



**VVR-IAS**  
INDIA'S Best Trainers for  
General Studies

# GS PRELIMS TEST SERIES 2017

## TEST-07 : ANSWER KEY (MODERN INDIA)

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

## MODERN INDIA (T-07)

1. (B)

*Exp.*

- The doctrine of subsidiary alliance was introduced by Lord Wellesley, British Governor-General of India from 1798 to 1805. The Nizam of Hyderabad was the first to enter into such an alliance in 1798. Tipu Sultan of Mysore refused to do so, but after the British victory in the Fourth Anglo-Mysore War, Mysore was forced to become a subsidiary state in 1799. The Nawab of Awadh was the next to accept the Subsidiary Alliance, in 1801.

2. (C)

*Exp.*

- Sri Narayana Guru preached the doctrine of 'One caste, One religion, One God.' Its worth note that one of his athiest disciples, Sahadaran Ayyapan, changed into 'no religion, no caste and no God for mankind.

3. (D)

*Exp.*

- On Gokhale's advice, Gandhiji spent a year travelling around British India, getting to know the land and its peoples.
- His first major public appearance was at the opening of the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) in February 1916. Among the invitees to this event were the princes and philanthropists whose donations had contributed to the founding of the BHU. Also present were important leaders of the Congress, such as Annie Besant. Compared to these dignitaries, Gandhiji was relatively unknown. He had been invited on account of his work in South Africa, rather than his status within India. When his turn came to speak, Gandhiji charged the Indian elite with a lack of concern for the labouring poor.

4. (D)

5. (C)

6. (A)

*Exp.*

- Office of secretary of state was abolished by Indian independence act of 1947 and its place was taken by Secretary for commonwealth affairs.

7. (C)

*Exp.*

- The Councils were given right to discuss

and pass resolutions on the Budget. But such resolutions were subjected to the veto power of governor general.

8. (D)

*Exp.*

- Statement 1 is wrong. Dutt Bradley thesis is a communist thesis which depicted the need to co-operate with Congress party. It is not related with the act. Provisions of Nehru report and three round table conferences were taken into account while formulating the act. White paper issued in March 1933 at third round table conference gave details about working basis of new constitution of India.

9. (C)

*Exp.*

- 2 is wrong as they believed that the movement should be limited to middle class intelligent & masses were not yet ready for participation in the movement.

10. (D)

*Exp.*

- IT WAS LORD DUFFERIN WHO DESCRIBED CONGRESS AS MICROSCOPIC MINORITY. after the swadeshi movement and boycott movement the policy of British changed with regard to the way of dealing with discontent. According to John Morley, the new secretary of state for India. It was to be repression-conciliation-suppression. This was known as the carrot and stick policy. The extremists to be repressed to frighten the moderates. The moderates then to be placated through concessions if they disassociated themselves from extremists. Once the trap succeeded then the extremists to be suppressed and moderates could then be ignored.

11. (A)

*Exp.*

- The company servants were allowed to carry on their private trade but they were not allowed to use the privileges of Farman.
- The battle of Wandiwash was fought between ENGLAND AND FRANCE in 1760. This was the final war of the Anglo Carnatic war.

12. (D)

*Exp.*

- The Poona Sarvajanik Sabha was founded

in 1867. Its objective was of forming a conduit between Indians and the British government. It demanded representation of Indians in Parliament, legislative council, recruitment of Indians in civil services and reforms to promote local self government.

**13. (D)**

**Expl.**

- In this system, Nawab depended for his internal and external system on the British. Same time Diwani rights (right to collect revenue) and Nizamat (police and judicial powers) were under the control of British government. In dual system of government, Nawab had responsibility of administration but not the power to discharge it.

**14. (C)**

**15. (A)**

**Exp.**

- Growing Anglo Russian rivalry in Europe caused British fear that Russia might attack from Afghanistan hence in order to safeguard North-west, British attacked Sindh. Statement 3 is not correct.

**16. (D)**

**Exp.**

- Statement 1 is correct. Under permanent settlement land revenue was fixed. So in case of extra production, profits were appropriated to Zamindars instead of Company. British tried to overcome this drawback by introducing Ryotwari settlement in which cultivator was recognized as the owner of land. Statement three is correct.

**17. (B)**

- Henry Vivian Derozio was the prominent leader of Young Bengal Movement. Derozians attacked old customs and traditions. But because of their ultra radical views the movement did not hold ground in conservative Indian society.

**18. (D)**

**19. (B)**

**Exp.**

- Member of an Imperial legislative council could neither discuss budget nor he was allowed ask questions. Indian councils act was outcome of urgency to give space to administrative reforms post 1857. But the act did not give any special privileges to Indians.

**20. (C)**

**Exp.**

- Educated Indians actively supported British

during revolt of 1857 but the reason that some of the educated Indians started analyzing imperialistic character of British administration caused British hostility towards educated Indians.

**21. (D)**

**22. (B)**

**Exp.**

- Woods dispatch advocated for European education in India. It recommended medium of vernacular at primary level. Medium of Anglo vernacular at high school level and English medium at higher level.

**23. (A)**

**Exp.**

- Moderates of Indian national congress reiterated the famous slogan 'No taxation without representation'. Though according to Indian council's act of 1892 some members were allowed to be elected indirectly but official's majority remained. Hence INC opposed the act. Right to vote for women was not included in earlier demands of Congress
- Statement two is wrong.

**24. (D)**

**Exp.**

- After second Anglo Sikh War 1848-49 the whole of Punjab was annexed to company's territory. Sindh was annexed in 1843. Jhansi was annexed in 1853.

**25. (B)**

**Exp.**

- Chauth was the 25% of tax paid by those states which did not want Marathas to enter their realm. Chauth served as protection money against Maratha invasion.

**26. (D)**

**27. (D)**

**Exp.**

- Amrita Bazar Patrika was launched in Bengali.
- W.C. Banerjee was the president at the 1st session of the Indian National Congress.

**28. (A)**

**Exp.**

#### Features of the 1853 Act

1. It separated, for the first time, the legislative and executive functions of the Governor-general's council. It provided for addition of six new members called legislative councillors to the council. In other words, it established a separate Governor- General's legislative council

which came to be known as the Indian (Central) Legislative Council. This legislative wing of the council functioned as a mini-Parliament, adopting the same procedures as the British Parliament. Thus, legislation, for the first time, was treated as a special function of the government, requiring special machinery and special process.

2. It introduced an open competition system of selection and recruitment of civil servants. The covenanted civil service<sup>3</sup> was thus thrown open to the Indians also. Accordingly, the Macaulay Committee (the Committee on the Indian Civil Service) was appointed in 1854.
3. It extended the Company's rule and allowed it to retain the possession of Indian territories on trust for the British Crown. But, it did not specify any particular period, unlike the previous Charters. This was a clear indication that the Company's rule could be terminated at any time the Parliament liked.

**29. (C)**

*Exp.*

- The Lex Loci act was proposed in 1845 and passed in 1850. It provided right to inherit ancestral property to Hindu converts to Christianity. The conversion issue was becoming important for Christian Missionaries as loss of inheritance rights was impeding the success of conversion because then that would mean few Hindus will going to convert, if they lost their property as a result.
- However, a similar law was passed by Lord Bentinck in 1832, however, it applied to Bengal only.

**30. (A)**

*Exp.*

- The English army showed no military superiority in the Battle, it was desertion in the Nawab's camp that gave Clive the victory.
- As a consequence of the victory of battle of Plassey, even the British merchants and officials were no longer asked to pay any taxes on their private trade

**31. (B)**

*Exp.*

- The correct chronological order is: Boycott resolution was passed against the partition of Bengal (August 1905) - the partition of

Bengal came into effect (October 1905) - Dadabhai Naoroji announced that the goal of INC was Swaraj (December 1906) - Surat Split (December 1907).

**32. (C)**

*Exp.*

- The Moderate leaders believed that the continuation of India's political connection with Britain was in the interests of India at that stage of history. They, therefore, planned not to expel the British but to transform the British rule to approximate to national rule. Hence, Statement 1 is correct.
- Extremists believed in atashakti or self reliance as a weapon against British domination. Hence, 2nd Statement is incorrect.
- The Moderate nationalists worked to educate British public opinion. For this purpose, they carried on active propaganda in Britain.

**33. (D)**

*Exp.*

- Dual system of government was set up by Clive. During Hastings tenure, the system was abolished. Regulating act of 1773 provided for setting up of a Supreme court at Calcutta to try all British Subjects. Hastings tried many reforms but he gave no place to the sons of the soils in the position of trust and responsibilities.

**34. (C)**

*Exp.*

- Imperial Legislative council was constituted by Indian Councils Act 1861. So option 1 is incorrect
- Initially Indian members are few in number-thirty years from 1862 to 1892 only 45 Indians were nominated to it. Most of them being wealthy, landed and with loyalist interests. Only handful of political figures and independent intellectuals were there. So option 2 is incorrect.
- Moderate leaders demanded a majority of Elected Indians in Imperial Legislative council. So option 3 is correct.

**35. (B)**

*Exp.*

- The Sepoys refused to fight because crossing the sea was meant loss of caste. Hence Statement 1 is correct.
- Sepoys were predominantly drawn from the upper caste hindus esp. North Western

Provinces & Oudh. Hence, 2nd Statement is incorrect.

- Even though sepoys considered prestigious to be in the service of the company, they were not happy with the emoluments. Hence, 3rd Statement is incorrect.

**36. (C)**

**37. (A)**

*Exp.*

- The act was directed only towards the Vernacular (non-english) newspapers of India. The act was repealed by Lord Ripon.

**38. (C)**

*Exp.*

- Before 1828 Persian was official language in courts. But William Bentinck introduced some changes. Now the suitor has option to use Persian or vernacular language. Also, the language of Supreme court became English. So option 1 is correct
- Law commission was set up under lord Macaulay for codification of Indian Laws in 1835. So option 2 is correct.
- Lord Cornwallis separated revenue and justice administration. In the Cornwallis code there was separation of revenue and justice administration.
- So option 3 is wrong.

**39. (D)**

**40. (C)**

**41. (D)**

**42. (B)**

*Exp.*

- Factory act was introduced by Rippon. The conservation of ancient monuments act of 1904 was passed by Lord Curzon.

**43. (B)**

**44. (C)**

**45. (D)**

**46. (C)**

**47. (C)**

**48. (A)**

**49. (A)**

**50. (D)**

**51. (D)**

*Exp.*

- In the articles new lamp for old he criticized the methods of congress.
- The Maratha was in English and kesari was in Marathi.

**52. (A)**

- Women actively participated in the movement. They joined processions and picketing.

**53. (B)**

- The lucknow pact-a mutual agreement between congress and the league was signed where congress had to agree to separate electorate for Muslims in return for league agreeing to the joint constitutional demands.

**54. (B)**

- St-1 is wrong as the India house in London was established by Shyamaji Krishna verma. He also started a journal "The sociologist".
- Bandematram was started by Madam bhikajicama in paris. She was a parsi revolutionary.

**55. (C)**

**56. (C)**

**57. (A)**

*Exp.*

- Commonweal and New India was started by Annie Besant.

**58. (B)**

*Exp.*

- Hindustan republican association was founded by pandirama Prasad bismil and Hindustan socialist republican association was founded by Chandra shekharazad.

**59. (A)**

**60. (C)**

**61. (A)**

*Exp.*

- Explanation: The Lahore session of congress was very historic for Indian freedom struggle as it declared "purna swaraj" in 1929, as well as decided not to participate 1st RTC and decided to null and void the Nehru Report.
- 1st RTC was held in London where INC did not participated but member of Hindu Mahasabha. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar participated in that.

**62. (B)**

**63. (C)**

**64. (B)**

*Exp.*

- B is incorrect as Banda Bahadur had raised the banner of revolt against bahadur shah. Not Bhadur sha zafar bhadur sha's time period is 1707-1712. Bahadur shah zafar's time period is 1837-1857.

**65. (C)**

*Exp.*

- 2 is wrong as French were the 1st European power.

**66. (A)**

*Exp.*

- 2 is wrong as the ryot & would not do

anything to improve the cultivation, as they didn't know what the next year's assessment would be.

- 3. is wrong as it had introduced instability in the company's revenue.

67. (D)

*Exp.*

- Proclamation of swadeshi movement was, made months later & a day of mourning was observed, on the day when the partition formally came into force.

68. (D)

69. (D)

70. (A)

*Exp.*

The major events in this context are as follows:

- In 1687-88, the first municipal corporation in India was set up at Madras.
- In 1726, the municipal corporations were set up in Bombay and Calcutta.
- Lord Mayo's Resolution of 1870 on financial decentralisation visualised the development of local self-government institutions.
- Lord Ripon's Resolution of 1882 has been hailed as the 'Magna Carta' of local self-government. He is called as the father of local-self government in India.
- The Royal Commission on decentralisation was appointed in 1907 and it submitted its report in 1909. Its chairman was Hobhouse.
- Under the dyarchical scheme introduced in Provinces by the Government of India Act of 1919, local self-government became a transferred subject under the charge of a responsible Indian minister.
- In 1924, the Cantonments Act was passed by the Central legislature.
- Under the provincial autonomy scheme introduced by the Government of India Act of 1935, local self-government was declared a provincial subject.

71. (B)

*Exp.*

- Recently the Union HRD Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar launched a dedicated web-portal 'ShaGun' for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan at New Delhi. 'ShaGun' aims to capture and showcase innovations and progress in Elementary Education sector of India by continuous monitoring of the flagship scheme - Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). The Union HRD Minister also unveiled the 'Toolkit for Master Trainers

in Preparing Teachers for Inclusive Education for Children with Special Needs', which has been prepared by World Bank in collaboration with Ministry of Human Resource Development.

- ShaGun will help monitor progress of implementation of SSA by assessing performance of States and UTs on key parameters and thereby serve as a platform for the central government for effective planning and delivery on the promise of providing quality education to all.
- ShaGun, which has been coined from the words 'Shala' meaning Schools and 'Gunvatta' meaning Quality, has been developed with a twin track approach. First, is the Repository with an engaging interface that focuses on positive stories and developments in the field of School Education. In this repository, best practices will be documented in the form of videos, testimonials, case studies, and images, which will display state-level innovations and success stories that are driving improvements in performance under SSA. This repository has a decentralized management structure that enables State governments to choose, upload and manage their own content. Secondly, it has an online monitoring module to measure state-level performance and progress against key educational indicators. It has been developed to collect and report data which will enable the government and administrators to track the efficiency with which SSA funds are being utilized and the results that this is delivering. SSA is a centrally sponsored scheme providing universal access to education to children in the age group of six to fourteen years of age.

72. (A)

*Exp.*

- India has slipped 3 places to 92nd rank on the global index of talent competitiveness that measures how countries grow, attract and retain talent, a list topped by Switzerland. India's ranking is worst among the five BRICS countries. While China was ranked at the 54th place, Russian Federation was placed at 56th, followed by South Africa at 67th and Brazil 81st. Switzerland topped the overall index, followed by Singapore and the United

Kingdom in second and third places respectively, in the list released by INSEAD Produced in partnership with The Adecco Group and the Human Capital Leadership Institute of Singapore (HCLI).

- Last year, India came in at 89th on the index. The report noted that the BRICS countries are not getting stronger and both China and India have slipped from their year-ago rankings. India stood on a relatively solid pool of global knowledge skills compared with other emerging markets, the country is not able to retain and attract talent. In terms of retaining and attracting talent, India was ranked at a lowly 104th and 114th, respectively. India has been able to create a stable pool of global knowledge skills, but it has suffered in the 'Retain' pillar (104th).
- Meanwhile, the index also released the first-ever global ranking of cities on the basis of their reputation and growing footprint in attracting, growing, and retaining global talent. Mumbai was the only Indian city that has made it to this coveted list, topped by Copenhagen. The top 10 global cities in terms of talent competitiveness include Zurich, Helsinki, San Francisco, Gothenburg, Madrid, Paris, Los Angeles, Eindhoven and Dublin. The 2017 report explores the effect of technological change on talent competitiveness and noted that while jobs at all levels continue to be replaced by machines, technology is also creating new opportunities.

**73. (D)****Exp.**

- Recently the Asian Waterbird Census (AWC) 2017, carried out at Najafgarh Lake by a team of volunteers accompanied by AWC Delhi State coordinator and ecologist T. K. Roy, has recorded a decline in the number and species of birds. The AWC started in 1987, and many birders were initiated into bird counting and monitoring through this project. The AWC forms part of the global International Waterbird Census that marked the completion of its 50th count in 2017.
- Asian Waterbird Census (AWC) was started in the year 1987. This event happens every January. This is largest water bird census in Asia is carried out in simultaneously in 27 countries once a year. Its main focus is to

monitor the status of waterbirds and the wetlands. AWC also aims to create public awareness on various issues concerning wetlands and waterbird conservation. Each year the census is carried out as a voluntary activity.

**74. (C)****Exp.**

- Recently, Minister of Railways Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu unveiled 'Mission 41k' during the Roundtable Discussion with External Stakeholders on Energy Initiatives of Indian Railways. This initiative aims to save Rs. 41,000 crore on energy consumption over the next 10 years. This target will be achieved by taking a slew of measures which include moving 90% of traffic to electric traction over diesel. Presently, this is at 50% of the total rail traffic. In this initiative, railways will electrify 24,000 km of rail tracks over the next five years by doubling the annual rate of electrification from 2,000 km to 4,000 km in the next two years.
- The railways will award contracts on engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) model for railway electrification projects, to achieve this target. It also plans to mechanize the execution through self-propelled wiring trains among other initiatives. Under Mission 41k, change in the carrier's energy mix by using more green energy through 1,000 megawatt (MW) solar and 200 MW wind plants, installation of LED lights and bulbs across all railway stations, trains and offices are also included. Mission 41k comes as railways hopes a six-fold increase in its passenger and freight traffic by 2030.

**75. (B)****Exp.**

- The Indian Navy's Annual Theatre Readiness Operational Exercise (TROPEX) has begun off the Western Seaboard. The month long exercise will have ships and aircraft of both the Western and Eastern Naval Commands, as also assets from the Indian Air Force, Indian Army and the Indian Coast Guard exercising together. The last edition of the exercise was conducted in January 2015.
- TROPEX 17 assumes special significance in the backdrop of the current security scenario. The exercise is aimed at testing combat readiness of the combined fleets of

the Indian Navy, and the assets of the Indian Air Force, Indian Army and the Indian Coast Guard. It will also strengthen interoperability and joint operations in a complex environment.

**76. (B)**

**Exp.**

- India has been ranked 60th among 79 developing economies, below neighboring China and Pakistan, in the Inclusive Development Index, according to a World Economic Forum report. The Inclusive Development Index (IDI) is based on 12 performance indicators. In order to provide a more complete measure of economic development than GDP growth alone, the index has three pillars- Growth and Development, Inclusion and Intergenerational Equity, and Sustainability.
- Lithuania tops the list of 79 developing economies that also features Azerbaijan and Hungary at second and third positions, respectively. Among the advanced economies, Norway is at the top, followed by Luxembourg (2nd), Switzerland (3th), Iceland (4th) and Denmark (5th).
- India, with a score of only 3.38, ranks 60th among the 79 developing economies on the IDI, despite the fact that its growth in GDP per capita is among the top 10 and labour productivity growth has been strong. IDI scores are based on a scale of 1-7. Advanced and developing economy IDI scores are not strictly comparable due to different definitions of poverty.

**77. (B)**

**Exp.**

- Saksham (Sanrakshan Kshamta Mahotsav) - 2017 is aimed to create awareness amongst masses towards judicious utilization and conservation of petroleum products along with use of energy efficient appliances and switching to cleaner fuels. The programme is being organized by PCRA (Petroleum Conservation Research Association) and other Oil & Gas PSUs under the aegis of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas. It is a month long awareness programme. During one-month long drive, workshops will be held for drivers of commercial vehicles and housewives, cooks on adopting simple fuel saving measures. Saksham - 2017 also aims to educate on various steps for fuel

conservation through activities like Quiz Show, Saksham Asian Cycling Championship, Walkathons, concerts and other activities across the country.

**78. (B)**

**Exp.**

- The Measles-Rubella vaccine (MR) under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP), is all set to be introduced from the February 2017 in five states and union territories, i.e., Karnataka, Goa, Puducherry, Lakshadweep and Tamilnadu. The UIP basket already has ten vaccines of which measles is one; once MR is introduced, monovalent measles will be discontinued.
- Commonly known as German measles, is a contagious viral infection that causes a distinctive red rash. Congenital Rubella is believed to affect approximately 25,000 children born in India every year. Symptoms of the infection can include cataracts and deafness. It can also affect the heart and the brain.

**79. (C)**

**Exp.**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 9th January 2017 inaugurated India's first International exchange- India INX- at the International Financial Service Centre (IFSC) in Gujarat's International Financial Tech City (GIFT) located in Gandhinagar.
- A subsidiary of Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE, India-INX is one of the world's most advanced technology platform with a turn-around time of 4 micro seconds which will operate for 22 hours a day, allowing international investors and NRIs to trade from anywhere across the globe. It will start initially in equity derivatives, currency derivatives, commodity derivatives including Index and Stocks. It will act as a gateway to raise capital for the country's infrastructure and development needs.

**80. (C)**

**Exp.**

- The World Hindi Day is observed annually on 10th January. World Hindi Day is the promotion of the language at the global stage. The World Hindi Day was first observed on 10th January 2006. In addition to present National Hindi Divas which is being observed annually on 14th September. The National Hindi Divas is



observed to marl adaptation of Hindi written in Devnagri script as the official language of the union by the Constitution Assembly 14th September 1949.

**81. (C)****Exp.**

- Kandheri, the second submarine class stealth submarine that has superior stealth and the ability to launch a crippling attack with torpedoes as well as tube-launched anti-ship missiles with underwater or on surface, was launched at the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited On 12th January 2017.
- Kandheri is named after the Island fort of Maratha forces which played a vital role in ensuring their supremacy at sea in the late 17th century. The submarine is designed to operate in all theatre, including the tropics. The construction of six Scorpene Submarine is presently in progress at Mazagaon Dock Shipyard Limited (MDL) under the Project075 with Transfer of Technology from M/S DCNS, France as the collaborator. The first of the Scorpene class submarine, Kalvari is presently undergoing sea trials and likely to be commissioned into Navy by mid 2017.

**82. (A)****Exp.**

- Scientists have discovered a new species of gibbon living in south-west China's rainforests. It has been named the Skywalker hoolock gibbon by its discoverers. The name is also a nod to the fact that the Chinese characters of its scientific name, 'Hoolock tianxing', mean "Heaven's movement".
- Gibbons are renowned for their loud song, which they use to mark territory, and this also sounded unusual. The scientists estimate that about 200 Skywalker gibbons are living in China and also potentially in neighboring Myanmar, but say that the species should already be classified as endangered. Habitat loss and fragmentation is putting the gibbons at risk of extinction.

**83. (D)****Exp.**

- Government of India on 24th January 2017 approved the launch of Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana 2017 for senior citizens aged over 60. This scheme provide pension to senior citizens with a rate higher than the

prevailing market rates of the annuity.

- The scheme will be implemented through Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) during the current financial year to provide social security during old age and protect elderly persons aged 60 years and above against a future fall in their interest income due to uncertain market conditions. The scheme will provide an assured pension based on a guaranteed rate of return of 8% per annum for ten years, with an option to opt for pension on a monthly / quarterly / half yearly and annual basis. The differential return, i.e., the difference between the return generated by LIC and the assured return of 8% per annum would be borne by Government of India as subsidy on an annual basis.VPBY-2017 is proposed to be open for subscription for a period of one year from the date of launch.

**84. (A)****Exp.**

- NASA has selected LUCY mission that will perform the first reconnaissance of the Trojan, a population of primitive asteroids orbiting in tandem with Jupiter. The LUCY mission will launched in 2021 to study six of this existing worlds. The Lucy mission- named for a famous, critical hominin fossil set found in Ethiopia in 1974
- The LUCY spacecraft and a remote sensing instrument suite will study the geology, surface composition, and bulk physical properties of these bodies at close range. The LUCY will perform radio science investigation using its telecommunications system to determine the masses and densities of the Trojan targets.

**85. (C)****Exp.**

- China has begun its first freight train service to London from Yiwu West Railway station in Zhejiang province. The train will travel for 18 days over more than 7,500 miles to reach Britain from China. It will pass through Kazakhstan, Russia, Belarus, Poland, Germany, Belgium and France before arriving London.
- London becomes the 15th European city with direct trains from China following the unveiling of the President of China Xi Jinping's so called 'One Belt- One Road' initiative in 2013.

86. (D)

*Exp.*

- Street Lightning National Programme (SLNP) is currently running in the South Delhi Municipal Corporation area. It is the World's largest street light replacement programme. This programme is being implemented by the Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture under the Ministry of Power, will save 6.10 crore units of electricity per year thus reducing the electricity bill by 54 %. The programme aims to install LED bulbs street-lighting across different cities in the country. The Power Ministry said that the SLNP is being implemented in 14 states i.e., including Delhi.

87. (D)

*Exp.*

- The Vaquita, the world's smallest porpoise, has never been caught alive. The main body color is gray, darker above than below and also around the eyes and mouth. There is a dark stripe from the chin to the base of the flipper. The vaquita lives in shallow lagoons along the shoreline where there is strong tidal mixing and high productivity of the aquatic plant and animal communities.
- Vaquitas live exclusively in Mexico's Gulf of California and have been under serious threat since the 1990s. It is listed as critically endangered because the estimated number of individuals dropped below 100 in 2014, putting it in imminent danger of extinction. That number was updated to approximately 60 in May 2016, leading to the conclusion that the species is headed for extinction within five years unless further conservation efforts are undertaken.

88. (B)

*Exp.*

- Kambala is an annual buffalo race organized in Karnataka. This race held between November and March by the farming community in Karnataka's Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts, and in areas bordering Kerala. According to one belief, Kambala is a festival that originated in the farming community of Karnataka around 800 years back. The festival is dedicated to Kadri's Lord Manjunatha, an incarnation of Lord Shiva. It is believed to be celebrated to please the Gods for a good harvest. The festival begins with an inaugural ceremony and a parade of the participating

farmers along with their prized buffaloes. The racing tracks are normally about 120 to 160 metres in length and 8 to 12 metres in width. Tracks are ploughed into a muddy field that is made slushy with water. Buffalo race will continue overnight also at different levels and a grand finale will be held to determine the winner of the Kambala of particular area.

89. (A)

*Exp.*

- Scientists from Botanical Survey of India (BSI) have discovered a new species of Zingiber (commonly referred as ginger) from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The new species has been named as Zingiber pseudosquarrosus and belongs to genus Zingiber. It is used for its medicinal values by the local Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) of the Andamans.
- The pseudo stem of Zingiber pseudosquarrosus is red in colour. Its flowers are lotus shaped and have a vermilion tinge and dehiscent fruit. The morphological features of this species make it distinct from other species belonging to the genus Zingiber. Like other species of Gingers, it is edible and can be propagated vegetatively from the rhizome. The new species possesses ethno-medicinal uses. The fresh extract (juice) of fleshy tuberous roots of this species is used to treat abdominal pain and anti-helminthic troubles by native tribal communities.

90. (B)

*Exp.*

- India successfully test-fired its home-grown long range intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) Agni-IV from the Abdul Kalam Wheeler Island off Odisha coast. Agni-IV is two-stage surface-to-surface nuclear capable intercontinental ballistic missile. It has been designed and developed indigenously by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- It can carry a one-tonne nuclear warhead over a distance of 4,000 kilometres. The missile can be fired from locations deeper in the Indian hinterland, making it very difficult for the enemy to track and destroy it. The missile also possesses a submarine launch capability. It was the sixth test of the missile and the previous test was conducted on November 09, 2015 by the



specially formed strategic force command (SFC) of Indian Army.

**91. (D) Neither 1 nor 2**

*Exp.*

- Bharath Net aims to connect 2.5 lakhs Gram Panchayats with the optic fibre network. Not the urban areas. Thus, statement 1 is incorrect.
- The entire project is being funded by Universal service Obligation Fund (USOF), which was set up for improving telecom services in rural and remote areas of the country. Thus statement 2 is incorrect.
- The objective is to facilitate the delivery of e-governance, e-health, e-education, e-banking, Internet and other services to the rural India.

**92. (A) 1 only**

*Exp.*

- India is the third country to establish such a system for environment conservation after Australia and New Zealand. Thus statement 1 is correct.
- Any person aggrieved by the award or order of NGT may appeal to the Supreme Court. Thus Statement 2 is incorrect.
- It doesn't follow civil law. It follows natural justice. Thus statement 3 incorrect.

**93. (B) 2 only**

*Exp.*

The Under2 MoU

- Brings together sub national governments willing to commit to either reducing their greenhouse gas emissions 80 to 95 percent below 1990 levels or limiting emissions to less than 2 metric tons per capita by 2050;
- Is in line with scientifically established emissions levels necessary to limit global warming below 2 degrees Celsius;
- Offers opportunities for states, regions, and cities to share ideas and best practices on how to reduce greenhouse gases and expand renewable energy development;
- Provides a model for other governments of all levels to join;
- Brings international attention to the actions and ambitious reduction goals of climate leaders at a sub national level around the globe;
- Demonstrates the collective impact of these actions and commitments across states, regions, cities, and countries; and
- Highlights the diversity of approaches to reducing emissions.

**94. (D) 3,4&5 only**

*Exp.*

- Eurasian Economic Union comprises Kazakhstan, Russia, Belarus, Armenia and Kyrgyzstan.
- Discussions on a free trade agreement between India and the Eurasian Economic Union are at an advanced stage and an agreement could be reached as early as the end of the year.

**95. (A) 1 & 2 only.**

*Exp.*

- Grey matter is a major component of the central nervous system. Statement 1 is correct.
- It contains the main bodies of nerve cells. Hence statement 2 is correct.
- White matter, brain's other component consists mostly of the nerve fibres that link the nerve cells together.

**96. (A)**

*Exp.*

- It is a market-based measure to measure carbon emission
- International Air Transport Association has expressed the hope that India will join Carbon Offsetting and Reporting Scheme for International Aviation popularly called CORSIA which is the market-based measure for international aviation to measure carbon emission.

**97. (C) 3 only**

*Exp.*

- Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) aims to safeguard the health of women & children by providing them with a clean cooking fuel - LPG. Under this scheme, 5 Cr LPG connections will be provided to BPL families with a support of Rs.1600 per connection in the next 3 years. Thus, statement 3 is correct.
- Government has approved Rs. 8000 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) for release of 5 crore deposit free new LPG connections to Women of BPL families over three years, i.e. FY 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19.
- It is initiated by the ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Thus statement 2 is incorrect.
- UJALA scheme aims to promote efficient use of energy at the residential level; enhance the awareness of consumers about the efficacy of using energy efficient appliances and aggregating demand to

reduce the high initial costs thus facilitating higher uptake of LED lights by residential users. Thus statement 1 is wrong.

**98. (C)**

*Exp.*

- India Post under Department of Posts (Union Ministry of Communications and Information Technology) received final payments bank license from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). With this, India Post became the third entity after Bharti Airtel and Paytm to receive final payments bank license to roll-out of banking operations commercially under the permit.
- Payments banks are a new model of banks conceptualized by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to meet government's financial inclusion target. It will be set up as a differentiated bank and will confine its activities to acceptance of demand deposits, remittance services, Internet banking and other specified services but cannot undertake lending services. Payments banks can accept deposits up to Rs. 1 lakh per account from individuals and small businesses.
- They can issue ATM/debit cards but not credit cards. They can also issue other prepaid payment instruments. They can distribute non-risk sharing simple financial products like mutual funds and insurance products. Non-resident Indians (NRIs) are not be allowed to open accounts in payment banks. This new model of banking allows mobile firms, supermarket chains and others to cater to banking requirements of individuals and small businesses.

**99. (D)**

*Exp.*

- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) successfully tested indigenously developed cryogenic engine for the upper stage GSLV Mk III rocket. The cryogenic upper stage, designated as C25, was tested for 50 seconds at ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC) at Mahendragiri in Tamil Nadu demonstrating all the stage operations.
- Cryogenic engines are used in the upper stage of a rocket launch as they provide the

maximum thrust to a launcher vehicle. The development of C25 cryogenic stage started after approval of GSLV Mk III, ISRO's next generation launch vehicle, capable of launching heavy four tone class spacecraft in Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO). C25 stage was conceptualized, designed and realized by Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) with support from Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC) and Sathish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC).

- GSLV Mk III vehicle consists of two solid strap-on motors, one earth storable liquid core stage and the cryogenic upper stage. The C25 stage is most powerful upper stage developed by ISRO. It uses Liquid Oxygen and Liquid Hydrogen propellant combination. This stage carries 27.8 tons of propellants loaded in two independent tanks.

**100. (C)**

*Exp.*

- Astronomers, using data from India's Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT), have discovered two of the most powerful phenomena in the universe - a super massive black hole and the collision of giant galaxy clusters about two billion light years from Earth. The two phenomenons have combined to create a stupendous cosmic particle accelerator, researchers said. By combining data from NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory, the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) in Pune and other telescopes, researchers found what happens when matter ejected by a giant black hole is swept up in the merger of two enormous galaxy clusters.
- The Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT), located near Pune in India, is an array of thirty fully steerable parabolic radio telescopes of 45 metre diameter, observing at metre wavelengths. It is operated by the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics, a part of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai. At the time it was built, it was the world's largest interferometric array offering a baseline of up to 25 kilometers.