objective of the initiative is to reduce global breast cancer mortality by increasing access to breast cancer early diagnosis and prompt comprehensive cancer management.

62. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- Indian Railways ensures 100% compliance of payment of minimum wages to contract workers through e-application Shramik Kalyan Portal.
- E-Application ensures the compliance of provisions of Minimum Wages Act and also ensures that contractual workers working in Indian Railways get their rightful due by enforcing the contractors to regularly upload wage payment data into e-application.
- This helps Railways as Principal Employer, in keep vigil over wages disbursed by contractors to contract workers.

63. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- The CISF raising day (CRD) is observed on March 10 in India every year.
- Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)

- It is a Central Armed Police Forces in India set up under an Act of the Parliament of India, Central Industrial Security Force Act, 1968.
- The CISF is governed by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, its headquarters are at New Delhi.
- According to the mandate, CISF provides security to the premises staff along with the security of property and establishments.
- CISF is providing security to the strategic establishment, including the Department of Space, the Department of Atomic Energy, the Airports, the Delhi Metro, the ports, the historical monuments and the basic areas of Indian economy such as petroleum and natural gas, electricity, coal, steel and mining.
- CISF is providing protection to some private sector units and important government buildings in Delhi.
- Presently, CISF is also providing security to the protected persons classified as Z Plus, Z, X, Y.
- CISF is the only force with a customized and dedicated fire wing.

64. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- Scientists studying exo-planets have recently found that a metal-rich environment of host stars is vital for the formation of Jupiter-type light, but giant planets.
- But, it is not necessary for the long orbit heavy giant planets.
- This study which explores connections between the planet and host star properties, can help in understanding how planets form and evolve at large orbital distances.

Background

- Stars are largely made of Hydrogen and Helium with a small fraction of other elements.
- In astronomical lingo, elements heavier than Hydrogen and Helium are collectively called as metals.
- Metal content is an important parameter of the star, and there is a consensus that planets (small or large) are more likely to occur around metal-rich stars.

65. Answer: (d)

Explanation: SERB Project Information System and Management (SERB – PRISM)

- It is the external public portal developed as part

of the Management Information System (MIS).

- This portal is designed to provide information regarding projects sanctioned by SERB from 2011 onwards, including funding details, status, research summary, and project output information such as publications and patents.
 - Search facilities enable retrieval of information about projects by Name of PI, institution, state, keywords, as well as year-wise listing and equipment that has been sanctioned by SERB in these projects.
- Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)
- It is a statutory body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), established to support basic research in all frontier areas of science and engineering.

66. Answer: (d)

Explanation: International Lunar Research Station (ILRS)

- China and Russia have agreed to build an International Lunar Research Station (ILRS).
- The ILRS is a comprehensive scientific experiment base with the capability of long-term autonomous operation.
- The station would be built on the lunar surface and/or on the lunar orbit that would carry out scientific research activities such as the lunar exploration and utilization, lunar-based observation, basic scientific experiment and technical verification.
- Russia and China will facilitate extensive cooperation in the ILRS, open to all interested countries and international partners.

67. Answer: (a)

Explanation: National Employability through Apprenticeship Program (NETAP)

- NETAP was structured to overcome the challenges of the Apprenticeship Act, 1961.
- The program was launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and TeamLease Skills University (Gujarat).
- It was set up as a 100% employer-funded Public-Private Partnership (PPP).
- NETAP proposed to appoint 2 lac apprentices every year for the next 10 years. At peak capacity, it will be the world's largest apprenticeship program.
- It will help the unemployed youth to build skills through Learning by doing and Learning

while earning along with providing them with access to practical skills.

- Recently NETAP has released its latest edition of the Apprenticeship Outlook Report for 2021 (January-June 2021).

68. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

National Social Assistance Programme (NASP)

- The National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) provides financial assistance to the elderly, widows and persons with disabilities in the form of social pensions.
- The National Assistance Program consists of five sub-schemes:
 1. Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)
 2. Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)
 3. Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)
 4. National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)
- Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development in its report submitted to the Lok Sabha on pensions offered under NASP scheme.
- The Committee observed that under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), meagre amount of assistance ranging from Rs.200 to Rs.500 per month is provided under the different components of this Scheme.

69. Answer: (c)

Explanation: Genome mapping project in the Indian Ocean

- The first-of-its-kind research project that will be flagged off at Visakhapatnam and course the Indian Ocean from India's east coast, all the way to Australia, then onward towards Port Louis in Mauritius and up to the border of Pakistan, off India's west coast.
- It will gather samples for genome mapping of microorganisms in the Indian Ocean.
- The researchers will collect samples from various stretches of the ocean at an average depth of about 5 km.
- The mapping of the Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and Ribonucleic acid (RNA) will show the nutrients present in them, and also those lacking in different parts of the ocean.
- The ocean has several micronutrients like nitrates, sulphates and silicates, minerals like

iron ore and zinc, and trace metals like cadmium or copper.

- The genome mapping will show the presence of which these microbes have adapted to, in addition to their reaction to atmospheric carbon dioxide.
- This will help in identifying which part of the ocean has a greater concentration of which mineral or element.

70. Answer: (b)

Explanation: Herath Festival

- Kashmiri Pundits in Jammu and Kashmir celebrates most important festival Sivaratri, locally called 'Herath'.
- Walnuts and fish dishes are central to the festival.
- At the end of the religious ceremonies, a day is observed as 'Salaam', which entailed celebrations with the Muslim brethren in Kashmir.
- During such festivals shops run by Muslims provides paraphernalia for puja.
- Temporary stalls by Muslim vendors will sell local fish and Trout, which is preferred by the pundits during the occasion

71. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, has recently approved the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Nidhi (PMSSN).
Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Nidhi (PMSSN)
- It is a single non-lapsable reserve fund for share of Health from the proceeds of Health and Education Cess levied under Section 136-b of Finance Act, 2007.
Salient features of the PMSSN
- A non-lapsable reserve fund for Health in the Public Account.
- Proceeds of share of health in the Health and Education Cess will be credited into PMSSN.
- Accruals into the PMSSN will be utilized for the flagship schemes of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare namely,
 1. Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)
 2. Ayushman Bharat - Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs)
 3. National Health Mission

4. Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY)
 5. Emergency & disaster preparedness and responses during health emergencies
 6. Any future programme/scheme that targets to achieve progress towards SDGs and the targets set out in the National Health Policy (NHP) 2017.
- Administration and maintenance of the PMSSN is entrusted to Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
 - In any financial year, the expenditure on such schemes of the MoHFW would be initially incurred from the PMSSN and thereafter, from Gross Budgetary Support (GBS).

72. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- Ministry/Department of Social Justice and Empowerment has constituted the Development and Welfare Board for Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Communities (DWBDNCs) in 2019.
 - It aims for Development and Welfare of Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Communities for a period of three years extendable up to 5 years.
- The responsibilities of the DWBDNC are:
1. To formulate and implement Welfare and Development programmes, as required, for Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Communities.
 2. To identify the locations/areas where these communities are densely populated.
 3. To assess and identify gaps in accessing existing programmes and entitlements and to collaborate with Ministries/implementing agencies to ensure that ongoing programmes meet the special requirements of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Communities.
 4. To monitor and evaluate the progress of the schemes of Government of India and the States/UTs with reference to Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Communities.

73. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- Ms. Suchitra Durai, Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Thailand received the prestigious "King Bhumibol World Soil Day - 2020 Award" of Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) on the behalf of the Indian Council of

Agricultural Research.

- The international recognition was announced by the FAO, Rome on the eve of World Soil Day - 2020 in view of the ICAR's excellent contributions in "Soil Health Awareness" on the theme "Stop soil erosion, save our future" during the last year.

74. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- The India - Uzbekistan joint military exercise "DUSTLIK II" commenced recently in Foreign Training Node Chaubatia, Ranikhet (Uttarakhand).
- This is the second edition of annual bilateral joint exercise of both armies.
- The first edition of the exercise was held at Uzbekistan in Nov 2019.

75. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- Indian Navy's third stealth Scorpene class Submarine INS Karanj has been commissioned recently at the Naval Dockyard Mumbai through a formal commissioning ceremony.
- Project 75
- Six Scorpene Class submarines are being built in India under the Project-75 by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group, France.
- Two Scorpene-class submarines INS Kalvari and INS Khanderi have already been commissioned into the Indian Navy.
- The fourth and fifth Scorpene-class submarines- INS Vela & INS Vagir have been undergoing sea trials.
- The sixth scorpene class submarine named Vagsheer is currently under construction.
- INS Karanj would form part of the Western Naval Command's Submarine fleet and would be another potent part of the Command's arsenal.
- Scorpene Submarines are one of the most advanced conventional submarines in the world.

76. Answer: (b)

Explanation: Sun Temple at Konark

- It was built by King Narasimhadeva I, the great ruler of Ganga dynasty.
- It remains a major pilgrimage site for Hindus, who gather here every year for the

Chandrabhaga Mela around the month of February.

- A Jaga Mohan is an assembly hall in the Hindu temple architecture, especially in Orissa.
 - It is located between the temple entrance and the Garba griha.
 - The Jaga Mohana is built on a plan based on structures of rectangles and triangles and highly decorated with sculptures of deities, mythological scenes or ornaments.
 - It is typical of the Nagara architecture temples of northern India.
 - In the south of India, the halls are named mandapas which are often large halls with columns.
- Jaganath Temple
- Ganga dynasty king Anantavarman Chodaganga built the puri Jaganath Temple in the 12th century CE.

77. Answer: (a)

Explanation: National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal

- It was operationalized in 2019 to provide a centralised mechanism to the citizens for online reporting of all types of cybercrime incidents.
- It is an initiative of the Ministry of Home Affairs under National Mission for the safety of women to facilitate victims/complainants to report cybercrime complaints online.
- The incidents reported on this portal, their conversion into FIRs and subsequent action thereon are handled by the State/UT law enforcement agency.
- The 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India.
- It caters all types of cyber-crime complaints including complaints pertaining to online Child Pornography (CP), Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) or sexually explicit content such as Rape/Gang Rape (CP/RGR) content and other cyber-crimes.

78. Answer: (c)

Explanation: Banks Board Bureau (BBB)

- It was set up in February 2016 as an autonomous body- based on the recommendations of the RBI-appointed Nayak Committee.
- It was part of the Indradhanush Plan.
- It will make recommendations for appointment of whole-time directors as well as non-executive chairpersons of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and

state-owned financial institutions.

- The Ministry of Finance takes the final decision on the appointments in consultation with the Prime Minister's Office.
 - Banks Board Bureau comprises of
 1. A Chairman,
 2. Three ex-officio members i.e Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises, Secretary of the Department of Financial Services and Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India,
 3. Five expert members, two of which are from the private sector.
- Urjit Patel Committee
- The Expert Committee to revise and strengthen the Monetary Policy Framework, headed by RBI Deputy Governor Urjit R Patel was appointed in 2014 by the RBI.

79. Answer: (c)

Explanation: NISAR Mission

- It is a joint Earth-observing mission between NASA and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).
- NASA is providing the mission's L-band SAR, ISRO is providing the spacecraft bus, the S-band radar, launch vehicle and associated launch services for the mission.
- NISAR uses a sophisticated information-processing technique known as SAR to produce extremely high-resolution images.
- The radar penetrates clouds and darkness, enabling NISAR to collect data day and night in any weather.
- The NISAR will be the first satellite mission to use two different radar frequencies (L-band and S-band) to measure changes in our planet's surface less than a centimetre across.

80. Answer: (d)

Explanation: Asola-Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary

- It is located in Southern Delhi Ridge of Aravalli hill range on Delhi-Haryana border.
- This protected area contains one of the last surviving remnants of Delhi Ridge hill range and its semi-arid forest habitat and its dependent wildlife.
- This is an important habitat for the Indian leopard.
- Endangered species in the sanctuary include red-headed vulture and egyptian vulture.
- Recently Supreme Court-mandated Ridge

Management Board has decided to constitute an expert committee to look into the proposal of dumping inert (non-reactive) waste in the mines of Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary (Delhi).

Ridge Management Board

- The Supreme Court mandated the Delhi Government to constitute a Ridge Management Board for protection of the Delhi Ridge through their orders in the M.C. Mehta case 1987.
- The Delhi Ridge acts as the green lungs of the capital and, through various government orders over the years, all construction has been banned in the Ridge in an effort to preserve it.
- It was establishment on 6th October 1995, Chairman of the board is Chief Secretary of Delhi and Head of the Forest Department of Delhi Government is its Member Secretary.
- The Board also has members from the Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs).

81. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- The Supreme Court has recently asked the Centre to respond to a plea challenging the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991.
- In agreeing to examine the law, the court has opened the doors for litigation in various places of worship across the country including Mathura and Varanasi.
- Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991
- The Act prohibits conversion of any place of worship and to provide for the maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship as it existed on the 15th day of August, 1947, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.
- No person shall convert any place of worship of any religious denomination into one of a different denomination or section.
- All suits, appeals or other proceedings regarding converting the character of a place of worship, that were pending on August 15, 1947, will stand abated when the Act commences and no fresh proceedings can be filed.
- However, legal proceedings can be initiated with respect to the conversion of the religious character of any place of worship after the commencement of the Act if the change of status took place after the cut-off date of August 15, 1947.

- Nothing contained in this Act shall apply to the place or place of worship commonly known as Ram Janma Bhumi-Babri Masjid situated in Ayodhya in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

Besides the Ayodhya dispute, the Act also exempted:

1. any place of worship that is an ancient and historical monument or an archaeological site, or is covered by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958
2. a suit that has been finally settled or disposed of
3. any dispute that has been settled by the parties or conversion of any place that took place by acquiescence before the Act commenced

82. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- Politician-writer M Veerappa Moily, poets Arundhati Subramaniam and Anamika are among the twenty writers who will be conferred with the Sahitya Akademi Award 2020.
- Sahitya Akademi Award
- Every year since its inception in 1954, the Sahitya Akademi Award prizes to the most outstanding books of literary merit published in English and Rajasthani, besides the 22 languages recognized by the Constitution of India.
- The first Awards were given in 1955.
- The author must be of Indian Nationality.

83. Answer: (d)

Explanation: One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) Scheme

- The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution in association with State/UT Governments is implementing 'One Nation One Ration Card' (ONORC) plan for nation-wide portability of ration cards under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA).
- So far, the facility has been enabled in 32 States/UTs covering nearly 69 Crore beneficiaries, almost 86% of NFSA population of the country.
- This system allows all NFSA beneficiaries, particularly migrant beneficiaries, to claim either full or part foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop

(FPS) in the country through existing ration card with biometric/Aadhaar authentication in a seamless manner.

- The system also allows their family members back home, if any, to claim the balance food-grains on same the ration card.

84. Answer: (b)

Explanation: Superior Mirage

- It is an optical illusion, seen, at sea-shore in winter evening, due to which an image of a ship is seen formed in air in sea-sky. The actual ship is nowhere visible.
- Such illusions are reasonably common in the Arctic but can also happen in UK winters when the atmospheric conditions are right, though they are very rare.
- The illusion is caused by a meteorological phenomenon called a temperature inversion.
- Normally, the air temperature drops with increasing altitude, making mountaintops colder than the foothills.
- But in a temperature inversion, warm air sits on top of a band of colder air, playing havoc with our visual perception.
- Because cold air is denser than warm air, it has a higher refractive index.
- In the case of the "hovering ship", this means light rays coming from the ship are bent downwards as it passes through the colder air, to observers on the shoreline.
- This makes the ship appear in a higher position than it really is – in this instance, above the sea surface.

Inferior Mirage

- It is an optical illusion, seen in deserts at summer noon, due to which an inverted image of a distant tree is seen formed in hot sand below it, as if formed in water. Actually there is no water anywhere.

85. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has recently launched Mera Ration Mobile App for the benefit of those ration card holders who move to new places in search of livelihood.

86. Answer: (c)

Explanation: 1930 Dandi March

- The Lahore Congress of 1929 had authorized the Congress Working Committee (CWC) to launch a programme of civil disobedience including non-payment of taxes.
- In February 1930, CWC meeting at Sabarmati Ashram, invested Gandhi with full powers to launch the Civil Disobedience Movement at a time and place of his choice.
- The Dandi March, also known as the Salt March and the Dandi Satyagraha was an act of nonviolent civil disobedience led by Gandhi.
- The march lasted from 12th March, 1930 to 6th April, 1930 as a direct-action campaign of tax resistance and nonviolent protest against the British salt monopoly.
- On 12th March, Gandhiji set out from Sabarmati with 78 followers on a 241-mile march to the coastal town of Dandi on the Arabian Sea.
- There, Gandhi and his supporters were to defy British policy by making salt from seawater.
- Civil disobedience broke out all across India, soon involving millions of Indians, and British authorities arrested more than 60,000 people.

87. Answer: (a)

Explanation: Seabuckthorn

- It's a shrub which produces an orange-yellow coloured edible berry.
- In India, it is found above the tree line in the Himalayan region, generally in dry areas such as the cold deserts of Ladakh and Spiti.
- In Himachal Pradesh, it is locally called chharma and grows in the wild in Lahaul and Spiti and parts of Kinnaur.
- According to the Seabuckthorn Association of India, around 15,000 hectares in Himachal, Ladakh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh are covered by this plant.
- The Himachal Pradesh government has decided to start planting seabuckthorn in the cold desert areas.
- As a folk medicine, seabuckthorn has been widely used for treating stomach, heart and skin problems.
- Its fruit and leaves are rich in vitamins, carotenoids and omega fatty acids, among other substances, and it can help troops in acclimatising to high-altitude.

88. Answer: (b)

Explanation: Ayya Vaikunda Swamikal

- Ayya Vaikunda (1809-1851) was a great humanist and social thinker.
- He founded 'samathva samajam' in 1836 and was considered the first socio reform movement in India.
- He is remembered as the first well known social reformer in India who critiqued the caste discrimination and religious hierarchy and fought against the practice of untouchability.
- His gave an exhortation of 'One caste, One religion, One clan, One world, One god'.
- He was against idol worship and he did not allow the portraiture to draw his figure.
- He organized 'Sama Panthi Bhojana' in each and every place of worship in the name of 'Annadanam'.

89. Answer: (d)

Explanation: India's Joint space Missions

- LUPEX - India and Japan are already working on a joint lunar polar exploration (LUPEX) mission.
- LUPEX aims to send a lander and rover to the Moon's south pole around 2024.
- Megha-Tropiques - The Indo-French joint satellite mission called MEGHA-TROPIQUES was launched in 2011 for the study of the tropical atmosphere and climate related to aspects such as monsoons, cyclones, etc.
- SARAL - The Indo-French joint mission, named SARAL (Satellite for ALTIKA and ARGOS) for studying the ocean from space using altimetry was successfully launched in 2013.
- NISAR - ISRO and NASA are realizing a joint satellite mission called NISAR (NASA ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) for earth science studies.
- The mission will observe Earth and measure its changing ecosystem and masses globally.
- It is the world's most expensive imaging-satellite and the two space agencies intend to launch the satellite by 2022.
- TRISHNA - ISRO and the French space agency CNES have partnered in developing advanced upgradation satellites like TRISHNA to monitor the water cycle to help in finding out proper ways to utilize it.

90. Answer: (b)

Explanation: Bamiyan Buddhas

- The Bamiyan Buddhas were great examples of a confluence of Gupta, Sassanian and Hellenistic artistic styles.
- The Bamiyan Buddhas are said to date back to the 5th century AD and were once the tallest standing Buddhas in the world.
- Salsal and Shamama, as they were called by the locals, rose to heights of 55 and 38 metres respectively.
- The Salsal means "light shines through the universe" and the Shamama is "Queen Mother".
- Bamiyan is situated in the high mountains of the Hindu Kush in the central highlands of Afghanistan.
- The valley, which is set along the line of the Bamiyan River, was once integral to the early days of the Silk Roads.
- In 2001, the Taliban began blowing up two monumental Buddha statues in Afghanistan's Bamiyan Valley.
- Recently, the Bamiyan Buddhas have been brought back to life in the form of 3D projections in an event called "A Night with Buddha".

91. Answer: (a)

Explanation: India and Japan are working on a **joint lunar polar exploration (LUPEX) mission** that aims to send a lander and rover to the Moon's south pole around 2024.

92. Answer: (b)

Explanation: Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD)

- Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) is the informal strategic dialogue with a shared objective to ensure and support a "free, open and prosperous" Indo-Pacific region.
- It is an informal strategic forum between the **United States, Japan, Australia and India**.
- It has a shared objective of ensuring a free, open and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.
- The idea of grouping was **first mooted by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007**.

93. Answer: (a)

Explanation: PLI Scheme for IT hardware

- It will cover devices such as laptops, tablets, all-in-one PCs and servers.

- An **incentive will be given on net incremental sales of goods** manufactured in India for a **period of four years**.
- **Benefits:**
- It will benefit five major global players and ten domestic champions in the field of IT hardware.
- It will enhance the development of the electronics ecosystem in the country
- Generate employment for more than 1,80,000 (direct and indirect jobs) over four years.
- provide impetus to domestic value addition for IT hardware which is expected to rise to 20-25% by 2025.
- **Significance:** This is an important segment to promote manufacturing under AtmaNirbhar Bharat as there is huge import reliance for these items at present.

94. Answer: (b)

Explanation: Inner Line Permit (ILP):

- The concept of ILP comes from the British Indian era.
- Under the **Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act, 1873**, the British framed regulations restricting the entry and regulating the stay of outsiders in designated areas.
- This system was to protect the Crown's own commercial interests by preventing "British subjects" (Indians) from trading within these regions.
- In 1950, the Indian government replaced "British subjects" with "Citizen of India".
- This was to address local concerns about protecting the interests of the indigenous people from outsiders belonging to other Indian states.
- **Protected Area Permit (PAP):**
- Foreigners need a PAP to visit tourist places which are different from ILPs needed by domestic tourists.
- Under the **Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order 1958**, all areas falling between the 'Inner Line', as defined in the said order, and the International Border of the State have been declared as a Protected Area.
- A foreign national is normally not allowed to visit a Protected/Restricted Area unless it is established to the satisfaction of the Government that there are extraordinary reasons to justify such a visit.

95. Answer: (d)

Explanation: *Recently, the Bamiyan Buddhas - monumental statues in Afghanistan's Bamiyan Valley, have been brought back to life in the form of 3D projections in an event called - A Night With Buddha.*

- In March 2001, the Taliban blew up two monumental Buddha statues in Afghanistan's Bamiyan Valley.
- Once among the tallest statues in the world, the ancient Bamiyan Buddhas were lost to the world forever.
- Following the fall of the Bamiyan Buddhas, UNESCO included the remains in its list of world heritage sites in 2003.

The legacy of the Bamiyan Buddhas:

- **Belongs to the 5th century AD:** These were once the tallest standing Buddhas in the world.
- Salsal and Shamama (called by the locals), rose to heights of 55 and 38 metres respectively and were said to be male and female.
- Salsal means light shines through the universe and Shamama is Queen Mother.
- **Location:** Bamiyan is situated in the high mountains of the **Hindu Kush** in the central highlands of **Afghanistan**.
- Part of the Silk Road: The valley (along the Bamiyan River), was once integral to the early days of the Silk Roads - providing passage for culture, religion and language.
- Confluence of different cultures: The Bamiyan Buddhas were great examples of a confluence of Gupta, Sassanian and Hellenistic artistic styles.
- The Roman draperies and two different mudras is the proper depiction of this confluence.
- **During Buddhist Kushan Empire:** Bamiyan became a major trade, cultural and religious centre, as China, India and Rome sought passage through Bamiyan.

96. Answer: (c)

Explanation: Indus water treaty

- Indus Water Treaty (IWT) signed on September 19, 1960, between India and Pakistan and brokered by the World Bank (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development) which fixed and delimited the rights and obligations of both countries concerning the use of the waters of the Indus River system.
- **Geographical location:** The origination of the Indus River from southwestern Tibet

Autonomous Region of China and flows through the disputed Kashmir region and then into Pakistan to drain into the Arabian Sea.

- **Distribution:** IWT deals with river Indus and its five tributaries. Eastern following rivers like Sutlej, Beas and Ravi were given to India whereas Pakistan got control over Indus, Chenab, and Jhelum.
- Under the provisions of the Indus Waters Treaty, all the waters of the eastern rivers — **the Sutlej, Beas, and Ravi is allocated to India** for unrestricted use.
- **The waters of western rivers** — Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab is largely for Pakistan.
- **Permanent Indus Commission:** This unique treaty led down the formation of PIC which was set up as a bilateral commission to implement and manage the Treaty.
- **Significance:** The treaty administers how river Indus and its tributaries that flow in both countries will be utilized.
- The treaty **allocates 80% of the water from the six-river Indus water system to Pakistan and India is allowed to use 20 percent of its water for irrigation, power generation, and transport purposes.**

97. Answer: (b)

Explanation: Exercise Malabar is a trilateral naval exercise involving the United States, Japan and India as permanent partners. Originally begun in 1992 as a bilateral exercise between India and the United States, Japan became a permanent partner in 2015.[1] Past non-permanent participants include Singapore and Australia.

98. Answer: (a)

Explanation: Subnationalism is the policy of asserting the interest of one's own state/region/province, as separate from the interest of the nation and the common interest of all other states/regions/provinces. Subnationalism is positively linked to social development. Greater the level of subnational solidarity, higher will be the State's commitment to social welfare. Kerala's success is the most striking example.

99. Answer: (a)

Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect.

State Election Commission:

The **Constitution of India vests in the State**

Election Commission, consisting of a State Election Commissioner, **the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the conduct of all elections to the Panchayats and the Municipalities (Articles 243K, 243ZA).**

The State Election Commissioner is appointed by the Governor.

- **Article 243K(1):** It states that the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to the Panchayats (Municipalities under Article 243Z(A) shall be vested in a State Election Commission consisting of a State Election Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor.
 - **Article 243K(2):** It states that the **tenure and appointment will be directed as per the law made by the state legislature.**
 - However, State Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his/her office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of a High Court.
 - As per **Article 243(C3)** the Governor, when so requested by the State Election Commission, makes available to the State Election Commission such staff as may be necessary for the discharge of the functions conferred on the SEC.
 - **Part-IX and Part-IXA** were incorporated through the amendment no.73 and no.74 in the constitution of India covering provisions regarding the Panchayats and Municipalities respectively.
 - These parts cover **constitutions of Panchayats and Municipality** including their elections by the State Election Commission.
100. Answer: (b)
- Explanation: Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD)**
- Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) is the informal strategic dialogue with a shared objective to ensure and support a "free, open and prosperous" Indo-Pacific region.
 - It is an informal strategic forum between the **United States, Japan, Australia and India.**
 - It has a shared objective of ensuring a free, open and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.
 - The idea of grouping was **first mooted by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007.**

UPSC CIVILS MAIN TEST

TOPIC: GENERAL STUDIES

Time allowed: 180 Minutes Maximum Marks: 250

Question Paper Specific Instructions

Please read the following instructions carefully before attempting questions:

- ★ There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**
- ★ All the questions are compulsory.
- ★ The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
- ★ Answer must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answer written in medium other than the authorized one.
- ★ Answers to Questions No.1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No.11 to 20 should be in 250 words.
- ★ Each question carries 12.5 marks.
- ★ Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer booklet must be clearly struck off.

MAINS QUESTION PAPER

1. There is a growing movement in the West to legalise cannabis, with rumblings of the same in India. Discuss why India should not legalise cannabis.
2. India's presence at the G7 as an observer state is an acknowledgement of another dimension of this new reality. Discuss.
3. Recently, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said that the future of India's 'No First Use' (NFU) policy on nuclear weapons depend on "circumstances". Discuss the pros and cons of revisiting the NFU Policy.
4. Discuss the reasons of slowdown in textile sector and its implications on Indian economy.
5. A healthy Individual, a healthy family and a healthy= society are the essentials to make New India - a Fit India. Discuss it in context of recently launched 'Fit India Movement'.
6. The police in a just and democratic setup, has to be made responsive to the prevailing and emerging needs of new India. Discuss it in context of SPIR 2019 report.
7. What do you understand by 'community kitchen'? Discuss how community kitchens could be effective tools to combat hunger & malnutrition in India.
8. Discuss the pros and cons of the RBI's decision to transfer surplus fund to government.
9. Discuss the efforts made by the government to achieve the target of power for all 24x7.
10. "in recent years, India's coastal regions have become more vulnerable to multiple risks related to climate change." Discuss why making coastal infrastructure climate resilient is need of the hour.
11. What is India's 'Act Far East' policy. Discuss the strategic implications of the policy.
12. Recently, RBI has made it mandatory for banks to link loans to external interest rate benchmark. Discuss how this move will effect the banking system as well as borrowers.
13. The new approach of South Korea also puts an emphasis on enhancing its strategic relationship with India. India also looks at South Korea as an indispensable partner in its Act East Policy (AEP). Comment.
14. Critically discuss the rationale behind the recent decision of government of merging the public sector banks.
15. "Xenophobic violence is the product of both nationalist and localised politics rather than an inevitable outcome of multi-ethnic or multi-national diversity amidst social and economic marginalisation." Comment.
16. Information sharing empowers the citizens and deepens their trust towards the government. Do you agree? Illustrate.
17. What is 'probity'? Why is it a desirable attribute to have for a civil servant? Examine.

18. Expand upon the philosophy of 'Saam, Daam, Dand, Bhed'. Is it relevant today? Comment.
19. You are head of an organization which has large public interface. One day an old man approaches you and complaints that one Assistant incharge of Old Age Pension Scheme is demanding Rs. 100.00 from him for clearing his pension claims. He has further revealed that this is a common practice in this office and those who do not pay the bribe money, are harassed. You have become very upset with the state of affairs and want to solve the problem of the old man alongwith bringing some qualitative change in the work culture of the organization, for better service delivery.
- (a) What are the options available to you?
- (b) Evaluate each of these options and choose the option which you would adopt, giving reasons.
20. A girl has lot of interest in biology and medical sciences and she wants to seek admission in medical stream in a private college because she missed the cut off for government run medical colleges. Her father has sufficient where-withal and he has no objections and he is ready to help in admission. However, her grandfather as well as mother say that, what is the use of spending so much money on daughter as eventually she would go to somebody else's family. It is better to keep money for her marriage or for their son's requirement who will look after the family. Assess the attitudinal differences between father on one side and grandfather and mother on the other side and its repercussions on society.

MAINS KEY PAPER

1. **There is a growing movement in the West to legalise cannabis, with rumblings of the same in India. Discuss why India should not legalise cannabis.**

Hints:

- ★ India has a history of misuse of even prescription drugs that are otherwise beneficial. In Indian context, when prescription drugs are grossly misused, how can we ensure disciplined use of cannabis? It is obvious that arguments of medicinal or industrial use are simply smokescreens to fool policymakers and swing public support.
- ★ Further, India is struggling to control the three addictive substances of tobacco, alcohol and areca nut. As per the Global Adult Tobacco Survey, 270 million Indians use tobacco and it kills around 1.35 million Indians every year. Legalisation of cannabis is not only going to worsen these alarming statistics, but also serve as a gateway for one of these carcinogens.
- ★ Following legalisation in the West, various newer products with marijuana are available in the market and on online portals, without proper prescription. These include marijuana chewing gums, candies, etc, which youngsters can easily take to. This, will lead to popularity of marijuana products among youth.
- ★ The younger generation is living in an era of personal liberty, rising affluence, more prone to addiction and struggling with personal relationships. However, promotion of addiction and sufferings among millions is a heavy price to pay for protection of individual freedom of a handful.
- ★ There is a growing movement in the West to legalise cannabis, with rumblings of the same in India. However, India should carefully weigh the risks and benefits of cannabis before blindly following suit with the West.

2. **India's presence at the G7 as an observer state is an acknowledgement of another dimension of this new reality. Discuss.**

Hints:

- ★ The G7 Summit, 2019 was held on 24-26 August 2019 in Biarritz, France. The leaders of industrialized economy, along with the presidents of the European Council and the European Commission, gathered at the summit to discuss global policy

issues of high relevance on diplomatic agendas.

- ★ This year, the format of G7 has changed by the French President to invite leaders of four countries as observer state at Summit level meeting. India's presence at the G7 as an observer state is an acknowledgement of another dimension of this new reality. There is a growing realization that revamping the post-war order for the twenty-first century requires new torchbearers, especially from Asia and Africa.
 - ★ India's ability to safeguard its core sovereign concerns even as it deepens its partnership with the West is growing. Issues such as trade, Kashmir and India's relations with Russia and Iran were all discussed with G7 members. A decade ago, it was more likely that the G7 would have censured India's policies. But this year G7 leaders are on common page with regards to Kashmir issue i.e. it is internal matter of India and hence, is a sovereign issue.
 - ★ Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in two sessions at the Summit, on climate change and digitization, signaling India's growing willingness to lead on issues that are points of contention for the transatlantic actors.
 - ★ Today we stand at a crossroads in terms of the future of the global economy and our planet. But, what is concerning is that G7 leaders seem intent on each forging their own path on major global challenges. The collective political leadership needed to deal with a range of systemic risks — from Brexit to the climate emergency — appears dangerously absent at Biarritz Summit.
3. **Recently, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said that the future of India's 'No First Use' (NFU) policy on nuclear weapons depend on "circumstances". Discuss the pros and cons of revisiting the NFU Policy.**

Hints:

- ★ Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh statement has raised apprehensions on the likely revision of India's NFU policy and nuclear doctrine.
- ★ The major factor behind the questioning of the nuclear doctrine stems from concerns about NFU. Dissatisfaction with our NFU posture is not new. Abinitio, in discussions on this in the National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) a case against it

was made out on the grounds that such an approach unnecessarily kept us on the back foot and on the defensive and made it axiomatic that we would have to face the consequences of a first strike before being able to respond. Moreover, it prevented us from keeping a potential adversary off balance.

- ★ Revoking our NFU policy will not only destroy the power balance of the region but will also lead to a destructive nuclear war and armed race in the region as predicted by many. It will also hamper India's international and regional image of a non-aggressor as there will be a sense of apprehension among the friendly neighbours too.
- ★ NFU policy of India has helped to promote peace in the region in the last decade but it has outlived its expected time period. This has been proved in the two surgical strikes carried out by India in Pakistan after Uri attack and Pulwama attack where the nuclear bluff of Pakistan has been busted successfully. Further, the situation can be in the favour of India if India tries to review its NFU policy as Pakistan will fear India more and will refrain from terrorist and secessionist activities in India.
- ★ Reconsidering NFU policy will affect India's relationship with neighbours like Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bhutan as they will start fearing India.

Here they can also go closer to China as it can be an alternative protector of them due to its commitment to NFU policy till today. This issue can be addressed by the suggestions of the former National Security Advisor Shivshankar Menon who signaled a significant shift from 'No first use' to 'no first use against nonnuclear weapon states'. This new doctrine, as per Menon, would reflect India's strategic significance, with its emphasis on minimal deterrence.

4. Discuss the reasons of slowdown in textile sector and its implications on Indian economy.

Hints:

- ★ The textile industry, which is the second-largest employer in the country, is reeling under a severe crisis similar to the one witnessed in the automobile sector across India.
- ★ The industry body claimed that India's cotton-spinning industry has been struggling with profitability over the years due to a sharp decline in

yarn exports, cheaper import, state and central level taxes on export and high interest rates. Adding to the woes, the recent spurt in cotton prices has resulted in higher input costs for the spinning sector in the country leading to financial stress.

- ★ The Indian textile industry has its own limitations such as accesses to latest technology and failures to meet global standards in the highly competitive export market. There is fierce competition from China, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka in the low price garment market.
 - ★ In the global market tariff and non-tariff barriers coupled with quota is posing major challenge to the Indian textile Industry. The environmental and social issues like child labor and personal safety norms are also some of the challenges for the textile industry in India.
5. **A healthy Individual, a healthy family and a healthy= society are the essentials to make New India - a Fit India. Discuss it in context of recently launched 'Fit India Movement'.**

Hints:

- ★ The launch of 'Fit India Movement' doesn't just highlight the indispensable need for physical fitness, it marks a conscious effort to make a shift in the common attitude among Indians to consider engagement in sports as an activity beyond recreation.
- ★ The proliferation of technology made our lives much easier and much better, but at the same time, it made many people turn to a sedentary lifestyle. So, there is a need to take effective steps to turn to an active lifestyle to protect our health. Thus, 'Fit India Movement' was launched at the right time and encourages people to maintain a healthy lifestyle.
- ★ Due to the inactive lifestyle and stressful lives, many people are getting lifestyle diseases such as diabetes, hypertension etc. 'Fit India Movement' can encourage people to consume healthy food and to maintain physical and mental fitness.
- ★ 'Fit India Movement' may not reach the people of below poverty line. To maintain a healthy lifestyle, both physical activity and nutritious food are necessary. But in India, still many people are malnourished and some people do not have access to safe drinking water. So, without solving the issue of poverty and lack of access to affordable nutri-

tious food, a section of people in India will not be able to take advantage of this movement.

- ★ Fit India is an idea whose time has come, but it needs to be properly and scientifically executed, particularly directed towards vulnerable groups in children, women and people belonging to middle and low socioeconomic strata. A healthy individual, a healthy family and a healthy society are the essentials to make New India- a Fit India.

6. The police in a just and democratic setup, has to be made responsive to the prevailing and emerging needs of new India. Discuss it in context of SPIR 2019 report.

Hints:

- ★ Police reforms in India have been traditionally seen from two extreme perspectives: either from the standpoint of the oppressed who seek to limit police's monopoly over violence and end misuse of power by the state, or from the perspective of professional autonomy of the police as an institution, particularly from the political class, and their right to decent working conditions.
- ★ Despite a long list of the committees and judgments advocating police reforms, it was found that the level of awareness is dismal about the landmark verdict of Prakash Singh vs Union of India, 2006, a vital document giving specific directions for reforms in the policing structure of India. Only about 14 percent of the police reported that they have heard of it.
- ★ The service conditions are equally harsh for women and men in police forces, but women have to fight extra battles in a misogynist environment. The study found that the Indian police system reeks of bias against women working in the police, with about one in four male personnel demonstrating high bias against their female colleagues.
- ★ The new and emerging threats of cybercrimes, money laundering, terrorism and insurgency have posed new challenges to policing and intelligence gathering operations.
- ★ India aspires to be, and rightly so, an economic superpower with prosperity for all its citizens. But it is also true that India's future as a democracy and an economic powerhouse cannot be secured by an obsolete criminal justice system where the police works for the rulers of the day and not for the real masters, the people of the country.

7. What do you understand by 'community kitchen'? Discuss how community kitchens could be effective tools to combat hunger & malnutrition in India.

Hints:

- ★ The State-funded community kitchen is not a new concept in the country. Tamil Nadu's Amma Unavagam had become a roaring success by involving peers in self-help groups, employing the poor to serve hygienic food to eradicate the growing problem of hunger on the streets. Other example are Rajasthan's Annapurna Rasoi, Indira Canteens in Karnataka, Delhi's Aam Aadmi Canteen, Anna Canteen in Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand Mukhyamantri Dal Bhat and Odisha's Ahaa Centre were combating starvation and malnutrition crisis and serve meals at subsidised rates in hygienic conditions.
- ★ Various schemes run by government to address the problem of hunger are futile in as much as there are eligible persons who have not been issued cards requisite to avail subsidies and benefits and then there is a segment of persons who are homeless and outside the grid of these schemes for the mere reasons that they do not possess a roof on their head. Public Distribution system (PDS) in India which accounts for distribution of wheat and rice, only, does not account for proteins and other components of a well-balanced diet, in turn leads to malnutrition.
- ★ India houses a staggering proportion of persons suffering from hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity, in today's day and age. Despite there being a wide range of governmental schemes and programmes intended to achieve the decline and eradication of issues of hunger and malnutrition, the desired result at per cent poses as distant reality.
- ★ As each of these schemes appear to be ridden with problems, ensuring right to food requires action on multiple fronts. It is noteworthy that in spite of the existence of a plethora of schemes aimed at eradicating Hunger, Malnutrition, Starvation Deaths, and allied issues, the country is still grappling with the said problems on a large scale, leaving scope for newer radical solutions to combat the same.

8. Discuss the pros and cons of the RBI's decision to transfer surplus fund to government.

Hints:

- ★ After the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) board meeting, it was decided that RBI will transfer Rs. 1.76 trillion to the government this fiscal. The transfer includes Rs. 1.23 trillion of surplus for 2018-19 and Rs. 52,637 crore of excess provisions identified as per the revised Economic Capital Framework (ECF) adopted at the meeting.
- ★ The move is expected to help the government at a time when India is going through a period of economic slowdown, triggered by slower consumption demand and weaker investment. Further, the move will help the government to counter the shortfall in revenue and tax collection. Since inflationary pressure is low, economists believe that the move will not have a negative impact in the long run.
- ★ The latest move is the manner in which RBI's board accepted the committee's recommendations and readily acted upon it. This then sets the precedent for future transfers and risks becoming the accepted template—in years good and bad.
- ★ The massive payout has raised concerns that the government may be confiscating money from the RBI to meet its urgent spending needs, thus effectively turning the central bank into a banker for the government. Central banks such as the RBI, however, are supposed to be independent from all forms of government influence. In reality, governments across the world try to influence decision-making by their respective central banks in various ways.
- ★ The transfer of money from the vaults of the RBI to fund government spending will increase the amount of money supply in the economy, thus exerting an upward pressure on prices. The RBI's transfer of surplus funds to the government could thus effectively turn into a monetary stimulus for the economy which has been slowing down for several consecutive quarters now.

9. Discuss the efforts made by the government to achieve the target of power for all 24x7.

Hints:

- ★ Electricity is the driver for India's development. As the government races to meet the 2019 target to electrify all households, it must also focus on designing robust and innovative tools to measure

and monitor the progress on a multi-dimensional level, rather than just counting the number of connections. Further, we also need to prioritise electricity access for livelihoods and community services such as education and health care.

- ★ Only such a comprehensive effort will ensure that rural India reaps the socio-economic benefits of electricity. < The government of India has initiated several initiatives and policies for the development and improvement of power sector.
- ★ Key schemes are: Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram JyotiYojana (DDUGJY), Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS), Operationalization of Power System Development Fund (PSDF), Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY), URJA (Urban Jyoti Abhiyaan), Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA), among others.
- ★ In order to achieve 24x7 power for all, we need to focus on three frontiers. First, India needs real-time monitoring of supply at the end-user level. We achieve what we measure. While the government is bringing all feeders in the country online, we currently have no provision to monitor supply as experienced by households. Only such granular monitoring can help track the evolving reality of electricity supply on the ground and guide discoms to act in areas with suboptimal performance.
- ★ Eventually, smart meters (that the government is planning to roll out) should help enable such monitoring. However, in the interim, we could rely on interactive voice response systems (IVRS) and SMS-based reporting by end-users.
- ★ Finally, new India should also embrace a new electricity system, built on the smart technologies and decentralised approaches offering resilience, flexibility, and above all, inclusiveness.

10. "In recent years, India's coastal regions have become more vulnerable to multiple risks related to climate change." Discuss why making coastal infrastructure climate resilient is need of the hour.

Hints:

- ★ In recent years, India has been witnessing increasingly more intense and frequent climatic events and climateinduced natural disasters in recent times. The country's fragile coasts are particularly vulnerable. Intense cyclones such as the recent Fani, Gaja and Hudhud as well as severe floods

have caused massive devastation to its coastal states, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala, respectively.

- ★ Furthermore, India's coastline has already been affected by the sea level rise (SLR) that has been recorded at a rate of 2.5 mm per year since the 1950s. A 15 and 38 cm projected rise in sea level along India's coast by 2050 is likely to affect 5,763 sq km combined area of the coastal states, resulting in the submergence of coastal areas, floodings and an increase in tropical cyclones and storm surges, thereby threatening infrastructure.
- ★ Ensuring growth and development: India's coastal regions are of immense economic and strategic significance, as approximately 90 percent of their trade by volume (or 70 percent in terms of value) is carried out by sea. Reducing the burden of background risk by increasing the resilience of infrastructure would generate benefits that extend across sectors to the macroeconomic level. For instance, protecting coastal regions, towns, business districts, or ports with flood protection infrastructure, will foster economic activity, long-term planning and capital investments. In turn, a boost to entrepreneurship, innovation and productive investments would aid India's overall growth and development.
- ★ Given the importance of India's coastal regions to the country's economy and growth, massive investments would be required for building even the most basic of essential infrastructure. This level of investment provides a window of opportunity to ensure that all new infrastructure is made resilient to withstand future shocks, including those brought about by a changing climate.

11. What is India's 'Act Far East' policy. Discuss the strategic implications of the policy.

Hints:

- ★ Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in the presence of Russian President Vladimir Putin, unveiled the 'Act Far East' policy to boost India's engagement with Russia's Far East region. India is interested in expanding the level of trade between the two countries. An area of special interest for India is the exploration of hydrocarbon reserves along the coast of Russia's Far East.
- ★ The 'Act Far East' policy will open up investment opportunities for India in the region. Along with a boost in the maritime trade with the Russians, this policy would also facilitate India to grow its mar-

itime trade with other European countries via the Arctic route.

- ★ India's dependency on the West Asian countries for its energy demands can be diversified. The Far East region is rich in energy and minerals. Along with this region, this policy will also help India to access the Arctic region via the Far East route, which is again rich in energy resources. Such diversification would help India get alternative options to fulfil its energy demands.
- ★ The policy will not only be significant for India but Russia as well. There has been an increasing presence of China in the Far East region. This has been a concern for Russia, and with this policy, Russia will get an opportunity to diversify its trade relations not only with India but also with Japan. This is because, along with India, Japan, too, wants to increase its political and economic ties with Russia. Such a move will definitely provide Russia with an option to keep a balance of its dependency on China.
- ★ The 'Act Far East' policy would enable the two countries to deepen their bond with each other and further their diplomatic and economic ties.

12. Recently, RBI has made it mandatory for banks to link loans to external interest rate benchmark. Discuss how this move will effect the banking system as well as borrowers.

Hints:

- ★ RBI directed lenders to link all new floating rate loans given to borrowers in the personal, retail and micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) categories to external benchmarks, including the repo rate, with effect from October 1, 2019.
- ★ For linking rates to external benchmarks, the RBI has provided banks with four options to choose from. Banks may link these loans to one of the following: RBI's repo rate, the 3-month Treasury Bill (91 day T-Bill) yield, the 6 month Treasury Bill yield, or any other benchmark market interest rate that is published by Financial Benchmarks India Private Limited (FBIL).
- ★ Under a regular loan, one that is linked to MCLR, equated monthly installment (EMI) on home loan is fairly stable. Even when the lending rate is reset based on the latest MCLR, banks usually change the tenure (lower the tenure in case of fall in rates) of loan rather than EMI — unless borrower specify otherwise. This in effect keeps borrower's EMI steady. However, under SBI's RLLR, a minimum 3

per cent of the principal loan amount is repaid every year. Interest charged on the loan is serviced monthly, based on the lending rate effective at that point in time. Hence, borrower's EMI changes every time there is a change in RBI's repo rate (in the following month).

- ★ Though the latest move will surely lower the interest cost on new floating rate loans availed by borrowers to buy cars or homes, it may force banks to start cutting the interest rate they pay deposit holders or risk seeing their margins shrink. And while the RBI wants to try and nudge an uptick in credit for beleaguered personal consumption and borrowing by beleaguered MSMEs, the success of the measure will ultimately be determined by a regaining of confidence by consumers to spend and a conviction by industry to invest.

13. The new approach of South Korea also puts an emphasis on enhancing its strategic relationship with India. India also looks at South Korea as an indispensable partner in its Act East Policy (AEP). Comment.

Hints:

- ★ Recently, in order to provide logistical support to each other's navies, India and South Korea have signed a military logistics agreement and have formulated a road map for joint production and research for military system during the recent visit of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to South Korea.
- ★ Seoul has recently shown its willingness to partner with India's flagship initiatives such as 'Make in India', 'Skill India', 'Digital India', 'Start-up India' and 'Smart Cities Mission'. In addition, the Moon administration has decided to establish the Korea-India Future Strategy Group and the India-Korea Centre for Research and Innovation Cooperation (IKCRI).
- ★ The government of India is taking measures to enhance South Korean investment. It has created, for example, a 'Korea Plus' mechanism under the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) to boost the presence of South Korean companies in India. Various events and campaigns have been organised to create awareness amongst the Korean firms. India is receiving numerous business proposals, that it now plans to upgrade the 'Korea Plus' initiative into a 'Korea Square' mechanism.

- ★ India and South Korea, two leading democracies in Asia, are natural partners and should closely work together to foster peace and stability in the region.

14. Critically discuss the rationale behind the recent decision of government of merging the public sector banks.

Hints:

- ★ In a bid to create "next-generation" financial institutions with stronger balance sheets and bigger risk appetite, the government of India has unveiled a plan, third in a row, to merge 10 public sector banks (PSBs) into four larger entities.
- ★ According to the government, banks have been merged on the basis of likely operating efficiencies, better usage of equity and their technological platform. It is also of the view that the merger will lead to increased operational efficiency that will help these banks lower their costs, thus enabling them to lower their lending rates.
- ★ The large banks will be able to lend more money and help revive the slowing economy. The government also believes that increased credit growth is essential in order to achieve its target of growing India into a \$5-trillion economy in the next few years.
- ★ When it comes to funding the growth needs of the economy, large banks may be able to lend more money than smaller banks due to the size of their capital base. However, some argue that large banks may not really be essential when it comes to funding big-ticket business projects.
- ★ Overall, the infusion of additional capital by the government can temporarily help banks troubled by bad loans to extend loans more confidently without the fear of going bankrupt due to their precarious capital position. But most economic analysts believe that the merger does not really address the root structural causes behind the woes facing state-owned banks in the country.

15. "Xenophobic violence is the product of both nationalist and localised politics rather than an inevitable outcome of multi-ethnic or multi-national diversity amidst social and economic marginalisation." Comment.

Hints:

- ★ Xenophobia in South Africa poses a serious threat to persons of concern (PoC) and other locally defined 'outsiders.' These include immigrants,

domestic migrants, as well as ethnic, religious, and political minorities.

- ★ Leadership vacuums and competition for community leadership that allow the emergence of parallel and self serving leadership structures. In most cases, violence occurs in areas where official local authority or community leadership is directly involved in the violence or complicit with the perpetrators, weak or considered illegitimate.
- ★ Recognising that xenophobia is a global phenomenon makes the degree to which it is entrenched in South Africa less surprising, but no less problematic. Non-nationals and other 'outsiders' regularly face forms of xenophobia ranging from street-level abuse to discrimination and harassment by government officials and recurring bouts of popular xenophobic violence in varying intensity and scale.
- ★ If nothing else, addressing xenophobia or at least minimizing its effects requires more than moral appeals and awareness campaigns. Rather it requires sustained, coordinated and broad-based efforts; greater support from public programmes and politicians; a more nuanced understanding of the space specific drivers of violence; and efforts to counter the culture of impunity, promote the rule of law and enhance community based conflict resolution mechanisms that respect the constitutional principles of universal rights and due process.

16. Information sharing empowers the citizens and deepens their trust towards the government. Do you agree? Illustrate.

Hints:

- ★ Information sharing that was earlier subjected to the government's discretion was brought to forefront and made an essential tool of our democracy through Right to Information Act (RTI). Other than that present day activism has brought light on the importance of information sharing.
- ★ Information sharing empowers the citizens and deepens their trust towards the government in many ways like
- ★ **Informed decisions**- Information sharing helps in transforming citizens into informed citizens, who are capable of understanding and reflecting upon the public policy and programs and based on that, are able to make informed decisions about the political future of the country.
- ★ **Making governments more efficient**: The responsibility of the government increases as they have

to be accountable to people about their decisions. This brings in the true essence of democracy which enables citizens to more fully participate in public life. The public trust and the credibility of the government will increase.

- ★ **Active citizenry**- RTI has helped in transforming the people from passive subjects to active citizens who are questioning about the aims, process and funding of the policies and programs.
- ★ **Strengthening operations**: To strengthen institutions, modernize the public administration and address civil unrest.
- ★ **Rights of backward classes**- Through information accessed through RTI SCs, STs Etc. are asserting their rights by exposing misappropriation and corruption.
- ★ **Assertion of demands**- Many of the demands from the socially and economically underprivileged sections are coming after they have received data and information through RTI, thus it has given voice to hitherto voiceless groups.
- ★ **Participative citizens**- RTI allow any Indian citizen to participate in governance by enabling her or him to seek information about Central and state government activities.
- ★ **Fighting corruption**: By reducing the secrecy in which decisions are taken and disclosure of the information and thereby transparency increases. This helps in fighting the corruption and its various evil faces. Example: "illegal" selection in jobs, favouritism in government contracts, getting the land meant for a public park back from the civic bodies etc.,
- ★ **Formation of a strong civil society** - better informed society leads to civil society which keeps checks on arbitrary power of govt.
- ★ **Encouraging investment**: It eases the business environment. The investors gain more confidence and are willing to invest and expand better

Conclusion:

- ★ Information sharing can thus help empower citizens, however due caution needs to be exercised so that it does not create a havoc like use of social media to defame or filing fake RTI that drains resources.

17. What is 'probity'? Why is it a desirable attribute to have for a civil servant? Examine.

Hints:

- ★ Probity is the act of strict adherence to the highest principles and ideals (integrity, good charac-

ter, honesty, decency) rather than avoiding corrupt or dishonest conduct. It balances service to the community against the self-interest of individuals. Moreover, Probity has been described as a risk management approach ensuring procedural integrity.

- ★ According to the Second Administrative Reforms Commission, apart from the traditional civil service values of efficiency, integrity, accountability and patriotism, civil servants must inculcate and adopt ethical and moral values including probity in public life.

Importance of probity in civil services:

- ★ To prevent unethical practices like misconduct, fraud, favouritism, criminalization of governance, self-centred functionaries and corruption in governance.
- ★ To ensure public interest and cooperation in governance for participatory governance. Probity will bring the lost public trust back.
- ★ To cater to the needs of all sections of society. So that inclusive growth is achieved.
- ★ To bring in good governance (Accountability, transparency, integrity, Confidentiality etc.)
- ★ To ensure the equitable and just distribution of resources.
- ★ To ensure compliance of civil servants with laws, processes and codes.
- ★ Probity is closely linked to societal values. Probity ensures that a public servant is not influenced by societal values which are unethical.
- ★ Probity ensures “equality before the law”. Ex: File clearance of a common citizen and a mighty politician is the same for the civil servant.
- ★ Probity in governance is the antithesis of corruption in public life.
- ★ Civil servant maintaining probity avoids corrupt or dishonest conduct, as it involves applying values such as impartiality, accountability and transparency.
- ★ The principle of probity in public life is the cornerstone of good governance. It is the sine qua none of the democracy and sustainable development.

Conclusion:

- ★ Probity in governance is an essential and vital requirement for an efficient and effective system of governance and socio-economic development. Ensuring probity in public sector activities by a

civil servant is part of every public official's duty to adopt processes, practices and behaviour that enhance and promote public sector values and interests.

18. Expand upon the philosophy of ‘Saam, Daam, Dand, Bhed’. Is it relevant today? Comment.

Hints:

- ★ Arthshastra written by Kautilya/ Chanakya/ Vishnugupta (different names of same person) has reference of “Saam, Daam, Dand & Bhed neeti” (persuasion, temptation, punishment, and division) as various, different, and sequential means to achieve an end.
- ★ This is by far the most practical idea applied by Vedic kings since time immemorial, practical even to this day.
- ★ **Saam Neeti:** When disagreements arrive, and are not substantially settled, conflicts grow. Identifying and allaying disagreements is the object of Saam. It means paying attention to your adversary's argument and understanding his/her perspective.
- ★ **Daam Neeti:** People work for money, incentives, recognition, awards etc. Chanakya suggests rewarding people sufficiently in order to get the work done. Organizations decide to facilitate by cash or kind, depending upon the policy formulated.
- ★ **Dand Neeti:** Chanakya says “King with rod becomes a terror. A king with mild rod is despised; king just with rod is honored”. Many employees may not show sign of improvement from above methods of motivations in spite of constant follow up. If neither reward nor incentive brings them out of lethargy, punishment is stronger option, but need to be used very intelligently. Punishment is always prescribed for view to improve not to deteriorate.
- ★ **Bhed Neeti:** Much abused neeti, divide and rule, Chanakya says something very important. When no weapon works, then this the hard option, though not encouraged at all, it is final step.
- ★ All of the above mentioned neeti goes in a sequence, starting with Saam, if this fails, then there is a need to move to Daam Neeti and so on. The final step being the Bhed Neeti and it is observed in almost all cases that results are attained or seem to be attained if we follow the above principles.

Relevance today

- ★ Let us try to understand the Neeti's using examples
- ★ **Saam Neeti:** In any organisations, there is a possibility of conflict between people working in a group. To sort these differences, there is a need for proper discussions. We need to listen and understand others problem, convince them about management perspective. Solutions can be worked out to complex problems through negotiations. Sometimes expertise from external or internal agency also can help. This principle can be applicable even in International Relations, where forums can sort out their differences.
- ★ **Daam Neeti:** Piece rate system of wages is an example, which is a reality in almost all the organization for certain defined work, target based incentives scheme, where target may be sales volume, productivity, machine efficiency. Award system, like best employee, most regular employee, long serving employee etc. all these fall under Daam neeti.
- ★ **Dand Neeti:** Fear of punishment that people refrain from doing unrighteous things. Punishments like warning, show cause notice, suspension or salary cutting. Punishments under CCS Rules for civil servant deter them from wrongdoing. Depending on level of irregularity, type of punishment can be used in view of maintaining discipline.
- ★ **Bhed Neeti:** When both employee and organization cannot work together and Parting is the only option left, else company can think of transferring to some other work area, which may not be very crucial. Government officers, mostly policemen or IAS officers often face transfer under this policy.

Conclusion

- ★ The concept of Chanakya Neeti must be understood in a broader sense. Sometimes people seem to misuse them for their personal benefits. It must be utilized for a good cause; It must always abide by the law & order and help in improvement and not deterioration.
19. You are head of an organization which has large public interface. One day an old man approaches you and complaints that one Assistant

incharge of Old Age Pension Scheme is demanding Rs. 100.00 from him for clearing his pension claims. He has further revealed that this is a common practice in this office and those who do not pay the bribe money, are harassed. You have become very upset with the state of affairs and want to solve the problem of the old man alongwith bringing some qualitative change in the work culture of the organization, for better service delivery.

(a) What are the options available to you?

(b) Evaluate each of these options and choose the option which you would adopt, giving reasons.

Hints :

- ★ An organizational culture in public service is a product of both the organization's internal and external environment for public agencies. Internally, bureaucrats develop and shape norms and basic assumptions that persist overtime and affect the relationships between executives, managers, supervisors and workers. Organizational culture permits the daily operating procedures that members follow, even though there are no written or codified agreed upon rules stating the procedures.
- ★ The above case is common in organizations that have large public interface. Red-tapism is common and bribes are taken to clear the hierarchical delay in the process. This has got engrained in the system. However, such wrong practices in any organization of demanding for bribes do not culminate over a day but over a period of months and years.
- ★ **The various options available with the head to set things right are:**
 - a) He should try to arrive at the root cause of problem as in such cases there is a nexus within the organization. Without going to the deeper cause, proper solution cannot be found out.
 - b) He can create a vigilance cell to trap the case as to why the things are going wrong but this is a time taking procedure.
 - c) The head can also himself go for the inspection of officials that why such a wrong environment is prevalent in the organization. This involves a personal investigation on his part.
 - d) The pension money can directly be transferred to the accounts of the beneficiaries. But this requires that they should have a bank account

and putting the things, into action for first time is a cumbersome process. But once it starts function, it will decrease corruption.

e) The head can consult the beneficiaries; ask them about the problems they are facing.

- ★ The suggested course of action for the head should be first to arrive at the root cause as to why such wrong practices are culminating in the organization. To reduce the cases of corruption and bribe taking, the suggested step is to transfer the pension directly to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries so that leakages do not occur. The beneficiaries should be consulted time in between and their cooperation should be ensured to correct the things.
- ★ To change an organization, start with behaviors, and especially with senior management's modeling of desired behaviors. but changing the attitudes beneath behaviors takes much longer time hence continuous initiatives are required."

20. **A girl has lot of interest in biology and medical sciences and she wants to seek admission in medical stream in a private college because she missed the cut off for government run medical colleges. Her father has sufficient wherewithal and he has no objections and he is ready to help in admission. However, her grandfather as well as mother say that, what is the use of spending so much money on daughter as eventually she would go to somebody else's family. It is better to keep money for her marriage or for their son's requirement who will look after the family. Assess the attitudinal differences between father on one side and grandfather and mother on the other side and its repercussions on society.**

Hints –

- ★ In the above case, the girl has not been provided opportunity just because she is a female, she has to marry and settle in new life and new family and any investment on her will not be useful for the family.
- ★ In patriarchal society such type of attitude is very common where biased against girls are still prevalent when it comes to providing equal chances and opportunities in decision making and choosing one's course of action.
- ★ The father of the girl is guided by liberal and modern ideas in which an individual should be given the best opportunity to discover, nurture and realize his or her potential. He wants his daughter to seek admission in a private medical college because she wants to pursue this as a career and has a strong liking for it. It does not make any difference whether the individual is a son or daughter. A liberal tradition has a different look on the institutions of marriage as well. They see marriage as an opportunity to live a wholesome life with opportunities for procreation, productivity, freedom and fulfillment.
- ★ The grand father and mother are also the well wishers of the girl, but they fail to muster courage to think beyond the traditional image of daughters and bondage of patriarchal society. They are affected by the patriarchal mindset of the society where only males should be allowed to pursue their dreams.
- ★ A female is meant to do household chores so money should not be spent on her education. They are also scared of dowry and rather than doing something to fight the scourge they yield to this undesirable tradition. They are also not ready to believe in equality of son and daughter due to societal tradition that sons are supposed to take care of the parents and daughters are not. This taboo or misplaced social construct needs to be broken, but they do not dare.
- ★ In the first case there are respect, dignity and freedom flowing from father's support to the daughter which may not only leads to gender equality, but woman empowerment.
- ★ An educated girl is a wiser daughter, sister, wife and mother and also contributes in economic well being and good health.
- ★ On the other hand going by the suggestions of the grand father or mother, the girl will lose freedom and dignity, lose opportunity to grow and be empowered, a stereo type social view about women would perpetuate. In the end there would be irreparable loss to family, society as well as nation.
- ★ Such things will have negative repercussions on the society where only males have the decision taking ability and a female must succumb to the authority and superiority of man.