

UPSC Prelims 2016 — GS Paper 1

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UPSC 2016

Indian Polity › Parliament & State Legislatures

moderate

Q1. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. A Bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses on its prorogation.
2. A Bill pending in the Rajya Sabha, which has not been passed by the Lok Sabha, shall not lapse on dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

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

Answer: (b)

Prorogation ends a session but does not make Bills pending in Lok Sabha lapse, so statement 1 is incorrect. A Bill pending only in Rajya Sabha survives even if the Lok Sabha is dissolved, making statement 2 correct. ([[edukemy.com](https://www.edukemy.com/blog/upsc-prelims-2016-question-paper-with-answer-key-general-studies-paper-1/?utm_source=openai)](https://www.edukemy.com/blog/upsc-prelims-2016-question-paper-with-answer-key-general-studies-paper-1/?utm_source=openai))

UPSC 2016

Current Affairs › International Organisations & Groupings

easy

Q2. Which of the following is/are the indicator/indicators used by IFPRI to compute the Global Hunger Index Report?

1. Undernourishment
2. Child stunting
3. Child mortality

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (c)

The Global Hunger Index combines the prevalence of under-nourishment, the share of children under five who are stunted, and under-five child mortality (along with wasting, which is not asked here); therefore all three listed indicators are used. ([[superkalam.com](https://www.superkalam.com/upsc-prelims/previous-year-question-paper/2016/which-of-the-following-isare-the-indicatorindicators-used-by-ifpri-to-compute-the-global-hunger-index-report-undernouris-962f0611-838b-4efa-a813-4fc822cce1d7?utm_source=openai)](https://www.superkalam.com/upsc-prelims/previous-year-question-paper/2016/which-of-the-following-isare-the-indicatorindicators-used-by-ifpri-to-compute-the-global-hunger-index-report-undernouris-962f0611-838b-4efa-a813-4fc822cce1d7?utm_source=openai))

Q3. There has been a persistent deficit budget year after year. Which action/actions of the following can be taken by the Government to reduce the deficit?

1. Reducing revenue expenditure
2. Introducing new welfare schemes
3. Rationalizing subsidies
4. Reducing import duty

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 3 only

(b) 2 and 4 only

(c) 1, 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a)

Cutting revenue expenditure and rationalising (reducing or better-targeting) subsidies directly lower government outlays, shrinking the deficit. Introducing new welfare schemes or lowering import duties would raise expenditure or cut revenue, worsening the deficit; hence only 1 and 3 apply.

([edukemy.com](https://edukemy.com/blog/upsc-prelims-2016-question-28/?utm_source=openai))

Q4. The establishment of 'Payment Banks' is being allowed in India to promote financial inclusion. Which of the following statements is/are correct in this context?

1. Mobile telephone companies and supermarket chains that are owned and controlled by residents are eligible to be promoters of Payment Banks.
2. Payment Banks can issue both credit cards and debit cards.
3. Payment Banks cannot undertake lending activities.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 2 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b)

RBI guidelines allow resident-owned telecom firms and supermarket chains to promote Payment Banks (statement 1). These banks may issue ATM/debit cards but are barred from credit card issuance, and they are prohibited from lending; thus statement 2 is wrong while statement 3 is right. ([dalvoy.com](https://www.dalvoy.com/upsc/previous-years/2016/upsc-2016-payment-banks-eligibility-credit-debit-cards-lending-restrictions?utm_source=openai))

Q5. With reference to 'LiFi', recently in the news, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It uses light as the medium for high-speed data transmission.
 2. It is a wireless technology and is several times faster than WiFi.
- 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

Answer: (c)

Li-Fi (Light-Fidelity) is a wireless communication system that modulates the intensity of light (usually from LEDs) to transmit data; hence light itself is the transmission medium. Lab demonstrations have achieved data rates in excess of 1 Gbps—many times faster than conventional Wi-Fi—so both statements are accurate. ([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Li-Fi?utm_source=openai))

Q6. The term 'Intended Nationally Determined Contributions' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of

- (a) pledges made by the European countries to rehabilitate refugees from the war-affected Middle East
- (b) plan of action outlined by the countries of the world to combat climate change**
- (c) capital contributed by the member countries in the establishment of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- (d) plan of action outlined by the countries of the world regarding Sustainable Development Goals

Answer: (b)

'Intended Nationally Determined Contributions' (now simply NDCs) are the climate-action pledges each country filed with the UNFCCC in the run-up to, and under, the 2015 Paris Agreement to fight climate change. They have nothing to do with refugee resettlement, AIIB capital, or the SDGs. ([un.org](https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/all-about-ndcs?utm_source=openai))

Q7. Which one of the following is a purpose of 'UDAY', a scheme of the Government?

- (a) Providing technical and financial assistance to start-up entrepreneurs in the field of renewable sources of energy
- (b) Providing electricity to every household in the country by 2018
- (c) Replacing the coal-based power plants with natural gas, nuclear, solar, wind and tidal power plants over a period of time
- (d) Providing for financial turnaround and revival of power distribution companies**

Answer: (d)

UDAY, launched in 2015, is a financial-turnaround package that lets State governments take over most of the debt of their electricity distribution companies (DISCOMs) and prescribes operational reforms, expressly aiming at the 'financial turnaround and revival of power distribution companies'. Options (a), (b) and (c) describe unrelated objectives. ([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ujwal_DISCOM_Assurance_Yojana?utm_source=openai))

Q8. With reference to 'IFC Masala Bonds', sometimes seen in the news, which of the statements given below is/are correct?

1. The International Finance Corporation, which offers these bonds, is an arm of the World Bank.
 2. They are the rupee-denominated bonds and are a source of debt financing for the public and private sector.
- 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

Answer: (c)

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is the private-sector arm of the World Bank Group, and it pioneered offshore rupee-denominated debt instruments nick-named 'Masala Bonds'. These bonds allow public or private entities to raise debt in Indian rupees from overseas investors. Therefore, both statements are correct.

([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Finance_Corporation?utm_source=openai))

Q9. Regarding the taxation system of Krishna Deva, the ruler of Vijayanagar, consider the following statements:

1. The tax rate on land was fixed depending on the quality of the land.
2. Private owners of workshops paid an industries tax.

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

Answer: (c)

Contemporary accounts of Krishnadevaraya's reign note that land revenue was assessed on a sliding scale—between one-third and one-sixth of produce—depending on soil quality, and that craftsmen and private workshop owners were liable to an industry (craft) tax. Hence both statements are valid.

([edukemy.com](https://edukemy.com/blog/upsc-prelims-2016-question-9/?utm_source=openai))

Q10. Which one of the following books of ancient India has the love story of the son of the founder of Sunga dynasty?

- (a) Swapnavasavadatta
- (b) Malavikagnimitra**
- (c) Meghadoota
- (d) Ratnavali

Answer: (b)

Kalidasa's play "Malavikagnimitra" recounts the romance of King Agnimitra—the son of the founder of the Sunga dynasty—with the court maiden Malavika. The other works listed by the protagonists: "Swapnavasavadatta" (Bhasa) centres on King Udayana, "Meghaduta" is a play by Kalidasa, and "Ratnavali" (Harsha) depicts King Udayana's later love story. Hence option (b) is correct.

([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malavikagnimitra?utm_source=openai))

Q11. In the context of which of the following do you sometimes find the terms 'amber box', 'blue box' and 'green box' in the news?

- (a) WTO affairs
- (b) SAARC affairs
- (c) UNFCCC affairs
- (d) India-EU negotiations on FTA

Answer: (a)

'Amber box', 'blue box' and 'green box' are World Trade Organization classifications for domestic agricultural subsidies under the Agreement on Agriculture—amber requiring reduction, blue tied to production-limiting programmes, and green considered minimally trade-distorting. They are not terminology used in SAARC, UNFCCC or India-EU FTA negotiations.

([wto.org](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/agric_e/agboxes_e.htm?utm_source=openai))

Q12. Which of the following is/are included in the capital budget of the Government of India?

1. Expenditure on acquisition of assets like roads, buildings, machinery, etc.
2. Loans received from foreign governments
3. Loans and advances granted to the States and Union Territories

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (d)

The capital budget comprises capital receipts and capital payments. Capital expenditure such as building roads and machinery (statement 1), capital receipts like loans from foreign governments (statement 2), and capital payments in the form of loans and advances to States/UTs (statement 3) are all part of it; therefore all three statements are included.

([arthapedia.in](https://www.arthapedia.in/index.php/Capital_Budget?utm_source=openai))

Q13. What is/are the importance/importances of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification?

1. It aims to promote effective action through innovative national programmes and supportive international partnerships.
2. It has a special/particular focus on South Asia and North Africa regions, and its Secretariat facilitates the allocation of major portion of financial resources to these regions.
3. It is committed to bottom-up approach, encouraging the participation of local people in combating the desertification.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (c)

The UN Convention to Combat Desertification seeks to foster effective national action through partnerships (statement 1) and explicitly adopts a bottom-up, community-participatory approach (statement 3). It is global in scope—though it gives particular attention to Africa—and does not earmark most funds specifically for South Asia or North Africa, making statement 2 incorrect. Thus, only 1 and 3 are correct. ([kew.org](https://www.kew.org/read-and-watch/combating-desertification?utm_source=openai))

Q14. Recently, which one of the following currencies has been proposed to be added to the basket of IMF's SDR?

- (a) Rouble
- (b) Rand
- (c) Indian Rupee
- (d) Renminbi**

Answer: (d)

In November 2015 the IMF Executive Board approved, and from 1 October 2016 implemented, the inclusion of China's renminbi (RMB) in the Special Drawing Right (SDR) basket—its first expansion since the euro's creation. The rouble, rand and Indian rupee were not added. ([imf.org](https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2016/09/30/AM16-PR16440-IMF-Launches-New-SDR-Basket-Including-Chinese-Renminbi?utm_source=openai))

Q15. With reference to the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC), consider the following statements:

1. IMFC discusses matters of concern affecting the global economy, and advises the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the direction of its work.
 2. The World Bank participates as observer in IMFC's meetings.
- 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

Answer: (c)

The IMFC is the advisory body of the IMF that meets twice a year to review the world economic outlook and give strategic direction to the Fund, so Statement 1 is correct. The IMF factsheet lists the World Bank among the international institutions that attend IMFC meetings as observers, so Statement 2 is also correct; hence both statements are right and option (c) is the answer. ([imf.org](https://www.imf.org/en/About/Factsheets/A-Guide-to-Committees-Groups-and-Clubs?utm_source=openai))

Q16. 'Rashtriya Garima Abhiyaan' is a national campaign to

- (a) rehabilitate the homeless and destitute persons and provide them with suitable sources of livelihood
- (b) release the sex workers from their practice and provide them with alternative sources of livelihood
- (c) eradicate the practice of manual scavenging and rehabilitate the manual scavengers**
- (d) release the bonded labourers from their bondage and rehabilitate them

Answer: (c)

'Rashtriya Garima Abhiyaan' (National Campaign for Dignity) was launched by civil-society groups to abolish the practice of manual scavenging and secure dignified rehabilitation for former manual scavengers; therefore option (c) is correct. It has nothing to do with homelessness, sex work or bonded labour, so the other options are incorrect. ([scroll.in](https://scroll.in/article/657787/the-inhuman-plight-of-manual-scavengers-continues-as-all-states-miss-deadline-on-listing-dry-toilets?utm_source=openai))

Q17. With reference to the cultural history of medieval India, consider the following statements:

1. Siddhas (Sittars) of Tamil region were monotheistic and condemned idolatry.
 2. Lingayats of Kannada region questioned the theory of rebirth and rejected the caste hierarchy.
- 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

Answer: (c)

Tamil Siddhas (Sittars) advocated a formless monotheism and explicitly condemned idolatry, validating Statement 1. The Lingayat/Virashaiva tradition founded by Basavanna in Karnataka rejected caste distinctions and denied the doctrine of rebirth, making Statement 2 correct as well. Since both statements are true, the right option is (c). ([edukemy.com](https://edukemy.com/blog/upsc-prelims-2016-question-17/?utm_source=openai))

Q18. Which of the following best describes the term “import cover”, sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) It is the ratio of value of imports to the Gross Domestic Product of a country
- (b) It is the total value of imports of a country in a year
- (c) It is the ratio between the value of exports and that of imports between two countries
- (d) It is the number of months of imports that could be paid for by a country's international reserves**

Answer: (d)

'Import cover' is the trade-based reserve adequacy indicator that shows how many months of a country's merchandise imports can be financed out of its foreign-exchange reserves; RBI data routinely quotes India's reserves in terms of months of import cover. Therefore option (d) correctly defines the term, while the other descriptions refer to unrelated ratios or aggregates.

([rbi.org.in](https://www.rbi.org.in/scripts/PublicationsView.aspx?id=11362&utm_source=openai))

Q19. Consider the following pairs:

Community sometimes mentioned in the news — In the affairs of

- 1. Kurd — Bangladesh**
- 2. Madhesi — Nepal**
- 3. Rohingya — Myanmar**

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

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

Answer: (c)

Kurds are an ethnic group spread across Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Syria—not Bangladesh—so pair 1 is incorrect. Madhesi people inhabit Nepal's Terai region, and the Rohingya are a persecuted Muslim minority of Myanmar's Rakhine State; hence pairs 2 and 3 are correctly matched. Thus the correct answer is option (c). ([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kurds?utm_source=openai))

Q20. With reference to “Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)”, consider the following statements:

1. It is an organization of European Union in working relation with NATO and WHO.
2. It monitors chemical industry to prevent new weapons from emerging.
3. It provides assistance and protection to States (Parties) against chemical weapons threats.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

OPCW is an independent inter-governmental body established by the Chemical Weapons Convention; it is not an EU agency and has no institutional link with either NATO or WHO, so statement 1 is wrong. Verifying missions include monitoring of the chemical industry to ensure that new chemical weapons do not re-emerge and programmes that give States Parties assistance and protection against chemical-weapon threats, making statements 2 and 3 correct.

([[edukemy.com](https://www.edukemy.com)](https://www.edukemy.com/blog/upsc-prelims-2016-question-20/?utm_source=openai))

Q21. With reference to ‘Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana’, consider the following statements:

1. Under this scheme, farmers will have to pay a uniform premium of two percent for any crop they cultivate in any season of the year.
2. This scheme covers post-harvest losses arising out of cyclones and unseasonal rains.

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

Answer: (b)

Farmers pay 2 % premium only for Kharif crops, 1.5 % for Rabi and 5 % for commercial/horticultural crops; therefore there is no single uniform 2 % premium across all crops and seasons, so statement 1 is incorrect. The scheme explicitly covers post-harvest losses (up to 14 days) caused by cyclones, unseasonal rain, etc., making statement 2 correct. ([[vajiramandravi.com](https://www.vajiramandravi.com)](https://www.vajiramandravi.com/upsc-exam/with-reference-to-pradhan-mantri-fasal-bima-yojana-consider-the-following-statements/?utm_source=openai))

UPSC 2016

Environment & Ecology › Protected Areas & Wildlife

easy

Q22. In which of the following regions of India are you “most likely” to come across the ‘Great Indian Hornbill’ in its natural habitat?

- (a) Sand deserts of northwest India
- (b) Higher Himalayas of Jammu and Kashmir
- (c) Salt marshes of western Gujarat
- (d) Western Ghats**

Answer: (d)

The Great Indian (Great) Hornbill inhabits dense evergreen and semi-evergreen forests in the Western Ghats and parts of the Himalayan foothills; it is absent from deserts, high alpine zones and salt-marsh habitats. Hence the region where one is most likely to encounter it is the Western Ghats.

([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_hornbill?utm_source=openai))

UPSC 2016

Environment & Ecology › Water & Wetland Conservation

moderate

Q23. Which of the following are the key features of ‘National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA)’?

1. River basin is the unit of planning and management.
2. It spearheads the river conservation efforts at the national level.
3. One of the Chief Ministers of the States through which the Ganga flows becomes the Chairman of NGRBA on rotation basis.

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

Answer: (a)

The notification creating the National Ganga River Basin Authority (2009) states that the river basin is the basic unit for planning and that the Authority will spearhead Ganga conservation nationally—so statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Prime Minister, not a rotating Chief Minister, is the ex-officio chairperson, so statement 3 is incorrect. ([cpcb.nic.in](https://www.cpcb.nic.in/ngrba/about.html?utm_source=openai))

UPSC 2016

Indian Economy › Agriculture & Rural Development

easy

Q24. Why does the Government of India promote the use of ‘Neem-coated Urea’ in agriculture?

- (a) Release of Neem oil in the soil increases nitrogen fixation by the soil microorganisms
- (b) Neem coating slows down the rate of dissolution of urea in the soil**
- (c) Nitrous oxide, which is a greenhouse gas, is not at all released into atmosphere by crop fields
- (d) It is a combination of a weedicide and a fertilizer for particular crops

Answer: (b)

Neem coating forms a barrier that slows the dissolution of urea, gradually releasing nitrogen and reducing volatilisation, leaching and denitrification losses. This—rather than increased biological N-fixation, elimination of N₂O emissions, or blending with weedicide—is the primary reason the gov and promotes neem-coated urea.

([edukemy.com](https://edukemy.com/blog/upsc-prelims-2016-question-24/?utm_source=openai))

Q25. Consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Secretary in a State is appointed by the Governor of that State.

2. The Chief Secretary in a State has a fixed tenure.

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**

Answer: (d)

The Chief Secretary is selected by the Chief Minister; the appointment order is merely issued in the Governor's name, so Statement 1 is not correct. There is no statutorily fixed tenure for a Chief Secretary—tenure depends on the state government's pleasure—so Statement 2 is also incorrect. Hence neither statement is correct.

([educemy.com](https://educemy.com/blog/upsc-prelims-2016-question-25/?utm_source=openai))

Q26. With reference to 'Stand Up India Scheme', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Its purpose is to promote entrepreneurship among SC/ST and women entrepreneurs.

2. It provides for refinance through SIDBI.

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

Answer: (c)

Stand Up India was launched (April 2016) specifically to promote entrepreneurship among SC/ST and women borrowers, fulfilling Statement 1. The scheme operates a refinance window of 110 SIDBI to enable bank lending, making Statement 2 correct as well. Therefore both statements are correct. ([sprintupsc.com](https://sprintupsc.com/PreviousYearsWeb/upsc-prelims-2016-answer-key.html?utm_source=openai))

Q27. The FAO accords the status of 'Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS)' to traditional agricultural systems. What is the overall goal of this initiative?

1. To provide modern technology, training in modern farming methods and financial support to local communities of identified GIAHS so as to greatly enhance their agricultural productivity.
2. To identify and safeguard eco-friendly traditional farm practices and their associated landscapes, agricultural biodiversity and knowledge systems of the local communities.
3. To provide Geographical Indication status to all the varieties of agricultural produce in such identified GIAHS.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (b)

The FAO's GIAHS initiative aims to identify, support and safeguard traditional, biodiversity-rich farming landscapes and the knowledge systems of their local communities (Statement 2). It is not about supplying modern technology/finance (Statement 1) and has nothing to do with granting GI tags (Statement 3). Hence only Statement 2 is correct.

([[edukemy.com](https://www.edukemy.com/blog/upsc-prelims-2016-question-52/?utm_source=openai)](https://www.edukemy.com/blog/upsc-prelims-2016-question-52/?utm_source=openai))

Q28. Which of the following is/are tributary/tributaries of Brahmaputra?

1. Dibang
2. Kameng
3. Lohit

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (d)

All three rivers listed join the Brahmaputra: Dibang merges near Sadiya, Assam; Kameng (Jia Bharali) meets the Brahmaputra at Tezpur; Lohit joins the Siang to form the mainstream in Assam. Therefore 1, 2 and 3 are true. ([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dibang_River?utm_source=openai))

Q29. The term 'Core Banking Solutions' is sometimes seen in the news. Which of the following statements best describes/describe this term?

1. It is a networking of a bank's branches which enables customers to operate their accounts from any branch of the bank on its network regardless of where they open their accounts.
 2. It is an effort to increase RBI's control over commercial banks through computerization.
 3. It is a detailed procedure by which a bank with huge non-performing assets is taken over by another bank.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 only

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

Answer: (a)

Core Banking Solution (CBS) is the networked, centralized software that lets customers operate their accounts from any branch of the same bank, matching Statement 1. It is unrelated to RBI oversight (Statement 2) or procedures for bank takeovers due to NPAs (Statement 3). Hence only Statement 1 is correct. ([sprintupsc.com](https://sprintupsc.com/PreviousYearsWeb/upsc-prelims-2016-answer-key.html?utm_source=openai))

Q30. Consider the following pairs:

Terms sometimes seen in the news — Their origin

1. Annex-I Countries : Cartagena Protocol
2. Certified Emissions Reductions : Nagoya Protocol
3. Clean Development Mechanism : Kyoto Protocol

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

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

Answer: (c)

'Annex-I countries' and 'Certified Emission Reductions (CERs)' are both terms created under the UNFCCC/Kyoto Protocol, not under the Cartagena or Nagoya Protocols. CERs are the units issued for projects registered under the Clean Development Mechanism, and the CDM itself is one of the three market mechanisms established by the Kyoto Protocol. Therefore only Pair 3 (Clean Development Mechanism : Kyoto Protocol) is correctly matched; Pairs 1 and 2 are incorrect. ([markey.senate.gov](https://www.markey.senate.gov/imo/media/globalwarming/files/COP15/qa.html?utm_source=openai))

Q31. In the context of the developments in Bioinformatics, the term 'transcriptome', sometimes seen in the news, refers to

- (a) a range of enzymes used in genome editing
- (b) the full range of mRNA molecules expressed by an organism**
- (c) the description of the mechanism of gene expression
- (d) a mechanism of genetic mutations taking place in cells

Answer: (b)

The 'transcriptome' is defined as the full complement of messenger-RNA (mRNA) molecules expressed by an organism (or by a specific cell/tissue at a given time). It is not an enzyme set, a mutation mechanism or merely a description of gene-expression processes.

([nature.com](https://www.nature.com/scitable/definition/transcriptome-296/))

Q32. 'Mission Indradhanush' launched by the Government of India pertains to

- (a) immunization of children and pregnant women**
- (b) construction of smart cities across the country
- (c) India's own search for the Earth-like planets in outer space
- (d) New Educational Policy

Answer: (a)

Mission Indradhanush, launched on 25 December 2014, seeks to achieve 90 % full immunisation coverage by vaccinating children up to two years of age and pregnant women against seven vaccine-preventable diseases. It is unrelated to smart cities, planetary exploration or the education policy.

([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mission_Indradhanush?utm_source=openai))

Q33. Which of the following best describes/describe the aim of 'Green India Mission' of the Government of India?

- 1. Incorporating environmental benefits and costs into the Union and State Budgets thereby implementing the 'green accounting'**
- 2. Launching the second green revolution to enhance agricultural output so as to ensure food security to one and all in the future**
- 3. Restoring and enhancing forest cover and responding to climate change by a combination of adaptation and mitigation measures**

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (c)

The Green India Mission (one of the eight NAPCC missions) aims "to protect, restore and enhance India's forest cover and respond to climate change through adaptation and mitigation." It does not deal with green accounting in budgets or launching a second green revolution. Hence only Statement 3 is correct.

([nams.nic.in](https://nams.nic.in/gim/?utm_source=openai))

Q34. With reference to pre-packaged items in India, it is mandatory to the manufacturer to put which of the following information on the main label, as per the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011?

1. List of ingredients including additives

2. Nutrition information

3. Recommendations, if any, made by the medical profession about the possibility of any allergic reactions

4. Vegetarian/non-vegetarian

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 2 and 3

(b) 2, 3 and 4

(c) 1, 2 and 4

(d) 1 and 4 only

Answer: (c)

Under Regulation 2.2.2 of the 2011 rules, every pre-packaged food label must carry (i) a list of ingredients (including additives), (ii) nutritional information per 100 g/100 ml or per serving, and (iii) the green/brown symbol declaring whether the product is vegetarian or non-vegetarian. The regulations actually forbid the use of phrases such as "recommended by the medical profession", so Statement 3 is not a mandatory label declaration. Therefore Items 1, 2 and 4 are required.

([foodsafetyhelpline.com](https://foodsafetyhelpline.com/packaging-labelling-regulations-2011-labelling/))

Q35. 'Project Loon', sometimes seen in the news, is related to

(a) waste management technology

(b) wireless communication technology

(c) solar power production technology

(d) water conservation technology

Answer: (b)

Project Loon is a Google (now Alphabet) initiative that uses high-altitude balloons to create an aerial wireless network, delivering Internet connectivity to remote areas. It is unrelated to waste disposal, solar power generation, or water conservation, so options (a), (c) and (d) are incorrect.

Q36. 'Net metering' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of promoting the

(a) production and use of solar energy by the households/consumers

(b) use of piped natural gas in the kitchens of households

(c) installation of CNG kits in motor-cars

(d) installation of water meters in urban households

Answer: (a)

Under 'net metering', households with rooftop solar panels can feed surplus electricity back into the grid; the meter records the 'net' power consumed and producers receive credits, encouraging domestic solar adoption. The scheme has nothing to do with piped gas, CNG kits, or water meters, eliminating options (b), (c) and (d).

Q37. India's ranking in the 'Ease of Doing Business Index' is sometimes seen in the news. Which of the following has declared that ranking?

- (a) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
- (b) World Economic Forum
- (c) World Bank**
- (d) World Trade Organization (WTO)

Answer: (c)

The Ease of Doing Business Index is compiled and published annually by the World Bank Group. Neither the OECD, World Economic Forum, nor WTO is involved in this specific ranking, making options (a), (b) and (d) incorrect.

Q38. Banjaras during the medieval period of Indian history were generally

- (a) agriculturists
- (b) warriors
- (c) weavers
- (d) traders**

Answer: (d)

Contemporary sources such as Abul Fazl's 'Ain-i-Akbari' describe Banjaras as itinerant traders and transporters of grain, salt and other commodities across Mughal India. They were not principally farmers, warriors, or weavers, so options (a), (b) and (c) are wrong.

Q39. Who of the following had first deciphered the edicts of Emperor Ashoka?

- (a) Georg Bühler
- (b) James Prinsep**
- (c) Max Müller
- (d) William Jones

Answer: (b)

James Prinsep, an officer of the Bengal Mint and scholar-epigrapher, first successfully deciphered the Brahmi script and identified the inscriptions as Emperor Ashoka's edicts in 1837. Georg Bühler, Max Müller and William Jones made important contributions to Indology but did not achieve this particular breakthrough.

Q40. With reference to the 'Gram Nyayalaya Act', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. As per the Act, Gram Nyayalayas can hear only civil cases and not criminal cases.

2. The Act allows local social activists as mediators/reconciliators.

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

Answer: (b)

The Act empowers Gram Nyayalayas to try both civil AND certain criminal matters listed in Schedules I & II, so Statement 1 is wrong. It specifically permits appointment of local social activists or lawyers as conciliators/mediators to encourage settlement, so Statement 2 is correct. Hence option (b) 2 only.

([clearias.com](https://www.clearias.com/gram-nyayalayas/?utm_source=openai))

Q41. With reference to the 'Trans-Pacific Partnership', consider the following statements:

1. It is an agreement among all the Pacific Rim countries except China and Russia.

2. It is a strategic alliance for the purpose of maritime security only.

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

Answer: (d)

TPP was a proposed trade liberalisation pact among 12 Pacific-rim economies (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Vietnam and the USA). It did not include every Pacific-rim country, and several rim states such as China, Russia, South Korea, Indonesia etc. were outside it, so Statement 1 is incorrect. It was an economic/trade agreement, not a maritime-security alliance, so Statement 2 is also incorrect. Therefore, neither statement is correct (option d). ([vajiramandravi.com](https://vajiramandravi.com/upsc-exam/with-reference-to-the-trans-pacific-partnership-consider-the-following-statements/?utm_source=openai))

Q42. Consider the following statements:

The India-Africa Summit

1. held in 2015 was the third such Summit
2. was actually initiated by Jawaharlal Nehru in 1951

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

Answer: (a)

The Third India–Africa Forum Summit (IAFS-III) was held in New Delhi on 26-30 October 2015, making 2015 the third summit; thus Statement 1 is correct. The IAFS process began only in 2008, not in 1951; Nehru's Afro-Asian outreach was informal and not this summit series, so Statement 2 is incorrect. Hence option (a) 1 only. ([vajiramandravi.com](https://vajiramandravi.com/upsc-exam/consider-the-following-statements-the-india-africa-summit/?utm_source=openai))

Q43. What is/are the purpose/purposes of the 'Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate (MCLR)' announced by RBI?

1. These guidelines help improve the transparency in the methodology followed by banks for determining the interest rates on advances.
2. These guidelines help ensure availability of bank credit at interest rates which are fair to the borrowers as well as the banks.

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

Answer: (c)

RBI's 2016 MCLR framework aimed (1) to make banks' loan-pricing methodology transparent and policy-rate sensitive, and (2) to ensure credit is extended at rates fair to both borrowers and banks by linking lending rates to the marginal cost of funds. Both stated purposes are part of RBI's guidelines; hence both statements are correct and option (c) is the answer. ([testbook.com](https://testbook.com/question-answer/questions--5f44d15fd506c00d14ffa7d7?utm_source=openai))

Q44. What is/are unique about 'Kharai camel', a breed found in India?

1. It is capable of swimming up to three kilometres in seawater.
2. It survives by grazing on mangroves.
3. It lives in the wild and cannot be domesticated.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (a)

The Kharai ('swimming') camel of coastal Kutch, Gujarat, can swim up to about 3 km in seawater to reach offshore mangrove islands and feeds mainly on mangrove vegetation; so Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The breed is traditionally owned and herded by Rabari and Jat pastoralists and is fully domesticated, not wild; therefore Statement 3 is incorrect. Thus option (a) 1 and 2 only.

([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kharai_camel?utm_source=openai))

Q45. Recently, our scientists have discovered a new and distinct species of banana plant which attains a height of about 11 metres and has orange-coloured fruit pulp. In which part of India has it been discovered?

- (a) Andaman Islands
- (b) Anaimalai Forests
- (c) Maikal Hills
- (d) Tropical rain forests of northeast

Answer: (a)

Botanical Survey of India scientists reported a new banana species, *Musa indandamanensis*, in the Little Andaman rainforest; it grows about 11 m tall and has an orange-coloured pulp, confirming that the discovery was in the Andaman Islands. Options referring to Anaimalai, Maikal or Northeast forests therefore do not match the published location. ([civildaily.com](https://www.civildaily.com/news/worlds-longest-banana-infructescence-found-in-andaman/?utm_source=openai))

Q46. Which one of the following is the best description of 'INS Astradharini', that was in the news recently?

- (a) Amphibious warfare ship
- (b) Nuclear-powered submarine
- (c) Torpedo launch and recovery vessel
- (d) Nuclear-powered aircraft carrier

Answer: (c)

INS Astradharini, commissioned in October 2015, is an indigenously-built Torpedo Launch and Recovery Vessel (TLRV) used for trials of underwater weapons. It is neither an amphibious warship, submarine, nor aircraft-carrier, making option (c) correct.

([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/INS_Astradharini?utm_source=openai))

Q47. What is 'Greased Lightning-10 (GL-10)', recently in the news?

- (a) Electric plane tested by NASA**
- (b) Solar-powered two-seater aircraft designed by Japan
- (c) Space observatory launched by China
- (d) Reusable rocket designed by ISRO

Answer: (a)

Greased Lightning-10 (GL-10) is a NASA Langley hybrid-electric tilt-wing UAV/plane with ten electric propellers, flight-tested in 2014-15; it is not connected with Japan, China, or ISRO rockets. Hence it is best described as an electric plane tested by NASA.

([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NASA_GL-10_Greased_Lightning?utm_source=openai))

Q48. With reference to 'Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. This initiative aims to demonstrate the improved production and post-harvest technologies, and to demonstrate value addition techniques, in an integrated manner, with cluster approach.
 2. Poor, small, marginal and tribal farmers have larger stake in this scheme.
 3. An important objective of the scheme is to encourage farmers of commercial crops to shift to millet cultivation by offering them free kits of critical inputs of nutrients and micro-irrigation equipment.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

The Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion (INSIMP) demonstrates improved production, post-harvest and value-addition technologies in cluster mode (statement 1) and focuses on poor, small, marginal and tribal farmers (statement 2). It does not aim to shift commercial-crop farmers to millets via free nutrient or micro-irrigation kits, so statement 3 is incorrect; therefore only 1 and 2 are right. ([drishtiiias.com](https://www.drishtiiias.com/current-affairs-news-analysis-editorials/news-editorials/01-02-2023/print?utm_source=openai))

Q49. The 'Swadeshi' and 'Boycott' were adopted as methods of struggle for the first time during the

- (a) agitation against the Partition of Bengal**
- (b) Home Rule Movement
- (c) Non-Cooperation Movement
- (d) visit of the Simon Commission to India

Answer: (a)

Swadeshi and Boycott were formally adopted on 7 August 1905 in Calcutta as part of the agitation against Lord Curzon's partition of Bengal; these methods were not first used during later movements such as Home Rule, Non-Cooperation or the Simon Commission protests.

([britannica.com](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Swadeshi-Movement?utm_source=openai))

Q50. With reference to the religious history of India, consider the following statements:

- 1. The concept of Bodhisattva is central to Hinayana sect of Buddhism.**
- 2. Bodhisattva is a compassionate one on his way to enlightenment.**
- 3. Bodhisattva delays achieving his own salvation to help all sentient beings on their path to it.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

The Bodhisattva ideal—an enlightened being who postpones entry into nirvana out of compassion to help other beings—is the hallmark of Mahayana Buddhism, not the Hinayana/Theravada tradition; hence statement 1 is wrong. Statements 2 and 3 correctly describe a Bodhisattva as compassionate and deliberately delaying personal salvation for the sake of all sentient beings.

([britannica.com](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Buddhism/Mahayana?utm_source=openai))

Q51. 'Doctors Without Borders (Medecins Sans Frontieres)', often in the news, is

- (a) a division of World Health Organization
- (b) a non-governmental international organization**
- (c) an inter-governmental agency sponsored by European Union
- (d) a specialized agency of the United Nations

Answer: (b)

'Doctors Without Borders' (Médecins Sans Frontières, MSF) is an independent, non-governmental international humanitarian organization founded in 1971 that provides emergency medical aid worldwide; it is neither a UN body nor part of WHO or the EU.

([britannica.com](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Doctors-Without-Borders?utm_source=openai))

Q52. With reference to an initiative called 'The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. It is an initiative hosted by UNEP, IMF and World Economic Forum.**
- 2. It is a global initiative that focuses on drawing attention to the economic benefits of biodiversity.**
- 3. It presents an approach that can help decision-makers recognize, demonstrate and capture the value of ecosystems and biodiversity.**

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (c)

TEEB is a UNEP-hosted global initiative that seeks to make 'nature's values visible' by highlighting the economic benefits of biodiversity and offering a framework for decision-makers to recognise, demonstrate and capture those values; it is not hosted by the IMF or World Economic Forum. Thus statements 2 and 3 are correct and statement 1 is incorrect. ([unep.org](https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/green-economy/wh-at-we-do/economics-ecosystems-and-biodiversity?utm_source=openai))

Q53. With reference to 'Red Sanders', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is a tree species found in a part of South India.
2. It is one of the most important trees in the tropical rain forest areas of South 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

Answer: (a)

Red Sanders (*Pterocarpus santalinus*) is endemic to the dry deciduous forests of the southern Eastern Ghats in South India, principally Andhra Pradesh; it is not a characteristic species of tropical rain-forest areas. Hence only statement 1 is correct. ([gokulamseekias.com](https://gokulamseekias.com/prelims-c-a/e-environment/protected-sites/sri-lankamalleswara-sanctuary-red-sanders/?utm_source=openai))

Q54. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

Proper design and effective implementation of UN-REDD+ Programme can significantly contribute to

1. protection of biodiversity
2. resilience of forest ecosystems
3. poverty reduction

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (d)

REDD+ promotes the conservation and sustainable management of forests, which safeguards biodiversity, enhances ecosystem resilience, and, through livelihood incentives and job creation for forest-dependent communities, contributes to poverty reduction. All three listed benefits therefore apply. ([unep.org](https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/climate-action/what-we-do/redd?utm_source=openai))

Q55. What is 'Greenhouse Gas Protocol'?

- (a) It is an international accounting tool for government and business leaders to understand, quantify and manage greenhouse gas emissions.
- (b) It is an initiative of the United Nations to offer financial incentives to developing countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adopt eco-friendly technologies.
- (c) It is an inter-governmental agreement ratified by all the member countries of the United Nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to specified levels by the year 2022.
- (d) It is one of the multilateral REDD+ initiatives hosted by the World Bank.

Answer: (a)

The Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol is a widely-used international accounting framework that helps governments and businesses measure, report and manage their greenhouse-gas emissions, not a UN-funded incentive, treaty or REDD+ project. ([ifac.org](https://www.ifac.org/content/greenhouse-gas-ghg-protocol?utm_source=openai))

Q56. With reference to 'Financial Stability and Development Council', consider the following statements:

1. It is an organ of NITI Aayog.
2. It is headed by the Union Finance Minister.
3. It monitors macroprudential supervision of the economy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

FSDC is a council created under the Ministry of Finance (not NITI Aayog), is chaired by the Union Finance Minister, and its mandate explicitly includes macro-prudential supervision of the economy. Hence only statements 2 and 3 are correct. ([manoramayearbook.in](https://www.manoramayearbook.in/current-affairs/india/2024/02/23/role-of-fsdc-upsc-explained.html?utm_source=openai))

Q57. With reference to 'Agenda 21', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is a global action plan for sustainable development.
2. It originated in the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002.

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

Answer: (a)

Agenda 21 is a comprehensive, non-binding global action plan for sustainable development adopted at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro; it did not originate at the 2002 Johannesburg summit, which merely reaffirmed it. Therefore only statement 1 is correct.

([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agenda_21?utm_source=openai))

Q58. Satya Shodhak Samaj organized

- (a) a movement for upliftment of tribals in Bihar
- (b) a temple-entry movement in Gujarat
- (c) an anti-caste movement in Maharashtra**
- (d) a peasant movement in Punjab

Answer: (c)

Satya Shodhak Samaj, founded by Jyotirao Phule in 1873 in Maharashtra, campaigned against caste discrimination and for the upliftment of Shudras and Dalits—hence it was an anti-caste movement in Maharashtra, not a tribal, temple-entry or peasant movement elsewhere.

([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satyashodhak_Samaj?utm_source=openai))

Q59. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

Viruses can infect

1. bacteria
2. fungi
3. plants

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (d)

Viruses infect a wide variety of organisms: bacteriophages infect bacteria, mycoviruses infect fungi, and numerous plant viruses (e.g., tobacco mosaic virus) infect plants. Thus all three groups—bacteria, fungi and plants—can be hosts, making statements 1, 2 and 3 correct.

([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bacteriophage?utm_source=openai))

Q60. The term 'Base Erosion and Profit Shifting' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of

- (a) mining operation by multinational companies in resource-rich but backward areas
(b) curbing of the tax evasion by multinational companies
(c) exploitation of genetic resources of a country by multinational companies
(d) lack of consideration of environmental costs in the planning and implementation of developmental projects

Answer: (b)

Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) refers to strategies by multinational enterprises to shift profits to low-tax jurisdictions, thereby eroding the tax base of higher-tax countries; global talks under the OECD/G-20 BEPS Project aim to curb such tax evasion. Options (a), (c) and (d) have no relation to BEPS, which is purely a corporate tax-avoidance issue. ([oecd.org](https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/?utm_source=openai))

Q61. Recently, India's first 'National Investment and Manufacturing Zone' was proposed to be set up in

- (a) Andhra Pradesh**
(b) Gujarat
(c) Maharashtra
(d) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: (a)

The first National Investment and Manufacturing Zone (NIMZ) approved under the National Manufacturing Policy was proposed at Pamuru in Prakasam district, Andhra Pradesh. The other states listed had only in-principle or later NIMZ proposals, making Andhra Pradesh the correct choice. ([timesofindia.indiatimes.com](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/vijayawada/nimz-to-come-up-at-pamuru/articleshow/53074583.cms?utm_source=openai))

Q62. What is/are the purpose/purposes of 'District Mineral Foundations' in India?

1. Promoting mineral exploration activities in mineral-rich districts
2. Protecting the interests of the persons affected by mining operations
3. Authorizing State Governments to issue licences for mineral exploration

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (b)

Under the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015, each State must set up a District Mineral Foundation "for the benefit of persons and areas affected by mining related operations"; it neither promotes the National Mineral Exploration Trust) nor authorises States to issue exploration licences. Hence only statement 2 is correct. ([prsindia.org](https://prsindia.org/billtrack/the-mines-and-minerals-development-and-regulation-amendment-ordinance-2015?utm_source=openai))

Q63. 'SWAYAM', an initiative of the Government of India, aims at

- (a) promoting the Self Help Groups in rural areas
- (b) providing financial and technical assistance to young start-up entrepreneurs
- (c) promoting the education and health of adolescent girls
- (d) providing affordable and quality education to the citizens for free**

Answer: (d)

SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active-learning for Young Aspiring Minds) is the Government of India's Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platform that hosts interactive courses from Class 9 to post-graduation, available free of cost to any learner to provide affordable, quality education. It is not related to SHGs, start-ups, or adolescent-girl schemes. ([swayam.gov.in](https://swayam.gov.in/faq?utm_source=openai))

Q64. The Montagu-Chelmsford Proposals were related to

- (a) social reforms
- (b) educational reforms
- (c) reforms in police administration
- (d) constitutional reforms**

Answer: (d)

The Montagu-Chelmsford Report of 1918 outlined constitutional reforms—introducing dyarchy in provinces and greater Indian participation—which became the basis of the Government of India Act, 1919. It was unrelated to social, educational or police reforms. ([britannica.com](https://www.britannica.com/event/Montagu-Chelmsford-Report?utm_source=openai))

Q65. What is/are common to the two historical places known as Ajanta and Mahabalipuram?

1. Both were built in the same period.
2. Both belong to the same religious denomination.
3. Both have rock-cut monuments.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only**
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) None of the statements given above is correct

Answer: (b)

Ajanta caves (2nd century BCE–6th century CE, Buddhist) and Mahabalipuram monuments (7th–8th century CE, Pallava-era Hindu) were built in different periods and for different faiths, but both sites consist of rock-cut monuments; hence only Statement 3 is correct.

Q66. With reference to 'Bitcoins', sometimes seen in the news, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Bitcoins are tracked by the Central Banks of the countries.
2. Anyone with a Bitcoin address can send and receive Bitcoins from anyone else with a Bitcoin address.
3. Online payments can be sent without either side knowing the identity of the other.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (b)

Bitcoin is a decentralised peer-to-peer system, so central banks do not track or control it (Statement 1 false). Any user with a Bitcoin address can send/receive coins to another address (Statement 2 true). Transactions are pseudonymous, allowing online payments without either party necessarily knowing the other's real-world identity (Statement 3 true). Therefore only Statements 2 & 3 are correct.

Q67. Consider the following statements:

1. New Development Bank has been set up by APEC.
2. The headquarters of New Development Bank is in Shanghai.

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

Answer: (b)

The New Development Bank was created by the BRICS nations, not APEC, in 2014; its permanent headquarters is in Shanghai, China. Hence Statement 1 is incorrect while Statement 2 is correct.

Q68. 'Gadgil Committee Report' and 'Kasturirangan Committee Report', sometimes seen in the news, are related to

- (a) constitutional reforms
- (b) Ganga Action Plan
- (c) linking of rivers
- (d) protection of Western Ghats**

Answer: (d)

Both the Gadgil (2011) Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel and the Kasturirangan (2013) High-Level Working Group reports deal with designating and protecting ecologically sensitive zones in the Western Ghats mountain range. They are unrelated to constitutional reforms, river-linking, or the Ganga Action Plan.

Q69. Consider the following:

1. Calcutta Unitarian Committee
2. Tabernacle of New Dispensation
3. Indian Reform Association

Keshab Chandra Sen is associated with the establishment of which of the above?

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

Answer: (b)

Keshab Chandra Sen founded the Tabernacle (or Church) of the New Dispensation in 1868 and the Indian Reform Association in 1870. The Calcutta Unitarian Committee (also called the Calcutta Unitarian Society) was formed earlier (1821) by Rammohun Roy, William Adam and others, not by Sen. Therefore only items 2 and 3 are associated with him.

Q70. Which of the following is not a member of 'Gulf Cooperation Council'?

- (a) Iran**
- (b) Saudi Arabia
- (c) Oman
- (d) Kuwait

Answer: (a)

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has six members—Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Iran is not a member, so option (a) is the one that is NOT part of the GCC. ([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf_Cooperation_Council?utm_source=openai))

Q71. What is/are the purpose/purposes of Government's 'Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme' and 'Gold Monetization Scheme'?

1. To bring the idle gold lying with Indian households into the economy
2. To promote FDI in the gold and jewellery sector
3. To reduce India's dependence on gold imports

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (c)

Both schemes aim to mobilize idle gold held by households (statement 1) and thereby cut India's heavy reliance on fresh gold imports (statement 3). They are not designed to attract foreign direct investment into the jewellery sector, so statement 2 is incorrect. Hence only 1 and 3 are correct. ([compass.rauias.com](https://compass.rauias.com/quiz/what-is-are-the-purpose-purposes-of-governments-sovereign-gold-bond-scheme-and-gold-monetization-scheme/?utm_source=openai))

Q72. 'Belt and Road Initiative' is sometimes mentioned in the news in the context of the affairs of

- (a) African Union
- (b) Brazil
- (c) European Union
- (d) China**

Answer: (d)

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), also called One Belt One Road, is China's global infrastructure and connectivity strategy launched in 2013; therefore the initiative is associated with China. ([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belt_and_Road_Initiative?utm_source=openai))

Q73. Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana is aimed at

- (a) bringing the small entrepreneurs into formal financial system**
- (b) providing loans to poor farmers for cultivating particular crops
- (c) providing pensions to old and destitute persons
- (d) funding the voluntary organizations involved in the promotion of skill development and employment generation

Answer: (a)

Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana refinances collateral-free micro-loans to the non-corporate small business sector, with the objective of 'funding the unfunded' and bringing tiny entrepreneurs into the formal financial/credit system. It is not a crop-loan, pension, or NGO-funding scheme. ([theindianwire.com](https://www.theindianwire.com/politics/pradhan-mantri-mudra-yojana-213727/?utm_source=openai))

Q74. In which of the following regions of India are shale gas resources found?

1. Cambay Basin
2. Cauvery Basin
3. Krishna-Godavari Basin

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (d)

Studies of India's prospective shale reserves by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas list Cambay, Cauvery and Krishna-Godavari among the sedimentary basins with shale-gas potential, so all three statements are correct. ([vajiramandravi.com](https://vajiramandravi.com/upsc-exam/in-which-of-the-followin-g-regions-of-india-are-shale-gas-resources-found/?utm_source=openai))

Q75. 'Global Financial Stability Report' is prepared by the

- (a) European Central Bank
- (b) International Monetary Fund**
- (c) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- (d) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

Answer: (b)

The Global Financial Stability Report is a semi-annual publication of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that reviews risks to the world financial system and suggests policy responses. It is not issued by the European Central Bank, the World Bank (IBRD) or the OECD. ([imf.org](https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/GFSR/Issues/2025/04/22/global-financial-stability-report-april-2025?utm_source=openai))

Q76. Regarding 'Atal Pension Yojana', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a minimum guaranteed pension scheme mainly targeted at unorganized sector workers.
2. Only one member of a family can join the scheme.
3. Same amount of pension is guaranteed for the spouse for life after subscriber's death.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (c)

APY is a Government-backed, minimum-guaranteed pension scheme meant primarily for workers in the unorganised sector (statement 1 correct). Any eligible individual can open an account, so there is no restriction that only one member per family may join (statement 2 incorrect). After the subscriber's death, the spouse is entitled to receive the same guaranteed pension for life (statement 3 correct). Hence statements 1 and 3 only are correct. ([pfrda.org.in](https://www.pfrda.org.in/web/pfrda/w/faqs/atal-pension-yojana?utm_source=openai))

Q77. The term 'Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership' often appears in the news in the context of the affairs of a group of countries known as

- (a) G20
- (b) ASEAN**
- (c) SCO
- (d) SAARC

Answer: (b)

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is an ASEAN-led free-trade arrangement that originally involved the 10 ASEAN states and six FTA partners (Australia, China, India*, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea). Therefore it is associated with ASEAN, not the G-20, SCO or SAARC. ([fta.miti.gov.my](https://fta.miti.gov.my/index.php/pages/view/64?utm_source=openai))

Q78. On which of the following can you find the Bureau of Energy Efficiency Star Label?

1. Ceiling fans
2. Electric geysers
3. Tubular fluorescent lamps

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (d)

Under the Bureau of Energy Efficiency's Standards & Labelling (S&L) programme, star labels are in force (mandatory or voluntary) for ceiling fans, stationary storage-type electric water heaters (electric geysers) and tubular fluorescent lamps. Hence all the three items listed carry the BEE star label. ([udit.beeindia.gov.in](https://udit.beeindia.gov.in/bee-html-new-master/standard-and-Labeling.php?utm_source=openai))

Q79. India is an important member of the 'International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor'. If this experiment succeeds, what is the immediate advantage for India?

- (a) It can use thorium in place of uranium for power generation.
- (b) It can attain a global role in satellite navigation.
- (c) It can drastically improve the efficiency of its fission reactors in power generation.
- (d) It can build fusion reactors for power generation.**

Answer: (d)

ITER is an international experiment to demonstrate the technical feasibility of controlled thermonuclear fusion. Success would immediately give member-countries, including India, the know-how to construct and operate fusion reactors for power generation. It is unrelated to thorium-based fission, satellite navigation, or improving existing fission reactors. ([testbook.com](https://testbook.com/question-answer/india-is-an-important-member-of-the-internati--5f451bf196179e313226df04?utm_source=openai))

Q80. In the context of the history of India, consider the following pairs:

Term — Description

1. Eripatti : Land, revenue from which was set apart for the maintenance of the village tank
2. Taniyurs : Villages donated to a single Brahmin or a group of Brahmins
3. Ghatikas : Colleges generally attached to the temples

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

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

Answer: (d)

Eripatti were 'tank lands'—plots whose revenue was earmarked for maintaining the village irrigation tank, so pair 1 is correct. Ghatikas were small collegiate centres of higher learning, usually attached to South-Indian temples, so pair 3 is correct. Taniyurs were large revenue units in the Chola realm, not Brahmin-grant villages (those were called Brahmadeya), so pair 2 is incorrect. Hence only pairs 1 and 3 match. ([testbook.com](https://testbook.com/question-answer/in-the-context-of-the-history-of-india-consider-t-5f451d3496179e2366e315dd?utm_source=openai))

Q81. Consider the following statements:

1. The International Solar Alliance was launched at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2015.
2. The Alliance includes all the member countries of the United Nations.

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

Answer: (a)

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) was jointly launched by India and France on 30 November 2015 during COP-21 (the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference) in Paris, so statement 1 is correct. Membership is OPEN to all UN member states, but only about 120 have signed/ratified so far, so the Alliance does not automatically include every UN country; statement 2 is incorrect. Therefore only statement 1 is correct. ([isolaralliance.org](https://isolaralliance.org/media/press-release?utm_source=openai))

Q82. 'European Stability Mechanism', sometimes seen in the news, is an

- (a) agency created by EU to deal with the impact of millions of refugees arriving from Middle East
- (b) agency of EU that provides financial assistance to eurozone countries**
- (c) agency of EU to deal with all the bilateral and multilateral agreements on trade
- (d) agency of EU to deal with the conflicts arising among the member countries

Answer: (b)

The European Stability Mechanism (ESM), created in 2012, is the permanent euro-area 'rescue fund' that provides financial assistance (loans, credit lines, bank-recapitalisation support) to member countries of the eurozone facing, or threatened by, severe financing problems. It is not concerned with refugees, trade, or dispute resolution. Hence option (b) is correct.

([esm.europa.eu](https://www.esm.europa.eu/about-us/what-we-do?utm_source=openai))

Q83. Which of the following is/are the advantage/advantages of practising drip irrigation?

1. Reduction in weed
2. Reduction in soil salinity
3. Reduction in soil erosion

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only**
- (d) None of the above is an advantage of practising drip irrigation

Answer: (c)

Drip irrigation supplies water only at the plant root zone; the drier inter-row area suppresses weed growth (statement 1) and the low-velocity, point-source application minimises surface runoff, thereby reducing soil erosion (statement 3). Drip does not inherently lower existing salt levels in soil; without leaching it can even lead to salt accumulation, so statement 2 is not a consistent advantage. Thus statements 1 and 3 only are correct. ([jcanabisresearch.biomedcentral.com](https://jcanabisresearch.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s42238-025-00302-x?utm_source=openai))

Q84. Regarding 'DigiLocker', sometimes seen in the news, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a digital locker system offered by the Government under Digital India Programme.
2. It allows you to access your e-documents irrespective of your physical location.

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

Answer: (c)

DigiLocker is a flagship e-governance service of the Ministry of Electronics & IT launched under the Digital India programme, providing citizens with a secure cloud 'digital locker' (statement 1). Because the documents are stored online and accessible through web or mobile apps, users can retrieve their e-documents anytime from any location (statement 2). Hence both statements are correct. ([dic.gov.in](https://dic.gov.in/digilocker/?utm_source=openai))

Q85. Recently, linking of which of the following rivers was undertaken?

- (a) Cauvery and Tungabhadra
- (b) Godavari and Krishna**
- (c) Mahanadi and Sone
- (d) Narmada and Tapi

Answer: (b)

In March 2016, the Pattiseema Lift Irrigation Scheme physically linked the Godavari and Krishna rivers, becoming India's first completed river-interlinking project; no comparable linkage had been undertaken for the other river pairs listed.

([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pattiseema_Lift_Irrigation_Project?utm_source=openai))

Q86. In the cities of our country, which among the following atmospheric gases are normally considered in calculating the value of Air Quality Index?

1. Carbon dioxide
2. Carbon monoxide
3. Nitrogen dioxide
4. Sulfur dioxide
5. Methane

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (b)

The National Air Quality Index is calculated for eight pollutants that include carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) but do NOT include carbon dioxide (CO₂) or methane (CH₄). Hence only statements 2, 3 and 4 apply. ([vajiramandravi.com](https://vajiramandravi.com/upsc-exam/in-the-cities-of-our-country-which-among-the-following-atmospheric-gases-are-normally-considered-in-calculating-the-value-of-air-quality-index/?utm_source=openai))

Q87. With reference to 'Astrosat', the astronomical observatory launched by India, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Other than USA and Russia, India is the only country to have launched a similar observatory into space.
2. Astrosat is a 2000 kg satellite placed in an orbit at 1650 km above the surface of the Earth.

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

Answer: (d)

1) Similar space-based astronomy observatories have been launched by agencies other than the USA and Russia—for example ESA's XMM-Newton—so India is not the only other country. 2) Astrosat's launch mass was about 1513 kg and it was injected into a 650 km near-equatorial orbit, not 2000 kg at 1650 km. Both statements are therefore incorrect. ([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/XMM-Newton?utm_source=openai))

Q88. With reference to the economic history of medieval India, the term 'Araghata' refers to

- (a) bonded labour
- (b) land grants made to military officers
- (c) waterwheel used in the irrigation of land**
- (d) wasteland converted to cultivated land

Answer: (c)

In medieval Indian agrarian texts the Sanskrit term 'Araghamma' (later 'Araghata') denoted a wheel-type water-lifting device used to irrigate fields; it is not related to labour, land grants or land reclamation. ([cseplus.in](https://www.cseplus.in/medieval-indian-history/araghatta-irrigation-device/?utm_source=openai))

Q89. With reference to the cultural history of India, the memorizing of chronicles, dynastic histories and epic tales was the profession of who of the following?

- (a) Shramana
- (b) Parivraajaka
- (c) Agrahaarika
- (d) Maagadh**

Answer: (d)

The Maagadhas (along with Sutas) were professional bards whose hereditary role was to memorise and recite royal genealogies, dynastic chronicles and epic narratives. Shramana and Parivraajaka were ascetic wanderers, and Agrahaarika referred to managers of land grants, not court storytellers. ([vajiramandravi.com](https://vajiramandravi.com/upsc-exam/with-reference-to-the-cultural-history-of-india-the-memorizing-of-chronicles-dynastic-histories-and-epic-tales-was-the-profession-of-who-of-the-following/?utm_source=openai))

Q90. Recently, for the first time in our country, which of the following States has declared a particular butterfly as 'State Butterfly'?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Himachal Pradesh
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Maharashtra**

Answer: (d)

In June 2015 Maharashtra declared the Blue Mormon (*Papilio polymnestor*) as its 'State Butterfly', becoming the first Indian State to accord such status to a butterfly. The other listed States had not made any such declaration, so option (d) is correct. ([indianexpress.com](https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/blue-mormon-declared-state-butterfly/lite/?utm_source=openai))

Q91. Consider the following statements:

The Mangalyaan launched by ISRO

1. is also called the Mars Orbiter Mission

2. made India the second country to have a spacecraft orbit the Mars after USA

3. made India the only country to be successful in making its spacecraft orbit the Mars in its very first attempt

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (c)

The Mars Orbiter Mission is popularly called 'Mangalyaan', so statement 1 is correct. Before India, the USSR and the European Space Agency (Mars Express) as well as the USA had already placed orbiters around Mars, therefore India was not the second country—statement 2 is incorrect. India did, however, become the first nation to succeed in putting a probe into Mars orbit on its maiden attempt, making statement 3 correct. Hence only 1 and 3 are true (option c). ([time.com](https://time.com/3423985/india-mar-s-orbiter-mission-mangalyaan-mom-modi-indian-space-research-organization-isro/?utm_source=openai))

Q92. What was the main reason for the split in the Indian National Congress at Surat in 1907?

(a) Introduction of communalism into Indian politics by Lord Minto

(b) Extremists' lack of faith in the capacity of the moderates to negotiate with the British Government

(c) Foundation of Muslim League

(d) Aurobindo Ghosh's inability to be elected as the President of the Indian National Congress

Answer: (b)

At the Surat session the Extremists broke away because they no longer trusted the Moderates' constitutional, petition-based methods and doubted their ability to win concessions from the British Government; this ideological rift was the main cause of the split, not communal policies, the Muslim League's creation, or Aurobindo's presidency. Therefore option (b) is correct. ([vajiramandravi.com](https://vajiramandravi.com/upsc-exam/what-was-the-main-reason-for-the-split-in-the-indian-national-congress-at-sur-at-in-1907/?utm_source=openai))

Q93. The plan of Sir Stafford Cripps envisaged that after the Second World War

(a) India should be granted complete independence

(b) India should be partitioned into two before granting independence

(c) India should be made a republic with the condition that she will join the Commonwealth

(d) India should be given Dominion status

Answer: (d)

Sir Stafford Cripps's Draft Declaration (March 1942) promised that after World War II an Indian Union would be granted Dominion status within the Commonwealth, with a constituent assembly framing its constitution; it did not guarantee immediate independence, partition, or a republic. Thus option (d) is correct. ([iasexpress.net](https://www.iasexpress.net/submodules/9-17-cripps-mission/?utm_source=openai))

Q94. Consider the following pairs:

Famous place : Region

1. Bodhgaya : Baghelkhand
2. Khajuraho : Bundelkhand
3. Shirdi : Vidarbha
4. Nasik (Nashik) : Malwa
5. Tirupati : Rayalaseema

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (c)

Khajuraho is situated in the Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh, and Tirupati is a major city of the Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh, so pairs 2 and 5 are correctly matched. Bodhgaya belongs to the Magadh region of Bihar (not Baghelkhand); Shirdi is in Ahmednagar district of western Maharashtra (not Vidarbha); Nashik is in northern/western Maharashtra (not the Malwa plateau). Therefore only pairs 2 and 5 are correct (option c). ([britannica.com](https://www.britannica.com/place/Khajuraho?utm_source=openai))

Q95. The Parliament of India acquires the power to legislate on any item in the State List in the national interest if a resolution to that effect is passed by the

- (a) Lok Sabha by a simple majority of its total membership
- (b) Lok Sabha by a majority of not less than two-thirds of its total membership
- (c) Rajya Sabha by a simple majority of its total membership
- (d) Rajya Sabha by a majority of not less than two-thirds of its members present and voting**

Answer: (d)

Under Article 249 of the Constitution, Parliament may legislate on a State-List matter only if the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) passes a resolution supported by not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting that it is necessary in the national interest. Options (a), (b) and (c) involve the Lok Sabha or a simple majority and therefore do not satisfy the constitutional requirement. ([constitutionofindia.net](https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-249-power-of-parliament-to-legislate-with-respect-to-a-matter-in-the-state-list-in-the-national-interest/?utm_source=openai))

Q96. Recently, which of the following States has explored the possibility of constructing an artificial inland port to be connected to sea by a long navigational channel?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Chhattisgarh
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Rajasthan**

Answer: (d)

The Government of Rajasthan explored building an artificial inland port at Jalore that would connect to the Arabian Sea via a 300-m-wide, 25-m-deep navigational channel through Gujarat and the Rann of Kutch. No such proposal was reported from Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh or Karnataka. ([studyadda.com](https://www.studyadda.com/solved-papers/solved-paper-general-studies-2016_q44/776/355976?utm_source=openai))

Q97. With reference to the Agreement at the UNFCCC Meeting in Paris in 2015, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Agreement was signed by all the member countries of the UN and it will go into effect in 2017.
 2. The Agreement aims to limit the greenhouse gas emissions so that the rise in average global temperature by the end of this century does not exceed 2°C or even 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.
 3. Developed countries acknowledged their historical responsibility in global warming and committed to donate \$1000 billion a year from 2020 to help developing countries to cope with climate change.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: (b)

Statement 2 is correct: the Paris Agreement seeks to keep the rise in global mean temperature well below 2 °C and to pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels. Statement 1 is wrong because the Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016 (after 55 countries with 55 % of emissions ratified it), not in 2017, and not all UN members had signed on the adoption day. Statement 3 is wrong because developed countries reiterated the Copenhagen pledge to mobilise USD 100 billion—not USD 1000 billion—per year for developing nations from 2020 to 2025. ([theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/nov/04/paris-climate-change-agreement-enters-into-force?utm_source=openai))

Q98. Consider the following statements:

1. The Sustainable Development Goals were first proposed in 1972 by a global think tank called the 'Club of Rome'.
 2. The Sustainable Development Goals have to be achieved by 2030.
- 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

Answer: (b)

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals were adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2015 and form part of the 2030 Agenda, so they are to be achieved by 2030. They were not proposed in 1972 by the Club of Rome; that organisation published 'The Limits to Growth' in 1972, unrelated to the SDGs. Hence only statement 2 is correct. ([drishtiias.com](https://www.drishtiias.com/current-affairs-news-analysis-editorials/news-analysis/06-12-2022/1000?utm_source=openai))

Q99. A recent movie titled The Man Who Knew Infinity is based on the biography of

- (a) S. Ramanujan
- (b) S. Chandrasekhar
- (c) S. N. Bose
- (d) C. V. Raman

Answer: (a)

'The Man Who Knew Infinity' (2015) is a biographical drama about Indian mathematical genius Srinivasa Ramanujan, based on Robert Kanigel's 1991 biography of the same name. It is not about astrophysicist Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar, physicist S. N. Bose, or Nobel-laureate physicist C. V. Raman.
([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Man_Who_Knew_Infinity?utm_source=openai))(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Man_Who_Knew_Infinity?utm_source=openai)

Q100. Consider the following statements:

1. The minimum age prescribed for any person to be a member of a Panchayat is 25 years.
 2. A Panchayat reconstituted after premature dissolution continues only for the remainder period.
- 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

Answer: (b)

Article 243F allows a person who has attained 21 years to contest Panchayat elections, so Statement 1 (minimum age 25) is wrong. Article 243E(3)(b) says that if a Panchayat is re-constituted after premature dissolution it holds office only for the remainder of the original 5-year term, so Statement 2 is correct. Hence only Statement 2 is right.
([tnsfc.tn.gov.in](https://www.tnsfc.tn.gov.in/constitutional_provision?utm_source=openai))(https://www.tnsfc.tn.gov.in/constitutional_provision?utm_source=openai)