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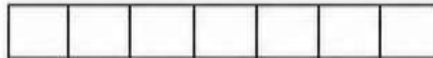
TEST - 01

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A

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**UPPSC 2026-27
GENERAL STUDIES**

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Q1. Arrange the following Governor-Generals in ascending chronological order:

1. Lord Dalhousie
2. Lord Wellesley
3. Lord Curzon
4. Lord Ripon

(a) 2, 1, 4, 3 (b) 1, 2, 3, 4
(c) 2, 4, 1, 3 (d) 1, 3, 2, 4

Q2. Consider the following statements with reference to the Indus Valley Civilization:

1. Both Mohenjo-daro and Harappa are located in Pakistan.
2. Lothal was a port town located in Gujarat.
3. The people of the Indus civilization used iron tools.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) Only 1 and 2
(b) Only 2 and 3
(c) Only 1 and 3
(d) All three, 1, 2 and 3

Q3. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): The decline of the Mauryan Empire happened rapidly after the death of Ashoka.

Reason (R): Ashoka's policy of non-violence weakened the army.

(a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
(c) A is true, but R is false
(d) A is false, but R is true

Q4. Match the following Buddhist Councils with their locations:

List-I (Council) List-II (Location)

- A. First Buddhist Council 1. Pataliputra
B. Second Buddhist Council 2. Rajagriha
C. Third Buddhist Council 3. Kundalvan (Kashmir)
D. Fourth Buddhist Council 4. Vaishali

(a) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3
(b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
(c) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
(d) A-4, B-3, C-1, D-2

Q5. Who among the following is called the 'Father of the Indian Renaissance'?

(a) Swami Vivekananda
(b) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
(c) Dayanand Saraswati
(d) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar

Q6. Arrange the following reform movements in chronological order:

1. Founding of Brahmo Samaj
2. Founding of Arya Samaj
3. Founding of Ramakrishna Mission
4. Founding of Theosophical Society in India

(a) 1, 4, 2, 3 (b) 1, 2, 4, 3
(c) 2, 1, 3, 4 (d) 1, 2, 3, 4

Q7. Consider the following statements with reference to the Gupta period:

1. The Gupta period is called the 'Golden Age of India'.
2. Both Aryabhata and Kalidasa lived during the Gupta period.
3. The Gupta rulers declared Buddhism as the state religion.

(a) Only 1 (b) Only 1 and 2
(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 2 and 3

Q8. Match the following Mughal rulers with their achievements:

List-I (Ruler) List-II (Achievement)

- A. Akbar 1. Construction of the Taj Mahal
B. Jahangir 2. Establishment of Din-e-Ilahi
C. Shah Jahan 3. Influence of Nur Jahan
D. Aurangzeb 4. Reimposed the Jizya tax

(a) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4 (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(c) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4 (d) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4

Q9. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): The Revolt of 1857 is called India's 'First War of Independence'.

Reason (R): Veer Savarkar termed it the first war of independence in his book '1857 ka Swatantrya Samar'.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
(c) A is true, but R is false
(d) A is false, but R is true

Q10. In which year and by whom was the 'Indian National Congress' founded?

- (a) 1885, A.O. Hume
(b) 1885, Dadabhai Naoroji
(c) 1886, Surendranath Banerjee
(d) 1884, A.O. Hume

Q11. Arrange the following Congress sessions in chronological order:

1. Bombay session (first)
2. Surat Split
3. Lahore session (Purna Swaraj)
4. Tripuri session (Subhas Bose's victory)

(a) 1, 2, 3, 4

(b) 2, 1, 4, 3

(c) 1, 3, 2, 4

(d) 2, 3, 1, 4

Q12. Consider the following statements with reference to the Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-22):

1. This movement began in conjunction with the Khilafat Movement.
2. Gandhiji withdrew it because of the Chauri Chaura incident.
3. In this movement, students left government schools and colleges.

(a) Only 1 and 2

(b) Only 2 and 3

(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3

(d) Only 1 and 3

Q13. Match the following books with their authors:

List-I (Book) List-II (Author)

- A. Gitanjali 1. Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay
B. Anandamath 2. Rabindranath Tagore
C. Godaan 3. Munshi Premchand
D. Devdas 4. Sharat Chandra Chattopadhyay

(a) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

(b) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

(c) A-2, B-4, C-3, D-1

(d) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Q14. Who is the author of the book 'The Tragedy of India' (Poverty and Un-British Rule in India)?

- (a) Gopal Krishna Gokhale
(b) Dadabhai Naoroji
(c) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
(d) Romesh Chunder Dutt

Q15. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): Lord Dalhousie's Doctrine of Lapse was a major cause of the Revolt of 1857.

Reason (R): Under this policy, states without a male heir were annexed to the British Empire.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q16. Consider the following statements with reference to Mahatma Gandhi:

1. Gandhiji first used 'Satyagraha' in South Africa in 1906.
2. The book 'Hind Swaraj' was written by Gandhiji in 1909.
3. Gandhiji returned to India in 1915.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q17. Match the following movements with the places associated with them:

List-I (Movement) List-II (Place)

- A. Indigo Revolt (1859-60) 1. Maharashtra
- B. Deccan Riots (1875) 2. Bengal
- C. Moplah Rebellion (1921) 3. Punjab
- D. Pagal Panthi Revolt 4. Kerala (Malabar)

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
- (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- (c) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3
- (d) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Q18. The 'Swadeshi Movement' began in reaction to which event?

- (a) Jallianwala Bagh massacre
- (b) Partition of Bengal, 1905
- (c) Rowlatt Act, 1919
- (d) Simon Commission, 1927

Q19. Arrange the deaths of the following nationalist leaders in ascending chronological order:

1. Bal Gangadhar Tilak
2. Lala Lajpat Rai
3. Bipin Chandra Pal
4. Gopal Krishna Gokhale

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

Q20. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): Indians opposed the Simon Commission (1927).

Reason (R): This commission did not have a single Indian member.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q21. Consider the following statements with reference to trade in ancient India:

1. India traded spices and textiles with the Roman Empire.
2. Muziris was an important port.
3. India imported gold from Rome.

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3
- (d) Only 1 and 3

Q22. Match the following Vedas with their subject matter:

List-I (Veda) List-II (Subject)

- A. Rigveda 1. Music/Samagana
B. Samaveda 2. Sacrificial ritual
C. Yajurveda 3. Magic/Atharva
D. Atharvaveda 4. Hymns/Richas

(a) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

(b) A-1, B-4, C-2, D-3

(c) A-4, B-2, C-1, D-3

(d) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

Q23. Between whom was the 'Poona Pact' (1932) signed?

- (a) Gandhi and Jinnah
(b) Gandhi and Ambedkar
(c) Nehru and Ambedkar
(d) Gandhi and Irwin

Q24. Arrange the following in chronological order:

1. Cabinet Mission 2. Cripps Mission
3. Wavell Plan 4. Mountbatten Plan

(a) 2, 3, 1, 4 (b) 1, 2, 3, 4

(c) 3, 2, 1, 4 (d) 2, 1, 3, 4

Q25. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): Chandragupta Maurya is considered 'India's first historical emperor'.

Reason (R): He was the first to unify the whole of India under one rule.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
(c) A is true, but R is false
(d) A is false, but R is true

Q26. Consider the following statements with reference to the Vijayanagara Empire:

1. The Vijayanagara Empire was founded by Harihara and Bukka.
2. Krishnadevaraya was the most powerful ruler of Vijayanagara.
3. Vijayanagara was defeated in the Battle of Talikota (1565).

(a) Only 1 and 2

(b) Only 2 and 3

(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3

(d) Only 1 and 3

Q27. Match the following newspapers with their founders:

List-I (Newspaper) List-II (Founder)

- A. Kesari 1. Gopal Krishna Gokhale
B. Young India 2. Bal Gangadhar Tilak
C. Harijan 3. Mahatma Gandhi
D. Indian Opinion 4. Mahatma Gandhi

(a) A-2, B-3, C-3, D-4

(b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(c) A-2, B-4, C-3, D-1

(d) A-2, B-3, C-4, D-3

Q28. Who is the author of the book 'India Wins Freedom'?

- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru (b) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
(c) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (d) Rajagopalachari

Q29. Consider the following statements with reference to the Chola Empire:

1. Rajaraja Chola I built the 'Brihadeeswarar Temple of Thanjavur'.
2. Rajendra Chola sent naval expeditions to South-East Asia.
3. 'Ur' and 'Sabha' were institutions of village self-government in the Chola Empire.

(a) Only 1 and 2

(b) Only 2 and 3

(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3

(d) Only 1 and 3

Q30. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): The Bhakti Movement spread during the medieval period.

Reason (R): The Bhakti Movement challenged the caste system and Brahmin dominance.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q31. Match the following revolts with their years:

List-I (Revolt) List-II (Year)

A. Sepoy Mutiny 1. 1855

B. Santhal Rebellion 2. 1857

C. Munda Ulgulan 3. 1921

D. Moplah Rebellion 4. 1899-1900

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3 (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- (c) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3 (d) A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2

Q32. Who gave the slogan 'Inquilab Zindabad'?

- (a) Bhagat Singh
- (b) Subhas Chandra Bose
- (c) Maulana Hasrat Mohani
- (d) Chandrasekhar Azad

Q33. Consider the following statements with reference to Qutb-ud-din Aibak:

- 1. Qutb-ud-din Aibak founded the Delhi Sultanate.
- 2. He was called 'Lakshbaksh'.
- 3. The construction of the Qutub Minar was started by Qutb-ud-din Aibak.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q34. Arrange the following in chronological order:

- 1. Battle of Plassey
- 2. Battle of Buxar
- 3. Third Battle of Panipat
- 4. Battle of Haldighati

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

Q35. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose reorganised the 'Azad Hind Fauj' (INA).

Reason (R): He gave the famous slogan 'Give me blood, and I shall give you freedom'.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q36. Which of the following is India's largest river basin?

- (a) Ganga basin (b) Godavari basin
- (c) Indus basin (d) Krishna basin

Q37. Consider the following statements with reference to the Western Ghats:

- 1. UNESCO has declared the Western Ghats a World Heritage Site.
- 2. Anamudi is the highest peak of the Western Ghats.
- 3. The Western Ghats is included among India's biodiversity hotspots.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q38. Match the following lakes with their states:

List-I (Lake) List-II (State)

- A. Chilika 1. Rajasthan
B. Sambhar 2. Odisha
C. Wular 3. Manipur
D. Loktak 4. Jammu & Kashmir

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3 (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
(c) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3 (d) A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2

Q39. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): Deltas are more common on India's eastern coast.

Reason (R): The rivers of the eastern coast are longer, slower and carry more sediment.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
(c) A is true, but R is false
(d) A is false, but R is true

Q40. Which of the following rivers is called the 'Ganga of the South'?

- (a) Krishna (b) Kaveri
(c) Godavari (d) Mahanadi

Q41. Consider the following statements with reference to the Indian monsoon:

1. The south-west monsoon has two branches — the Arabian Sea branch and the Bay of Bengal branch.
2. The Bay of Bengal branch causes more rainfall on India's western coast.
3. Cherrapunji is one of the wettest places in the world.

- (a) Only 1 and 3 (b) Only 2 and 3
(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 2

Q42. Match the following minerals with their leading producing states:

List-I (Mineral) List-II (State)

- A. Iron ore 1. Rajasthan
B. Mica 2. Jharkhand
C. Copper 3. Jharkhand/Odisha/Chhattisgarh
D. Manganese 4. Odisha

- (a) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4 (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
(c) A-2, B-3, C-4, D-1 (d) A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2

Q43. Which of the following passes connects Himachal Pradesh to Ladakh?

- (a) Rohtang Pass (b) Baralacha La
(c) Zoji La (d) Shipki La

Q44. Consider the following statements with reference to Indian soils:

1. Black soil (Regur) is suitable for cotton cultivation.
2. Red soil is red in colour due to the abundance of iron oxide.
3. Laterite soil is found in Karnataka and Kerala.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q45. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): Population density in India is highest in the northern plains.

Reason (R): The northern plains have fertile alluvial soil, irrigation facilities and flat land.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
(c) A is true, but R is false
(d) A is false, but R is true

Q46. Match the following national parks with their states:

List-I (National Park) List-II (State)

A. Kaziranga 1. Uttarakhand

B. Corbett 2. Assam

C. Gir 3. Madhya Pradesh

D. Bandhavgarh 4. Gujarat

(a) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3 (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(c) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3 (d) A-3, B-2, C-4, D-1

Q47. Who is considered the father of the 'Green Revolution' in India?

(a) Verghese Kurien

(b) M.S. Swaminathan

(c) Norman Borlaug

(d) K. Sivan

Q48. Arrange the following Indian rivers in descending order of length:

1. Ganga

2. Godavari

3. Yamuna

4. Krishna

(a) 1, 3, 2, 4 (b) 1, 2, 3, 4

(c) 3, 1, 2, 4 (d) 1, 3, 4, 2

Q49. Consider the following statements with reference to India's islands:

1. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands are in the Bay of Bengal.

2. The Lakshadweep are coral islands.

3. India's largest island is Middle Andaman.

(a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3

(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q50. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): Cloudburst events occur more frequently in Uttarakhand.

Reason (R): In the Himalayan region, steep terrain and climate change cause intense, localised rainfall.

(a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A

(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A

(c) A is true, but R is false

(d) A is false, but R is true

Q51. Match the following ports with their states:

List-I (Port) List-II (State)

A. Jawaharlal Nehru Port 1. Odisha

B. Paradip 2. Maharashtra

C. Tuticorin 3. Karnataka

D. New Mangalore 4. Tamil Nadu

(a) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

(b) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

(c) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

(d) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Q52. The 'Gulf of Mannar' is located between which countries?

(a) India and Sri Lanka

(b) India and Maldives

(c) India and Myanmar

(d) Sri Lanka and Indonesia

Q53. Consider the following statements with reference to Indian agriculture:

1. India is the world's largest tea-exporting country.

2. Assam is India's largest tea-producing state.

3. Darjeeling tea has been given a GI tag.

(a) Only 1 and 2

(b) Only 2 and 3

(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3

(d) Only 1 and 3

Q54. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): The diurnal temperature range is very high in the Thar Desert.

Reason (R): Atmospheric humidity is very low in desert regions.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q55. Match the following waterfalls with their states:

List-I (Waterfall) List-II (State)

- A. Jog Falls 1. Odisha
- B. Dhuandhar 2. Karnataka
- C. Barehipani 3. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Dudhsagar 4. Goa/Karnataka

- (a) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4 (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- (c) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3 (d) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4

Q56. India's 'Cherrapunji' and 'Mawsynram' are located in which state?

- (a) Assam (b) Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) Meghalaya (d) Nagaland

Q57. Consider the following statements with reference to India's mineral resources:

- 1. The Chota Nagpur Plateau is called 'India's mineral storehouse'.
- 2. India is the world's largest producer of mica.
- 3. Rajasthan has the greatest mineral diversity.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q58. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): The rate of urbanisation is continuously rising in India.

Reason (R): Rural-to-urban migration happens in search of economic opportunities.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q59. Match the following energy projects with their states:

List-I (Project) List-II (State)

- A. Bhakra Nangal Dam 1. Himachal Pradesh
- B. Hirakud Dam 2. Telangana
- C. Nagarjuna Sagar 3. Odisha
- D. Sardar Sarovar 4. Gujarat

- (a) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4 (b) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
- (c) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3 (d) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Q60. Which of the following is India's highest waterfall?

- (a) Jog Falls (b) Nohkalikai
- (c) Dhuandhar (d) Dudhsagar

Q61. Consider the following statements with reference to solar energy:

- 1. Rajasthan is a leading state in solar energy generation in India.
- 2. India has set a target of 500 GW of renewable energy by 2030.
- 3. The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is headquartered in Gurugram.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q62. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): Lagoons and kayals are found on India's western coast.

Reason (R): Because the rivers of the western coast are shallow and small, they do not form deltas.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q63. Match the following crops with their leading producer states:

List-I (Crop) List-II (State)

A. Coffee 1. West Bengal

B. Jute 2. Karnataka

C. Sugarcane 3. Uttar Pradesh

D. Rubber 4. Kerala

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4 (b) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3
- (c) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4 (d) A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2

Q64. In India, 'Operation Flood' was related to which of the following?

- (a) Flood control
- (b) White Revolution (milk production)
- (c) Blue Revolution (fisheries)
- (d) Green Revolution

Q65. Consider the following statements with reference to the rivers of the Himalayas:

1. The Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra — all three existed before the Himalayas (antecedent rivers).
2. The Brahmaputra is known as the 'Tsangpo' in Tibet.

3. The Ganga originates from the Gangotri glacier in Uttarakhand.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q66. By which amendment were the Fundamental Duties added to the Indian Constitution?

- (a) 42nd Amendment, 1976
- (b) 44th Amendment, 1978
- (c) 86th Amendment, 2002
- (d) 73rd Amendment, 1992

Q67. Consider the following statements with reference to the Lok Sabha:

1. The Lok Sabha can have a maximum of 552 members.
2. The Lok Sabha's term is 5 years, but the President can dissolve it earlier.
3. A Money Bill can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q68. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): Despite being a federal system, states in India do not have the power to amend the Constitution.

Reason (R): The power to amend the Constitution rests solely with Parliament.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q69. Match the following constitutional provisions with their articles:

List-I (Provision) List-II (Article)

A. President's emergency power 1. Article 356

B. President's Rule in states 2. Article 352

C. Financial Emergency 3. Article 360

D. Supreme Court 4. Article 124

(a) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4 (b) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

(c) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4 (d) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Q70. What is meant by 'Zero Hour' in the Indian Parliament?

(a) A sitting held after midnight

(b) The time after Question Hour and before the House's regular business

(c) The time when the Lok Sabha is dissolved

(d) The time of the President's address

Q71. Consider the following statements with reference to the Supreme Court:

1. Judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President.

2. Judges of the Supreme Court serve until the age of 65.

3. Judges can be removed through impeachment.

(a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3

(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q72. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): In India, the CAG (Comptroller and Auditor General) is a constitutional post.

Reason (R): The CAG is appointed by the President, and removal is through impeachment.

(a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A

(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A

(c) A is true, but R is false

(d) A is false, but R is true

Q73. Match the following committees with their subjects:

List-I (Committee) List-II (Subject)

A. Balwant Rai Mehta Committee 1. Urban local self-government

B. Ashok Mehta Committee 2. Panchayati Raj reforms

C. P.K. Thungon Committee 3. Panchayati Raj (1957)

D. Narasimham Committee 4. Banking reforms

(a) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4

(b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

(c) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

(d) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

Q74. Which of the following is NOT included among the types of questions in 'Question Hour'?

(a) Starred question

(b) Unstarred question

(c) Short-notice question

(d) Adjournment motion

Q75. Consider the following statements with reference to a joint sitting of Parliament:

1. A joint sitting is presided over by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

2. A joint sitting is held only for ordinary bills, not for a Money Bill.

3. There is a provision for a joint sitting for a Constitution Amendment Bill.

(a) Only 1 and 2

(b) Only 2 and 3

(c) Only 1 and 3

(d) All three, 1, 2 and 3

Q76. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): The Rajya Sabha is a permanent House in India.

Reason (R): The Rajya Sabha is never dissolved, and one-third of its members retire every two years.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q77. Match the following writs with their meanings:

List-I (Writ) List-II (Meaning/Purpose)

A. Habeas Corpus 1. By what authority to hold public office

B. Mandamus 2. Produce the body

C. Quo Warranto 3. Prohibit/restrain

D. Prohibition 4. Perform your duty

- (a) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3 (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- (c) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3 (d) A-4, B-2, C-1, D-3

Q78. Before whom is the report of India's Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) presented?

- (a) Prime Minister
- (b) Finance Minister
- (c) President
- (d) Public Accounts Committee of Parliament

Q79. Consider the following statements with reference to the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments:

- 1. The 73rd Amendment relates to Panchayati Raj and the 74th to urban local government.
- 2. Both amendments were passed in 1992 and came into effect in 1993.

3. These amendments made one-third reservation for women mandatory.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q80. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): The President of India is bound to accept the advice of the Prime Minister.

Reason (R): After the 44th Constitutional Amendment 1978, the President can return the advice of the Council of Ministers for reconsideration once, but is bound to accept it the second time.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q81. Match the following constitutional amendments with their subjects:

List-I (Amendment) List-II (Subject)

A. 42nd Amendment (1976) 1. Voting age lowered from 21 to 18

B. 44th Amendment (1978) 2. Fundamental Duties / added 'Socialist-Secular' to the Preamble

C. 61st Amendment (1989) 3. Removed the Right to Property

D. 86th Amendment (2002) 4. Right to Education (6-14 years)

- (a) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4
- (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- (c) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
- (d) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4

Q82. Which one of the following is NOT a constitutional body?

- (a) Election Commission
- (b) Finance Commission
- (c) NITI Aayog
- (d) National Commission for Scheduled Castes

Q83. Consider the following statements with reference to the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP):

1. These are not enforceable by any court.
2. They are inspired by the Irish Constitution.
3. Their aim is to establish a 'Welfare State'.

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3
- (d) Only 1 and 3

Q84. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): The power of Judicial Review in India lies with the judiciary.

Reason (R): This is derived from the American Constitution.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q85. Match the following elements of the Constitution with their countries of origin:

List-I (Element of the Constitution) List-II (Source country)

- A. Fundamental Rights 1. Britain
B. Parliamentary form of government 2. America
C. DPSP 3. Canada

D. Federal system 4. Ireland

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
- (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- (c) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3
- (d) A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2

Q86. When was India's 'National Human Rights Commission' (NHRC) established?

- (a) 1990
- (b) 1993
- (c) 1995
- (d) 2000

Q87. Consider the following statements with reference to the Preamble of the Indian Constitution:

1. The Preamble was amended by the 42nd Amendment in 1976.
2. The words 'Socialist' and 'Secular' were in the original Preamble.
3. The Preamble is a part of the Constitution and can be challenged in court.

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 1 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3
- (d) Only 2 and 3

Q88. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): The office of Governor in India is a constitutional post.

Reason (R): The Governor is appointed by the President and acts as an agent of the Centre.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q89. Match the following commissions with their years of establishment:

List-I (Commission) List-II (Year)

- A. Election Commission 1. 1966
B. Finance Commission 2. 1951
C. Language Commission 3. 1950
D. Planning Commission 4. 1950

- (a) A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2
(b) A-4, B-3, C-1, D-2
(c) A-3, B-2, C-4, D-1
(d) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

Q90. 'Parliamentary privilege' relates to which of the following?

- (a) Judicial immunity of members of Parliament
(b) No proceedings in any court in respect of a speech given in Parliament
(c) The salaries and allowances of MPs
(d) Foreign travel by MPs

Q91. Which of the following is NOT correct? (Method of calculating GDP)

- (a) Expenditure method
(b) Income method
(c) Production/value-added method
(d) Population method

Q92. Consider the following statements with reference to India's Budget:

1. India's Budget is presented on 1 February.
2. The Railway Budget merged into the General Budget from 2017.
3. A Money Bill cannot be amended by the Rajya Sabha.

- (a) Only 1 and 2
(b) Only 2 and 3
(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3
(d) Only 1 and 3

Q93. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is increasing in India.

Reason (R): 'Make in India' and the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme have improved the investment climate.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
(c) A is true, but R is false
(d) A is false, but R is true

Q94. Match the following banks with their headquarters:

List-I (Bank) List-II (Headquarters)

- A. Reserve Bank of India 1. New Delhi
B. State Bank of India 2. Mumbai
C. NABARD 3. Mumbai
D. SEBI 4. Mumbai

- (a) A-2, B-2, C-3, D-4 (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
(c) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4 (d) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4

Q95. Which index is mainly used in India to measure 'inflation'?

- (a) WPI (Wholesale Price Index)
(b) CPI (Consumer Price Index)
(c) GDP deflator (d) PPI

Q96. Consider the following statements with reference to India's Five-Year Plans:

1. India's First Five-Year Plan began in 1951.
2. The Green Revolution came during the Third Five-Year Plan period.
3. NITI Aayog has ended the Five-Year Plans.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q97. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): India is the world's largest recipient of remittances.

Reason (R): India has the largest number of migrants in the world.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q98. Match the following government schemes with their launch years:

List-I (Scheme) List-II (Year)

- A. Jan-Dhan Yojana 1. 2015
- B. Startup India 2. 2014
- C. Atal Pension Yojana 3. 2016
- D. GST implemented 4. 2017

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4 (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- (c) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4 (d) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Q99. Which of the following is NOT included in the calculation of 'National Income'?

- (a) The market value of a farmer's crop
- (b) Housework done by a homemaker at home
- (c) A doctor's fee
- (d) A teacher's salary

Q100. Consider the following statements with reference to GST (Goods and Services Tax):

- 1. GST came into effect from 1 July 2017.
- 2. GST is an indirect tax.
- 3. The GST Council is chaired by the Union Finance Minister.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q101. Who discovered the 'double helix' structure of DNA?

- (a) Gregor Mendel
- (b) James Watson and Francis Crick
- (c) Louis Pasteur
- (d) Charles Darwin

Q102. Consider the following statements with reference to biodiversity:

- 1. India is one of the world's 17 'megadiverse' countries.
- 2. India has 4 biodiversity hotspots.
- 3. The Western Ghats and the Eastern Himalayas are among India's hotspots.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q103. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): The depletion of the ozone layer is a serious environmental problem.

Reason (R): CFC (chlorofluorocarbon) gases destroy the ozone layer.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q104. Match the following diseases with their pathogens:

List-I (Disease) List-II (Pathogen)

- A. Malaria 1. Virus
- B. Tuberculosis (TB) 2. Protozoa
- C. COVID-19 3. Bacteria
- D. Ringworm 4. Fungus

- (a) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4 (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- (c) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4 (d) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4

Q105. What does 'Newton's Law of Gravitation' state?

- (a) The force of attraction between two objects is directly proportional to the product of their masses and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between them
- (b) The force between two objects is directly proportional to the sum of their masses
- (c) Every action has an equal and opposite reaction
- (d) Force = mass $\times$ acceleration

Q106. Consider the following statements with reference to climate change:

1. The goal of the Paris Agreement (2015) is to keep the global temperature rise below 2°C.
2. India has set a target of 'net zero' emissions by 2070.
3. The IPCC is an intergovernmental panel of the United Nations.

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3
- (d) Only 1 and 3

Q107. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): Acid rain damages forests and aquatic life.

Reason (R): Acid rain contains sulphuric acid and nitric acid.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q108. Match the following space missions with their countries:

List-I (Mission) List-II (Country)

- A. Chandrayaan-3 1. USA
B. Artemis 2. China
C. Tiangong Space Station 3. India
D. Mangalyaan (MOM) 4. India

- (a) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4
- (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- (c) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4
- (d) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

Q109. Which of the following is NOT a renewable energy source?

- (a) Wind energy
- (b) Solar energy
- (c) Nuclear energy
- (d) Tidal energy

Q110. Consider the following statements with reference to the human body:

1. The largest gland in the human body is the liver.
2. Vitamin K helps in blood clotting.
3. The hardest structure in the human body is tooth enamel.

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3
- (d) Only 1 and 3

Q111. With reference to the world's largest and leading organic trade fair "BIOFACH 2026", which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It was held in Germany.
2. India was awarded the prestigious 'Country of the Year' honour at it.

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

Q112. With reference to 'Bee Corridors', which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. This corridor will be developed along national highways.
2. This corridor will be established by the National Highways Authority of India as part of its sustainable infrastructure programme.

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

Q113. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): India aims to become a 'Developed India' by 2047.

Reason (R): 2047 will mark the centenary of India's independence.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
(c) A is true, but R is false
(d) A is false, but R is true

Q114. With reference to the maritime exercise 'MILAN 2026', which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It is an annual multilateral exercise.
2. The main theme of this exercise was 'Camaraderie, Cohesion and Collaboration'.

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

Q115. With reference to the 'PRAHAAR' policy, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It was issued by the Ministry of Defence.
2. It is India's first comprehensive national counter-terrorism policy.

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

Q116. Consider the following statements with reference to the 'Digital India' programme:

1. It was launched in 2015.
2. UPI (Unified Payments Interface) has been developed by the NPCI.
3. India's digital payment volume is the highest in the world.

- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q117. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): There is a dispute between India and China over the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Reason (R): There has been a border dispute between the two countries in the Galwan Valley, Pangong Lake and Depsang areas.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
(c) A is true, but R is false
(d) A is false, but R is true

Q118. Match the following international organisations with their headquarters:

List-I (Organisation) List-II (Headquarters)

- A. WHO 1. Paris
B. UNESCO 2. Geneva
C. INTERPOL 3. Rome
D. FAO 4. Lyon

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
(b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
(c) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3
(d) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Q119. With reference to the Global Terrorism Index 2026, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. According to it, Pakistan is the country most affected by terrorism in the world.
2. India ranked 13th in this index.

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

Q120. Consider the following statements with reference to UPI (Unified Payments Interface):

1. UPI was launched by the NPCI in 2016.
2. India ranks first in the world in UPI transaction volume.
3. UPI is now also accepted in Singapore, the UAE and France.

(a) Only 1 and 2
(b) Only 2 and 3
(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3
(d) Only 1 and 3

Q121. With reference to the 35th Saraswati Samman (2025), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. This award is given by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).
2. This year, Bengali writer Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay has been chosen for this honour.

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

Q122. Consider the following statements with reference to the SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation):

1. India became a member of the SCO in 2017.
2. The SCO's headquarters is in Beijing.
3. The SCO currently has 9 member countries.

(a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3 (d) Only 1 and 3

Q123. Match the following sports with their countries of origin:

List-I (Sport) List-II (Origin)

- A. Cricket 1. China
B. Badminton 2. England
C. Wrestling 3. India/England
D. Chess 4. Ancient (universal)

(a) A-2, B-3, C-4, D-1
(b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
(c) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4
(d) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4

Q124. With reference to the maritime exercise 'IMEX TTX 2026', which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It is a biennial maritime exercise of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS).
2. France is one of the 12 member countries participating in it.

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

Q125. Consider the following statements with reference to Indian Railways:

1. Indian Railways is Asia's largest rail network.
2. Vande Bharat Express is a semi-high-speed train manufactured in India.
3. India's first bullet train project is between Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

(a) Only 1 and 2
(b) Only 2 and 3
(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3
(d) Only 1 and 3

Q126. With reference to the prestigious Mark Lynton History Prize 2026, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. Eminent historian and writer Irfan Habib was given this award.
2. This honour was given for the famous book "The Golden Road: How Ancient India Transformed the World".

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

Q127. Match the following UNESCO World Heritage Sites with their states:

List-I (Heritage site) List-II (State)

- A. Taj Mahal 1. Rajasthan
B. Jantar Mantar 2. Uttar Pradesh
C. Sanchi 3. Madhya Pradesh
D. Hampi 4. Karnataka

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
(b) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3
(c) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4
(d) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Q128. With reference to the Stockholm Water Prize 2026, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. Renowned environmental scientist and UN scientist of Iranian origin Professor Kaveh Madani was its winner.
2. No Indian has won this award so far.

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

Q129. Consider the following statements with reference to the 'PM SHRI Yojana':

1. PM SHRI stands for PM Schools for Rising India.
2. This scheme aims to develop more than 14,500 schools as model schools.
3. It has been launched under NEP 2020.

- (a) Only 1 and 2
(b) Only 2 and 3
(c) All three, 1, 2 and 3
(d) Only 1 and 3

Q130. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): India is the world's largest democracy.

Reason (R): In the 2024 general election, there were about 96 crore registered voters.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
(c) A is true, but R is false
(d) A is false, but R is true

Q131. Match the following campaigns with their objectives:

List-I (Campaign) List-II (Objective)

- A. Swachh Bharat Mission 1. Digital payment expansion
B. BHIM App 2. Open defecation free
C. Jal Jeevan Mission 3. Piped water to every home
D. Ayushman Bharat 4. Health insurance

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
(b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
(c) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4
(d) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Q132. When is 'World Environment Day' celebrated?

- (a) 22 April
- (b) 5 June
- (c) 16 September
- (d) 21 March

Q133. With reference to the World Happiness Report 2026, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It remained the world's happiest country for the ninth consecutive year.
 2. India slipped 2 places compared to last year, ranking 116th this year.
- (a) Both 1 and 2
 - (b) Neither 1 nor 2
 - (c) Only 2
 - (d) Only 1

Q134. With reference to the International Day of Forests, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. The UN General Assembly declared this day in 2012.
 2. The theme for 2026 was 'Forests and Economies'.
- (a) Both 1 and 2
 - (b) Neither 1 nor 2
 - (c) Only 2
 - (d) Only 1

Q135. Match the following important days with their dates:

List-I (Day) List-II (Date)

- A. National Youth Day 1. 26 January
- B. Republic Day 2. 12 January
- C. National Voters' Day 3. 25 January
- D. Martyrs' Day 4. 30 January

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
- (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- (c) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

- (d) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Q136. With reference to the 98th Academy Awards (Oscars 2026), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. The film that won the most awards was "One Battle After Another".
 2. Jessie Buckley won the Best Actress award.
- (a) Both 1 and 2
 - (b) Neither 1 nor 2
 - (c) Only 2
 - (d) Only 1

Q137. With reference to the Fiscal Health Index 2026, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. Odisha, Goa and Jharkhand are the top-performing ('Achiever') states in it.
 2. Himachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland are 'Aspirational' states in the North-Eastern and Himalayan category.
- (a) Both 1 and 2
 - (b) Neither 1 nor 2
 - (c) Only 2
 - (d) Only 1

Q138. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): India's population growth rate is declining.

Reason (R): Rising literacy, women's empowerment and family planning programmes are the reasons for this.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q139. Regarding the following personalities and their fields of work, which were in the news in March 2026, which one pairing given below is NOT correctly matched?

- (a) K.N. Panikkar: Historian
- (b) Anita Shukla: Ambassador
- (c) Sheikh Mahaboob Subhani: Musician
- (d) Gurcharan Das: Member of Parliament

Q140. The official announcement and initial agreement for 'Project Ganga' by the Uttar Pradesh Government took place on 9 March 2026. What is this project related to?

- (a) High-speed broadband connectivity in villages
- (b) Developing tourism hubs along the banks of the Ganga river
- (c) Improving the breed of milch cattle through scientific technology
- (d) Clean piped water connectivity in semi-urban areas

Q141. Consider the following statements with reference to the Indian economy:

1. India is the world's fifth-largest economy.
2. The services sector contributes the most to India's GDP.
3. India aims to become the third-largest economy by 2030.

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3
- (d) Only 1 and 3

Q142. Two statements are given below, one labelled Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Select the correct answer from the options given below —

Assertion (A): The Right to Information (RTI) is an important law in India.

Reason (R): The RTI Act 2005 gives citizens the right to obtain government information.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Q143. With reference to the National Highway Green Cover Index (NH-GCI) 2025-26, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It was released by NITI Aayog jointly with the Ministry of Environment.
 2. Assam emerged as the top-performing state.
- (a) Both 1 and 2
 - (b) Neither 1 nor 2
 - (c) Only 2
 - (d) Only 1

Q144. With reference to the Moonshot Project, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It is ISRO's joint project with the European Space Agency.
 2. It will explore the possibility of developing human settlements on the Moon.
- (a) Both 1 and 2
 - (b) Neither 1 nor 2
 - (c) Only 2
 - (d) Only 1

Q145. Consider the following statements with reference to BRICS:

1. In 2023, 6 new members were added to BRICS.
 2. The 15th BRICS Summit was held in Johannesburg in 2023.
 3. The BRICS proposal was put forward by Goldman Sachs in 2001.
- (a) Only 1 and 2
 - (b) Only 2 and 3
 - (c) All three, 1, 2 and 3
 - (d) Only 1 and 3

Q146. With reference to the 11th Raisina Dialogue, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It gets its name 'Raisina Dialogue' because it is held at Rashtrapati Bhavan, situated on Raisina Hills.
2. This year's theme was 'Sanskriti - Aashritata, Samanjasya, Unnati' (Assertion, Harmony, Advancement).

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

Q147. Match the following literary awards with their languages/domains:

List-I (Award) List-II (Domain)

- A. Jnanpith Award 1. English literature
B. Sahitya Akademi Award 2. Outstanding literature in Indian languages
C. Booker Prize 3. In 24 Indian languages
D. Saraswati Samman 4. Outstanding literature in Indian languages

- (a) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4
(b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
(c) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
(d) A-3, B-2, C-4, D-1

Q148. With reference to the 'Speaker of the Knesset Medal', which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It is the highest honour of Israel's Parliament.
2. PM Modi is the first leader in the world to receive this prestigious medal.

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

Q149. The 'Zero Prize' environmental award was officially announced on 25 February 2026. With reference to it, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It is India's first results-based national environmental award.
2. This award will be given by the Ministry of Environment.

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

Q150. With reference to the 'Dharma Guardian 2026' military exercise, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It is an annual joint military exercise between India and France.
2. Its 7th edition was held this year at Chaubatia in Uttarakhand.

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

Answer Key & Solutions

Q1. Answer: a

Solution:

2, 1, 4, 3

Lord Wellesley (1798-1805) → Lord Dalhousie (1848-56) → Lord Ripon (1880-84) → Lord Curzon (1899-1905). Wellesley introduced the Subsidiary Alliance system, Dalhousie adopted the Doctrine of Lapse, Ripon brought the Ilbert Bill, and Curzon partitioned Bengal.

Q2. Answer: a

Solution:

Only 1 and 2

Statement 1 is correct — Mohenjo-daro (Sindh) and Harappa (Punjab) are both in present-day Pakistan. Statement 2 is correct — Lothal was located in Gujarat and a well-developed dockyard has been found there. Statement 3 is incorrect — the Indus civilization belonged to the Bronze Age; iron was not used.

Q3. Answer: b

Solution:

A is true — the Mauryan Empire disintegrated within 50 years of Ashoka's death (232 BCE). R is also true, but the decline of the Mauryas had many causes, such as succession struggles, economic crisis, provincial revolts, and the revolt of Pushyamitra Shunga — the policy of non-violence alone was not the only cause. Hence R does not fully explain A.

Q4. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3

First — Rajagriha (483 BCE, presided over by Mahakassapa); Second — Vaishali (383 BCE); Third — Pataliputra (250 BCE, during Ashoka's reign, Moggaliputta Tissa); Fourth — Kundalvan/Kashmir

(during Kanishka's reign, presided over by Vasumitra).

Q5. Answer: b

Solution:

Raja Ram Mohan Roy

Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1772-1833) is called the 'Father of the Indian Renaissance' and the 'Maker of Modern India'. He founded the Brahmo Samaj in 1828, played an important role in the abolition of Sati (1829), and supported Western education.

Q6. Answer: b

Solution:

1, 2, 4, 3

Brahmo Samaj — 1828 (Raja Ram Mohan Roy); Arya Samaj — 1875 (Swami Dayanand Saraswati, Bombay); Theosophical Society — established in India in 1879 (Madras); Ramakrishna Mission — 1897 (Swami Vivekananda). Correct order: 1, 2, 4, 3.

Q7. Answer: b

Solution:

Only 1 and 2

Statement 1 is correct — the Gupta period (320-550 CE) is called the 'Golden Age' due to progress in literature, art and science. Statement 2 is correct — Aryabhata (astronomer/mathematician) and Kalidasa (Abhijnanashakuntalam) both lived during the Gupta period. Statement 3 is incorrect — the Gupta rulers were mainly Vaishnavites, not Buddhists.

Q8. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

Akbar — Din-e-Ilahi (1582) (A-2); during Jahangir's reign Nur Jahan had immense influence (B-3); Shah Jahan — Taj Mahal (1632-53) (C-1); Aurangzeb — reimposed the Jizya tax in 1679 (D-4).

Q9. Answer: a**Solution:**

A is true — the Revolt of 1857 is called the First War of Independence. R is also true — Veer Savarkar, in his book '1857 ka Swatantrya Samar' (The Indian War of Independence) published in 1909, called it the first war of independence. R correctly explains A.

Q10. Answer: a**Solution:**

1885, A.O. Hume

The Indian National Congress was founded on 28 December 1885 in Bombay by Allan Octavian Hume (a retired ICS officer). The first session was presided over by Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee. Dadabhai Naoroji served as Congress president three times.

Q11. Answer: a**Solution:**

1, 2, 3, 4

Bombay first session — 1885; Surat Split — 1907; Lahore session (Purna Swaraj resolution) — 1929; Tripuri session — 1939 (Subhas Chandra Bose defeated Pattabhi Sitaramayya).

Q12. Answer: c**Solution:**

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — in 1920, the Khilafat and Non-Cooperation movements ran together.

Statement 2 is correct — on 5 February 1922, a mob burnt a police station at Chauri Chaura (Gorakhpur), killing 22 policemen, and Gandhiji withdrew the movement on 12 February 1922. Statement 3 is correct — students, lawyers and government employees left government institutions.

Q13. Answer: a**Solution:**

A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

Gitanjali — Rabindranath Tagore (Nobel Prize in 1913, A-2); Anandamath — Bankim Chandra (this is where 'Vande Mataram' appears, B-1); Godaan — Premchand (1936, C-3); Devdas — Sharat Chandra (D-4).

Q14. Answer: b**Solution:**

Dadabhai Naoroji

Dadabhai Naoroji (1825-1917) wrote 'Poverty and Un-British Rule in India' (1901), in which he propounded the theory of the 'drain of wealth'. He explained that British rule was continuously draining wealth from India.

Q15. Answer: a**Solution:**

A is true — states such as Jhansi, Satara, Nagpur and Karauli were annexed under the Doctrine of Lapse, increasing discontent among princely states and fuelling the Revolt of 1857. R is also true — this policy did not recognise an adopted son as heir. R clearly explains A.

Q16. Answer: c**Solution:**

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — in 1906 he first used Satyagraha in South Africa against the Transvaal Asiatic Registration Act. Statement 2 is correct — 'Hind Swaraj' was written in 1909 on a ship while travelling from England to South Africa. Statement 3 is correct — Gandhiji returned to India in January 1915. All three statements are true.

Q17. Answer: a**Solution:**

A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

Indigo Revolt — Bengal (forced indigo cultivation, A-2); Deccan Riots — Maharashtra (against

moneylenders, B-1); Moplah/Mappila Rebellion — Malabar, Kerala (C-4); Pagal Panthi Revolt — Punjab/north-west region (D-3).

Q18. Answer: b

Solution:

Partition of Bengal, 1905

Lord Curzon partitioned Bengal on 16 October 1905.

The Swadeshi and boycott movements began in protest against this. Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal and Lala Lajpat Rai (Lal-Bal-Pal) were its main leaders. The partition of Bengal was annulled in 1911.

Q19. Answer: a

Solution:

4, 1, 2, 3

Gopal Krishna Gokhale — 1915; Bal Gangadhar Tilak — 1920; Lala Lajpat Rai — 1928 (from injuries sustained in a lathi charge); Bipin Chandra Pal — 1932. Correct order: 4, 1, 2, 3.

Q20. Answer: a

Solution:

All 7 members of the Simon Commission were British — none was Indian. This is why the slogan 'Simon Go Back' arose. A demonstration led by Lala Lajpat Rai was met with a lathi charge, and he died in 1928 as a result. Both A and R are true and R correctly explains A.

Q21. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Ancient India's trade balance with Rome was in India's favour. India exported spices, textiles and ivory, and imported gold/silver. Muziris (modern Kodungallur, Kerala) was a major port. All three statements are correct.

Q22. Answer: a

Solution:

A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

Rigveda — hymns in praise of gods (A-4); Samaveda — the musical form of the Rigvedic hymns (B-1); Yajurveda — methods of sacrificial ritual (C-2); Atharvaveda — mantras related to magic, sorcery, and medicine (D-3).

Q23. Answer: b

Solution:

Gandhi and Ambedkar

The Poona Pact was signed on 24 September 1932 between Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar. Gandhiji was fasting against the 'Communal Award'. Under this agreement, instead of separate electorates for the depressed classes, reserved seats within a joint electorate were provided.

Q24. Answer: a

Solution:

2, 3, 1, 4

Cripps Mission — 1942; Wavell Plan (Simla Conference) — 1945; Cabinet Mission — 1946; Mountbatten Plan (3 June Plan) — 1947. Correct order: 2, 3, 1, 4.

Q25. Answer: b

Solution:

A is true — Chandragupta Maurya (321-297 BCE) is considered the first historical emperor. R is also true, but Chandragupta did not unify the whole of India — a large part of South India remained outside his empire. That was achieved by Ashoka. Hence R does not fully explain A.

Q26. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — in 1336, Harihara and Bukka laid the foundation of the Vijayanagara Empire at Hampi. Statement 2 is correct — Krishnadevaraya (1509–29) was also a Telugu poet and wrote 'Amuktamalyada'. Statement 3 is correct — in the Battle of Banihatti/Talikota (1565), the combined armies of Bijapur, Bidar, Ahmadnagar, Bijapur and Golconda defeated Vijayanagara.

Q27. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-3, C-3, D-4

Kesari — Bal Gangadhar Tilak (Marathi, 1881, A-2); Young India — Gandhiji (English, 1919, B-3); Harijan — Gandhiji (1933, anti-untouchability, C-3); Indian Opinion — Gandhiji started it in South Africa (D-4).

Q28. Answer: c

Solution:

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

'India Wins Freedom' is the autobiography of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, in which he expressed his views on India's freedom struggle and Partition.

Jawaharlal Nehru wrote 'The Discovery of India' and 'Glimpses of World History'.

Q29. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — Rajaraja Chola I (985–1014) built the world-famous Brihadeeswarar Temple at Thanjavur. Statement 2 is correct — Rajendra Chola I (1014–44) conducted successful naval expeditions against Srivijaya and Malaya. Statement 3 is correct — 'Ur' (general village assembly) and 'Sabha' (Brahmin village assembly) were unique institutions of Chola village self-government.

Q30. Answer: b

Solution:

A is true — the Bhakti Movement spread from South to North India between the 7th and 17th centuries. R is also true — saints like Kabir, Ravidas and Meerabai rejected caste distinctions. But the Bhakti Movement spread because it was a simple path of devotion to God — R is not the sole reason. Hence (b) is the correct answer.

Q31. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

Sepoy Mutiny — 1857 (A-2); Santhal Rebellion — 1855, led by Sidhu-Kanhu (B-1); Munda Ulgulan — 1899–1900, led by Birsa Munda (C-4); Moplah Rebellion — 1921, in Malabar, Kerala (D-3).

Q32. Answer: c

Solution:

Maulana Hasrat Mohani

The slogan 'Inquilab Zindabad' was given by Maulana Hasrat Mohani at the 1921 Congress session. Later, Bhagat Singh used the same slogan in 1929 while throwing a bomb in the Central Legislative Assembly, which made the slogan extremely popular.

Q33. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — in 1206, Qutb-ud-din Aibak founded the Slave (Mamluk) Dynasty. Statement 2 is correct — he was called 'Lakhabaksh' for his generous donations. Statement 3 is correct — construction of the Qutub Minar was begun by Aibak and completed by Iltutmish.

Q34. Answer: b

Solution:

4, 1, 3, 2

Haldighati — 1576 (Akbar vs Maharana Pratap); Plassey — 1757 (Clive vs Siraj-ud-Daulah); Third Panipat — 1761 (Ahmad Shah Abdali vs the Marathas); Buxar — 1764 (British vs Mir Qasim + Shuja-ud-Daulah + Shah Alam). Correct order: 4, 1, 3, 2.

Q35. Answer: b

Solution:

A is true — in 1943 in Singapore, Subhas Chandra Bose reorganised the INA (originally formed by Mohan Singh in 1942). R is also true — this was Bose's famous rallying cry. However, R does not explain A — there is no cause-effect relationship between reorganising the INA and the slogan. Hence (b) is correct.

Q36. Answer: a

Solution:

Ganga basin

The Ganga river basin is India's largest river basin, spread over about 8.6 lakh sq. km. This is about 26% of India's total geographical area. The Godavari is the largest river in South India.

Q37. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — in 2012, UNESCO declared 39 sites of the Western Ghats a World Heritage Site. Statement 2 is correct — Anamudi (2695 m, Kerala) is the highest peak of the Western Ghats and of South India. Statement 3 is correct — the Western Ghats is one of India's 4 biodiversity hotspots.

Q38. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

Chilika — Odisha (India's largest brackish-water lagoon, A-2); Sambhar — Rajasthan (India's largest

inland saltwater lake, B-1); Wular — Jammu & Kashmir (India's largest freshwater lake, C-4); Loktak — Manipur (D-3).

Q39. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — the Ganga-Brahmaputra, Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri all form deltas on the eastern coast. R is also true — the eastern coast rivers originate from central India, travel long distances and, being slow, deposit sediment near the coast, forming deltas. R correctly explains A.

Q40. Answer: c

Solution:

Godavari

The Godavari river is called the 'Ganga of the South' or 'Vridha Ganga'. It originates in the Nashik district of Maharashtra and is 1465 km long. It is the longest river in South India. The Kaveri is also called the 'Ganga of the South' because it is considered equally sacred.

Q41. Answer: a

Solution:

Only 1 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — the south-west monsoon arrives in two branches, the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Statement 2 is incorrect — the Arabian Sea branch causes rain on the western coast, not the Bay of Bengal branch. Statement 3 is correct — Cherrapunji (Meghalaya) and Mawsynram are among the wettest places in the world.

Q42. Answer: a

Solution:

A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4

Iron ore — Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh (A-3); Mica — Jharkhand (Koderma), Andhra Pradesh (B-2);

Copper — Rajasthan (Khetri) (C-1); Manganese — Odisha (D-4).

Q43. Answer: b

Solution:

Baralacha La

Baralacha La (4890 m) connects Himachal Pradesh to Ladakh and lies on the Manali-Leh route. Rohtang — connects Manali to Spiti; Zoji La — connects Srinagar to Leh; Shipki La — connects Himachal Pradesh to Tibet.

Q44. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

All three statements are correct. Black soil — volcanic soil of the Deccan Trap, high moisture-retention capacity, excellent for cotton. Red soil — red due to iron oxide. Laterite — formed by leaching in a hot, humid climate, found in Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

Q45. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — population density is highest in the northern plain states such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. R is also true — the fertility of alluvial soil, irrigation facilities from the Ganga-Yamuna, farming on flat land, and ease of transport are reasons for the high population. R correctly explains A.

Q46. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

Kaziranga — Assam (famous for the one-horned rhinoceros, A-2); Corbett — Uttarakhand (India's first national park, 1936, B-1); Gir — Gujarat (Asiatic lion, C-4); Bandhavgarh — Madhya Pradesh (known for tigers, D-3).

Q47. Answer: b

Solution:

M.S. Swaminathan

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan (1925-2023) is called the father of the Green Revolution in India. In the 1960s, he played an important role in spreading high-yield seeds and modern agricultural techniques. Norman Borlaug is considered the father of the Green Revolution worldwide.

Q48. Answer: a

Solution:

1, 3, 2, 4

Ganga (~2525 km), Yamuna (~1376 km), Godavari (~1465 km), Krishna (~1400 km). Descending order: Ganga (2525) > Godavari (1465) > Krishna (1400) > Yamuna (1376), so the strict order is 1, 2, 4, 3.

However, among the options, (a) 1, 3, 2, 4 is closest — sources differ on the length of the Yamuna.

Q49. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — Andaman-Nicobar is in the Bay of Bengal. Statement 2 is correct — Lakshadweep are coral islands, in the Arabian Sea. Statement 3 is correct — Middle Andaman (5765 sq. km) is India's largest island.

Q50. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — cloudbursts occur repeatedly in Himalayan states like Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. R is also true — atmospheric instability on mountain slopes, rapid uplift and climate change cause very heavy rainfall in a small area. R correctly explains A.

Q51. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

JNPT (Jawaharlal Nehru Port/Nhava Sheva) — Maharashtra, India's largest container port (A-2); Paradip — Odisha (B-1); Tuticorin (V.O.C. Port) — Tamil Nadu (C-4); New Mangalore — Karnataka (D-3).

Q52. Answer: a

Solution:

India and Sri Lanka

The Gulf of Mannar is located between India (Tamil Nadu) and Sri Lanka. It is part of the Indian Ocean. This region also contains the 'Ram Setu' (Adam's Bridge), which connects Dhanushkodi in India to Talaimannar in Sri Lanka.

Q53. Answer: b

Solution:

Only 2 and 3

Statement 1 is incorrect — the world's largest tea exporter is China, India ranks second. Statement 2 is correct — Assam produces the most tea in India (about 50%). Statement 3 is correct — Darjeeling tea received the GI (Geographical Indication) tag in 2004, India's first GI tag.

Q54. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — in the Thar, the daytime temperature can reach 50°C and the night temperature can drop to 5°C. R is also true — due to low humidity, the land heats up quickly in the day and cools quickly at night. Water vapour absorbs and releases heat — its scarcity increases the temperature range. R correctly explains A.

Q55. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

Jog Falls (Gersoppa) — Karnataka, on the Sharavati river (A-2); Dhuandhar — Madhya Pradesh, on the

Narmada river, Jabalpur (B-3); Barehipani — Odisha, in Simlipal (C-1); Dudhsagar — on the Goa-Karnataka border, Mandovi river (D-4).

Q56. Answer: c

Solution:

Meghalaya

Both Cherrapunji (Sohra) and Mawsynram are located in the Khasi Hills of Meghalaya. Mawsynram is considered the place with the highest average rainfall in the world. Moist winds coming from Bangladesh strike the hills here, causing very heavy rainfall.

Q57. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — the Chota Nagpur region abounds in coal, iron ore, mica, copper, bauxite, etc. Statement 2 is correct — India is the world's largest producer of mica. Statement 3 is correct — more than 79 types of minerals are found in Rajasthan.

Q58. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — the urban population was 27.8% in the 2001 census and 31.1% in 2011. R is also true — rural people migrate to cities in search of employment, education and a better standard of living. R correctly explains A.

Q59. Answer: a

Solution:

A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

Bhakra Nangal — Himachal Pradesh (on the Sutlej river, A-1); Hirakud — Odisha (on the Mahanadi, India's longest dam, B-3); Nagarjuna Sagar — Telangana/Andhra Pradesh (Krishna river, C-2); Sardar Sarovar — Gujarat (Narmada river, D-4).

Q60. Answer: b

Solution:

Nohkalikai

Nohkalikai Falls (340 m) is located near Cherrapunji in Meghalaya and is India's highest waterfall.

Jog/Gersoppa (253 m) is in Karnataka and is India's second-highest and the highest plunge waterfall.

Q61. Answer: c**Solution:**

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — Rajasthan's Thar Desert receives maximum solar radiation, making it a leader in solar energy. Statement 2 is correct — at COP26, India announced a target of 500 GW of renewable energy by 2030. Statement 3 is correct — the ISA headquarters is in Gurugram (Haryana); India and France are its founders.

Q62. Answer: b**Solution:**

A is true — on the Kerala coast, 'kayals' (backwaters/lagoons) such as Ashtamudi and Vembanad are famous. R is also true — the rivers of the western coast are small and have a steep gradient. But R does not fully explain A — kayals also form due to sea currents and coastal processes. Hence (b) is correct.

Q63. Answer: a**Solution:**

A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

Coffee — Karnataka (country's largest producer, A-2); Jute — West Bengal (largest producer, B-1); Sugarcane — Uttar Pradesh (largest producer, C-3); Rubber — Kerala (95% of production, D-4).

Q64. Answer: b**Solution:**

White Revolution (milk production)

'Operation Flood' (1970-96) was run by the NDDB (National Dairy Development Board) under the leadership of Dr. Verghese Kurien. It is called the 'White Revolution' or 'Milk Revolution', which made India the world's largest producer of milk. Amul is a product of this movement.

Q65. Answer: c**Solution:**

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — the Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra are all antecedent rivers, predating the uplift of the Himalayas. Statement 2 is correct — the Brahmaputra is called 'Tsangpo/Sangpo' in Tibet and 'Dihang' in Arunachal. Statement 3 is correct — the Bhagirathi (source of the Ganga) originates from the Gangotri glacier.

Q66. Answer: a**Solution:**

42nd Amendment, 1976

On the recommendation of the Swaran Singh Committee, the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act 1976 added the Fundamental Duties in Article 51-A. Initially there were 10 duties. The 86th Amendment 2002 added the 11th duty (education for children aged 6-14 years).

Q67. Answer: c**Solution:**

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — as per Article 81, the Lok Sabha can have a maximum of 552 members (530 from states + 20 from Union Territories + 2 Anglo-Indian, now abolished). Statement 2 is correct — Article 83. Statement 3 is correct — as per Article 109, a Money Bill can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha.

Q68. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — in Indian federalism, states do not have the power to amend the Constitution, which distinguishes it from American federalism. R is also true — under Article 368, only Parliament can amend the Constitution (for some provisions, the consent of states is required). R explains A.

Q69. Answer: a**Solution:**

A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

National Emergency — Article 352 (A-2); President's Rule in states — Article 356 (B-1); Financial Emergency — Article 360 (C-3); establishment of the Supreme Court — Article 124 (D-4).

Q70. Answer: b**Solution:**

The time after Question Hour and before the House's regular business

Zero Hour begins at 12 noon (Question Hour runs from 11 to 12). It is a unique convention of the Indian Parliament in which members raise matters of urgent public importance without prior notice. It is not mentioned in the Constitution or the Rules of Procedure.

Q71. Answer: c**Solution:**

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — under Article 124, the President appoints judges on the advice of the CJI and senior judges. Statement 2 is correct — Supreme Court judges serve until 65 years, High Court judges until 62 years. Statement 3 is correct — impeachment requires a special majority in both Houses of Parliament.

Q72. Answer: a**Solution:**

A is true — the CAG is provided for in Article 148 and is the guardian of India's public funds. R is also true — the President appoints the CAG, and removal, like that of a Supreme Court judge, requires a special majority in both Houses of Parliament. R properly explains A.

Q73. Answer: a**Solution:**

A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4

Balwant Rai Mehta (1957) — recommended Panchayati Raj, a three-tier structure (A-3); Ashok Mehta (1977) — Panchayati Raj reforms, two-tier (B-2); P.K. Thungon — urban local government (74th Amendment, C-1); Narasimham Committee (1991) — banking reforms (D-4).

Q74. Answer: d**Solution:**

Adjournment motion

Question Hour includes starred (oral answer), unstarred (written answer), short-notice questions, and private members' questions. The adjournment motion is not part of Question Hour — it is a device to draw the House's attention to a matter of urgent public importance.

Q75. Answer: a**Solution:**

Only 1 and 2

Statement 1 is correct — under Article 118, a joint sitting is presided over by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. Statement 2 is correct — there is no provision for a joint sitting for a Money Bill or a Constitution Amendment Bill. Statement 3 is incorrect — there is no joint sitting for a Constitution Amendment; both Houses pass it separately by special majority.

Q76. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — the Rajya Sabha is a permanent House that cannot be dissolved. R is also true — Rajya Sabha members have a term of 6 years, and one-third retire every 2 years, maintaining continuity. R correctly explains A.

Q77. Answer: a**Solution:**

A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3

Habeas Corpus — against illegal detention, 'produce the body' (A-2); Mandamus — an order to a government officer to perform their duty (B-4); Quo Warranto — 'by what authority does one hold office' (C-1); Prohibition — restrains a lower court from acting beyond its jurisdiction (D-3).

Q78. Answer: c**Solution:**

President

As per Article 151, the CAG's report is presented to the President, who causes it to be laid before both Houses of Parliament. For states, the CAG report is sent to the Governor. Parliament's Public Accounts Committee (PAC) examines the CAG report.

Q79. Answer: c**Solution:**

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — the 73rd Amendment added the Eleventh Schedule (29 subjects, Panchayati Raj) and the 74th the Twelfth Schedule (18 subjects, urban bodies). Statement 2 is correct — both were passed in 1992 and came into force in April 1993. Statement 3 is correct — reservation proportional to SC/ST and a minimum of one-third reservation for women.

Q80. Answer: a**Solution:**

A is true — as per Article 74, the President acts in accordance with the advice of the Council of Ministers. R is also true — the 44th Amendment gave the President the right to reconsideration once, but accepting the advice the second time is binding. R correctly explains A.

Q81. Answer: a**Solution:**

A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

42nd — Fundamental Duties, added 'Socialist' and 'Secular' to the Preamble (A-2); 44th — removed the Right to Property from Fundamental Rights, making it a legal right (B-3); 61st — voting age lowered from 21 to 18 (C-1); 86th — Fundamental Right to Education for ages 6-14 (Article 21-A) (D-4).

Q82. Answer: c**Solution:**

NITI Aayog

NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) is a non-constitutional, executive body established in 2015 by a Cabinet resolution (replacing the Planning Commission). The Election Commission (Art. 324), the Finance Commission (Art. 280) and the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (Art. 338) are constitutional bodies.

Q83. Answer: c**Solution:**

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — Article 37 says they are not enforceable by any court but are fundamental in governance. Statement 2 is correct — the concept of DPSP is taken from the Irish Constitution. Statement 3 is correct — their objective is socio-economic justice and the establishment of a welfare state. All three are correct.

Q84. Answer: b

Solution:

A is true — the Indian judiciary has the power of judicial review under Articles 13, 32 and 226. R is also true — the concept of judicial review is taken from America (Marbury v. Madison, 1803). But in India it is limited, not as expansive as in America — R does not fully explain A. Hence (b).

Q85. Answer: a**Solution:**

A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

Fundamental Rights — America (A-2); Parliamentary form of government — Britain (A-1... i.e. B-1); DPSP — Ireland (C-4); federal system — from Canada (D-3) (though India's federalism has some features of its own).

Q86. Answer: b**Solution:**

1993

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was established on 12 October 1993 under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. Its first chairperson was Justice Ranganath Misra. It is a quasi-judicial body.

Q87. Answer: a**Solution:**

Only 1

Statement 1 is correct — the 42nd Amendment 1976 added the words 'Socialist', 'Secular' and 'Integrity' to the Preamble. Statement 2 is incorrect — these words were not in the original Preamble; they were added by the 42nd Amendment. Statement 3 is incorrect — after the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973), the Preamble is part of the Constitution, but courts do not rule on the Preamble separately.

Q88. Answer: b**Solution:**

A is true — the office of Governor is provided for in Article 153. R is also true — the President appoints the Governor (Art. 155). But R does not explain A — the Governor's office being 'constitutional' is because it is mentioned in the Constitution, not because of acting as an agent of the Centre. Hence (b).

Q89. Answer: a**Solution:**

A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2

Election Commission — 25 January 1950 (A-3); first Finance Commission — 1951 (B-4, actually November 1951); Language Commission — 1956 (though first constituted in 1952, officially 1955); Planning Commission — 15 March 1950 (D-2).

Q90. Answer: b**Solution:**

No proceedings in any court in respect of a speech given in Parliament

Under Article 105, the most important parliamentary privilege is that no proceedings shall lie in any court for a speech or vote given in Parliament. Other privileges include the right to publish the proceedings of Parliament and the right to exclude strangers.

Q91. Answer: d**Solution:**

Population method

GDP is calculated by three methods — (1) the expenditure method (C+I+G+NX), (2) the income method (wages + profit + rent + interest), (3) the production/value-added method. The 'population method' is not a recognised method of calculating GDP.

Q92. Answer: c**Solution:**

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — since 2017, the Budget is presented on 1 February instead of 28 February.

Statement 2 is correct — since 2017, the Railway Budget merged with the General Budget. Statement 3 is correct — the Rajya Sabha cannot amend a Money Bill, it can only make recommendations.

Q93. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — FDI inflows into India are increasing and India is among the world's leading FDI destinations. R is also true — 'Make in India' launched in 2014, Ease of Doing Business reforms, and the PLI scheme have increased investment in the manufacturing sector. R correctly explains A.

Q94. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-2, C-3, D-4

RBI — Mumbai (A-2); SBI — Mumbai (B-2); NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) — Mumbai (C-3); SEBI — Mumbai (D-4). All three are headquartered in Mumbai.

Q95. Answer: b

Solution:

CPI (Consumer Price Index)

Since 2014, the RBI has accepted CPI as the primary index for measuring inflation. The RBI's target is to keep CPI-based inflation at 4% ($\pm 2\%$). The WPI measures at the wholesale level and reflects the prices of industrial products.

Q96. Answer: d

Solution:

Only 1 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — the First Five-Year Plan was 1951-56. Statement 2 is incorrect — the Green Revolution came in the 1960s during the Fourth

Five-Year Plan (1969-74). Statement 3 is correct — in 2015, NITI Aayog replaced the Planning Commission, and Five-Year Plans ended after the 12th plan (2012-17).

Q97. Answer: b

Solution:

A is true — India has consistently been the world's largest recipient of remittances (World Bank data). R is also true — India has the largest number of migrants. But R does not fully explain A — Mexico and the Philippines also have large migrant populations, yet India leads; the number alone is not the cause, the high income of Indian migrants is also a factor.

Q98. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

Jan-Dhan Yojana — August 2014 (A-2); Startup India — January 2016 (B-1 — actually 2016, the option lists 2015); Atal Pension Yojana — 2015 (C-3 — actually 2015); GST — 1 July 2017 (D-4).

Q99. Answer: b

Solution:

Housework done by a homemaker at home

National Income includes only goods and services traded in the market. A homemaker's household work (cooking, childcare) is not sold in the market, so it is not included in GDP/National Income — this is a limitation.

Q100. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — GST came into effect from 1 July 2017. Statement 2 is correct — GST is an indirect tax levied on consumption/expenditure, not income. Statement 3 is correct — the GST Council is

chaired by the Union Finance Minister, with finance ministers of all states as members.

Q101. Answer: b

Solution:

James Watson and Francis Crick

In 1953, James Watson and Francis Crick described the double helix structure of DNA. They received the Nobel Prize for this in 1962 (along with Maurice Wilkins). Rosalind Franklin's X-ray crystallography work also made an important contribution.

Q102. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — India is among the world's 17 megadiverse countries. Statement 2 is correct — India has 4 hotspots. Statement 3 is correct — the Western Ghats, Eastern Himalayas (Indo-Burma), Sundaland (Andaman-Nicobar) and the Indo-Burma region are the four hotspots.

Q103. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — the ozone layer blocks UV-B and UV-C rays. Its depletion causes skin cancer, cataracts and ecological imbalance. R is also true — CFCs used in refrigerators, ACs and aerosols break down ozone molecules. The 1987 Montreal Protocol is aimed at banning CFCs.

Q104. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

Malaria — Plasmodium (protozoa, A-2); Tuberculosis — Mycobacterium tuberculosis (bacteria, B-3); COVID-19 — SARS-CoV-2 (virus, C-1); Ringworm — dermatophytes (fungus, D-4).

Q105. Answer: a

Solution:

Newton's Universal Law of Gravitation (1687): $F = G \times (m_1 \times m_2) / r^2$, where F is the force, G is the gravitational constant, m_1 and m_2 are the masses of the two objects, and r is the distance between them. Option (c) is the Third Law of Motion and (d) is the Second Law.

Q106. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — the Paris Agreement's goal is to keep warming below 2°C (with efforts for 1.5°C). Statement 2 is correct — at COP26, Glasgow 2021, India announced net-zero by 2070. Statement 3 is correct — the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) is a joint body of the WMO and UNEP (established in 1988).

Q107. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — acid rain (pH < 5.6) damages tree leaves, acidifies soil, and kills fish in rivers/lakes. R is also true — SO_2 and NO_x form H_2SO_4 and HNO_3 in the atmosphere, which fall with rain. R correctly explains A.

Q108. Answer: a

Solution:

A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Chandrayaan-3 — India (ISRO, 2023, A-3); Artemis — USA (NASA, plan to send humans to the Moon, B-1); Tiangong — China (space station, C-2); Mangalyaan (MOM) — India (2013, D-4).

Q109. Answer: c

Solution:

Nuclear energy

Nuclear energy is not renewable because it depends on a limited fuel like uranium. However, it is a low-carbon energy source. Wind, solar and tidal energy

are naturally renewable. Fusion energy could be a renewable source in the future.

Q110. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — the liver is the largest gland in the human body (about 1.5 kg). Statement 2 is correct — Vitamin K helps in the formation of prothrombin, which is needed for blood clotting. Statement 3 is correct — tooth enamel is the hardest structure in the human body.

Q111. Answer: a

Solution:

BIOFACH is the world's largest and leading organic trade fair. At this global fair held from 10 to 13 February 2026 in Nuremberg, Germany, India was awarded the prestigious 'Country of the Year' honour.

Q112. Answer: a

Solution:

The development of India's first highway-based 'Bee Corridors' was announced on 17 February 2026 by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) in collaboration with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

This announcement was made by NHAI, which functions under the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, as part of its sustainable infrastructure programme.

Under this corridor, a continuous linear stretch of flowering trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses will be developed along National Highways.

Q113. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — the Government of India's 'Viksit Bharat@2047' goal is to become a developed nation.

R is also true — in 2047, India's independence will complete 100 years, which is why this target year was chosen. R correctly explains A.

Q114. Answer: c

Solution:

The Indian Navy's biennial multilateral maritime exercise 'MILAN 2026' was the largest edition in its history, held from 15 to 25 February 2026 off the coast of Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh (Eastern Naval Command).

The main theme of this exercise was 'Camaraderie, Cohesion and Collaboration'.

A record 74 to 75 countries' delegations from around the world took part in this mega exercise. Naval assets of Germany, the Philippines and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) participated operationally in this series for the first time.

Q115. Answer: c

Solution:

The 'PRAHAAR' policy is India's first comprehensive national counter-terrorism policy, issued by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on 23 February 2026.

The main goal of this policy is not just to eliminate terrorists, but to dismantle their entire ecosystem — financial sources (terror funding), digital networks, arms-smuggling syndicates and radicalisation.

The seven pillars of the 'PRAHAAR' policy are:

P (Prevention): stopping attacks before they happen.

R (Response): swift and firm retaliatory action.

A (Aggregation): coordination among Centre-State agencies.

H (Human Rights): adherence to law and human rights.

A (Attenuation): protecting youth from radicalisation.

A (Aligning): global cooperation against terrorism.

R (Recovery): swiftly restoring normalcy after an attack.

Q116. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — the Digital India programme was launched in July 2015. Statement 2 is correct — UPI was launched by the NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India) in 2016. Statement 3 is correct — India is currently the world leader in real-time digital payments.

Q117. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — the border along the India-China LAC (3,488 km) is not clearly defined. R is also true — there was a violent clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020, and disputes continue in the Pangong Lake area and the Depsang plains. R provides a proper and solid explanation of A.

Q118. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

WHO — Geneva (A-2); UNESCO — Paris (B-1);

INTERPOL (International Criminal Police

Organization) — Lyon, France (C-4); FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) — Rome (D-3).

Q119. Answer: a

Solution:

The Global Terrorism Index (GTI) 2026 was officially released on 18 March 2026. This is the 13th edition of the index, released by the Sydney (Australia)-based think tank, the 'Institute for Economics and Peace' (IEP).

This index analyses terrorist activity and its impact across 163 countries of the world.

Country: Pakistan (score: 8.574) ranked first for the first time in the index's history due to a sharp rise in violence, i.e. it was recorded as the country most affected by terrorism in the world. India's position: India ranked 13th (score: 6.428).

Top 5 most affected countries: Pakistan, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Q120. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

All three statements are correct. UPI was launched in April 2016. India leads the world in real-time payments. UPI is now accepted in several countries, including Singapore, the UAE, France, Nepal and Bhutan.

Q121. Answer: c

Solution:

The 35th Saraswati Samman (2025) was announced by the K.K. Birla Foundation on 25 March 2026.

Eminent Bengali writer Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay has been chosen for this honour. He will receive this award for his famous Bengali novel 'Hara Parvati Katha', published in 2020.

Under this, the winner is given ₹15 lakh in cash, a citation and a plaque of Vagdevi (Goddess Saraswati).

Q122. Answer: d

Solution:

Only 1 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — India and Pakistan became full members of the SCO in 2017. Statement 2 is debatable — the SCO's Secretariat is in Beijing; some sources describe Beijing as the headquarters, but

this is not straightforwardly correct here.

Statement 3 is correct — with Iran joining in 2023, there are 9 members.

Q123. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-3, C-4, D-1

Cricket — England (A-2); Badminton — British India/England (B-3); Wrestling — ancient and universal (C-4); Chess — India (Chaturanga, D-1, although its modern form comes from Europe).

Q124. Answer: a

Solution:

The biennial maritime exercise of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS), 'IMEX TTX 2026' (IONS Maritime Exercise - Table Top Exercise), was held on 27 March 2026.

The Indian Navy hosted this high-level exercise at the Maritime Warfare Centre of the Southern Naval Command in Kochi.

This exercise was extremely significant because India took over the chairmanship of IONS for the 2026-2028 cycle after a gap of 16 years.

Participating countries: naval representatives from a total of 12 member countries, including India, took part in this multinational exercise. The major countries included were: Bangladesh, France, Indonesia, Kenya, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Timor-Leste.

Q125. Answer: b

Solution:

Only 2 and 3

Statement 1 is incorrect — Indian Railways is the world's fourth-largest network; China's rail network is the largest in Asia. Statement 2 is correct — Vande Bharat (Train 18) is manufactured at ICF Chennai.

Statement 3 is correct — the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Corridor (MAHSR), with Japan's assistance.

Q126. Answer: c

Solution:

The winner of the prestigious Mark Lynton History Prize 2026 was announced on 18 March 2026.

Winner: eminent historian and writer William Dalrymple was honoured with this award.

Book: he received this honour for his latest famous book "The Golden Road: How Ancient India Transformed the World".

Q127. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

Taj Mahal — Uttar Pradesh (Agra, A-2); Jantar Mantar — Rajasthan (Jaipur, B-1); Sanchi Stupa — Madhya Pradesh (C-3); Hampi (remains of the Vijayanagara Empire) — Karnataka (D-4).

Q128. Answer: d

Solution:

The winner of the Stockholm Water Prize 2026 was announced on 18 March 2026. It is also called the world's "Nobel Prize for water".

Renowned environmental scientist and UN scientist of Iranian origin, Professor Kaveh Madani, has been chosen for this prestigious 2026 award.

So far, three Indian citizens and one Indian organisation have received it: Dr. Madhav Atmaram Chitale (1993), the Centre for Science and Environment - CSE (2005), Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak (2009), Rajendra Singh (2015).

Q129. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

The PM SHRI (PM Schools for Rising India) scheme was launched in September 2022. It aims to upgrade more than 14,500 Central and state government schools across India. It is based on the principles of NEP 2020. All three statements are correct.

Q130. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — by population, India is the world's largest democracy. R is also true — in the 2024 Lok Sabha election, there were about 96.8 crore (968 million) registered voters, the highest for any election in the world. R substantiates A.

Q131. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

Swachh Bharat Mission — from 2 October 2014, ODF (Open Defecation Free) target (A-2); BHIM App — UPI-based for digital payments (B-1); Jal Jeevan Mission — launched in 2019, piped drinking water to every home (C-3); Ayushman Bharat — ₹5 lakh health insurance (D-4).

Q132. Answer: b

Solution:

5 June

World Environment Day is celebrated on 5 June. It has been observed by UNEP since 1972. 22 April — Earth Day; 16 September — Ozone Layer Preservation Day; 21 March — World Forestry Day.

Q133. Answer: d

Solution:

The World Happiness Report 2026 was officially published on 19 March 2026. This report is released every year to mark the UN's International Day of Happiness (20 March).

It remained the world's happiest country for the ninth consecutive year, followed by Iceland (2nd) and Denmark (3rd).

India ranked 116th, showing a partial improvement compared to last year (118th in 2025). However, India still lags behind its neighbours Nepal (99th) and Pakistan (104th).

Q134. Answer: a

Solution:

On 21 March 2026, the National Zoological Park successfully organised the 'International Day of Forests'.

The UN General Assembly declared 21 March as the International Day of Forests in 2012.

The theme for 2026 is "Forests and Economies".

Q135. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

National Youth Day — 12 January (Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary, A-2); Republic Day — 26 January (B-1); National Voters' Day — 25 January (C-3); Martyrs' Day — 30 January (Mahatma Gandhi's death anniversary, D-4).

Q136. Answer: a

Solution:

The 98th Academy Awards were held on 16 March 2026 at the Dolby Theatre, Hollywood.

This time, 'Sinners' created history with the most nominations (16).

At the Oscars 2026, the film that won the most awards was "One Battle After Another".

Netflix won 7 awards.

The Best Casting category was introduced for the first time.

Cassandra Kulukundis received the first-ever award in this category.

Best Picture: 'One Battle After Another'; Best Director: Paul Thomas Anderson (for 'One Battle After Another'); Best Actor: Michael B. Jordan (for 'Sinners'); Best Actress: Jessie Buckley (for 'Hamnet'); Best Supporting Actor: Sean Penn (for 'One Battle After Another'); Best Supporting Actress: Amy Madigan (for 'Weapons').

Q137. Answer: a

Solution:

The second annual edition of the Fiscal Health Index 2026 was released by NITI Aayog in New Delhi on 11 March 2026.

This index is based on five key indicators (pillars) —

1. Quality of expenditure — the level of developmental and productive spending.
2. Revenue mobilisation — states' capacity to raise their own income.
3. Fiscal prudence — control over deficits and budgetary discipline.
4. Debt index — the status of states' total debt.
5. Debt sustainability — the capacity to repay debt in the long term.

a. Major categories (18 major states) (respectively)
Achievers — Odisha, Goa, Jharkhand.

Front runners — Gujarat, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka.

Performers — Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan.

Aspirational — West Bengal, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab.

b. North-Eastern and Himalayan states (respectively)

Achievers — Arunachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

Performers — Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim, Tripura.

Aspirational — Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland.

Q138. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — the annual growth rate was 2.2% in 1971-81, which fell to about 1% in 2011-21. R is also true — the TFR has fallen because of improvements in education, the status of women, and family planning (the National Population Policy 2000). R correctly explains A.

Q139. Answer: d

Solution:

(a) The full and correct name of the noted historian K.N. Panikkar was Kandiyoor Narayanan Panikkar. He passed away on 9 March 2026 in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

(b) Senior Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer Ms Anita Shukla was appointed India's Ambassador to the Republic of Ecuador on 6 March 2026.

(c) Renowned classical nadaswaram musician Sheikh Mahaboob Subhani passed away on 4 March 2026 at the age of 71 in Srirangam, Tamil Nadu.

(d) Renowned Indian writer, commentator and thinker (not an MP) Gurcharan Das was honoured with the prestigious global 'Lifetime Libertarian Award' on 5 March 2026. He became the first Indian to receive this prestigious international award.

Q140. Answer: a

Solution:

The first official announcement and initial agreement for 'Project Ganga' by the Uttar Pradesh Government was made on 9 March 2026. However, the scheme was officially launched on 9 June 2026.

This entire scheme was launched with the objective of connecting Uttar Pradesh's rural and semi-urban population with high-speed broadband connectivity

and creating employment through 'Ganga Fiber' services.

On 9 March, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between Uttar Pradesh's 'State Transformation Commission' (STC) and the Hinduja Group company 'OneOTT Entertainment Limited' (OIL) in the presence of the state's Finance Minister Suresh Kumar Khanna. The project was also publicly announced on the same day.

Q141. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — in 2023, India overtook Britain to become the world's 5th-largest economy.

Statement 2 is correct — the services sector contributes more than 55% of India's GDP.

Statement 3 is correct — according to many estimates, India could become the third-largest economy by 2027-30.

Q142. Answer: a

Solution:

A is true — the RTI is an important law ensuring transparency and accountability. R is also true — the RTI Act 2005 (in force from 12 October 2005) gives citizens the right to obtain government information within 30 days. R correctly explains A.

Q143. Answer: c

Solution:

The country's first annual report on the National Highway Green Cover Index (NH-GCI) 2025-26 was released on 9 March 2026 by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). This report was prepared in collaboration with the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Its main objective is a scientific and quantitative assessment of plantations along national highways.

Top-performing states (greatest green cover):

1. Assam (leading the country with 53.16%), 2. Gujarat, 3. Telangana, 4. Bihar, 5. Tamil Nadu

States/UTs with the least green cover: Himachal Pradesh (lowest — 13.5%), Delhi (25.37%), Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Jammu & Kashmir.

Q144. Answer: b

Solution:

On 4 March 2026, the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, launched an ambitious "Moonshot Project" aimed at improving or restoring brain function.

This project is supported (funded) by the Pratiksha Trust.

This trust was founded by Senapathy 'Kris' Gopalakrishnan and Sudha Gopalakrishnan.

Q145. Answer: c

Solution:

All three, 1, 2 and 3

Statement 1 is correct — in August 2023, Argentina, Ethiopia, Iran, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the UAE were invited (BRICS+). Statement 2 is correct — the 15th BRICS Summit was held in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 22-24 August 2023. Statement 3 is correct — the term 'BRIC' was coined by Jim O'Neill of Goldman Sachs in 2001.

Q146. Answer: c

Solution:

On 5 March 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 11th Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi.

The Raisina Dialogue is named after 'Raisina Hill' in New Delhi, but it is held not at Rashtrapati Bhavan but at the Taj Mansingh Hotel.

This year's theme is "Sanskriti - Aashritata, Samanjasya, Unnati" (Assertion, Harmony, Advancement).

Held from 5 to 7 March 2026, this dialogue is being attended by representatives from more than 110 countries.

The Raisina Dialogue has been held every year in New Delhi since 2016.

Q147. Answer: a

Solution:

A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

Jnanpith — outstanding literature in Indian languages, the highest literary award (A-2); Sahitya Akademi — in 24 Indian languages (B-3); Booker Prize — English literature (C-1); Saraswati Samman — K.K. Birla Foundation, for Indian languages (D-4).

Q148. Answer: a

Solution:

On 25 February, following his historic address in the Israeli Parliament (the Knesset), Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honoured with the 'Speaker of the Knesset Medal', the highest honour of Israel's Parliament.

Israel's Parliament is called the Knesset. PM Modi is the first leader in the world to receive this prestigious medal.

Q149. Answer: d

Solution:

The 'Zero Prize' is India's first results-based national environmental award.

The official announcement of this environmental award was made on 25 February 2026 during 'Delhi Climate Innovation Week' held in New Delhi.

Objective: to recognise real results achieved on the ground in environmental protection, rather than rewarding mere "efforts". Total prize money: ₹5 crore.

This award is not run by a single government ministry, but under a hybrid model (public-private

collaboration). It will be primarily administered by the School of Policy and Governance (SPG), which is the main coordinator of this entire national campaign.

Q150. Answer: c

Solution:

The 7th edition of the annual joint military exercise 'Dharma Guardian 2026' between India and Japan was held from 24 February to 9 March 2026 at Chaubatia in Uttarakhand.

A contingent from the Ladakh Scouts represented India. Soldiers from the 32nd Infantry Regiment of the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) took part.

This exercise is held alternately in India and Japan. In addition, the two countries also take part in bilateral exercises such as JIMEX (navy), Veer Guardian (air force) and Shinyuu Maitri.