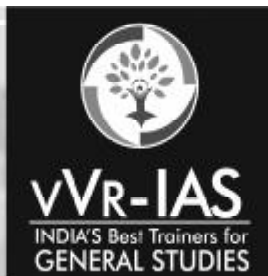


DATE : 25/11/2018



BOOKLET
SERIES

A

GS-PRELIMS

TEST SERIES PROGRAMME-2019

TEST CODE: 01 (FULL MOCK TEST : GS PAPER I)

FREE MOCK TEST

ANSWER KEY

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

FREE MOCK TEST-01

1. Ans: A

- “Oneer” is an **electronic device** for enhancing the potability of water.
- Based on the principle of **anodic oxidation** (an electrochemical method commonly used for the production of oxide films), the device is useful for **continuous treatment of water**.
- **Statement 1 is WRONG:** The device has been developed by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Indian Institution of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR), Lucknow.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The innovative technology used in the device **eliminates all disease-causing pathogens** such as virus, bacteria, fungi, protozoa and cyst. It provides **safe drinking water** to communities as per National and International standards prescribed for potable water by World Health Organization (WHO) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The device can also be powered by **solar energy** and thus this technology will be helpful in providing potable water to remote areas without electricity, and to street vendors.

Additional Information

- **Unlike the reverse osmosis (RO) based water purifiers**, the unique disinfection technology of Oneer is designed to conserve essential natural minerals in the purified water, and thus is beneficial for our health and well-being.

2. Ans: D

- **News:** India has been elected as a member of the International Telecommunications Union Council (ITU) for another 4-year term (2019-22) from the Asia-Australia region.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** ITU is a **specialized agency of the United Nations (UN)** for information, communication and technologies (ICTs). Originally founded in 1865, as the International Telegraph Union, it is the oldest existing international organization.
- **Statement 2 is WRONG:** It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** India has been an active member of the ITU since 1869, earnestly supporting the development and propagation of

telecom in the global community of nations.

- The country has been a **regular member of the ITU Council since 1952**, and has played an important role in harmonising the contributions of member states from the region, always respecting the principles of equality and consensus-building.

3. Ans: A

- **News:** World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) has brought out biennial ‘Living Planet Report 2018’. A key aspect of this year’s report is the threat to soil biodiversity and pollinators.
- The Living Planet Report 2018 is the twelfth edition of the report and provides the scientific evidence that unsustainable human activity is pushing the planet’s natural systems that support life on Earth to the edge.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Living Planet Report, WWF’s flagship publication released every two years, is a comprehensive study of trends in global biodiversity and the health of the planet.
- **Statement 2 is WRONG:** Global Environment Outlook is a series of reports on the environment issued periodically by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP).
- **Statement 3 is WRONG:** The annual World Energy Outlook is the International Energy Agency’s (IEA) flagship publication, widely recognised as the most authoritative source for global energy projections and analysis.

4. Ans: B

- **News:** The Astana Declaration of the World Health Organisation (WHO) marks the 40th anniversary of the historical Alma Alta Declaration that declared health a human right for all and not just a privileged few.
- **Option B is correct:** Astana Declaration is meant to take the earlier agreement forward, strengthen primary healthcare (PHC) systems and realize the idea of universal healthcare. All 192 member countries of the United Nations, including India, signed the Astana Declaration.

Key takeaways from the declaration –

- PHC be integrated with all tiers of healthcare
- Takes into cognizance growing threat of lifestyle and non-communicable diseases

- Asks all member states to make “bold political choices” for health across all sectors
- Seeks multi-sectoral action including technology, scientific and traditional knowledge along with well-trained and compensated health professionals

5. Ans: D

All statements are correct.

How it began?

- Kamangari gets its name from Kamangar – maker of Kaman (bow). It is believed that the artisans, primarily from Muslim community, initially performed engravings on hide, metal and weapons and later extended it to walls.
- Kamangari is a form of fresco (mural or wall) painting that originated in 18th century Kutch and achieved its peak from 1875 to 1900.

The technique

- The artists first applied a coat of lime on the walls, and before the lime could dry they applied natural colors and made exquisite designs.
- Turmeric and cow urine (yellow), kumkum or red earth (red), algae or indigo (blue) and crushed stone powder (black).
- After coloring, the surface was polished with conch powder.

Vivid imagination

- The Kamangari frescoes, locally known as Kamangari bhint chitro or wall paintings, stand out due to their wide range of themes – from Mahabharata to the British Raj, a distinct visual vocabulary and the use of vibrant colors.
- The kamangars knew the Hindu and Jain mythology stories in depth and depicted them on the walls with authority.

6. Ans: A

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Ease of Living Index is a transformative initiative of the MoHUA to help cities assess their livability vis-à-vis national & global benchmarks.
- The Ease of Living Index seeks to assist cities in undertaking a 360-degree assessment of their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.
- **Statement 2 is WRONG:** The MoHUA released the first ever 'Ease of Living Index' covering 111 Indian cities which serves as a litmus test to help assess the progress made in cities through various initiatives.

- All cities were **evaluated out of 100.**
- Ease of Living framework comprised four pillars namely **Institutional, Social, Economic and Physical** which are further broken down into **78 indicators across 15 categories**
- The '**physical**' pillar (infrastructure) was given the highest **weightage of 45**, while institutional (governance) and social were **weighted 25** each. **Economy** was **weighted 5.**

7. Ans: C

- The word 'Integrity' has been added to the preamble by the 42nd Constitutional amendment (1976).

8. Ans: B

- **Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct:** Sea level rise (SLR): Immediate effects of SLR include saltwater intrusion of surface waters, increasingly severe storm surges, submergence and increased flooding of coastal land.
- Longer-term effects of SLR are increased erosion, saltwater intrusion into groundwater and a decline of coastal wetlands (salt marshes, mangroves etc.)
- **Statement 4 is incorrect,** Ocean acidification, which result in reduced coral growth and coral skeleton weakening which will have impacts on coastal protection and marine biodiversity. It has other reasons as adverse pollution and mixing of various chemicals.

9. Ans: C

- **Statement 1 is correct,** S-waves are shear waves, which move particles perpendicularly to their direction of propagation.
- They can propagate through solid rocks because these rocks have enough shear strength.
- The shear strength is one of the forces that hold the rock together, and prevent it from falling into pieces.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect;** As the zone between 105 ° and 145 ° from epicenter was identified as the shadow zone for both the types of waves. The entire zone beyond 105 ° does not receive S-waves.
- The shadow zone of S-wave is much larger than that of the P-waves. The shadow zone of P-waves appears as a band around the earth between 105° and 145° away from the epicenter.
- **Statement 3 is correct;** Change in densities greatly varies the wave velocity. By observing the

changes in velocity, the density of the earth as a whole can be estimated.

10. Ans: A

- **Statement 1 is correct**, The upper portion of the mantle is called asthenosphere. The word astheno means weak. It is considered to be extending up to 400 km.
- It is the main source of magma that finds its way to the surface during volcanic eruptions. It has a density higher than the crust's.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**; the lower mantle extends beyond the asthenosphere. It is in solid state.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**, Gutenberg Discontinuity – lies between the mantle and the outer core. Below 2900 km from earth's surface.

11. Ans: D

- In 1856, Lord Canning passed the General Service enlistment Act. The act mandated that all future recruits of the Bengal army will have to give an undertaking that they would serve anywhere their service might be required by the Government. This antagonized the religious Hindus who considered crossing the seas meant loss of caste.

12. Ans: D

- **Statement 1 is not correct**: Chauth was one fourth of the land revenue paid to the Marathas in order to avoid the Maratha raids. Sardeshmukhi was an additional levy of ten percent on those lands which the Marathas claimed hereditary rights.
- **Statement 2 is not correct**: Chauth and sardeshmukhi were not taxation innovation by Maratha. Marathas were granted right to collect Chauth and Sardeshmukhi by the Mughals in exchange of promise to not raid adjoining Mughal territories. Chauth and sardeshmukhi were the taxes collected not in the Maratha kingdom but in the neighboring territories of the Mughal Empire or Deccan Sultanates.

13. Ans: B

- **Statement 1 is correct**: The culture associated with the Harappan civilization is the first known urban culture in India. The Harappans built the earliest cities complete with town planning, sanitation, drainage system and broad well-laid roads. They built double storied houses of burnt bricks each one of which had a bathroom, a

kitchen and a well. The walled cities had other important buildings such as the Great Bath, Granaries and Assembly Halls.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: Agriculture was the main occupation of the Harappans who were living in rural areas. Those living in the cities carried on internal and external trade and developed contacts with other civilizations such as Mesopotamia. They were excellent potters. Various types of utensils, toys, seals, figurines have been excavated from different sites.
- **Statement 3 is correct**: Numerous seals carrying the images of the one-horned rhinoceros known as unicorn, peepal leaves and a male god throw light on the religious beliefs of the Harappans. It appears that they worshipped plants and animals and the forces of nature. They worshipped a male god resembling Lord Shiva of later times and a mother goddess among others.

14. Ans: C

- Bhungroo, which means "straw" in Gujarati, is a water management system that injects and stores excess rainfall underground and lifts it out for use in dry spells.
- It has been in use in Gujarat since 2002, and is currently being used in Tamil Nadu for horticulture crops.
- The high salinity of soil in arid regions of Gujarat creates an impermeable layer leading to water logging and the standing water again increases the salinity of the soil. Bhungroo helps farmers in such rain-scarce and salinity-prone areas.

Technology involved:

- The entire process of setting up Bhungroo is led by women.
- Gradient of the land is measured to understand whether it is suitable for the technology. The lowest point of the catchment area is identified as the rainwater will rush to that spot.
- Five women form one Bhungroo group. The team drills a pipe with a diameter of 5 inches which then guides the water to the subsoil aquifer at a depth of 110 feet.
- During monsoons, the excess water drains down the pipe, gets filtered, and then flows down to natural aquifers deep below the soil where it can stay until it is needed during the dry seasons.
- Thus farmers can easily grow two crops in a year –
 - Monsoons – farmers can grow crops because their land is not too wet

- Dry seasons (winter/summer) – use pumps to draw up the stored water and irrigate their land

15. Ans: B

What's struck down?

- Section 497 of IPC said: "Whoever has sexual intercourse with a person who is ... the wife of another man, without the consent ... of that man, such sexual intercourse not amounting to rape, is guilty of the offence of adultery"
- The Supreme Court scrapped the pre-independence provision of adultery law under Section 497 of IPC terming the law arbitrary and against the constitutional ideals of liberty and equality.
- The judgment comes on a petition filed by a man from Kerala, Joseph Shine, against IPC Section 497 that criminalized adultery.

The problem

- It treated women as victim of the offence and as 'property' of her husband.
- It was not an offence if a man had sexual intercourse with a woman after getting her husband's consent.

After the judgment

- Adultery can be a ground for divorce but it's no more a criminal offence attracting up to 5 years' jail term
- Unless it attracts the scope of Section 306 (abetment to suicide) of IPC

16. Ans: C

- **News:** Centre has recently launched PMAASHA in keeping with its commitment and dedication for the "Annadata".
- **Statement 1 is correct:** PM AASHA is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce and will provide MSP assurance, as announced in the Union Budget 2018-19.

What is the need?

- Government has already increased the MSP of kharif crops by following the principle of 1.5 times the cost of production.
- However, increasing MSP is not adequate as the reach of the current MSP procurement system is very poor both in terms of geography and crops covered.
- It is expected that the increase in MSP will be translated to farmer's income by way of robust procurement mechanism in coordination with the

State Governments.

- **Statement 2 & 3 are WRONG:** The sub-components under PMAASHA are –
- Price Support Scheme (PSS) – physical procurement of pulses, oilseeds and copra to be done by Central Nodal Agencies along with State govts. Central govt to bear procurement expenditure and losses due to procurement up to 25% of production.
- Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) – will cover oilseeds for which MSP is notified. Farmers will get direct payment of the difference between the MSP and the selling price.
- Pilot of Private Procurement and Stockist Scheme (PPPS) – participation of private sector in procurement operation to be piloted.

17. Ans: B

- **Statement 1 is WRONG:** The Global Hunger Index 2018, prepared by global NGOs namely, Concern Wildlife and Welthungerhilfe, was released recently.
- GHI was calculated each year by IFPRI since 2006, but it has stepped aside in 2018.
- **Statement 2 is CORRECT:** To reflect the multidimensional nature of the hunger, the GHI combines the following four component indicators into one index.
- Undernourishment – undernourished as a percentage of the population (the share of the population whose caloric intake is insufficient);
- Child Wasting – children under the age of five suffering from wasting (low weight for their height, reflecting acute under nutrition);
- Child Stunting – children under the age of five suffering from stunting (low height for their age, reflecting chronic under nutrition);
- U5 Mortality Rate – mortality rate of children under the age of five (fatal mix of inadequate nutrition and unhealthy environments)
- under three dimensions – Inadequate Food Supply (Undernourishment), Child Mortality (U5 Mortality Rate) and Child Undernutrition (Child Wasting and Child Stunting)
- **Statement 3 is WRONG:** India ranks 103 out of 119 countries, with hunger levels in the country categorized as "serious". India's rank has slipped three places from last year.

18. Ans: D

- RBI has issued a policy action guideline in the

form of Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) Framework if a commercial bank's financial conditions worsen below a mark.

- The PCA framework specifies the trigger points or the level below which the RBI will intervene with corrective action. These trigger points are expressed in terms of parameters for the banks.
- The parameters that invite corrective action from the Central Bank are –
 - o CRAR
 - o Net NPAs
 - o RoA
 - o Leverage Ratio
- Some of the structured and discretionary actions that could be taken by RBI are –
 - o Recapitalization
 - o Restrictions on borrowing from inter-bank market
 - o Merge/amalgamate/liquidate the bank
 - o Impose moratorium on the bank if its CRAR does not improve etc.
- The corrective actions are tough with worsening of the financials.

19. Ans: C

- India along with 23 other nations will be participating in major Indian ocean-wide tsunami mock exercise known as IOWave18. It will involve evacuation of thousands of people from coastal areas in over half a dozen states.
- The exercise is being organized by Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO.
- The purpose of the exercise is to increase tsunami preparedness, evaluate response capabilities in each state and improve coordination throughout the region.

20. Ans: D

- **Statement 1 is WRONG:** Global Economic Prospects is a World Bank Group flagship report that examines global economic developments and prospects, with a special focus on emerging market and developing economies.
- **Statement 2 is correct.**
- **Statement 3 is WRONG:** It is issued twice a year, in January and June. The January edition includes in-depth analyses of topical policy challenges while the June edition contains shorter analytical pieces.

21. Ans: A

- The aim of the IoE scheme is to bring higher educational institutions selected as IoEs in top 500 of world ranking in the next 10 years and in top 100 eventually overtime.
- The scheme has been launched with an objective to provide world class teaching and research facilities to Indian students within the country and enhance general level of education of the country.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Government has shortlisted 6 Institutions of Eminence (IoEs) including 3 from Public Sector and 3 from Private Sector. The details of these institutions are –

Public Sector –

- Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Karnataka;
- Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, Maharashtra; and
- Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

Private Sector –

- Birla Institute of Technology & Sciences, Pilani (Rajasthan)
- Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal (Karnataka), and
- proposed Jio Institute of Reliance Foundation, Pune (Maharashtra)

- **Statement 2 is WRONG:** University Grants Commission (UGC) issued / notified enabling regulatory architecture in the form of
 - o UGC (Declaration of Government Educational Institutions as Institutions of Eminence) Guidelines, 2017 and
 - o UGC (Institutions of Eminence Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2017 to enable 10 public and 10 private Institutions to emerge as World Class Teaching and Research Institutions, details of which are available on UGC website www.ugc.ac.in. These Institutions shall be called as 'Institutions of Eminence (IoEs)'

- **Statement 3 is WRONG:** Each public Institution selected as 'Institution of Eminence' will get financial assistance up to Rs. 1000 Crore over the period of five years under this scheme.

22. Ans: D

- Ease of Doing Business is an index published by the World Bank.
- It is computed by aggregating the distance to frontier scores of different economies.
- For each of the ten indicators that form a part of

the statistic 'Ease of Doing Business,' a distance to frontier score is computed and all the scores are aggregated. The aggregated score becomes the Ease of doing business index.

- There are **10 indicators** based on which the ranking of an economy in the Ease of Doing Business Index is determined.
 - i. Starting a business
 - ii. Dealing with construction permits
 - iii. **Getting electricity**
 - iv. **Registering property**
 - v. **Getting credit**
 - vi. **Protecting minority investors**
 - vii. Paying taxes
 - viii. Trading across borders
 - ix. Enforcing contracts
- Resolving insolvency

23. Ans: C

- **Statement 1 is WRONG:** Article 368 (1) of the Constitution mandates that only the Parliament can amend the Constitution by inserting a new Article.
- **Statement 2 is WRONG:** Article 35A in the Indian Constitution was inserted in 1954 by a Presidential Order, under Article 370, bypassing the law-making Parliament.
- Article 35A gives the Jammu and Kashmir State Legislature power to decide the 'permanent residents' of the State and grant them special rights and privileges in State public sector jobs, acquisition of property within the State, scholarships and other public aid and welfare programmes.
- Currently, a writ petition filed by NGO We the Citizens challenges the validity of both Article 35A and Article 370.

24. Ans: A

- This refers to a financial indicator that shows the the number of stocks, or any other financial security, in an index that during any particular moment of the day are trading above or below their last closing price.
- It is calculated simply by subtracting the number of stocks showing downticks from the number of stocks that are showing upticks during the day.

25. Ans: C

- The Philips curve is an economic concept developed by AW Philips showing that inflation and

unemployment have a stable and inverse relationship.

- The theory states that with economic growth comes inflation, which in turn should lead to more jobs and less unemployment.

26. Ans: C

- **Open Unemployment:** a large section of the labor force does not get a job that may yield them regular income
- **Underemployment:** a situation in which a worker is employed, but not in the desired capacity, whether in terms of compensation, hours or level of skill, and experience.
- **Disguised unemployment:** part of the labor force is either left without work or is working in a redundant manner where worker productivity is essentially zero.

27. Ans: D

- Most widely used definition of green economy is given by UNEP. "A green economy is one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcity."In its simplest expression, a green economy can be thought of as one which is low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive.The definition for green economy captures the three dimensions of sustainable development:environmental, social, and economic,Thus it comprises Agriculture, fisheries ,forestry , industry ,sustainable transport ,waste management , water efficiency and all other resources efficiency.
- Therefore ANSWER D.

28. Ans: C

- Injury to the plants due to lifting plant along with the soil from its normal position in temperate regions where rainfall is common is called **HEAVING**.
- Farming practice of ploughing across slope following elevation along its contour lines is called **CONTOUR FARMING**.
- Food crops grown in alleys formed by hedge rows of shrubs is called **ALLEY CROPPING**.
- Chemical inhibition of one species by another species, where substances acting as germination or growth inhibitors are released into the environment, influencing the development and growth of nearby plants is called **ALLELOPATHY**.

29. Ans: D

- The most common way to extract shale gas is

'hydraulic fracturing' (fracking), this is nothing but sending high volumes of water mixed with certain chemicals to break the rocks and release the trapped energy. Unlike conventional hydrocarbons that can be sponged out of permeable rocks easily, shale gas is trapped.

- Under low permeable rocks.
- Minerals.

30. Ans: A

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Positioned as strategic cornerstones of Digital India programme, the Common Service Centres (CSCs) model has adopted six villages in the country in the pilot phase. DigiGaon or Digital Village is conceptualised as a connected village where citizens can avail various e-Services of the Central Government, state Governments and private players in a rural and remote villages in the country. These DigiGaons are projected to be change agents, promoting rural entrepreneurship and building rural capacities and livelihoods through community participation and collective action.

31. Ans: D

- Mangroves are the characteristic littoral plant formation of tropical and subtropical sheltered coastlines. Since they have abundant water and sunlight throughout the year, they don't exhibit seasonal shedding of leaves to save water and are evergreen. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- Mangroves grow in coastal regions which is transition zone between terrestrial and marine ecosystems. So they are an ecotone. Hence statement 2 is correct.
- Mangroves are dense forests with heights reaching up to 20 meters. They prevent sudden surge of water into low lying coastal areas and act as natural barriers. In the aftermath of 2004 Tsunami, government took up extensive afforestation of coastal areas to protect from Tsunamis and Cyclones. Hence statement 3 is correct.

32. Ans: D

- **Super Dads:** New UNICEF campaign spotlights fathers' critical role in children's early development. The Super Dads initiative is a part of a larger campaign called #Early Moments Matter, which aims to bring awareness to the significance of early childhood experiences on a child's future.

33. Ans: C

- **Foundation Species** is dominant primary producer in terms of both abundance and influence.
- **Indicator species** is any biological species that defines characteristic trait of the environment.
- **Keystone species** help to maintain local biodiversity within a community either by controlling populations of other species that would otherwise dominate the community or by providing critical resources for a wide range of species. The name keystone species, coined by American zoologist Robert T. Paine in 1969.
- **Umbrella species** is a species that needs such large tracts of habitat that saving it will automatically save many other species
- So Option is C (asked false statements)

34. Ans: C

- **Aestivation:** Hide in Summer Ex; Salamander, Turtle
- **Hibernation:** Hide in winter Ex: Bats , Bear So option is C

35. Ans: B

- **Real Estate investment Trusts (REITs) are mutual fund like institutions** that enable investments into the real estate sector by pooling small sums of money from multitude of individual investors for directly investing in real estate properties so as to return a portion of the income (after deducting expenditures) to unit holders of REITs, who pooled in the money.
- A REIT in India is allowed to invest mainly in completed and revenue generating assets and other approved investments. Further, REIT will have to distribute majority of its income among the unit holders.
- **Statement 3 is WRONG:** REITS are regulated by the securities market regulator in India- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- In September 2014, SEBI notified the SEBI (Real Estate Investment trusts) Regulations, 2014 for providing a framework for registration and regulation of REITs in India.
- Here "real estate" refers to land and any permanently attached improvements to it, whether on leasehold or freehold, and includes buildings, sheds, garages, fences, fittings, fixtures, warehouses, car parks, etc. and any other assets incidental to the ownership of real estate.

36. Ans: D

- **Statement 3 is WRONG:** Unlike banks, the deposit insurance facility of DICGC is available to depositors of NBFCs
- **Statement 4 is WRONG:** Unlike banks, which are incorporated under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 NBFCs are incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956.

37. Ans: C

- **Open market operations (OMOs)** are conducted by the RBI by way of **sale or purchase of government securities (G-Secs)**

to adjust money supply conditions.

- The central bank **sells G-Secs to suck out liquidity** from the system and **buys back G-Secs to infuse liquidity** into the system.
- These operations are often conducted on a **day-to-day basis** in a manner that balances inflation while helping banks continue to lend.
- The RBI uses OMO along with other monetary policy tools such as repo rate, cash reserve ratio and statutory liquidity ratio to adjust the quantum and price of money in the system.

39. Ans: B



- **Pair 1 is WRONG:** Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY) was launched with the aim of bringing together urban planning, economic growth and heritage conservation in an inclusive manner to preserve the heritage character of each heritage city.
- **Pair 2 is correct:** Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) scheme
- identify and develop pilgrimage tourist destinations on the principles of high tourist visits, competitiveness and sustainability to enrich the religious tourism experience
- **Pair 3 is WRONG:** Ministry of Law & Justice
- a national e-Governance project for ICT enablement of district and subordinate courts of the country
- **Pair 4 is WRONG:** Ministry of Finance
- o Atal Pension Yojana (APY) will provide a defined pension, depending on the contribution, and its period.
- The APY will be focussed on all citizens in the unorganised sector, who join the National Pension System (NPS) administered by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

40. Ans: B

- The newly constituted PMEAC has been set up with the approval of the Prime Minister and is comprised of reputed economists and experts.
- **Statement 2 is WRONG:** The PMEAC has been **constituted several times** since the independence of India.
- **Statement 3 is WRONG:** Currently PMEAC Chairman post is held by **Dr. Bibek Debroy, Member, NITI Aayog.**
- The Council is mandated to **analyze all critical issues, economic or otherwise referred to it by the Prime Minister** and advising him thereon. It is also required to address issues of macro-economic importance and presenting views thereon.

41. Ans: C

- **Statement 1 is WRONG:** FMC was the chief regulator of the commodity markets in India.
- o The **change in regulatory authority for commodity markets** was done following the National Spot Exchange Limited (NSEL) scam.
- o With the intention of bringing the regulator under

the purview of the Finance Ministry and also to bring in uniformity in regulatory activities, FMC was **merged with Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI).**

- SEBI is now the apex authority as far as commodity derivatives are concerned.
- **Statement 2 is WRONG:** The **Forward Contracts Regulation Act (FCRA) stands repealed**, and the regulation of the commodity derivatives market shifts to SEBI under the **Securities Contracts Regulation Act (SCRA), 1956.**
- SCRA is a **stronger law**, and gives **more powers to SEBI** than FCRA offered to FMC.
- Market players feel that commodity markets will now be better regulated, with more stringent processes — and will thus evoke greater confidence.

42. Ans: C**Phad Painting**

- Phad is a **type of scroll painting.**
- The paintings depicting exploits of local deities are often carried from place to place and are accompanied by traditional singers, who narrate the theme depicted on the scrolls.
- This type of painting is a most famous painting of Rajasthan, mainly found in the Bhilwara district.
- Phad painting depicts the heroic deeds of a heroic figure, the daily life of a peasant, rural life, animals and birds, flora and fauna.
- These paintings are created using bright colours and subtle colours.
- The outlines of the paintings are first drawn in black and later filled with colours.
- The main themes of the phad paintings depict the deities and their legends and the stories of erstwhile Maharajas. Raw colours are used for these paintings.
- The unique features of phad paintings are the bold lines and a two dimensional treatment of figures with the entire composition arranged in sections.

43. Ans: C

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Sufism is a common term used for Islamic mysticism. The Sufis were very liberal in their religious outlook. They believed in the essential unity of all religions. They preached spirituality through music and doctrines that professed union with God. Sufism originated

in Iran and found a congenial atmosphere in India under the Turkish rule.

- **Statement 2 is also correct:** Such music attracted the Hindus who started visiting the dargahs in large number. The Hindu impact on Sufism also became visible in the form of siddhas and yogic postures.

44. Ans: D

- **Varada Mudra:** This mudra represents the offering, welcome, charity, giving, compassion and sincerity. It is performed with the help of both the hands in which palm of right hand facing forward and fingers extended and left hand palm placed near omphalos with extended fingers.

45. Ans: B

- Alauddin Khalji maintained a large permanent standing army and paid them in cash from the royal treasury. According to the Ferishta, he recruited 4,75,000 cavalymen. He introduced the system of dagh branding of horses and prepared huliya i.e descriptive list of soldiers. In order to ensure maximum efficiency, a strict review of army from time to time was carried out.

46. Ans: D

- Battle of Haldighati: 21 June 1576
- Second Battle of Panipat: 5 November 1556
- Battle of Chausa: 26 June 1539
- Battle of Bilgram: 1540

47. Ans: B

CITES:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is also known as the Washington Convention.
- It is a multilateral treaty drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in 1963 at a meeting of members of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- CITES entered into force in 1975.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** CITES is legally binding on the Parties.
- Statement 3 is correct: It does not take the place of national laws.

48. Ans: C

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The International Union for Conservation of Nature classifies the species as critically endangered.
- **Statement 2 is also correct:** Poaching is a major

threat, especially in the National Chambal River Sanctuary, which had been a stronghold of the species for several decades. Fishing depletes the prey base and Gharials quickly drown when enmeshed in nets. Fishermen are not sympathetic to the plight of Gharials, which they view as rivals.

49. Ans: A

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Governor can exercise his personal discretion in the selection of CM when there is no clear majority in the assembly.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** When a money bill is reserved for consideration of the President, the president can give his assent, withhold his assent but cannot return the bill for reconsideration.

50. Ans: C

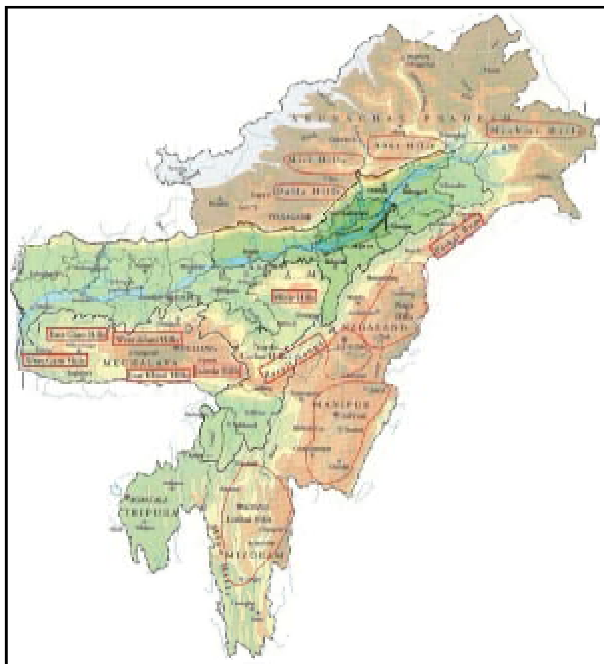
- **Option a is correct,** Recommendations of the NHRC are not binding. The NHRC, however, move to Supreme Court if its recommendations are not accepted.
- **Option b is correct,** NHRC has the power of a civil court, so it can conduct investigations into any allegation of human rights violations, summon any person during the course of the investigation and reach conclusion based on it.
- **Option c is incorrect,** NHRC has no power to punish the violators of human rights, nor award any relief including monetary relief to the victim.
- **Option d is correct,** NHRC can take suo motu case on violation of human rights.

51. Ans: D

Crop Type	Crop State (Districts)
Fruit Banana	Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka
Mango	Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar
Citrus	Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat
Vegetables	Potato Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Gujarat, Punjab
Onion	Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar
Tomato	Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar
Spices	Chilli Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha

52. Ans: D

Garo Hills-Mikir hills-Patkai Bum-Mikir Hills



53. Ans : A

- **Statement 1** is correct, She joined the National Secular Society in 1874 and worked in the free thought and radical movements led by Charles Bradlaugh, MP.
- **Statement 2** is correct, In 1898, after much planning, founded the Central Hindu School and College in Benares (now Varanasi). A few years later she also started the Central Hindu School for Girls.
- **Statement 3** is incorrect, Annie Besant founded two newspapers viz. The Common Wealth and New India for India's freedom. Young India is related to Mahatma Gandhi.

54. Ans : B

RIGHT BANK TRIBUTARIES OF GANGA:

Yamuna, Chambal, Banas, Sind, Betwa, Ken, Son, Damodar.

LEFT BANK TRIBUTARIES OF GANGA:

Ramganga, Gomati, Ghaghra, Kali, Gandak, Burhi Gandak, Bagmati, Kosi River.

55. Ans: A

- RBI has initiated steps to set up a wide-based digital PCR to capture details of all borrowers, including willful defaulters and also the pending legal suits in order to check financial delinquencies.
- **Statement 1 is WRONG:**

56. Ans : D

- These are ports being developed by China in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), which India and USA see as China's pursuit of String of Pearls (Ports) theory in the IOR.
 Bangladesh - Chittagong
 Pakistan - Gwadar
 Myanmar - Kyaukpyu
 Sri Lanka - Hambanthota
 Djibouti - Doraleh
- Using the Maritime Silk Road as a pretext for this strategy, China has established interdependencies between itself and various South Asian states. The dual use of these ports for surveillance missions cannot be entirely discounted given China's primary aim to secure its sea lines of communication (SLOCs) in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). The Indian Ocean and its surrounding waters are home to China's principal shipping lanes, and there is a need to guard its economic and energy security against an adversarial power seeking to infringe on Chinese access to these waters. China has, therefore, embarked on an agenda to actualize a commercial support base in the IOR, which could later be leveraged militarily.

57. Ans : D

- The CRR is an effective instrument of credit control.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** Under the RBI Act, 1934 every commercial bank has to keep certain minimum cash reserves with the RBI.
- The RBI is empowered to vary the CRR between 3% and 15%.
- **Statement 2 is WRONG:** A high CRR reduces the cash for lending and a low CRR increases the cash for lending.
- A decrease in CRR therefore means that banks have to keep fewer reserves with RBI, thereby making more liquidity available with them.
- **Statement 3 is WRONG:** CRR is one of the quantitative credit control tools used by RBI.
- **Statement 4 is WRONG:** The reserves kept with RBI as part of the CRR regime does not give any interest to the banks.

58. Ans: B

- With a view to increasing speed of trains in Indian Railways, 'Mission Raftaar' was announced

by the Ministry of Railways in the Railway Budget 2016-17.

- The mission envisages a target of
- doubling of average speed of freight trains and
- increasing the average speed of all non-suburban passenger trains by 25 kmph in the next 5 years.

59. Ans: D

- **Statement 1 is WRONG:** Environment Ministry recently rolled out 'Gaj Yatra', an awareness campaign to protect elephants from Tura in Garo Hills of Meghalaya.
- **Statement 2 & 3 are correct.**
- Under this campaign, an elephant mascot will be taken across districts frequented by jumbo herds for generating awareness among the people.
- It was launched to acknowledge good gesture of villagers from Garo Hills who had set aside part of their community-owned land to create village reserve forests for human-elephant harmony.

60. Ans: C

- The Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) is a production volume index. It is an important lead indicator for overall industrial performance and general economic activities in the economy.
- The industries covered in the Index of Eight Core are namely Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Refinery Products, Fertilizers, Steel, Cement and Electricity.
- **Statement 1 is WRONG:** The Base Year of the Index of Eight Core Industries has been revised from the year 2004-05 to 2011-12 from April, 2017. The shift is in line with the new base year of Index of Industrial Production (IIP).
- **Statement 2 is WRONG:** The index is released monthly. ICI for a reference month is released with a time lag of one month on last day of the next month.
- **Statement 3 is correct.**
- **Statement 4 is WRONG:** The Index is compiled and released by Office of Economic Adviser, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

61. Ans: A

- The Prime Minister launched PARIVESH (Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub) on the occasion of World Biofuel Day

- PARIVESH is a Single-Window Integrated Environmental Management System, developed in pursuance of the spirit of 'Digital India'
- PARIVESH automates the entire process of submitting the application and tracking the status of such proposals at each stage of processing

62. Ans: D

- Bombay Reef is an atoll of the Paracel Islands.
- The Paracel Islands, also known as Xisha in Chinese and Hoàng Sa in Vietnamese, is a group of islands, reefs, banks and other maritime features in the South China Sea. It is controlled (and occupied) by the People's Republic of China, and also claimed by Taiwan (Republic of China) and Vietnam.

63. Ans: B

- Environment (Protection) Act —————1986
- Water (Prevention and Control of pollution) Act —————1974
- Wild life (Protection) Act —————1972
- Forest (Conservation) Act —————1980

64. Ans: A

The Earth Summit resulted in the following documents:

1. Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
2. Agenda 21
3. Forest Principles

Moreover, important legally binding agreements (Rio Convention) were opened for signature:

1. Convention on Biological Diversity
2. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
3. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

So Option A is correct

65. Ans: B

- Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) refer to an international type of monetary reserve currency created by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in 1969 that operates as a supplement to the existing money reserves of member countries.

66. Ans: A

- It has service module and crew module and only two unmanned gaganyaan missions will be sent before the manned one.

67. Ans: C

- The Digital Sky Platform is the first-of-its-kind

national unmanned traffic management (UTM) platform that implements “no permission, no take-off” (NPNT). Users will be required to do a one-time registration of their drones, pilots and owners.

68. Ans: C

- From Earth, 59% of the moon is visible over a period of time. This is explained by two phenomena—In Tidal locking, Moon takes nearly same time i.e. 27 days, to come one orbit around the Earth and also to rotate once on its own axis. Thus, same side of the moon is visible from Earth while the farther remains dark and Lunar vibrations due to tidal locking, ideally 50% of the moon should be visible but we see 59% because of north-south rocking and east-west wobbling of moon – rightly called as lunar vibrations

69. Ans: C

- The term ‘State’ has been used in different provisions concerning the fundamental rights. Hence, Article 12 has defined the term for the purposes of Part III. According to it, the State includes the following:
 - Government and Parliament of India, that is, executive and legislative organs of the Union government.
 - Government and legislature of states, that is, executive and legislative organs of state government.
 - All local authorities, that is, municipalities, panchayats, district boards, improvement trusts, etc.
 - All other authorities, that is, statutory or non-statutory authorities like LIC, ONGC, SAIL, etc. Thus, State has been defined in a wider sense so as to include all its agencies. It is the actions of these agencies that can be challenged in the courts as violating the Fundamental Rights.

According to the Supreme Court, even a private body or an agency working as an instrument of the State falls within the meaning of the ‘State’ under Article 12. Hence NGO funded by union government comes under the definition of State

70. Ans: B

- In Keshavananda Bharti Case, 1973 the Supreme Court held that Preamble is part of the Constitution. Hence **option A is incorrect**.
- The Supreme Court held that the Preamble can be amended, subject to the condition that no amendment is done to the ‘basic features’. In

other words, the Court held that the basic elements or the fundamental features of the Constitution as contained in the Preamble cannot be altered by an amendment under Article 368.

Hence option B is correct.

- The Preamble has been amended only once so far, in 1976, by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, which has added three new words— Socialist, Secular and Integrity—to the Preamble. Hence **option C is incorrect**.

71. Ans: D

Soil is the mixture of rock debris and organic materials which develop on the earth’s surface. The type of soil depends on relief, parent material, climate, vegetation and other life - forms and time.

Arid soil is one type of soil exhibiting the following characteristics:

- Its colour ranges from red to brown.
- It is sandy in structure and saline in nature.
- In some areas, the salt content is so high that common salt is obtained by evaporating the saline water.
- Due to dry climate, high temperature and accelerated evaporation, they lack moisture and humus.
- Nitrogen is insufficient and the phosphate content is normal.
- Lower horizons of the soil are occupied by ‘kankar’ layers because of the increasing calcium content downwards.
- The Kankar layer formation in the bottom horizons restricts the infiltration of water, and as such when irrigation is made available, the soil moisture is readily available for a sustainable plant growth.
- Arid soils are characteristically developed in western Rajasthan, which exhibit characteristic arid topography.

72. Ans: D

- The famous minute of Macaulay settled the **debate of English Vs Vernacular in favour of Anglicists**. The limited resources government resources were to be devoted to teaching the western sciences and literature through the medium of English language alone. **Hence statement 1 is incorrect**.
- The government opened a few English schools and colleges instead of a large number of elemen-

tary schools, thus neglecting mass education. The British planned to educate a small section of upper and middle classes who would act as interpreters between the government and masses. This section would enrich the vernaculars by which knowledge of western sciences and literature would reach the masses. This is called "downward filtration theory." **Hence statement 2 is incorrect.**

3. Macaulay held a view that "Indian learning was inferior to European learning." Macaulay wrote in his minute "we must at present do our best to form a class of persons Indian in blood and colour and English in taste, opinions in morals and in intellect," **Hence statement 3 is incorrect.**

73. Ans: C

- The idea of Indian National Army (INA) was first conceived by Mohan Singh, an officer of British Indian army, when he decided not to join the retreating British Army and instead turned to the Japanese for help. The Japanese handed over the Indian prisoners of war (POWs) to Mohan Singh who tried to recruit them into INA. **Hence statement 1 is incorrect.**
- The Japanese have occupied South East Asia. There they have resorted to atrocities against the locals especially the women. The INA was seen by many as a check against the misconduct of the Japanese against Indians in South East Asia and a bulwark against a future Japanese occupation of India. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- The soldiers of INA faced discriminatory treatment by the Japanese. They were denied rations and arms and were made to do menial work for the Japanese units. This completely demoralized the INA units. **Hence statement 3 is incorrect.**

74. Ans: C

- Karst regions have limestone which is easily soluble in rain water. Karst regions have bleak landscape and at best carry a thin layer of soil. **Hence statement 1 is incorrect.**
- In karst regions there is a general absence of surface drainage as most of the surface water has gone underground. Streams rising over other rocks flow over limestone for a short distance and then disappear underground. For a greater part of their course, they cut their way along joints and fissures of rock forming a system of underground channels. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

- The Karst region has thin layer soil. They lack surface drainage which makes vegetation growth difficult. The limestone can usually support only poor grass and short turf. **Hence statement 3 is incorrect.**

- Limestone is a sedimentary rock of organic origin derived from accumulation of corals and shells in the sea. Limestone when metamorphosed forms marble rocks. **Hence statement 4 is incorrect.**

75. Ans: B

- Statement 1 is incorrect:** Indigenously developed Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM). Also, production facility for manufacturing these missiles has been inaugurated at Bharat Dynamics Ltd (BDL) unit at Bhanur.
- Statement 2 is correct:** It is a third-generation anti-tank guided missile, fitted with a high-explosive anti-tank (HEAT) warhead.
- Statement 3 is incorrect:** It has a maximum engagement range of about 2.5 Kms.

76. Ans: A

- The Union Government had constituted an inter-ministerial committee headed by Ashok Dalwai to prepare a blueprint for doubling farmers' income by 2022.
- It noted that policy should focus on creating a favourable investment climate for increasing investment 'in agriculture'. An additional investment of Rs 6,399 billion is required from both public and private sectors to enable doubling of farmers' real income by 2022.

77. Ans: D

- Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), which is part of the magazine 'The Economist', has released the Global Liveability Index.
- Statement 2 is incorrect:** 10 most liveable cities' list includes Vienna, Austria (rank: 1st, with total score of 99.1), Melbourne, Australia (2nd, 98.4); Osaka, Japan (3rd, 97.7); Calgary, Canada (4th, 97.5); Sydney, Australia (5th, 97.4); Vancouver, Canada (6th, 97.3); Toronto, Canada (7th, 97.2); Tokyo, Japan (8th, 97.2) Copenhagen, Denmark (9th, 96.8); and Adelaide, Australia (96.6). Hence out of 10, 3 are from Canada.

78. Ans: C

The federal features of the Constitution of India are
 1. Dual Polity

2. Written Constitution

3. Division of Powers
4. Supremacy of the Constitution
5. Rigid Constitution
6. Independent Judiciary
7. Bicameralism

79. Ans: A

- Article 262 of the Constitution provides for the adjudication of inter-state water disputes. It makes two provisions:
 - (i) Parliament may by law provide for the adjudication of any dispute or complaint with respect to the use, distribution and control of waters of any inter-state river and river valley. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - (ii) Parliament may also provide that neither the Supreme Court nor any other court is to exercise jurisdiction in respect of any such dispute or complaint. **Hence statement 2 is incorrect.**

80. Ans: D

The DPSPs are constitutional instructions or recommendations to the State in legislative, executive and administrative matters. Hence they don't have legal sanctions and are non justiciable. The courts cannot declare a law violative of DPSP as invalid as in case of Fundamental Rights.

81. Ans: D

82. Ans: B

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Exchanges in order to enhance market integrity and safeguard interest of investors, have been introducing various enhanced pre-emptive surveillance measures such as reduction in price band, periodic call auction and transfer of securities to Trade to Trade category from time to time.
- **Statement 1 is WRONG:** In continuation to various surveillance measures already implemented, SEBI and Exchanges, pursuant to discussions in joint surveillance meetings, have decided that along with the aforesaid measures there shall be Additional Surveillance Measures (ASM) on securities with surveillance concerns viz. Price variation, Volatility etc.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The surveillance actions applicable for the shortlisted securities is as under:
 - i. Securities shall be placed in Price Band of 5%

- ii. Margins shall be levied at the rate of 100%
- The shortlisted securities shall be further monitored on a pre-determined objective criteria and would be moved into Trade for Trade segment once the criteria gets satisfied.
 - Why is it important?
 - Once a stock is caught in the ASM net, it attracts a bunch of stricter exchange rules on intra-day price movements. If Stock A enters the surveillance list today (July 31), it will be moved into a 5 per cent price band on August 1. That is, its price can move only 5 per cent either way from the previous day's closing level. The stock will be halted from trading for the rest of the day if it breaches the 5 per cent limit. From the fifth trading day (August 7, in our example), 100 per cent margin money will be required to trade Stock A.
 - A stock in the surveillance list will be moved to trade-to-trade settlement if its PE ratio (the price/earnings ratio is the ratio of a company's stock price to the company's earnings per share; the ratio is used in valuing companies) shoots above 100. It will be moved out of the list if its PE falls below 10 or below the ratio of Nifty 500 Index.
 - Such curbs discourage speculators and intra-day traders from taking heavy positions in stocks. The flight of such traders often leads to liquidity evaporating, causing stock prices to drop.
 - Further, it may also be noted that the shortlisting of securities under ASM is purely on account of market surveillance and it should not be construed as an adverse action against the concerned company.

83. Ans: D

- Project Sashakt, a five-pronged strategy to deal with stressed assets of PSBs. 'SASHAKT' stands for strengthening and the whole objective is to strengthen the credit capacity, credit culture and portfolio of PSBs. (*India's PSBs account for more than 70% of the total bad loans of the banking industry.*)
- The five-pronged resolution route includes –
- SME approach – for resolution of loans up to Rs. 50 crore in small and medium enterprises (SME)
- Bank-Led Resolution (BLRA) approach – for loans ranging between Rs. 50-500 crore – wherein financial institutions will enter into an inter-creditor agreement to authorise the lead bank to implement a resolution plan in 180 days

- AMC/AIF approach – for loans above Rs. 500 crore, an independent AMC will be set up. AIF would be set up to raise funds from institutional investors. Banks would be given an option to invest in this fund if they wish.
- NCLT/IBC approach – for larger assets already with NCLT and any other assets not resolved by any resolution approach above
- Asset trading platform approach – a trading platform will help in price discovery and enhance liquidity

84. Ans: A

Statement 1 is correct: In Eastern India, in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, during the Pala kingdom in the 9th – 10th century A.D., a new kind of painting developed called the miniature painting. The miniature, as the name suggests, were small works which were made on perishable materials. In this category, Buddhist, Jain and Hindu manuscripts were illustrated, on palm leaves. They resemble the Ajanta style, but on a miniature scale.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The art of painting reached its climax during the period of Jahangir who himself was a great painter and connoisseur of art. Artists began to use vibrant colours such as peacock blue and red and were able to give three dimensional effects to paintings.

85. Ans: D

Moderates aimed at administrative and constitutional reforms. They believed in peaceful mode, Moderates wanted more Indians in the administration and not to an end of British rule.

86. Ans: A

Ideals of Arya Samaj

- Vedas are the revealed wisdom and they are the only source of religious knowledge.
- There is only one God who is omnipresent and all powerful. **So, statement 1 is INCORRECT.**
- The Arya Samaj condemns superstitions, idol worship and the caste system.
- **The Hindu Religion**, based on the Vedas, is superior to all other religions. Thus the Arya Samaj prevented conversion of Hindus to other religions.
- Started a counter movement called Shudhi to bring the Hindu converts back to Hinduism.
- To raise the standard of Women, it opposed child marriage and the purdah system. It advocated

widow remarriage and opened orphanages. Special schools and colleges were also opened for girls.

- The Arya Samaj helped to establish Dayanand Anglo-Vedic (D.A.V.) schools & colleges in North India to impart education in western sciences and Sanskrit.

87. Ans: B

- **Policy of Ring Fence (1765-1813):** This policy was reflected in Warren Hastings' wars against the Marathas and Mysore, and aimed at **creating buffer zones to defend the Company's frontiers. It basically aimed to defend the neighboring state frontiers in order to safeguard them.**

88. Ans: D

- GSTN is a not-for-profit organization owned jointly by the government and private players.
- GSTN provides IT backbone to the new GST regime - has been entrusted with the responsibility of building Indirect Taxation platform for GST to help one prepare, file, rectify returns and make payments of one's indirect tax liabilities.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** GSTN currently is
 - o 24.5% owned by the central government
 - o 24.5 % held by state governments collectively.
 - o 51% is with five private financial institutions - HDFC Ltd, HDFC Bank LTD, ICICI Bank Ltd, NSE Strategic Investment Co and LIC Housing Finance Ltd.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The council has agreed to a proposal of buying out the stake of private entities to make GSTN a government-owned entity.
 - o 50% - Central government
 - o 50% - collectively by state governments

89. Ans: D

- **Option a is correct:** The following six languages are included in the list of Classical Languages: Tamil (since 2004) Sanskrit (since 2005) Telugu (since 2008) Kannada (Since 2008) Malayalam (since 2013) Odiya (since 2014)
- **Option b is correct:** Languages in India declared as classical receive three primary benefits. First, two major international awards for scholars who have made significant contributions to Classical Indian Languages are awarded annually. Second, the government has also set up a Center of Ex-

cellence for the Study of Classical Languages. Last, Central Universities have also been requested to provide grants for Professional Chairs for Classical Languages.

- **Option c is correct:** While Marathi is conventionally considered a relatively modern language evolved from Sanskrit, documentary evidence submitted by the state appointed Classical Marathi Committee.
- **Option d is incorrect:** The first call for a classical language was given by Tamil academicians. They claimed that the Sangam anthologies should be considered as classical languages.

90. Ans: A

- The CEC can be removed from office only by the order of the President, just like a judge of the Supreme Court. However, the same constitutional provision is silent about the procedure for removal of the two Election Commissioners. It only provides that they cannot be removed from office except on the recommendation of the CEC.

91. Ans: A

1. **Bio Ethanol** It is an alcohol produced from fermentation of carbohydrate and cellulosic material of crops and other plants and grasses. It is generally used as an additive to increase octane number of fuel
2. **Bio Diesel** It is a methyl or **methyl ester of fatty acids produced** by trans esterification of oils and fats obtained from plants and animals. It can be directly used as fuel.
3. **Bio gas Biogas is methane produced by anaerobic digestion of organic material by anaerobes.** It can be produced either from biodegradable waste materials or by the use of energy crops fed into anaerobic digesters to supplement gas yields

92. Ans: D

Reasons for slightly increased tiger population recently:

- Wireless communication systems and outstation patrol camps have been developed within the tiger reserves, due to which poaching has declined considerably.
- Fire protection is effectively done by suitable preventive and control measures.
- Voluntary Village relocation has been done in many reserves.
- Livestock grazing has been controlled to a great

extent in the tiger reserves.

- Various compensatory developmental works have improved the water regime and the ground and field level vegetation.
- Stringent punishments for violators.
- GIS based digitized database development to evaluate tiger population.

93. Ans: C

- A bill to increase authorised capital of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) by six times to Rs30,000 crore and enable exit of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was passed by the Parliament.
- As RBI is also a regulator, its 0.4% equity has been transferred to the centre and as a result, 100% equity has come to the government.
- The RBI has three fully owned subsidiaries, i.e., the entire paid-up capital is contributed by RBI. They are—
- DICGC – aims to provide insurance of deposits and guarantee of the credit facilities
- NHB – apex level institution for housing aims at promoting housing finance institutions both at local and regional levels
- BRBNMPL – design, print and supply banknotes for the Reserve Bank of India(RBI) to meet the demand of the banknotes in the country

94. Ans: B

- 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 an international agreement which aims at sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way.
- The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety is a legally binding global protocol that seeks to contribute to ensuring the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) created through modern biotechnology.
- The Stockholm Convention is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants (POPs). POPs are chemicals that remain intact in the environment for long periods, become widely distributed geographically, accumulate in the fatty tissue of living organisms and are toxic to humans and wildlife.
- **The Rotterdam Convention** (The Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Pro-

cedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade) is a multilateral treaty to promote shared responsibilities in relation to importation of hazardous chemicals.

95. Ans: A

- The total amount of oxygen consumed by microorganisms (bacteria) in decomposing organic matter present in certain volume of a sample of water is called Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) of the water. Water considered to be pure if it has BOD less than 5 ppm whereas highly polluted water has BOD more than 17 ppm. Thus, the water having BOD less than 5 ppm is rich in dissolved oxygen.

96. Ans: B

- The IPCC has released its Special Report titled “**Global Warming of 1.5°C**”, first in a series of Special Reports to be produced in the IPCC’s Sixth Assessment Cycle. So **First statement is false**.

97. Ans: A

- Corals are good example of **Symbiotic relation**.
- Coral - provide shelter and light to algae**
- ZooXanthelle Algae - Provide nutrition , energy through photosynthesis
- Corals are most productive ecosystem and support livelihood of millions and occur in shallow tropical water where water is clean , clear and warm.
- Thus first two statements are wrong. So option is A

98. Ans: A

- Black Carbon (BC), emitted mainly by high-temperature combustion processes** (diesel engines, etc.) and Brown Carbon (BrC), emitted mainly by biomass combustion are the two most important light absorbing substances in the atmospheric aerosol.

- Their impact is same as both are light absorbing particulate matter

1. It will absorb sunlight and warm the air near it and thereby change the cloud patterns and precipitation in that area

2. when deposited on snow it will absorb light and cause melting of snow

Black carbon is a potential green house gas next only to carbon dioxide

So only A is true

99. Ans: D

- Statement 1 and 2 are WRONG:** The North Eastern Region Urban Development Programme (NERUDP) Phase-I is being implemented by the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) with the financial assistance from Asian Development Bank (ADB).

- It covers capital cities of 5 North Eastern States viz. Agartala (Tripura), Aizawl (Mizoram), Gangtok (Sikkim), and Kohima (Nagaland). The project covers priority urban services viz.

(i) Water Supply,

(ii) Sewerage and Sanitation, and

(iii) Solid Waste Management.

Statement 3 is WRONG:

- 70% of the cost of the project will be given by ADB as loan and passed on by the MoUD to the participating states through its budget.

- 90% of the project cost will be passed on to the participating states on reimbursement basis as grant and 10% as loan.

100. Ans: A

- Mangroves exhibit Viviparity mode of reproduction. i.e. seeds germinate in the tree itself (before falling to the ground).

- This is an adaptive mechanism to overcome the problem of germination in saline water.