1 B

Ex. The August Declaration, 1917 (not to be confused with the August Offer, 1940) was made by Montague, the Secretary of State for India from the floor of the British House of Commons on 20 August, 1917.
It promised the gradual development of self governing institutions through constitutional reforms, with the objective of progressively introducing "responsible government" in India as an integral part of the British empire. In other words, the ultimate objective of the ongoing constitutional reforms was to grant self-rule to Indians similar to other qualities such as Canada and Australia. No time limit was set for the realisation of responsible government.
The August Offer(1940) was made by Governor-General Linlithgow on 8 Aug, 1940, on behalf of the British government to Indian nationalists, to secure India's support for the Second World War.

2 A

Ex. The territories of Mughal empire were divided into Jagir, Khalisa and Inam. The Inam lands were those which were granted to learned and religious men, irrespective of their religious faith and beliefs.
Akbar made a rule that half of the Inam land should consist of cultivable wasteland. Thus, Inam holders were encouraged to extend cultivation.
The Diwan was responsible for control of Inam land.
Mir bakshi was in charge of military pay and accounts office.

3 D

Ex. Terapanthi is a religious sect under Swetembar Jainism. The terapanthi sub-sect is derived from the Sthanakvasi section.
It was founded by Swami Bhikkanaji Maharaj, formerly a Sthanakvasi saint, upon disagreeing with his Guru Acharya Raghunatha on several aspects of the religious practices of Sthanakvasi ascetics.

4 D

Ex. The Quran was also translated perhaps for the first time. peace and harmony among religions in different ways.
He set up a big translation department for translating works in Sanskrit, Arabic, Greek, etc., into Persian.
Thus, the Singhasan Battisi, the Atharva Veda and the Bible were taken up first for translation.
These were followed by the Mahabharata, the Gita and the Ramayana.
Many others, including the Panchatantra and works of geography, were also translated.

5 A

Ex.

6 B

Ex.

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7 B

Ex. Kalpa Sutra (Rituals) and Nirukta (Etymology), both are associated with vedic literature. Kalpa means proper. It focuses on the procedure and ceremonies associated with vedic rituals practise. Nirukta explains the reason why a particular word has been used. The only work surviving of Nirukta is Nirukta of Yaska. It is the collection of difficult vedic words and is the oldest dictionary in the world. Other Vedangas include Shiksha (Phonetics), Vyakarana (Grammar), Chhanda (Metrics) and Jyotisha (Astronomy). Narada Smriti and Parashara Smriti are two of the Dharma Shastras. Other Smritis include Manu Smriti, Yajnvalkya Smriti, Brihaspati Smriti, Katyayana Smriti etc. Smriti is a Sanskrit word which means remembrance or memory. These are ancient Indian law books.

8 B

Ex. Ushr and Kharaj, both are types of land taxes. During the Sultanate period the revenue administration was not well organized. The fiscal resources of the state were very limited because the state authority extended only to parts of India. Agriculture was the main occupation and land revenue was the source of income for the state.
Ushr was the tax charged on lands held by muslims. It was around one-tenth of the total produce of land held by muslims or watered by natural means. The kharaj tax was charged on lands held by Hindus.

9 A

Ex. Latina, Phamsana and Valabhi are subdivisions of Nagara style temples depending upon shapes of Shikhara (tower). Latina or Rekha Prasada is a simple and most common type of Shikhara. It is square at the base and the walls curve towards inwards to point on top. Phamsana are broader and shorter than Latina types. The roof is composed of several slabs that rise to a single point over the centre of the building. The roof of Phamsana does not curve inwards but slopes upwards on a straight line. Valabhi type Shikhara are rectangular buildings that rise into a vaulted chamber.

10 B

Ex. The 1907 session of Congress was held on the bank of tapti river and presided by Rash Behari Ghosh. Moderates believed that some issues with the government should be solved with discussions and dialogue. On the other hand, extremists believed in agitation, strikes and boycotts. Moderates supported Rash Behari Ghosh as President whereas extremists supported Lala Lajpat Rai or Bal Gangadhar Tilak for the post of President. The extremist wanted the 1907 session to be held in Nagpur while Moderates wanted it in Surat. The agreement could not be reached and resulted in the split of the Congress.

11 D

Ex. Aham Brahmasmi is a term which is used in Indian Philosophy to denote the unity of Atma (soul) with the Brahman (Absolute). Shankaracharya explains that Brahman and the universe is infinite and infinite proceeds from infinite. He explains that between Brahman and Aham Brahma lies the entire worldly universe which is experienced as a separate entity by the ignorant.

12 A

Ex. The main objective of the Regulating Act was to solve the issue of dual government instituted by Robert Clive. The Regulating Act 1773 was the first intervention by the British Government in the Company's territorial affair. The Governor General of Bengal now had supervisory powers over presidencies of Madras and Bombay. Warren Hastings became the first Governor General of India.
The British Government appointed a council of 4 members to advice and control Governor General. The four members were Clavering, Monson, Barwell and Francis. These members could only be recalled by the British Crown on recommendation from the Court of Directors. The Supreme Court established had both Original and Appellate Jurisdiction. It had one Chief Justice, Sir Elijah Imphey and 3 other Judges. It was given jurisdiction over all the British subjects. It would respect religious and social customs of Indians. Appeals lay with the Privy Council.

13 D

Ex. The Gandhi-Irwin pact was endorsed by the 1931 Congress session at Karachi and Gandhi was nominated to represent Congress at the second Round Table Conference. The session was presided over by Sardar Patel whereby Congress adopted a resolution Fundamental Rights and Economic Policy which was a reflection of Social, Political and Economic vision of the Congress. Some important aspects of the resolution were free and compulsory primary education, reduction in rent and taxes, protection of women and peasants etc. Sarojni Naidu became Congress President in 1925, however she was not the first woman president. Annie Besant in 1917 became the first woman President of Congress. Hasrat Mohani demanded for complete Independence in 1921 session. Demand for constituent assembly was raised in the 1937 session at Faizpur.

14 C

Ex. Chaitanya's teaching focused on love and emotions. Love for humanity, love for God. According to him divine love can be propounded through chanting and Kirtans. He was a follower of Lord Krishna and hence dedicated his kirtans to him. He believed that singing can make one realise God because singing can translocate the mind from human world to divine world. Namdeva was a Poet and Saint. He was influenced by Vaishnavism and was known for his devotional songs. Along with Jnaneswar and Tukaram, Namdeva formed the basis of the belief of Varkari sect of Hinduism.

15 C

Ex.

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16 C

Ex. Chauth was a tax which small Kingdoms or dynasties had to pay to the Marathas. This was a kind of security money to protect their own territory from Maratha invasions. It was not collected in the Maratha kingdom but in the neighbouring territories of mughals or Deccan Sultanate. Shivaji appointed his own revenue officials known as Karkuns.
Sardeshmukhi was an additional 10% tax levied on the Chauth. It was claimed on those lands which Marathas claimed to be having hereditary rights. It was started by Maharaja Som Shah of Ramnagar.

17 A

Ex. Amid accusations on the opposition legislators of damaging the presiding officer's microphone and abusing the Deputy Speaker, a resolution moved by the state Parliamentary Affairs Minister suspending the 12 opposition MLAs was subsequently adopted by the Maharashtra Assembly. This barred the suspended MLAs from entering the legislative premises for 12 months. A three-judge Bench of the Supreme Court has ruled that the suspension beyond the term of the particular session in which it was imposed was a nullity in the eyes of the law.

18 C

Ex. Uniform Civil Code(UCC) will be an impactful step towards Article 44 that provides for uniform codes for all citizens. This UCC will be for equal laws on subjects like marriage, divorce, land, property and inheritance for people of all religions. But at the same time such a move by the state government should not be counterproductive to the unity and integrity of the nation.

19 B

Ex. The Kerala government questioned the constitutional need for the Governor's office. The Kerala government has repeatedly demanded that national legislation should empower States to elect them via a representative electoral college.

20 C

Ex. On 15th December, 2021, the Union Cabinet cleared a bill on electoral reforms. The Election Commission has been pushing for key electoral reforms, including linking Aadhaar numbers to the electoral roll, making paid news an electoral offence, increasing the punishment for filing a false affidavit.

21 B

Ex. Digital rights, closely linked to freedom of expression and privacy, are those that allow people to access, use, create and publish digital media, as well as access and use computers, other electronic devices and communications network.

22 C

Ex. It handles affairs relating to the Parliament of India and works as a link between the two chambers the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha . It was created in 1949 as a department but later became a full ministry. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs holds cabinet rank as a member of the Council of Ministers. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs works under the overall direction of Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs.

23 A

Ex. The 98th amendment act, 2012 conferred special responsibility of Governor of Karnataka to manage the developmental activities of Hyderabad-Karnataka Regions.

24 C

Ex. Appointments of officers and servants of a High Court are made by the Chief Justice of the High Court under the provision of article 229.

25 D

Ex. The Attorney General for India is the Indian government's chief legal advisor, and its primary lawyer in the Supreme Court of India. He is appointed by the President of India under Article 76(1) of the Constitution and holds office during the pleasure of the President. He must be a person qualified to be appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court.

26 B

Ex. High Courts of Union Territories is decided by Parliament under the provision of article 241 of the Constitution. Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir have their own High Courts.

27 C

Ex. Article 143 states "If at any time it appears to the President that a question of law or fact has arisen, or is likely to arise, which is of such a nature and of such public importance that it is expedient to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court upon it, he may refer the question to that Court for consideration and the Court may, after such hearing as it thinks fit, report to the President its opinion thereon."

28 C

Ex. In Kehar Singh v Union of India case,1989 , the Supreme Court asserted that "the question as to the area of the President's power under Article 72 falls squarely within the judicial domain and can be examined by the court by way of judicial review."

29 A

Ex. Orang National Park is a national Park in India located on the northern bank of the Brahmaputra River in Assam.
So statement 1 is not correct. All statements are correct.

30 B

Ex. The Vikas is a family of liquid fulled rocket engines conceptualized and designed by the Liquid propulsion systems centre.
It is used in the polar satellite Launch vede (PSLV) and the GSLV series of expendable launch vehicles for space lunch use.
2 nd stage of PSLV and GSLV main stage of GSLVMkIII.

31 B

Ex. Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine (cervaria) reduces the risk of cervical cancer.
Conical cancer is a type of cancer that occurs in the cells of the cervix - the lower part ot the uterus that connects to the vegina.

32 A

Ex. It is the third research vessel after Sagarpurvi and Sagar nidhi was commissioned in 2008.
Purpose - Exploring the ocean resources. Participation in search and rescue operation etc.

33 A

Ex. Samundrayaan mission- It is India's first unique manned ocean mission that aims to send men into the deep sea in a Matsya 6000 vehicle Matsya 6000 can carry three person and can go in 6000 metres depth.

34 D

Ex. Gene editing is a way of making specific changes to DNA of a cell or organism. This allows genetic material to added, removed, or alfred at particular locations in the genge.
genome editing uses a type of enzyme called an engineered nudease' which ents the genome in a specific place
It can be ues for treatment of cancer so all statements are correct.

35 A

Ex. Ozone (O_3) is highest concentration in the stratosphere where it absorbs the sun's ultraviolet radiation.
* Ozone hole is a sharp seasonal decrease in stratosphere ozone concentration. Cause of ozone hde is CFC.

36 D

Ex. To protection, preserve and propagate the variety of species within natural boundaries, the Government of India Passed the wild life (protection) Act 1912 under which national parks and sanctuaries were established and biosphere reserves declared.

37 A

Ex. Millu dear is a rare and endangered species of IUCN rec list. Also known as perc David's deer.
Habitat- millu dear is native and endemic to the river valleys of china
so statement 1 is correct While 2 is not correct.

38 C

Ex.

39 D

Ex. The International Union of conservation of Natural and Natural Resources (IUCN) has classified the threatened species of plants and animals into three categories.
Endangered species - It includes those species which are in danger of extinction. The fueN publishes information about endangered species world-wide as the Red list of thereated species. So statement 1 is correct. Vulnerable species - This includes the species which are likely to be in danger of extinction in near future. Rare species- population of these species is very small in the world, they are confined to limited a so statement 1 and 2 are not Correct.

40 B

Ex.

Wetland	State / Ut
1. Tso kar	Ladakh
2. Sultanpur National park	Haryana
3. Thol Lake	Gujarat
4. Haidarpur Welland	Utter Pradesh

41 D

Ex. The central monitoring system, is a secret muss electronic surveillance program installed by the C-DOT to monitor communication on mobile phones, landlines and the internet i the country.
• It aims to strengthen the security environment by providing call Data Records (CDR) analysis, location details etc. of the farget number.

42 D

Ex.

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43 C

Ex. It is related to climate of kashmir chillai kalan - 40 days of intense cold.
chillai khurd - Small cold - 20 day 31 January - 18 Feb
Chillai Bachha ? 31 January - F1.3 1:37 PM (baby - (baby cold) - 10 days - 19 to 28 Feb

44 D

Ex. The 26th cop of the United nations Framework convention on climate change (UNFCCC) held in Glasgow. and this conference hosted by U.K. So statement 1 and 2 both are correct.
Aim of cop 26 :
limit global warming to 1.5°c by 2030 .
cut Global greenhouse gas emission by as 45% percent by 2030 and to zero Overall by 2050
So Statement 3 is not correct

45 B

Ex. Atomic number of (Th) Thorium is 90 and its electronic configuration is.
[Rn] $6d^2 7S^2$,
[Rn] $5f^3 6d^1 7S^2$ Uranium - Atomic number : 92
[Rn] $5f6 7S^2$ - plutonium - Atomic number : 94

46 B

Ex. The Bitcoin Law was passed by the Legislative Assembly of El Salvador on 8 June 2021, giving the cryptocurrency bitcoin the status of legal tender within El Salvador after 7 September 2021. It was proposed by President Nayib Bukele.

47 B

Ex. Effective Carbon Rates 2021 report released by OECD. The effective carbon rate is the sum of specific taxes on energy use, carbon taxes, and prices of tradable emissions permits, where these apply. It is the total price on carbon emissions from energy use resulting from market-based policy instruments.
Presented at the COP21 in December 2015, Effective Carbon Rates in the OECD and Selected Partner Economies calculates effective carbon rates (ECR) on CO2-emissions from energy use for 41 countries which together use 80% of global emissions.

48 A

Ex. The EIU's Safe Cities Index is a global, policy benchmarking tool developed to measure global urban safety. The Index was first released in 2015.
In 2021, cities are ranked based on 76 indicators of security across five broad pillars, which are digital, health, infrastructure, personal and environmental..
Copenhagen tops the index, followed by Toronto and Singapore The top 10 cities from the Index are: Copenhagen, Toronto, Singapore, Sydney, Tokyo, Amsterdam, Wellington, Hong Kong, Melbourne, and Stockholm.

49 D

Ex.

50 A

Ex. Upon expiry of the initial UN-SWAP duration, a second generation of the UN-SWAP was developed with widespread consultation across UN system entities and launched in 2018. It updated and expanded UN-SWAP 1.0, building into it refinements and lessons learned, as well as aligning it with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with its focus on results. While the first phase of UN-SWAP implementation focused on gender mainstreaming and planning, the second phase is designed to focus on results, and includes monitoring activities and outcomes for gender-related Sustainable Development Goal results.

51 D

Ex.

52 D

Ex. Recently, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) released its annual State of the Global Climate for 2020.
The report was released ahead of the Leaders Summit on Climate, hosted by the US.
Extreme weather combined with Covid-19 was a double blow for millions of people in 2020. However, the pandemic-related economic slowdown failed to put a brake on climate change drivers and accelerating impacts.

53 D

Ex. Buoyed by the success of its innovative Project RE-HAB (Reducing Elephant-Human Attacks using Bees) in Karnataka, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has now replicated the project in Assam. Under Project RE-HAB, "Bee-fences" are created by setting up bee boxes in the passage ways of elephants to block their entrance to human territories. The boxes are connected with a string so that when elephants attempt to pass through, a tug or pull causes the bees to swarm the elephant herds and dissuade them from progressing further. It is a cost-effective way of reducing human-wild conflicts without causing any harm to the animals.

54 C

Ex. The policy aims to strengthen tertiary health care facilities for prevention and treatment of rare diseases. The Rare Diseases Policy aims to lower the high cost of treatment for rare diseases with increased focus on indigenous research with the help of a National Consortium to be set up with Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare as convenor. Besides, the Policy also envisages a crowd funding mechanism in which corporates and individuals will be encouraged to extend financial support through a robust IT platform for treatment of rare diseases. Funds so collected will be utilized by Centres of Excellence for treatment of all three categories of rare diseases as first charge and then the balance financial resources could also be used for research.

55 A

Ex. Explanation- 'POTUS' began as an abbreviation used by telegraphic code operators in the 1890s. It stands for "President of the United States.

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56 B

Ex. Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary : It is an animal sanctuary in Wayanad, Kerala, India. It is the second largest wildlife sanctuary in Kerala. It is a major habitat of elephants and tigers, is also host to a good number of Asiatic wild dogs/dholes.

57 A

Ex. The Chandra X-ray Observatory, previously known as the Advanced X-ray Astrophysics Facility, is a Flagship-class space telescope launched aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia during STS-93 by NASA on July 23, 1999.

58 D

Ex. The first day of the spring called 'Pahela Phagun' was celebrated in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

59 B

Ex. Tu BiShvat is a Jewish holiday occurring on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat. It is also called Rosh HaShanah La'Ilanot, literally 'New Year of the Trees'. In contemporary Israel, the day is celebrated as an ecological awareness day, and trees are planted in celebration. Shab-e Yalda : Also known as The turning point. End of the longest night (darkness) of the year, and beginning of growing of the days (Lights). A celebration of Good over Evil. Also known as they have special nuts for that night. Mehregan: Festival of Mehr (or Mihr=MIthra). A day of thanksgiving. It is a day which everyone show the mehr or the love they have for each other and it is one of the most important days in the year. Valentine day- Festival of love.

60 A

Ex. Interpol conduct global anti-social engineering fraud operations codenamed "First Light" with the support of local police forces. In telecom fraud, the calls tend to come from offshore call centres and the proceeds are usually transferred overseas.
The most recent Operation First Light took place from July to September 2017. Police raided 33 call centres based in Asia and arrested 1,013 people, suspected mostly of coordinating or placing cold calls to victims in other countries worldwide to deceive them into paying money. Typical modus operandi involved them pretending to be relatives in trouble and needing money, or posing as public officials requesting payments for services.

61 C

Ex.

62 B

Ex. The RBI's Digital Payment Index, which shows the deepening of payments through digital modes in India, rose by 39.64 per cent to 304.06 in September 2021 against 217.74 in the year-ago month. The RBI-DPI Index continues to demonstrate significant growth in adoption and deepening of digital payments across the country. The RBI-DPI has been constructed with March 2018 as the base period, that is, DPI score for March 2018 is set at 100. The DPI index comprises five broad parameters that enable us to know the penetration of digital payments in the country over different time periods.

63 D

Ex. A well-preserved Ice Age woolly rhino with many of its internal organs still intact has been recovered from permafrost in Russia's extreme north.
Russian media reported that the carcass was revealed by melting permafrost in Yakutia.

64 D

Ex. Big data is a combination of structured, semistructured and unstructured data collected by organizations that can be mined for information and used in machine learning projects, predictive modeling and other advanced analytics applications. Big Data applications that affect people every day.Transportation, Advertising and Marketing , Banking and Financial Services, Government, Media and Entertainment, Meteorology ,Healthcare, Cybersecurity, Education.

65 C

Ex. Bitcoin is a cryptocurrency created in 2009. Marketplaces called "bitcoin exchanges" allow people to buy or sell bitcoins using different currencies.
China's central bank has announced that all transactions of crypto-currencies are illegal, effectively banning digital tokens such as Bitcoins. The Top Eight Bitcoin Mining Countries
United States - 35.4%, Kazakhstan - 18.1%, Russia - 11.23%, Canada - 9.55%, Ireland - 4.68%, Malaysia - 4.59%, Germany - 4.48%, Iran - 3.11%

66 C

Ex. • Variations in the degrees of slope, temperature, occurrence of rainfall, may be represented by drawing the lines of equal values on a map. All such maps are termed the Isopleth Map. • Isotherm is a line on a map connecting points having the same temperature at a given time or on average over a given period.
• Isobar is a line made on a map which connects places having the same Atmospheric Pressure reduced to sea level. • Isoneph is a line on a map connecting points that have the same average percentage of cloudiness. An isohyet or isohyetal line is a line joining points of equal rainfall on a map in a given period. • Isohaline is the line on a map of the ocean connecting all points of equal salinity. It appears in oceans, seas and lakes.

67 D

Ex. • The heat energy from the solar radiation is received by the earth through three mechanisms namely Radiation, Conduction and Convection.
• Radiation is the heat transfer from one body to another without actual contact or movement. It is possible in relatively emptier space, for instance, from the sun to the earth through space.
• Conduction is the heat transfer through matter by molecular activity. Heat transfer in various metals is by conduction. Generally, denser materials like water are good conductors and a lighter medium like air is a bad conductor of heat. The lower layers of atmosphere are heated by conduction.
• Convection is the transfer of heat energy by actual transfer of matter or substance from one place to another.

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68 A

Ex. • The Brahmani river comes into existence by the confluence of the Koel and the Shankh rivers near Rourkela. It has a total length of 800 km.
• The basin is bounded in the North by Chota Nagpur plateau, in the West and South by the Mahanadi basin and in the East by the Bay of Bengal.
• The basin flows through Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Orissa States and drains into Bay of Bengal.
• South of the Cauvery delta, there are several streams, of which the Vaigai is the longest.
• The Vaigai basin is an important basin among the 12 basins lying between the Cauvery and Kanyakumari.
• This basin is bounded by the Varusanadu hills, the Andipatti hills, the Cardamom hills and the Palani hills on the West and by the Palk strait and Palk Bay on the East.
• The Vaigai drains an area which entirely lies in the state of Tamil Nadu.

69 D

Ex. • The ideal Conditions for Coral Growth are as follows:
• Stable climatic conditions: Corals are highly susceptible to quick changes. They grow in regions where climate is significantly stable for a long period of time.
• Perpetually warm waters: Corals thrive in tropical waters i.e. the temperature of water must be around 20°C.
• Coral requires a fairly good amount of sunlight to survive. The ideal depths for coral growth are 45 m to 55 m below sea surface, where there is abundant sunlight available. • Clear salt water is suitable for coral growth, while both freshwater and highly saline water are harmful. • Adequate supply of oxygen and microscopic marine food, called plankton [phytoplankton], is essential for growth. As the plankton is more abundant on the seaward side, corals grow rapidly on the seaward side. • Corals are highly fragile and are vulnerable to climate change and pollution and even a minute increase in marine pollution can be catastrophic.

70 A

Ex. • The air at the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) rises because of the convection currents caused by low pressure. Low pressure in turn occurs due to high insolation. The trade winds from the tropics converge at this low-pressure zone.
• The converged air rises along with the convective cell. It reaches the top of the troposphere up to an altitude of 14 km, and moves towards the poles. This causes accumulation of air at about 30°N and S. Part of the accumulated air sinks to the ground and forms a subtropical high. Another reason for sinking is the cooling of air when it reaches 30°N and S latitudes.
• Down below near the land surface the air flows towards the equator as the easterlies. The easterlies from either side of the equator converge in the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ). Such circulations from the surface upwards and vice-versa are called cells. Such a cell in the tropics is called Hadley Cell.

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71 A

Ex. • Baghelkhand is located to the north of the Maikal Range.
• It is made up of limestones and sandstones on the west and granite in the east.
• It is bounded by the Son river on the north.
• The central part of the plateau acts as a water divide between the Son drainage system in the north and the Mahanadi river system in the south.
• The region is uneven with general elevation varying from 150 m to 1,200 m.
• The Bhanrer and Kaimur are located close to the trough-axis.
• The general horizontality of the strata shows that this area has not undergone any major disturbance.

72 D

Ex. • Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) initiated National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring (NAAQM) programme in the year 1984 with 7 stations at Agra and Anpara. Subsequently the programme was renamed as National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP).
• The network currently consists of 804 operating stations covering 344 cities/towns in 28 states and 6 Union Territories of the country.
• The monitoring is being carried out with the help of Central Pollution Control Board; State Pollution Control Boards; Pollution Control Committees; National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur.
• CPCB coordinates with these agencies to ensure the uniformity, consistency of air quality data and provides technical and financial support to them for operating the monitoring stations
• Recently, the World Health Organisation (WHO) in its first-ever update since 2005 has tightened global air pollution standards.

73 C

Ex. • Antarctica is not a country. It has no government and no indigenous population. Instead, the entire continent is set aside as a scientific preserve.
• The Antarctic Treaty was signed in Washington on 1 December 1959 by the twelve countries whose scientists had been active in and around Antarctica during the International Geophysical Year (IGY) of 1957-58.
• The total number of Parties to the Treaty is now 54 (including India).
• India is a member of the Committee for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), which are the statutory bodies looking into marine biodiversity and its conservation, established by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Party (ATCP) in 1982 with its headquarters at Hobart, Australia.
• The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) was established by international convention in 1982 with the objective of conserving Antarctic marine life. This was in response to increasing commercial interest in Antarctic krill resources, a keystone component of the Antarctic ecosystem and a history of over-exploitation of several other marine resources in the Southern Ocean.

74 B

Ex. • According to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, it is very likely that AMOC will decline over the 21st century.
• The AMOC is a large system of ocean currents. It is the Atlantic branch of the ocean conveyor belt or Thermohaline circulation (THC) and distributes heat and nutrients throughout the world's ocean basins.
• While winds drive ocean currents in the upper 100 meters of the ocean's surface, ocean currents also flow thousands of meters below the surface. These deep-ocean currents are driven by differences in the water's density, which is controlled by temperature (thermo) and salinity (haline). This process is known as thermohaline circulation.

75 A

Ex. • Recently, India and the World Bank signed a $250 million project for the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP Phase II) to make existing dams safe and resilient.
• India ranks third globally after China and the U.S with 5334 large dams in operation and 411 under construction. They are vital for ensuring the water security of the country and constitute a major responsibility in terms of asset management and safety.
• As per the data of the National Register of Large Dam (NRLD) of 2018, Maharashtra has maximum number of Dams followed by Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

76 D

Ex. • Laterite soils are mostly the end products of weathering. • They are formed under conditions of high temperature and heavy rainfall with alternate wet and dry periods. • Heavy rainfall promotes leaching (nutrients gets washed away by water) of soil whereby lime and silica are leached away and a soil rich in oxides of iron and aluminium compounds is left behind. • Laterite means brick in Latin. They harden greatly on losing moisture. • Laterite soils are red in colour due to little clay and more gravel or red sand-stones. • In areas of alternate wet and dry climate, the leached material which goes deep down in the horizon is brought up and the blazing sun bakes the top soil so hard that it resembles a brick. Therefore, this soil is called lateritic which literally means brick.

77 D

Ex. • Himalayas are very important not only for security point of view but also for economical reasons.
• Geosynclinical deposits in tertiary rocks are regions of potential coal and oil reserves.
• Coal is found in Kashmir, Copper, lead, zinc, gold, silver, limestone, semi-precious and precious stones occur at some places in the Himalayas.
• But the exploitation of these resources requires advanced technologies which are not yet available.
• Also, disturbing such a fragile environment leads to more pain than gain.

78 B

Ex. • Water Vapour is one of the most variable gaseous substances present in the atmosphere. 90% of moisture content in the atmosphere exists within 2 km of the surface of the earth. Like carbon dioxide, water vapour plays a significant role in the insulating action of the atmosphere.
• It absorbs not only the long-wave terrestrial radiation i.e. infrared or heat emitted by earth during nights, but also a part of the incoming solar radiation.
• Water vapour is the source of precipitation and clouds. On condensation, it releases latent heat of condensation-the ultimate driving force behind all storms.

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79 C

Ex. • The atmosphere is a mixture of many gases. In addition, it contains huge numbers of solid and liquid particles, collectively called 'aerosols.
• Some of the gases may be regarded as permanent atmospheric components which remain in fixed proportion to the total gas volume.
• Other constituents vary in quantity from place to place and from time to time. If the suspended particles, water vapour and other variable gases were excluded from the atmosphere, then the dry air is very stable all over the earth up to an altitude of about 80 kilometres.
• The proportion of gases changes in the higher layers of the atmosphere in such a way that oxygen will be almost in negligible quantity at the height of 120 km. Similarly, carbon dioxide and water vapour are found only up to 90 km from the surface of the earth.
• Nitrogen and oxygen make up nearly 99% of the clean, dry air. The remaining gases are mostly inert and constitute about 1% of the atmosphere.
• Besides these gases, large quantities of water vapour and dust particles are also present in the atmosphere. These solid and liquid particles are of great climatic significance.
• Different constituents of the atmosphere, with their individual characteristics, are discussed below.
Permanent Gases of the Atmosphere
Constituent-Formula-Percentage by Volume

Nitrogen	- N_2	- 78.08
Oxygen	- O_2	- 20.95
Argon	- Ar	- 0.93
Carbon dioxide	- CO_2	- 0.036
Neon	- Ne	- 0.002
Helium	- He	- 0.0005
Krypto	- Kr	- 0.001
Xenon	- Xe	- 0.00009
Hydrogen	- H_2	- 0.00005

80 D

Ex. • The trenches are relatively steep sided, narrow basins or depressions. These areas are the deepest parts of the oceans. • They are of tectonic origin and are formed during ocean - ocean convergence and ocean continent convergence. • They are some 3-5 km deeper than the surrounding ocean floor. • The trenches lie along the fringes of the deep-sea plain at the bases of continental slopes and along island arcs. • The trenches run parallel to the bordering fold mountains or the island chains. • The trenches are very common in the Pacific Ocean and form an almost continuous ring along the western and eastern margins of the Pacific. • The Mariana Trench off the Guam Islands in the Pacific Ocean is the deepest trench with a depth of more than 11 kilometres. • They are associated with active volcanoes and strong earthquakes ,most of them are deep Focus Earthquakes like in Japan. This makes them very significant in the study of plate movements.

81 C

Ex. • Patkai Bum hills are made up of strong sandstone; elevation varying from 2,000 m to 3,000 m; merges into Naga Hills where Saramati (3,826 m) is the highest peak.
• Patkai Bum and Naga Hills form the watershed between India and Myanmar.
• South of Naga Hills are the Manipur hills which are generally less than 2,500 metres in elevation.
• The Barail range separates Naga Hills from Manipur Hills.
• Further south the Barail Range swings to west into Jaintia, Khasi and Garo hills which are an eastward continuation of the Indian peninsular block. They are separated from the main block by the Ganga and Brahmaputra rivers.
• South of the Manipur Hills are the Mizo Hills which have an elevation of less than 1,500 metres. The highest point is the Blue Mountain (2,157 m) in the south.

82 B

Ex. • There are many passes present in the Greater Himalayas. The passes are snowbound for most of the year because they are generally higher than 4,570 m above sea level.
• In Jammu and Kashmir:
1. Burzil Pass, 2. Zoji La
• Himachal Pradesh
1. Bara Lacha La, 2. Shipki La
• Uttarakhand
1. Thaga La, 2. Niti Pass, 3. Lipu Lekh
• Sikkim
1. Nathu La, 2. Jelep La

83 D

Ex. • The Chhattisgarh plain is the only plain worth the name in the Peninsular plateau.
• It is a saucer shaped depression drained by the upper Mahanadi.
• The whole basin lies between the Maikala Range and the Odisha hills.
• It is bounded by the Chota Nagpur plateau to the north, the Raigarh hills to the northeast, the Raipur Upland to the southeast, the Bastar plateau to the south, and the Maikala Range to the west.
• The region was once ruled by Haithaivanshi Rajputs from whose thirty-six forts (Chhattisgarh) it derives its name.
• The basin is laid with nearly horizontal beds of limestone and shales.
• The general elevation of the plain ranges from 250 m in the east to 330 m in the west.

84 A

Ex. Repo rate is the rate at which RBI lends money to commercial banks. The higher the repo rate the lesser the banks will borrow from RBI thereby reducing liquidity in the market and vice-versa.
Reverse repo rate is the rate at which RBI borrows from the commercial banks. The higher the reverse repo rate the more commercial banks will park their money in RBI thereby reducing the liquidity in the market and vice-versa.
Reverse repo rate is always lesser than repo rate so that the flow of money should be there from RBI to commercial banks. RBI doesn't want to keep all the money. The commercial bank and businesses need the money so that the economy has enough purchasing power.

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85 D

Ex. National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) is a nation-wide centralised payment system owned and operated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The set of procedures to be followed by various stakeholders participating in the system. There is no limit imposed by the RBI for funds transfer through NEFT system. However, banks may place amount limits based on their own risk perception with the approval of its Board.

86 B

Ex. Global Economic Prospects is a World Bank Group flagship report that examines global economic developments and prospects, with a special focus on emerging market and developing economies. It is issued twice a year, in January and June.

87 B

Ex. It has been argued that if government deficits and debts become unsustainable, then the market will begin to anticipate lower levels of future output and higher levels of future base money. If a government borrows too much, the government may be tempted to deal with the debt by increasing the money supply (printing money) and paying off the debt through inflation. But, if this happens investors will lose the real value of their bonds. The bonds will fall in value because inflation is reducing their real worth. (This is sometimes known as default through inflation). If investors fear inflation, they may sell bonds, causing interest rates to rise.

88 C

Ex. One popular method of controlling inflation is through a contractionary monetary policy. The goal of a contractionary policy is to reduce the money supply within an economy by decreasing bond prices and increasing interest rates. This helps reduce spending because when there is less money to go around: those who have money want to keep it and save it, instead of spending it. It also means there is less available credit, which can reduce spending. Reducing spending is important during inflation because it helps halt economic growth and, in turn, the rate of inflation.

89 B

Ex.
- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is a Central Sector scheme with 100% funding from Government of India.
- Under the Scheme an income support of Rs.6000/- per year is provided to all farmer families across the country in three equal installments of Rs.2000/- each every four months.
- Definition of family for the Scheme is husband, wife and minor children.
- The entire responsibility of identification of beneficiary farmer families rests with the State / UT Governments.
- The fund is directly transferred to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries.
- Farmers covered under the Exclusion Criteria of the Operational Guidelines are not eligible for the benefit of the Scheme.

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90 B

Ex. Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate refers to the rate at which the scheduled banks can borrow funds overnight from RBI against government securities.MSF is a very short term borrowing scheme for scheduled commercial banks. Banks may borrow funds through MSF during severe cash shortage or acute shortage of liquidity. Banks often face liquidity shortfalls due to mismatch in their deposit and loan portfolios. These are usually very short term and banks can borrow from RBI for one day period by offering dated government securities. MSF had been introduced by RBI to reduce volatility in the overnight lending rates in the inter-bank market and to enable smooth monetary transmission in the financial system.

91 D

Ex. The transfer of huge subsidy amount to the OMCs on an annual basis would have led to increase in fiscal deficit of the Government. Hence, to keep fiscal deficit under control, the UPA Government issued oil bonds worth Rs 1.4 lakh crores between 2005-2010. Options before OMCs:

1. The OMCs can hold on to these Bonds and earn interest till the maturity of oil bonds. Upon maturity, they would get the entire subsidy amount.
2. The OMCs can sell these oil bonds in the secondary market to banks, insurance companies and other financial institutions and get immediate cash.

92 B

Ex. Scenario wherein Banks invest more money in Government Bonds rather than giving loans to different sectors. To get out of the present economic recession, there is a need to enhance credit creation by the Banks. However, "Lazy Banking" by the Banks in India can derail the economic revival.

93 B

Ex. The RBI's Digital Payments Index (DPI) unveiled for the first time on 1st Jan 2021 which Comprises of 5 broad payment parameters.

94 D

Ex. The Pre-pack Insolvency process has been introduced through Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill 2021. Under this Insolvency process, the promoters can remain in control of the company.

95 D

Ex. Quarterly Employment Survey Report is Published by Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment and Measures employment situation in selected non-farm Industrial sectors. It Covers 8 major sectors- Manufacturing, Construction, Trade Transport, Education etc.

Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) Report is published by the National Statistical Office (NSO). It has Replaced the earlier quinquennial (5-year) Employment-Unemployment Surveys (EUS) surveys in India. It involves quarterly employment survey in Urban areas and Annual Survey in the Rural Areas.

96 C

Ex. Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) ensures that there is universal non-discriminatory access to quality ICT (Information and Communications Technology) services at economically efficient prices to people in rural and remote areas. Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) is the pool of funds generated by 5% Universal Service Levy that is charged upon all the telecom fund operators on their Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR). This fund is deposited in the Consolidated Fund of India and is dispatched on the approval of the Indian Parliament.

97 C

Ex. A Farmer Producer Company (FPC) can be formed by any 10 or more primary producers or by two or more producer institutions, or by a contribution of both. An FPC is a hybrid between cooperative societies and private limited companies. The Farmer Producer Companies, registered under the Indian Companies Act, 2013, have democratic governance, each producer or member has equal voting rights irrespective of the number of shares held.

98 B

Ex. Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh are two of the largest states for solar power production in India.The nation has placed high hopes on the technology delivering a large portion of its 450-gigawatt (GW) renewable energy target by 2030 as it aims to reduce its fossil-fuel reliance.

99 C

Ex. Account aggregators are entities that allow individuals to share and access data from one financial institution to another in the consolidated networks of account aggregators. These aggregators have received approval to access and share data by the RBI.

100 B

Ex. Ministry of Labour & Employment has developed e-SHRAM portal for creating a National Database of Unorganized Workers (NDUW), which will be seeded with Aadhaar. It will have details of name, occupation, address, educational qualification, skill types and family details etc. for optimum realization of their employability and extend the benefits of the social security schemes to them. It is the first-ever national database of unorganised workers including migrant workers, construction workers, gig and platform workers, etc.

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