1 A

Ex. Indrajit Gupta Committee on State Funding of Elections (1998) Endorsed Partial state funding of elections with some limitations. State funds should be given only to national and state parties allotted a symbol and not to independent candidates. In the short-term state funding should only be given in kind, in the form of certain facilities to the recognised political parties and their candidates. The state funding depends upon the economic condition of the country. At the time of report (1998) the economic situation of the country only suited partial and not full state funding of elections.

2 D

Ex. * Lingayats believe that on death the devotee will be united with Shiva and will not return to this world. Therefore, they do not practise funerary rites such as cremation, prescribed in the Dharmashastras. Instead, they ceremonially bury their dead.
* The Lingayats challenged the idea of caste and the "pollution" attributed to certain groups by Brahmanas.
* They also questioned the theory of rebirth. The Lingayats also encouraged certain practices disapproved in the Dharmashastras, such as post-puberty marriage and the remarriage of widows.

3 A

Ex. Regarded as the health meter of a country, Foreign Exchange reserves or Forex reserves are assets such as foreign currencies, gold reserves, treasury bills, etc retained by a central bank or other monetary authority that checks the balance payments and influences the foreign exchange rate of its currency and maintains stability in financial markets.

4 B

Ex. The Cabinet Secretariat is responsible for the administration of the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961 and the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules 1961, facilitating a smooth transaction of business in Ministries/ Departments of the Government by ensuring adherence to these rules. The Secretariat assists in decision-making in Government by ensuring Inter-Ministerial co-ordination, ironing out differences amongst Ministries/ Departments and evolving consensus through the instrumentality of the standing/ ad hoc Committees of Secretaries.

5 B

Ex. The Directive Principles resemble the 'Instrument of Instructions' enumerated in the Government of India Act of 1935. In the words of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, 'the Directive Principles are like the instrument of instructions, which were issued to the Governor-General and to the Governors of the colonies of India by the British Government under the Government of India Act of 1935. What is called Directive Principles is merely another name for the instrument of instructions. The only difference is that they are instructions to the legislature and the executive'.

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6 A

Ex. During the Sultanate period, Karwanis or Nayakas were merchants, who specialised in carrying grains from the rural areas. The Persian term Karwani meant those who moved together in large numbers in long caravans of bullock carts. These people came to be called banjaras in the later centuries.

7 B

Ex. Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS), formed by United Nations, is to facilitate the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in respect of the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured.

8 B

Ex. Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, lays down the conditions under which a person would be disqualified on grounds of conviction for contesting elections to parliament and Legislature of a State.

9 D

Ex. * Bahishkrit Bharat was a Marathi Fortnightly launched by B R Ambedkar with an objective of mainstreaming issues of dalit and untouchables and working for establishing equality in India.
* Maharatta was an English Newspaper started by Bal Gangadhar Tilak. He used this medium for the criticism of the government and its policies.
* Som Prakash was a Bengali newspaper started by Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar. It was among the first Bengali newspapers having extensive socio-political discussions. It was critical of the government policies. It criticised the passing of the Vernacular Press Act and supported the ilbert bill.

10 D

Ex. • Both India and China are using two main (but not the only) tea plants - Camellia sinensis var sinensis and Camellia sinensis var assamica. The first one is predominant in China, while the second one is native to India. However, they are both used in both countries. • The first commercial tea plantations were set up in Upper Assam (upper Brahmaputra valley). • Lower Assam and Darjeeling were also opened up to tea plantations a few years later. • Later on, tea plantations were set up in Nilgiri Hills of South India, Terai along the foothills of the Himalayas and in some places in Himachal Pradesh. • Tea bush grows well in well drained, deep, friable loams. • Virgin forest soils rich in humus and iron content are considered to be the best. • Relatively large proportion of phosphorus and potash in the soil gives special flavour to tea as is the case in Darjeeling.

11 C

Ex. Tardigrades : known as water bears or moss piglets, are a phylum of eight-legged segmented micro-animals
• They have been found everywhere in Earth's biosphere
• Tardigrades are usually about 0.5 mm (0.020 in) long when fully grown.

12 C

Ex. • Mesophytes are terrestrial plants which are neither adapted to particularly dry nor particularly wet environments. An example of a mesophytic habitat would be a rural temperate meadow.
• Unlike hydrophytic plants, such as water lily or pondweed, that grow in saturated soil or water, or xerophytic plants, such as cactus, that grow in extremely dry soil, mesophytes are ordinary plants that exist between the two extremes.
• Mesophytic environments are marked by average to hot temperatures and soil that is neither too dry nor too wet.

13 D

Ex. Recent excavations at Nagardhana near Nagpur have provided evidence of the Vakataka dynasty and the Queen Prabhavatigupta.
* An oval shaped sealing has been found having the name of the queen in Brahmi script.
* There is also a depiction of conch on the seal which indicates affiliation to the Vaishnava sect.
* A copper plate has also been found which was issued by Queen Prabhavati. The copper plate mentions Samudragupta as her grandfather and Chandragupta II as her father.
According to some scholars the seals might have been used as an official royal permission issued by the capital.

14 A

Ex. • Uranium and Thorium are the main atomic minerals. Other atomic minerals are beryllium, lithium and zirconium. • Uranium deposits occur in Singhbhum and Hazaribagh districts of Jharkhand, Gaya district of Bihar, and in the sedimentary rocks in Saharanpur district of Uttar Pradesh. • But the largest source of uranium comprises the monazite sands. • Monazite sands occur on east and west coasts and in some places in Bihar. But the largest concentration of monazite sand is on the Kerala coast. • Beryllium oxide is used as a 'moderator' in nuclear reactors. India has sufficient reserves of beryllium to meet her requirement of atomic power generation. • Lithium is a light metal which is found in lepidolite and spodumene. Lepidolite is widely distributed in the mica belts of Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

15 D

Ex. Diesel engines tend to be up to twice as efficient as petrol engines. The reasons for this include the lack of a spark-plug ignition system. As a result, the fuel is compressed much more, which makes it burn more completely in combination with the air in the cylinder, thereby releasing more power.

16 C

Ex. An optical fiber is a flexible, transparent fiber made by drawing glass out plastic.
• Optical fiber working in based on Total internal reflection.
• Use of optical fiber - decorative table lamps.
It is use for Telecommunication and networking because each fiber com carry many signals. Doctors use to see the inside of a patients stomach. So statement 2 is correct and 1 and 3 are correct.

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17 A

Ex. The Montreux Convention Regarding the Regime of the Straits, often known simply as the Montreux Convention, is an international agreement governing the Bosporus and Dardanelles Straits in Turkey. Signed on 20 July 1936 at the Montreux Palace in Switzerland, it went into effect on 9 November 1936, addressing the long running Straits Question over who should control the strategically vital link between the Black and Mediterranean Seas.

18 B

Ex. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) is a government regulatory agency that controls the prices of pharmaceutical drugs in India.National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) was constituted vide Government of India Resolution dated 29th August, 1997 as an attached office of the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers as an independent Regulator for pricing of drugs and to ensure availability and accessibility of medicines at affordable prices.

19 B

Ex. Open Market Operations (OMOs) are market operations conducted by RBI by way of sale/purchase of government securities to/from the market with an objective to adjust the rupee liquidity conditions in the market on a durable basis.

20 A

Ex. • A primate city (Latin: "prime, first rank") is the largest city in its country or region, disproportionately larger than any others in the urban hierarchy. • First proposed by the geographer Mark Jefferson in 1939. • He defines a primate city as being "at least twice as large as the next largest city and more than twice as significant." • Among the best known examples of primate cities are London and Paris. • Other major primate cities include Athens, Baghdad, Bangkok, Budapest, Buenos Aires, Cairo, Dublin, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Lima, Mexico City, Seoul, Tehran, and Vienna.

21 B

Ex. The International Space Station (ISS) is a modular space station (habitable artificial satellite) in low Earth orbit. It is a multinational collaborative project involving five participating space agencies: NASA (United States), Roscosmos (Russia), JAXA (Japan), ESA (Europe), and CSA (Canada).
The Apollo program, also known as Project Apollo, was the third United States human spaceflight program carried out by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), which succeeded in preparing and landing the first humans on the Moon from 1968 to 1972.

22 C

Ex. • The Black Sea is the world's largest body of water with a meromictic basin. A meromictic lake has layers of water that do not intermix. • The deep waters do not mix with the upper layers of water that receive oxygen from the atmosphere. • As a result, over 90% of the deeper Black Sea volume is anoxic water. Anoxic waters are areas of sea water, fresh water, or groundwater that are depleted of dissolved oxygen. • Because of the anoxic water at depth, organic matter, including anthropogenic artefacts such as boat hulls, are well preserved. • The Black Sea is also connected to the Sea of Azov by the Strait of Kerch. • Five major rivers empty into the Black Sea, the largest of which is the Danube River.

23 B

Ex. Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of tigers. (526).Uttara khand(442), Karnatka (524), Kerala (136), etc.

24 B

Ex. • Rare Earths are a set of seventeen metallic elements. • These include the fifteen lanthanides on the periodic table in addition to scandium and yttrium that show similar physical and chemical properties to the lanthanides. • These minerals have unique magnetic, luminescent, and electrochemical properties and thus are used in many modern technologies, including consumer electronics, computers and networks, communications, health care, national defence, etc. • They are called 'rare earth' because earlier it was difficult to extract them from their oxides forms technologically. • Recently, the US has proposed a law aiming to end China's alleged "chokehold" on rare-earth metal supplies. • The Bill aims to "protect the US from the threat of rare-earth element supply disruptions, encourage domestic production of those elements, and reduce its reliance on China. • The law would require the creation of a "strategic reserve" of rare earth minerals by 2025.

25 A

Ex.

26 A

Ex. Global Zero is an international non-partisan group of 300 world leaders dedicated to achieving the elimination of nuclear weapons. Global Zero was launched in Paris in December 2008, promotes a phased withdrawal and verification for the destruction of all devices held by official and unofficial members of the nuclear club. The Global Zero campaign works toward building an international consensus and a sustained global movement of leaders and citizens for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

27 A

Ex. Laissez-faire is an economic theory from the 18th century that opposed any government intervention in business affairs.

28 A

Ex. The Revolution of Dignity also known as the Maidan Revolution, took place in Ukraine in February 2014 at the end of the Euromaidan protests, when a series of violent events involving protesters, riot police, and unknown shooters in the Ukrainian capital Kyiv culminated in the ousting of elected President Viktor Yanukovych and the overthrow of the Ukrainian government.

29 C

Ex. The SDR is neither a currency nor a claim on the IMF. Rather, it is a potential claim on the freely usable currencies of IMF members. SDRs can be exchanged for these currencies. The SDR serves as the unit of account of the IMF and some other international organizations. The currency value of the SDR is determined by summing the values in US dollars, based on market exchange rates, of a SDR basket of currencies.

30 D

Ex. 1. DICGC insures all bank deposits, such as savings, fixed, current and recurring deposit for up to the limit of Rs 5 lakh per bank.
2. If the total of all the deposits held by an individual in a single bank exceeds Rs 5 lakh, then he will be able to get only Rs 5 lakh inclusive of principal and interest amount if the bank goes bankrupt.
3. DICGC covers depositors of all commercial banks and foreign banks operating in India, state, central and urban co-operative banks, local area banks and regional rural banks provided the bank has bought the cover from DICGC.

31 C

Ex. The World Investment Report (UNCTAD) focuses on trends in foreign direct investment (FDI) worldwide, at the regional and country levels and emerging measures to improve its contribution to development.

32 C

Ex. Anthrax kills five rhinos at nor Bengal's Jaldapara National Park- The National Park spreads over more than 200 sq km in the foothills of the eastern Himalayas and is known for its one-horned rhino. It has the highest rhino population after the Kaziranga National Park in Assam.
The rhino population in West Bengal had shot up from 22 in 1986 to more than 280 at present. While Jaldapara has more than 230 of these animals, the Gorumara National Park also in north Bengal, has around 50 rhinos. Forest officials said that there is no need to vaccinate all rhinos in the park.

33 D

Ex. The koala or, koala bear is an arboreal herbivorous marsupainative to Australia. It is the only extant representative of the family phascolarctidae.
It is listed as Vulnerable in IUCN Red list
• They have grey fur with a cream - colored chest and strong clawed feet perfect for living in the branches of trees.

34 C

Ex. Bamiyan is situated in the high mountains of the Hindu Kush in the central highlands of Afghanistan. The Bamiyan Buddha were great examples of a confluence of Gupta, Sassanian and Hellenistic artistic styles. They were dressed in the Roman draperies and were standing in two different mudras. They are said to date back to the 5th century AD and were once the tallest standing Buddhas in the world. Salsal and Shamama, as they were called by the locals, rose to heights of 55 and 38 metres respectively, and were said to be male and female. Salsal means "light shines through the universe"; Shamama is "Queen Mother".

35 C

Ex. The Laffer Curve is a theory formalized by supply-side economist Arthur Laffer to show the relationship between tax rates and the amount of tax revenue collected by governments. The curve is used to illustrate the argument that sometimes cutting tax rates can result in increased total tax revenue.

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36 C

Ex. • It is a small uninhabited offshore sandbar landform {Marine Landforms} in the Bay of Bengal, off the coast of the Ganges-Brahmaputra Delta region. • It emerged in the Bay of Bengal in the aftermath of the Bhola cyclone in 1970. It keeps on emerging and disappearing. • Although the island was uninhabited and there were no permanent settlements or stations located on it, both India and Bangladesh claimed sovereignty over it because of speculation over the existence of oil and natural gas in the region. • The issue of sovereignty was also a part of the larger dispute over the Radcliffe Award methodology of settling the maritime boundary between the two nations.

37 A

Ex. Under LTRO, RBI conducts term repos of one-year and three-year tenors of appropriate sizes for up to a total amount of Rs 1 lakh crore at the policy repo rate.
RBI introduced LTRO with a view to assuring banks about the availability of durable liquidity at reasonable cost relative to prevailing market conditions, and to further encourage banks to undertake maturity transformation smoothly and seamlessly so as to augment credit flows to productive sectors.

38 C

Ex. A radical trend arose among the Bengali intellectuals during the late 1820's and 1830's. It was more modern than even Rammohan Roy's and is known as the Young Bengal Movement founded by Henry Vivian Derozio. He followed the most radical views of the time drawing his inspiration from the French Revolution.

39 C

Ex. Haripura session was held between 19-21 Feb 1938. Subhash Chandra Bose was its President. Two important events that took place were the setting up of National Planning Committee under the Chairmanship of JL Nehru and passing of resolution for support of people's movement in states.

40 C

Ex. The Treaty of Amritsar was significant for its immediate as well as potential effects. It checked one of the most cherished ambitions of Ranjit Singh to extend his rule over the entire Sikh nation by accepting the river Sutlej as the boundary line for his dominions and the Company's. Now he directed his energies towards the west and captured Multan (1818), Kashmir (1819) and Peshawar (1834).

41 B

Ex. • The Godavari is the largest river system of the Peninsular India and is revered as Dakshina Ganga. • The upper reaches of the Godavari drainage basin are occupied by the Deccan Traps containing minerals like magnetite, epidote, biotite, zircon, chlorite etc which are metallic minerals. • The middle part of the basin is principally composed of phyllites, quartzites, amphiboles and granites which are principal rocks. • The downstream part of the middle basin is occupied mainly by sediments and rocks of the Gondwana group. • The Gondwanas are principally detritals i.e. waste or debris, in particular organic matter produced by decomposition or loose matter produced by erosion with some thick coal seams. • The Eastern Ghats dominate the lower part of the drainage basin and are formed mainly from the Khondalites.

42 C

Ex. Ex-sites conservation con means off-site conservation It is the process of protecting animals and plants outside its natural habitat. In-sites conservation:- conservation of animals and plants in their natural habitats.

43 C

Ex. The Household sector contributes for the highest share of Savings in India. A major share of household savings is in form of physical savings rather than financial savings. The Gross savings is contributed by mainly 3 sectors- Public, Private Corporate and Household sector. As shown below, the Household sector accounts for the highest share of Gross Savings followed by private corporate sector. There has been decline in Gross Savings from 34.6% in 2011-12 to 30.9% in 2019-20. The decline in the Gross Savings is basically on account of decline in Gross savings of household sector.

44 A

Ex. India's stock exchanges have decided to jointly introduce the T+1 settlement cycle in phases from February 25, beginning with the bottom 100 stocks by market capitalisation.
Under the current system, a seller of shares cannot demand payment from the purchaser for at least two days. The purchaser too has to wait at least 24 hours to 48 hours for delivery of shares in his account. T+1 will ensure same-day delivery of shares into the buyer's account and money into the seller's account. For example, even if shares are bought or sold at around 3.25 pm (just before the market closes), payment and delivery of share settlement in most cases will happen the same day in the evening, thereby making the market more efficient.

45 B

Ex. The Chairman of UPSC may be removed from his office by the President of India on the ground of misbehavior (only if an inquiry of such misbehavior is made and upheld by Supreme Court) or if he is adjudged insolvent or engages during his term of office in any paid employment outside the duties of his office, or in the opinion of the President unfit to continue in office by reason of infirmity of mind or body.

46 A

Ex.

47 C

Ex. • The tribes found in Andaman and Nicobar are Great Andamanese, Oraons, Onges, Sentinelese, Shompens and Jarewa.
• The tribes found in Lakshadweep are Aminidivis, Koyas, Malmis, Melacheris.

48 D

Ex. Elections to the Panchayats The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to the Panchayats shall be vested in a State Election Commission consisting of a State Election Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor.

49 C

Ex. According to Art.320, It shall be the duty of the Union and the State Public Service Commission to conduct examinations for appointments to the services of the Union and the services of the State respectively. The UPSC may advise on matters referred to them only by the President.

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50 B

Ex. Founded in 1849 in Maharashtra, the founders of the Paramahansa Mandali-Dadoba Pandurang, Mehtaji Durgaram and others-began as a secret society that worked to reform Hindu religion and society in general. The ideology of the society was closely linked to that of the Manav Dharma Sabha. In 1867, Keshab Chandra Sen helped Atmaram Pandurang found the Prarthana Samaj in Bombay. A precursor of the Prarthana Samaj was the Paramahansa Sabha, something like a secret society to spread liberal ideas and encourage the breakdown of caste and communal barriers.

51 B

Ex. • The 'bhur formations' are found in the middle Ganga and Yamuna doab region and are regional variations of Bhangar.
• Bhur denotes an elevated piece of land situated along the banks of the Ganga river especially in the upper Ganga-Yamuna Doab.
• This has been formed due to accumulation of wind-blown sands during the hot dry months of the year.

52 A

Ex. • Lake Maracaibo isa large inlet of the Caribbean Sea, lying in the Maracaibo Basin of northwestern Venezuela.
• Lake Maracaibo is one of the world's richest and most centrally located petroleum-producing regions.
• Petroleum is found in many countries of South America like Venezuela, Brazil, Columbia, Peru, Argentina, Ecuador etc.

53 D

Ex. It denotes that a country is a net International Creditor. Apositive NIIP indicates that Indian residents own more assets abroad as compared to assets owned by nonresidents in India. While Negative NIIP indicates that a country's residents own less assets abroad than the assets of non-residents.

54 D

Ex. Kandariya Mahadev Temple is the largest, tallest and the most ornate temple of the surviving temples at Khajuraho. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. This stunning temple is around 31m tall, and is one of the western group of temples, apart from Matangeswara and Vishwanatha temples.

55 A

Ex. The Reserve Bank of India was established in 1935, following the Reserve Bank of India Act of 1934.Though privately owned initially, it was nationalised in 1949 and since then fully owned by the Ministry of Finance , Government of India (GoI).
In 1926, the Hilton Young Commission recommended the setting up of the Reserve Bank of India.

56 A

Ex. A crater is a bowl-shaped depression produced by the impact of a meteorite, volcanic activity, or an explosion. Lonar Lake, also known as Lonar crater, is a notified National Geo-heritage Monument, saline, soda lake, located at Lonar in Buldhana district, Maharashtra, India.
Gale is a crater, and probable dry lake in the northwestern part of the Aeolis quadrangle on Mars. NASA's Curiosity rover has been exploring Gale crater for more than eight years, and while early observations suggested the entire crater may once have been filled with water, a new analysis implies that it just had a series of ponds instead.

57 C

Ex. Inverter - it is an electrical device (Direct current to Alternate current).
Electric current- Flow of charges it a scalar quantity and its unit is ampere.
Resistivity - it is a fundamental property of a material that measures how strongly it resists electric current it's unit is ohm-metre.
So statement 2 is not correct and 1 and 3

58 C

Ex. Khilafat Leaders and Indian national congress launched Khilafat movement to influence Britishers in its treatment of the Ottoman Empire post World War 1 and pursue the goals of Indian National movement as well.

59 B

Ex. Read Only Memory is a type of non-volatile memory used in computer and other electronic devices.
Data stored in ROM can't be electronically modified after the manufacturing of the memory devices.
It is a Resident memory.
Random access memory it is a temporary and volatile memory its content lost when power is switched off.

60 D

Ex. A member of parliament or state legislature was deemed to have defected if he either voluntarily resigned from his party or disobeyed the directives of the party leadership on a vote. The 52nd amendment Act, 1985 to the Constitution added the Tenth Schedule which laid down the process by which legislators may be disqualified on grounds of defection.

61 B

Ex. Oil zapping is the new technique of using bacteria to get rid of oil spills it is mixture of bacteria which degrades the pollutants of oil- contaminated sites.

62 C

Ex. The Sea of Marmara, is an inland sea located entirely within the borders of Turkey. It connects the Black Sea to the Aegean Sea, separating the country's European and Asian part. The Bosphorus strait connects it to the Black Sea and the Dardanelles strait to the Aegean Sea. The former also separates Istanbul's European and Asian side. The Sea of Marmara is a small sea with an area of 11,350 sq km.

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63 D

Ex. • The aridity of the hot deserts is mainly due to the effects of off-shore Trade Winds; hence they are also called Trade Wind Deserts. • The major hot deserts of the world are located on the western coasts of continents between latitudes 15° and 30°N. and S. • They include the biggest Sahara Desert (3.5 million square miles). The next biggest desert is the Great Australian Desert. The other hot deserts are the Arabian Desert, Iranian Desert, Thar Desert, Kalahari and Namib Deserts. • The hot deserts lie along the Horse Latitudes or the Sub-Tropical High-Pressure Belts where the air is descending, a condition least favourable for precipitation of any kind to take place. • The rain-bearing Trade Winds blow off-shore and the Westerlies that are on-shore blow outside the desert limits. • Whatever winds reach the deserts blow from cooler to warmer regions, and their relative humidity is lowered, making condensation almost impossible. • The desiccating effect of the cold Peruvian Current along the Chilean coast is also pronounced.

64 C

Ex. Indian pangolin - These are Scaly anteater mammals of the order pholidota.
• There are tight species of pangolin in world and the Indian pangolin and chinese pangolin are found in India.
• IUCN Status: Endangered
• Wildlife protection Act 1972 : Under schedule I.

65 D

Ex. • North of the Luni, there is inland drainage having several saline lakes. They are a source of common salt and many other salts.
• Sambhar, Didwana, Degana, Kuchaman, etc. are some of the important lakes present in Rajasthan.
• The largest is the Sambhar lake near Jaipur.
• Damdama reservoir in Gurugram district in the Indian state of Haryana. Damdama Lake is a small lake in Haryana and was formed when a stone and earthen dam constructed by the British was commissioned for rain water harvesting in 1947.

66 C

Ex. Guindy National Park is a 2.70 km2 (1.04 sq mi) protected area of Tamil Nadu, located in Chennai, India, is the 8th-smallest National Park of India and one of the very few national parks situated inside a city. The park is an extension of the grounds surrounding Raj Bhavan, formerly known as the 'Guindy Lodge', the official residence of the governor of Tamil Nadu, India. It extends deep inside the governor's estate, enclosing beautiful forests, scrub lands, lakes and streams.

67 A

Ex. While India has not slipped further on the World Press Freedom Index 2021 published by the international journalism not-for profit body, Reporters Without Borders (RSF), however, it continues to be counted among the countries classified "bad" for journalism and is termed as one of the most dangerous countries for journalists trying to do their jobs properly.
India is ranked 142, same as last year, after it had consistently slid down from 133 in 2016. In the South Asian neighbourhood, Nepal is at 106, Sri Lanka at 127, Myanmar (before the coup) at 140, Pakistan at 145 and Bangladesh at 152.

68 B

Ex. National Waterway 2 (NW-2) is a section of the Brahmaputra River having a length of 891 km between the Bangladesh border near Dhubri and Sadiya in Assam. Inland Waterways Authority of India- This body was created by the government of India in 1986 for regulating and developing inland waterways for shipping and navigation. The body chiefly undertakes development and maintenance projects of IWT infrastructure on national waterways. It undertakes these projects through grants from the Shipping Ministry. Its headquarters is in Noida. It also has regional offices in various other cities and towns across the country. National Waterways Act came into effect in 2016. It proposed 106 additional National Waterways and merges 5 existing Acts which were declared the 5 National Waterways.

69 B

Ex. The Constituent Assembly held its first meeting on December 9, 1946. The Muslim League boycotted the meeting and insisted on a separate state of Pakistan.The meeting was, thus, attended by only 211 members. Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha, the oldest member, was elected as the temporary President of the Assembly, following the French practice. Later, Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as the President of the Assembly. Similarly, both H.C. Mukherjee and V.T. Krishnamachari were elected as the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly.

70 A

Ex.

71 D

Ex. PMI is an indicator of business activity - both in the manufacturing and services sectors.It is a survey-based measure that asks the respondents about changes in their perception of some key business variables from the month before.It is calculated separately for the manufacturing and services sectors and then a composite index is constructed.The PMI is compiled by IHS Markit based on responses to questionnaires sent to purchasing managers in a panel of around 400 manufacturers.

72 C

Ex. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is the flagship scheme of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) implemented by National Skill Development Corporation.The objective of Skill Certification Scheme is to enable a large number of Indian youth to take up industry-relevant skill training that will help them in securing a better livelihood.

73 A

Ex. MCX-SX is a stock-exchange like BSE and NSE, now it is known as The Metropolitan Stock-exchange of India.

74 C

Ex. The Cabinet Secretary is the senior-most civil servant in the Government of India. The Cabinet Secretary is the ex-officio head of the Civil Services Board, the Cabinet Secretariat, the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and head of all civil services under the rules of business of the Government of India.

75 B

Ex. • Responsible gases for acid rain Sulphur, Nitrogen, formic Acid, chlorine, phosphoric acid etc.
• Ozone (O_3) and carbon dioxide (CO_2) are It is not responsible for Acid rain.

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76 D

Ex. The Election Commission shall consist of the Chief Election Commissioner and such number of other Election Commissioners, if any, as the President may from time to time fix and Subject to the provisions of any law made by Parliament, the conditions of service and tenure of office of the Election Commissioners and the Regional Commissioners shall be such as the President may by rule determine as asserted by Article 324.

77 D

Ex. All Statements are Correct.
PSLV- Polar satellite launch vehiche.it has &stages using solids and liquid propulsion system after nutely. It is meant for launching satellite into lowEarth orbit.
GSLV mark-II- Geo synchro novs satellite it used an Indian cryogenic engine and is capable of launching 2500kg in to geo-stationy transfer orbit.
GSLV mark-III- it is currently under development by ISRO. Launching capability -630 tonnes.

78 B

Ex. • Phumdis are the floating grasslands present in the Loktak lake of Manipur. • They are found in the water logging areas. • Kembul Lamjao National Park is the only floating national park in the world and it is located in the Phumdis grasslands. • Phumdis are used by the local people for constructing their huts for fishing and other livelihood uses, and are inhabited by about 4000 people. • Athapums are artificial circular phumdis, built by the villagers as enclosures for fish farming. • Aquaculture has caused proliferation of the phumdis in the lake.

79 D

Ex. Strait Island was seen in news, as it is home to the Great Andamanese tribe. Only a little over 50 people belonging to the tribe are alive as on date. Recently, ten members of the Great Andamanese tribe were tested positive for the Covid-19 and six of them were said to have recovered. More than 5000 Great Andamanese were said to have lived in the island in the 19th century.

80 A

Ex. Quantum cryptography uses quantum physics and not mathematics. In this, key is generated using polarized photons. Since, it uses polarized photons, i.e. spin of photons as key, there's little chance it can be cracked using mathematics. It is important in the wake of increased cyber-attacks. Russian Quantum Center (RCQ) is ready to offer quantum cryptography that could propel India to the forefront of hack proof communication in sectors such as banking and national security. Hence, both statements 1 and 2 are correct. Quantum cryptography is not restricted to Quantum Computers. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

81 A

Ex. The Constitution (Sixty-first Amendment) Act, 1988, lowered the voting age of elections to the Lok Sabha and to the Legislative Assemblies of States from 21 years to 18 years. This was done by amending Article 326 of the Constitution, which concerns to elections to the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies.

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82 D

Ex. The Nekhampur lake-Hyderabad:
• It is the largest floating treatment wetland in India.
• Floating treatment wetland work on the basis of hydroponics technique.
• Hydroponic technique Permits plants to grow on the water, without soil with the help of Sun light. So statement 3 is not correct but 1 and 2 are correct.

83 A

Ex. The Montreux Record is a register of wetland sites on on the list of Ramsay wetland of international importance where, changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely importance as a result of technological developments, other human interference.
• Chilika lake, orissa placed on the Montreux record
• In 1993 and it was removed from the record in 2002.
• Loklak Lake and keoladeo national park are the two Montreux Record sites in India.

84 B

Ex. Cumulative External Debt: At end of March 2021, India's external debt was placed at US$ 570 billion (21.1% of the GDP). This is $ 11.5bn higher as compared to India's external debt of $ 558.5 bn at the end of March 2019. Composition of Debt: Non-Sovereign Debt (Non-Government Debt) : 17.1% o the GDP; Sovereign Debt (Government Debt): 4% of the GDP.

85 A

Ex. • Eastern Ghats run almost parallel to the east coast of India leaving broad plains between their base and the coast. • It is a chain of highly broken and detached hills starting from the Mahanadi in Odisha to the Vagai in Tamil Nadu. They almost disappear between the Godavari and the Krishna. • They neither have structural unity nor physiographic continuity. Therefore these hill groups are generally treated as independent units. • It is only in the northern part, between th Mahanadi and the Godavari that the Eastern Ghats exhibit tru mountain character. This part comprises the Maliya and the Madugula Konda ranges. • The peaks and ridges of the Maliya range have a general elevation of 900-1,200 m and Mahendra Giri (1,501 m) is the tallest peak here.

86 B

Ex. It is the duty of the Union Public Service Commission, i requested by any two or more State so to do, to assist those States in framing and operating schemes of joint recruitment for any services for which candidates possessing special qualifications are required.

87 D

Ex. Justice Sarkaria commission (1983-88) has to favour Al India Services with the minimum tenure of the officials at the central level. It was constituted to make comprehensive recommendations to maintain co-operative Centre-State relation.

88 A

Ex. An EVM consists of a control unit and a balloting unit. The control unit is with the Election Commissionappointed polling officer; the balloting unit is in the voting compartment into which the voter enters to cast her vote in secret by pressing the button against the name and symbol of the candidate of her choice. The machine is electronically protected to prevent any tampering/manipulation. The programme (software) used in these machines is burnt into a One Time Programmable (OTP)/Masked chip so that it cannot be altered or tampered with. Hence, statement 1 is correct. o ECI uses Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT), which gives a verified paper record with a view to enhance transparency. Further these machines are not networked either by wire or by wireless to any other machine or system. Therefore, there is no possibility of its data corruption. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

89 C

Ex. The 15th Finance Commission was constituted by the President of India in November 2017, under the chairmanship of NK Singh. Its recommendations will cover a period of five years from the year 2021-22 to 2025-26.

90 D

Ex. The details came out recently in a reply to a question raised in the Lok Sabha recently.
During 2019-20, the amount of fish caught in the country was 141.64 lakh tonne. Andhra Pradesh with 41.74 lakh tonne, accounted for nearly 30 per cent of fish production in the country, followed by West Bengal (17.82 lakh tonne) and Gujarat (8.59 lakh tonne).
People from Lakshadweep eat 300 gm of fish every day but their counterparts in Haryana need a year to consume as much, according to latest data on fish consumption in India. The national average seemed to average around 6.46 kg a year.
People in Lakshadweep ate 105.6 kg fish per person in 2019-20, nearly twice more than the inhabitants of Andaman and Nicobar Islands who came second with an annual per capita fish consumption of 59 kg.

91 A

Ex. • Alpha diversity is defined as the main mean diversity of Species in particular area or ecosystem.
• Beta diversity! It is comparison of diversity between Ecosystem usually measured as the change in amount Of species in the ecosystem.
• Gamma diversity. It is a measure of the overall Diversity for the different ecosystem within a region. So statement 1,2, and 3 all are correct.

92 D

Ex. The kingdom of Travancore rose into prominence after 1729 under king Martanda Varma, one of the leading statesmen of the 18th century. He combined rare foresight and strong determination with courage and daring. He subdued the feudatories, conquered Quilon and Elayadam, and defeated the Dutch and thus ended their political power in Kerala. He established an independent state of Kerala with Travancore as his capital. He organised a strong army on the western model with the help of European officers and armed it with modern weapons. He also constructed a modern arsenal.

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93 A

Ex. • India's richness in biological resources and indigenous knowledge relating to them is well recognized.
• The legislation aims at regulating access to biological resources so as to ensure equitable sharing of benefits arising from their use.
• The Biological Diversity Bill was introduced in the Parliament in 2000 and was passed in 2002.
• The Act provides for setting up of a National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) and Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) in local bodies.
• The NBA will enjoy the power of a civil court.

94 B

Ex. Devaluation is the deliberate downward adjustment of the value of a country's money relative to another currency, group of currencies, or currency standard. Countries that have a fixed exchange rate or semi-fixed exchange rate use this monetary policy tool.

95 B

Ex. Wetland- area of march, fen, peatlands / water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary with water that is static or flowing fresh, brackish or Salt, including Area of marine water the depth of which at low tide doe not exceed 6mtr. So statement I ands are correct.

96 B

Ex. • The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research -National Geophysical Research Institute (CSIR-NGRI) has launched an 'Environmental Seismology' group to develop a 'Landslide and Flood Early Warning System' for the Himalayan region. • A Landslide is defined as the movement of a mass of rock, debris, or earth down a slope. • They are a type of mass wasting, which denotes any downward movement of soil and rock under the direct influence of gravity. • The term landslide encompasses five modes of slope movement: falls, topples, slides, spreads, and flows. • The National Water Policy highlights the provisions for project planning, surface- and groundwater development, irrigation and flood control. • The work of flood forecasting and warning in India is entrusted with the Central Water Commission (CWC).

97 C

Ex. Natesa is a rare sandstone idol from the Pratihara Style of architecture in Rajasthan. It was smuggled out of the country in 1998, to be returned to India recently by the UK.
* Gurjara-Pratihara dynasty ruled much of Northern India from the mid-8th to the 11th century.
* The Pratiharas derived their name from the Sanskrit meaning doorkeeper, are seen as a tribal group or a clan of the Gurjaras.
The expansion of the Gurjara-Pratihara kingdom involved constant conflicts with other contemporary powers such as the Palas and the Rashtrakutas known as the tripartite struggle over the city of Kannauj.

98 A

Ex. The Collegium of the Supreme Court was introduced in 1993. It decides the incumbent for the judges of the supreme court as well as of the High Court. The National Judicial Appointment Commission was declared Null & Void by the Honorable Supreme Court.

99 C

Ex. As per Art. 324(5), the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court and the conditions of service of the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment: Provided further that any other Election Commissioner or a Regional Commissioner shall not be removed from office except on the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner.

100 C

Ex. • Bajra is the second most important millet after Jowar.
• Just like jowar, it is also used as food and fodder in drier parts of the country.
• Conditions for its growth are:
1. Bajra is a rainfed kharif crop of dry and warm climate.
2. It is grown in areas of 40-50 cm of annual rainfall. Upper limit is 100 cm.
3. Bajra can be grown on poor light sandy soils, black and red soils.
4. It is sown either as a pure or mixed crop with cotton, jowar and ragi.
5. Rajasthan (1st), Uttar Pradesh (2nd), Gujarat and Haryana are the important producers.
6. Rajasthan accounts for 44.39 per cent of the total production.

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