



VVR-IAS
INDIA'S Best Trainers for
General Studies

ALL INDIA **FREE** MOCK TESTS

TEST CODE: C-003

- | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1. (D) | 21. (B) | 41. (A) | 61. (B) | 81. (D) |
| 2. (D) | 22. (A) | 42. (D) | 62. (A) | 82. (C) |
| 3. (C) | 23. (B) | 43. (A) | 63. (D) | 83. (C) |
| 4. (D) | 24. (B) | 44. (B) | 64. (C) | 84. (C) |
| 5. (B) | 25. (D) | 45. (B) | 65. (A) | 85. (C) |
| 6. (A) | 26. (B) | 46. (A) | 66. (B) | 86. (A) |
| 7. (B) | 27. (B) | 47. (B) | 67. (C) | 87. (C) |
| 8. (C) | 28. (C) | 48. (C) | 68. (D) | 88. (B) |
| 9. (A) | 29. (D) | 49. (A) | 69. (C) | 89. (C) |
| 10. (D) | 30. (D) | 50. (A) | 70. (B) | 90. (A) |
| 11. (C) | 31. (A) | 51. (D) | 71. (C) | 91. (C) |
| 12. (C) | 32. (C) | 52. (B) | 72. (D) | 92. (D) |
| 13. (B) | 33. (C) | 53. (A) | 73. (D) | 93. (D) |
| 14. (B) | 34. (D) | 54. (D) | 74. (B) | 94. (B) |
| 15. (A) | 35. (C) | 55. (A) | 75. (D) | 95. (C) |
| 16. (D) | 36. (C) | 56. (D) | 76. (D) | 96. (C) |
| 17. (B) | 37. (D) | 57. (D) | 77. (B) | 97. (B) |
| 18. (A) | 38. (B) | 58. (C) | 78. (A) | 98. (C) |
| 19. (B) | 39. (D) | 59. (D) | 79. (B) | 99. (D) |
| 20. (B) | 40. (C) | 60. (B) | 80. (C) | 100. (C) |

OPEN FULL MOCK CODE: C003

1. (D)

Exp.

As a court of record the SC has this power to punish for the contempt of court. Besides civil, criminal contempt is also punishable with same mandate and enforceability.

2. (D)

Exp.

The supreme court has held that cession of Indian territory does not come under article 3 and can be done only by amending the Constitution under article 368.

Settlement of boundary dispute can be done by executive action and does not require constitutional amendment.

3. (C)

Exp.

Forms of Oaths or Affirmations for:

- The Union ministers
- The candidates for election to the Parliament
- The members of Parliament
- The judges of the Supreme Court
- The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India
- The state ministers
- The candidates for election to the state Legislature
- The members of the state legislature
- The judges of the High Courts

4. (D)

5. (B)

Exp.

J&K has its own constitution and the other states have no particular constitution. The residuary power in respect of J&K rests with the state government and not with the Union Government. The High Court of J&K can issue writs only for the enforcement of the fundamental rights and not for other legal rights while the other High Courts can issue writs for the enforcement of both types of rights.

6. (A)

Exp.

The st-1 is correct as the foreigners who assimilated into the society into groups

were treated as a caste. But as they came as conquerors they were given the status of the kshatriyas in society.. e.g. Hunas. St-2 is wrong as the position of shudras improved in this period. They were now permitted to listen to epics and puranas and also could worship a new god called Krishna. This can be attributed to the economic prospects/status which changed for them.

7. (B)

Exp.

St-1 is wrong as the settlements of Neolithic period besides the north western part (mehrgarh-7000 BC) were also found in the other parts of India, those where considerable evidence of the period were found are: chirand (Bihar), south of river Godavari(south India), Assam, the tools of the period were also found in the Garo hills in Meghalaya on the north-eastern frontier of India.

St-2 is true, as their settlements were mainly found on the hills, rocks, and valley regions. Because these areas supported their requirements of tools and stone weapons etc. Also they could not produce more than what they needed for their bare subsistence.

8. (C)

Exp.

St-A and B are correct as after the end of Neolithic period the metals were known to be used and the first to be used was copper.

St- C is incorrect as the rajan did not exercises limited, he had to reckon with the tribal organizations. He was being elected by the tribal assembly called Samiti. The inst. Of sabha and samiti were very important as the kings during the period showed eagerness to win their support.

St- D is correct as the inst. Of Gotra as a formal thing signifying a common ancestor gained prominence during the later vedic period. But literally it means the cow-pen or the place of cattles(belonging to the whole clan) were kept.

9. (A)

Exp.

St-1 is correct. As the contact influenced not only the architectural style but also the art of writing which is evident from the historical evidences which shows that the Iranian scribes brought a new form of writing known as kharoshthi script. The monuments of ashoka time like bell shaped capitals etc supports the statements.

St-2 is incorrect as the routes were not restricted up to land only but it was being carried out with the sea routes also.eg: main trade routes along the Ganges river-rajagriha as far as kaushambi, then via Ujjain to bharuch on the narmada Estuary. Vaishali, rajghat, Patliputra and champa are mentioned as important river ports.

10. (D)

Exp.

Biofortification: Biofortification is the process by which the nutritional quality of food crops is improved through agronomic practices. Biofortification differs from conventional fortification in that biofortification aims to increase nutrient levels in crops during plant growth rather than through manual means during processing of the crops.

11. (C)

Exp.

Statement (2) is wrong because both ICJ and ICC headquarters is in Hague.

12. (C)

13. (B)

Exp.

Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) is a safe motherhood intervention under the National Rural Health Mission (NHM). It is being implemented with the objective of reducing maternal and neonatal mortality by promoting institutional delivery among poor pregnant women. The scheme is under implementation in all states and Union Territories (UTs), with a special focus on Low Performing States (LPS). States are classified into Low Performing States and High Performing States on the basis of institutional delivery rate i.e. states having institutional delivery 25% or less were termed as Low Performing States (LPS)

and those which have institutional delivery rate more than 25% were classified as High Performing States (HPS). Accordingly, eight erstwhile EAG states namely Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Odisha and the states of Assam & Jammu & Kashmir were classified as Low Performing States. The remaining States were grouped into High Performing States. Janani Suraksha Yojana was launched in April 2005 by modifying the National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS).

14. (B)

Exp.

The core of the issue is Sri Lankan fishermen facing reduced catch due to Indian fishermen employing bottom-trawling techniques. The problem of arrests is common to both, and deep-sea fishing is being seen as a solution, by the Indian Government, to the problem of the bottom-trawling practices employed by Tamil Nadu fishermen.

Given the proximity of the two countries in the sea, the incidents of straying of fishermen and crossing the IMBL are common, especially in the Palk-Strait and Gulf of Mannar. These have often proved to be risky for them. The instances of arrest of fishermen from Tamil Nadu (while fishing in Sri Lankan waters), seizure of their boats and attack by the Sri Lankan Navy are of great concern to the Indian government.

Their demand for ban on bottom trawling or other destructive fishing methods, which cause harm to the marine environment and biodiversity in the Palk Bay, seems to be genuine. In order to ensure availability of natural resources to future generation while meeting the livelihood needs of the present, we have to make conscious and collective efforts.

15. (A)

16. (D)

Exp.

Why irradiate food?

Prevention of Foodborne Illness - to effectively eliminate organisms that cause foodborne illness.

Preservation - to destroy or inactivate organisms that cause spoilage and

decomposition and extend the shelf life of foods. Control of Insects - to destroy insects. Irradiation also decreases the need for other pest-control practices that may harm the fruit. Delay of Sprouting and Ripening - to inhibit sprouting (e.g., potatoes) and delay ripening of fruit to increase longevity.

Sterilization - irradiation can be used to sterilize foods, which can then be stored for years without refrigeration. Foods that are sterilized by irradiation are exposed to substantially higher levels of treatment than those approved for general use. (Ex: Astronauts eat meat that has been sterilised by irradiation to avoid getting food borne illnesses when they fly in space.)

17. (B)

Exp.

Food fortification or enrichment is the process of adding micronutrients (essential trace elements and vitamins) to food. It may be a purely commercial choice to provide extra nutrients in a food, while other times it is a public health policy which aims to reduce the number of people with dietary deficiencies within a population.

18. (A)

Exp.

Lapis Lazuli Corridor is created towards transit and trade cooperation among Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey intended to reduce barriers facing transit trade and develop a Custom Procedure Integration in the region. Hence, only 1 and 2 are correct.

19. (B)

20. (B)

Exp.

The primary responsibility for the development of urban areas lies with the state governments and the municipal corporations, municipalities and nagar panchayats, commonly known as urban local bodies (ULBs). These levels of government face major and inextricably linked problems like poor governance capacities, large infrastructure deficits and inadequate finances.

While property tax is the most important constituent of own revenues, there are problems of low coverage, low rates, low

collection efficiency, and lack of indexation of property values, making it a non-buoyant source of revenue. The study on municipal finances conducted by the FFC indicated that per capita revenue from property taxes was \$ 1677 at most, with a low of just \$ 42

21. (B)

Exp.

With the higher devolution of taxes to the states and grants to the ULBs, the overall public funds available for urban rejuvenation have increased. The Government has launched several new initiatives to rejuvenate urban areas. Some of the key schemes are - Smart Cities Mission, AMRUT, Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), HRIDAY, Digital India, Skill development, Housing for All, Metro transport etc.

Smart Cities Mission (SCM) is a holistic city rejuvenation programme for 100 cities in India. The strategic components of area-based development in the SCM are city improvement (retrofitting), city renewal (redevelopment) and city extension (greenfield development) plus a pan-city initiative in which smart solutions are applied covering larger parts of the city.

AMRUT was launched to improve basic urban infrastructure in 500 cities/ towns which would be known as Mission cities/ towns. The components which are to be covered under the Mission are water supply, sewerage, septage, storm water drains, urban transport, in particular, with the focus on facilities for non-motorised transport and development of green space and parks with special provision for children-friendly components in 500 cities & towns.

22. (A)

Exp.

The primary responsibility for the development of urban areas lies with the state governments and the municipal corporations, municipalities and nagar panchayats, commonly known as urban local bodies (ULBs). These levels of government face major and inextricably linked problems: poor governance capacities, large infrastructure deficits and inadequate finances.

ULBs face a governance challenge. Cities do not have a single city government or a local self-government, leading to functional overlap. There is a significant fragmentation of responsibilities and service delivery across a gamut of institutions: the municipality, state departments and parastatal agencies or civic agencies reporting directly to the state government.

23. (B)

Exp.

The programme(NSAP) introduced a National Policy for Social Assistance for the poor and aims at ensuring minimum national standard for social assistance in addition to the benefits that states are currently providing or might provide in future. Initially started with three schemes National Old Age Pension Schemes (NOAPS), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS), it has now expanded to five schemes namely - Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGBNOAPS), Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS), Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDS), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and Annapurna Scheme. Annapurna Scheme was introduced in year 2000 for providing 10kg of free food grains to those not covered under NOAPS, while the National Maternity Benefit Scheme was transferred to Ministry of Health in 2001-02, which eventually became part of Janani Suraksha Yojana.

24. (B)

Exp.

Ministry of Water Resources is the nodal agency. So, statement 1 is wrong.

25. (D)

Exp.

All the above statements are correct. When the sunlight passes through the atmosphere, the fine particles in air scatter the blue color in shorter wavelengths more strongly than red. The scattered lights enter our eyes and it looks blue to our eyes.

Red light can be seen in the same colour at a distance.

26. (B)

Exp.

Rods and cone cells have receptor which helps in visibility of colors.

27. (B)

Exp.

Yudh Abhyas' is a joint drill between India-US.

28. (C)

Exp.

The National Water Resources Council (NWRC) was set up by the Government of India in 1983. The Prime Minister is the Chairman and Union Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation is the Vice-Chairman of the Council.

The Union Minister of State for Water Resources, concerned Union Ministers/ Ministers of State, and Chief Ministers of all States & Lieutenant Governors/ Administrators of the Union

29. (D)

Exp.

It is a hands on international environmental science and education programme that brings students, teachers and scientists together to study the global environment.

MoEFCC and US Government signed an agreement in 2000 to implement the Globe programme in India. Indian Environmental Society is an implementing agency for Globe in India.

The goals of Globe are to enhance the environmental awareness of individuals throughout the world, to contribute to scientific understanding of the Earth and to help all students reach higher levels of achievement in science and mathematics.

30. (D)

Exp.

It is a wholly government-owned corporation that engages in the production of bank notes, coins, non-judicial stamps, postage stamps, and other government related documents for India. It is estimated that the demand for bank note papers is around 24,000 metric tonnes annually. However, less than 50% of this demand is met from Indian mills. Rest is imported.

To reduce imports, SPMCIL and RBI have decided to enhance currency note facility and install additional ones to check counterfeiting of currency.

31. (A)

Exp.

This was done with a view to maintain price stability, while keeping in mind the objective of growth, transparency and credibility of monetary authority of the country. Out of the six members of MPC, three members will be from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), including the Governor, RBI, who will be the ex-officio Chairperson, the Deputy Governor, RBI and one officer of RBI. The other three members of MPC will be appointed by the Central Government, on the recommendations of a Search-cum-Selection Committee.

32. (C)

Exp.

The Real Estate Act makes it mandatory for all commercial and residential real estate projects where the land is over 500 square metres, or eight apartments, to register with the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) for launching a project, in order to provide greater transparency in project-marketing and execution. Under the Bill, instead of a regular forum of consumers, the purchasers of real estate units from a developer would have a specialised forum called the "Real Estate Regulatory Authority" which will be set up within one year from the date of coming into force of the Act. Thus the Act is aimed at regulation and promotion of the real estate sector as well as protecting the interest of consumers.

33. (C)

Exp.

It was established by the Government of India under the Ministry of Environment and Forests under the Wildlife Act. It also has the mandate to establish a centralized wildlife crime data bank; coordinate actions by various agencies in connection with the enforcement of the provisions of the Wildlife Act.

34. (D)

Exp.

First Lok Sabha met in 1952 Under GV Mavalankar. So, A is wrong.

The Indian Independence Act 1947 merely converted India into a British dominion. It ceased to be dominion only after 26th January 1950. Till 1952, the Constituent assembly itself functioned as the law making body.

It was only after the first general elections that Lok Sabha was constituted and the assembly was relieved of its responsibility of acting as a dual body.

35. (C)

Exp.

Social audit means the process in which people collectively monitor and evaluate the planning and implementation of a programme or scheme.

- For e.g. a social audit was conducted by Society for Social Audit Accountability and Transparency (SSAAT) in two districts viz., Khammam and Chittoor of Andhra Pradesh during 2012-13.

- Encouraged by the outcome MHRD has issued detailed guidelines for conducting of social audit under Mid Day Meal Scheme.

- The states/UTs were advised to select the eminent institute available in their respective states for this purpose.

- Similarly, the Gram Sabha is entitled for the social audit of fund usage under MGNREGA as a mandatory provision.

- Therefore, social audit is comprehensive and involves stakeholders other than government.

36. (C)

Exp.

The 4th India-CLMV Business Conclave was recently held in Jaipur. Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam collectively, the third largest economy in ASEAN, followed by Indonesia and Thailand. Due to close proximity, India is looking to boost trade and investment with the CLMV region as part of the 'Act East' policy. The CLMV conclave is an annual feature which provides an opportunity for Indian business leaders to interact with government and business stakeholders representing the four countries. The conclave facilitates to create and provide a platform for the decision makers from CLMV countries to interact with a range of Indian business companies involved in trading,

manufacturing, processing, engineering, consultancy, construction etc. India's trade with the CLMV countries has grown from USD 1.5 billion to more than USD 10 billion in the last 10 years.

37. (D)

Exp.

Moscow Conference is the conference of six nations i.e. India, Russia, Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan and China that recently held in Moscow. The central theme of the conference was the stability and future of war-ravaged Afghanistan. Afghanistan made a strong pitch for the United States to be included as one of its most important partners.

38. (B)

Exp.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has initiated a social media campaign- #WeAreEqual - targeted at raising awareness about gender discrimination. The campaign takes a positive approach, engaging both men and women across the cross-section of the society and reflects their personal effort at creating a more equal society. The Ministry's Facebook and Twitter handles have received an overwhelming number of posts by social media users with the hashtag #WeAreEqual, reaching 2.6 crore persons since its inception in February 2017. The posts show everyday examples of how men and women of India are sharing more responsibilities and standing up for equal rights and opportunities.

39. (D)

Exp.

Is a state in Myanmar (Burma). Situated on the western coast. Myanmar has been the site of serious conflicts between Buddhist and Muslim communities, particularly in Rakhine State.

40. (C)

Exp.

The BRICS nations have adopted the 'New Delhi Declaration on Education' to ensure Inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all.

41. (A)

Exp.

With the aim to make the industrial sector energy efficient, India's Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) launched its

'Perform, Achieve and Trade' (PAT) scheme on July 4, 2016. The scheme has set energy efficiency targets for industries. Those who fail to achieve targets will have to pay penalty. PAT has been launched under the National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency, one of the eight missions under the umbrella National Action Plan on Climate Change, launched in June, 2008. PAT is a market based mechanism in which sectors are assigned efficiency targets. Industries which over-achieve will get incentives in the form of energy saving certificates. These certificates are tradeable and can be bought by other industries, which are unable to achieve their targets. These certificates will be tradeable at two energy exchanges: Indian Energy Exchange and Power Exchange India. The price of these certificates will be determined by the market. Under the penalty clause, if an industry fails to achieve its target, it will be penalised. The penalty will be calculated on the basis of what remains to be achieved to meet target.

42. (D)

Exp.

The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity is a 2010 supplementary agreement to the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity. It prohibits the collection of plant materials by a foreign country without an agreement with host countries on the sharing of benefits arising from such resources.

- The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 is applicable for the protection of some plant species.
- Collection of plant specimens is strictly prohibited from wildlife protected areas under the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972, and even from the other reserved forest areas.

43. (A)

Exp.

17 species have been recognised under the upliftment programme for critically endangered species and natural habitats which include: Snow Leopard, Bustard (along with Florican), Dolphin, Hangul,

- Nilgiri Tahr, Sea turtle, Dugong, Edible Nest Swiftlet, Asian Wild Buffalo, Nicobar Megapode, Manipur brow antlered Deer, Vulture, Malabar Civet, Indian Rhinoceros, Asian Lion, Swamp Deer, and Jerdon's Courser.
- 44. (B)**
Exp. The GEF serves as financial mechanism for the following conventions:
- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
 - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
 - Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
 - UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
 - Minamata Convention on Mercury
- The GEF, although not linked formally to the Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer (MP), supports implementation of the Protocol in countries with economies in transition.
- 45. (B)**
Exp. It is located in Karnataka.
- It is an island in the Cauvery River.
 - First edition Karnataka Hakki Habba (bird festival), at the Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary, near Srirangapatna, was held in 2015.
 - Third edition (2017) held at Daroji Karadi Dhama sanctuary, is the biggest sloth bear sanctuary in Asia.
- 46. (A)**
Exp. Azerbaijan is one of the birthplaces of the oil industry. Its history is linked to the fortunes of petroleum. It is poised to become an important oil and gas producer once again. Baku is the capital and largest city of Azerbaijan, as well as the largest city on the Caspian Sea and of the Caucasus region.
- 47. (B)**
Exp. The Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India Pipeline (TAPI), also known as Trans-Afghanistan Pipeline, is a natural gas pipeline being developed by the Asian Development Bank. Construction on the project started in Turkmenistan on 13 December 2015. The abbreviation TAPI comes from the first letters of those countries.
- 48. (C)**
Exp. Parsis migrated from Greater Iran to Gujarat and Sindh between the 8th and 10th century CE to avoid the persecution of Zoroastrians by invaders who invaded Iran.
- 49. (A)**
Exp. Their representations are found in the sub Himlayan region, e.g. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Indo Myanmar region.
- 50. (A)**
Exp.
- 3 and 4 are incorrect as Jaintia tribes belong to Meghalaya.
 - Lushai tribes belong to Mizoram
- 51. (D)**
Exp. 5 is incorrect as Japan is not a party to this dispute. Countries - China, Vietnam, Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and party to this dispute.
- 52. (B)**
- 53. (A)**
Exp. When number of Sun spots increases, insolation also increases.
- 54. (D)**
Exp. Gas Hydrates are ice-like crystalline compound consisting of natural gas (mainly methane) and water. Gas hydrates are formed under high pressure and low temperature condition. In particular on continental margins, methane oversaturated in upward migrating fluids reacts under high pressure and low temperature in shallow sediments to form gas hydrate.
- 55. (A)**
Exp. A dry, warm summer with off-shore trades. In summer when the sun is overhead at the tropic of cancer, the belt of influence of the westerlies is shifted a little poleward. Rain bearing winds are not therefore not likely to reach the mediterranean lands. The prevailing Trade winds are off shore and there is practically no rain. A Concentration of rainfall in winter with onshore westerlies: The mediterranean lands receive most of their precipitation in winter. In northern

hemisphere, the prevailing onshore westerlies bring much cyclonic rain from Atlantic to the countries bordering the Mediterranean sea. In almost all other climatic types, maximum rain comes in summer. The rain comes in heavy showers and only on a few days with bright sunny periods between them. This is another characteristic feature of the Mediterranean climate. The steep hills of the eastern Adriatic are the rainiest parts of Europe. Bright, sunny weather with hot, dry summers and wet, mild winters: Mediterranean regions have a very favourable climate. The climatic features are transitional between those of the trade winds hot desert in the south and the cool temperate maritime climate in the north. Summers are warm and bright and winters are so mild and cool. The sky is almost cloudless and the sunshine is always abundant. The prominence of local winds around the Mediterranean sea: The topography of the region with the high Alps in the north, the Sahara desert in the south, continental interiors in the east and the open Atlantic on the west give rise to great difference in temperature, pressure and precipitation. The passing cyclones from the Atlantic, the anticyclones from the north and the cold air masses are often interrupted by relief features, resulting in the birth of local winds around the Mediterranean.

56. (D)

Exp.

Member countries can't claim on IMF. SDRs instead represent a claim to currency held by IMF member countries for which they may be exchanged.

57. (D)

Exp.

GDP is essentially about where the production takes place whereas GNP is about who produces.

If it is an open economy then GNP may or may not be greater than GDP. If it is a closed economy then GDP will always be equal to GNP. GDP is a better metric of measure than GNP.

58. (C)

Exp.

If inflation is high in an economy, then low income groups are particularly hurt.

People on a fixed income will be worse off in real terms due to higher prices and equal income as before. Inflation discourages export as domestic sales are attractive and BOP problems can be caused. Inflation can drag down growth as investment climate turns bad due to instability and uncertainty and also interest rates are raised and cost of credit increased. Inflation may discourage saving and thus hit investment.

59. (D)

60. (B)

Exp.

Recently, the government increased the ceiling of market stabilization scheme (MSS) bonds to Rs. 6 lakh crore, from the earlier Rs. 30,000 crore. MSS is a mechanism to give more powers to RBI to suck out the over liquidity from the market. It was first used in February 2004 when the country was flushed with dollar inflows, which needed to be converted into the rupee. Raised money goes to separate Market Stabilization Scheme Account (MSSA), not for government expenditure. MSS bonds bear an interest rate that can boost banks' income. MSS bonds can also be used to calculate banks' mandatory bond holding. MSS bonds do not increase Government's fiscal deficit.

61. (B)

Exp.

The term is used to mean two different things. In foreign exchange market, it is a situation when domestic currency loses its value in front of a foreign currency if it is market driven. It means depreciation can only take place if the economy follows the floating exchange rate system not fixed rate system, hence statement 3 is wrong.

Depreciation of currency is also known as Capital Consumption. A situation when exchange rate of currency is cut down by its government against any foreign currency is called as Devaluation.

62. (A)

Exp.

Only remittances will add to foreign exchange reserves as NRIs will send the money in dollars or other foreign currencies. Huge imports will drain our foreign currencies instead. Cheap money

policy will increase the supply of rupee in comparison to dollars thus causing depreciation and boosting the exports. High inflation will rather attract cheap imports causing the foreign exchange to decline. Expanding fiscal policy may support export growth.

63. (D)

Exp.

As it shows proportion of people in each income level, hence one can easily calculate the percentage of people living below a particular income level. Rich countries have wide variance income distribution among its citizens as compared to poor countries, hence they have higher gini coefficient. If redistribution of wealth and opportunities had taken place, everyone would have almost similar income levels.

64. (C)

Exp.

It was established in the year 1988 and given statutory powers on 30 January 1992 through the SEBI Act, 1992.

65. (A)

Exp.

These industries can be located anywhere in the country. Transport facilities need to be adequate so as to support its growth.

66. (B)

Exp.

Phillips Curve describes- the inverse relationship between rate of inflation and rate of unemployment. Some level of inflation could be considered desirable in order to minimize unemployment.

67. (C)

Exp.

NEP builds on the achievements of the earlier omnibus energy policy the Integrated Energy Policy (IEP), and sets the new agenda consistent with the redefined role of emerging developments in the energy world. Clearing a misconception about the aligning of domestic coal prices with the international prices, Shri Goyal informed that the proposed policy does not call for any such alignment. The four key objectives of the new energy policy are access at affordable prices, improved energy security and independence, greater sustainability and economic

growth. The new policy differs from the previous policy while including the issue related to sharp decline of crude oil prices, change in solar energy technology, heightened concern of climate change issues, ambitious target of Renewable energy and rural electrification agenda adopted by the Government.

68. (D)

Exp.

e-Kuber is the Core Banking Solution of Reserve Bank of India. E-Kuber provides the provision of a single current account for each bank across the country, with decentralised access to this account from anywhere-anytime using portal based services in a safe manner. The e-kuber system can be accessed either through INFINET or Internet. The INFINET is a Closed User Group Network for the exclusive use of member banks and financial institutions and is the communication backbone for the National Payments System, which caters mainly to inter-bank applications like Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS), Delivery Vs Payment, Government Transactions, Automatic Clearing House, etc.

69. (C)

Exp.

Indicative planning was adopted in India after post 1991 era. Earlier our planning was imperative and directive. But after the Manmohan-Narsingh Rao reforms it became indicative. In this planning, private sector is given a substantial role. In this kind of planning, government becomes facilitator than regulator. It indicates policy direction to private sector

70. (B)

Exp.

DFHI was set up in March 1988 by Reserve Bank of India jointly with public sector banks and all India Financial Institutions to develop the money market and to provide liquidity to money market instruments as a sequel to Vaghul Working Group recommendations. With the introduction of new money market instruments such as Certificates of Deposits and Commercial Paper, DFHI began dealing in these instruments as well. With effect from 1992-93, DFHI was authorized to deal in dated Government Securities.

71. (C)

72. (D)

Exp.

Misallocation has repercussions for targeting of resources to the poor. A natural consequence of misallocation is what has been described in the literature as "exclusion error"- genuine poor find themselves unable to access programme benefits.

73. (D)

Exp.

The inflation in India is repeatedly being driven by narrow group of food items. Pulses continued to be the major contributor of food inflation. The prices of pulses, in particular tur and urad, remained persistently high from mid 2015 to mid 2016 due to shortfall in domestic and global supply. Since July 2016, pulses prices except gram dal prices have been declining owing to near normal monsoon, increase in the Rabi pulses sowing and buffer build up by the Government. Sugar prices also firmed up on account of lower production and hardening of price in the international market.

74. (B)

Exp.

Carbonaceous rocks are organically formed by vegetative matter only no animal remains and they produce coal only. Faulting occurs because of cracks and break in the surface, bending occurs during folding.

75. (D)

Exp.

all the statements are correct.

76. (D)

Exp.

Also known as Endi or Errandi, Eri is a multivoltine silk spun from open-ended cocoons, unlike other varieties of silk. Eri silk is the product of the domesticated silkworm, *Philosamia ricini* that feeds mainly on castor leaves. The woolly white silk is often referred to as the fabric of peace when it is processed without the killing of the silk worm, this process results in a silk called Ahimsa silk.

77. (B)

78. (A)

Exp.

In wake of demonetization government has taken a number steps to facilitate and incentivize the move to digital economy. This includes

BHIM App for smart p[h]ones based on new UPI which has created interoperability of digital transaction.

The launch of Aadhar Merchant pay aims at 350 million who do not have phones. This enables any one with just an Aadhar no. and a bank account to make merchant payment using his biometric identification. However it is merged with BHIM App.

79. (B)

Exp.

Those areas are considered to be best fishing ground where abundant fish food are available & shallow sea surface also. These areas are where cold current and warm current meet. Cold currents bring abundant fish food from cold polar areas and support large fish population e.g. Grand Bank on North-East and south-West coast of USA and Canada respe lively. Dogger Bank and Great fish Bank in North Sea.

80. (C)

Exp.

Photochemical smog was first described in 1950. It's London Smog, New York Smog were a type of photochemical smog. It is chemical reaction of sunlight NO₂ and volatile organic compound in atmosphere which leaves airborne particles and ground level ozone.

81. (D)

Exp.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) have formally inscribed Yoga in its representative list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Decision in this regard was taken by the Inter-governmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage meeting held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The declaration describes Yoga, an ancient Indian practice as a Human Treasure. It was unanimously supported by all the 24 members of inter-governmental Committee. Yoga has

become the 13th intangible cultural heritage that has been listed from India so far with UNESCO.

The UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list is made up of those intangible heritage elements that help demonstrate diversity of cultural heritage and raise awareness about its importance. It was established in 2008 after Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, 2003 came into effect. It compiles two lists viz. Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding. Now, the list includes 814 cultural sites, 203 natural and 35 with both cultural and natural qualities.

82. (C)

Exp.

Northwest Africa 7635 is a meteorite discovered in Algeria, Africa in 2012. It has given insight into volcanic activity on Mars. The largest Volcano in the solar system, Olympus Mons, is found on Mars. But by analyzing the chemical composition NA7635, scientists learnt that Mars had a single volcano that continuously erupted for 2 billion years. Martian volcanoes can grow to such enormous proportions because unlike Earth, Mars doesn't have plate tectonics that constantly shuffle the surface. So the magma for the volcano in Mars gets hot magma from its interiors for billions of years continuously.

83. (C)

Exp.

India is taking its first steps to evolve a policy on synthetic biology, an emerging science through which new life forms can potentially be made in labs and existing life forms, such as bacteria and other microbes, tweaked to produce specific proteins.

Government will convene group of experts on biodiversity and biotechnology, to assess synthetic biology work pursued in Indian labs, potential benefits and risks, and the implications of the trans-boundary movement of such life forms.

Synthetic biology in microbial systems holds promise for production of drugs, vaccines, fuel components and other

chemicals. A popular example is the production of artemisinin, powerful anti-malarial drug, in yeast, at a commercial level. Microorganisms have also been constructed to act as sensors that can detect a toxin in vitro or in vivo (inside a living organism). India, so far, has no policy on synthetic biology.

84. (C)

Exp.

Recently, the Ministry of Science and Technology has come up with a comprehensive Braille atlas for nearly 50 lakh visually challenged people in the country, especially students. The atlas has 20 maps on different themes like physical, socio-economic, river system, crops pattern, natural vegetation, cultural, metropolitan areas, roads and railways, and crops.

Developed in Hindi and English by the National Atlas and Thematic Mapping Organization (NATMO), Kolkata, an institute under the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Braille atlas has been made using indigenously developed silk-screen painting technology. The maps are well embossed with simple lines and point symbols to facilitate its users realize the location. The area coverage is easily distinguishable in terms of shapes and textures.

85. (C)

Exp.

Arunachal Pradesh became the first state in the northeast to implement e-Cabinet solution for the state cabinet members. It is a powerful governance tool that will be used to streamline its decision-making process. Using this system, state cabinet members can access the cabinet notes before the meeting.

The e-Cabinet system is being implemented by the state department of Information Technology and Communication. Entire business of the Cabinet can be conducted using the e-Cabinet solution. It will help ministers prepare for cabinet meetings, conduct them and review minutes, entirely without paper. The e-Cabinet solution will provide remote access to the ministers to view Cabinet notes and at the same time it will be circulated in advance for proper analysis and feedback.

The system has a multi-user secure solution that keeps relevant information organized and updated in real time, giving a clear overview of each item under discussion to ministers. Its adaptation will reduce average length of the cabinet meetings present from 4-5 hours to just 30-90 minutes and eliminate the need of printing and delivering thousands of pages of documents

86. (A)

Exp.

Cold Start is a military doctrine developed by the Indian Armed Forces to put to use in case of a war with Pakistan. The main objective of the Cold Start Doctrine is to launch a retaliatory conventional strike against Pakistan inflicting significant harm on the Pakistan Army before any international community could intercede, but not in way Pakistan would be provoked to make a nuclear attack.

Cold Start Doctrine deviated from India's defence strategy since 1947 - "a non-aggressive, non-provocative defense policy," - and will involve limited, rapid armored thrusts, with infantry and necessary air support. Cold Start Doctrine was developed as the limitations of the earlier doctrine - Sundarji Doctrine- was exposed after the attack on the Indian Parliament. According to the Cold Start Doctrine, battle Groups will be well forward from existing garrisons. India's elite strike forces will no longer sit idle waiting for the opportune moment, giving Pakistan the luxury of time.

87. (C)

Exp.

The Karnataka High Court recently upheld the concept of and the right to be forgotten. The 'right to be forgotten' has been in practice in Argentina and the European Union since 2006. It allows for the lawful removal of personal information of an individual if such request is made. The right is seen as significant in these jurisdictions as it can "determine the development of their life in an autonomous way, without being perpetually or periodically stigmatized as a consequence of a specific action performed in the past". The right to be forgotten is distinct from the right to

privacy because the right to privacy constitutes information that is not publicly known, whereas the right to be forgotten involves removing information that was publicly known at a certain time and not allowing third parties to access the information. In the Indian context, the right to be forgotten poses a legal dilemma. While the significance of such a right exists, India has no legal provision, neither in the Information Technology (IT) Act 2000 (amended in 2008) or the IT Rules, 2011. And while the judicial construction of such a right should ideally be the balance between the right to privacy and the right to information and free speech, there is no privacy law at present either. The Delhi High Court in another case had asked recently whether the right to privacy included the right to delink from the Internet the irrelevant information-from the Centre and Google.

88. (B)

Exp.

The index is published by US Chamber of Commerce. The index evaluates the intellectual property (IP) environment and grades countries on patents, trademarks, copyright, trade secrets, enforcement, and international treaties. This year the index evaluates 45 countries and India with a score of 8.75 out of 35 occupies 43rd place followed by Pakistan (44th) and Venezuela (45th). The US, UK, Germany, Japan and Sweden were ranked the top five countries in the IP Index.

89. (C)

Exp.

Forest and Environment Department of the Odisha Government recently carried a census of Irrawaddy Dolphin. According to new census of 2016 as many as 181 Irrawaddy dolphins have been sighted in the state. This marks a significant drop from 2015 survey which had recorded 450 dolphins. The Chilika Lake, the largest brackish water lagoon of the country recorded a marginal drop in the population of Irrawaddy dolphins from 144 in 2015 to 134 in 2016. About 55 dolphins were sighted this year in Bhitarkanika National Park, compared to 58 spotted in 2015. In the Bhadrak Wildlife Sanctuary jurisdiction, only five Irrawaddy dolphins were sighted.

Irrawaddy Dolphin is not a true river dolphin, but an oceanic dolphin that lives in brackish water near coasts, river mouths and in estuaries in South and Southeast Asia. It is slaty blue to slaty gray throughout, with the under parts slightly paler. It is identified by a bulging forehead, a short beak. It has established subpopulations in freshwater rivers, including the Ganges and the Mekong, as well as the Irrawaddy River from which it takes its name. Its habitat range extends from the Bay of Bengal to New Guinea and the Philippines. They do not appear to venture off shore. IUNC has classified it as vulnerable in Red Data list.

90. (A)

Exp.

A nuclear-powered icebreaker is a nuclear-powered ship purpose-built for use in waters covered with ice. The only country constructing nuclear-powered icebreakers is Russia. Nuclear-powered icebreakers have been constructed by the USSR and later Russia primarily to aid shipping along the Northern Sea Route in the frozen Arctic waterways north of Siberia. Nuclear-powered icebreakers are much more powerful than their diesel-powered counterparts, and although nuclear propulsion is expensive to install and maintain, very heavy fuel demands and limitations on range can make diesel vessels less practical and economical overall for these ice-breaking duties.

91. (C)

Exp.

St- 1 and 3 are correct. As the economic activities, according to the arthashastra, it would appear that the state controlled almost all the economic activities. The states brought new land under cultivation and with the help of cultivators reap good benefits. Taxes collected from peasants and they also provided the irrigation. They control weights and measures and mining activities etc. They levy taxes on the various goods and also on the goods coming from outside.

The diplomatic policy of ashoka was ideologically driven as he sent the peace missions abroad to spread the message of love and peace. He tried to enlarge his political influence through propaganda.

St-2 is incorrect. The name of ashoka only found on the copies of Minor rock edicts-1. They are: 3 in Karnataka and 1 in M.P. all the other inscriptions mentions only DEVANAMPIYA PIYADASI. The inscriptions were composed in prakrit and written in brahmi script. But in the north-western part they were written in Aramaic language and kharoshthi script.

92. (D)

Exp.

All statement are correct. Pandya and chera benefitted immensely from the trade relations with the Rome.

93. (D)

Exp.

All are correct. Besides this the narrative texts also mentions about the pastoral living style of the period. Warrior class and economy. Traces of megalithic life also appear in the earlier texts. War booty was mentioned as the chief source of income. Beside these, two epics of Silappadikaram and manimekalai are also very important.

94. (B)

Exp.

In 1926, AITUC was divided into two groups that is the 'reforming' who wanted to join International Federation of Trade Union situated at Amsterdam and 'the revolutionary' who wanted to join Russian block of Red Labor union.

Statement two is correct. Under the leadership of All India trade union federation

95. (C)

Exp.

Farazi movement emphasis on the Islamic pillars of the faith was founded by Haji Shariat-Allah. Its scene of action was East Bengal, and it aimed at the eradication of social innovations current among the Muslims of the region. Under the leadership of Haji's son, Dudu Mian, the movement became revolutionary from 1840 onwards. He gave the movement an organizational system from the village to the provincial level with a khalifa or authorized deputy at every level. The Farazi organized a paramilitary forces armed with clubs to fight the Hindu landlords and even the police. Dudu Mian's arrest in 1847 finally weakened the movement.

96. (C)**Exp.**

Article 20 grants protection against arbitrary and excessive punishment to an accused person wherein the three provisions are taken care of: No ex-post-facto law, no double jeopardy and no self-incrimination. Right to protection of life and liberty is provided in Article 21.

97. (B)**Exp.**

The Citizenship Act, 1955, lays down three ways of losing citizenship i.e. (a) Renunciation: is a voluntary act by which a person holding the Indian citizenship as well as that of another country may adjure one of them. If a person renounces his Indian citizenship, their minor children also lose their citizenship. (b) Termination: shall take place by operation of law as soon as a citizen of India voluntarily acquires the citizenship of another country. This provision, however, does not apply during a war in which India is engaged. (c) Deprivation: is a compulsory termination of Indian citizenship by the Central government if it is satisfied that the Indian citizenship had been acquired by a person by fraud, or the citizen has shown disloyalty to the Constitution of India, or the citizen has, within five years after registration or neutralization, been imprisoned in any country for two years, or the citizen has been ordinarily resident out of India for seven years continuously.

So statements 1 and 2 are incorrect and statement 3 is correct.

98. (C)**Exp.**

To vote in public election and duty to pay taxes are not fundamental duties. Statements 1 and 3 are in the list of fundamental duties.

99. (D)**Exp.**

As per Article 368, the procedure for the amendment of the Constitution is given. Accordingly, the bill can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member and does not require prior permission of the President. So statement 1 is incorrect.

If the bill seeks to amend the federal provision of the Constitution, it must also be ratified by the legislature of half of the states by a simple majority. Statement 2 is also incorrect.

The President must give assent to the bill. He can neither withhold his assent to the bill nor return the bill for reconsideration of the Parliament.

Statement 3 is incorrect.

100. (C)**Exp.**

A number of provisions in the Constitution can be amended by a simple majority of the two Houses of Parliament outside the scope of Article 368. These provisions include:

- Elections to Parliament and state legislature.
- Abolition or creation legislative council in states.
- Rules of procedure in Parliament.
- Conferment of more jurisdictions on the Supreme Court.

While provision of Representation of states in Parliament, can be amended by a special majority Parliament and consent of states.