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# UPSC PRELIMS 2022 DETAILED ANSWER KEY GS PAPER 1

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## Cut off prediction by Civils Café IAS Study Circle

The research team at Civils Café Carefully considered the following facts to arrive at our Cut off Prediction.

- 1.The GS paper 1 was far more tough than last year GS1.
- 2.The GS paper 1 was lot more factual than concept based compared to previous year papers.
3. New and unexpected questions were asked.
- 4.Option elimination strategies couldn't guarantee extra marks.
5. CSAT was tough
6. Increased vacancies this year, which alone will increase 3000-4000 extra people qualifying the prelims.

Hence we expect the cut off to come lower.

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1. "Rapid Financing Instrument" and "Rapid Credit Facility" are related to the provisions of lending by which one of the following ?

- (a) Asian Development Bank
- (b) International Monetary Fund**
- (c) United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative
- (d) World Bank

- <https://lms.indianeconomy.net/glossary/rapid-financing-instrument-rfi/#:~:text=The%20RFI%20is%20a%20lending,urgent%20balance%20of%20payments%20need.>

### Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI)

- The RFI is a lending facility of the IMF that provides emergency assistance to member countries.
- The rapid financial assistance is provided with limited conditionality to all members facing an urgent balance of payments need.
- Access under the RFI is subject to an annual limit of 50 percent of quota and a cumulative limit of 100 percent of quota. Emergency loans are subject to the same terms as the FCL, PLL and SBA, with repayment within 3¼–5 years.

2. With reference to the Indian economy, consider the following statements :

1. An increase in Nominal Effective Exchange Rate (NEER) indicates the appreciation of rupee.
2. An increase in the Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER) indicates an improvement in trade competitiveness.
3. An increasing trend in domestic inflation relative to inflation in other countries is likely to cause an increasing divergence between NEER and REER.

Which of the above statements are correct ?

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

- The real effective exchange rate (REER) compares a nation's currency value against the weighted average of the currencies of its major trading partners.
- It is an indicator of the international competitiveness of a nation in comparison with its trade partners.
- The formula is weighted to take into account the relative importance of each trading partner to the home country.
- An increasing REER indicates that a country is losing its competitive edge.
- A nation's nominal effective exchange rate (NEER), adjusted for inflation in the home country, equals its real effective exchange rate (REER).

3. With reference to the Indian economy, consider the following statements :

1. If the inflation is too high, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is likely to buy government securities.
2. If the rupee is rapidly depreciating, RBI is likely to sell dollars in the market.
3. If interest rates in the USA or European Union were to fall, that is likely to induce RBI to buy dollars.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

- If the inflation is too high, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is likely to SELL government securities.
- Use elimination. 1 is wrong. You automatically get the answer.

4. With reference to the "G20 Common Framework", consider the following statements :

1. It is an initiative endorsed by the G20 together with the Paris Club.
2. It is an initiative to support Low Income Countries with unsustainable debt.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

- The **Common Framework for debt treatment beyond the DSSI (Common Framework)** is an initiative endorsed by the G20, together with the [Paris Club](#), to support, in a structural manner, Low Income Countries with unsustainable debt.
- The Common Framework considers debt treatment, on a case-by-case basis, driven by requests from eligible debtor countries. In response to a request for debt treatment, a Creditor Committee is convened. Negotiations are supported by the IMF and the World Bank, including through their Debt Sustainability Analysis.
- The idea is that the debt treatment under the Common Framework should be accompanied by reforms ensuring the future sustainability of public debt, and consistent with the parameters of an Upper Credit Tranche (UCT) IMF-supported program.
- The Common Framework represents a step change for official creditors, bringing together the Paris Club and G20 official bilateral creditors in a coordinated process. Such approach will allow to address solvency challenges with a long-term perspective, ensuring the participation of private sector creditors and of other official creditors through the comparability of treatment clause included in the multilateral agreement, which implies that they provide debt treatments on terms as least as favourable.
- To date, three countries have requested a Common Framework treatment and in April 2021 there has been the launch of the first Creditor Committee for a debt treatment for Chad.

- The Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the DSSI is an agreement of the G20 and Paris Club countries to coordinate and cooperate on debt treatments for up to 73 low income countries.
  - It provides incentives for up to 73 low income countries. For countries having unsustainable debt, the agreement provides for deep debt restructuring.
  - <https://www.imf.org/en/About/FAO/sovereign-debt>
5. With reference to the Indian economy, what are the advantages of "Inflation-Indexed Bonds (IIBs)" ?
1. Government can reduce the coupon rates on its borrowing by way of IIBs
  2. IIBs provide protection to the investors from uncertainty regarding inflation.
  3. The interest received as well as capital gains on IIBs are not taxable.
  4. Which of the statements given above are correct ?
- (a) **1 and 2 only**  
 (b) 2 and 3 only  
 (c) 1 and 3 only  
 (d) 1, 2 and 3
- <https://m.rbi.org.in/Scripts/FAOView.aspx?Id=91>
1. **Inflation Indexed Bonds (IIBs) were issued in the name of Capital Indexed Bonds (CIBs) during 1997. How is the new product of IIBs different from earlier CIBs?**
- The CIBs issued in 1997 provided inflation protection only to principal and not to interest payment.
  - New product of IIBs will provide inflation protection to both principal and interest payments.
2. **How will inflation protection be provided to both principal and interest rate? Whether inflation component will be paid along with interest?**
- Inflation component on principal will not be paid with interest but the same would be adjusted in the principal by multiplying principal with index ratio (IR). At the time of redemption, adjusted principal or the face, whichever is higher, would be paid.
  - Interest rate will be provided protection against inflation by **paying fixed coupon rate on the principal adjusted against inflation.**
  - Because indexed bonds are free of inflation risk, their nominal yields do not contain an inflation risk premium ( $i = r + p$ ). Assuming that, on average, actual inflation equals expected inflation ( $p = p$ ), the cost of indexed bonds would be lower by the size of the inflation risk premium. Thus, by issuing indexed bonds instead of nominal bonds, the government would, on average, save money by eliminating any inflation risk premium that might exist.
  - [Taxes Deflate Inflation Bonds - Mint](https://www.livemint.com › Money › Taxes-deflate-inflati...)<https://www.livemint.com › Money › Taxes-deflate-inflati...>

6. With reference to foreign-owned e-commerce firms. operating in India, which of the following statements is/are correct ?

1. They can sell their own goods in addition to offering their platforms as market-places.
2. The degree to which they can own big sellers on their platforms is limited.

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

- India tightens the noose on ecommerce players: In January, India was all set to tighten the foreign direct investment (FDI) rules for ecommerce to check companies set up by the online marketplaces from trading on their own platform. The rules barred online marketplaces from holding inventory of their own or influencing the price of goods on their platforms. They also prohibited group companies or entities in which marketplaces have control of inventory to sell on their platforms, among other things.
- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/tech-bytes/2021-year-in-review-the-chaos-and-confusion-around-indias-e-commerce-rules/articleshow/88614007.cms?from=mdr>

7. Which of the following activities constitute a real sector in the economy ?

1. Farmers harvesting their crops
2. Textile mills converting raw cotton into fabrics
3. A commercial bank lending money to a trading company
4. A corporate body issuing Rupee Denominated Bonds overseas

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

- The real sector of the economy consists of enterprises (nonfinancial corporations), households and nonprofit institutions serving households.
- The statements 3 and 4 mention about financial corporations. Hence they will not be considered as real sector in the economy.

8. Which one of the following situations best reflects "Indirect Transfers" oftentalked about in the media recently with reference to India ?

- (a) An Indian company investing in a foreign enterprise and paying taxes to the foreign country on the profits arising out of its investment
- (b) A foreign company investing in India and paying taxes to the country of its base on the profits arising out of its investment
- (c) An Indian company purchases tangible assets in a foreign country and sells such assets after their value increases and transfers the proceeds to India
- (d) A foreign company transfers shares and such shares derive their substantial value from assets located in India.**

- Indirect transfers refer to situations where when foreign entities own shares or assets in India, the shares of such foreign entities are transferred instead of a direct transfer of the underlying assets in India.
- <https://kluwerlawonline.com/journalarticle/Intertax/45.10/TAXI2017057#:~:text=Indirect%20transfers%20refer%20to%20situations,the%20underlying%20assets%20in%20India.>

9. With reference to the expenditure made by an organisation or a company, which of the following statements is/are correct ?

1. Acquiring new technology is capital expenditure.
2. Debt financing is considered capital expenditure, while equity financing is considered revenue expenditure.

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

- Both debt and equity financing are capital expenditure

10. With reference to the Indian economy, consider the following statements :

1. A share of the household financial savings goes towards government borrowings.
2. Dated securities issued at market-related rates in auctions form a large component of internal debt.

Which of the above statements is/are correct ?

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

- Gross financial savings of households include monies saved in banks, provident funds, pension schemes, shares, insurance and in the form of currency, among other categories. These savings form the pool of domestic finance for investments which are crucial to job creation, and are currently critical as they will be crucial in deciding the pace of economic revival.

- [https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/household-financial-savings-improve-on-sharp-decline-in-borrowings-rbi-120082501704\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/household-financial-savings-improve-on-sharp-decline-in-borrowings-rbi-120082501704_1.html)
- <https://m.rbi.org.in/Scripts/AnnualReportPublications.aspx?Id=1320>

- **Debt Management of the Central Government**

- During 2020-21, the gross market borrowing<sup>2</sup> through dated G-sec was higher by 93.0 per cent as compared with the previous year. The planned market borrowing of GoI increased initially by ₹4.20 lakh crore, which was further increased twice during the year, i.e., first, ₹1.10 lakh crore under the special window given to states and UTs towards shortfall in goods and services tax (GST) compensation cess, and second, ₹80,000 crore during the announcement of the Union Budget for the year 2021-22. Net market borrowings through dated G-sec increased by 141.2 per cent as compared with previous year. Net market borrowings through dated G-sec financed 61.8 per cent of the centre's budgeted gross fiscal deficit (GFD) as against 50.8 per cent in the previous year. The net market borrowings through dated securities and Treasury Bills (T-Bills) taken together also increased in 2020-21

11. Consider the following statements :

1. Pursuant to the report of H.N. Sanyal Committee, the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 was passed.
2. The Constitution of India empowers the Supreme Court and the High Courtsto punish for contempt of themselves.
3. The Constitution of India defines Civil Contempt and Criminal Contempt.
4. In India, the Parliament is vested with the powers to make laws on Contemptof Court.

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Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

- Constitution does not defines the Contempt of Court.It is defined in Contempt of CourtsAct, 1971.
- In 1961, a committee headed by H.N. Sanyal, an Additional Solicitor General for the Government of India, was appointed to examine the application of contempt laws in India
- <https://www.legalserviceindia.com/article/1255-Contempt-of-Court.html>

12. With reference to India, consider the following statements :

1. Government law officers and legal firms are recognised as advocates, but corporate lawyers and patent attorneys are excluded from recognition as advocates.
2. 'Bar Councils have the power to lay down the rules relating to legal education and recognition of law colleges.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

- The Bar Council of India is a statutory body created by Parliament to regulate and represent the Indian bar.
- All lawyers are recognized as advocates. No discrimination. Use elimination here.
- They perform the regulatory function by prescribing standards of professional conduct and etiquette and by exercising disciplinary jurisdiction over the bar. They also sets standards for legal education and grants recognition to Universities whose degree in law will serve as qualification for enrolment as an advocate.
- <http://www.barcouncilofindia.org/about/legal-education/#:~:text=The%20Bar%20Council%20of%20India%20visits%20and%20inspects%20Universities%20Law.and%20the%20State%20Bar%20Councils.>
- <https://www.origiin.com/2021/01/22/career-in-ipr-for-advocates/#:~:text=A%20patent%20attorney%20on%20the,graduate%20of%20a%20scientific%20domain.>

13. Consider the following statements :

1. A bill amending the Constitution requires a prior recommendation of the President of India.
2. When a Constitution Amendment Bill is presented to the President of India, it is obligatory for the President of India to give his/her assent.
3. A Constitution Amendment Bill must be passed by both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha by a special majority and there is no provision for joint sitting.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

Basic question. Laxmicanth  
Chapter 10.

14. Consider the following statements :

1. The Constitution of India classifies the ministers into four ranks viz. Cabinet Minister, Minister of State with Independent Charge, Minister of State and Deputy Minister.
2. The total number of ministers in the Union Government, including the Prime Minister, shall not exceed 15 percent of the total number of members in the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

- The Constitution of India doesn't classifies the ministers into four ranks.
- <https://legislative.gov.in/sites/default/files/amend91.pdf>

15. Which of the following is/are the exclusive power(S) of Lok Sabha ?

1. To ratify the declaration of Emergency
2. To pass a motion of no-confidence against the Council of Ministers
3. To impeach the President of India

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

- Direct question from Lakshmikanth

16. With reference to anti-defection law in India, consider the following statements :

1. The law specifies that a nominated legislator cannot join any political party within six months of being appointed to the House.
2. The law does not provide any time-frame within which the presiding officer has to decide a defection case.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

17. Consider the following statements :

1. Attorney General of India and Solicitor General of India are the only officers of the Government who are allowed to participate in the meetings of the Parliament of India.
2. According to the Constitution of India, the Attorney General of India submits his resignation when the Government which appointed him resigns.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

18. With reference to the writs issued by the Courts in India, consider the following statements :

1. Mandamus will not lie against a private organisation unless it is entrusted with a public duty.
2. Mandamus will not lie against a Company even though it may be a Government Company.
3. Any public minded person can be a petitioner to move the Court to obtain the writ of Quo Warranto.

Which of the statements given is correct ?

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

19. With reference to Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, consider the following statements :

1. Private and public hospitals must adopt it.
2. As it aims to achieve universal health coverage, every citizen of India should be part of it ultimately.
3. It has seamless portability across the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

- Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission aims to provide digital health IDs for all Indian citizens to help hospitals, insurance firms, and citizens access health records electronically when required.

- A health ID will be issued for every citizen that will also work as their health account. This health account will contain details of every test, every disease, the doctors visited, the medicines taken and the diagnosis.
- Health ID is free of cost, voluntary. It will help in doing analysis of health data and lead to better planning, budgeting and implementation for health programs.
- The other major component of the programme is creating a Healthcare Professionals' Registry (HPR) and Healthcare Facilities Registry (HFR), allowing easy electronic access to medical professionals and health infrastructure.
- The HPR will be a comprehensive repository of all healthcare professionals involved in delivering healthcare services across both modern and traditional systems of medicine.
- The HFR database will have records of all the country's health facilities. (public and private)

20. With reference to Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, consider the following statements :

1. As per the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, the election of Deputy Speaker shall be held on such date as the Speaker may fix.
2. There is a mandatory provision that the election of a candidate as Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha shall be from either the principal opposition party or the ruling party.
3. The Deputy Speaker has the same power as of the Speaker when presiding over the sitting of the House and no appeal lies against his rulings.
4. The well established parliamentary practice regarding the appointment of Deputy Speaker is that the motion is moved by the Speaker - and duly seconded by the Prime Minister.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

- Common sense question. There is no mandatory provision that the election of a candidate as Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha shall be from either the principal opposition party or the ruling party.
- There is no such practice as mentioned in statement 4.

21. Among the following crops, which one is the most important anthropogenic source of both methane and nitrous oxide ?

- (a) Cotton
- (b) **Rice**
- (c) Sugarcane
- (d) Wheat

- Important anthropogenic sources of biogenic methane are wet rice fields, cattle, animal waste, landfills and biomass burning. Important anthropogenic sources of biogenic nitrous oxide are land-use change, fertilizer production and use and manure application.

22. "System of Rice Intensification" of cultivation, in which alternate wetting and drying of rice fields is practised, results in :

1. Reduced seed requirement
2. Reduced methane production
3. Reduced electricity consumption

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

- The System of Rice Intensification involves cultivating rice with as much organic manure as possible, starting with young seedlings planted singly at wider spacing in a square pattern; and with intermittent irrigation that keeps the soil moist but not inundated, and frequent inter cultivation with weeder that actively
- <https://vikaspedia.in/agriculture/best-practices/sustainable-agriculture/crop-management/sri-2013-new-method-of-growing-rice>

23. Which one of the following lakes of West Africa has become dry and turned into a desert ?

- (a) Lake Victoria
- (b) Lake Faguibine**
- (c) Lake Oguta
- (d) Lake Volta

Mali: Climate change transforms Lake Faguibine into desert, exiling population.  
<https://reliefweb.int/report/mali/mali-climate-change-transforms-lake-faguibine-desert-exiling-population>

24. Gandikota canyon of South India was created by which one of the following rivers ?

- (a) Cauvery
- (b) Manjira
- (c) **Pennar**
- (d) Tungabhadra

<https://www.livehistoryindia.com/story/places/gandikota-the-grand-canyon-of-india-2>

**Gandikota** canyon is located on the bank of the Penna river in Andhra Pradesh.

25. Consider the following pairs

Peak	Mountains
1. Namcha Barwa	Garhwal Himalaya
2. Nanda Devi	Kumaon Himalaya
3. Nokrek	Sikkim Himalaya

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched ?

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

- Namcha Barwa is located in the Eastern Himalayas. It is located in Arunachal Pradesh. Garhwal Himalayas is in Uttarakhand.
- Nanda Devi is located in the state of Uttarakhand specifically in the Kumaon Himalayas.
- Nokrek is located in the state of Meghalaya in the Garo Hills.

26. The term "Levant" often heard in the news roughly corresponds to which of the following regions ?

- (a) **Region along the eastern Mediterranean shores**
- (b) Region along North African shores stretching from Egypt to Morocco
- (c) Region along Persian Gulf and Horn of Africa
- (d) The entire coastal areas of Mediterranean Sea

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27. Consider the following countries :

1. Azerbaijan
2. Kyrgyzstan
3. Tajikistan
4. Turkmenistan
5. Uzbekistan

Which of the above have borders with Afghanistan ?

- (a) 1, 2 and 5 only
- (b) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- (c) **3, 4 and 5 only**
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

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28. With reference to India, consider the following statements :

1. Monazite is a source of rare earths.
2. Monazite contains thorium.
3. Monazite occurs naturally in the entire Indian coastal sands in India.
4. In India, Government bodies only can process or export monazite.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

- Monazite is a primarily reddish-brown phosphate mineral that contains rare-earth elements
- Thorium content of monazite is variable and sometimes can be up to 20–30%. Monazite from certain carbonatites or from Bolivian tin ore veins is essentially thorium-free. However, commercial monazite sands typically contain between 6 and 12% thorium oxide
- Monazite occurs naturally in the entire eastern coast and Kerala coastal sands in India.
- Maintaining that only IREL can produce & process monazite, the DAE has said no given license to any private entity for this purpose.

29. In the northern hemisphere, the longest day of the year normally occurs in the :

- (a) First half of the month of June
- (b) Second half of the month of June**
- (c) First half of the month of July
- (d) Second half of the month of July

- The longest day for those living north of the Equator is June 21. In technical terms, this day is referred to as the summer solstice, the longest day of the summer season. It occurs when the sun is directly over the Tropic of Cancer, or more specifically right over 23.5 degree north latitude.

30. Consider the following pairs :

Wetland /Lake                      Location

1. Hokera Wetland — Punjab
2. Renuka Wetland — Himachal Pradesh
3. Rudrasagar Lake-- Tripura
4. Sasthamkotta Lake --- Tamil Nadu

How many pairs given above are correctly matched ?

- (a) Only one pair  
**(b) Only two pairs**  
 (c) Only three pairs  
 (d) All four pairs
- Hokera Wetland, Jammu & Kashmir. **Located at the northwest Himalayan biogeographic province of Kashmir, back of the snow-draped Pir Panchal (1,584m asl.)**, Hokera wetland is only 10 km from scenic paradise of Srinagar.
  - Renuka wetland is in the Sirmaur district of Himachal Pradesh
  - The Rudrasagar Lake is located in the **Melaghar block of Sonamura sub-division of Sipahijala district**. The lake forms a geographical area of 2.4 km<sup>2</sup> and situated at a distance of about 52 km from the state capital of **Tripura**.
  - Sasthamcotta Lake or Sasthamkotta Lake, also categorized as a wetland, is the largest fresh water lake in **Kerala, a state of India on the south of the West Coast**.

31. Consider the following

1. Aarogya Setu
2. CoWIN
3. DigiLocker
4. DIKSHA

Which of the above are built on top of open-source digital platforms ?

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

All are build on top of open source platform.

32. With reference to Web 3.0, consider the following statements :

1. Web 3.0 technology enables people to control their own data.
2. In the Web 3.0 world, there can be blockchain based social networks.
3. Web 3.0 is operated by users collectively rather than a corporation.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web3>
- **Web3** (also known as **Web 3.0**<sup>[1][2][3]</sup> and sometimes stylized as **web3**)<sup>[4]</sup> is an idea for a new iteration of the [World Wide Web](#) based on [blockchain technology](#), which incorporates concepts such as [decentralization](#) and token-based economics.<sup>[5]</sup> Some technologists and journalists have contrasted it with [Web 2.0](#), wherein they say data and content are centralized in a small group of companies sometimes referred to as "[Big Tech](#)".<sup>[6]</sup> The term "Web3" was coined in 2014 by [Ethereum](#) co-founder [Gavin Wood](#), and the idea gained interest in 2021 from [cryptocurrency](#) enthusiasts, large technology companies, and [venture capital](#) firms.<sup>[6][7]</sup>

- Some experts argue that Web3 will provide increased [data security](#), [scalability](#), and [privacy](#) for users and combat the influence of large technology companies.<sup>[8]</sup> Others have raised concerns about a decentralized web, citing the potential for low moderation and the proliferation of [harmful content](#),<sup>[9]</sup> the [centralization of wealth](#) to a small group of investors and individuals,<sup>[10]</sup> or a loss of privacy due to more expansive data collection.<sup>[11]</sup> Others, such as [Elon Musk](#) and [Jack Dorsey](#), have argued that Web3 only serves as a [buzzword](#).

33. With reference to "Software as a Service (SaaS)", consider the following statements :

- SaaS buyers can customize the user interface and can change data fields.
- SaaS users can access their data through their mobile devices.
- Outlook, Hotmail and Yahoo! Mail are forms of SaaS.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3**

- <https://www.techtarget.com/searchcloudcomputing/definition/Software-as-a-Service>
- SaaS applications are often customizable and can be integrated with other business applications, especially across applications from a common software provider.

34. Which one of the following statements best reflects the idea behind the "Fractional Orbital Bombardment System" often talked about in the media ?

- A hypersonic missile is launched into space to counter the asteroid approaching the Earth and explode it in space.
- A spacecraft lands on another planet after making several orbital motions.
- A missile is put into a stable orbit around the Earth and deorbits over a target on the Earth.**
- A spacecraft moves along a comet with the same speed and places a probe on its surface

A **Fractional Orbital Bombardment System (FOBS)** is a warhead delivery system that uses a low earth orbit towards its target destination. Just before reaching the target, it deorbits through a retrograde engine burn.<sup>[1]</sup>

The Soviet Union first developed FOBS as a nuclear-weapons delivery system in the 1960s. It was one of the first Soviet efforts to use space to deliver nuclear weapons. In August 2021, the People's Republic of China tested a weapon that combined a FOBS with a hypersonic glide vehicle.<sup>[1]</sup>

Like a kinetic bombardment system but with nuclear weapons, FOBS had several attractive qualities: it had no range limit, its flight path would not reveal the target location, and warheads could be directed to North America over the South Pole, evading detection by NORAD's north-facing early warning systems.

The maximum altitude would be around 150 km.<sup>[1]</sup> Energetically, this would require a launch vehicle powerful enough to be capable of putting the weapon 'into orbit'. However the orbit is only a fraction of a full orbit, not sustained, and so there would be much less need to control a precise orbit, or to maintain it long term.

35. Which one of the following is the context in which the term "qubit" is mentioned?

- (a) Cloud Services
- (b) Quantum Computing**
- (c) Visible Light Communication Technologies
- (d) Wireless Communication Technologies

- <https://www.ibm.com/topics/quantum-computing>
- A **qubit** is a two-state (or two-level) quantum-mechanical system, one of the simplest quantum systems displaying the peculiarity of quantum mechanics.

36. Consider the following communication technologies :

1. Closed-circuit Television
2. Radio Frequency Identification
3. Wireless Local Area Network

Which, of the above are considered Short-Range devices/technologies ?

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

- <https://www.etsi.org/technologies/short-range-devices>

Short Range Devices (SRD) are radio devices that offer a low risk of interference with other radio services, usually because their transmitted power, and hence their range, is low. The definition 'Short Range Device' may be applied to many different types of wireless equipment, including various forms of:

- Access control (including door and gate openers)
- Alarms and movement detectors
- Closed-circuit television (CCTV)
- Cordless audio devices, including wireless microphones
- Industrial control
- Local Area Networks
- Medical implants
- Metering devices
- Remote control
- Radio frequency identification (RFID)
- Road Transport Telematics
- Telemetry.

37. Consider the following statements :

1. Biofilms can form on medical implants within human tissues.
2. Biofilms can form on food and food processing surfaces.
3. Biofilms can exhibit antibiotic resistance.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biofilm>

A **biofilm** comprises any syntrophic consortium of microorganisms in which cells stick to each other and often also to a surface. These adherent cells become embedded within a slimy extracellular matrix that is composed of extracellular polymeric substances (EPSs). The cells within the biofilm produce the EPS components, which are typically a polymeric conglomeration of extracellular polysaccharides, proteins, lipids and DNA. Because they have three-dimensional structure and represent a community lifestyle for microorganisms, they have been metaphorically described as "cities for microbes"

Bacteria living in a biofilm usually have significantly different properties from free-floating bacteria of the same species, as the dense and protected environment of the film allows them to cooperate and interact in various ways.<sup>[44]</sup> One benefit of this environment is increased resistance to detergents and antibiotics, as the dense extracellular matrix and the outer layer of cells protect the interior of the community.<sup>[45][46]</sup> In some cases antibiotic resistance can be increased up to 5,000 times.

38. Consider the following statements in respect of probiotics :

1. Probiotics are made of both bacteria and yeast.
2. The organisms in probiotics are found in foods we ingest but they do not naturally occur in our gut.
3. Probiotics help in the digestion of milk sugars.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

- <https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/14598-probiotics>
- Probiotics are a combination of live beneficial bacteria and/or yeasts that naturally live in your body.

They keep you healthy by supporting your immune function and controlling inflammation. Certain types of good bacteria can also:

- Help your body digest food.
- Keep bad bacteria from getting out of control and making you sick.
- Create vitamins.

- Help support the cells that line your gut to prevent bad bacteria that you may have consumed (through food or drinks) from entering your blood.
- Breakdown and absorb medications.

39. In the context of vaccines manufactured to prevent COVID-19 pandemic, consider the following statements :

1. The Serum Institute of India produced COVID-19 vaccine named Covishield using mRNA platform.
2. Sputnik V vaccine is manufactured using vector based platform.
3. COVAXIN is an inactivated pathogen 'based vaccine.

Which of the statements given. above are correct ?

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

- The Oxford–AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine, sold under the brand names Covishield and Vaxzevria among others, is a viral vector vaccine for prevention of COVID-19.
- So statement 1 is wrong. Use elimination.
- Sputnik V vaccine is manufactured using vector based platform.
- COVAXIN is an inactivated pathogen 'based vaccine.

40. If a major solar storm (solar-flare) reaches the Earth, which of the following are the possible effects on the Earth ?

1. GPS and navigation systems could fail.
2. Tsunamis could occur at equatorial regions.
3. Power grids could be damaged.
4. Intense auroras 'could occur over much of the Earth.
5. Forest fires could take place over much of the planet.
6. Orbits of the satellites could be disturbed.
7. Shortwave radio communication of the aircraft flying over polar regions could be interrupted.

Select the correct answer using the code give-n below :

- (a) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
- (b) 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 only
- (c) 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 only**
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

- <https://www.space.com/solar-flares-effects-classification-formation>
- Tsunamis are occurring due to the plate tectonics movement. The incident of solar flares on Earth will not result in Tsunamis as they are both not interlinked.

- The statement related to forest fires is not an impact caused due to the incidents of solar flares in Earth.

41. "Climate Action Tracker" which monitors the emission reduction pledges of different countries is a :

- (a) **Database created by coalition of research organisations**
- (b) Wing of "International Panel of Climate Change"
- (c) Committee under "United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change"
- (d) Agency promoted and financed by United Nations Environment Programme and World Bank

- <https://climateactiontracker.org/about/>
- The Climate Action Tracker is an independent scientific analysis that tracks government climate action and measures it against the globally agreed Paris Agreement aim of "holding warming well below 2°C, and pursuing efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C."
- A collaboration of two organisations, Climate Analytics and NewClimate Institute, the CAT has been providing this independent analysis to policymakers since 2009.

42. Consider the following statements :

1. "The Climate Group" is an international non-profit organization that drives climate action by building large networks and runs them.
2. The International Energy Agency in partnership with the Climate Group launched a global initiative "EP100".
3. EP100 brings together leading companies committed to driving innovation in energy efficiency and increasing competitiveness while delivering on emission reduction goals.
4. Some Indian companies are members of EP100.
5. The International Energy Agency is the Secretariat to the "Under2 Coalition".

Which of the statements given above are Correct ?

- (a) 1,2,4 and 5
- (b) 1, 3 and 4 only**
- (c) 2, 3 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Climate\\_Group](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Climate_Group)
- **The Climate Group** is a non-profit organisation that works with business and government leaders around the world to address climate change.<sup>[1][2]</sup> The group has programmes focussing on renewable energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Launched in 2004,

the organisation operates globally with offices in the UK (headquarters), the United States and India.

- It acts as the secretariat for the [Under2 Coalition](#), an alliance of state and regional governments around the world that are committed to reducing their greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero levels by 2050.<sup>[3][4]</sup> As of 2017, the Under2 Coalition brings together over 205 governments from 43 countries,<sup>[5]</sup> representing 1.3 billion people and almost 40% of the global [economy](#).<sup>[6][7]</sup>
- The organisation's business initiatives "RE100", "EP100" and "EV100", which are run as part of the [We Mean Business coalition](#), aim to grow corporate demand for renewable energy, energy productivity and [electric transport](#), accelerating the transition to a [zero-emissions](#) economy, while helping leading businesses to reduce carbon emissions, be more resilient and increase profits.
- So statement 2 & 5 are Wrong.

43. "If rainforests and tropical forests are the lungs of the Earth, then surely 'wetlands function as its kidneys.'" Which one of the following functions of wetlands best reflects the above statement ?

- (a) The water cycle in wetlands involves surface runoff, subsoil percolation and evaporation.
- (b) Algae form the nutrient base upon which fish, crustaceans, molluscs, birds, reptiles and mammals thrive.
- (c) Wetlands play a vital role in maintaining sedimentation balance and soil stabilization..
- (d) **Aquatic plants absorb heavy metals and excess nutrients.**

- Around the world, wetlands are still disappearing three times faster than forests, erasing entire ecosystems. While tropical rainforests are often called the lungs of the Earth, wetlands are described as the kidneys. They can absorb large quantities of water, filtering pollutants and helping to prevent floods.
- They have also become key allies in the fight against climate change, as they can capture CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere.

44. In the context of WHO Air Quality Guidelines, consider the following statements :

1. The 24-hour mean of PM<sub>2.5</sub> should not exceed, 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and annual mean of PM<sub>2.5</sub> should not exceed 5 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.
2. In a year, the highest levels of ozone pollution occur during the periods of inclement weather.
3. PM<sub>10</sub> can penetrate the lung barrier and enter the bloodstream.
4. Excessive ozone in the air can trigger asthma.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

**Recommended 2021 AQG levels compared to 2005 air quality guidelines**

Pollutant	Averaging Time	2005 AQGs	2021 AQGs
PM <sub>2.5</sub> , µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual	10	5
	24-hour <sup>a</sup>	25	15
PM <sub>10</sub> , µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual	20	15
	24-hour <sup>a</sup>	50	45
O <sub>3</sub> , µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Peak season <sup>b</sup>	-	60
	8-hour <sup>a</sup>	100	100
NO <sub>2</sub> , µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual	40	10
	24-hour <sup>a</sup>	-	25
SO <sub>2</sub> , µg/m <sup>3</sup>	24-hour <sup>a</sup>	20	40
CO, mg/m <sup>3</sup>	24-hour <sup>a</sup>	-	4

45. With reference to "Gucchi" sometimes mentioned in the news, consider the following statements :

- It is a fungus.
- It grows in some Himalayan forest areas.
- It is commercially cultivated in the Himalayan foothills of north-eastern India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

- <https://indianexpress.com/article/lifestyle/food-wine/gucchi-mushrooms-cult-health-benefits-6484874/>
- Gucchi are found on the foothills of the Himalayas, It is known to be one of the most expensive mushrooms, with only 500 gm gucchi costing up to Rs 18,000, according to *organickashmir.com*.
- The mushrooms cannot be cultivated commercially and grow in conifer forests across temperature regions, and the foothills in Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Jammu and Kashmir. And it takes months for villagers to collect enough of these mushrooms, dry them and bring them to the market.

46. With reference to polyethylene terephthalate, the use of which is so widespread in our daily lives, consider the following statements :

1. Its fibres can be blended with wool and cotton fibres to reinforce their properties.
2. Containers made of it can be used to store any alcoholic beverage.
3. Bottles made of it can be recycled into other products.
4. Articles made of it can be easily disposed of by incineration without causing greenhouse gas emissions.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

- (a) **1 and 3**  
 (b) 2 and 4  
 (c) 1 and. 4  
 (d) 2 and 3

- PET is made into a high-strength textile fibre marketed under the trademarked name Dacron by the American company Invista. The stiffness of PET fibres makes them highly resistant to deformation, so they impart excellent resistance to wrinkling in fabrics. They are often used in durable-press blends with other fibres such as rayon, wool, and cotton, reinforcing the inherent properties of those fibres while contributing to the ability of the fabric to recover from wrinkling.
- <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/mumbai/news/Govt-rules-out-plastic-liquor-bottles/article13994794.ece>
- <https://www.britannica.com/science/polyethylene-terephthalate#ref1049366>

47. Which of the following is not a bird ?

- (a) **Golden Mahseer**  
 (b) Indian Nightjar  
 (c) Spoonbill  
 (d) White Ibis

- [https://www.wwfindia.org/about\\_wwf/priority\\_species/threatened\\_species/golden\\_mahseer/](https://www.wwfindia.org/about_wwf/priority_species/threatened_species/golden_mahseer/)



48. Which of the following are nitrogen-fixing plants ?

1. Alfalfa
2. Amaranth
3. Chickpea
4. Clover
5. Purslane (Kulfa)
6. Spinach

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

- (a) **1, 3 and 4 only**
- (b) 1, 3, 5 and 6 only
- (c) 2, 4, 5 and 6 only
- (d) 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6

- Nitrogen-fixing capable plants belong to the Fabaceae family. Some of such plants include Alfalfa, Chickpea, Clover etc. Plants that contribute to nitrogen fixation include the legume family – Fabaceae – with taxa such as clover, soybeans, alfalfa, lupins, peanuts, and rooibos. They contain symbiotic bacteria called *Rhizobia* within nodules in their root systems, producing nitrogen compounds that help the plant to grow and compete with other plants. When the plant dies, the fixed nitrogen is released, making it available to other plants and this helps to fertilize the soil. The great majority of legumes have this association, but a few genera (e.g., *Styphnolobium*) do not. In many traditional and organic farming practices, fields are rotated through various types of crops, which usually includes one consisting mainly or entirely of clover or buckwheat (family *Polygonaceae*), which were often referred to as "green manure."

49. "Biorock technology" is talked about in which one of the following situations ?

- (a) **Restoration of damaged coral reefs**
- (b) Development of building materials using plant residues
- (c) Identification of areas for exploration/extraction of shale gas
- (d) Providing salt licks for wild animals in forests/protected areas

- Biorock is a cement-like engineering material formed when a small electric current is passed between underwater metal electrodes placed in seawater causing dissolved minerals to accrete onto the cathode to form a thick layer of limestone
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biorock>

50. The "Miyawaki method" is well known for the :

- (a) Promotion of commercial farming in arid and semi-arid areas
- (b) Development of gardens using genetically modified flora
- (c) **Creation of mini forests in urban areas**
- (d) Harvesting wind energy on coastal areas and on sea surfaces

- <https://urban-forests.com/miyawaki-method/>
- Urban Forests uses the Miyawaki method to create urban forests. Miyawaki urban forests are fascinating complex ecosystems, in balance with today's soil and climate conditions.
- This technique works worldwide irrespective of soil and climatic conditions. Over 2000 forests were successfully created using this method. Doctor Akira Miyawaki, botanist and professor, is the inventor of the technique since 1980. He is a recipient of the 2006 Blue Planet Prize, which is the equivalent of a Nobel Prize in ecology.

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51. In the Government Of India Act 1919, the functions of Provincial Government were divided into "Reserved" and "Transferred" subjects. Which of the following Were treated as "Reserved" subjects ?

1. Administration of Justice
2. Local Self-Government
3. Land Revenue
4. Police

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

- Local self government was included in the transferred list.

52. In medieval India, the term "Fanam" referred to :

- (a) Clothing
- (b) Coins**
- (c) Ornaments
- (d) Weapons

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fanam>
- The meaning of **FANAM** is a small gold or silver coin formerly in widespread use in southern India.
- Madras **fanam**, a currency issued in Madras Presidency, now part of Tamil Nadu, India · Travancore **Fanam**, a currency issued in Travancore State, now part of Kerala

53. Consider the following freedom fighters :

1. Barindra Kumar Ghosh
2. Jogesh Chandra Chatterjee
3. Rash Behari Bose

Who of the above was/were actively associated, with the Ghadar Party ?

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

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jogesh\\_Chandra\\_Chatterjee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jogesh_Chandra_Chatterjee)
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barindra\\_Kumar\\_Ghosh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barindra_Kumar_Ghosh)

54. With reference to the proposals of Cripps Mission, consider the following statements :

1. The Constituent Assembly would have members nominated by the Provincial Assemblies as well as the Princely States.
2. Any Province, which is not prepared to accept the new Constitution would have the right to sign a separate agreement with Britain regarding its future status.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Proposals of Cripps Mission

- Setting up of an Indian dominion. This dominion would have the freedom to remain with the British Commonwealth or to secede from it. It would also be at liberty to take part in international organisations.
- A Constituent Assembly would be formed to frame a new constitution for the country. This Assembly would have members elected by the provincial assemblies and also nominated by the princes.
- Any province unwilling to join the Indian dominion could form a separate union and have a separate constitution.
- The transfer of power and the rights of minorities would be safeguarded by negotiations between the Constituent Assembly and the British government.
- In the meantime, until this new constitution came into force, India's defence would be controlled by the British and the powers of the Governor-General would remain unaltered.

55. With reference to Indian history, consider the following texts :

1. Nettipakarana
  2. Parishishtaparvan
  3. Avadanashataka
  4. Trishashtilakshana Mahapurana
- Which of the above are Jaina texts ?

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

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avadanasataka>
- The **Avadānaśataka** or "Century of Noble Deeds ([Avadāna](#))" is an anthology in Sanskrit of one hundred [Buddhist](#) legends, approximately dating to the same time as the [Ashokavadana](#).<sup>[1]</sup> [Ratnamālāvadāna](#).<sup>[2]</sup> The work may be from the [Mulasarvastivada](#) school.

56. With reference to Indian history, consider the following pairs:

Historical person	Known as
1. Aryadeva	Jaina Scholar
2. Dignaga	Buddhist Scholar
3. Nathamuni	Vaishnava scholar

How many pairs given above are correctly matched ?

- (a) None of the pairs
- (b) Only one pair
- (c) **Only two pairs**
- (d) All three pairs

- **Āryadeva** (fl. 3rd century CE) was a Mahayana Buddhist monk, a disciple of Nagarjuna and a Madhyamaka philosopher. - Buddhist scholar
- **Dignāga** (a.k.a. Diñnāga, c. 480 – c. 540 CE) was an Indian Buddhist scholar and one of the Buddhist founders of Indian logic.
- Sri Ranganathamuni, popularly known as Sriman **Nathamuni** (823 CE–951 CE), was a Vaishnava theologian who collected and compiled the Nalayira Divya Prabandham.

57. With reference to 'Indian history, consider the following statements :

1. The first Mongol invasion of India happened during the reign of Jalal-ud-din Khalji.
2. During the reign of Ala-ud-din Khalji, one Mongol assault marched up to Delhi and besieged the city.
3. Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq temporarily lost portions of north-west of his kingdom to Mongols.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

- <https://www.historydiscussion.net/history-of-india/tughluq-dynasty/biography-of-muhammad-bin-tughluq-tughluq-dynasty-indian-history/6578>
- The first and the only Mongol invasion during the reign of Jalal-ud-din Khalji took place in **1292 A.D.** The Mongols, under the command of a grandson of Hulagu, Abdullah attacked Punjab and reached near Sanam. Jalal-ud-din marched against them personally and reached the banks of the river Indus.

- The next Mongol invasion took place in 1297-98 A.D. only a short time after Ala-ud-din's accession on the throne. Dava Khan, ruler of Transoxiana, sent an army of one lakh Mongols under the command of Kadar to attack India.
- They entered Punjab and started plundering the nearby places of Lahore. Ala-ud-din sent an army under Jafar Khan and Ulugh Khan which defeated the Mongols near Jullundhar with great slaughter. Nearly 20,000 Mongols were killed in the battle.
- Many Mongol officers were taken prisoners who were killed afterwards and their captured women and children were sent to Delhi as slaves. In 1299 A.D. the Mongols attacked again under the command of Saldi, brother of Dava Khan. They captured Sehwan. Ala-ud-din sent Zafar Khan against the Mongols who recovered Sehwan from them and imprisoned a large number of Mongols including Saldi and his brother.
- During the reign of Muhammad Tughluq, the Mongols attacked only once. The Chaghtai Chief Ala-ud-din Tarmashirin of Transoxiana, attacked India in 1327 A.D. at the head of a powerful Mongol army.



Historians all agree that the Mongols came as aggressors and ravaged the country from **Multan and Lahore to the vicinity of Delhi**. However, these historians also differ as to how Muhammad Tughluq dealt with them.

According to Isami, the Mongols were defeated by the army of the Sultan near Meerut and forced to retreat.



58. With reference to Indian history, who of the following were known as "Kulah-Daran" ?

- (a) Arab merchants
- (b) Qalandars
- (c) Persian calligraphists
- (d) **Sayyids**

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in the state have been dealt with previously. The theologians who occupied the judicial and religious offices in the kingdom, were collectively known as *Dastar-bandan*, or turban-wearers, because they wore their official head-dress, the turban. The Sayyids were recognized by their distinctive head-dress of a pointed cap or *kulah* and were known as **kulah-daran** or cap-wearers. Both of these groups with their distinctive head-dresses had a recognized status in the kingdom, being the exponents of orthodox Islam. Both of them followed the Sunnite form of Islam and the Hanafite school of Muslim Law. The other schools of Sunnite Law, though not prohibited, were not encouraged. The respect

59. With reference to Indian history, consider the following statements :

1. The Dutch established their factories/warehouses on the east coast on lands granted to them by Gajapati rulers.
2. Alfonso de Albuquerque captured Goa from the Bijapur Sultanate.
3. The English East India Company established a factory at Madras on a plot of land leased from a representative of the Vijayanagara empire.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

(a) 1 and 2 only

**(b) 2 and 3 only**

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

- Dutch arrived and build factories in 1605 and Gajapati rulers were perishedbu 1543
- <https://www.thehindu.com/features/kids/how-madras-came-to-be-376-years-ago/article7561549.ece>

60. According to Kautilya's Arthashastra, which of the following are correct ?

1. A person could be a slave as a result of a judicial punishment.
2. If a female slave bore her master a son, she was legally free.
3. If a son born to a female slave was fathered by her master, the son was entitled to the legal status of the master's son.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

(a) 1 and 2

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

**(d) 1, 2 and 3**

- The Arthashastra states that a man could be a slave either by birth, by voluntarily selling himself, by being captured in war, or as a result of a judicial punishment. Slavery was a recognized institution and the legal relationship between master and slave was clearly defined e.g. if a female slave bore her master a son, not only was she legally free but the child was entitled to legal status of the master's son.
- <http://indiansaga.com/others/slavery.html>

61. Consider the following statements :

1. Tight monetary policy of US Federal Reserve could lead to capital flight
2. Capital flight may increase the inter cost of firms with existing External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs).
3. Devaluation of domestic currency decreases the currency risk associated with ECBs

Which of the statements correct ?

(a) **1 and 2 only**

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

- <https://thewire.in/economy/the-us-feds-aggressive-monetary-policy-tightening-and-new-headwinds-for-emerging-markets>
- Tight monetary policy of US Federal Reserve could lead to capital flight as US economy will be attractive for investors once more.
- Capital flight may increase the inter cost of firms with existing External Commercial Borrowings .
- Currency devaluations can be used by countries to achieve economic policy. Having a weaker currency relative to the rest of the world can help boost exports, shrink trade deficits and reduce the cost of interest payments on its outstanding government debts. There are, however, some negative effects of devaluations. They create uncertainty in global markets that can cause asset markets to fall or spur [recessions](#). Countries might be tempted to enter a tit for tat currency war, devaluing their own currency back and forth in a race to the bottom. This can be a very dangerous and vicious cycle leading to much more harm than good.
- Devaluing a currency, however, does not always lead to its intended benefits. Brazil is a case in point. The Brazilian real has plunged substantially since 2011, but the steep currency devaluation has been unable to offset other problems such as plunging [crude oil](#) and commodity prices, and a widening corruption scandal. As a result, the Brazilian economy has experienced sluggish growth.
- A depreciation of the domestic currency will lead to an increase in the value of foreign currency debts in domestic currency terms. Thus a significant depreciation of the local currency would translate into an increase in the local-currency value of outstanding debt. As a consequence, this would lead to a deterioration of the debt-servicing capacity of domestic borrowers.

62. Consider the following States :

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Kerala
3. Himachal Pradesh
4. Tripura

How many of the above are generally known as tea-producing States ?

(a) **Only one State**

(b) Only two States

(c) Only three States

(d) All four States

The most important tea-producing states which make India the world's second-largest producer of tea. These are -

- West Bengal.
- Assam.
- Kerala.
- Tamil Nadu.
- Himachal Pradesh.
- Karnataka.
- Arunachal Pradesh.

Among these, West Bengal and Assam are the top tea producer states of India.

63. Consider the following statements :

1. In India, credit rating agencies are regulated by the Reserve Bank of India.
  2. The rating agency popularly known as ICRA is a public limited company.
  3. Brickwork Ratings is an Indian credit rating agency.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

- <https://cleartax.in/s/credit-rating-agencies-in-india>
- **Credit Rating Agencies** are **regulated by** the Securities and Exchange. Board of India ('SEBI') through the SEBI (**Credit Rating Agencies**) Regulations, 1999 and circulars.
- ICRA is a **Public Limited Company**, with its shares listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange.
- **Brickwork Ratings**, a SEBI registered Credit Rating Agency, has also been accredited by RBI and empanelled by NSIC, with presence in Bengaluru, Mumbai,

64. With reference to the 'Banks Board Bureau (BBB)', which of the following statements are correct?

1. The Governor of RBI is the Chairman of BBB.
2. BBB recommends for the selection of heads for Public Sector Banks.
3. BBB helps the Public Sector Banks in developing strategies and capitalraising plans.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

- <https://banksboardbureau.org.in/>
- Governor RBI is not the chairman of the Bank Board Bureau.

65. With reference to Convertible Bonds, consider the following statements :

1. As there is an option to exchange the bond for equity, Convertible Bonds pay a lower rate of interest.
2. The option to convert to equity affords the bondholder a degree of indexation to rising consumer prices.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

- <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/c/convertiblebond.asp#:~:text=However%2C%20convertible%20bonds%20tend%20to,all%20companies%20offer%20convertible%20bonds.>
- A convertible bond is **a fixed-income corporate debt security that yields interest payments, but can be converted into a predetermined number of common stock or equity shares.** The conversion from the bond to stock can be done at certain times during the bond's life and is usually at the discretion of the bondholder.
- However, convertible bonds tend to offer a lower coupon rate or rate of return in exchange for the value of the option to convert the bond into common stock. Companies benefit since they can issue debt at lower interest rates than with traditional bond offerings. However, not all companies offer convertible bonds.
- Statement 2 is a possibility type statement. It may offer some degree of indexation to rising prices.

66. Consider the following:

1. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
2. Missile Technology Control Regime
3. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

India is a member of which of the above ?

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

India is a member of All these organisations.

67. Consider the following statements :

1. Vietnam has been one of the fastest growing economies in the world in recent years.
2. Vietnam is led by a multi-party political system.
3. Vietnam's economic growth is linked to its integration with global supply chains and focus on exports.
4. For a long time Vietnam's low labour costs and stable exchange rates have attracted global manufacturers.
5. Vietnam has the most productive e-service sector in the Indo-Pacific region.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 2 and 4
- (b) 3 and 5
- (c) 1, 3 and 4**
- (d) 1 and 2

A recent GDP growth statistics report states that **Vietnam is the fastest growing world economy with a growth rate of 7.31% in 2019**. It has surpassed the growth rate of other Asian economies including India and China, which stand at 4.5% and 6% CAGR respectively. The **politics of Vietnam** are defined by socialist republic framework which is ultimately controlled by a single-party. The President of Vietnam is the head of state, and the Prime Minister of Vietnam is the head of government, both of these are separate from the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam who leads the Communist Party and is head of the Politburo & the Central Military Commission, thus the General Secretary is the *de facto* supreme leader of Vietnam.<sup>[1]</sup> Executive power is exercised by the government and the President of Vietnam. Legislative power is vested in the National Assembly of Vietnam (Vietnamese: *Quốc hội Việt Nam*). The Judiciary is independent of the executive. The parliament adopted the current Constitution of Vietnam, its fifth, on 28 November 2013.

Overall, Vietnam's growth has been relatively balanced, with the industrial and services sectors each accounting for about 40 percent of annual output. Thanks to an abundance of low-wage labour, Vietnam's manufacturing sector grew at a compound annual growth rate of more than 9 percent from 2005 to 2010. Not content with simply serving a growing domestic market, Vietnam has also expanded its exports of manufactured goods, especially products such as textiles and footwear. The liberalisation of services created opportunities for rapid expansion across a range of sectors including retail and transportation. The nation also boosted its tourism infrastructure and experienced a surge of interest in residential and commercial real estate. Vietnam's exports of commodities such as rice and coffee have also grown briskly.

**68.** In India, which one of the following is responsible for maintaining price stability by controlling inflation ?

- (a) Department of Consumer Affairs
- (b) Expenditure Management Commission
- (c) Financial Stability and Development Council
- (d) Reserve Bank of India**

- <https://www.imf.org/en/About/Factsheets/Sheets/2016/08/01/16/20/Monetary-Policy-and-Central-Banking>
- A key role of RBI and other central bank is to conduct monetary policy to achieve price stability (low and stable inflation) and to help manage economic fluctuations.

69. With reference to Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs), consider the following statements :

1. They enable the digital representation of physical assets.
2. They are unique cryptographic tokens that exist on a blockchain.
3. They can be traded or exchanged at equivalency and therefore can be used as a medium of commercial transactions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

- A non-fungible token (NFT) is a unique digital asset that represents ownership of real-world items like art, video clips, music, and more. It can be a digital representation of non physical asset -intangible assets also.
- NFTs use the same blockchain technology that powers cryptocurrencies, but they're not a currency.
- NFT are now traded in a barter like system. So it can be used as a medium for commercial transactions.

70. Consider the following pairs:

Reservoirs                  States

1. Ghataprabha – Telangana
2. Gandhi Sagar – Madhya Pradesh
3. Indira Sagar – Andhra Pradesh
4. Maithon – Chhattisgarh

How many pairs given above are not correctly matched ?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs**
- (d) All four pairs

Ghatprabha- Karnataka, Gandhi Sagar- Madhya Pradesh, Indira Sagar- Madhya Pradesh, Maithon- Jharkhand.

71. In India, which one of the following compiles information on industrial disputes, closures, retrenchments and lay-offs in factories employing workers?

- (a) Central Statistics Office
- (b) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- (c) Labour Bureau**
- (d) National Technical Manpower Information System

- Statistics on Industrial Disputes, Closures, Retrenchments and Lay-offs published by Labour bureau. This annual publication titled, 'Industrial Disputes, Closures, Retrenchments and Lay-Offs in industries in India' provides statistics on work-

stoppages, closures, retrenchments and lockouts which is useful in making policies for maintaining cordial and harmonious relations between the management and the worker. This report is also aimed at meeting the demand for historical data and information on industrial conflicts and their causes by the planners, policy makers and decision makers in industry and government.

72. In India, what is the role of the Coal Controller's Organization (CCO) ?

1. CCO is the major source of Coal Statistics in Government of India.
2. It monitors progress of development of Captive Coal/Lignite blocks.
3. It hears any objection to the Government's notification relating to acquisition of coal-bearing areas.
4. It ensures that coal mining companies deliver the coal to end users in the prescribed time.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3

(b) 3 and 4 only

(c) 1 and 2 only

(d) 1, 2 and 4

• <https://coal.gov.in/sites/default/files/2020-09/Chapter1-en.pdf>

• <http://www.coalcontroller.gov.in/pages/display/5-functionsresponsibilities>

The Coal Controller's Organization discharges various statutory functions derived from the following statutes: (i) The Colliery Control Rules, 2004. (ii) The Coal Mines (Conservation & Development) Act, 1974 and The Coal Mines (Conservation & Development) Rules, 1975 (amended in 2011) (iii) The Collection of Statistics Act, 2008 and the Collection of Statistics (Central) Rules, 2011. (iv) The Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition & Development) Act, 1957 (20 of 1957)

The Coal Controller's Organisation also discharges the following functions:- (a) Job of monitoring of coal production of the captive coal blocks (Vested & Allotted) (b) Job of monitoring of washeries (c) Follow up of submission of Mine Closure Plan and act as the representative of Govt of India for signing up Escrow agreement with different coal/ lignite companies.

(1) Grant of Permission for opening and re-opening of coal mines:- (2) Disposal of cases under Section 8 of the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957 (3) Coal Samples collected & analyzed, Statutory Complaint Received & Settled:- Under the Colliery Control Rules, 2004, and under the Coal Mines (Conservation & Development) Amendment Rules, 2011, Coal Controller is to approve the quality of Coal dispatched from collieries and also settle quality complaints of consumers. (4) Collection of Excise Duty:- (5) Collection, Compilation and Publication of coal Statistics CCO being the sole agency for collection, compilation, publication and dissemination of data regarding different parameters of production and dispatch of coal and lignite, provides monthly data to Central Statistics Office, RBI, DIPP, Indian Bureau of Mines and other national and international organizations. (6) Monitoring and progress of Coal Blocks (7) Compliance of Mine Closure Plan and Escrow Account agreement. Coal Controller office has been entrusted to perform the implementation and monitoring of Mine closure activities of the mining areas as per approved Mine Closure plan (Progressive and Final) and certification of works done from Government Notified Institutes like CMPDIL / NEERI, Nagpur / ISM, Dhanbad / IIT KGP / IEST, Shibpur regarding Environment protection, complete safety zone fencing, expenditure incurred for protective and reclamation, rehabilitation works and opening a fixed deposit Escrow Account with any scheduled Bank for depositing annual mine closure cost as per approved Mine Closure Plan where Coal Controller is an exclusive beneficiary under the provision of MOC's guidelines for preparation of Mine Closure Plan, (8) Work as Commissioner of Payments

73. If a particular area is brought under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India, which one of the following statements best reflects the consequence of it?

- (a) **This would prevent the transfer of land of tribal people to non-tribal people.**
- (b) This would create a local self-governing body in that area.
- (c) This would convert that area into a Union Territory.
- (d) The State having such areas would be declared a Special Category State.

- Basic Question
- In fifth schedule area, the Governor may, by public notification, direct that any particular Act of Parliament or of the Legislature of the State shall or shall not apply to a SA or any part thereof in the State, subject to such exceptions and modifications, as specified. The Governor may make regulations for the peace and good government of any area in the State which is for the time being a SA. Such regulations may
  - prohibit or restrict the transfer of land by or among members of the Scheduled tribes in such area;
  - regulate the allotment of land to members of the STs in such area;
  - regulate the carrying on of business as money-lender by persons who lend money to members of the STs in such area.
- In making such regulations, the Governor may repeal or amend any Act of Parliament or of Legislature of the State or any existing law after obtaining assent of the President.
- No regulations shall be made unless the Governor, in case a TAC exists, consults such TAC.

74. Consider the following statements:

1. The India Sanitation Coalition is a platform to promote sustainable sanitation and is funded by the Government of India and the World Health Organization.
2. The National Institute of Urban Affairs is an apex body of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in Government of India and provides innovative solutions to address the challenges of Urban India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- India Sanitation Coalition is supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Government of Maharashtra.
- NIUA was appointed as an apex body to support and guide the Government of India in its urban development plans. Since then, it has worked closely with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs  
<http://urbanrivers.niua.org/node/46>

75. Which one of the following has been constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986?

- (a) Central Water Commission
- (b) Central Ground Water Board
- (c) Central Ground Water Authority**
- (d) National Water Development Agency

- Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) was constituted under sub-section (3) of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the purposes of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the country.

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76. With reference to the “United Nations Credentials Committee”, consider the following statements:

1. It is a committee set up by the UN Security Council and works under its supervision.
2. It traditionally meets in March, June and September every year.
3. It assesses the credentials of all UN members before submitting a report to the General Assembly for approval.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- UN Credentials Committee is part of UNGA and not set up by the UN Security Council.
- There is no defined meeting period for Credential committee.
- <https://www.un.org/en/ga/credentials/credentials.shtml>

77. Which one of the following statements best describes the ‘Polar Code’?

- (a) It is the international code of safety for ships operating in polar waters.**
- (b) It is the agreement of the countries around the North Pole regarding the demarcation of their territories in the polar region.
- (c) It is a set of norms to be followed by the countries whose scientists undertake research studies in the North Pole and South Pole.
- (d) It is a trade and security agreement of the member countries of the Arctic Council.

- IMO's International Code for Ships Operating in Polar Waters (Polar Code) is mandatory under both the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL).

78. With reference to the United Nations General Assembly, consider the following statements:

1. The UN General Assembly can grant observer status to the non-member States.
2. Inter-governmental organisations can seek observer status in the UN General Assembly.
3. Permanent Observers in the UN General Assembly can maintain missions at the UN headquarters.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

- The United Nations General Assembly may grant non-member states, international organisations and other entities Permanent Observer Status.
- Permanent Observers may participate in the sessions and workings of the General Assembly and maintain missions at the UN Headquarters.
- <https://ask.un.org/faq/14519>

79. With reference to the "Tea Board" in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Tea Board is a statutory body.
2. It is a regulatory body attached to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
3. The Tea Board's Head Office is situated in Bengaluru.
4. The Board has overseas offices at Dubai and Moscow.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

- The present Tea Board set up under section 4 of the Tea Act 1953 was constituted on 1st April 1954.
- Tea Board is functioning as a statutory body of the Central Government under the Ministry of Commerce.
- Currently Tea Board has two overseas offices located at Dubai, and Moscow
- <https://www.teaboard.gov.in/TEABOARDCSM/NA==>

80. Which one of the following best describes the term “greenwashing” ?

- (a) **Conveying a false impression that a company’s products are eco-friendly and environmentally sound**
- (b) Non-inclusion of ecological/environmental costs in the Annual Financial Statements of a country
- (c) Ignoring the disastrous ecological consequences while undertaking infrastructure development
- (d) Making mandatory provisions for environmental costs in a government project/program.

- Greenwashing is the process of conveying a false impression or providing misleading information about how a company's products are more environmentally sound. Greenwashing is considered an unsubstantiated claim to deceive consumers into believing that a company's products are environmentally friendly.
- <https://www.financialexpress.com/opinion/greenwashing-is-an-elusive-csr-attempt/1332364/>

81. Consider the following statements :

1. High clouds primarily reflect solar radiation and cool the surface of the Earth.
2. Low clouds have a high absorption of infrared radiation emanating from the Earth’s surface and thus cause a warming effect.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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- <https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/features/Clouds#:~:text=Low%2C%20thick%20clouds%20primarily%20reflect,the%20surface%20of%20the%20Earth>
- Low, thick clouds primarily reflect solar radiation and cool the surface of the Earth. High, thin clouds primarily transmit incoming solar radiation; at the same time, they trap some of the outgoing infrared radiation emitted by the Earth and radiate it back downward, thereby warming the surface of the Earth.

82. Consider the following statements:

1. Bidibidi is a large refugee settlement in north-western Kenya.
2. Some people who fled from the South Sudan civil war live in Bidibidi.

Some people who fled from the civil war in Somalia live in the Dadaab refugee complex in Kenya

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) 2 and 3**
  - (d) 3 only
- (e) Bidibidi Refugee Settlement is a refugee camp in northwestern Uganda. With over 270,000 South Sudanese refugees fleeing the ongoing civil war, as of early 2017 it was the largest refugee settlement in the world.
- (f) People fleeing South Sudan's brutal civil war have streamed across the border to Uganda, where the Bidi Bidi camp now hosts more than 270000
- (g) The Dadaab refugee complex has a population of 218,873 registered refugees and asylum seekers as at the end of July 2020. Dadaab refugee complex consists of three camps.
- (h) The first camp was established in 1991, when refugees fleeing the civil war in Somalia started to cross the border into Kenya. A second large influx occurred in 2011, when some 130,000 refugees arrived, fleeing drought and famine in southern Somalia.

83. Consider the following countries

1. Armenia
2. Azerbaijan
3. Croatia
4. Romania
5. Uzbekistan

Which of the above are members of the Organization of Turkic States?

- a) 1, 2 and 4
- b) 1 and 3
- c) 2 and 5**
- d) 3, 4 and 5

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The **Organization of Turkic States**, formerly called the **Turkic Council** or the **Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States**, is an [international organization](#) comprising prominent independent [Turkic countries](#): [Azerbaijan](#), [Kazakhstan](#), [Kyrgyzstan](#), [Turkey](#) and [Uzbekistan](#). It is an [intergovernmental organization](#) whose overarching aim is promoting comprehensive cooperation among [Turkic-speaking](#) states. First proposed by Kazakh President [Nursultan Nazarbayev](#) in 2006, it was founded on October 3, 2009, in [Nakhchivan](#).

84. Consider the following statements

1. Gujarat has the largest solar park in India.
2. Kerala has a fully solar powered International Airport.
3. Goa has the largest floating solar photovoltaic project in India.

Which of the statements given below is/are correct?

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

- I. India's Bhadla Solar Park is the largest solar power park in the world. Bhadla Solar Park is located in Bhadla, a dry and sandy region in Rajasthan, and spans 14,000 acres. There are over 10 million solar panels at the park, which contribute to an operational capacity of 2245MW.
- II. <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/worlds-largest-solar-park-in-bhadla-india/article37462665.ece>
- III. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has successfully commissioned India's largest Floating Solar PV plant. Located at NTPC Simhadri in Andhra Pradesh, the 25 MW floating SPV project covers an area of 100 acres.
- IV. <https://www.livemint.com/industry/energy/indias-largest-floating-solar-power-plant-commissioned-in-andhra-pradesh-11631774123853.html>
- V. Cochin International Airport Ltd (CIAL) -- the airport operator which owns the world's first airport fully powered by solar energy.
- VI. <https://www.indiatimes.com/news/india/kochi-airport-more-solar-power-with-floating-solar-plant-532356.html>

85. With reference to the United Nations Convention on the Law of Sea, consider the following statements:

1. A coastal state has the right to establish the breadth of its territorial sea up to a limit not exceeding 12 nautical miles, measured from baseline determined in accordance with the convention.
2. Ships of all states, whether coastal or land-locked, enjoy the right of innocent passage through the territorial sea.
3. The Exclusive Economic Zone shall not extend beyond 200 nautical miles from the baseline from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

- Every State has the right to establish the breadth of its territorial sea up to a limit not exceeding 12 nautical miles, measured from baselines determined in accordance with this Convention.
  - Subject to this Convention, ships of all States, whether coastal or land-locked, enjoy the right of innocent passage through the territorial sea.
- An “exclusive economic zone,” or “EEZ” is an area of the ocean, generally extending 200 nautical miles (230 miles) beyond a nation's territorial sea, within which a coastal nation has jurisdiction over both living and nonliving resources.

86. Which one of the following statements best reflects the issue which Senkaku Islands, sometimes mentioned in the news?

- (a) It is generally believed that they are artificial islands made by a country around South China Sea.
- (b) **China and Japan engage in maritime disputes over these islands in East China Sea**
- (c) A permanent American military base has been set up there to help Taiwan to increase its defence capabilities.
- (d) Through International Courts of Justice declared them as no man's land, some South-East Asian countries claim them.

The Senkaku Islands (尖閣諸島, *Senkaku-shotō*, variants: 尖閣群島 *Senkaku-guntō*<sup>[7]</sup> and 尖閣列島 *Senkaku-rettō*<sup>[8]</sup>) are a group of uninhabited islands in the [East China Sea](#), administered by Japan. They are located northeast of [Taiwan](#), east of [China](#), west of [Okinawa Island](#), and north of the southwestern end of the [Ryukyu Islands](#). They are known in mainland China as the Diaoyu Islands or Diaoyu Dao and its affiliated islands. The islands are the focus of [a territorial dispute between Japan and China](#) and [between Japan and Taiwan](#).<sup>[23]</sup> China claims the discovery and ownership of the islands from the 14th century, while Japan maintained ownership of the islands from 1895 until its surrender at the end of [World War II](#).

87. Consider the following pairs

Country	Important reason for being in the news recently
1. Chad	Setting up of permanent military base by China
2. Guinea	Suspension of Constitution and Government by military
3. Lebanon	Severe and prolonged economic depression
4. Tunisia	Suspension of Parliament by President

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs**
- (d) All four Pairs

- Military base is established by China in Djibouti and not in Chad. Other three are correctly matched.

88. Consider the following pairs :

Region often mentioned, in the news	Country
1. Anatolia	Turkey
2. Amhara	Ethiopia
3. Cabo Delgado	Spain
4. Catalonia	Italy

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs**
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

- Anatolia, also known as Asia Minor, is a large peninsula in Western Asia and the westernmost protrusion of the Asian continent. It constitutes the major part of modern-day Turkey.
- Amharas are a Semitic-speaking ethnic group which is indigenous to Ethiopia, traditionally inhabiting parts of the northwest Highlands of Ethiopia, particularly inhabiting the Amhara Region.
- Cabo Delgado is the northernmost province of Mozambique.
- Catalonia is an autonomous community of Spain, designated as a nationality by its Statute of Autonomy.

89. With reference to Indian laws about wildlife protection, consider the following statements:

1. Wild animals are the sole property of the government.
2. When a wild animal is declared protected, such animal is entitled for equal protection whether it is found in protected areas or outside.
3. Apprehension of a protected wild animal becoming a danger to human life is sufficient ground for its capture or killing.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- In a significant verdict, the Bombay High Court has ruled that wild animals including tiger should be treated as "government property for all purposes".
- [https://zeenews.india.com/news/eco-news/treat-wild-animals-as-govt-property-for-all-purposes\\_769840.htm](https://zeenews.india.com/news/eco-news/treat-wild-animals-as-govt-property-for-all-purposes_769840.htm)

(a) the Chief Wild Life Warden may, if he is satisfied that any wild animal specified in Schedule I has become dangerous to human life or is so disabled or diseased as to be beyond recovery, by order in writing and stating the reasons therefor, permit any person to hunt such animal or cause such animal to be hunted: 1[Provided that no wild animal shall be ordered to be killed unless the Chief Wild Life Warden is satisfied that such animal cannot be captured, tranquilised or translocated: Provided further that no such captured animal shall be kept in captivity unless the Chief Wild Life Warden is satisfied that such animal cannot be rehabilitated in the wild and the reasons for the same are recorded in writing. Explanation.—For the purposes of clause (a), the process of capture or translocation, as the case may be, of such animal shall be made in such manner as to cause minimum trauma to the said animal.]

90. Certain species of which one of the following organisms are well known as cultivators of fungi?

- (a) **Ant**
- (b) Cockroach
- (c) Crab
- (d) Spider

- <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/how-ants-became-worlds-best-fungus-farmers-180962871/>

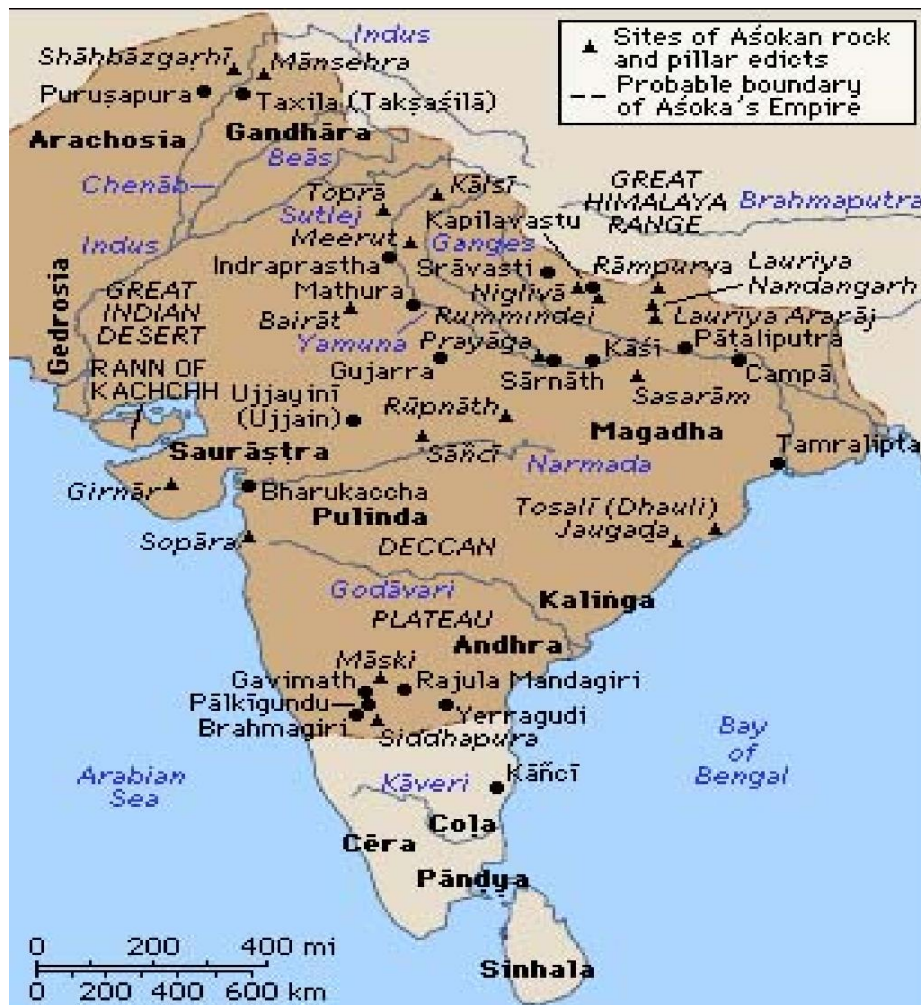
91. Consider the following pairs :

Site of Ashoka's major rock edicts	Location in the State of
1. Dhauri	Odisha
2. Erragudi	Andhra Pradesh
3. Jaugada	Madhya Pradesh
4. Kalsi	Karnataka

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) **Only two pairs**
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

- Dhauri is located in Odisha.
- Erragudi or Yerragudi is located in Andhra Pradesh
- Jaugada is located in Odisha.
- Kalsi is located in Uttarakhand.



92. Consider the following pairs:

King	Dynasty
1. Nannuka	Chandela
2. Jayashakti	Paramara
3. Nagabhata II	Gurjara-Pratihara
4. Bhoja	Rashtrakuta

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) **Only two pairs**
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

Correct Pair:

King	Dynasty
1.Nannuka	Chandela
2. Jayashakti	Chandela
3.nagabhata II	Gurjara-Pratihara
4. Bhoja	Paramara

93. Which one of the following statements about Sangam literature in ancient South India is correct ?

- (a) Sangam poems are devoid of any reference to material culture.  
**(b) The social classification of Varna was known to Sangam poets.**  
(c) Sangam poems have no references to warrior ethic.  
(d) Sangam literature refers to magical forces as irrational.

- Tolkappiyam refers to the Five-fold division of lands – Kurinji (hilly tracks), Mullai (pastoral), Marudam (agricultural), Neydal (coastal) and Palai (desert).
- Tolkappiyam also refers to four castes namely arasar(Ruling Class), anthanar, vanigar(carried on trade and commerce) and vellalar(Agriculturists).
- Pathinenkilkanakku contains eighteen works about ethics and morals. The most important among these works is Tirukkural authored by Thiruvalluvar, the tamil great poet and philosopher.

94. “Yogavasistha” was translated into Persian by Nizamuddin Panipati during thereign of:

- (a) Akbar**  
(b) Humayun  
(c) Shahjahan  
(d) Aurangzeb

The text Yogavasistha was **translated into Persian on** directives from Akbar, Jehangir, and Dara Shukoh. Among the **Persian** translations was one by **Nizamuddin Panipati**.

95. The world’s second tallest statue in sitting pose of Ramanuja was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India at Hyderabad recently. Which one of the following statements correctly represents the, teachings of Ramanuja?

(a) **The best means of salvation was devotion.**

- (b) Vedas are eternal, self-existent and wholly authoritative.
- (c) Logical arguments were essential means for the highest bliss.
- (d) Salvation was to be obtained through meditation.

- Ramanuja taught that **souls and matter are dependent on Brahman for their existence**. Brahman is the supreme Soul who is present in finite souls and matter. Brahman dwells in the souls unknown till it reaches liberation. The finite souls realize their divine nature but do not become identical with God.
- According to him, Brahman is both the inner-controller and inner-ruler that is present in all souls and matter. The world is real and a part of Brahman. Finally, he taught that God's grace is accessible to anyone irrespective of **caste**, so long as they devote themselves to Lord. Self-surrender is the key to spiritual liberation. He insisted that humans are unable to be saved by their own efforts and the grace of God is required. God's grace is available to those who surrender themselves to God thereby admitting their full dependence on him. Brahman facilitates these souls to achieve **Moksha** through his grace.

96. The Prime Minister recently inaugurated the new Circuit House near Somnath Temple at Veraval. Which of the following statements are correct regarding Somnath Temple ?

1. Somnath Temple is one of the Jyotirlinga shrines.
2. A description of Somnath Temple was given by Al-Biruni.
3. Pran Pratishtha of Somnath Temple (installation of the present day temple) was done by President S. Radhakrishnan.

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

- <https://www.deshgujarat.com/2015/04/23/64th-anniversary-of-pran-pratishtha-marked-at-shri-somnath-mandir/>

- Pran Pratishtha of Somnath Temple (installation of the present day temple) was done by President Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

97. Which one of the following statements best describes the role of B cells and T cells in the human body ?

- (a) They protect the body from environmental allergens.
- (b) They alleviate the body's pain and inflammation
- (c) They act as immunosuppressants in the body.
- (d) **They protect the body from diseases caused by pathogens.**

- T cells can wipe out infected or cancerous cells. They also direct the immune response by helping B lymphocytes to eliminate invading pathogens. B cells create antibodies. B lymphocytes, also called B cells, create a type of protein called an antibody.

- <https://www.mdanderson.org/cancerwise/t-cells--b-cells-and-the-immune-system.h00-159465579.html>

98. Consider the following statements:

- Other than those made by humans, nanoparticles do not exist in nature.
- Nanoparticles of some metallic oxides are used in the manufacture of some cosmetics.
- Nanoparticles of some commercial products which enter the environment are unsafe for humans.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 3 only
- 1 and 2
- 2 and 3**

- <https://www.azonano.com/article.aspx?ArticleID=4837>
- [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/350646023\\_Metal\\_and\\_metal\\_oxide\\_nanoparticles\\_in\\_cosmetics\\_and\\_skin\\_care\\_products](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/350646023_Metal_and_metal_oxide_nanoparticles_in_cosmetics_and_skin_care_products)

99. Consider the following statements:

DNA Barcoding can be a tool to :

- assess the age of a plant or animal.
- distinguish among species that look alike.
- identify undesirable animal or plant materials in processed foods.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 3 only
- 1 and 2
- 2 and 3**

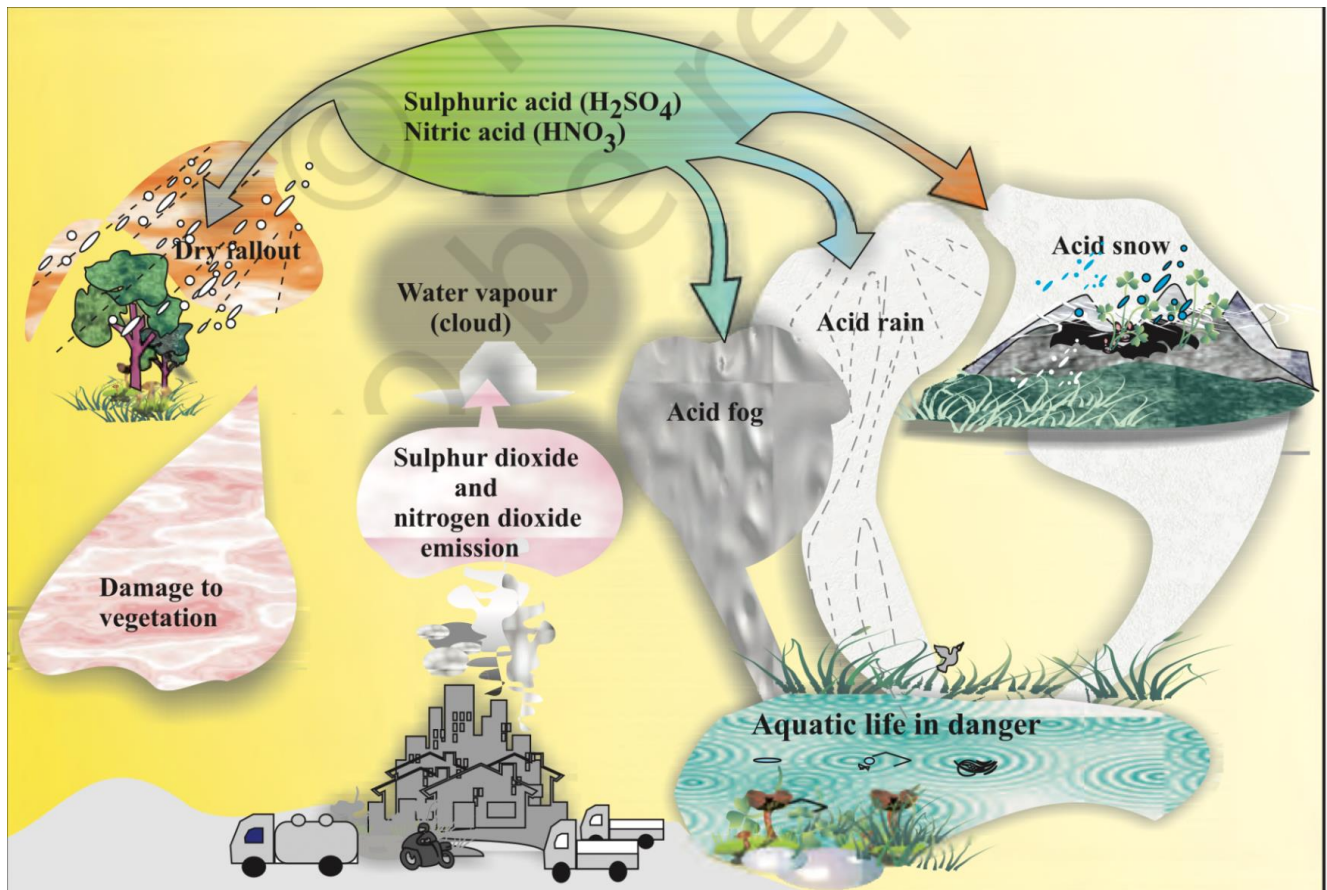
- <https://www.mdpi.com/1424-2818/8/1/2/pdf>

100. Consider the following

- Carbon monoxide
- Nitrogen oxide
- Ozone
- Sulphur dioxide

Excess of which of the above in the environment is/are cause(s) of acid rain?

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



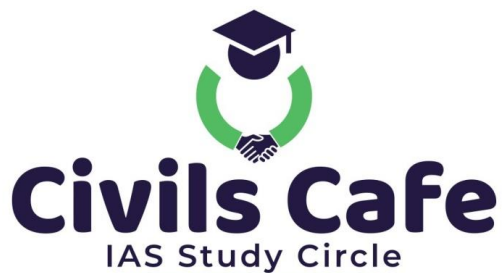
**Fig. 14.1** Acid deposition

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