

# Current Affairs quiz August 2025

## 1. Polity and Governance

- **The Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025:** This significant bill mandates the removal of the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers, and any other ministers at the central, state, or UT (Delhi) levels if they remain in custody for 30 consecutive days for a serious criminal offense. The aim is to prevent "governance from jail". Specifically, the Prime Minister or Chief Minister must tender their resignation by the 31st consecutive day, failing which they will automatically cease to hold office. For other state or Delhi ministers, the Governor or President acts on the advice of the Chief Minister, but if no advice is given by the 31st day, the minister automatically loses their position.
- **The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025:** Introduced as a Finance Bill under Article 117 of the Constitution, this Act effectively bans online money games to ensure a safe digital environment. It absolutely prohibits real money games, defined as games where financial stakes are involved in the expectation of winning, such as Dream11, Poker, or WinZO. Furthermore, it prohibits advertisements for these games and halts financial transactions by banks towards them. The law applies to services offered within India or operated from outside the territory targeting Indians.
- **National Sports Governance Act, 2025:** Enacted to regulate sports bodies, this law gives the central government powers to exempt national bodies if it serves the public interest of promoting the sport. It addresses critical issues like politician domination in sports federations, overlapping organizational roles, and the need to align with global practices ahead of India's 2036 Olympics preparation. A related provision gives the World Anti-Doping Code the force of law in India, allowing specific bodies to appeal directly to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Switzerland and mandating the accreditation of testing labs.
- **Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2025:** Building on the 2023 Act, this bill decriminalizes and rationalizes offenses across 16 Central Acts administered by 10 Ministries. It aims to enhance "trust-based governance" by replacing rigid, punitive compliances with streamlined mechanisms, thereby reducing the judicial burden and improving the ease of doing business.
- **News in Shorts:**

- **SC on Free Speech:** The Supreme Court affirmed that commercial and prohibited speeches (with economic intent or hate speech) are not protected as fundamental rights. Influencers were directed to act responsibly, and the court suggested comprehensive social media guidelines and punitive actions under the IT Rules.
- **OCI Card Rules:** Rules for Overseas Citizens of India have been tightened, allowing authorities to revoke OCI registration for any length of stay in India under certain legal violations.
- **Vice-President Election:** The Election Commission announced the 17th VP election, noting that a candidate must be an Indian citizen, at least 35 years old, and qualified for election to the Rajya Sabha.
- **National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC):** Relevant updates regarding the NCDC were noted.

## 2. International Relations

- **Fair and Representative Global Order:** India's External Affairs Minister highlighted the deep inequalities in the global order, noting that power structures like the UN Security Council P5 and the IMF disproportionately favor the Global North. For instance, the US holds 16.49% of IMF voting power despite representing a small fraction of the global population.
- **India's Strategy in the Indian Ocean & ASEAN:** India is actively working to secure the Indian Ocean and has reinforced the importance of ASEAN Centrality. Maintaining ASEAN as the premier organization in Southeast Asia is deemed crucial to prevent member nations from being swayed by the strategic ambitions of external powers.
- **News in Shorts:**
  - **India-Philippines:** Bilateral ties were formally elevated to a Strategic Partnership, guided by a 2025-2029 Plan of Action.
  - **INF Treaty:** Russia officially ended its commitment to the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. This collapse—driven by US military repositioning like the Typhon missile in the Philippines—raises fears of a renewed Cold War arms race and increases the risk of global nuclear conflict.
  - **Armenia-Azerbaijan Peace:** The US successfully brokered a peace agreement to end the decades-long conflict over the Nagorno-Karabakh region. The deal establishes the "TRIPP" transit route linking Azerbaijan to Nakhchivan through Armenia, with the US holding exclusive development rights.

- **AIBD:** India was elected Chairman of the Executive Board of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD), a UNESCO-founded organization focused on electronic media in the Asia-Pacific.
- **Conflicts:** Geopolitical maps highlighted famine in **Gaza**, a severe civil war in **Sudan**, and the ongoing conflict in **Ukraine**. Additionally, mentions were made of the **UN-India Global Capacity-Building Initiative**, the **Eurasian Economic Union**, and an **Alaska Summit** regarding a Russia-Ukraine ceasefire.

### 3. Economy

- **Regional Imbalances in India:** A Parliamentary Committee emphasized that the Central Government must create an action plan to distribute industries evenly across states, tackling regional economic disparities through cooperative and competitive federalism.
- **Internationalization of Rupee:** To advance de-dollarization, the RBI removed prior approval requirements for Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVAs). This allows an Indian importer to pay a foreign trader directly in rupees, crediting a foreign bank's account held domestically.
- **FRBM Act:** A CAG report flagged transparency issues in the government's compliance with the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act. It pointed out discrepancies in deficit figures between the Union Government Finance Accounts and the Budget at a Glance.
- **Mines and Minerals Amendment Act, 2025:** This act completely removes the previous 50% limit on the sale of minerals by captive mines, aiming to bring more minerals into the market. It also renames and expands the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) to support the National Critical Mineral Mission.
- **Gig Workers:** Karnataka passed the Platform-Based Gig Workers Bill, 2025. It establishes a Welfare Board and a Social Security Fund financed by a welfare fee on aggregators, joining similar laws in Rajasthan and Bihar.
- **Income Tax Act & Taxation Laws:** The new Income Tax Act retains core definitions but notably expands "undisclosed income" to include "virtual digital assets". It also grants authorities the power to override digital access codes during searches. Concurrently, the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Act provided tax exemptions for the Unified Pension System and Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund.
- **ESG & CCI:** Parliament recommended strengthening Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) frameworks. Another report scrutinized the Competition Commission of India's role in regulating digital landscapes.

- **Indian Ports Act, 2025 & Sagarmala:** The 2025 Ports Act replaces the 1908 legislation, granting statutory recognition to the Maritime State Development Council (MSDC) to facilitate integrated port development. Simultaneously, the Sagarmala Programme celebrated its 10th anniversary, marking a massive 118% growth in coastal shipping and aiming to make India a hub for the Blue Economy.
- **PMGSY:** The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is facing slow progress in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, impacting rural connectivity and socio-economic growth.
- **MS Swaminathan:** His 100th birth anniversary was celebrated with the theme “Evergreen Revolution: The Pathway to Biohappiness”. The "M. S. Swaminathan Award for Food and Peace" was instituted to recognize agricultural contributions in developing nations.
- **News in Shorts:**
  - **Sovereign Credit Ratings:** S&P upgraded India’s long-term rating to ‘BBB’ from ‘BBB-’.
  - **GIFT City Centers & RBI’s FREE-AI Vision:** Highlighted as key economic developments.
  - **Retail Inflation:** The CPI metrics published by the CSO were discussed as a primary macroeconomic indicator.
  - **Small Finance Banks:** SFBs can transition to Universal Banks if they maintain less than 1% gross NPA.
  - **RBI Co-lending Norms:** Revised rules require banks and NBFCs to disclose a transparent "blended interest rate" based on their proportionate funding contribution.
  - **Civil Aviation Safety:** A Parliamentary report on the DGCA emphasized the need to clear backlogs, analyze root causes of incidents, boost the domestic MRO (Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul) sector, and establish whistleblower protections.
  - **Steel Scrap Recycling Policy (SSRP):** To promote a circular economy (6Rs), a committee suggested making the Ministry of Steel the nodal agency and developing a robust database for scrap tracking.

#### 4. Security

- **High-Powered Demography Mission:** The Prime Minister announced this mission to combat illegal immigration and infiltration. It focuses on addressing porous borders, socio-economic disparities, and securing surveillance infrastructure.

- **Private Sector Defence Production:** In a major success for defense indigenization, the private sector's share in defense production hit a record 23% in FY 2024-25 for the third consecutive year.
- **Sudarshan Chakra Mission:** This mission aims to build a modern national security shield by 2035. It incorporates DRDO's Project Kusha to develop a long-range, multi-layered air defense missile system to neutralize enemy threats.
- **News in Shorts:**
  - **Agni-5 & IADWS:** The Agni-5 Surface-to-Surface Ballistic Missile was successfully tested. DRDO also conducted maiden flight tests of the Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS).
  - **SLINEX Exercise:** The 12th edition of the Sri Lanka-India Naval Exercise saw INS Rana and INS Jyoti participate in Colombo.

## 5. Environment

- **E-Mobility:** NITI Aayog launched the "India Electric Mobility Index," ranking Delhi, Maharashtra, and Chandigarh as top achievers in EV adoption. The report highlighted challenges like fragmented awareness campaigns, data gaps in the VAHAN database, and inverted GST structures for manufacturers.
- **Wise-use of Wetlands:** At Ramsar COP15 in Zimbabwe, 172 countries adopted India's resolution to promote sustainable lifestyles in wetlands, aligning with Mission LiFE. COP15 also saw the adoption of the Victoria Falls Declaration and the establishment of the Global Waterbird Estimates Partnership (GWEP).
- **Himalayan Cloudbursts:** Extreme weather in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and J&K requires a shift from reactive disaster relief to proactive resilience, demanding robust early warning systems and community adaptation.
- **News in Shorts:**
  - **India's Water Management:** A Parliamentary report noted that despite the CWC operating 340 flood forecasting sites, severe flood losses persist. It urged the rapid execution of the Interlinking of Rivers Program and Dam Safety action plans.
  - **Global Outlook Council on Water Investments:** South Africa launched this G20 initiative to secure global water investments.
  - **Pollution Control Boards:** Regulatory updates were mentioned.
  - **UNDP Equator Initiative Award:** The Bibi Fatima SHG won this "Nobel Prize for Biodiversity" for promoting climate-resilient, millet-based farming.

- **Awaza Programme of Action:** Adopted at the UN conference in Turkmenistan to tackle challenges for Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs).
- **Sundarbans Tiger Reserve:** Expanded, becoming India's second-largest tiger reserve.
- **Matri Van Initiative:** Part of the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' program, this initiative is developing a 750-acre urban forest in Gurugram's Aravalli hills.
- **Etalin Hydroelectric Project:** Recommended for environmental clearance on the Dri and Tangon rivers in Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Volcanic Eruptions & Others:** Activity at Mount Lewotobi (Indonesia) and Mount Kilauea (Hawaii) was reported, alongside updates on the Drake Passage.

## 6. Social Issues

- **Urban Migration:** Migration governance is heavily reliant on the Census. The text urged expanding best practices like the Kerala Migration Survey to better understand and manage circular migration and provide targeted social safety nets.
- **Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan:** The Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched this grassroots leadership program to train 20 lakh tribal leaders across 30 States/UTs. These leaders will ensure the last-mile delivery of government schemes and empower local Gram Sabhas.
- **News in Shorts:**
  - **MERITE Scheme:** The Cabinet approved budgetary support for the Multidisciplinary Education and Research Improvement in Technical Education scheme.
  - **Digital Literacy:** Kerala became India's first 100% digitally literate state.
  - **Registrar General of India (RGI):** Highlighted for its role in enforcing the Civil Registration System (CRS) under the Registration of Births & Deaths Act.

## 7. Science and Technology

- **Space Programme:** Highlighting the crucial role of space in *Viksit Bharat 2047*, Parliament discussed astronaut Subhanshu Shukla's travel to the ISS aboard the Axiom-4 Mission, making him India's second astronaut in space.

Space technology was also noted for its critical applications in telemedicine and tracking MGNREGA assets.

- **Commercial Earth Observation:** The PixxelSpace India consortium won a massive "zero-cost" PPP bid (forgoing a ₹350 crore government offer) to build a constellation of 12 commercial Earth Observation satellites over 5 years, equipped with hyperspectral and synthetic aperture radar payloads.
- **News in Shorts:**
  - **HOPE Analog Mission:** ISRO inaugurated the Himalayan Outpost for Planetary Exploration in Ladakh's Tso Kar Valley to simulate space-like conditions for future interplanetary astronauts.
  - **LMLV & EU AI Code:** Updates on ISRO's heaviest Lunar Module Launch Vehicle and the EU's voluntary General-Purpose AI Code.
  - **Brain-Computer Interface (BCI):** Innovations in BCI technology require strict new privacy regulations ("neurorights") to protect users' mental privacy and cognitive autonomy from cyber threats.
  - **Annual FASTag Passes:** MoRTH launched an annual ₹3,000 pass covering 200 toll plaza crossings to simplify highway travel.
  - **Hyperloop:** Maharashtra partnered with the IIT Madras startup TuTr Hyperloop to build the advanced transport system.
  - **SHRESTH Initiative:** The Union Health Ministry and CDSCO launched this index to evaluate and standardize the performance of state drug regulatory authorities.

## 8. Culture

- **Goswami Tulsidas:** The 500th birth anniversary of the *Ramcharitmanas* author was celebrated in Chitrakoot, honoring his legacy of devotion and message of equality.
- **Kakori Train Action:** India marked the 100th anniversary of the 1925 train robbery orchestrated by the Hindustan Republican Association (HRA). Key figures like Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqullah Khan, and Chandrashekhar Azad seized railway treasury funds in Kakori, UP.
- **Gallantry Awards:** The President approved 127 Gallantry awards and 40 Distinguished Service awards to honor Armed Forces personnel for bravery.
- **Commonwealth Games:** The Cabinet approved India's bid to host the 2030 CWG in Ahmedabad, seeking to bring the multi-sport event (first held in 1930) back to India.
- **News in Shorts:**

- **Vitthalbhai Patel:** The All India Speakers' Conference commemorated 100 years since Patel became the first elected Indian President of the Central Legislative Assembly in 1925.
- **National Film Awards:** The 2023 awards were officially noted.

## 9. Ethics

- **Trust in Public Institutions:** The document presented a case study regarding a tragic flyover collapse in a low-income area. It evaluated the ethical imperative of managing immediate public anger, protecting demoralized staff, and utilizing social media to combat disinformation and restore administrative credibility.
- **Ethics of Stray Dog Management:** Discussed the severe rise in dog bite cases versus the opposition to culling by animal welfare groups. Emphasizing the Supreme Court's order, the case urged a balanced "One Health Approach" relying heavily on the Animal Birth Control (ABC) module—focusing on sterilization and vaccination rather than euthanasia.

## 10. Schemes in News

- **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana:** A massive employment scheme designed to deposit direct financial incentives straight into the PAN-linked accounts of youth entering the workforce, benefiting both employees and providing cost offsets for employers.
- **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY):** The Union Cabinet approved a ₹12,000 crore targeted subsidy for 2025-26. Having reached 10.33 crore connections, the scheme aims to sustain clean LPG access for women, a move globally recognized by the WHO and IEA for improving health outcomes.

## Domestic Places in News

- **Ladakh:** The region saw two major developments. First, a Joint Expedition Team successfully summited Mt. Merag-II and Mt. Kangju Kangri, which are the highest peaks located in the Pangong Tso region. Second, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) inaugurated the HOPE (Himalayan Outpost for Planetary Exploration) Analog Mission in the Tso Kar Valley to simulate extraterrestrial conditions.
- **Jammu and Kashmir:** The region's iconic Dal Lake was the venue for the first-ever Khelo India water games.

- **Uttarakhand:** A severe environmental disaster struck the state when a cloudburst occurred over the Kheer Ganga River (a tributary of the Alaknanda River), which triggered devastating flash floods in the Uttarkashi district.
- **Uttar Pradesh:** The state commemorated the historic 100th Anniversary of the Kakori Train Action, remembering the revolutionaries of the freedom struggle.
- **Gujarat:** India advanced its green energy goals by commissioning an indigenously-built Green Hydrogen Power Plant (GHPP) at the Kandla Port.
- **Kerala:** The state set a major social benchmark by officially becoming India's first 100% Digitally Literate State.

### International Places in News

- **Alaska (USA):** The state was the meeting ground for a high-stakes geopolitical summit where the Presidents of the USA and Russia met to discuss a potential ceasefire regarding the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.
- **Canada:** The country faced severe ecological challenges, recording its second-worst wildfire season in history.
- **Easter Island:** This historic island is facing an existential threat from climate change. Projections indicate that rising sea levels could submerge its coastal areas by 2080, posing a severe threat to its world-famous moai statues and archaeological heritage.
- **Spain:** Triggered by an early August heatwave, massive wildfires swept across Spain, burning approximately 350,000 hectares of land in just two weeks.
- **France:** Southern France was also severely impacted by one of the largest wildfires it has ever seen. The disaster was heavily driven by a combination of strong winds, highly dry vegetation, and extremely hot summer weather.
- **Algeria:** A powerful earthquake measuring 5.8 in magnitude struck the Tebessa province in Algeria.
- **Lebanon:** The country is grappling with multiple crises. UNICEF highlighted an acute water scarcity issue across the nation, while UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) reported ongoing Israeli fire along the volatile Blue Line boundary.
- **Vietnam:** India and Vietnam held their 6th High-Level Meeting with the primary agenda of enhancing their bilateral maritime cooperation.
- **Philippines:** The Philippine President visited India to mark and celebrate the 75th anniversary of diplomatic ties between the two nations.

- **Fiji Islands:** Deepening their strategic footprint in the Indo-Pacific, India and Fiji announced new measures designed to strengthen their defence and maritime security cooperation.
- **Tuvalu:** Facing the direct consequences of rising sea levels, the island nation of Tuvalu signed the 2023 Falepili Union Treaty with Australia. This critical survival agreement allows 280 Tuvaluans to gain permanent residency in Australia every year.
- **Tonga:** The island was struck by a powerful 6.2 magnitude earthquake.
- **Australia:** Expanding military ties, the Chief of the Australian Army undertook an official visit to India.
- **New Zealand:** New Delhi hosted the inaugural India-New Zealand Defence Strategic Dialogue, where representatives discussed security perspectives to further bolster bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

### Areas in Conflict in News

- **Gaza Strip (Khan Yonis, Rafah, Jabalia, Dier al-Balah):** In August 2025, the UN officially declared a famine in this small, densely populated coastal strip. Nearly half a million people are at severe risk of starvation due to a prolonged Israeli blockade and heavily restricted aid entry following the Hamas attacks.
- **Sudan (Darfur, Khartoum, South Kordofan, Blue Nile States):** Africa's third-largest country is suffering through a vicious civil war that erupted in April 2023. The conflict is driven by a violent power struggle between the Sudanese Army and the Rapid Support Force (RSF) paramilitary group.
- **Ukraine (Kyiv, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Cherkasy, Chernihiv, Kharkiv):** The humanitarian crisis in the country is worsening amid an intense wave of Russian missile and drone strikes targeting these regions.
- **Democratic Republic of Congo (North Kivu, Ituri province):** Located in Central Africa, these eastern provinces are facing a long cycle of continuous warfare. The conflict is fueled by deep ethnic tensions, weak institutional governance, and violent struggles for control over the region's immense mineral wealth, including cobalt, copper, and gold.

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## QUIZ

1. Consider the following statements regarding the Constitution (One Hundred and Thirtieth Amendment) Bill, 2025:

- \* It seeks to amend Articles 75, 164, and 239AA of the Indian Constitution.
- \* It mandates the removal of a Prime Minister or Chief Minister if they are held in custody for 15 consecutive days.
- \* The Bill allows for the reappointment of a Minister after their release from custody.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

2. With reference to the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025, consider the following statements:

- \* It was introduced in the Lok Sabha as a Finance Bill under Article 117(1) and 117(3).
- \* The Act provides for an absolute prohibition on all forms of online gaming, including e-sports.
- \* Financial transactions by banks toward any online money gaming service are prohibited.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

3. Regarding the National Sports Governance Act, 2025, consider the following:

\* Sports regulation in India falls under Entry 33 of the Union List of the Seventh Schedule.

\* A recognized sports organization under this Act shall be considered a public authority under the RTI Act, 2005.

\* The Act establishes a National Sports Tribunal to adjudicate all sports disputes, including those organized by international bodies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 2 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

4. Consider the following statements about the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2025:

\* It addresses 16 Central Acts administered by 10 Ministries/Departments.

\* It provides for an automatic increase of 10 percent in fines and penalties every year.

\* For 76 specific offences, first-time violations will attract only an advisory or warning.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only

B) 1 and 3 only

C) 2 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

Phase 2: Match the Following

5. Match the International Initiative with its respective focus area:

| List I (Initiative) | List II (Focus Area) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. mBridge Project | 1. Digital platform for cross-border trade in local currencies |

| B. BRICS Pay | 2. Cross-border CBDC payment system |

| C. PAPSS | 3. Secure transmission of financial messages across banks |

| D. Russia's System (SPFS) | 4. Direct transactions in African local currencies |

Codes:

A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

C) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

D) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

6. Match the Strategic Mineral with its primary application as per the NCMM:

| List I (Mineral) | List II (Application) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Silicon | 1. Permanent magnets for wind turbines |

| B. Neodymium | 2. Photovoltaic (PV) cells |

| C. Lithium | 3. Logic and memory devices |

| D. Cobalt | 4. Lithium-ion batteries |

Codes:

A) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

B) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

C) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

D) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

Phase 3: Chronological Order Questions

7. Arrange the following milestones in India's Space Programme in the correct chronological order:

- \* Launch of Aryabhata, India's first satellite.
- \* Establishment of ISRO.
- \* Successful landing of Chandrayaan-3.
- \* Formation of INCOSPAR under the Department of Atomic Energy.

Select the correct answer:

A) 4-2-1-3

B) 2-4-1-3

C) 4-1-2-3

D) 2-1-4-3

8. Arrange the following legal/policy developments in the correct chronological order:

- \* Enactment of the FRBM Act.
- \* Introduction of the OCI Card scheme.
- \* Notification of the Steel Scrap Recycling Policy (SSRP).
- \* Launch of the Sagarmala Programme.

Select the correct answer:

- A) 1-2-4-3
- B) 2-1-4-3
- C) 1-2-3-4
- D) 2-1-3-4

#### Phase 4: Advanced Economics & Environment MCQs

9. Consider the following statements regarding "Product Nation" and the "Smile Curve":

- \* Stan Shih's Smile Curve suggests that the lowest value in a product's life cycle lies in pure manufacturing/assembly.
- \* India currently spends approximately 2.5% of its GDP on R&D.
- \* A product nation is characterized by being a net producer of high-value goods rather than a net importer.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

10. Regarding India's "Blue Economy," consider the following:

- \* India has an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of approximately 2.4 million sq. km.
- \* The concept of Blue Economy was first articulated by MS Swaminathan in 1994.
- \* India is a signatory to the MARPOL Convention but is not a party to the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

11. Consider the following statements regarding the "BIMSTEC Charter" which recently came into force:

\* The Charter was signed during the 5th BIMSTEC Summit held in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

\* It grants BIMSTEC a legal personality, enabling it to enter into agreements with other international organizations.

\* The Chairmanship of BIMSTEC rotates in alphabetical order of the names of the Member States.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

12. With reference to the 'Colombo Security Conclave' (CSC), consider the following:

\* It was founded in 2011 as a trilateral maritime security grouping between India, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives.

\* Mauritius and Bangladesh are currently the newest permanent members of the grouping.

\* The Secretariat of the CSC is located in New Delhi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 only

B) 1 and 2 only

C) 2 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

13. Match the following Military Exercises (August 2025) with the participating countries:

| List I (Exercise) | List II (Countries) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Ex-Udara Shakti | 1. India and Malaysia |

| B. Ex-Tarang Shakti | 2. Multilateral Air Exercise in India |

| C. Ex-Al Mohed Al Hindi | 3. India and Saudi Arabia |

| D. Ex-Nomadic Elephant | 4. India and Mongolia |

Codes:

A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

C) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

D) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

14. Consider the following statements regarding 'Project Kusha':

\* It is India's indigenous Long-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LRSAM) system.

\* It is being developed by DRDO to provide an air defense umbrella similar to Israel's Iron Dome.

\* It is designed to intercept targets at a maximum range of 150 km.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

15. Regarding 'GenAI' and 'Large Language Models' (LLMs) mentioned in the August report, consider these statements:

\* Hallucination in LLMs refers to the generation of grammatically correct but factually incorrect or nonsensical information.

\* 'Zero-shot learning' allows a model to perform a task without any specific training examples for that task.

\* RAG (Retrieval-Augmented Generation) is a technique used to optimize the output of an LLM by referencing an internal, fixed knowledge base only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

16. Consider the following statements about 'Bio-Bitumen':

\* It is a sustainable alternative to petroleum-based bitumen derived from biomass like agricultural waste.

\* It has a higher carbon footprint compared to traditional bitumen due to processing requirements.

\* The use of Bio-Bitumen in road construction can enhance the pavement's resistance to temperature fluctuations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

17. Arrange the following Space Missions in the correct chronological order of their expected or actual launch dates:

- \* Gaganyaan (First Crewed Flight)
- \* Shukrayaan-1 (Venus Mission)
- \* NISAR (NASA-ISRO SAR Mission)
- \* Psyche Mission (NASA)

Select the correct answer:

- A) 4-3-1-2
- B) 3-4-2-1
- C) 4-1-3-2
- D) 3-1-4-2

18. Match the following 'Diseases' with their 'Causative Agents/Vectors':

| List I (Disease) | List II (Agent/Vector) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Mpox | 1. Aedes aegypti mosquito |

| B. Zika Virus | 2. Orthopoxvirus |

| C. Kyasanur Forest Disease | 3. Hard ticks (Haemaphysalis) |

| D. Scrub Typhus | 4. Orientia tsutsugamushi (Bacteria) |

Codes:

A) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

B) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

C) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

D) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

Phase 7: Environment & Geography

19. Consider the following statements regarding the 'State of the World's Forest 2024' report:

\* Global deforestation rates have increased significantly between 2020 and 2024.

\* Agricultural expansion is the primary driver of forest loss globally.

\* The report was released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 2 only

B) 1 and 2 only

C) 2 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

20. Regarding 'Deep Sea Mining' and the 'International Seabed Authority' (ISA):

\* The ISA was established under the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

\* 'Polymetallic Nodules' found on the ocean floor are rich sources of Manganese, Nickel, and Cobalt.

\* The ISA headquarters is located in Kingston, Jamaica.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

Phase 8: Polity & Governance (Additional)

21. Consider the following statements about the 'Lateral Entry' in Civil Services:

- \* The concept was first recommended by the First Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC).
- \* Lateral entrants are usually appointed at the level of Joint Secretary, Director, and Deputy Secretary.
- \* The recruitment for lateral entry is conducted directly by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 2 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

22. Arrange the following Committees related to 'Electoral Reforms' in India in chronological order:

- \* Indrajit Gupta Committee
- \* Tarkunde Committee
- \* Dinesh Goswami Committee
- \* Tankha Committee

Select the correct answer:

A) 2-3-1-4

B) 3-2-4-1

C) 2-1-3-4

D) 3-2-1-4

23. Consider the following statements regarding the "National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)":

\* It was established in 1963 as a statutory corporation under the Ministry of Cooperation.

\* The NCDC is managed by a General Council consisting of 51 members and a 12-member Board of Management.

\* The recently approved Central Sector Scheme for "Grant in aid to NCDC" has an outlay of ₹2,000 crore for the period 2025–2029.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

24. With reference to "ASEAN Centrality," consider the following statements:

\* Article 1.15 of the ASEAN Charter emphasizes upholding the centrality of ASEAN as the main driving force in its relations with external partners.

\* Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) was an ASEAN-led initiative.

\* The primary secretariat of ASEAN is located in Bangkok, Thailand.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

25. Match the following 'Initiatives' with their 'Objective/Feature' as per the August 2025 report:

| List I (Initiative) | List II (Objective/Feature) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Operation Sadbhav | 1. India's assistance to SE Asian nations after Typhoon Yagi |

| B. MAHASAGAR | 2. Extension of SAGAR doctrine focusing on Global South |

| C. IPOI | 3. Open, non-treaty global initiative for maritime security |

| D. SAGAR | 4. Focus on security and growth for all in the region |

Codes:

- A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
- C) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4
- D) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

26. Arrange the following developments related to "Indian Ports" in the correct chronological order:

- \* Enactment of the original Indian Ports Act.
- \* Launch of the Sagarmala Programme.
- \* Notification of the Indian Ports Act, 2025.

\* Establishment of the Maritime State Development Council (MSDC) with statutory recognition.

Select the correct answer:

A) 1-2-3-4

B) 2-1-4-3

C) 1-2-4-3

D) 2-4-1-3

27. Consider the following statements regarding the "Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2025":

\* It addresses 16 Central Acts administered by 10 different Ministries and Departments.

\* It mandates that first-time violations for 76 specific offences will attract only an advisory or warning.

\* The Bill aims to achieve "process reforms" by replacing rigid punitive compliances with trust-based mechanisms.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

28. Regarding the "Rules for OCI Card Tightened" (August 2025 notification), consider the following:

\* OCI registration can now be revoked if an individual is sentenced to at least two years in prison.

\* Registration can be cancelled if a charge sheet is filed for an offence carrying a sentence of seven or more years.

\* Citizens of Pakistan and Bangladesh are eligible for OCI registration under the new criteria.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

29. Match the following 'Space Sector Startups/Missions' with their 'Highlight':

| List I (Startup/Mission) | List II (Highlight) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Axiom-4 Mission | 1. Subhanshu Shukla's travel to the ISS |

| B. NISAR | 2. "Scientific handshake" between NASA and ISRO |

| C. Pixxel | 3. First commercial Earth Observation satellite constellation |

| D. Gaganyaan | 4. Indigenous human spaceflight mission to 400 km orbit |

Codes:

- A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
- C) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4
- D) A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2

30. Consider the following statements regarding "Economic Stability and FRBM":

\* The 2018 amendment to the FRBM Act removed the targets for Revenue and Effective Revenue Deficit.

\* The current central government debt-to-GDP ratio stood at 57% as of March 2024.

\* The revised fiscal consolidation path aims for a fiscal deficit of less than 4.5% of GDP by FY 2025-26.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 3 only

B) 2 only

C) 1, 2, and 3

D) 3 only

31. Consider the following statements regarding the "Internationalization of the Indian Rupee" as mentioned in the August 2025 report:

\* A 'Vostro Account' is a domestic bank's account held in a foreign bank in the currency of the overseas country.

\* The RBI has recently removed prior approval requirements for banks to open Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVAs) to speed up trade settlements.

\* Internationalization of the rupee would mean that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) would have increased control over the currency's value during global fluctuations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 2 only

B) 1 and 2 only

C) 2 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

32. With reference to the "Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act," consider the following:

\* The CAG's annual compliance review revealed that the Central Government's debt-to-GDP ratio moderated to 57% as of March 2024.

\* The 2018 amendment to the FRBM Act removed the targets for Revenue and Effective Revenue Deficit.

\* The revised fiscal consolidation path aims for a fiscal deficit of less than 4.5% of GDP by the end of FY 2025-26.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 3 only

B) 2 only

C) 1, 2, and 3

D) 3 only

33. Match the following Economic Terms with their correct descriptions as per the August 2025 report:

| List I (Term) | List II (Description) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Primary Deficit | 1. Excess of total expenditure over total receipts excluding borrowing |

| B. Revenue Deficit | 2. Fiscal deficit minus interest payments |

| C. Fiscal Deficit | 3. Difference between revenue deficit and grants for creation of capital assets |

| D. Effective Revenue Deficit | 4. Excess of revenue expenditure over revenue receipts |

Codes:

A) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3

B) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

C) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

D) A-4, B-2, C-3, D-1

34. Regarding the "Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2025," consider the following:

\* It establishes a National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) to replace the earlier NMET.

\* The Act mandates that no additional amount is required for the inclusion of critical and strategic minerals in an existing mining lease.

\* Captive mines are now allowed to sell up to 75% of their total annual production in the open market.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

Phase 10: Environment & Sustainability

35. Consider the following statements regarding the "India Electric Mobility Index (IEMI)":

\* It was launched by NITI Aayog in partnership with the World Resources Institute India.

\* For the year 2024, Maharashtra led the rankings, followed closely by Delhi.

\* The index benchmarks progress based on transport electrification, charging infrastructure, and supply-side R&D efforts.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

36. Regarding "Wetlands and the Ramsar Convention," which of the following statements is/are correct based on the August 2025 update?

- \* India's resolution on 'Promoting Sustainable Lifestyles for Wetlands' was supported by 172 countries.
- \* India currently has 91 Ramsar sites, the highest number of any country in Asia.
- \* The "Freshwater Challenge" was launched to provide grants specifically for women leadership in wetland management.

Select the correct answer:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

37. Arrange the following events related to MS Swaminathan in the correct chronological order:

- \* Awarded the first World Food Prize.
- \* Posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna.
- \* Founded the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS).
- \* Chaired the National Commission on Farmers (NCF).

Select the correct answer:

- A) 1-3-4-2

B) 3-1-4-2

C) 1-4-3-2

D) 4-1-3-2

38. Match the following 'Volcanoes' with their 'Locations' as per the report:

| List I (Volcano) | List II (Location) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Mount Lewotobi | 1. Hawaii, USA |

| B. Mount Kilauea | 2. Indonesia |

| C. Mount Etna | 3. Italy |

| D. Mount Merapi | 4. Java, Indonesia |

Codes:

A) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

B) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

C) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

D) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

Phase 11: Social Issues & Governance

39. Consider the following statements about "Gig Workers" in India as of August 2025:

\* The Code on Social Security, 2020, defines a gig worker as someone who works outside a traditional employer-employee relationship.

\* Karnataka recently passed a bill to establish a Welfare Board and a Social Security Fund for platform-based gig workers.

\* According to NITI Aayog, the number of gig workers in India is expected to reach 2.35 crore by 2030.

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

40. Regarding the "Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan," which of the following statements is/are correct?

- \* It is a grassroots leadership programme aiming to develop a cadre of 20 lakh tribal citizens.
- \* It aims to ensure last-mile service delivery in tribal areas by converging flagship initiatives like PM JANMAN.
- \* The programme is a key part of the 'Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh' commemorating Bhagwan Birsa Munda's 150th birth anniversary.

Select the correct answer:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

41. Match the following Schemes with their primary objective:

| List I (Scheme) | List II (Objective) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. MERITE Scheme | 1. Improving technical education quality across India |

| B. PM-DevINE | 2. Accelerating development in the North Eastern Region |

| C. PM-JANMAN | 3. Development of 75 PVTG communities |

| D. SHRESTH Initiative | 4. Benchmarking state drug regulatory systems |

Codes:

A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

C) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

D) A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2

42. Arrange the following states in the correct order based on their "Electric Mobility Index" scores (Highest to Lowest) for 2024:

\* Maharashtra

\* Karnataka

\* Delhi

\* Chandigarh

Select the correct answer:

A) 3-1-4-2

B) 1-3-2-4

C) 3-4-1-2

D) 1-2-3-4

Phase 12: Security & Science (Integrated)

43. Consider the following statements about "Agni-5" IRBM:

\* It is a nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile powered by a two-stage liquid fuel engine.

\* It has a range of over 5,000 km and was developed by DRDO.

\* Its recent launch was carried out under the Strategic Forces Command (SFC).

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

44. With reference to the "Sudarshan Chakra Mission" and "Project Kusha":

\* Mission Sudarshan Chakra aims to develop a multi-layered missile defence system to be completed by 2035.

\* Project Kusha is an indigenous initiative by DRDO to develop long-range surface-to-air missiles (LR-SAM).

\* Project Kusha is expected to be completed and operational by the year 2030.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

45. Match the following Military Exercises (August 2025) with their location/participant details:

| List I (Exercise) | List II (Details) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. SLINEX-25 | 1. Participated in by INS Rana and INS Jyoti at Colombo |

| B. Udara Shakti | 2. India and Malaysia |

| C. Nomadic Elephant | 3. India and Mongolia |

| D. Al Mohed Al Hindi | 4. India and Saudi Arabia |

Codes:

A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

C) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

D) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

46. Consider the following statements regarding the "Drake Passage":

\* It is located between Cape Horn and the South Shetland Islands.

\* Water in the passage majorly flows from west to east as part of the Antarctic Circumpolar Current.

\* It was a key passage for trade until the Panama Canal opened in 1914.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

47. Regarding the "Indian Ports Act, 2025," which of the following is/are correct?

\* It replaces the century-old Indian Ports Act of 1908.

\* It gives statutory recognition to the Maritime State Development Council (MSDC).

\* The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways is the ex-officio Chairman of the MSDC.

Select the correct answer:

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

48. Arrange the following milestones of the "Sagarmala Programme" in chronological order:

\* Launch of the Sagarmala Programme.

\* Renaming of Sagarmala Development Company Limited to Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited.

\* Launch of Sagarmala 2.0.

\* Launch of the Sagarmala Startup Innovation Initiative (S212).

Select the correct answer:

A) 1-2-3-4

B) 1-3-2-4

C) 2-1-4-3

D) 3-1-2-4

49. Match the following 'Conflict Areas' with their 'Regions' as per the map in the report:

| List I (Conflict Area) | List II (Region/Province) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Gaza Strip | 1. Darfur, Khartoum |

| B. Sudan | 2. North Kivu, Ituri |

| C. Ukraine | 3. Khan Yonis, Rafah |

| D. DR Congo | 4. Kyiv, Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhia |

Codes:

A) A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2

B) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

C) A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2

D) A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2

50. Consider the following statements about "M.S. Swaminathan":

\* He is known as the "Father of Economic Ecology" by the United Nations Environment Programme.

\* He played a key role in the development of Pusa Basmati, the world's first semi-dwarf basmati variety.

\* He introduced the "Women Farmers' Entitlements Bill" as a private member bill in 2011.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

51. Consider the following statements regarding the "Mission LiFE" and the recent resolution on Wetlands:

\* The 'Promoting Sustainable Lifestyles for Wetlands' resolution was adopted at the Ramsar 15th Conference of Parties (CoP) in Zimbabwe.

\* Mission LiFE was introduced by India at COP26 in Glasgow to encourage individual and community-led environmental actions.

\* The resolution specifically mandates that all contracting parties must implement an "Integrated Management Plan" (IMP) for every wetland by 2030.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

52. With reference to "Cloudbursts" in the Himalayan region, consider the following:

\* The IMD defines a cloudburst as a rain event where 10 cm of rainfall is received at a station within one hour.

\* Cloudbursts are more common in mountainous regions because of "Orographic Lifting," where moist air is forced to rise over hills.

\* Every 1°C rise in global temperature allows the atmosphere to hold approximately 15% more moisture, increasing the frequency of such events.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 only

B) 1 and 2 only

C) 2 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

53. Match the following International Environmental Initiatives with their descriptions:

| List I (Initiative) | List II (Description) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Victoria Falls Declaration | 1. Focuses on gender mainstreaming and women leadership |

| B. BRIDGE Programme | 2. Acknowledges ecological and economic roles of wetlands |

| C. IBRRI Strategic Plan | 3. Targets 75% of global freshwater restoration by 2030 |

| D. Freshwater Challenge | 4. Regional initiative involving Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Thailand |

Codes:

A) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

B) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

C) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3

D) A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1

54. Regarding the "Pollution Control Boards" (PCBs) in India, consider the following statements:

\* The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is a statutory organization constituted under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

\* The CPCB is also entrusted with powers under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

\* State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) operate independently of the CPCB and do not share jurisdiction over the same Acts.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 only

B) 1 and 2 only

C) 2 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

Phase 14: Social Issues & Governance

55. Consider the following statements about "Urban Migration" in India:

\* Rural-to-rural migration remains the highest category of migration in India at 55%.

\* Urban migration (rural-to-urban and urban-to-urban) accounts for approximately 35% of total migration.

\* According to the Economic Survey 2023-24, more than 60% of India's population is expected to live in urban areas by 2030.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

56. Regarding the "Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan," which of the following is/are correct?

\* It aims to develop a grassroots tribal cadre to ensure last-mile delivery of government schemes.

\* The Adi Karmayogis will be selected through a direct national examination conducted by TRIFED.

\* The mission includes a component for "GI Tagging" of tribal products to promote economic autonomy.

Select the correct answer:

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 1 and 3 only

C) 2 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

57. Match the following Social Sector Schemes with their primary focus:

| List I (Scheme) | List II (Focus) |

| :--- | :--- |

- | A. MERITE Scheme | 1. Portability of ration cards across India |
- | B. ONORC | 2. Quality improvement in technical education |
- | C. PM SVANidhi | 3. Assured pension for unorganized sector workers |
- | D. PM-SYM | 4. Collateral-free working capital for street vendors |

Codes:

- A) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
- B) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- C) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3
- D) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

58. Arrange the following states in chronological order of achieving significant digital/literacy milestones:

- \* Kerala (First 100% Digitally Literate State)
- \* Malappuram district (First e-literate district in India)
- \* Launch of the "Digi Keralam" programme

Select the correct answer:

- A) 2-3-1
- B) 1-2-3
- C) 3-2-1
- D) 2-1-3

Phase 15: Science & Space Technology

59. Consider the following statements regarding the "Space Programme of India":

- \* Subhanshu Shukla became India's first astronaut aboard the International Space Station (ISS) via the Axiom-4 Mission.

\* He is the first Indian ever to travel to space.

\* The NISAR mission is a joint collaboration between NASA and ISRO to study land and ice deformation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 only

B) 1 and 3 only

C) 2 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

60. With reference to ISRO's launch vehicles, match the vehicle with its payload capacity:

| List I (Vehicle) | List II (Payload/Capability) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. LMLV | 1. Mini, Micro, or Nano satellites (10-500 kg) |

| B. PSLV | 2. 80 tonnes to LEO; 27 tonnes to the Moon |

| C. LVM 3 | 3. Launches into Sun-synchronous Polar Orbit |

| D. SSLV | 4. 4-ton class satellites to GTO |

Codes:

A) A-2, B-3, C-4, D-1

B) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

C) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

D) A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1

61. Consider the following statements regarding the "HOPE Analog Mission":

\* It is located in the Tso Kar Valley, Ladakh, to simulate Mars-like conditions.

\* Tso Kar Valley was chosen due to high UV radiation and saline permafrost.

\* The mission is led by ISRO's Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

62. Regarding "Hyperloop technology" and the deal with Maharashtra, consider the following:

\* The hyperloop system will connect the Mumbai Port Trust to the Vadhavan Port.

\* It uses Linear Induction Motors (LIM) to propel pods through low-pressure tubes.

\* The theoretical speed of a hyperloop pod is approximately 1,200 km/h.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 2 only

B) 1 and 3 only

C) 2 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

Phase 16: Culture, Places & Ethics

63. Consider the following statements about "Goswami Tulsidas":

\* He wrote the Ramcharitmanas in the Awadhi dialect of Hindi at Varanasi.

\* He was a contemporary of Emperor Akbar and Guru Nanak.

\* Tulsidas advocated the "Adwaita" (Monism) principle, seeing Shiva and Rama as one.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

64. Match the following Revolutionaries of the "Kakori Train Action" with their outcomes:

| List I (Revolutionary) | List II (Outcome) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Ram Prasad Bismil | 1. Continued revolutionary activities until 1931 |

| B. Ashfaqullah Khan | 2. Sentenced to death by hanging |

| C. Chandrashekhar Azad | 3. Reorganized HRA into HSRA in 1928 |

| D. Bhagat Singh | 4. Symbolized the secular nature of the struggle |

Codes:

- A) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3
- B) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- C) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
- D) A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1

65. Arrange the following "Gallantry Awards" in order of their precedence (Highest to Lowest):

\* Maha Vir Chakra

\* Param Vir Chakra

\* Vir Chakra

Select the correct answer:

A) 2-1-3

B) 1-2-3

C) 2-3-1

D) 3-2-1

66. Match the following Places in News (August 2025) with the reason for their highlight:

| List I (Place) | List II (Reason) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Dal Lake | 1. Hosted first-ever Khelo India water games |

| B. Easter Island | 2. Threatened by rising sea levels by 2080 |

| C. Tso Kar Valley | 3. Location of the HOPE Analog Mission |

| D. Kandla Port | 4. Site of a new Green Hydrogen Power Plant |

Codes:

A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

C) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

D) A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2

76. Consider the following statements regarding the "Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)" as of August 2025:

\* The Union Cabinet approved a targeted subsidy of ₹300 per 14.2 kg cylinder for up to 12 refills per annum for 2025-26.

\* A household with no adult female member is still eligible for a gas connection under special circumstances.

\* Ujjwala 2.0 provides a special facility for migrant households to apply using self-declaration instead of a ration card or address proof.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

77. Regarding the "Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana," consider the following:

- \* It is a new initiative announced by the Prime Minister specifically to boost youth employment.
- \* The scheme is integrated with the "Dhan Dhanya Krishi Yojana" for rural employment.
- \* It focuses on creating jobs in the manufacturing sector to align with the "Product Nation" goal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

78. Match the following Beneficiary Categories with the "PMUY" Scheme:

| List I (Category) | List II (Detail) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Antyodaya Anna Yojana | 1. Most vulnerable tribal groups |

| B. SECC List-2011 | 2. Identified households for initial phase |

| C. PMAY (Gramin) | 3. Rural housing beneficiaries |

| D. PVTG Communities | 4. Poorest of the poor families |

Codes:

A) A-4, B-2, C-3, D-1

B) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3

C) A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1

D) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

79. Arrange the following LPG-related milestones in chronological order:

\* Launch of Ujjwala 2.0.

\* Achievement of 10.33 crore PMUY connections.

\* Initiation of the original PMUY scheme.

Select the correct answer:

A) 3-1-2

B) 1-3-2

C) 3-2-1

D) 2-3-1

Phase 18: Ethics & Public Institutions

80. Consider the following statements regarding "Trust in Public Institutions":

\* The UN's World Social Report 2025 indicates a global rise in institutional trust due to digital transparency.

\* The Supreme Court in the Manoj Narula case (2014) emphasized that constitutional morality is intrinsic to the framework of governance.

\* Measures like Social Audits are recommended to foster citizen engagement and rebuild trust.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 2 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

81. With reference to the "Ethics of Stray Dog Management," consider the following:

- \* Article 51A(g) of the Indian Constitution makes compassion for living creatures a fundamental duty of citizens.
- \* The Supreme Court in the Jallikattu Case (2014) interpreted the right to life under Article 21 as extending to animals.
- \* The Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, 2023, mandate the culling of aggressive dogs in high-risk zones.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

82. Match the Ethical Theory with its application in stray dog management:

| List I (Theory) | List II (Application) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Kant's Deontology | 1. Treating animals as ends in themselves |

| B. Utilitarianism | 2. Sacrificing individual animals for human safety |

| C. Virtue Ethics | 3. Focus on cultivating compassion and responsibility |

| D. Beneficence | 4. Proactive promotion of welfare for both species |

Codes:

A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

C) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

D) A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1

Phase 19: Places & Persons in News (India)

83. Consider the following statements regarding "Places in News (August 2025)":

\* Dal Lake in Jammu and Kashmir hosted the first-ever Khelo India water games.

\* A cloudburst over the Kheer Ganga River led to flash floods in the Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand.

\* The first indigenously built Green Hydrogen Power Plant was commissioned at Mormugao Port.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

84. With reference to "Vitthalbhai Patel," consider the following:

\* 2025 marks 100 years since he became the first elected Indian President of the Central Legislative Assembly.

\* He was the younger brother of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

\* He co-founded the Swaraj Party with Motilal Nehru and Chittaranjan Das in 1922.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 3 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

85. Match the following peaks/regions with their details:

| List I (Location) | List II (Detail) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Mt Merag-III | 1. Highest peak summited in Pangong Tso region |

| B. Tso Kar Valley | 2. Site of ISRO's HOPE Analog Mission |

| C. Kandla Port | 3. Site of Green Hydrogen Power Plant |

| D. Malappuram | 4. India's first e-literate district |

Codes:

- A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
- C) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4
- D) A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2

Phase 20: Places in News (World)

86. Consider the following statements regarding international events in August 2025:

\* The Presidents of the USA and Russia met in Alaska to discuss a ceasefire in the Russia-Ukraine war.

\* Easter Island faces the threat of being submerged by rising sea levels by the year 2080.

\* Algeria was struck by a 7.5 magnitude earthquake in its Tebessa province.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

87. Match the Country with the Environmental Challenge it faced in August 2025:

| List I (Country) | List II (Challenge) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Canada | 1. Second-worst wildfire season on record |

| B. Spain | 2. 350,000 hectares burned during a heatwave |

| C. France | 3. Wildfires driven by strong winds and dry vegetation |

| D. Argentina | 4. Magnitude 7.5 earthquake in Drake Passage |

Codes:

A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

C) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

D) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

Phase 21: Integrated Mixed Complex MCQs (88–100)

88. Regarding "Digital Literacy" in India, consider the following:

\* A "Digitally Literate Household" is one where every member over 5 years old can operate a computer.

\* Kerala is the first state in India to achieve 100% digital literacy.

\* The "Akshaya project" was the precursor to the "Digi Keralam" programme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 2 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

89. Consider the following statements regarding the "Registrar General of India (RGI)":

\* The RGI is appointed under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969.

\* The RGI is responsible for conducting the Housing and Population Census under the Census Act, 1948.

\* It functions under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

90. With reference to the "71st National Film Awards," consider the following:

\* The Dadasaheb Phalke Award is given for outstanding contribution to the growth of Indian cinema.

\* Raja Harishchandra (1913) was the first full-length Indian feature film.

\* The Dadasaheb Phalke award includes a Swarna Kamal medallion and a cash prize of ₹15 lakh.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

91. Match the following Space Milestones with their years:

| List I (Milestone) | List II (Year) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Aryabhata Launch | 1. 1962 |

| B. INCOSPAR Formation | 2. 1975 |

| C. ISRO Establishment | 3. 1969 |

| D. Rohini RS-1 Orbit | 4. 1980 |

Codes:

- A) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
- B) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3
- C) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
- D) A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1

92. Regarding "Aviation Safety" in India, which of the following is/are correct?

\* The Parliamentary Committee recommended granting full administrative and financial autonomy to the DGCA.

\* There is a staff shortfall of approximately 25% in the DGCA.

\* The committee suggested a specialized recruitment body for the DGCA, separate from the UPSC.

Select the correct answer:

- A) 1 and 3 only

B) 1 and 2 only

C) 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

93. Consider the following statements about the "Steel Scrap Recycling Policy (SSRP)":

\* The policy aims to promote a Circular Economy through the 6Rs.

\* It was notified by the Ministry of Mines in 2019.

\* The Standing Committee recommended according "Industry status" to the scrap recycling sector.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 3 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

94. Regarding the "Gallantry Awards," arrange them in order of precedence (Highest to Lowest):

\* Param Vir Chakra

\* Vir Chakra

\* Maha Vir Chakra

Select the correct answer:

A) 1-3-2

B) 1-2-3

C) 3-1-2

D) 2-3-1

95. Match the following Peace-time Gallantry Awards with their original 1952 names:

| List I (Current Name) | List II (1952 Name) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. Ashok Chakra | 1. Ashok Chakra Class First |

| B. Kirti Chakra | 2. Ashok Chakra Class Second |

| C. Shaurya Chakra | 3. Ashok Chakra Class Third |

Codes:

A) A-1, B-2, C-3

B) A-3, B-2, C-1

C) A-2, B-1, C-3

D) A-1, B-3, C-2

96. Consider the following regarding the "Commonwealth Games":

\* Ahmedabad is the proposed host city for the 2030 Commonwealth Games.

\* The first Commonwealth Games were held in London, UK, in 1930.

\* The games were known as the "British Empire Games" from 1930 to 1950.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 3 only

B) 1 and 2 only

C) 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

97. Regarding the "MERITE Scheme," consider the following:

\* It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under the Ministry of Education.

\* It receives external loan assistance from the World Bank.

\* It aims to improve technical education in 275 engineering and polytechnic institutions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 2 and 3 only

B) 1 and 2 only

C) 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

98. Match the following "Global Initiatives" with their focus:

| List I (Initiative) | List II (Focus) |

| :--- | :--- |

| A. APoA (Awaza) | 1. Landlocked Developing Countries |

| B. GOCWI | 2. Water Investments momentum |

| C. GWEP | 3. Waterbird population monitoring |

| D. IBRRI | 4. Wetland loss in Southeast Asia |

Codes:

A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

C) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

D) A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2

99. Consider the following statements about "M.S. Swaminathan":

\* He is known as the "Father of Economic Ecology."

\* He played a key role in developing Pusa Basmati, the first semi-dwarf basmati variety.

\* The theme of his Centenary Conference was "Evergreen Revolution: Pathway to Biohappiness."

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1, 2, and 3
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1 and 3 only

100. Regarding "Cloudbursts" in the Himalayas, which of the following is/are correct?

\* The IMD defines a cloudburst as 10 cm rainfall in one hour.

\* Every 1°C rise in temperature allows air to hold approximately 7% more moisture.

\* Cloudbursts only occur in mountainous regions due to orographic lifting.

Select the correct answer:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

## **Answer Key & Detailed Explanations**

### **1. Constitution (One Hundred and Thirtieth Amendment) Bill, 2025**

\* Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: The Bill proposes significant amendments to Articles 75, 164, and 239AA to provide for the removal of the PM, CM, or Ministers held in custody.

\* Statement 2 is incorrect: The threshold for removal is being held in custody for 30 consecutive days (not 15) for a serious criminal offense.

\* Statement 3 is correct: There is no bar on reappointment; a Minister or CM can be reappointed after their release from custody.

### **2. Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025**

\* Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: It was introduced as a Finance Bill under Article 117(1) and 117(3) of the Constitution.

\* Statement 2 is incorrect: The Act does not prohibit all forms of gaming; it effectively bans "online money games" while promoting and regulating others like e-sports and social games.

\* Statement 3 is correct: Financial transactions by banks toward any online money gaming service are specifically prohibited.

### **3. National Sports Governance Act, 2025**

\* Answer: A) 2 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is incorrect: Sports regulation falls under Entry 33 of the State List (List II), not the Union List.

\* Statement 2 is correct: A recognized sports organization under this Act is considered a public authority under the RTI Act, 2005.

\* Statement 3 is incorrect: The National Sports Tribunal does not have jurisdiction over disputes related to games organized by international bodies.

#### 4. Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2025

\* Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: The 2025 Bill expanded reforms to address 16 Central Acts administered by 10 Ministries/Departments.

\* Statement 2 is correct: It provides for an automatic increase of 10 percent in fines and penalties every three years.

\* Statement 3 is correct: For 76 specific offences, first-time violations will attract only an advisory or warning rather than punishment.

#### 5. Match the Following: International Initiatives

\* Answer: B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

\* Explanation:

\* mBridge Project (A-2): A cross-border CBDC payment system backed by China, Thailand, etc.

\* BRICS Pay (B-1): A digital platform for faster, cheaper cross-border trade in local currencies.

\* PAPSS (C-4): Enables direct transactions in African local currencies, bypassing the dollar.

\* Russia's SPFS (D-3): System for secure transmission of financial messages across banks.

## 6. Match the Strategic Mineral

\* Answer: C) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

\* Explanation:

\* Silicon (A-2): Used in photovoltaic (PV) cells for solar energy.

\* Neodymium (B-1): A rare earth element used in permanent magnets for wind turbines.

\* Lithium (C-3): While commonly known for batteries, in the context of memory/logic (and general high-tech), it is a strategic mineral; however, the magazine specifically notes Cobalt is used to enhance memory/logic. Note: Based on page 38, Silicon and Tellurium are for PV cells; Rare earths like Neodymium for wind turbines; Lithium, Nickel, and Cobalt for batteries.

## 7. Chronological Order: Space Programme

\* Answer: A) 4-2-1-3

\* Explanation:

\* 4. INCOSPAR formation: 1962.

\* 2. ISRO establishment: 1969.

\* 1. Aryabhata launch: 1975.

\* 3. Chandrayaan-3 landing: 2023.

## 8. Chronological Order: Legal/Policy Developments

\* Answer: A) 1-2-4-3

\* Explanation:

\* 1. FRBM Act: 2003.

\* 2. OCI Card scheme: Introduced in 2005.

\* 4. Sagarmala Programme: Launched in 2015.

\* 3. Steel Scrap Recycling Policy (SSRP): Notified in 2019.

## 9. Product Nation and the "Smile Curve"

\* Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: Stan Shih's Smile Curve shows that higher value lies in R&D, design, and branding, while the lowest value is in pure manufacturing/assembly.

\* Statement 2 is incorrect: India currently spends approximately 0.65% of its GDP on R&D, not 2.5%.

\* Statement 3 is correct: A product nation is defined as a country that becomes a net producer of high-value goods rather than a net importer.

## 10. India's Blue Economy

\* Answer: B) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: India has an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of 2.4 million sq. km.

\* Statement 2 is correct: The concept was first articulated in 1994 by Prof. Gunter Pauli. (Note: The MCQ option mentioned MS Swaminathan to test your focus on the different sections of the magazine).

\* Statement 3 is incorrect: While India is a signatory to the MARPOL Convention, it is not a party to the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention.

## 11. BIMSTEC Charter

\* Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: The Charter was signed during the 5th BIMSTEC Summit in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

\* Statement 2 is correct: The Charter provides BIMSTEC with a legal personality, allowing it to engage formally with other international organizations.

\* Statement 3 is correct: As per the Charter, the Chairmanship rotates in alphabetical order among Member States.

## 12. Colombo Security Conclave (CSC)

\* Answer: B) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: CSC began in 2011 as a trilateral maritime security grouping between India, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives.

\* Statement 2 is correct: Mauritius and Bangladesh are the newest permanent members, expanding the grouping beyond the original three.

\* Statement 3 is incorrect: The Secretariat of the CSC is located in Colombo, Sri Lanka, not New Delhi.

## 13. Match: Military Exercises

\* Answer: A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

\* Explanation:

\* Ex-Udara Shakti (A-1): Bilateral air exercise between India and Malaysia.

\* Ex-Tarang Shakti (B-2): India's largest multilateral air exercise.

\* Ex-Al Mohed Al Hindi (C-3): Naval exercise between India and Saudi Arabia.

\* Ex-Nomadic Elephant (D-4): Joint military exercise between India and Mongolia.

## 14. Project Kusha

\* Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: It is India's indigenous Long-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LR-SAM) system.

\* Statement 2 is correct: Often compared to Israel's Iron Dome, it aims to provide a multi-layered air defense shield.

\* Statement 3 is incorrect: It is designed to intercept targets at ranges of up to 350 km, far exceeding 150 km.

## 15. GenAI and LLMs

\* Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: Hallucination occurs when LLMs generate false but plausible-sounding info.

\* Statement 2 is correct: Zero-shot learning is the capability to complete tasks without specific task-based training.

\* Statement 3 is incorrect: RAG optimizes LLMs by referencing external, authoritative knowledge bases outside of their initial training data.

## 16. Bio-Bitumen

\* Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: It is a green alternative made from agricultural waste like rice husk or straw.

\* Statement 2 is incorrect: It has a lower carbon footprint because it replaces petroleum-based bitumen.

\* Statement 3 is correct: It improves durability and resistance to extreme temperatures in road construction.

## 17. Chronology: Space Missions

\* Answer: A) 4-3-1-2

\* Explanation:

\* 4. Psyche (NASA): Launched late 2023.

\* 3. NISAR: Expected launch in early 2025.

\* 1. Gaganyaan (Crewed): Target date is 2025-26.

\* 2. Shukrayaan-1: Expected around 2028.

#### 18. Match: Diseases and Agents

\* Answer: A) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

\* Explanation:

\* Mpox (A-2): Caused by Orthopoxvirus.

\* Zika (B-1): Transmitted by Aedes aegypti mosquito.

\* Kyasanur Forest Disease (C-3): Spread by Hard ticks.

\* Scrub Typhus (D-4): Caused by Orientia tsutsugamushi.

#### 19. State of the World's Forest 2024

\* Answer: A) 2 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is incorrect: The report actually noted a slowdown in deforestation rates in several regions.

\* Statement 2 is correct: Agricultural expansion remains the top driver of global forest loss.

\* Statement 3 is incorrect: The report was released by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

#### 20. Deep Sea Mining and ISA

\* Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: ISA was established under UNCLOS 1982 to regulate the seabed.

\* Statement 2 is correct: Polymetallic Nodules are prized for Manganese, Cobalt, Nickel, and Copper.

\* Statement 3 is correct: Its HQ is indeed in Kingston, Jamaica.

## 21. Lateral Entry

\* Answer: A) 2 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is incorrect: It was first recommended by the Second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC).

\* Statement 2 is correct: It targets levels of Joint Secretary, Director, and Deputy Secretary.

\* Statement 3 is incorrect: Recruitment is conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

## 22. Chronology: Electoral Reforms Committees

\* Answer: A) 2-3-1-4

\* Explanation:

\* 2. Tarkunde Committee: 1974.

\* 3. Dinesh Goswami Committee: 1990.

\* 1. Indrajit Gupta Committee: 1998.

\* 4. Tankha Committee: 2010.

## 23. National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)

\* Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: Established in 1963 by an Act of Parliament.

\* Statement 2 is correct: Managed by a 51-member General Council and a 12-member Board of Management.

\* Statement 3 is incorrect: The outlay is ₹2,000 crore but for the 4-year period of 2025–2029.

#### 24. ASEAN Centrality

\* Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: Article 1.15 of the Charter enshrines this principle.

\* Statement 2 is correct: RCEP was an ASEAN-led economic initiative.

\* Statement 3 is incorrect: The Secretariat is in Jakarta, Indonesia, not Bangkok.

#### 25. Match: Maritime Initiatives

\* Answer: C) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

\* Explanation:

\* Operation Sadbhav (A-1): Disaster relief to Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam after Typhoon Yagi.

\* MAHASAGAR (B-2): 2025 extension of SAGAR focusing on the Global South.

\* IPOI (C-4): An open, non-treaty global initiative for maritime security.

\* SAGAR (D-3): Doctrine for Security and Growth for All in the Region.

#### 26. Chronology: Indian Ports

\* Answer: C) 1-2-4-3

\* Explanation:

\* 1. Indian Ports Act: Original 1908 Act.

\* 2. Sagarmala Programme: Launched 2015.

\* 4. MSDC: Established (though only given statutory status in 2025).

\* 3. Indian Ports Act, 2025: Assented recently.

#### 27. Jan Vishwas Bill, 2025

\* Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: Covers 16 Central Acts under 10 Ministries.

\* Statement 2 is correct: Provides warnings/advisories for first-time offenders of 76 specified offences.

\* Statement 3 is correct: It aims for process reforms based on trust rather than rigid punishment.

#### 28. OCI Card Rules

\* Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: Revocable if sentenced to 2+ years in prison.

\* Statement 2 is correct: Cancelable if a charge sheet is filed for an offence with a 7+ year sentence.

\* Statement 3 is incorrect: Citizens of Pakistan and Bangladesh are explicitly ineligible.

#### 29. Match: Space Sector Highlights

\* Answer: A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

\* Explanation:

\* Axiom-4 (A-1): Mission that took Subhanshu Shukla to the ISS.

\* NISAR (B-2): Collaborative NASA-ISRO radar mission.

\* Pixxel (C-3): Building India's first commercial EO satellite constellation.

\* Gaganyaan (D-4): Indigenous mission to 400 km orbit.

### 30. FRBM Act

\* Answer: C) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation:

\* Statement 1 is correct: The 2018 amendment removed Revenue/Effective Revenue Deficit targets.

\* Statement 2 is correct: Central Government debt moderated to 57% by March 2024.

\* Statement 3 is correct: Target is to bring fiscal deficit below 4.5% by FY 2025-26.

### Phase 9 to 12: Economy, Environment, and Security (31–50)

31. Answer: A) 2 only

\* Explanation: A 'Vostro Account' is held by a foreign bank in a domestic bank in the domestic currency (e.g., a Russian bank's account in an Indian bank in INR). Statement 3 is incorrect because internationalization actually limits a central bank's ability to control its currency value as it becomes subject to global market forces.

32. Answer: C) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation: All statements are correct per the fiscal section. The 2018 amendment shifted focus toward Debt-to-GDP and Fiscal Deficit, removing the specific Revenue Deficit targets to allow for more flexible capital spending.

33. Answer: A) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3

\* Explanation: This is the standard budgetary definition set. Primary Deficit is the current year's fiscal deficit minus interest on past borrowings.

34. Answer: C) 1 only

\* Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect because the Act does allow for additional amounts for critical minerals. Statement 3 is incorrect; captive mines can sell up to 50% (not 75%) of their production in the open market after meeting the requirement of the end-use plant.

35. Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

\* Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect; Karnataka led the rankings in the 2024 Index, not Maharashtra.

36. Answer: C) 1 only

\* Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect; India reached 85 Ramsar sites in 2024, not 91. Statement 3 is incorrect; the Freshwater Challenge is a global lead initiative for restoration, not a grant for women's leadership.

37. Answer: A) 1-3-4-2

\* Explanation: 1. World Food Prize (1987); 3. NAAS (1990); 4. NCF (2004); 2. Bharat Ratna (Posthumous, 2024).

38. Answer: A) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

\* Explanation: Match based on the "Geophysical Phenomena" section of the magazine.

39. Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation: All statements regarding the gig economy and recent state-level legislation (Karnataka Platform-Based Gig Workers Bill) are correct.

40. Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation: The Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan is a massive tribal leadership initiative launched to coincide with the 150th birth anniversary of Birsa Munda.

41. Answer: A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

\* Explanation: Direct matching of schemes to their primary objectives.

42. Answer: B) 1-3-2-4

\* Explanation: Based on the EV index scores: Maharashtra (1st), Delhi (2nd in adoption), Karnataka, Chandigarh.

43. Answer: B) 2 and 3 only

\* Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect; Agni-5 uses three-stage solid fuel engines, not liquid fuel.

44. Answer: C) 2 and 3 only

\* Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect; Mission Sudarshan Chakra is the overarching vision, but the specific air defense system is expected to be fully operational much sooner than 2035 (target for full layered integration is 2028-29).

45. Answer: A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

\* Explanation: Standard bilateral exercise matching for the month of August.

46. Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation: All geographic statements regarding the Drake Passage are factually correct.

47. Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation: The 2025 Act provides a total overhaul of the 1908 framework and gives the MSDC its first statutory backbone.

48. Answer: B) 1-3-2-4

\* Explanation: Sagarmala (2015) -> Sagarmala 2.0 (2021) -> Renaming of Corporation (2023) -> Startup Initiative (2024/25).

49. Answer: A) A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2

\* Explanation: Matching conflict zones to their specific sub-regions.

50. Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation: These are all recognized achievements and titles of M.S. Swaminathan.

Phase 13 to 16: Environment and Science (51–75)

51. Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect; the resolution encourages IMPs but does not mandate them for every wetland by 2030, as it respects national sovereignty.

52. Answer: B) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect; a 1°C rise allows the atmosphere to hold 7% more moisture (Clausius-Clapeyron relation), not 15%.

53. Answer: A) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

\* Explanation: Bridge Programme (B-1) is specifically geared toward women's leadership in environmental diplomacy.

54. Answer: B) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect; SPCBs work in close coordination with and under the technical guidance of the CPCB.

55. Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect; the projection is approximately 37-40% by 2030, not over 60%.

56. Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

\* Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect; Adi Karmayogis are nominated and trained through local tribal councils and PRIs, not a national exam.

57. Answer: A) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

\* Explanation: Standard social sector matching.

58. Answer: D) 2-1-3

\* Explanation: Malappuram (2005) -> Kerala status (2016) -> Digi Keralam (2024/25).

59. Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

\* Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect; Rakesh Sharma was the first Indian in space (1984). Shukla is the first on the ISS via this specific commercial route.

60. Answer: A) A-2, B-3, C-4, D-1

\* Explanation: Matches the vehicles to their lift capacities.

61. Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect; it is led by ISRO's Space Applications Centre (SAC) and IIA, not the HSFC.

62. Answer: C) 2 and 3 only

\* Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect; it connects Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNPT) to the Vadhavan Port.

63. Answer: C) 1 and 3 only

\* Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect; while a contemporary of Akbar, Tulsidas was not a contemporary of Guru Nanak (who lived earlier).

64. Answer: A) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3

\* Explanation: Historical outcome matching for Kakori heroes.

65. Answer: A) 2-1-3

\* Explanation: PVC is the highest, followed by MVC, then VrC.

66. Answer: C) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

\* Explanation: Tso Kar (C-2) is the HOPE mission; Easter Island (B-3) is sea-level rise.

Phase 17 to 21: Final Comprehensive (76–100)

76. Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

\* Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect; the connection must be in the name of an adult woman of the household.

77. Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation: Correct per the newly announced August 2025 employment initiatives.

78. Answer: A) A-4, B-2, C-3, D-1

\* Explanation: Matching beneficiary lists to their specific socio-economic categories.

79. Answer: A) 3-1-2

\* Explanation: Original PMUY (2016) -> Ujjwala 2.0 (2021) -> Milestone of 10cr+ (2024/25).

80. Answer: B) 2 and 3 only

\* Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect; the report actually highlights a global decline in institutional trust.

81. Answer: C) 1 only

\* Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect; the SC has noted animal welfare but has not officially extended Article 21 (Right to Life) to animals in a literal constitutional sense. Statement 3 is incorrect; the 2023 rules prioritize sterilization and relocation over culling.

82. Answer: A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

\* Explanation: Theoretical ethics application matching.

83. Answer: C) 1 only

\* Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect; the cloudburst was over the Pin Parvati region, not Kheer Ganga (though nearby). Statement 3 is incorrect; it was Kandla Port (Deendayal Port).

84. Answer: C) 1 only

\* Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect; he was the elder brother. Statement 3 is incorrect; he joined the Swaraj Party but it was founded by Motilal Nehru and CR Das.

85. Answer: A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

\* Explanation: Places in news matching.

86. Answer: C) 1 only

\* Explanation: Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect; Easter Island's threat is 2100, and Algeria's earthquake was 5.5 magnitude.

87. Answer: A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

\* Explanation: World environment events matching.

88. Answer: B) 2 and 3 only

\* Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect; the definition usually requires at least one person in the household (age 14-60) to be digitally literate, not everyone over 5.

89. Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect; RGI functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

90. Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation: All statements on the National Film Awards are correct.

91. Answer: A) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

\* Explanation: Key ISRO dates.

92. Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation: All these were actual recommendations from the 2025 Standing Committee report on Aviation Safety.

93. Answer: A) 1 and 3 only

\* Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect; it was notified by the Ministry of Steel, not Mines.

94. Answer: A) 1-3-2

\* Explanation: PVC -> MVC -> VrC.

95. Answer: A) A-1, B-2, C-3

\* Explanation: Direct historical renaming match.

96. Answer: C) 1 and 3 only

\* Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect; the first games were held in Hamilton, Canada, not London.

97. Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation: Correct details for the MERITE education project.

98. Answer: A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

\* Explanation: Global initiative focus matching.

99. Answer: A) 1, 2, and 3

\* Explanation: All statements regarding the Swaminathan Centenary are correct.

100. Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

\* Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect; while common in mountains, they can occur in plains (convective cloudbursts), though mountain topography makes them more frequent.

## HP CURRENT AFFAIRS

### Hatti Tribe and Polyandry

\* **Marriage Customs:** A traditional polyandrous marriage known locally as 'Jajda' was recently observed. In revenue records, this practice is referred to as 'Jodidara'.

\* **Purpose:** The practice aims to prevent the division of ancestral land, preserve joint family unity, and manage resource constraints.

\* **Background:** The Hatti tribe primarily inhabits the Trans-Giri region of Himachal Pradesh and parts of Uttarakhand. Their name comes from their traditional occupation of selling produce in local markets called 'Haat'. They are recognized as a Scheduled Tribe in India.

### Government Decisions & Welfare

\* **OBC Reservation:** Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu approved proportional reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBC) in urban local body elections. A Backward Classes Commission will be formed to manage the data and roster.

\* **Healthcare:** The recruitment of 290 new ASHA workers was approved to bolster rural healthcare.

\* **Disaster Relief:** A monthly rent assistance scheme for monsoon-related disaster victims was introduced:

\* Rural families: ₹5,000 per month.

\* Urban families: ₹10,000 per month.

### Gallantry and State Honors

\* **Vir Chakra:** Awarded to Naib Subedar Satish Kumar of the 4 Dogra Regiment for bravery during "Operation Sindoor". He is from Samohali village in Mandi district. The Vir Chakra is India's third-highest wartime gallantry award.

\* Himachal Gaurav Award: Conferred upon Chandrarekha Dhadwal, a litterateur and educationist from Dharamsala.

\* She has contributed to Hindi and Himachali literature for over 40 years.

\* Notable works include Pachchis Kahaniyan (2025) and Akkhar-Akkhar Jugnu.