Our Performance (with Screen Shot) UPSC General Studies Prelims Paper –I

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GENERAL STUDIES

Paper -I

Time Given: 2Hrs

Maximum Marks: 200

Ques. No.	Question	Correct Answer	Located in crackIAS notes at		
			Set No.	Topic	Page No.
1.	**Consider the following events:** 1. The first democratically elected communist party government formed in a State in India. 2. India's then largest bank, 'Imperial Bank of India', was renamed 'State Bank of India'. 3. Air India was nationalized and became the national carrier. 4. Goa became a part of independent India. **Which of the follow9ing is the correct chronological sequence of the above events?** (a) 4-1-2-3 (b) 3-2-1-4 (c) 4-2-1-3 (d) 3-1-2-4	B	VI	INDIAN ECONOMY	117
			III	INDIAN GEOGRAPHY	142
			V	GENERAL KNOWLEDGE	263

Nationalized Banks in India

- **Imperial Bank of India** was nationalized and re-christened as **State Bank of India (SBI) in July 1955.**

Air India – The Air India was constituted in 1947, after which the Air India International launched its first service to London via Cairo and Geneva in 1948 with Constellation aircraft. In 1952, the planning Commission recommended the nationalization of Air Transport Industry which was effected in March 1953 with the creation of nationalized Corporations – Air India International Limited, which retained its identity and international flag carrier status, and the Indian Airlines to operate domestic services.

- Even after India's independence, Goa continued to be in the hands of the Portuguese. In 1961, Goa was liberated and made a composite union territory with Daman and Diu. In 1987 Goa was conferred statehood and Daman and Diu was made a separate union territory.

2.	**Right to Privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of Right to Life and Personal Liberty. Which of the following in the Constitution of India correctly and appropriately and appropriately imply the above statement?** (a) Article 14 and the provisions under the	C	7A	CURRENT AFFAIRS	145

	42nd Amendment to the Constitution (b) Article 17 and the Directive Principles of State Policy in Part IV (c) Article 21 and the freedoms guaranteed in Part III (d) Article 24 and the provisions under the 44th Amendment to the Constitution				

- **Right to privacy is intrinsic** to the right to life and personal liberty under **Article 21** of the Constitution and an inherent part of fundamental freedom under part III of the Constitution
- Holding that "privacy is a constitutionally protected right", Justice Chandrachud observed that this fundamental right is multifaceted — it preserves personal intimacies, sanctity of family life, the home, sexual orientation. It protects heterogeneity and recognises the plurality and diversity of our culture. His views were endorsed by Chief Justice of India J.S. Khehar, Justices R.K. Agrawal and S. Abdul Nazeer in the same judgment.

3.	**Consider the following:** 1. Areca nut 2. Barley 3. Coffee 4. Finger millet 5. Groundnut 6. Sesamum 7. Turmeric **The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has announced the Minimum Support Price for which of the above?** (a) 1,2,3 and 7 only (b) 2,4,5 and 6 only (c) 1,3,4,5 and 6 only (d) 1,2,3,4,5,6 and 7	B	8	INDIA YEAR BOOK	20 & 21

Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices

- Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), set up with a view to evolving a **balanced and integrated price structure**, is mandated to advise on the price policy (MSP) of **23 crops**.
- These **include** seven cereal crops (paddy, wheat, jowar, bajra, maize, ragi and barley), five pulse crops (gram, tur, moong, urad and lentil), seven oilseeds (groundnut, sunflower seed, soyabean, rapeseed- mustard, safflower, niger seed and sesamum), copra (dried coconut), coon, raw jute and sugarcane.

GENERAL STUDIES

Time Given: 2Hrs | Paper -I | Maximum Marks: 200

4.	**In which one of the following States is Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary located?** (a) Arunachal Pradesh (b) Manipur (c) Meghalaya (d) nagaland	A	III	BIODIVERSITY	230

Halliday Island	West Bengal	1976	5.95
Pakhui	Arunachal Pradesh	1977	861.95
Kinnerasani	Andhra Pradesh	1977	655.41

5.	**With reference to India's satellite launch vehicles, consider the following statements:** 1. PSLV is launch the satellites useful for Earth resources monitoring whereas GSLVs are designed mainly to launch communication satellites. 2. Satellites launched by PSLV appear to remain permanently fixed in the same position in the sky, as viewed from a particular location on Earth. 3. GSLV Mk III is a four-staged launch vehicle with the first and third stages using solid rocket motors; and the second and fourth stages using liquid rocket engines. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?** (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 (c) 1 and 2 (d) 3 only	A	V	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	193

tele-education IRS System with Nine satellites in operation is providing data for a variety of application programmes such as Groundwater Prospects Mapping, Crop Acreage and Production Estimation, Potential Fishing Zone Forecast, Biodiversity Characterisation etc., In order to reach space-based services directly to the rural population, nearly 500 Village Resource Centres (VRCs) have been set up in association with NGOs, Institutes and Government Agencies.

LAUNCH VEHICLES

Today, Indian space programme has become self-reliant with the operationalisation of two satellite launch vehicles, Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV), mainly for launching IRS class of satellites in polar orbits and Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) for launching communication satellites into geo-synchronous transfer orbit. GSLV can carry 2- 2.5 tonne satellite in to 36,000 Kilometer range for geo stationery transfer orbit and India was the sixth country in the world to have this capability.

6.	**With reference to the governance of public sector banking in India, consider the following statements:** 1. Capital infusion into public sector banks by the Government of India has steadily increased in the last decade. 2. To put the public sector banks in order, the merger of associate banks with the parent State Bank of India has been affected. **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	B	7B	CURRENT AFFAIRS	252 & 253
			9	CURRENT AFFAIRS	167

The constitution of Alternative Mechanism (AM)

- While announcing the unprecedented Rs 2.11 lakh crore capital infusion roadmap for the public sector banks (PSBs), Govt indicated that this will be **accompanied** by series of banking reforms over the next few months.
- The constitution of **Alternative Mechanism** (AM) is a movement in that direction.
- Alternative Mechanism to **fast-track consolidation** among public sector banks to create strong lenders.
- The mechanism will **oversee the proposals** coming from boards of PSBs for consolidation.
- The decision to set up such a mechanism follows State Bank of India merging its five associate banks, as also the Bharatiya Mahila Bank, with itself.
- As of today, there are 20 public sector banks and the **State Bank of India** (SBI's five subsidiaries and Bharatiya Mahila Bank had already been merged with the country's largest bank).
- The Union Cabinet has approved the setting up of an alternative mechanism, or a panel of ministers, to decide on **consolidation proposals** for state-run banks.
- The decision to create 'strong and competitive banks will be solely based on **commercial considerations** and such decisions must start from the boards of the banks, then the proposals received from banks will be reviewed by the members of the alternative mechanism, enabling 'quick decisions.'

7.	**Consider the following items:** 1. Cereal grains hulled 2. Chicken eggs cooked 3. Fish processed and canned 4. Newspapers containing advertising material **Which of the above items is/are exempted**	C	—		

	under GST (Goods and Services Tax)? (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 1,2,3 and 4				
8.	**Consider the following statements:** 1. The definition of "Critical Wildlife Habitat" is incorporated in the Forest Rights Act, 2006. 2. For the first time in India, Baigas have been given Habitat Rights. 3. Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change officially decides and declares Habitat Rights for Primitive and Vulnerable Tribal Groups in any part of India. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?** (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 3 only (d) 1,2 and 3	A	7B SUPPLEMENT 2 (CURRENT QUESTIONS)	CURRENT AFFAIRS Q-191	145 212
	Background • **Baiga** is a tribe found Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh. With its population of about 250000, they live in thick woodland areas. Baiga tribals became India's **first community to get habitat rights.** under the historic Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, as the State Forest Department has objected on grounds that tribals could be attacked by wild animals, especially tigers. But tribal rights activists said the Forest Department continued to play the role of an obstructionist by denying tribals their rights. 'Habitat' as defined under Section 2(h) of the FRA (Forest Rights Act) includes the area comprising the customary habitat and such other habitats in reserved forests and protected forests of primitive tribal groups and pre-agricultural communities and other forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes.				
9.	**Consider the following:** 1. Birds 2. Dust blowing 3. Rain 4. Wind blowing **Which of the above spread plant diseases?** (a) 1 and 3 only	D			

	(b) 3 and 4 only (c) 1,2 and 4 only (d) 1,2,3 and 4				
10. *	**With reference to organic farming in India, consider the following statements:** 1. 'The National Programme for Organic Production' (NPOP) is operated under the guidelines and directions of the Union Ministry of Rural Development. 2. 'The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority' (APEDA) functions as the Secretariat for the implementation of NPOP. 3. Sikkim has become India's first fully organic State. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?** (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3	B	SUPPLEMENT 2 (CURRENT QUESTIONS)	Q-202	216
	The Food Safety and Standards (Organic Foods) Regulations, 2017 recognizes already established two systems of certification i.e. Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) implemented by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) implemented by Ministry of Commerce and Industry. These Regulations will regulate the manufacture, distribute, sale or import "organic foods"				
11.	**Regarding Money Bill, which of the following statements is not correct?** (a) A bill shall be deemed to be a Money Bill if it contains only provisions relating to imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax. (b) A Money Bill has provisions for the custody of the Consolidated Fund of India or the Contingency Fund of India. (c) A Money Bill is concerned with the appropriation of moneys out of the Contingency Fund of India.	C	I	INDIAN POLITY	80

	(d) A Money Bill deals with the regulation of borrowing of money or giving of any guarantee by the Government of India.				

- Money Bill has been defined under **Article 110** as a bill that contains **only provisions** dealing with all or any of the following matters:
  1. The imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any **tax**
  2. The regulation of borrowing of money or giving of any guarantee by the Government or amendment of law w.r.t. any government **financial obligations**
  3. The custody & operation of **Consolidated Fund or Contingency Fund** of India
  4. The appropriation of moneys out of the **Consolidated Fund** of India
  5. The declaring of any expenditure charged on the **Consolidated Fund** of India or the increasing of the amount of any such expenditure
  6. The receipt of money on account of the **Consolidated Fund** of India or the **public accounts** of India or the custody or issue of such money.

12.	**With reference to the election of the President of India, consider the following statements:** 1. The value of the vote of each MLA varies from State to State. 2. The value of the vote of MPs of the Lok Sabha is more than the value of the vote of MPs of the Rajya Sabha. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?** (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2	A	I	INDIAN POLITY	56

Value of vote of an MLA = $\frac{\text{Total Population of the State}}{\text{Elected Members of the State Legislative Assembly X 1000}}$

Value of vote of an MP = $\frac{\text{Total No. of votes assigned to all elected MLAs}}{\text{Total Nos. of elected MPs}}$

Quota of Votes a candidate needs to win election = $\frac{\text{No. of votes polled}}{\text{No. of members to be returned}} + 1$

13.	**In the Indian context, what is the implication of ratifying the 'Additional Protocol' with the 'International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)'?**	A			

	(a) The civilian nuclear reactors come under IAEA safeguards. (b) The military nuclear installations come under the inspection of IAEA. (c) The country will have the privilege to buy uranium from the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG). (d) The country automatically becomes a member of the NSG.				
14.	**Consider the following countries:** 1. Australia 2. Canada 3. China 4. India 5. Japan 6. USA **Which of the above are among the 'free-trade partners' of ASEAN?** (a) 1, 2, 4 and 5 (b) 3, 4, 5 and 6 (c) 1, 3, 4 and 5 (d) 2, 3, 4 and 6	C	SUPPLEMENT 2 (CURRENT QUESTIONS)	Q-457	131

At the forthcoming ministerial-level meeting on the proposed Free Trade Agreement (FTA) involving 16 Asia-Pacific nations, India will raise concerns regarding the 'slow' pace of negotiations on services trade liberalisation as opposed to 'higher priority' being accorded to commitments to open up goods trade in the region.

The mega-FTA is known in official parlance as the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). It involves the 10-member ASEAN bloc and its six FTA partners including India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand.

15.	**With reference to the 'Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA); which of the following statements is/are correct?** 1. GACSA is an outcome of the Climate Summit held in Paris in 2015. 2. Membership of GACSA does not create any binding obligations. 3. India was instrumental in the creation of GACSA. **Select the correct answer using the code**	B			

	given below: (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3				
16.	**Which of the following is/are the aim/aims of "Digital India" Plan of the Government of India?** 1. Formation of India's own Internet companies like China did. 2. Establish a policy framework to encourage overseas multinational corporations that collect Big Data to build their large data centers within our national geographical boundaries. 3. Connect many of our villages to the Internet and bring Wi-Fi to many of our schools, public places and major tourist centres. **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	B	7A	CURRENT AFFAIRS	211
			7A	CURRENT AFFAIRS	215
			8	INDIA YEAR BOOK	85

DIGITAL INDIA

- The vision of Digital aims to transform the country into a **digitally empowered society** and knowledge economy. The programme will be implemented in **phases till 2018**. This programme has been envisaged by Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY). It would also bring in public **accountability through mandated delivery** of Government's services electronically; a **Unique ID and e-Pramaan** based on authentic and standard based interoerable and integrated Government applications and data basis.

Affordable tariff structure to promote Digital India

- **BharatNet**, a flagship project of the Government of India to provide **Broadband services in rural and remote areas** has entered in **service provisioning phase.** As in Nov 2017, Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) connectivity has been achieved in 1,03,275 Gram Panchayats by laying fibre for 2,38,677 km.

Digital revolution in India is significant as it promises to bring a **multi-dimensional metamorphosis** in almost all sectors of the society. From digitization in governance to better health care and educational services, cashless economy and digital transactions, transparency in bureaucracy, fair and quick distribution of welfare schemes all seem achievable with the digital India initiative of the present Government. A look at Government initiatives in various

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2018	77 Qs out of 100 Qs	**2013**	84 Qs out of 100 Qs
		2012	74 Qs out of 100 Qs
2017	77 Qs out of 100 Qs	**2011**	82 Qs out of 100 Qs
2016	76 Qs out of 100 Qs	**2010**	98 Qs out of 150 Qs
2015	84 Qs out of 100 Qs	**2009**	93 Qs out of 150 Qs
2014	81 Qs out of 100 Qs	**2008**	92 Qs out of 150 Qs

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GENERAL STUDIES

Time Given: 2Hrs | Paper -I | Maximum Marks: 200

17.	**Consider the following pairs:** Towns sometimes mentioned in news — Country 1. Aleppo - Syria 2. Kirkuk - Yemen 3. Mosul - Palestine 4. Mazar-i-sharif - Afghanistan **Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?** (a) 1 and 2 (b) 1 and 4 (c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 and 4	B	IV	WORLD GEOGRAPHY	17,18 &19



18.	**In the Federation established by The Government of India Act of 1935, residuary powers were given to the** (a) Federal legislature (b) Governor General (c) Provincial Legislature (d) Provincial Governors	B	I	INDIAN POLITY	11

Government of India Act, 1935

- Provided for establishment of **All-India Federation** with its units consisting of Provinces & Princely States (they didn't join & so federation didn't come into existence)
- **3 lists** of subjects – Federal, Provincial & Concurrent- introduced; Residuary powers with GG.
- **Abolished Diarchy in provinces** & introduced **provincial autonomy**

- Federation of India
- Concurrent list added
- Provincial autonomy

19. *	**Consider the following statements:** 1. The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly shall vacate his/her office if he/she ceases to be a member of the Assembly. 2. Whenever the Legislative Assembly is dissolved, the Speaker shall vacate his/her office immediately. **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	A	I	INDIAN POLITY	97

OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA: SPEAKER & DEPUTY SPEAKER

- He vacates his office as soon as he ceases to be the member of the House. However, **Speaker continues** in his office even if Lok Sabha is dissolved & **until new Lok Sabha** meets. However, both the Speaker & his Deputy can be **removed by a resolution** of the Lok Sabha passed by a majority of all the then members (special majority) of the House. Such a Resolution needs support of **50 members** for consideration by the House. Before moving such a resolution, a **14 days' notice** is necessary to exhibit the intention of members.

20.	**Which one of the following reflects the most appropriate relationship between law and liberty?** (a) If there are more laws, there is less liberty. (b) If there are no laws, there is no liberty. (c) If there is liberty, laws have to be made by the people. (d) If laws are changed too often, liberty is in danger.	B	I	INDIAN POLITY	25

- Fundamental Rights are meant to **protect the rights and liberties of the people** from the encroachment by the Government. They are limitations upon the powers of the Government, legislative as well as executive.
- These **impose negative obligations on the State** not to encroach on **individual liberty** in its various dimensions. These are essential for an individual for his full **intellectual, moral and spiritual development.**

21.	**Consider the following statements:** 1. No criminal proceedings shall be instituted against the Governor of a State in any court during his term of office. 2. The emoluments and allowances of the Governor of a State shall not be diminished during his term of office. **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	C	I	INDIAN POLITY	139
			I	INDIAN POLITY	107

- His **emoluments, allowances and privileges** are **determined by Parliament** by law. Salary and Allowances cannot be diminished during his term of office. Earlier he enjoyed monthly emoluments of Rs. 36,000. However **salary** was raised to **Rs. 1.1 Lakhs per month.**

President and Governors	• Personal immunity from **legal liability** for their official acts • Immune from **criminal proceedings**, even for personal acts during their term of office; they cannot be arrested or imprisoned • **Civil proceedings** in respect of their personal acts can be instituted during their term of office; after 2 months' notice,

22.	**The well-known painting "Bani Thani" belongs to the** (a) Bundi school (b) Jaipur school (c) Kangra school (d) Kishangarh school	D	II	MEDIEVAL INDIA	326

Shahajahan

- New technique **Siyahi Qalam** developed in which delicate line were drawn with washes of pale colour and gold.
- **Dara** had ordered a **Muraqqa (album)** of beautiful paintings.
- Aurangzeb had many paintings defaced considering them un-Islamic.
- With decline in Mughal painting new schools of **regional painting** such as
  1. **Kisangarh School** – famous for Bani Thani and Raag Maala.
  2. **Pahari School** - included **Basholi** School and **Kangra** School.

23.	**What is "Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD)", sometimes seen in the news?** (a) An Israeli radar system (b) India's indigenous anti-missile programme (c) An American anti-missile system (d) A defence collaboration between Japan and South Korea	C			
24.	**With reference to cultural history of India, consider the following statements:** 1. Most of the Tyagaraja Kritis are devotional songs in praise of Lord Krishna. 2. Tyagaraja created several new ragas. 3. Annamacharya and Tyagaraja are contemporaries. 4. Annamacharya kirtana are devotional songs in praise of Lord Venkateshwara. **Which of the statements given above are correct?** (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 and 4 only (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) 2, 3 and 4	B			
25.	**Which of the following are regarded as the main features of the "Rule of Law"?** 1. Limitation of powers 2. Equality before law 3. People's responsibility to the Government 4. Liberty and civil rights **Select the correct answer using the code given below:** (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 and 4 only (c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4	C	I	INDIAN POLITY	27 & 131

ARTICLE-14: EQUALITY BEFORE LAW AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF LAWS

- Equality before Law and Equal Protection of Laws, both are different things.

Equality Before Law	Equal Protection Of Laws
Negative concept	Positive concept
Means **absence of any special privilege** by reason of birth, creed or like in the favour of any individual, thus the equal treatment to all before law	Implies **right to equality** of treatment **in equal circumstances**
Equaled to **Dicey's** concept of **Rule of Law**	Treated as **Due Process of Law**
Well founded in **England**	**American** concept
'**Rule of Law**' is the "**Basic Feature**" of constitution and therefore **cannot** be **destroyed** even by an amendment of the constitution under **Article 368** of constitution	

JUDICIAL CONTROL OVER GOVERNMENT

Judiciary is the highest authority to uphold the constitution of the people. The **primary objective** of judicial control over government is the protection of the rights and liberties of citizens by ensuring the legality of its acts. The judicial control over administration **emanates from the concept of 'rule of law'.**

26.	**Which of the following led to the introduction of English Education in India?** 1. Charter Act of 1813 2. General Committee of Public Instruction, 1823 3. Orientalist and Anglicist Controversy **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	D	II	MODERN INDIA	146

- **Charter Act of 1813** required Company to spend **one lakh** for encouraging learned Indians and promoting knowledge of modern sciences in the country.
- However, there was controversy over how the money should be spent.
- The group called **Anglicists** wanted that the money should be spent exclusively for the promotion of **modern Western studies.**
- The group called **Orientalists** who put emphasis on expansion of **traditional Indian learning.**
- There were also differences over the medium of instruction to be adopted in the educational institutions.
- The **Governor-General Bentick** appointed **T.B. Macaulay** as president of committee on public instruction.

27.	**Which one of the following is an artificial lake?** (a) Kodaikanal (Tamil Nadu) (b) Kolleru (Andhra Pradesh) (c) Nainital (Uttarakhand) (d) Renuka (Himachal Pradesh)	A	III	INDIAN GEOGRAPHY	30 & 65

INDIAN SITES UNDER RAMSAR CONVENTION

Sr. No.	Name of Wetland	Date of declaration	State
1	Kolleru Lake	19/08/02	Andhra Pradesh
2	Deepor Beel	19/08/02	Assam
3	Chandertal Wetland	08/11/05	Himachal Pradesh
4	Pong Dam Lake	19/08/02	
5	Renuka Wetland	08/11/05	

Kolleru - **Largest freshwater** lake, in **Andhra** Pradesh in Krishna-Godavari delta

Naini - Freshwater, in Nainital

28.	**With reference to Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, consider the following statements:** 1. It is the flagship scheme of the Ministry of Labour and Employment. 2. It, among other things, will also impart training in soft skills, entrepreneurship, financial and digital literacy. 3. It aims to align the competencies of the unregulated workforce of the country to the National Skill Qualification Framework. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?** (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3	C	VI	INDIAN ECONOMY	39

PRADHAN MANTRI KAUSHAL VIKAS YOJANA (PMKVY)

- **Objective**: Aims to impart skill training to youth with focus on first time entrants to the labour market and class 10 and class 12 dropouts.
- **Implemented By** Union Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship through National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).
- It will cover 24 lakh persons and skill training would be based on the **National Skill Qualification Framework** (NSQF) and industry led standards

29.	**In 1920, which of the following changed its name to " Swarajya Sabha"?** (a) All India Home Rule League (b) Hindu Mahasabha (c) South Indian Liberal Federation (d) The Servants of India Society	A			
30.	**Which among the following events happened earliest?** (a) Swami Dayanand established Arya Samaj. (b) Dinabandhu Mitra wrote Neeldarpan. (c) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay wrote Anandmath. (d) Satyendranath Tagore became the first Indian to succeed in the Indian Civil Services Examination.	B	II	MODERN INDIA	127,135,68,59

- **Satyendranath Tagore,** brother of Rabindranath Tagore, was the **first Indian to qualify in 1863.**

Vande Mataram: The song first appeared in Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay's book *Anandamatha*, published in **1882. Rabindranath Tagore** sang *Vande Mataram* in 1896 at the Calcutta Congress Session held at Beadon Square. **Dakhina Charan Sen** sang it five years later in **1901** at another session of the Congress at Calcutta. **Poet Sarala Devi Chaudurani** sang the song in the Benares Congress Session in **1905.** Lala Lajpat Rai started a journal called *Vande Mataram* from Lahore. In **1907, Bhikaiji Cama** created the first version of India's national flag in Germany. It had *Vande Mataram* written on it in the middle band.

- Arya Samaj was **founded in 1875** by Swami **Dayanand Saraswati** (1824-83) in **Bombay.** (later headquarters shifted to Lahore)

INDIGO REVOLT (1859-60)-BENGAL

- It was directed against the **exploitation** of indigo growing tenants **in Bengal by European indigo Planters.**
- It was **very successful** as by end of 1860, all exploitative indigo cultivation was wiped out and European planters left.
- Reason was tremendous **organization and Hindu-Muslim unity.**
- It was greatly supported by intelligentsia and newspapers.
- **Harishchandra Mukherjee of Hindu Patriot** played important role in propaganda.
- **Neel Darpan** written by **Din Bandhu Mitra** depicted the exploitation of indigo growers by planters.

31. *	**Which of the following is/are the possible consequence/s of heavy sand mining in riverbeds?** 1. Decreased salinity in the river 2. Pollution of groundwater 3. Lowering of the water –table **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	B	III	BIODIVERSITY	239

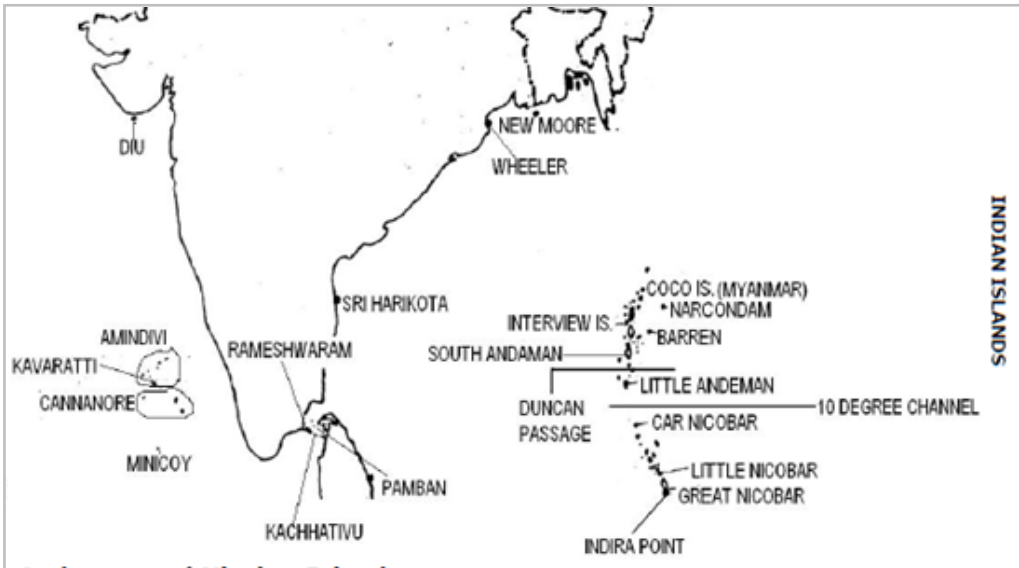
Mining: Mining is also a severe threat to the biodiversity. Sand mining is prevalent in the central and southern parts. It is a threat to the stability of a landscape, which results in land sliding and lowering of water table. The removal of habitat will endanger the survival of riparian species since most of them occupied a very narrow habitat niche.

32.	**With reference to agricultural soils, consider of the following statements:** 1. A high content of organic matter in soil drastically reduces its water holding capacity. 2. Soil does not play any role in the sulphur cycle. 3. Irrigation over a period of time can contribute to the salinization of some agricultural lands. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?** (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3	B	III	INDIAN GEOGRAPHY	107

- Green manures **increase the percentage of organic matter (biomass)** in the soil, thereby improving water retention, aeration, and other soil characteristics.

33.	**The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE),a UN mechanism to assist countries transition towards greener and more inclusive economies, emerged at** a) The Earth Summit on Sustainable Development 2002, Johannesburg b) The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012,Rio de Janerio c) The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2015,Paris d) The World Sustainable Development Summit 2016,New Delhi	B			
34.	**"3D printing" has applications in which of the following?** 1. Preparation of confectionery items 2. Manufacture of bionic ears 3. Automotive industry 4. Reconstructive surgeries 5. Data processing technologies **Select the correct answer using the code given below :** (a) 1 ,3 and 4 only	D			

	(b) 2 , 3 and 5 only (c) (c) 1 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5				
35.	**Consider the following statements:** 1. The Barren Island volcano is an active volcano located in the Indian territory. 2. Barren Island lies about 140 km east of Great Nicobar. 3. The last time the Barren Island volcano erupted was in 1991 and it has remained inactive since then. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?** (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 (c) 3 only (d) 1 and 3	A	III	INDIAN GEOGRAPHY	24 & 25



Andaman and Nicobar Islands

- Extend from **6º 39'N - 13º 34'N**
- Consist of two groups – Andaman Group (Great & Little Andaman) – 204 islands, and Nicobar Group (Car, Little and Great) – 19 islands
- Continent in origin. They are submerged parts of mountain range called **Arkan Yoma** (Mayanmar).
- Some of them are of **volcanic** origin and only active volcano of India is located on these islands (**Barren** Island). **Narcondam** is the extinct volcanic island.

36.	**Why is a plant called Prosopis juliflora often mentioned in news?** (a) Its extract is widely used in cosmetics. (b) It tends to reduce the biodiversity in the area in which it grows. (c) Its extract is used in the synthesis of pesticides. (d) None of the above	B			
37.	**Consider the following statements:** 1. Most of the world's coral reefs are in tropical waters. 2. More than one- third of the world's coral reefs are located in the territories of Australia, Indonesia and Philippines. 3. Coral reefs host far more number of animal phyla than those hosted by tropical rainforests. **Which of the statements given above is /are correct ?** (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3	D	IV	WORLD GEOGRAPHY	111
			IV	GEOGRAPHY THEORY	268
			III	ENVIRONMENTAL ECOLOGY	287

CORAL REEFS

- Coral reefs or corals are the **calcareous ridges** formed by innumerable tiny, fleshy sea anemones called **polyps**. These are made up of **calcium**.
- Coral reefs are virtually confined to **within 30° of equator**. They exist as a distinct relief feature of the **tropical seas.**

Most Coral Reef

Indonesia > Australia > Philippines > France > Papua New Guinea

3. **Coral Reefs:** Coral reefs are the **world's second richest ecosystems** and have a wide diversity of plants and animals. As a result, coral reefs often are referred to as the **rain forest of the oceans.**

38.	**"Momentum for Change : Climate Neutral Now" is an initiative launched by** (a) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (b) The UNEP Secretariat (c) The UNFCCC Secretariat (d) The World Meteorological Organization.	C			

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39.	**With reference to educational institutions during colonial rule in India, consider the following pairs:** Institution Founder 1. Sanskrit college at Benaras _ William Jones 2. Calcutta Madarsa _ Warren Hastings 3. Fort William College _ Arthur Wellesley **Which of the pairs given above is/are correct?** (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 only (c) 1 and 3 (d) 3 only	B	II	MODERN INDIA	146

EDUCATION IN BRITISH INDIA

Like all aspects of colonial state, its education policy was also geared to serve the interest of colonialism and not of the common people. Earliest efforts to promote education were mostly individual as East India Company being a trading company was not interested in education of its subjects.

- In **1781, Warren Hastings** established **Calcutta Madarsa** for study of Muslim law and related subjects.
- In **1791, Jonathan Duncan, Resident of Varanasi**, started a **Sanskrit College** at Varanasi for study of Hindu law and Philosophy.
- Both institutions were established to supply educated Indians to help administer Muslim and Hindu law in the courts.
- In **1800, Wellesley** set up **Fort William College** at Calcutta **to train young Civil servants** but directors of company disapproved his action. Soon in 1806, East Indian College was established at Haileysbury in England for this purpose.

40.	**Consider the following pairs:** Regions sometimes mentioned in news — Country 1. Catalonia _ Spain 2. Crimea _ Hungary 3. Mindanao _ Philippines 4. Oromia _ Nigeria **Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?** (a) 1,2 and 3 (b) 3 and 4 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 2 and 4 only	C	V	GENERAL KNOWLEDGE	259
			IV	WORLD GEOGRAPHY	59

PHILIPPINES

- An archipelago of about 7100 islands. The principal islands are Luzon in the north and Mindanao in the south.

Crimean Crisis

- The internationally recognised **Ukrainian territory of Crimea was annexed** by the Russian Federation in **2014**.

SPAIN

- The level of autonomy afforded to each region is far from uniform. For example, **Catalonia, the Basque Country and Galicia** have special status with their own language and other rights.
- In 2006 a **Catalan referendum** backed by the central government gave the region greater autonomy.

41.	**With reference to the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), consider the following statements:** 1. IRNSS has three satellites in geostationary and four satellites in geosynchronous orbits. 2. IRNSS covers entire India and about 5500 sq.km beyond its borders. 3. India will have its own satellite navigation system with full global coverage by the middle of 2019. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?** (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) None	A	SUPPLEMENT 1 (APRIL E-BOOK)	PSLV-C4/LAUNCHES IRNSS	87 & 88

PSLV-C41 SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHES IRNSS-1I NAVIGATION SATELLITE

ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle **PSLV-C41** successfully launched the IRNSS-1I Navigation Satellite from Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, Sriharikota.

- IRNSS stands for **Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System**. It is a set of satellites which together can provide India a regional positioning system similar to the GPS.
- System is designed to **give position accuracy better than 20 metres** to users in its primary coverage area.
- Can also service **regions extending up to 1500 km** around India's boundary.
- There are currently **seven IRNSS satellites** (1A to 1G) in orbit. **A, B, F, G are placed in a geosynchronous orbit**, which means they seem to be at a fixed location above the Earth and they orbit along with the Earth. The remaining three, **C, D, E, are located in geostationary orbit**-they seem to be at a **fixed location above the Earth along the equator** and orbit along with the Earth.

42.	**Consider the following phenomena:** 1. Light is affected by gravity. 2. The Universe is constantly expanding. 3. Matter warps its surrounding space-time. **Which of the above is/are the prediction/predictions of Albert Einstein's General Theory of Relativity, often discussed in media?** (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1,2 and 3	D	7B	CURRENT AFFAIRS	71
			9	CURRENT AFFAIRS	66

SPEEDING UNIVERSE

- The Hubble Space Telescope's latest finding shows that the **universe may be expanding at a faster rate** than it was believed. This discrepancy may portend new physics, scientists believe and various models are being floated to explain this.
- **One possibility** that can explain this could be that dark energy may be shoving the universe apart with a greater strength than earlier.
- Another idea is that **dark radiation** including particles travelling at speeds close to light, as yet undiscovered, such as 'sterile neutrino' could be driving this force.

Gravitational waves from black hole collision detected

A **fourth gravitational wave** has been detected — this time with help from Italy-based equipment — after two black holes with masses about 31 and 25 times the mass of the Sun merged about 1.8 billion light-years away. Their collision sent ripples through the fabric of space and time. The space-time ripple was picked up by all three detectors at nearly the same time.

About the event

- The **waves were produced by the merger of black holes** seven and 12 times the mass of the Sun, and left behind a final black hole 18 times the mass of the Sun.
- This means that **energy equivalent** to about one solar mass was emitted as gravitational waves during the collision.

43.	**With reference to the Genetically Modified mustard (GM mustard) developed in India, consider the following statements:** 1. GM mustard has the genes of a soil bacterium that give the plant the property of pest-resistance to a wide variety of pests. 2. GM mustard has the genes that allow the plant cross-pollination and hybridization. 3. GM mustard has been developed jointly by the IARI and Punjab Agricultural University. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?** (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1,2 and 3	B	7A	CURRENT AFFAIRS	263

GM mustard in for a long wait

- The sector regulator (**GEAC**) had given its nod to commercialisation of GM mustard in May, 2017. After the regulator's nod, the final call was to be taken by the government.
- However, because of **widespread opposition** from different quarters, the government has decided to examine all objections raised by scientists and farmers before taking a decision on genetically engineered (GE) mustard.

Concerns

- Several stakeholders, including Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) affiliates Swadeshi Jagran Manch and Bharatiya Kisan Sangh, have expressed opposition to GM food crops. Bharatiya Kisan Sangh has already given a representation to the environment ministry opposing the move.
- Long-term health and environmental impact,
- Herbicide tolerance,
- Loss to honey bees and pollinators,
- Outperformance of native varieties, no enhancement in yields, etc.

Advantages

- Developed by Delhi University-based Centre for Genetic Manipulation of Crop Plants (CGMCP), its advantage are:
- GE mustard is argued to be **superior as it is resistant** to pests and diseases.
- Its commercialisation would mean better yields,
- Lower use of pesticides, and
- More environment-friendly practices.

44.	**Consider the following pairs:** Terms sometimes seen in news — Context/Topic 1. Belle II intelligence - Artificial experiment 2. Blockchain - Digital/Cryptocurrency	B	9	CURRENT AFFAIRS	61

	technology 3. CRISPR - Particle Physics **Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched:** (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1,2 and 3		7B	CURRENT AFFAIRS	94

THE NEXT INNOVATION- ON BLOCKCHAIN

- Blockchain could be the least elucidated among the **disruptive technologies** rapidly transforming the world around us.
- It is widely known that some of the most valuable companies such as Uber and Airbnb, are effective aggregators of resources, including cars and apartments.
- They are using the Internet to reach out, and match the supply and demand in a global market.

Underlying principle of Blockchain

- It can be described as a way for people to share the **extra space and computational power** in their computers to create a global super-computer that is accessible to everyone.
- The blockchain lets people who are part of this super-computer **perform functions** such as verification of transactions and contracts, and the updating and maintenance of these records in the form of trustworthy ledgers, and be rewarded for it.
- This **core feature** of the blockchain creates a space for trusted transactions in the digital space that have never been possible before.
- The cryptocurrency Bitcoin is the **first successful application** of this technology.
- Even though there are mixed standpoints regarding the credibility, scalability and practicality of digital currencies, the core technology behind them, blockchain, undoubtedly has tremendous value.

Blockchain technology

- Blockchain is the backbone technology on which **bitcoins** run.
- Simply put, it is a **digital public ledger** that records every transaction.
- Once a transaction is entered in the blockchain, it **cannot be erased** or modified.
- Blockchain removes the need for using a trusted **third party** such as a bank to make a transaction by directly connecting the customers and suppliers.
- Each transaction is recorded to the ledger after verification by the network participants, mainly a chain of computers, called **nodes.**
- Blockchain today may be compared to what the Internet was in the early 1990s.

45.	**Which of the following statements best describes "carbon fertilization"?** (a) Increased plant growth due to increased concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere (b) Increased temperature of Earth due to increased concentration of carbon dioxide in atmosphere (c) Increased acidity of oceans as result of increased concentration of carbon dioxide in atmosphere (d) Adaptation of all living beings of earth to the	A			

	climate change brought about by the increased concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere				
46.	**When the alarm of your smart phone rings in the morning, you wake up and tap it to stop the alarm which causes your geyser to be switched on automatically. The smart mirror in your bathroom shows the day's weather and also indicates the level of water in your overhead tank. After you take some groceries from your refrigerator for making breakfast, it recognizes the shortage of stock in it and places an order for the supply of fresh grocery items. When you step out of your house and lock the door, all lights, fans, geysers and AC machines get switched off automatically. On your way to office, your car warns you about traffic congestion ahead and suggests an alternative route, and if you are late for a meeting, it sends a message to your office accordingly.** **In the context of emerging communication technologies, which one of the following terms best applies to the above scenario?** (a) Border Gateway Protocol (b) Internet of Things (c) Internet Protocol (d) Virtual Private Network	B	7B	CURRENT AFFAIRS	114 & 115

crack

The IOT wars

- Most of us are familiar with Bluetooth headphones which were used with our cellular devices. These **"last feet" radio devices** needed to be charged frequently. The longer the range we want, the more power our device needs.
- If the **Internet of Things** or IoT is to be useful, then IoT devices need to have the ability to communicate with each other over long distances.
- Many potentially "connected things" are located in remote areas at long distances from the nearest cellular base station, or deep within buildings, which shield them from a cellular signal. Yet others are constantly on the move.
- In addition, the type of cellular network over which machine-to-machine communications are carried also makes a difference. The old **2G or GPRS** networks were ideal for the very low levels of data transmission that IoT-enabled devices need.
- In the rush for greater data throughput for smartphones, the 3rd Generation Partnership Project or 3GPP, the international body that sets cellular standards, was slow to set out **"Narrowband IoT"** standards meant for machine-to-machine communications for newer cellular networks like 3G, 4G and LTE.
- Interestingly, scientists have worked on a new class of radios that would allow IoT devices to communicate over larger distances. These radio devices deliver both long-range communications and years of battery life.
- A set of technologies collectively called the **"Low Power Wide Area Network"** or LPWAN have been promulgated as an alternative to the delayed Narrowband IoT from 3GPP.

47.	**With reference to solar power production in India, consider the following statements :** 1. India is the third largest in the world in the manufacture of silicon wafers used in photovoltaic units. 2. The solar power traffics are determined by the Solar Energy Corporation of 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	D	V	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	188

PHOTOVOLTAICS (PV)

- Photovoltaics (PV) is a method of generating electrical power by **converting solar radiation into direct currentelectricity** using semiconductors that exhibit the photovoltaic effect. Photovoltaic power generation employs solar panels comprising a number of cells containing a photovoltaic material.
- **Materials presently used** for photovoltaics include mono-crystalline silicon, poly-crystalline silicon, amorphous silicon, cadmium telluride, &copper indium selenide/ sulfide.
- Due to the growing demand for renewable energy sources, the manufacture of solar cells and photovoltaic arrays has advanced considerably in recent years.

48.	**The staple commodities of export by the English East India Company from Bengal in the middle of the 18th century were** (a) Raw cotton , oil-seeds and opium (b) Sugar, salt, zinc and lead (c) Copper, silver, gold, spices and tea (d) Cotton, silk, saltpetre and opium	D	II	MODERN INDIA	11 & 12

The British industrialists needed foreign outlets for their ever-increasing output of manufactured goods. A **vast and highly populated country** such as India was a standing temptation. At the same time, British industries needed raw materials and the British working men needed foodstuffs, which had to be imported. In other words, Britain now wanted India as a **subordinate trading partner** as a market to be exploited and as a market to be exploited and as a dependent colony to produce and **supply the raw materials and food-stuffs** Britain needed. However, there was one problem. India had to export a good deal of wealth to **pay dividends to the Company's shareholders** and pensions for British civil and military officials. These officials would also have to be permitted to take their savings back home with them. For all this, it was necessary that **India must export some products** to Britain and other countries.

But **India's traditional handicraft exports** had come to a virtual **standstill** owing to the Company's exploitative policies and, what was more important, the British did not want to allow India to export goods that would compete with Britain's home industries, as for example **textiles**. Therefore, only **agricultural raw materials** and other non-manufactured goods could be exported. Thus **India's pattern of foreign trade** underwent a dramatic change, but not for the better. For centuries and exporter of cotton textiles and other handicraft products, India became during the 19th century an importer of cotton textiles and exporter of cotton and other raw materials.

49.	**Which one of the following is a very significant aspect of the Champaran Satyagarha?** (a) Active all-India participation of lawyers, students and women in the National Movement (b) Active involvement of Dalit and Tribal communities of India in the National Movement (c) Joining of peasant unrest to India's National Movement (d) Drastic decrease in the cultivation of plantation crops and commercial crops	C	II	MODERN INDIA	81

CHAMPARAN SATYAGRAHA (1917)

- It was **Gandhiji's first Satyagraha in India.**
- In **Champaran,** there prevailed an oppressive **tinkathia system** under which European planters forced peasants to cultivate indigo on 3/20 of their holding.
- Gandhiji went to Champaran on **invitation of Rajkumar Shukla**
- His associates during Satyagraha were **Brij Kishore, Rajendra Prasad** (from Bihar), J.B. Kripalani, Gorakha Prasad and from **Gujarat** joined **Mahadev Desai** (later **Gandhiji's secretary, he died at Aga Khan palace**) and **Narhari Parekh.**
- Gandhiji forced govt. to appoint **inquiry Committee** that awarded 25% refund. Having lost prestige within a decade, planters left Champaran.

50.	**Who among the following were the founders of the "Hind Mazdoor Sabha" established in 1948?** (a) B. Krishna Pillai, E.M.S. Namboodiripad and K.C. George (b) Jayaprakash Narayan, Deen Dayal Upadhyay and M.N. Roy (c) C.P. Ramaswamy Iyer, K. Kamaraj and Veeresalingam Pantulu (d) Ashok Mehta. T.S. Ramanujam and G.G. Mehta	D			
51.	**With reference to the religious practices in India, the "Sthanakvasi" sect belongs to** (a) Buddhism (b) Jainism (c) Vaishnavism (d) Shaivism	B			
52. *	**With reference to the cultural history of India, consider the following statements:** 1. White marble was used in making Buland Darwaza and Khankah at Fatehpur Sikri. 2. Red sandstone and marble were used in making Bara Imambara and Rumi Darwaza at Lucknow. **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	D	II	Medieval India	325

Akbar

- His reign saw the real beginning of Mughal architecture, which was the mixture of Islamic architecture (arcuate), and Indian (trabeate) architecture.
- **Humayun's tomb** built by Haji Begum during Akbar's reign was synthesis of Iranian and Indian styles.
- He built his new capital the **fort-palace** (named **Fatehpur** to commemorate the Gujarat victory) at Sikri near Agra.
- The buildings at Fatehpur included **Diwan-i-Khas, Jodha bai's palace, Birbal's palace, and Mariam's Palace** and five storeyed-pillared structures called **Panch Mahal** said to be built on plan of Buddhist Vihara.
- Fatehpur also has grand **Jama Masjid**, which has the impressive **half-dome** called **Buland Darwaza** as its southern entrance (Also built **to commemorate** the **Gujarat victory**).
- In the Jama Masjid is **the tomb of Sheikh Salim Chisti** (Jahangir was named Salim after him).
- Akbar built forts at Lahore, Allahabad and Agra.
- **Agra fort** built with red sandstone was **the model for Red Fort at Delhi.**
- Jahangir Mahal in Agra is built on design of Man Mandir of Gwalior.
- He started construction of his own **tomb at Sikandra**, which was completed by Jahangir.

Jahangir

- He laid the famous **Shalimar Bagh** garden in **Srinagar (Kashmir).**
- Now **Red Sandstone** was **replaced by Marble** (procured from Makrana).
  - Jahangir's tomb is at Shahdra near Lahore.
- New technique of **Pietra dura** i.e. inlaid mosaic work of precious stone developed during his reign seen in Nurjahans' father Itimad-ud-daulah's tomb at Agra.

53.	**Which one of the following foreign travellers elaborately discussed about diamonds and diamond mines of India?** (a) Francois Bernier (b) Jean- Baptiste Tavernier (c) Jean de Thevenot (d) Abbe Barthelemy Carre	B	II	MEDIEVAL INDIA	359

- Later, after 1600, we find growing numbers of **Dutch, English** and **French travellers** coming to India. One of the most famous was the French jeweller **Jean-Baptiste Tavernier**, who travelled to India at least six times. He was particularly fascinated with the trading conditions in India, and **compared** India to Iran and the Ottoman empire.

54.	**With reference to Indian history, who among the following is a future Buddha, yet to come to save the world?** (a) Avalokiteshvara	C			

	(b) Lokesvara (c) Maitreya (d) Padmapani				
55.	**Which one of the following statements does not apply to the system of Subsidiary Alliance introduced by Lord Wellesley?** (a) To maintain a large standing army at other's expense (b) To keep India safe from Napoleonic danger (c) To secure a fixed income for the Company (d) To establish British paramountcy over the Indian States	C	II	MODERN INDIA	42

- Warren Hastings also followed the policy of expanding influence by giving military help to one Indian State against other eg. Help to Awadh against Rohillas.
- However, this strategy was given definite shape by **Wellesley** under the guise of **"Subsidiary Alliance".**
- Under Subsidiary Alliance system of Wellesley, either the Indian ally had to have **permanent British force** stationed within his territory to protect the ruler in return of a subsidy for its maintenance or some territory in lieu of subsidy.
- Subsidiary treaty also included- stationing of **British resident in Indian courts, not employing Europeans and not negotiating with other Indian rulers without approval of the British** authorities.
- **British promised protection** and non-interference in the internal affairs of the states.
- By signing a subsidiary treaty **Indian states lost their sovereignty,** they could not conduct their own foreign affairs, armies were disbanded and had to rely on protection of British.
- Assured of the British protection many Indian rulers became complacent and indulgent. This led to neglect of administration and misery for the people.
- The Company could now maintain huge army on the cost of native states and also control relations between the Indian powers so that no alliance could be formed against them.
- Above all the Company could at any time annex the territories of Native rulers.
- It was thus "a system of fattening allies as we fatten oxen, till they were worthy of being devoured".
- **Nizam** of Hyderabad was **1st ruler** to sign **Subsidiary Treaty with Wellesley in 1798.**

56.	**Which one of the following statements correctly describes the meaning of legal tender money?** (a) The money which is tendered in courts of law to defray the fee of legal cases (b) The money which a creditor is under compulsion to accept in settlement of his claims	B	VI	INDIAN ECONOMY	8

	(c) The bank money in the form of cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, etc. (d) The metallic money in circulation in a country				

Then came the complex trading structures; barters started failing as values of products started becoming complicated and rejections of one's products by the other started. For example, trader rejected to give cloths to the farmer as he didn't find the quality appropriate for the asking price of farmer. Thus came the need for a common unit of exchange which has same value for all and which cannot be rejected by anyone (legal tender). This is how "money of today" has evolved. But sadly, the money today has over casted everyone's head, so much so, that we have forgotten the real purpose of life. We are running so blindly after collecting these 'papers' that we forgot that they are not the end, but just a means towards a happy life. People have relegated their ethics to the lowest standard to accumulate these papers.

57.	**If a commodity is provided free to the public by the Government, then** (a) The opportunity cost is zero. (b) The opportunity cost is ignored. (c) The opportunity cost is transferred from the consumers of the product to the tax-paying public. (d) The opportunity cost is transferred from the consumers of the product to the Government.	B	VI	INDIAN ECONOMY	309
			9	CURRENT AFFAIRS	296

Opportunity cost	• It is the implied cost of not doing something that could have led to higher returns.

- The opportunity cost of these lost resources is too high to ignore as India is a resource-constrained developing economy.

58.	**Increase in absolute and per capita real GNP do not connote a higher level of economic development, if** (a) Industrial output fails to keep pace with agricultural output. (b) Agricultural output fails to keep pace with industrial output. (c) Poverty and unemployment increase. (d) Imports grow faster than exports.	C	VI	INDIAN ECONOMY	304

	Economic development	• The process of improving the quality of human life through increasing per capita income, reducing poverty, and enhancing individual economic opportunities. It is also sometimes defined to include better education, improved health and nutrition, conservation of natural resources, a cleaner environment, and a richer cultural life.			
	Economic growth	• An increase in the nation's capacity to produce goods and services.			
59.	**Consider the following statements:** **Human capital formation as a concept is better explained in terms of a process which enables** 1. Individuals of a country to accumulate more capital. 2. Increasing the knowledge, skill levels and capacities of the people of the country. 3. Accumulation of tangible wealth. 4. Accumulation of intangible wealth. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?** (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 only (c) 2 and 4 (d) 1, 3 and 4	C	VI	INDIAN ECONOMY	56, 306

Social and Human Capital

:: The next level of the community capital pyramid is social and human capital. This level has **2 blocks** - people and connections: **Human capital** is each individual's personal skills and abilities, physical and mental health, and education. **Social capital** is the connections in a community - the ways in which people interact and relate to each other. The simplest connections are connections to family, friends and neighbours. On a larger scale, we form connections through community and volunteer organizations, the ability of groups of people to form governments to deal with common problems.

	companies also trade all over the world.
Human capital	• Productive investments embodied in human persons. These include skills, abilities, ideals, and health resulting from expenditures on education, on-the-job training programs, and medical care.

60.	**Despite being a high saving economy, capital formation may not result in significant increase in output due to** (a) Weak administrative machinery (b) Illiteracy (c) High population density (d) High capital-output ratio	D	VI	INDIAN ECONOMY	74

ICOR: INCREMENTAL CAPITAL OUTPUT RATIO

- It establishes **relationship** between increase in **investment** and the resultant increase in **output.**
- Thus it shows how much increase in output can be obtained by increasing investment per unit

i.e. **ICOR** is **inversely proportional to productivity**

ICOR = Investment/ Growth rate

e.g. 10th plan: Investment target 28.41

Growth rate 7.93

ICOR = 28.41/ 7.93= 4.53

61.	**After the Santhal Uprising subsided, what was/were the measure / measures taken by the colonial government?** 1. The territories called 'Santhal Paraganas' were created. 2. It became illegal for a Santhal to transfer land to a non-Santhal. **Select the correct answer using the code given below :** a) 1 only b) 2 only c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 or 2	A	II	MODERN INDIA	132

MAJOR REVOLTS

REVOLT	AREA	LEADER	FACT
Santhal (1855)	Bhagalpur & Rajmahal Hills (Bihar)	Sido & Kanhu	Against dikkus and sahibs (British), **oppression by police,** revenue officials and moneylenders; Declared themselves independent; Government had to create a **separate district of Santhal Parganas** to pacify them.
Kols (1820-	Chota	Buddho	Because of large-scale **transfers of land** from Kols

62.	**Economically ,one of the results of the British rule in the 19th century was the** (a) increase in the export of Indian handicrafts (b) growth in the number of Indian owned factories (c) commercialization of the Indian agriculture (d) rapid increase in the urban population	C	II	MODERN INDIA	20 & 21

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IMPACT ON DIFFERENT SECTORS

Agriculture

- **Subjugation of Indian agriculture:** forced to play its assigned role in a colonial economy i.e. Supplier of foodstuffs. In addition, **commercialization of agriculture** for British interest left peasantry more prone to any fluctuation of prices in international market.
- **Forced to pay very high rents.** The chronic poverty led (especial during famines and floods) manipulate judicial system and administration to there advantage. Therefore wide scale transfer of land from cultivators to moneylenders leading to **evolution of landlordism.**
- **New structure of agrarian relations,** which was extremely regressing in nature; and semi-feudal and semi-colonial in character. No efforts were made to improve, develop or modernize agriculture and this lead to its continuous deterioration.

Artisans and Handicrafts

- **Cheap machine made products** produced on mass scale from Europe to Indian village.
- **Restrictions** were placed on Indian products in Britain.
- **Loss of patronage** by princes and nobles, and impact of Western values added to their misery. Therefore, there was progressive decline and destruction of urban and rural handicraft industries. Therefore, they were forced to either sell their product at uneconomical rate or hire themselves out to British, or get sucked in already burdened agriculture.

63.	**If the President of India exercises his power as provided under Article 365 of the Constitution in respect of a particular State, then** a) The Assembly of the State is automatically dissolved. b) The powers of the Legislature of that State shall be exercisable by or under the authority of the Parliament. c) Article 19 is suspended in that State. d) The President can make laws relating to that state.	B	I	INDIAN POLITY	120

- The **President acquires** the following extraordinary powers:-
  1. Assign to himself all or any of **functions of state** and powers of Governor.
  2. Declare that the **powers of the State Legislature** shall be exercisable by or under the authority of the Parliament.
  3. Authorize (when Lok Sabha is not in session) **expenditure from Consolidated Fund of the State** pending sanction of such expenditure by Parliament.
  4. **Promulgate ordinances** for the administration of the state when the Parliament is not in session.

64.	**Consider the following pairs:** Craft – Heritage of 1.Puthukkuli shawls - Tamil Nadu 2.Sujni embroidery - Maharashtra 3.Uppada Jamdani saris - Karnataka	A			

	Which of the pairs given above is/ are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 (c) 3 only (d) d)2 and 3				
65.	**In which of the following areas can GPS technology is used?** 1. Mobile phone operations 2. Banking operations 3. Controlling the power grids **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	D	8 V 9	INDIA YEAR BOOK SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CURRENT AFFAIRS	115 194 67

- The **'Panic Button** and Global Positioning System in Mobile Phone Handsets Rules, 2016' have been notified. Under these rules, all new feature phones will have the facility of **panic button**. Further, all new mobile phones will be required to have the facility of identifying the location through satellite based GPS. An emergency Response Support System (ERSS) is also being set up under **Nirbhaya Fund** in collaboration with MHA.
- The Ministry of Civil Aviation has decided to implement an indigenous Satellite-Based Regional GPS Augmentation System also known as Space-Based Augmentation System (SBAS) as part of the Satellite-Based Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS)/Air Traffic Management (ATM) plan for civil aviation.
- By 2020, these 'eyes in the sky', as part of a 30-member family, will become operational, **rivalling** the U.S. Air Force's Global Positioning System (GPS).
- Along with **Russian Glonass** and Europe's Galileo systems, it will assist users — in cars, ships and planes — to accurately reach their destinations in any part of the globe.

66.	**Consider the following statements:** 1. The Reserve Bank of India manages and services Government of India Securities but not any State Government Securities. 2. Treasury bills are issued by the Government of India and there are no treasury bills issued by the State Governments. 3. Treasury bills offer are issued at a discount from the par value. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?** a) 1 and 2 only b) 3 only	C	VI	INDIAN ECONOMY	105

	c) 2 and 3 only d) 1,2and 3				

- A Government security is a **tradable instrument** issued by the Central Government or the State Governments. It acknowledges the Government's debt obligation. Such securities are **short-term** (usually called **treasury bills**, with original maturities of less than one year) or **long-term** (usually called **Government bonds** or dated securities with original maturity of 1 year or more).
- Government securities offer the benefit of safety, liquidity and attractive returns for a long duration to the investors.
- With the enactment of the **Government Securities Act, 2006**, Government securities, including the Relief/Savings Bonds issued by the Government of India, have become more investor friendly.
- In India, the Central Government issues both, treasury bills and bonds or dated securities while the State Governments issue only bonds or dated securities, which are called the **State Development Loans (SDLs)**.Government securities carry practically **no risk** of default and, hence, are called **risk-free gilt-edged instruments**.

67.	**Consider the following statements:** 1. The Earth's magnetic field has reversed every few hundred thousand years. 2. When the Earth was created more than 4000 million years ago, there was 54% oxygen and no carbon dioxide. 3. When living organisms originated, they modified the early atmosphere of the Earth. **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	C	IV	GEOGRAPHY THEORY	234

ORIGIN OF LIFE

- The earth when it was formed **about 4.8 billion years ago** was a hot revolving ball of gas consisting of atoms of various elements.
- The lightest elements like **hydrogen, oxygen** and **carbon** were found in the outermost layer. Due to the extremely high temperature, the atoms of these elements could not combine to form molecules.

Formation of Inorganic Molecules and Compounds

- With a considerable decrease in the earth's temperature over thousands of years, the atoms of different elements came together at random and formed inorganic molecules. Since the lighter elements (hydrogen, oxygen, carbon and nitrogen) were the most abundant in the outermost layer, their atoms reacted with each other to form the first inorganic molecules. Thus, the **earliest molecules formed were those of hydrogen (H_2), nitrogen (N_2), ammonia (NH_3), methane (CH_4), carbon dioxide (CO_2) and water vapour (H_2O).** All the atoms of oxygen probably combined with those of hydrogen and carbon to form water vapour and carbon dioxide. Hence, the lack of free molecular oxygen was responsible for the reducing type of atmosphere that existed on the primitive earth. The energy required for the configuration of these molecules must have come from the ultraviolet radiation in the sunlight.

68.	**The terms 'WannaCry , Petya and EternalBlue' sometimes mentioned in the news recently are related to** a) Exoplanets b) Cryptocurrency c) Cyber attacks d) Mini satellites	C	7B	CURRENT AFFAIRS	234

- **Crypto-currency is a digital currency** which allows transacting parties to remain anonymous while confirming that the transaction is a valid one.
- Bitcoins were in the news recently when during the two global cyber ransomware attacks — **WannaCry and Petya** — attackers sought about $300 in bitcoin as ransom.
- Crypto-currency can also be used for a lot of legal activities — such as booking tickets, buying

69.	**With reference to the circumstances in Indian agriculture, the concept of "Conservation Agriculture" assumes significance. Which of the following fall under the Conservation Agriculture?** 1. Avoiding the monoculture practices 2. Adopting minimum tillage 3. Avoiding the cultivation of plantation crops 4. Using crop residues to cover soil surface 5. Adopting spatial and temporal crop sequencing/crop rotations **Select the correct answer using the code given below :**	C			

	a) 1,3 and 4 b) 2,3,4 and 5 c) 2,4 and 5 d) 1,2,3 and 5				
70.	**The term " sixth mass extinction/ sixth extinction "is often mentioned in the news in the context of the discussion of** a) Widespread monoculture practices in agriculture and large-scale commercial farming with indiscriminate use of chemicals in many parts of the world that may result in the loss of good native ecosystems. b) Fears of a possible collision of meteorite with the Earth in the near future in the manner it happened 65 million years ago that caused the mass extinction of many species including those of dinosaurs. c) Large scale cultivation of genetically modified crops in many parts of the world and promoting their cultivation in other parts of the world which may cause the disappearance of good native crop plants and the loss of food biodiversity. d) Mankind's over-exploitation/misuse of natural resources, fragmentation/loss of natural habitats, destruction of ecosystems, pollution and global climate change.	D	7B	CURRENT AFFAIRS	140 & 141

Earth facing sixth mass extinction

Stanford professor Rodolfo Dirzo, co-author of a study published in the peer-reviewed U.S. journal ***Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*** had following findings to share:

- The sixth mass extinction of life on Earth is unfolding more quickly than feared.
- More **than 30% of animals with a backbone — fish, birds, amphibians, reptiles and mammals — are declining** in both range and population, according to the first comprehensive analysis of these trends.
- Around a decade ago, experts feared that a new planetary wipe out of species was looming. Today, most agree that it is under way — but the new study suggests that the die-out is already ratcheting up a gear. It provides much-needed **data about the threat to wildlife, mapping the dwindling ranges and population of 27,600 species.**
- The **mammal** species that were monitored have lost at least **a third of their original habitat.** Forty per cent of them — including rhinos, orangutans, gorillas and many big cats — are surviving on 20% or less of the land they once roamed. The loss of biodiversity has recently accelerated.
- Several species of mammals that were relatively safe one or two decades ago are now **endangered**, including **cheetahs, lions and giraffes.** There are as few as 20,000 lions left in the wild, less than 7,000 cheetahs, 500 to 1,000 giant pandas, and about 250 Sumatran rhinoceros.

71.	**Consider the following statements:** 1. Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) is the amount that banks have to maintain in the form of their own funds to offset any loss that banks incur if the account-holders fail to repay dues. 2. CAR is decided by each individual bank. **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	A	**9**	CURRENT AFFAIRS	181
			VI	INDIAN ECONOMY	125

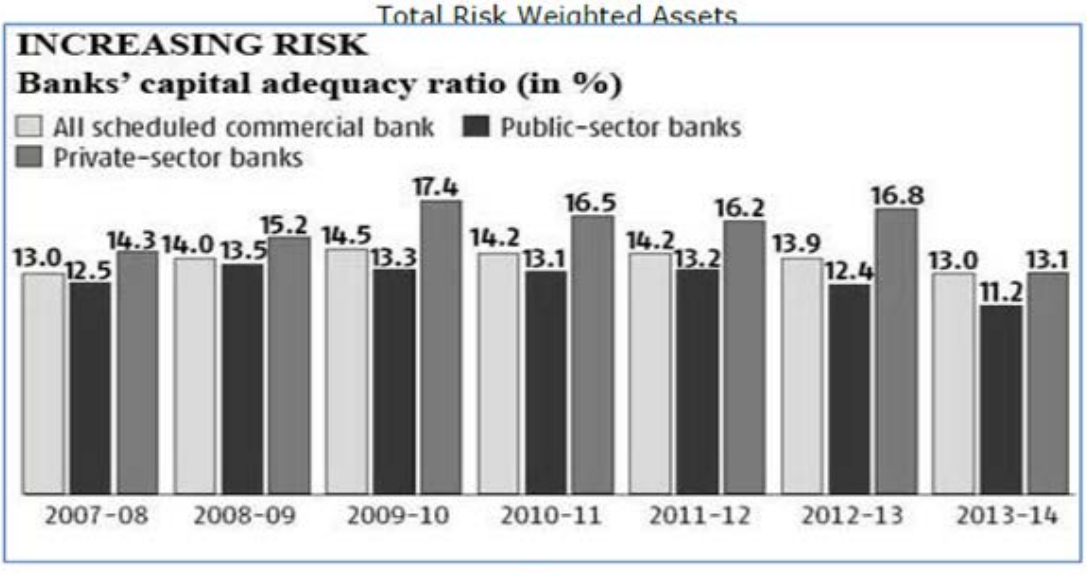
RECAPITALIZATION

- With India's economic growth faltering in the last couple of years, the government has been casting about for ways to galvanize the economy. In November 2016, it tried demonetisation.
- It was a bold move but its economic benefits will be **long in coming future** while the short-term disruption has been very real and demoralising.
- In 2017, it pushed through the goods and services tax (GST). Again, this is hugely positive over the medium term, but is painful in the short run.
- Now Government has announced Banks reforms to cheer the market.
- The proposal is to **recapitalise** Public Sector Banks to the extent of Rs2.11 trillion (Rs2.11 lakh crore)
- This will **maintain** the minimum capital adequacy requirement and flow of credit and provisioning for NPAs

CAPITAL ADEQUACY RATIO (CAR)

- Represents the **health of banking system.** CAR for Indian banks **13%.**

$$\frac{\text{Total Capital Funds}}{\text{Total Risk Weighted Assets}} \times 100$$



72.	**The identity platform 'Aadhaar' provides open "Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)". What does it imply?** 1. It can be integrated into any electronic device. 2. Online authentication using iris is possible. **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	C	7A	CURRENT AFFAIRS	145 & 201

- **Aadhaar—along with bank accounts** (Jan Dhan) and mobile phones—is being opened up as a platform, creating the **JAM** (Jan Dhan, Aadhaar and Mobile) stack or **the India Stack** (set of open application programming interfaces, or APIs), which is a huge leap forward in its utility. Large and small companies can sit on this stack, and use the identity, connectivity, banking and payment (UPI) infrastructure to **create massive products and services, and simplify** existing ones considerably.

Government's response in favour of Aadhaar/
Arguments against privacy as fundamental right:

- Aadhaar **benefits** millions of poor by giving them direct access to public benefits and is necessary to end corruption in public distribution, money laundering and terror funding.
- The privacy is a "**vague and amorphous**" right which cannot be granted primacy over public welfare.
- **Sufficient safeguards** to protect data collected from the people like their iris scan and finger prints are already in place.

73.	**Very recently, in which of the following countries have lakhs of people either suffered from severe famine/acute malnutrition or died due to starvation caused by war/ethnic conflicts?** (a) Angola and Zambia (b) Morocco and Tunisia (c) Venezuela and Colombia (d) Yemen and South Sudan	D	7A	CURRENT AFFAIRS	57
			7B	CURRENT AFFAIRS	240

- Apart from assisting Indian nationals in distress abroad, ICWF has been a **critical support in emergency evacuation of Indian nationals** in conflict zones in Libya, Iraq, Yemen, South Sudan and other challenging situations like assistance extended to undocumented Indian workers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during the Nitaqat drive in 2013 and the ongoing Amnesty drive in 2017.

per cent of under-five children suffer from wasting. **Only three other countries**—Djibouti, Sri Lanka, and South Sudan — have a child-wasting rate of over 20 per cent.

74.	**Regarding wood's Dispatch, which of the following statements are true?** 1. Grants-in-Aid system was introduced. 2. Establishment of universities was recommended. 3. English as a medium of instruction at all levels of education was recommended. **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	A	II	MODERN INDIA	147 & 150

- The **Woods Dispatch of 1854** (after Sir Charles Wood, President of Board of control) is known as **Magna Carta of English education** in India.
- It asked government to assume responsibility for the education of the masses.
- Thus, it **rejected the "downward filtration theory"**.
- Following Woods dispatch. Departments of education were instituted in all provinces and in **1857; universities** were set up in **Bombay, Madras and Calcutta**.

75.	**With reference to the Parliament of India, which of the following Parliamentary Committees scrutinizes and reports to the House whether the powers to make regulations, rules, sub-rules, by-laws, etc. conferred by the Constitution or delegated by the Parliament are being properly exercised by the Executive within the scope of such delegation?** (a) Committee on Government Assurances (b) Committee on Subordinate Legislation (c) Rules Committee (d) Business Advisory Committee	B	I	INDIAN POLITY	89

OTHER IMPORTANT COMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENT

- **Committee on Subordinate Legislation:** constituted in **1953**; its function is to **examine and report to the Lok Sabha**, whether the powers to make regulations, rules, sub-rules, bye-laws and others, conferred by the Constitution or delegated by the Parliament, are being properly exercised by it. It consists of **15 members** including the Chairman, all nominated by the **Speaker**. The term of office of the members is **1 year**. A **minister cannot be a member** of the Committee. The **Chairman** of the Committee is drawn from the **Opposition**.

76.	**Consider the following statement :** 1. As per the Right to Education (RTE) Act, to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in a state, a person would be required to possess the minimum qualification laid down by concerned state Council of Teacher Education. 2. As per the RTE Act, for teaching primary classes, a candidate is required to pass a Teacher Eligibility Test conducted in accordance with the National Council of Teacher Education guidelines. 3. In India, more than 90% of Teacher education institutions are directly under the State Government. **Which of the statement given above is/are correct?** a) 1 and 2 b) 2 only c) 1 and 3 d) 3 only	B	7A	CURRENT AFFAIRS	189 & 190
			7B	CURRENT AFFAIRS	66

- A Government security is a **tradable instrument** issued by the Central Government or the State Governments. It acknowledges the Government's debt obligation. Such securities are **short-term** (usually called **treasury bills**, with original maturities of less than one year) or **long-term** (usually called **Government bonds** or dated securities with original maturity of 1 year or more).
- Government securities offer the benefit of safety, liquidity and attractive returns for a long duration to the investors.
- With the enactment of the **Government Securities Act, 2006**, Government securities, including the Relief/Savings Bonds issued by the Government of India, have become more investor friendly.
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77. *	**Consider the following pairs:** Tradition State 1. Chapchar Kut festival - Mizoram 2. Khongjom Parba ballad - Manipur 3. Thang-Ta dance - Sikkim **Which of the pair given above is/are correct?** a) 1only	B	II	ANCIENT INDIA	270

	b) 1 and 2 only c) 3 only d) 2 and 3				

- **Thambal Chongbi:** It is performed during Holi in moonlit nights.
- **Thang-ta:** This is one of the most thrilling dances of Manipur and is performed by young men with swords and shields. Yumsarol, Pae-S-Jogoi, Lai Haroba and Ras Lila are the other important dance forms of Manipur

78.	**Consider the following Statements:** 1. The Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006 replaced the prevention of food Adulteration Act, 1954. 2. The Food Safety and standards Authority Of India (FSSAI) is under the charge of Director General of Health Services in the Union Ministry of Health And Family Welfare. **Which Statement6 given above is/ are correct?** a) 1only b) 2 only c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2	A	SUPPLEMENT 2 (CURRENT QUESTIONS)	Q-83	182

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

has been established under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 which consolidates various acts & orders that have hitherto handled food related issues in various Ministries and Departments. FSSAI has been created for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption.

Highlights of the Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006

Various central Acts like Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 , Fruit Products Order , 1955, Meat Food Products Order , 1973, Vegetable Oil Products (Control) Order, 1947,Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation)Order 1988, Solvent Extracted Oil, De- Oiled Meal and Edible Flour (Control) Order, 1967, Milk and Milk Products Order, 1992 etc are repealed from 5th August 2011 after commencement of FSS Act, 2006.

79.	**The term "Two-State Solution" is sometimes mentioned in the news in the context of the affairs of** a) China b) Israel c) Iraq d) Yemen	B	9	CURRENT AFFAIRS	231

The Quartet Roadmap

- It is the **two-state** plan suggested by **the U.S., the European Union, Russia and the UN** to resolve the Israeli-Palestine conflict.

80.	**With reference to the provisions made under the National Food Security Act, 2013, consider the following statement:** 1. The families coming under the category of below' poverty line (BPL)' only is eligible to receive subsidized food grains. 2. The eldest woman in a household, of age 18 years or above, shall be the head of the household for the purpose of issuance of a ration card. 3. Pregnant women and lactating mothers are entitled to a 'take –home ration" of 1600 calories per day during pregnancy and for six months thereafter. **Which of the statement given above is/ are correct?** a) 1 and 2 b) 2 only c) 1 and 3 d) 3 only	B	7A	CURRENT AFFAIRS	61

The NFSA 2013

- The issue of hunger and malnutrition is an old one and was aptly described as a national shame by the previous prime minister. Since then, there has been a vibrant debate leading to passing of the **National Food Security Act (NFSA)** which has been gravely neglected.
- The NFSA declared **'entitlements' to food grains** every month at subsidised prices.
- Every person in a **'priority household'** will be entitled to 5 kg of food grain, every 'Antyodaya' household to 35 kg, every pregnant woman or lactating mother to a daily free meal during pregnancy and for six months after childbirth plus Rs 6,000, every child under six years to a daily free meal, every child between 6 and 14 years to a free mid-day meal, and, in the case of non-supply of foodgrains or meals, to a food security allowance.
- It was intended to cover, if necessary, up to 75 per cent of the rural population and up to 50 per cent of the urban population. A **State Commission** would oversee the implementation of the Act in each state.
- The Act has been **gravely neglected**. It was to be implemented by July 2014 all over the country but is still in the process of getting implemented in many states. In most states, either the **identification of beneficiaries** is not complete or even where it is complete, it is yet to be implemented fully. The maternity entitlement programme which is part of NFSA has been notified only recently, that too with lower entitlement than what was enacted.

81.	**India enacted The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 in order to comply with the obligations to** a) ILO b) IMF c) UNCTAD d) WTO	D	VI	INDIAN ECONOMY	232

Geographical indications

- A place name is sometimes used to identify a product. This "geographical indication" does not only say **where the product was made.** More importantly, it identifies the product's special characteristics, which are the result of the **product's origins.**
- Well-known examples include "Champagne", "Scotch", "Tequila", and "Roquefort" cheese. Wine and spirits makers are particularly concerned about the use of place-names to identify products, and the TRIPS Agreement contains **special provisions for these products.** But the issue is also important for other types of goods.
- The agreement provides for further negotiations in the WTO to establish a **multilateral system of notification and registration of geographical indications** for wines. These are now part of the Doha Development Agenda and they include spirits. Also debated in the WTO is whether to negotiate extending this higher level of protection **beyond wines and spirits.**

82.	**Consider the following statements:** 1. In India, State Government do not have the power to auction non-coal mines. 2. Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand do not have gold mines. 3. Rajasthan has iron ore mines. **Which of the statement given above is/ are correct?** a) 1 and 2 b) 2 only c) 1 and 3 d) 3 only	D	8	INDIA YEAR BOOK	202

MINERALS

- **Ministry of Mines** administers Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 in respect of all mines and minerals other than coal, natural gas and petroleum, and Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act 2002.
- Under the **Constitution**, mineral rights and the administration of mining laws are vested in the **respective State governments.** The Centre, however, regulates the development of minerals under the Mines and Minerals Act, 1957.

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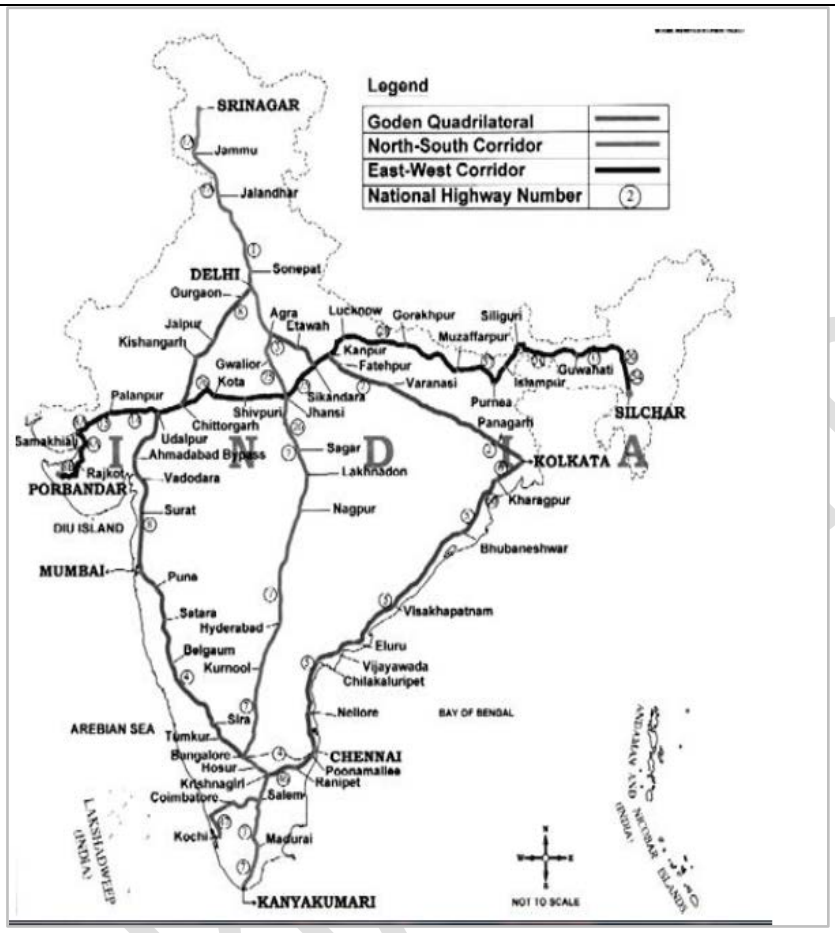
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83. *	**With reference to digital payments ,consider the following statements :** 1. BHIM app allows the user to transfer money to anyone with a UPI-enabled bank account. 2. While a chip-pin debit card has four factors of authentication, BHIM app has only two factors of authentication. **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	A	7B	CURRENT AFFAIRS	216
			9	CURRENT AFFAIRS	60

BHIM app and the Unified Payments Interface (UPI)

- The poor are able to make payments **electronically**. Every month now, about **seven crore** successful payments are made by the poor using their Aadhaar identification. The poor will have **access to financial services** and be **cushioned** against life's major shocks. Government finances will be improved because of the **reduced subsidy burden**; government will also be strengthened because it can **transfer resources** to citizens faster and more reliably and with less leakage.
- The account holders can get government subsidies **delivered** to them in cash, directly into their **accounts.** The government has been able to make direct transfers worth **Rs. 74,000** crore to the financial accounts of **35 crore** beneficiaries annually under various government schemes.
- The number of **PMJDY accounts** opened stood at 29.52 crore as of August 16, up from 12.55 crore in January 2015. The number of rural PMJDY accounts grew from 7.54 crore to 17.64. The number of RuPay cards issued increased from 11.08 crore to 22.71 crore.
- Digital payments through **BHIM-UPI** has registered transactions of Rupees fifteen thousand Crore in January 2018.

84.	**Among the following cities, Which one lies on a longitude closest to that of Delhi?** a) Bengaluru b) Hyderabad c) Nagpur d) Pune	A	III	INDIAN GEOGRAPHY	137



85.	**International Labour Organization's Conventions 138 and 182 are related to** a) Child labour b) Adaptation of agricultural practices to global climate change c) Regulation of food prices and food security d) Gender parity at the workplace	A	7A	CURRENT AFFAIRS	220

Some other efforts by the GOI:

- Government has taken various initiatives and developed a legal framework to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of eliminating child labour by the year **2025** and according to GOI, child labour **has come down** in India as per 2011 census as compared to 2001 census.
- The GOI ratified the two Core Conventions of International Labour Organization (ILO), **Convention 138** regarding admission of age to employment and **Convention 182** regarding worst forms of Child Labour in June 2017 which shows our commitment to a child labour free nation.
- As per the notification published in the official gazette dated 2nd June 2017, the Central Government amended the **Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Rules, 1988** which was notified on 2nd June 2017. For the **first time** provision for prevention, rescue and rehabilitation of children in the central rules and institutional set up at the district level in the form up district task force was provided.

86.	**Consider the following statements:** 1. In the first Lok Sabha, the single largest party in the opposition was the Swatantra Party. 2. In the Lok Sabha, a "Leader of the opposition" was recognized for the first times in 1969. 3. In the Lok Sabha , if a party does not have minimum of 75 members, its leader cannot be recognized as the Leader of the Opposition. **Which of the statement given above is / are correct?** a) 1 and 3 only b) 2 only c) 2 and 3 only d) 1,2 and 3	B	I	INDIAN POLITY	90

- **LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION:** There is no provision of the leader of opposition in the original Constitution. This was created and given a **Cabinet rank** by an Act of the Parliament. The party (other than from the ruling side) with the largest number of members in the Parliament, having at least $^{1}/_{10}^{th}$ of the strength of Lok Sabha is recognized as Opposition Party.

87.	**Which of the following leaf modifications occur (s) in the desert areas to inhibit water loss?** 1. Hard and waxy leaves 2. Tiny leaves 3. Thorns instead of leaves **Select the correct answer using the code given below:** a) 2 and 3 only b) 2 only c) 3 only d) 1,2 and 3	D	IV	WORLD GEOGRAPHY	107

HOT DESERT REGION: Region of everlasting difficulties

- Hot deserts are generally found on the western margins of continent in the Trade wind Belt.
- Widespread decent of air along the sub-Tropical High Pressure Belts leading to a condition least favourable for precipitation of any kind.
- All desert vegetation is adapted to drought conditions and high evaporation rates. Such plants are known as xerophytes.
- Desert plants have **several types of adaptations** that help them conserve water.
  - A leathery or **waxy coating** on the leaves and stems reduces evaporation.
  - **Thick stems** or other plant parts provide water storage space.
  - **Small leaves** or **spines or thorns** (modified leaves) reduce the surface area of the plant exposed to the sun. (Some plants such as the ocotillo and palo verde shed their leaves during dry spells, further reducing their surface area.)
  - Spines and fine hairs reflect heat and reduce the airflow over the plant's surface.

88.	**As per NSSO 70th Round "Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households", consider the following statements:** 1. Rajasthan has the highest percentage share of agricultural households among its rural households. 2. Out of the total agricultural households in the country, a little over 60 percentage belong to OBCs. 3. In kerala, a little over 60 percent of agricultural households reported to have received maximum income from sources other agricultural activities. **Which of the statement given above is/ are correct?** a) 2 and 3 only b) 2 only c) 1 and3 only d) 1,2 and 3	C			
89.	**How is the National Green Tribunal (NGT) different from the Central pollution Control Board (CPCB)?** 1. The NGT has been established by an Act whereas the CPCB has been created by an executive order of the Government. 2. The NGT provides environmental justice and helps reduce the burden of litigation in the higher courts whereas the CPCB promotes cleanliness of streams and wells, and aims to improve the quality of air in the country.	B	7A III	CURRENT AFFAIRS BIODIVERSITY	238& 239 243

	Which of the statement given above is/ are correct? a) 1 only b) 2 only c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2		7B	CURRENT AFFAIRS	184

Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act of 1974	Establishes an institutional structure for preventing and abating **water pollution.** It establishes standards for water quality and effluents. Polluting industries must **seek permission** to discharge waste into effluent bodies. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) was constituted under this Act.

- The CPCB, which is responsible for **developing air pollution guidelines** at the national level, and the state pollution control boards (SPCBs) which enforce these guidelines in the states, face institutional, technical, and manpower constraints.

NGT in troubled waters

- The National Green Tribunal (NGT)'s journey since its inception in 2010 has been far from easy: Despite being a body constituted by an Act of Parliament, the **Supreme Court had to intervene** in the initial years to ensure necessary administrative arrangements were made by the government for the tribunal to become fully functional.
- The NGT, however, has **emerged as a critical player** in environmental regulation, passing strict orders on issues ranging from pollution to deforestation to waste management. These issues **more often than not come in conflict with what is known as the development agenda** of successive governments, which tend to be extremely short-sighted.

About NGT:

- The National Green Tribunal has been established in **2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010** for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to **environmental protection and conservation of forests** and other **natural resources** including enforcement of any legal right relating to environment and giving relief and compensation for damages to persons and property and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.
- It is a **specialized body** equipped with the necessary expertise to handle environmental disputes involving multi-disciplinary issues.
- The Tribunal is mandated to make and endeavour for disposal of applications or appeals finally **within 6 months** of filing of the same. Initially, the NGT is proposed to be set up at **five places** of sittings and will follow circuit procedure for making itself more accessible. New Delhi is the Principal Place of Sitting of the Tribunal and Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai shall be the other four place of sitting of the Tribunal.
- It consists of both **Judicial and Expert** members.

90.	**Consider the following statements :** 1. The Parliament of India can place a particular law in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution of India. 2. The validity of a law placed in the Ninth Schedule cannot be examined by any court and no judgment can be made on it. **Which of the statement given above is/ are correct?** a) 1 only b) 2 only c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2	A	I	INDIAN POLITY	323

Ninth Schedule	• Deals with Laws made by Legislatures relating to land reforms. • Added by 1st Amendment Act, 1951. • Initially it was kept out of the Scope of Judicial Review. • Recently Supreme Court extended Judicial Review over it owing to its misuse by certain State Governments.	31(B)
Tenth Schedule	• Disqualification of a member on ground of defection	102(2)

91.	**Which one of the following best describes the term "Merchant Discount Rate" sometimes seen news?** (a) The incentive given by a bank to a merchant for accepting payments through debit cards pertaining to that bank. (b) The amount paid back by banks to their customers when they use debit cards for financial transactions for purchasing goods or services. (c) The charge to a merchant by a bank for accepting payments from his customers through the bank's debit card. (d) The incentive given by the Government to merchants for promoting digital payments by their customers through Point of sale (PoS) machines and debit cards.	C			
92. *	**What is/are the consequence/consequence of country becoming the member of the 'Nuclear Suppliers Group'?** 1. It will have access to the latest and most efficient nuclear technologies. 2. It automatically becomes a member of "The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)". **Which of the statements give above is/are correct?** (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2	A	V	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	226

	Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT)	Signed in 1968, came into force 1970	(i) Not to transfer nuclear weapons or control over provide assistance in producing weapons. (ii) Neither to receive. (iii) Know-how for using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. (iv) 25 years. A global conference on the extension of the NPT held on 1995 in New York decided to extend the NPT indefinitely. Some countries like India, Pakistan and Israel, have not signed the treaty. India has not joined the NPT protesting against its discriminatory nature. Pakistan insists that it would do so only if New Delhi signs the document.			
93.	**With reference to India's decision to levy an equalization tax of 6% on online advertisement services offered by non-resident entities, which of the following statements is/are correct?** 1. It is introduced as a part of the Income Tax Act. 2. Non-resident entities that offer advertisement services in India can claim a tax credit in their home country under the "Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements". **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	D			
94.	**Consider the following statements :** 1. The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Review Committee Report has recommended a debt to GDP ratio of 60% for the general (combined government by 2023, comprising 40% for the Central Governments and 20% for the State Governments. 2. The Central Government has domestic liabilities of 21% of GDP as compared to that of 49% of GDP of the State Governments. 3. As per the Constitution of India, it is	C	I	INDIAN POLITY	128
			SUPPLEMENT 2 (CURRENT QUESTIONS)	Q-168	205

	mandatory for a State to take the Central Government's consent for raising any loan if the former owes any outstanding liabilities to the latter. **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		9	CURRENT AFFAIRS	188 & 189

N.K. Singh Committee on FRBM

- Has recommended reducing the fiscal deficit-to-GDP ratio to 2.5% of GDP by 2022-23.
- It also suggested flexibility in fiscal deficit targets in case of exogenous shocks (includes sharp drop in economic growth or structural reforms with fiscal implications).
- The committee has emphasized the need for increased focus on debt sustainability and recommended reducing India's debt-to-GDP to 60% by 2022-23 from the current level of 68%.

- **Fourthly, the debt-GDP levels of 60% and 40% of GDP for the general and Central governments, respectively, were to be achieved by 2022-23. These target dates have been shifted to 2024-25.**
- The centre can make **public purpose grants to states** and to any institution within the states (Article 282).
- The Centre can **grant loans to states** and also give guarantee in respect of loans raised by them (Article 293).

95.	**Consider the following statements:** 1. The quantity of imported edible oils is more than the domestic production of edible oils in the last five years. 2. The Government does not impose any customs duty on all the imported edible oils as a special case. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?** (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2	A	7A	CURRENT AFFAIRS	264
			9	CURRENT AFFAIRS	40

- In fact, India too has been importing GM products—specifically, **GM soybean oil and GM canola oil** (which is a sister crop of mustard)—for nearly two decades now. These imports cost about Rs. 80,000 crore annually and are needed to cover nearly half of India's edible oil demand. Now, if GM mustard, which has a much higher yield than traditional varieties, can be cultivated domestically, it can not only reduce the import bill significantly but also increase the income of about six million mustard farmers.
- The CCEA has also **approved** to review the export/import policy on all varieties of edible oils and consider measures such as quantitative restrictions, prior registration, imposition of **Minimum Export Price** (MEP) and changes in import duties depending on domestic production and demand, domestic and international prices and international trade volumes.
- The Inter-Ministerial Committee, headed by the Commerce Secretary, mandated to review the export of edible oils in consumer packs & calibrate MEP from time to time, has been **discontinued**.

Impact

- Removing of restrictions on export of all edible oils is likely **to provide additional marketing avenues** for edible oils and oilseeds and will benefit the farmers by way of better realisation for oilseeds.
- Allowing export of edible oils may also result in utilization of idle capacity in India's edible oils industry and is a step towards Ease of Doing Business by removing confusion arising out of prohibition on export of edible oils and a plethora of exemptions.

Background

- The **production of oilseeds** in 2016-17 has seen a quantum jump in comparison to past two years. At present, only certain edible oils can be exported in bulk and other oils only in consumer packs upto 5 Kg with MEP.
- In order to support growing production of oilseeds and to explore additional avenues for marketing of edible oils, it is required to allow bulk export of all edible oils with the **exception of mustard oil**, which is an item of mass consumption in India.

96.	**He wrote biographies of Mazzini, Garibaldi, Shivaji and Shrikrishna; stayed in America for some time; and was also elected to the Central Assembly.** He was (a) Aurobindo Ghosh (b) Bipin Chandra Pal (c) Lala Lajpat Rai (d) Motilal Nehru	C			
97.	**Consider the following statements:** 1. Aadhaar card can be used as a proof of citizenship of domicile. 2. Once issued, Aadhaar number cannot be deactivated of omitted by the Issuing Authority. **Which of the statements give above is/are correct?** (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 or 2	D	SUPPLEMENT 2 (CURRENT QUESTIONS)	Q-143	198 & 199
			VI	INDIAN ECONOMY	137

AADHAR is a 12 digit unique number. The Aadhaar number or the authentication thereof shall not, by itself, confer any right of, or be proof of, citizenship or domicile in respect of an Aadhaar number holder.

Understanding requirement of establishing unique identity, Government of India introduced photo identity cards issued by Election Commission, first in 1993. Subsequently in 2003, Government approved the Multipurpose National Identity Card (MNIC).Then in **February 2009, Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) was established.** The purpose of UIDAI is to issue a unique identification number (UID) to all Indian residents that is (a) robust enough to eliminate duplicate and fake identities, and (b) can be verified and authenticated in an easy, cost effective way. As far as revenues are concerned, by providing identity authentication, the UIDAI will be replacing process that costs agencies and service providers hundreds of crores every year. The

98.	**Which of the following has/have shrunk immensely/dried up in the recent past due to human activities?** 1. Aral Sea 2. Black Sea 3. Lake Baikal **Select the correct answer using the code given below:** (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 2 only (d) 1 and 3	A			
99.	"Rule of Law Index" is released by which of following? (a) Amnesty International (b) International Court of Justice (c) The office of UN Commissioner for Human Rights (d) World Justice Project	D	9	CURRENT AFFAIRS	308

A GATHERING STORM ON ENGAGING WITH HUMAN RIGHTS LAWS

- **The World Justice Project** released its **Rule of Law Index 2017-18** report, which measures the extent to which 113 countries have adhered to the rule of law in that period.
- **India's rank was 62, better than China**, Pakistan, Myanmar and Bangladesh. Denmark occupied the top spot.

100.	**Which one of the following links all the ATMs**	D			

	in India? (a) Indian Banks' Association (b) National Securities Depository Limited (c) National Payments Corporation if India (d) Reserve Bank Of India				

TOTAL QUESTIONS FROM CRACKIAS NOTES	**77**
*** Questions where need support**	**5**
This year expected Cut-off (2018)	**49-50**

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