

UPSC WITH NIKHIL



UPSC 2024 QUESTION PAPER SET - D

*We have again outperformed many of the nation's premier institutions in the 2024 Prelims. No fabricated or deceptive claims are made by us. Several prestigious institutions are claiming their questions in UPSC Prelims 2024 not just from their test series but also from their other material including their website blogs, Study materials, Magazines etc.). But we are claiming all **48 questions** from our Test Series only.*

Like in the previous five years, we assert that this year's performance—48 questions from our "UPSC with Nikhil" Prelims exam Test series 2024—is among the finest in all of India. In several tests, we have repeated many questions. We have also used cards, maps, charts, and diagrams to clarify some of the answers in our test series.

*Please note that there can be dispute regarding few questions which are not exact but similar to the original question asked in Prelims exam. We have considered few such questions. So, take time to think wisely before you purchase our Test series. Below is a comprehensive list of all **48 questions with proof**.*

For any help, please contact us at-

Mo.- +91-7558644556

upscwithnikhil@gmail.com

In the years to come, we aspire to provide for you even better. Thank You!

Team UPSC with Nikhil!

{1} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 01

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-03 Q-63 | Test-01 Q-93**

1. How many Delimitation Commissions have been constituted by the Government of India till December 2023 ?

- (a) One
- ☒ (b) Two
- (c) Three
- (d) Four

Q 63. With reference to the Delimitation commission, consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body that works in collaboration with the Election commission of India.

2. It has been constituted four times since independence.

3. The orders of the delimitation commission cannot be modified by the Parliament.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q 63. (D)

EXPLANATION

Election Commission determines the territorial areas of the electoral constituencies throughout the country on the basis of the report of the Delimitation Commission established under the Delimitation Commission Act of Parliament. So Statement 1 is correct

The Parliament has enacted the Delimitation Commission Acts in 1952, 1962, 1972 and 2002. So, Statement 2 is correct

The orders of the delimitation commission are final and cannot be modified by the Parliament. So Statement 3 is correct

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Readjustment after each Census

- After every census, a readjustment is to be made in
 - (a) allocation of seats in the Lok Sabha to the states, and
 - (b) division of each state into territorial constituencies.
- Parliament is empowered to determine the authority and the manner in which it is to be made.
- Accordingly, the Parliament has enacted the Delimitation Commission Acts in 1952, 1962, 1972 and 2002 for this purpose.

Test: 03 (Polity & Governance - III) (2024) | Test Code: 12403 upscwithnikhil@gmail.com / +91-75586 44556

{2} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 02
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-36 Q-76**

2. The Constitution (71st Amendment) Act, 1992 amends the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution to include which of the following languages ?

1. Konkani
2. Manipuri
3. Nepali
4. Maithili

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

Q 76. Arrange the following amendments to the Indian Constitution in the correct chronological order

1. Including Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali as official languages.
2. Including Bodo, Dogri, Santali and Mathili as official languages.
3. Constitutional Status to Panchayat Raj Institutions.
4. Right to Education made as a Fundamental Right.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Q 76. (B)

OPTIONAL ELIMINATION STRATEGY

'Right to education' amendment was done by the Vajpayee Government and constitutional status to panchayat raj was done by Narashima Rao government. So, 3 should be at precede 4 in the chronology. So, option (c) and (d) can be eliminated.

EXPLANATION:

The 71st Constitutional amendment act, 1992 included Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali as official languages in the 8th schedule increasing the total schedule language to 18.

The 93rd Constitutional amendment act, 2003 included Bodo, Dogri, Santali and Mathili as official languages in the 8th schedule and increasing the total schedule language to 18.

The 73rd Constitutional amendment act, 1992 granted Constitutional Status to Panchayat Raj institutions. For this purpose, a new part 'IX-A' was added.

The 86th Constitutional amendment act, 2002 made elementary education as a fundamental right by newly adding 'Article-21-A'. This amendment also added a new fundamental duty under article 51-A. **So, Option (b) is correct.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

List of languages in the Eighth Schedule:

The Eighth Schedule to the Constitution consists of the following 22 Languages:-

Test: 36 (Polity 5) (2024) | Test Code: 12436 upscwithnikhil@gmail.com / +91-75586 44556

(1) Assamese, (2) Bengali, (3) Gujarati, (4) Hindi, (5) Kannada, (6) Kashmiri, (7) Konkani, (8) Malayalam, (9) Manipuri, (10) Marathi, (11) Nepali, (12) Oriya, (13) Punjabi, (14) Sanskrit, (15) Sindhi, (16) Tamil, (17) Telugu, (18) Urdu (19) Bodo, (20) Santhali, (21) Maithili and (22) Dogri.

Of the above 14 languages were initially included in the Constitution. In 1967 Sindhi language was added. In 1992, three more languages viz., Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali were included. Subsequently, Bodo, Dogri, Maithili and Santhali were added in 2004.

4. Which of the following statements are correct about the Constitution of India ?

1. Powers of the Municipalities are given in Part IX A of the Constitution.
2. Emergency provisions are given in Part XVIII of the Constitution.
3. Provisions related to the amendment of the Constitution are given in Part XX of the Constitution.

Select the 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

Q 74. Which among the following can be considered as the rationality behind the incorporation of **Emergency provisions** in the Constitution of India?

1. Safeguarding the sovereignty of the country
2. Protecting the unity and integrity of the country
3. Guarding the security of the country
4. Protecting Federalism
5. Safeguarding a democratic political system

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

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

Q 74. (C)

EXPLANATION:

The Indian Constitution provides for Emergency provisions in its Part XVIII (Articles 352 to 360). These provisions enable the Central Government to meet any abnormal situation effectively. The rationality behind incorporating these provisions in the Constitution is to safeguard the sovereignty, unity, integrity and Security of the Country, the democratic political system and the Constitution. **So, Option (c) is correct.**

During an Emergency, the central government becomes all-powerful, and the states go into total control of the Centre. It converts the federal structure into a unitary one without formal amendment of the

Q 35. Consider the following statements:

1. An **Amendment to the Constitution of India** can be initiated only with the prior recommendation of the President.
2. The President cannot return the Constitutional Amendment bill for reconsideration by the Parliament.

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

Q 99. If any **municipality** has been dissolved one year before the expiry of its original term, which among the following events succeeds?

- (a) A fresh election is conducted before the expiry of its original duration.
(b) A fresh election is conducted before the expiry of a period of six months from the date of dissolution.

Q 35. (B)

EXPLANATION:

An amendment to the Constitution can be initiated only by introducing a bill in either the House of Parliament and not in the State legislature. The bill can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member and does not require prior permission of the President. **So, Statement 1 is not correct.**

After duly passed by both Houses of Parliament and ratified by the State legislatures, where necessary, the bill is presented to the President for assent. The President must give his assent to the bill. He can neither withhold his assent to the bill nor return the bill for reconsideration by the Parliament. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

About	Article 368 in Part XX of the Indian Constitution deals with the powers of Parliament to amend the Constitution and its procedure. It states that the Parliament may, in exercising its constituent power, amend by addition, variation or repeal any provision of the Constitution under the procedure laid down for the purpose. However, the Parliament cannot amend those provisions which form the 'basic structure' of the Constitution after the Supreme Court judgment in the Kesavananda Bharati case.
The procedure under Article 368	An amendment to the Constitution can be initiated only by introducing a bill in either the House of Parliament or not in the state legislatures.

Q 99. (B)

EXPLANATION:

The 74th Amendment Act of 1992 provides for a five year term of office for every municipality. However, it

74TH AMENDMENT ACT OF 1992	
About	- This Act has added a new Part IX-A to the Constitution of India. This part is entitled as 'The Municipalities' and consists of provisions from Articles 243-P to 243-ZG. - In addition, the act has also added a new Twelfth Schedule to the Constitution. This schedule contains eighteen functional items of municipalities. It deals with Article 243-W. - The act gave constitutional status to the municipalities. It has brought them under the purview of justiciable part of the Constitution. In other words, state governments are under constitutional obligation to adopt the new system of municipalities in

{4} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 06

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-01 Q-46 | Test-31 Q-17**

6. Under which of the following Articles of the Constitution of India, has the Supreme Court of India placed the Right to Privacy ?

(a) Article 15

(b) Article 16

(c) Article 19

✓ (d) Article 21

-D)

Q 17. Consider the following Rights:

1. Right to livelihood
2. Right to health
3. Right to clean environment
4. Right to education
5. Right to privacy
6. Right to equal wages

How many of the above are included under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution?

- (A) Only two
(B) Only three
(C) Only four
(D) Only five

Q 46. (C)

Recently, Supreme Court of India has held that right to privacy is a Fundamental Right and it is protected under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. **Hence option C is correct.**

Fundamental Rights are enshrined in Part III of the constitution from Article 12 to 35. These are guaranteed by the constitution to all persons without any discrimination. They are meant for promoting the ideal of political democracy. They are justifiable.

Q 46. The "Right to Privacy" was seen in news frequently, is a:

- (A) Statutory Right
(B) Constitutional Right
(C) Fundamental Right
(D) Cultural Right

Test: 01 (Polity & Governance - I) (2024) | Test Code

{5} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 07

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-04 Q-40**

7. What are the duties of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) as Head of the Department of Military Affairs ?

1. Permanent Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee
2. Exercise military command over the three Service Chiefs
3. Principal Military Advisor to Defence Minister on all tri-service matters

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

Q 89. Which of the following statements regarding the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) is incorrect?

(A) Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) is the highest-ranking uniformed officer on active duty in the Indian military.

(B) Only an officer who is a retired General but has not attained the age of 62 can be appointment as a CDS.

(C) The position has been created with the aim of improving coordination, tri-service effectiveness and overall integration of the combat capabilities of the Indian armed forces.

(D) The CDS is the chief military adviser to the Minister of Defence.

Test: 28 (Current Affairs - 9) (2024) | Test Code: 124

Q 89. (B)

Explanation:

• Option (b) is correct

Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)

• The Chief of Defence Staff of the Indian Armed Forces (CDS) is the military head and permanent Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee (PC-CoSC) of the Indian Armed Forces.

• The Chief of Defence Staff is the highest ranking uniformed officer on active duty in the Indian military, and is the principal staff officer and chief military adviser to the Minister of Defence.

• The Chief also heads the Department of Military Affairs. The CDS is assisted by a deputy, vice-chief, the Chief of Integrated Defence Staff.

• The position was created with the aim of improving coordination, tri-service effectiveness and overall integration of the combat capabilities of the Indian armed forces.

• Setting the stage for appointment of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), the government amended Service Rules of the Army, Navy and Air Force, allowing retired Service Chiefs and three-star officers eligible for consideration for the country's top military post. The Central Government may, if considered necessary, in public interest, appoint as CDS, an officer who is serving as Lieutenant General or General or an officer who has retired in the rank of Lieutenant General or General but has not attained the age of 62 on the date of appointment.

{6} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 08
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-47 Q-77**

8. Operations undertaken by the Army towards upliftment of the local population in remote areas to include addressing of their basic needs is called :

- (a) Operation Sankalp
- (b) Operation Maitri
- (c) Operation Sadbhavana
- (d) Operation Madad

KSPC-P-GSPO

(5 - 1)

Q 77. Match the Correct pair from the following:

- 1) Pushpagiri Kshetram – Andhra Pradesh
- 2) Vellattam, Podiyala, kolakaran – Theyyam
- 3) Mission Sahbhagita – To conserve identified wetlands of India
- 4) **Operation Sadbhavana – Humanitarian initiative by Indian Army to aid people affected by terrorism.**
- 5) Ejiao – Health-related product made from donkey hides.
- 6) Gutti Koya tribes – Chhattisgarh

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 3 and 4 only

upscwithnikhil@gmail.com / +91-75586 44556

Q 77. (D)

Operation Sadbhavana

- Operation Sadbhavana (Goodwill) is unique humane initiative undertaken by Indian Army.

Test: 47 (Current Affairs - 14) (2024) | Test Code: 12447 upscwithnikhil@gmail.com / +91-75586 44556

- **The operation is taking place in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.**
- The operation aims to address aspirations of people affected by scourge of terrorism, sponsored and abetted by Pakistan.
- The unique operation has provided support to a large section of population of the State.
- The key focus areas of the operation include: infrastructure development, health & sanitation, woman & youth empowerment, community development projects, and education among others.

{7} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 10
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-60 Q-28**

10. Which of the following statements about the Ethics Committee in the Lok Sabha are correct ?

1. Initially it was an *ad-hoc* Committee. ✓
2. Only a Member of the Lok Sabha can make a complaint relating to unethical conduct of a member of the Lok Sabha.
3. This Committee cannot take up any matter which is sub-judice. .

Select the 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

Q 28. Consider the following statements with respect to the **Ethics Committee**

1. The mandate of the Ethics Committee is to safeguard the "freedom, authority and dignity of Parliament".
2. The Lok Sabha Ethics Committee is an ad hoc committee that was constituted in 2000.
3. The Ethics Committee can take up only cases of misconduct that involve MPs.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (A) Only one
(B) Only two
(C) All Three
(D) None of the above

Q 28. (A)

Ethics Committee The Lok Sabha Ethics Committee will soon take up the complaint of the Nishikant Dubey's, Member of the Lok Sabha against Mahua Moitra, Member of Lok Sabha in cash-for-query case. • The Ethics Committee was constituted in Rajya Sabha in 1997 and in Lok Sabha in 2000. • It enforces the code of conduct of members of Parliament, examines the cases of misconduct and recommends appropriate action. • It is engaged in maintaining discipline and decorum in Parliament. • The members of the Ethics Committee are appointed by the Speaker for a period of one year. • The Ethics Committee can take up only cases of misconduct that involve MPs. • **Lok Sabha Ethics Committee – It was an ad hoc Committee till 2000, which became a permanent part of the Lok Sabha House in 2015.** • **Any person can complain against a Member through another Lok Sabha MP, along with evidence and affidavit.** • The evidence should be of the alleged misconduct and an affidavit stating that the complaint is not "false, frivolous or vexatious". • If the Member himself complains, the affidavit is not needed. • The Speaker can refer to the Committee any complaint against an MP. • The Committee presents its report to the Speaker, who asks the House if the report should be taken up for consideration. • The ethics committee in Lok Sabha was recommended by the Committee of Privileges during the 13th Lok Sabha. • The work of the Ethics Committee and the Privileges Committee often overlap. • **Privileges Committee – The mandate of the Privileges Committee is to safeguard the "freedom**

{8} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 11
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-39 Q-72**

www.upscwithnikhil.com

11. Who was the Provisional President of the Constituent Assembly before Dr. Rajendra Prasad took over ?

- (a) C. Rajagopalachari
- (b) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar ✓
- (c) T.T. Krishnamachari
- (d) Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha ✗

Q 72. Which of the following statement regarding the **Constituent assembly** is not correct?

(a) M.N.Roy was the first national leader to enunciate the idea of constitutional assembly in 1934.

(b) **Dr. Rajender Prasad was elected as the President of the Constituent assembly in the first session, which was held on December 9, 1946.**

(c) It ratified India's membership of the commonwealth in May 1949.

(d) The assembly unanimously adopted the objective resolution on January 22, 1947.

Q 72. (B)

EXPLANATION:

When the Constituent Assembly first met on December 9, 1946, J.B. Kripalani, the then Congress president, proposed the name of **Dr Sachhidanand Sinha**, the oldest member of the Assembly, for the post of the provisional president. Later, on December 11, Dr Rajendra Prasad was elected as the President of the Constituent Assembly. So, option (b) is not correct.

Page 28

Test: 39 (History - V) (2024) | Test Code: 12439 upscwithnikhil@gmail.com / +91-75586 44556

{9} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 12
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-03 Q-07**

12. With reference to the Government of India Act, 1935, consider the following statements :

1. It provided for the establishment of an All India Federation based on the union of the British Indian Provinces and Princely States.
2. Defence and Foreign Affairs were kept under the control of the federal legislature.

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

Q 7. Which of the following constitutional provisions are inspired or borrowed from the Government of India Act 1935?

1. Emergency provisions
2. State Legislative Council
3. Schedule VII
4. Cabinet system
5. Reserved seats in an election

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q 7. (B)

EXPLANATION:

The British Parliament passed the Government of India Act in August 1935. The Government of India Act 1935 marked a second milestone towards a completely responsible government in India. An 'Emergency' means a condition whereby the security of India or any part thereof is threatened by war, external aggression, or tinned rebellion.

The Emergency Provisions are contained in part XVIII of the Indian Constitution from articles 352 to 360. The Constitution of India has emergency provisions, which have been borrowed from the Constitutions of Weimar (Germany) and the Government of India Act 1935.

Indian Constitution followed the Government of India Act 1935, which empowered the Chief Executive to declare an emergency. The Government of India Act 1935 was meant to provide Provincial autonomy in India. But it also had emergency provisions that restricted the autonomy of provinces. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

The Government of India Act of 1919 came into force in 1921. This Act is also known as the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms (Montagu was the Secretary of State for India, and Lord Chelmsford was the Viceroy of India). The Government of India Act of 1919 introduced bicameralism and direct elections for the first time in British India. Thus, the Indian legislative council was replaced by a bicameral legislature consisting of an Upper House (Council of State) and a Lower House (Legislative Assembly). The majority of members of both Houses were chosen by direct election.

The government of India Act of 1935 introduced bicameralism in six out of eleven provinces. Thus, the legislatures of Bengal, Bombay, Madras, Bihar, Assam and the United Provinces were bicameral, consisting of a legislative council (upper House) and a legislative assembly (lower House). Therefore, State Legislative Council was borrowed from the Government of India Act 1935. **So, Statement 2 is correct.** The Government of India Act of 1935 created an All-India Federation that comprised the Indian States and the British Indian Provinces. The Government of India Act of 1935 divided the powers between the Centre and the units as the Federal, Provincial and Concurrent List.

The Federal List for the Centre consisted of 59 items, the Provincial List for the Provinces consisted of 54 items, and the Concurrent List for both consisted of 36 items. The residuary powers were vested with the Governor-General.

Therefore, the Seventh schedule of the Indian Constitution deals with the Division of Powers between the Union and the states in terms of the list. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

The parliamentary system is based on the principle of cooperation and coordination between the legislative and executive. The parliamentary system is known as the 'Westminster' Model of Government, responsible Government and Cabinet Government. The Constitution establishes the parliamentary system not only at the Centre but also in the states.

{10} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 24

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-31 Q-53**

13. Which one of the following is a work attributed to playwright Bhasa ?

- (a) Kavyalankara
- (b) Natyashastra
- (c) Madhyama-vyayoga
- (d) Mahabhashya

Q 92. Consider the following pairs:

- 1. Brihaddesi – Matanga
- 2. Sangeet Ratnakara – Purandara Dasa
- 3. Natyashastra – Bharata
- 4. Kitabe Navras – Ibrahim Adil Shah II

How many pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) One pair only
- (b) Two pair only
- (c) Three pair only
- (d) Four pair only

Q 54. Analyze the following pairs:

- 1) 'Mahabhashya' written by Patanjali – Sanskrit grammar
- 2) Armageddon reedtail – Dancing Frog
- 3) Bakhars – Maratha

upscwithnikhil@gmail.com / +91-7558644556

Q 54. (B)

Pairs 2 and 6 are not correct.

Dharmashastras had been penned and were being given final shape and form in early centuries of first millennium CE. Grammatical essays like Panini's Ashtadhyayi (c. 500-400 BCE) and Patanjali's commentary on Panini – **Mahabhashya** (2nd-3rd century BCE) – laid the foundation for Sanskrit literature to grow and flourish.

Patanjali's Mahabhashya, meaning "Great Commentary," is a monumental work in the realm of Sanskrit language studies. It is a book on grammar and refers to historical personalities and events only incidentally, in order to illustrate grammatical rules. Composed around the 2nd century BCE, it stands as a comprehensive and insightful commentary on Panini's Ashtadhyayi, the foundational treatise on Sanskrit grammar.

Q 92. (C)

EXPLANATION:

In the post-Gupta period, a great treatise only after Natyashashtra was composed in Sanskrit as Brihaddeshi by Matanga Muni. Brihaddeshi is the first text that speaks about rāga and distinguishes the music genres into Marga Sangeet (Classical Music) and Desi Sangeet (Folk Music). Brihaddeshi was also an important work on Indian Music before Islam came and influenced Indian Music. Brihaddeshi was based upon the Natyashashtra itself and has clarified many things which were unclear in the Bharata's text. So, pair 1 is correct. Sharangdeva (1210-1247 AD) is the author of the famous Sangeet Ratnakara. This treatise is so highly regarded that the two important systems of art music in India, Hindustani and Carnatic, try to trace their basic concepts to it. It is divided into seven chapters so also known as Saptadhyayi. Sharangdev was patronized by the Yadavas of Devgiri. The Sangeet Ratnakara explains the construction and the techniques of playing 14 kinds of drums. Sangeet Ratnakar shows that by the 13th century, Indian Music started getting highly influenced by Islam. This is evident from some of the names of Rāga mentioned in it, such as Turushka Todi and the Turushka Gaud. So, pair 2 is not correct. **Natyashastra**, in full Bharata Natyashastra, also called **Natyasastra**, is a detailed treatise and handbook on dramatic art that deals with all aspects of classical Sanskrit theatre. It is believed to have been written by the mythic Brahman sage and priest Bharata (1st century BCE–3rd century CE). Its many chapters contain detailed treatments of all the diverse arts that are embodied in the classical Indian concept of drama, including dance, Music, poetics, and general aesthetics. **Its primary importance lies in its justification of Indian drama as a vehicle of religious enlightenment.** So, pair 3 is correct. Late in the sixteenth century, Sultan Ibrahim Adil Shah II of Bijapur composed the verses that

{11} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 15
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-08 Q-74**

15. Consider the following properties included in the World Heritage List released by UNESCO :

1. Shantiniketan
2. Rani-ki-Vav
3. Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas
4. Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodhgaya

How many of the above properties were included in 2023 ?

- (a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

Q 74. Which of the following is the India's only Mixed World Heritage Site?

- (A) Kaziranga National Park
(B) Keoladeo Ghana National Park
(C) Sundarbans National Park
(D) Khangchendzonga National Park

Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodh Gaya (2002)

- This temple was earlier built by Emperor Asoka in the 3rd century B.C. However, the present structure dates back to the 5th or 6th centuries.
- It is one of the earliest Buddhist temples built entirely in brick and considered to be one of the four sacred sites associated with the life of Gautama Buddha.

Mountain Railways of India (1999, 2005, 2008)

- This site includes three railways:
- **Darjeeling Himalayan Railway**
- Nilgiri Mountain Railway: This line, started in 1891 and completed till 1908, is a 46-km long meter-gauge single-track railway in Tamil Nadu.
- **Kalka Shimla Railway**

Qutub Minar and its Monuments, Delhi (1993)

- Qutub Minar was built in red sandstone in the early 13th century, in Delhi.
- It is 72.5 m high, with diameters of 14.32 m and 2.75 m at its base and peak respectively.
- The tower is surrounded by various aesthetically-pleasing treasures, for instance- the Alai Darwaza built-in 1311 as well as two mosques including the Quwwatu'l-Islam, the oldest mosque in northern India.

Rani-ki-Vav (the Queen's Stepwell) at Patan, Gujarat (2014)

- Situated on the banks of Saraswati river, this stepwell was built as a memorial to a king.
- Stepwells are considered to be easily accessible underground water resources and storage systems, which have been constructed in the Indian subcontinent since the 3rd millennium B.C.
- This stepwell flaunts the Maru-Gurjara architectural style, designed in the form of an inverted temple to emphasize the sanctity of water and is endowed with more than thousand sculptures depicting a combination of religious, mythological and secular imagery.

{12} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 16
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-70 Q-98**

16. As per Article 368 of the Constitution of India, the Parliament may amend any provision of the Constitution by way of :

1. Addition
2. Variation
3. Repeal

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

Q 98. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I:

A Constitutional Amendment bill amending a fundamental right cannot be questioned on the ground that such a bill encroaches upon any Fundamental Right.

Statement-II:

There is no limitation on the constituent power of the Parliament to amend the Constitution.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are

Q 98. (C)

An Act can amend Fundamental Rights in India passed under Article 368, and the validity of a Constitution Amending Act cannot be questioned on the ground that the Act invaded or encroached upon any Fundamental Right.

In other words, Fundamental rights can be amended through the Constitutional Amendment Act, provided it does not affect the basic structure of the Constitution. The Parliament cannot amend those provisions that form the 'basic structure' of the Constitution, which the Supreme Court ruled in the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973).

Article 368 (5) states that there shall be no limitation whatever on the constituent power of Parliament to amend by way of addition, variation or repeal the provisions of this Constitution under this article. But in the Minerva Mills vs Union of India case, Clause (5) of Article 368 is ultra vires because it excludes judicial review, which is a basic feature of the Constitution.

So, Statement 1 is correct, and Statement 2 is not correct.

{13} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 18

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-01 Q-45 | Test-03 Q-51**

18. Which of the following statements are correct in respect of a Money Bill in the Parliament ?

1. Article 109 mentions special procedure in respect of Money Bills.
2. A Money Bill shall not be introduced in the Council of States.
3. The Rajya Sabha can either approve the Bill or suggest changes but cannot reject it.
4. Amendments to a Money Bill suggested by the Rajya Sabha have to be accepted by the Lok Sabha.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

KSPC-P-GSPO

(9-D

Q 51. In the context of India, consider the following characteristics of a **type of bill**:

1. The bill contains subject matters contained in Article 110 of the Constitution.
2. The bill can be introduced in the Lok Sabha only.
3. Its introduction requires the prior recommendation of the President.
4. The bill can be amended by Rajya Sabha.
5. The President can summon a joint sitting in case of a deadlock.

Which one of the following types of bill is described by the statements given above?

- (A) **Money bill**
(B) Financial bill of the first kind
(C) Financial bill of the second kind
(D) Finance bill

Q 45. Consider the following statements with reference to the **Money bills**:

1. A money bill can be introduced only by a minister.
2. The Rajya Sabha cannot reject or amend the money bill.
3. The President cannot withhold his assent to the bill.

Select the correct statements:

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

Q 45. (A)

Article 110 of the Constitution deals with the definition of money bills. Every such bill is considered to be a government bill and can be introduced only by a minister. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

The Rajya Sabha has restricted powers with regard to a money bill. It cannot reject or amend a money bill. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

When a money bill is presented to the president, he may either give his assent to the bill or withhold his assent to the bill but cannot return the bill for reconsideration of the Houses. **Hence statement 3 is incorrect.**

Money Bill	Finance Bill	
	Financial Bill – I	Financial Bill – II
To introduce this bill, recommendation of President is required.	To introduce this bill, the recommendation of the President is required.	To introduce this bill, recommendation of the President is not required.
Rajya Sabha does not have the power to amend or reject the Money Bill	Rajya Sabha has the power to amend or reject Financial Bill – I	Rajya Sabha has the power to amend or reject Financial Bill – II
Whether a bill is a money bill or not is decided by the Speaker of Lok Sabha.	This Bill does not require any kind of approval from the Speaker to classify it as Financial Bill-I	This Bill does not require any kind of approval from the Speaker to classify it as Financial Bill-II
The recommendation of the President of India is needed to introduce Money Bill.	Recommendation of the President of India is needed to introduce Financial Bill – I	Recommendation of the President of India is not needed to introduce Financial Bill – II
Money Bill can be introduced only in Lok Sabha	Financial Bill-I can be introduced only in Lok Sabha	Financial Bill-II can be introduced in Lok Sabha as well as Rajya Sabha
To resolve the deadlock on Money Bill, there is no provision for a joint sitting of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.	To resolve the deadlock on Financial Bill-I, President can summon a joint sitting of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha	To resolve the deadlock on Financial Bill-II, President can summon a joint sitting of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
Money Bills are dealt with by Article 110 of the Constitution	Finance Bill-I is dealt with by Article 117(1) of the Constitution	Finance Bill-II is dealt with by Article 117(3) of the Constitution.

Test: 03 (Polity & Governance - III) (2024) | Test Code: 12403 upscwithnikhil@gmail.com / +91-75586 44556



{14} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 23
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-02 Q-45**

23. A Writ of Prohibition is an order issued by the Supreme Court or High Courts to :
- (a) a government officer prohibiting him from taking a particular action.
 - (b) the Parliament/Legislative Assembly to pass a law on Prohibition.
 - (c) the lower court prohibiting continuation of proceedings in a case.
 - (d) the Government prohibiting it from following an unconstitutional policy.

Q 45. Consider the following statements:

1. The writ of Prohibition can be issued only against judicial and administrative authorities.
2. The writ of Certiorari is different from Prohibition in that the former can be applied even to legislative bodies that exceed their jurisdiction.

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

Q 45. (D)

EXPLANATION:

The Constitution of India provides that the Supreme Court (under Article 32) and the high courts (under Article 226) can issue the writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, Prohibition, Certiorari and quo-warranto. Further, the Parliament (under Article 32) can empower any other court to issue these writs. Prohibition means 'to forbid,' and it is issued by a higher court to a lower court or tribunal to prevent the latter from exceeding its jurisdiction or usurping a jurisdiction that it does not possess.

The writ of Prohibition can be issued only against judicial and quasi-judicial authorities. It is not available against administrative authorities, legislative bodies, and private individuals or bodies. Hence, a writ of Prohibition can't be issued against administrative authorities.

So, Statement 1 is not correct.

{15} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 24
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-14 Q-32**

24. Consider the following statements :

1. It is the Governor of the State who recognizes and declares any community of that State as a Scheduled Tribe.
2. A community declared as a Scheduled Tribe in a State need not be so in another State.

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

1-D)

Q 32. (C)

Chief Justice of India, D.Y. Chandrachud said that no court or State has power to add, subtract or modify with the Scheduled Tribes List in Manipur

Scheduled Tribes Status with respect to Manipur

- **6th schedule** - Provisions relating to the administration of tribal areas in the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram are given in this schedule but Manipur is not included in that.
- Manipur's Meitei Tribes are protested across the state for inclusion of that community in the Scheduled Tribe list.
- **5th Schedule** - Provisions relating to the administration and control of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes.
- President can declare any such area or the whole state as a scheduled area.
- Article 342(1) of the Constitution clearly says that President can designate a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe.
- It is not open to State governments or courts or tribunals or any other authority to modify, amend or alter the list of Scheduled Tribes.

Q 32. Consider the following statements

1. Article 342(1) envisages that Supreme Court can designate a community as Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe.
 2. Provisions relating to the administration of tribal areas in Manipur is given in the 6th Schedule of the Indian Constitution.
 3. President can declare any such area or the whole state as a scheduled area.
- Which of the statement(s) is /are correct?
- (A) 1 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

{16} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 25

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-02 Q-51 | Test-29 Q-75**

25. With reference to Union Budget, consider the following statements :

1. The Union Finance Minister on behalf of the Prime Minister lays the Annual Financial Statement before both the Houses of Parliament.
2. At the Union level, no demand for a grant can be made except on the recommendation of the President 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

Q 51. Consider the following statements regarding

the Annual Financial Statement in Parliament:

1. The term 'budget' has nowhere been mentioned in the Constitution.
2. No money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under recommendation made by President.
3. The passing of Finance Bill legalises the income side of the budget and completes the process of the enactment of the budget.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Q 51. (B)

Statement 2 is incorrect: No money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under appropriation made by law.

Budget in Parliament

The budget is a statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India in a financial year.

The term 'budget' has nowhere been used in the Constitution.

It is the popular name for the 'annual financial statement' that has been dealt with in Article 112 of the Constitution.

Constitutional Provisions

The President shall in respect of every financial year cause to be laid before both the Houses of Parliament a statement of estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India for that year.

No demand for a grant shall be made except on the recommendation of the President.

No money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under appropriation made by law.

No money bill imposing tax shall be introduced in the Parliament except on the recommendation of the President, and such a bill shall not be introduced in the Rajya Sabha.

Q 75. (B)

On the Morning of the Budget presentation, the Government seeks approval from the President through a "Summary for the President" (Which is already approved by the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister) The Finance Minister briefs the cabinet on the Budget proposals through a "Summary for the Cabinet" just before he presents the Budget in the Parliament.

Then the Finance Minister proceeds to the Lok Sabha where he lays the Budget estimates on the floor of the House outlining key estimates and proposals

The FM's Budget Speech has two parts-Part A deals with the general economic condition and policy statements based on the Economic survey and Part B contains Tax Proposals and Expenditure Mechanisms. The Annual Financial Statement is tabled in the Rajya sabha after the FM's Budget Speech in the Lok Sabha.

{17} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 29

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-51 Q-43 | Test-47 Q-09**

29. Consider the following statements :

1. The Red Sea receives very little precipitation in any form.
2. No water enters the Red Sea from rivers.

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

Q 43. Consider the following statements regarding the distribution of the salinity of the oceans:

1. As the polar ice melts, along with water it releases the salts stored in it which is responsible for the high salinity variations in polar region.

2. Salty ocean waters of the Red sea and Persian Gulf region are due to high evaporation rate in this region and low influx of freshwater.

3. North Sea, despite its location in higher latitudes, records higher salinity due to North Atlantic Drift.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Q 43. (C)

Factors affecting ocean salinity

- Salinity, temperature, and density of water are interconnected. The salinity of water in the surface layer of oceans is influenced by: Evaporation and Precipitation
- In the coastal regions, the surface salinity is influenced by the freshwater flow from rivers.
- The highest salinity is found near the tropics due to active evaporation owing to clear skies, high temperatures and steady trade winds. The salinity sometimes reaches up to 70 ppt in the hot and dry regions where evaporation is high. In the landlocked Red Sea and Persian Gulf, the salinity is 41 ppt which considerably high.
- In the Polar region, the surface salinity is influenced by the processes of freezing and melting of ice. The

Q 9. (C)

Red Sea

- The Red Sea Northwestern inlet of the Indian Ocean through the Babel Mandeb strait and the Gulf of Aden and lies between Africa and Asia. To its north lie the Sinai Peninsula, the Gulf of Aqaba, and the Gulf of Suez (leading to the Suez Canal). The Red Sea Rift, which is part of the Great Rift Valley, lies underlain of it.

MAP:- 28

- The Red Sea is one of the saltiest water bodies of the world, owing to high evaporation and low precipitation in the region.
- The Red Sea is geographically divided into three sections: the Red Sea proper, the Gulf of Aqaba and the Gulf of Suez.
- The Gulf of Suez is bordered by Egypt only. The Gulf of Aqaba is bordered by Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Saudi

{18} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 30
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-08 Q-91**

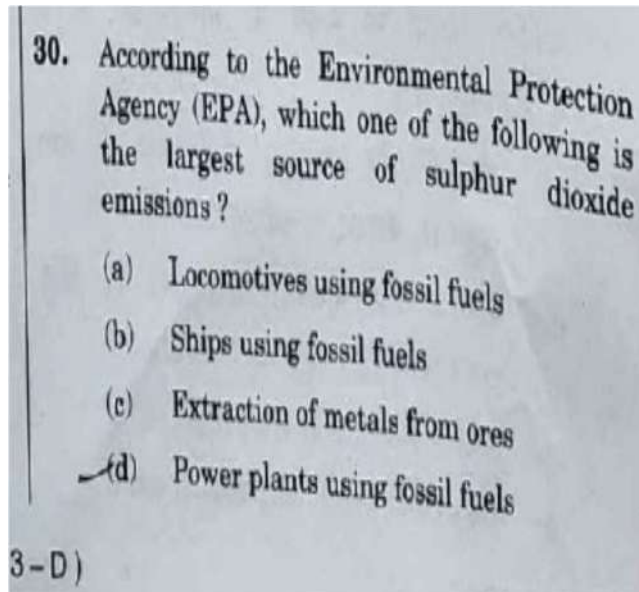
Q 91. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

Pollutants Major Source

1. Chlorofluorocarbons Refrigeration (CFC) and Air Conditioner
2. SO₂ Pulverized coal burning in thermal power industry
3. Lead Gasoline and Aviation Fuel

Select the correct option using the codes given below:

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



Explanation:

- All pairs are correctly matched

Supplementary notes:

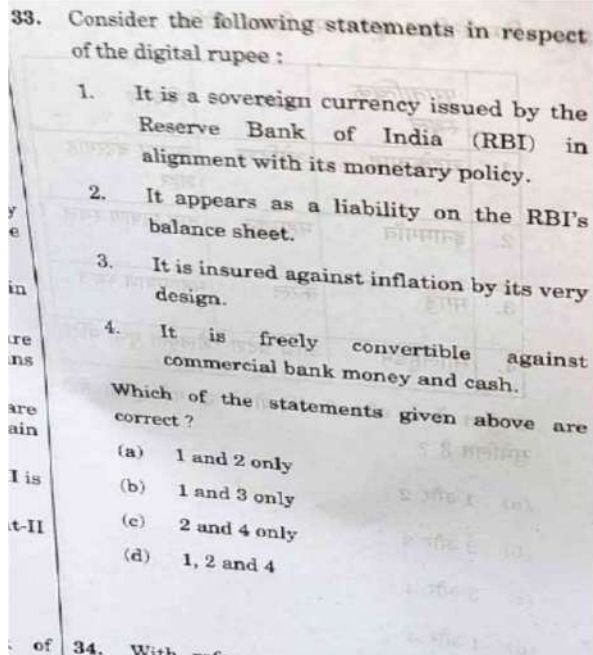
Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC)

- These are gases that are released mainly from air-conditioning systems and refrigeration.
- When released into the air, CFCs rise to the stratosphere, where they come in contact with few other gases, which lead to a reduction of the ozone layer that protects the earth from the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun.

Sulphur dioxide (SO₂):

- It is a gas produced from burning coal, mainly in thermal power plants.
- Some industrial processes, such as production of paper and smelting of metals, produce Sulphur dioxide. But the major source in India is the burning of pulverized coal in the thermal power plants.
- It is a major contributor to smog and acid rain.
- Sulfur dioxide can lead to lung diseases.

{19} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 33

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-13 Q-36 | Test-29 Q-23****Q 23.** Consider the following statements :

1. Unlike cryptocurrencies, central bank digital currencies are fiat currencies.
2. Digital Rupee will be accepted as a medium of payment, legal tender and a safe store of value.
3. Stablecoins are a type of cryptocurrency designed to avoid rampant volatility.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Q 23. (D)**EXPLANATION:**

Fiat currencies or money is a government-issued currency that is not backed by a physical commodity such as gold or silver but rather by the government that issued it. Cryptocurrencies are based on decentralized ledger platforms which are not governed by any centralized authority such as a central bank. As Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) is a digital form of currency notes issued by a central bank, it is fiat currency or money. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

The CBDC issued by RBI is referred to as ₹ (digital Rupee). The ₹ will provide an additional option to the currently available forms of money. It is substantially not different from banknotes, but being digital, it is likely to be easier, faster and cheaper. It also has all the transactional benefits of other forms of digital money.

The RBI's approach is to create a digital Rupee that is as close as possible to a paper currency and to manage the process of introducing the digital Rupee in a seamless manner. From this perspective, the e-rupee, or central bank digital currency (CBDC), will be accepted as a medium of payment, legal tender and a safe store of value akin to the paper currency currently prevalent in India.

The digital Rupee (e-rupee) should not be confused with e-RUPI, which is a person-specific, even purpose-specific digital voucher-based mode of payment that helps users redeem the voucher without a card, digital payments app, or internet banking access. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Stablecoins are a type of cryptocurrency that offers more stability than other cryptocurrencies because they are backed by real-world assets like the US Dollar, gold or another cryptocurrency. Other cryptocurrencies, such as bitcoins, are not pegged to a stable asset.

Stablecoins achieve their price stability via collateralization or through algorithmic mechanisms of buying and selling the reference asset or its derivatives. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**CENTRAL BANK DIGITAL CURRENCIES (CBDC)**

{20} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 35

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-34 Q-01 | Test-21 Q-55**

15. Consider the following information :

Archaeological Site	State	Description
1. Chandraketugarh	Odisha	Trading Port town
2. Inamgaon	Maharashtra	Chalcolithic site
3. Mangadu	Kerala	Megalithic site
4. Salihundam	Andhra Pradesh	Rock-cut cave shrines

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched ?

(a) 1 and 2
(b) 2 and 3
(c) 3 and 4
(d) 1 and 4

Q1. Match the following Chalcolithic cultures with the sites associated with them.

1. Ahar culture - A. Chambal
2. Kayatha culture - B. Udaipur
3. Malwa culture - C. Inamgaon
4. Jorwe culture - D. Navdatoli

Select the correct answer from the code given below.

- (a) 1-D, 2-C, 3-B, 4-A
(b) 1-A, 2-B, 3-C, 4-D

Q 55. Consider the following pairs:

Monuments States

1. Fort at Gandikota – Tamil Nadu

Q 55. (A)

2. Monuments at Nagarjunakonda – Andhra Pradesh

• Three monuments of Andhra Pradesh have been recently identified as Adarsh Smarak for providing additional facilities like Wi-Fi, Cafeteria, Interpretation centre, Brail signages, Illumination, etc.

3. Buddhist Remains at Salihundam – Telangana

• The monuments are:

1. Monuments at Nagarjunakonda, District Guntur

4. Veerabhadra Temple at Lepakshi – Karnataka

2. Buddhist Remains at Salihundam, District Srikakulam, and

3. Veerabhadra Temple at Lepakshi in District Anantapuram

Which of the pair(s) given above is/are correctly matched?

• Further, Fort at Gandikota has been included in the Adopt-a-Heritage scheme of Ministry of Tourism, which is PPP mode

Q 1. (C)

EXPLANATION:

The important non-Harappan **chalcolithic cultures** lay mainly in western India and Deccan. These include Banas culture (2600BC–1900 BC) in south-east Rajasthan, with Ahar near Udaipur and Gilund as its key sites; Kayatha culture (2100BC–2000 BC) with Kayatha in Chambal as its chief site in Madhya Pradesh; Malwa Culture (1700BC–1400BC) with Navdatoli in Western Madhya Pradesh as an important site, and Jorwe culture (1400BC– 700BC) with **Inamgaon and Chandoli near Pune in Maharashtra** as its chief centers. The evidence of the chalcolithic cultures also comes from eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Bengal. So, option (c) is correct.

{21} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 37

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-19 Q-12 | Test-59 Q-74**

37. With reference to revenue collection by Cornwallis, consider the following statements :

1. Under the Ryotwari Settlement of revenue collection, the peasants were exempted from revenue payment in case of bad harvests or natural calamities.
2. Under the Permanent Settlement in Bengal, if the Zamindar failed to pay his revenues to the state, on or before the fixed date, he would be removed from his Zamindari.

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

Q 12. Consider the following statements.

1. British could not have conquered a vast country like India if they had not taxed the peasant heavily.
2. Warren Hastings introduced the Permanent Settlement Act to raise the British Indian revenue in Bengal and Bihar.
3. In Permanent Settlement, zamindars got 1/10th of the rental collected from the peasantry, and East India Company got the rest.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

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

Q 74. With reference to Ryotwari settlement, consider the following statements:

1. It was introduced in Madras and Bombay Presidencies in the late 18th century at the same time when Permanent Settlement was introduced in Bengal.
2. It led to establishment of a system of peasant ownership.
3. The Ryotwari system was planned by Reed and Munro.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Q 74. (B)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It was introduced in Madras and Bombay Presidencies in the beginning of 19th century. whereas; Permanent Settlement was introduced in Bengal in the late 18th century.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under Ryotwari system, revenue was initially collected from each village separately, but later each cultivator or 'ryot' was assessed individually. Thus, peasants not zamindars were established as property owners. Although this system increased the revenue collected by the state, the assessments were faulty and the peasants overburdened by the taxes. The landed intermediaries continued to flourish.

Supplementary notes:

Ryotwari Settlement

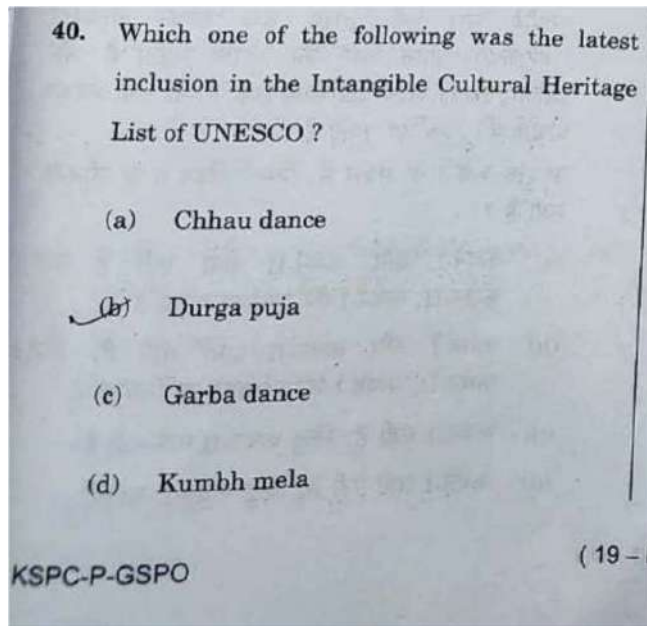
- It was introduced by Reed and Munro in parts of Madras and Bombay Presidencies in the beginning of 19th century.
- Under the system, the cultivator was to be recognized as the owner of his plot of land subject to the payment of land revenue. The settlement under this system was not made permanent; but was reviewed periodically after 20-30 years when the revenue demand was usually raised.
- The Ryotwari settlement did not bring into existence a system of peasant ownership. The peasants soon discovered that the large number of zamindars have been replaced by the one giant zamindari – the state. In fact, the Government later openly claimed that land revenue was rent and not a tax.
- The ryot's right of ownership of his land was also negated by three other factors:
- In most areas the land revenue fixed was exorbitant; the ryot was hardly left with bare maintenance even in the best of seasons.
- The Government retained the right to enhance land revenue at will.
- The ryot had to pay revenue even when his produce was partially or wholly destroyed by drought or floods.

Q 75. (C)

Permanent Settlement

- ❑ It was introduced in Bengal and Bihar by Lord Cornwallis in 1793.
- ❑ It had two features -
- ❑ Zamindars and revenue collectors were converted into landlords, who acted as government agents to collect revenue from petty peasants.
- ❑ Cultivators were given the lower status of tenants, depriving them of their long standing customary rights.
- ❑ Zamindars had to give 10/11th of the revenue collected to the British and received 1/11th of it for themselves.
- ❑ Sum to be paid as land revenue was fixed, hence the name permanent settlement. Anything that the zamindar exacted more than the fixed sum was for him to keep. However, in cases of crop failure, the zamindar was entitled to pay to the British the fixed amount.
- ❑ Zamindars were probably chosen to be the revenue collectors for the following reasons -
- ❑ Britain followed the same system where the landlord was the revenue collector, however with the difference that he was not subordinated to the state.
- ❑ Maximization of the East India Company's resources.
- ❑ To function effectively in a foreign land, the British needed locals in their support who could act as a buffer. Hence, they created the wealthy zamindar class which owed its existence to them.
- ❑ The Permanent Settlement was further extended to Orissa, northern districts of Madras, Districts of Varanasi.

{22} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 40
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-52 Q-75**



Q 75. Consider the following passage: It is a ritualistic and devotional dance that is performed across India especially in Gujarat. It is celebrated for 9 days during the festival of Navaratri. It is dedicated to the worship of the feminine energy or Shakti. It is one of the UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

The above passage best describes which of the following dance?

- a. Chhau Dance
- b. Bhavai Dance
- c. Garba Dance
- d. Bhangra Dance

Test: 52 (Current Affairs - 18) (2024) | Test Code: 124!

Q 75. (c)

Garba Dance Recently the inscription of Garba of Gujarat was included in the Intangible Heritage List of UNESCO.

- Garba is a ritualistic and devotional dance that is performed across India especially in Gujarat.
- It is celebrated for nine days during the festival of Navaratri.
- The festival is dedicated to the worship of the feminine energy or Shakti.
- The cultural, performative and visual expressions of this feminine energy is expressed through this dance.
- It is the 15th cultural item from India to make it to the UNESCO list.

41. Consider the following statements :

Statement-I :

There is instability and worsening security situation in the Sahel region.

Statement-II :

There have been military takeovers/coups d'état in several countries of the Sahel region in the recent past.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does **not** explain Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

Q 92. Which of the following countries has been suffering from the regular target of attacks by state-linked terrorists and was in the news recently for its military coup?

- (a) Nigeria
- (b) Niger
- (c) Central African Republic
- (d) Uganda

Q 85. Recently, France ended the Operation Barhane in the Sahel region of Africa. Which of the following countries form part of the Sahel region?

- (A) Morocco
- (B) Niger
- (C) Zambia
- (D) Libya

Test: 37 (Geography - V) (2024) | Test Code: 12437 up

Recent African coups d'état

World leaders condemned an attempted coup in Niger, calling for President Mohamed Bazoum – a key Western ally – to be released. Seven coups since 2020 threaten sub-Saharan stability



2-3 Mali, Aug 2020:

President **Ibrahim Boubacar Keita** ousted. Second coup by Col. **Assimi Goïta** in May 2021. French and UN peacekeepers expelled – Russian Wagner Group deployed. Reports of summary executions



4 Chad, Apr 2021:

Military takes control following death of President **Idriss Deby** after 30 years of rule. Deby's son **Mahamat Idriss Deby** declared president. Deadly protests follow amid demands for civilian rule

5 Guinea, Sep 2021:

Mamady Doumbouya ousts President **Alpha Conde**. After promising democratic reforms, Col. Doumbouya and fellow coup leaders arrest opposition leaders and restrict media freedom



6 Sudan, Oct 2021:

Gen. **Abdel Fattah al-Burhan** arrests civilian prime minister **Abdalla Hamdok** and other political leaders just two years after Sudan began transition to full civilian rule

7 Burkina Faso, Jan 2022: Army ousts President **Roch Kabore**

(right). Following second putsch in September, junta leader Capt. **Ibrahim Traore** seizes power. In July 2023, U.S. sanctions Malian officials over allegations they have deployed Wagner mercenaries



{24} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 42
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-66 Q-52**

42. Consider the following statements :

Statement-I :
India does not import apples from the United States of America.

Statement-II :
In India, the law prohibits the import of Genetically Modified food without the approval of the competent authority.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I

(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does **not** explain Statement-I

(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect

✓(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

Q 52. Consider the following statements:

1. Bt cotton is the only genetically modified crop that has been approved by the government of India for commercial cultivation in India.
 2. In India, food companies cannot manufacture or sell any food products or food ingredients derived from genetically modified organisms without prior approval of the Food Safety Authority of India.
 3. Import of soybean and canola oils derived from genetically modified soybean and canola is not allowed in India.
 4. Recently, Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) rejected the proposal for the commercial cultivation of genetically modified mustard in India.
- How many statements given above is/are correct?

(a) Only one statement

Q 52. (B)

EXPLANATION:

A genetically modified organism (GMO) is any living organism whose genetic material has been modified to include certain desirable techniques. Bt cotton, a pest-resistant, is the only genetically modified (GM) crop that has been approved for commercial cultivation in 2002 by the Government of India.

Bt modification is a type of genetic modification where the Bt gene obtained from the soil bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis* is introduced into cotton. Therefore, the Bt cotton is resistant to bollworm, a pest that destroys cotton plants. Hence, no GM food crop has ever been approved for commercial cultivation. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has proposed Food Safety and Standards (Genetically Modified Foods) Regulations, 2022 will apply to Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) intended for food use and also proposed a mandatory prior approval from the regulator to manufacture, sell and import food or ingredients produced from genetically-modified organisms. In India, Food companies cannot manufacture or sell any food products or food ingredients derived from genetically modified organisms (GMOs) without prior approval of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

India imports about 55,000 metric tonnes of canola oil, largely from GM canola seeds, and nearly 2.8 lakh tonnes of soybean oil, largely composed of GM soybean oil. India has approved only Bt cotton (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) biotech crop for commercial cultivation. However, importing soyabean and canola oils derived from GM soyabean and canola, besides some food ingredients from microbial biotechnology, has been allowed. **So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

Recently, The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) that functions under the Union Environment Ministry have proposed for the commercial cultivation of genetically modified (GM) mustard variety DMH (Dhara Mustard Hybrid)-11.

Therefore, Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) has not rejected the proposal for the commercial cultivation of genetically modified mustard in India. **So, Statement 4 is not correct.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

{25} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 43
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-01 Q-09**

43. With reference to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, consider the following statements :

While any resolution for the removal of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha is under consideration

1. He/She shall not preside.
2. He/She shall not have the right to speak.
3. He/She shall not be entitled to vote on the resolution in the first instance.

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

Q 9. Consider the following statements about the speaker:

1. He resign by writing to the deputy speaker.
2. When a resolution for speaker's removal is under consideration, although he can preside at the sitting of house but he cannot vote.

Which of the given statement is correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) Both 1 and 2
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Test: 01 (Polity & Governance - I) (2024) | Test Code:

Q 9. (A)

A Lok Sabha speaker remains in office during the life of Lok Sabha generally. However, to remain in office, he needs to remain member of Lok Sabha. Whenever Lok Sabha is dissolved, the Speaker continues to remain in office until immediately before the first meeting of Lok Sabha after it is reconstituted.

Resignation and Removal

The speaker automatically ceases to be so if he is disqualified to be a member of Lok Sabha due to reasons whatsoever. He can vacate his office by addressing a resignation letter to Deputy Speaker. He can also be removed by the members of Lok Sabha by a resolution passed by absolute majority (majority of the total members of the House) of Lok Sabha. However, a 14 days advanced notice must be given for such resolution. The motion of removal can be considered and discussed only when it has the support of at least 50 members. These provisions make removal of speaker difficult and provide him security of tenure.

When such resolution is under consideration of the house, Speaker cannot preside the meeting of the house, however, he is eligible to participate and vote except the casting vote in case of equality of votes.

{26} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 44

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-77 Q-100**

44. With reference to the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements :

1. A bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses on its dissolution.
2. A bill passed by the Lok Sabha and pending in the Rajya Sabha lapses on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.
3. A bill in regard to which the President of India notified his/her intention to summon the Houses to a joint sitting lapses on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

KSPC-P-GSPO (21 -

Q 100. Consider the following provisions with respect to the passing of bills in the State legislature with a legislative council:

1. A **Bill pending** in the Legislative Council of a State which the Legislative Assembly has not passed shall not lapse on a **dissolution** of the Assembly.

2. A Bill pending in the Legislature of a State shall not lapse by reason of the prorogation of either of the Houses.

3. A bill that has been passed by the Legislative Assembly and is pending in the Legislative Council shall lapse on a dissolution of the Assembly.

How many of the statements given above are not correct?

- (a) Only one
(b) Only two

Q 100. (D)

EXPLANATION:

The legislative council, being a permanent house, is not subject to dissolution. Only the legislative assembly is subject to dissolution. Unlike a prorogation, a dissolution ends the very life of the existing House, and a new House is constituted after the general elections are held. The position with respect to the lapsing of bills on the dissolution of the assembly is mentioned below:

➤ A **Bill pending** in the assembly lapses (whether originating in the assembly or transmitted to it by the council).

➤ A Bill pending in the Legislative Council of a state but not passed by the legislative assembly does not lapse on the dissolution of the assembly. So, Statement 1 is correct.

➤ A Bill passed by the assembly but pending in the council lapses. So, Statement 3 is correct.

➤ A Bill passed by the assembly (in a unicameral state) or passed by both the houses (in a bicameral state) but pending assent of the governor or the President does not lapse.

➤ A Bill passed by the assembly (in a unicameral state) or passed by both the Houses (in a bicameral state) but returned by the president for reconsideration of House does not lapse.

{27} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 45

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-02 Q-23 | Test-78 Q-33**

45. With reference to the Parliament of India, consider the following statements :
1. Prorogation of a House by the President of India does not require the advice of the Council of Ministers.
 2. Prorogation of a House is generally done after the House is adjourned *sine die* but there is no bar to the President of India prorogating the House which is in session.
 3. Dissolution of the Lok Sabha is done by the President of India who, save in exceptional circumstances, does so on the advice of the Council of Ministers.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 1 and 2
 - (c) 2 and 3
 - (d) 3 only

Q 33. Consider the following statements:

1. The Adjournment terminates only the session of the house, not the sitting.
2. The Prorogation terminates only sitting in the house, not a session.
3. The Adjournment *sine die* terminates both the sitting and session of the house.

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

scwithnikhil@gmail.com / +91-75586 44556

Q 33. (D)

The Adjournment terminates only a sitting and not a session of the House. It is done by the presiding officer of the House. It does not affect the bills or any other business pending before the House, and the same can be resumed when the House meets again. So, Statement 1 is not correct.

Prorogation not only terminates a sitting but also a session of the House. The president of India does it. It also does not affect the bills or any other business pending before the House. However, all pending notices (other than those for introducing bills) lapse on prorogation, and fresh notices have to be given for the next session. In Britain, prorogation brings to an end all bills or any other business pending before the House. So, Statement 2 is not correct.

Adjournment *sine die* means terminating a sitting of Parliament for an indefinite period (session is not terminated). In other words, when the House is adjourned without naming a day for reassembly, it is called adjournment *sine die*. The power of adjournment *sine die* lies with the presiding officer of the House. So, Statement 3 is not correct.

Q 23. (C)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

DURATION OF PARLIAMENTARY HOUSES

- Lok sabha
- Lok sabha is not a permanent house and hence can be dissolved. General duration of the lok sabha is 5 years and completion of the time period, its members automatically vacate the house.
- Premature dissolution of house (less than 5 year duration) is also possible when president dissolves lok sabha. This dissolution power of president to dissolve lok sabha is not an discretionary power of his own because he acts according to the advice given by prime minister and his council of ministers.

{28} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 48
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-64 Q-38**

48. With reference to the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme, consider the following statements :

1. To implement the scheme, the Central Government provides 100% funding.
2. Under the Scheme, Cadastral Maps are digitised.
3. An initiative has been undertaken to transliterate the Records of Rights from local language to any of the languages recognized by the Constitution of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

(d) 1, 2 and 3
Q 38. (C)

Q 38. With reference to Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP), consider the following statements:

1. It is a Central Sector scheme.
2. The scheme is implemented by the Department of Land Resources.
3. The main aim of the scheme is to replace the present deeds registration and presumptive title system with that of conclusive titling with title guarantee.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

Explanation:

- All statements are correct

Supplementary notes

Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP)

- The Land Reforms (LR) Division was implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz.: Computerisation of Land Records (CLR) & Strengthening of Revenue Administration and Updating of Land Records (SRA&ULR).
- Later on 21.8.2008, the Cabinet approved the merger of these schemes into a modified Scheme named Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP).

- **This Central Sector scheme is being implemented by the Department of Land Resources.**

- The main aims of DILRMP are to usher in a system of updated land records, automated and automatic mutation, integration between textual and spatial records, inter-connectivity between revenue and registration, to replace the present deeds registration and presumptive title system with that of conclusive titling with title guarantee.

Why in the news?

- The Union government has informed the Supreme Court that significant progress has been made in the computerisation of land ownership records, as **cadastral maps of 35% of** over six lakh villages in the country have so far been geo-referenced.

{29} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 49

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-16 Q-97**

49. With reference to the 'Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan', consider the following statements :

1. This scheme guarantees a minimum package of antenatal care services to women in their second and third trimesters of pregnancy and six months post-delivery health care service in any government health facility.
2. Under this scheme, private sector health care providers of certain specialities can volunteer to provide services at nearby government health facilities.

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

Q 97. (C)

Q 97. Consider the following statements:

1. Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan Initiative (SUMAN) will provide quality healthcare at zero cost to pregnant women, new mothers and newborns.
2. "LaQshya" (Labour room Quality Improvement Initiative) will benefit every pregnant woman and newborn delivering in public as well as private health institutions.
3. Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan provides antenatal care, free of cost, universally to all pregnant women on the 9th of every month.

Which of the above statements regarding the various health initiatives taken for women by government are correct?

(A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

• **Statement 2 is incorrect:** "LaQshya" (Labour room Quality Improvement Initiative) will benefit every pregnant woman and newborn delivering only in public health institutions.

Supplementary notes:

Health Initiatives Taken For Women

- The Union Government has launched **Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan (SUMAN)** to provide quality healthcare at zero cost to pregnant women, new mothers and newborns.
- The initiative was launched during the 13th Conference of Central Council of Health and Family Welfare.
- The initiative aims at assuring dignified, respectful and quality health care at no cost and zero tolerance for denial of services for every woman and newborn visiting the public health facility in order to end all preventable maternal and newborn deaths. It also provides a positive birth experience to both mother and infant.
- The government will also provide free transport from home to health institutions.
- Under the scheme, the pregnant women will have a zero expense delivery and C-section facility in case of complications at public health facilities.
- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched "LaQshya" (Labour room Quality Improvement Initiative) to improve the quality of care in the labour room and maternity operation theatres in public health facilities.
- The LaQshya program will be implemented by all Medical College Hospitals, District Hospitals and First Referral Unit (FRU), and Community Health Centres (CHCs) and will benefit every pregnant woman and newborn delivering in public health institutions.
- The **Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan** has been launched by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India. The program aims to provide assured, comprehensive and quality antenatal care, free of cost, universally to all pregnant women on the 9th of every month.

{30} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 51

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-04 Q-94 | Test-63 Q-99**

51. Consider the following statements :

Statement-I :
The atmosphere is heated more by incoming solar radiation than by terrestrial radiation.

Statement-II :
Carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are good absorbers of long wave radiation.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I

(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I

(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect

(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

Q 94. Which of the following statements is/are incorrect?

1. Most of diurnal variations in daily weather in the middle latitudes are caused by the advection alone.
2. The convective transfer of energy is confined only to the troposphere.
3. In tropical regions particularly in northern India, the 'loo' is the outcome of the convection.
4. After being heated by the infrared radiation from the earth, the atmosphere in turn radiates heat in short waves to the space.

Select the correct option using the codes given below:

- (A) 4 only
(B) 2 and 4 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) 3 and 4 only

Q 99. Consider the following statements:

1. Argon is the most abundant inert gas in the atmosphere.
2. Carbon dioxide is the only gas which is transparent to the incoming solar radiation but opaque to the outgoing terrestrial radiation.
3. The concentration of water vapor decreases with altitude.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) None

Q 94. (D)

Explanation:

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** In tropical regions particularly in northern India during summer season local winds called 'loo' is the outcome of advection process.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** The atmosphere emits the infrared radiation (longer waves) in all directions.

Supplementary notes:

Processes of heating and cooling of the atmosphere

- There are different ways of heating and cooling of the atmosphere viz. conduction, convection, advection, and radiation

Convection

- This process of vertical heating of the atmosphere is known as convection.
- **The convective transfer of energy is confined only to the troposphere.**

Terrestrial Radiation

- The insolation received by the earth is in short waves forms and heats up its surface. The earth after being heated itself becomes a radiating body and it radiates energy to the atmosphere in long wave form. This energy heats up the atmosphere from below. This process is known as terrestrial radiation.
- Water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, and other trace gases in Earth's atmosphere absorb the longer wavelengths of outgoing infrared radiation from Earth's surface. Thus, the atmosphere is indirectly heated by the earth's radiation.
- These gases then emit the infrared radiation in all directions, both outward toward space and downward toward Earth.

Q 99. (B)

Explanation:

Statement 2 is incorrect:

- **Ozone, Water vapour, and Methane are other greenhouse gases besides Carbon dioxide.**
- Carbon dioxide is meteorologically a very important gas as it is transparent to the incoming solar radiation but opaque to the outgoing terrestrial radiation. It absorbs a part of terrestrial radiation and reflects back some part of it towards the earth's surface. It is called the greenhouse effect. Ozone, Water vapor, and Methane are other greenhouse gases.

Water Vapor

- Water vapor is also a variable gas in the atmosphere, which decreases with altitude.

52. Consider the following statements :

Statement-I :

Thickness of the troposphere at the equator is much greater as compared to poles.

Statement-II :

At the equator, heat is transported to great heights by strong convectional currents.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does **not** explain Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

KSPC-P-GSPO

(25)

Q 94. Which of the following statements is/are incorrect?

- 1. Most of diurnal variations in daily weather in the middle latitudes are caused by the advection alone.
- 2. **The convective transfer of energy is confined only to the troposphere.**
- 3. In tropical regions particularly in northern India, the 'loo' is the outcome of the convection.
- 4. After being heated by the infrared radiation from the earth, the atmosphere in turn radiates heat in short waves to the space.

Select the correct option using the codes

Q 95.

Troposphere:

- The troposphere is **the lowest layer of Earth's atmosphere**. It extends up to 18km at the equator, 13 km at mid-latitude and about 8km at poles.
- Most of the mass (about 75-80%) of the atmosphere is in the troposphere.
- **The thickness is greater at the equator, because the heated air rises to greater heights.**
- The troposphere ends with the **Tropopause**.
- The temperature in this layer, as one goes upwards, falls at the rate of **5°C per kilometer**, and reaches -45°C at the poles and -80°C over the equator at Tropopause (greater fall in temperature above equator is because of the greater thickness of troposphere – 18 km).
- The fall in temperature is called '**lapse rate**'. (more about this in future posts)

Q 94. (D)

Explanation:

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** In tropical regions particularly in northern India during summer season local winds called 'loo' is the outcome of advection process.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** The atmosphere emits the infrared radiation (longer waves) in all directions.

Supplementary notes:

Processes of heating and cooling of the atmosphere

- There are different ways of heating and cooling of the atmosphere viz. conduction, convection, advection, and radiation

Conduction

- The earth after being heated by insolation transmits the heat to the atmospheric layers near to the earth in long wave form. The air in contact with the land gets heated slowly and the upper layers in contact with the lower layers also get heated. **This process is called conduction.**
- Conduction takes place when two bodies of unequal temperature are in contact with one another, there is a flow of energy from the warmer to cooler body. The transfer of heat continues until both the bodies attain the same temperature or the contact is broken.
- **Conduction is important in heating the lower layers of the atmosphere. The air in contact with the earth rises vertically on heating in the form of currents and further transmits the heat of the atmosphere.**

Convection

- **This process of vertical heating of the atmosphere is known as convection.**
- **The convective transfer of energy is confined only to the troposphere.**

Advection



{32} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 53
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-51 Q-15**

53. Consider the following :

1. Pyroclastic debris
2. Ash and dust
3. Nitrogen compounds
4. Sulphur compounds

How many of the above are products of volcanic eruptions ?

- (a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

Q 15. Regarding the volcanic materials, which of the following statements is **incorrect**?

(a) Hydrogen Sulphide is one of the main components of the Volcanic Gas released through fumaroles.

(b) Bombs are pyroclastic materials or tephra that consists of very small mineral grains and glass.

(c) A lava dome is formed when the lava contains high silica and gas bubbles.

(d) Pumice forms when the felsic lava freezes around the gas bubbles.

Q 15. (B)

Explanation:

• Option (b) is correct.

Materials Produced by Volcanic Eruptions

• Volcanic eruptions produce three types of materials: gas, lava, and fragmented debris called tephra.

Volcanic Gas

• Magma contains gas. At high pressures, the gases are dissolved within magma. However, if the pressure decreases, the gas comes out of solution, forming bubbles.

• The main component of volcanic gas emissions is water vapour, followed by carbon dioxide (CO₂), sulphur dioxide (SO₂), and hydrogen sulphide (H₂S).

• Volcanoes release gases when erupt, and through openings called fumaroles. They can also release gas into soil and groundwater.

Pyroclastic Materials (Tephra)

• Collectively, loose material thrown from a volcano is referred to as tephra. Individual fragments are referred to in general terms as pyroclasts, so sometimes tephra is also referred to as pyroclastic debris. Pyroclasts are classified according to size.

Volcanic Ash

• Particles less than 2 mm in diameter are called volcanic ash. Volcanic ash consists of small mineral grains and glass. Lapilli

• Fragments with dimensions between 2 mm and 64 mm are classified as lapilli.

54. Which of the following is/are correct inference/inferences from isothermal maps in the month of January ?
1. The isotherms deviate to the north over the ocean and to the south over the continent.
 2. The presence of cold ocean currents, Gulf Stream and North Atlantic Drift make the North Atlantic Ocean colder and the isotherms bend towards the north.
- Select the answer using the code given below :
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q 93. Consider the following statements regarding Isotherms and their nature in different hemisphere:

1. Isotherms deviates less in southern hemisphere than in northern hemisphere and are almost parallel to latitudes.
2. Isotherms are impacted by warm ocean currents in both northern and southern hemisphere.

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

Q 93. (C)

Explanation:

- Both statements are correct.

Supplementary notes:

Isotherms

- The **Isotherms** are lines joining places having equal temperature. In the northern hemisphere the land surface area is much larger than in the southern hemisphere.
- Hence, the effects of land mass and the ocean currents are well pronounced. **In January the isotherms deviate to the north over the ocean and to the south over the continent.** This can be seen on the **North Atlantic Ocean.**
- **The presence of warm ocean currents, Gulf Stream and North Atlantic drift, make the Northern Atlantic Ocean warmer and the isotherms bend towards the north.**
- **Over the land the temperature decreases sharply and the isotherms bend towards south in Europe.**
- The effect of the ocean is well pronounced in the southern hemisphere. Here the isotherms are more or less parallel to the latitudes and the variation in temperature is more gradual than in the northern hemisphere. The isotherm of 20°C, 10°C, and 0°C runs parallel to 35°S, 45°S and 60°S latitudes respectively.

{34} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 56
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-50 Q-81**

56. With reference to the Himalayan rivers joining the Ganga downstream of Prayagraj from West to East, which one of the following sequences is correct ?

- (a) Ghaghara – Gomati – Gandak – Kosi
- (b) Gomati – Ghaghara – Gandak – Kosi
- (c) Ghaghara – Gomati – Kosi – Gandak
- (d) Gomati – Ghaghara – Kosi – Gandak

Q 81. Arrange the following Indian Rivers from West to East

- 1. Gomati
- 2. Ghaghara
- 3. Kosi
- 4. Teesta

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1-2-3-4
- (b) 2-1-3-4
- (c) 1-3-2-4
- (d) 2-3-1-4

Q 81. (A)

EXPLANATION:

The following Indian Rivers are arranged to form West to East direction are River Gomati, Ghaghara, Kosi and Teesta



So, Option (a) is correct.

{35} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 57

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-38 Q-71 | Test-30 Q-29**

Q 29. Consider the following information:

1. It occurs due to the reaction of rain water with the mineral grains in the rock to form new minerals and soluble salts.

2. It occurs more rapidly at higher temperature and thus warm and damp regions are best for this type of weathering.

3. Hydrolysis is a type of this weathering.

Which of the following type of weathering is described in the above passage?

- (a) Physical Weathering
- (b) Chemical Weathering
- (c) Biological Weathering
- (d) Mechanical Weathering

57. Consider the following statements :

Statement-I :

Rainfall is one of the reasons for weathering of rocks.

Statement-II :

Rain water contains carbon dioxide in solution.

Statement-III :

Rain water contains atmospheric oxygen.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?

- (a) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct and both of them explain Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement-I
- (c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement-I
- (d) Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is correct

Q 71. Match the following:

List-I List-II

- A. Solution 1. Takes place below the water table
- B. Carbonation 2. Removal of solids in solution
- C. Hydration 3. Breaking down of feldspar
- D. Reduction 4. Minerals take up water and expand

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

scwithnikhil@gmail.com / +91-75586 44556

Q 29. (B)

Weathering

- It is the breakdown of rocks at the Earth's surface, by the action of rainwater, extremes of temperature, and biological activity. It does not involve the removal of rock material.
- There are three types of weathering, physical, chemical and biological. Physical weathering
- It is caused by the effects of changing temperature on rocks, causing the rock to break apart. The process is sometimes assisted by water.
- There are two main types of physical weathering:
 - Freeze-thaw occurs when water continually seeps into cracks, freezes and expands, eventually breaking the rock apart.
 - Exfoliation occurs as cracks develop parallel to the land surface a consequence of the reduction in pressure during uplift and erosion.
- It happens especially in places where there is little soil and few plants grow, such as in mountain regions and hot deserts.

Chemical Weathering

- It occurs due to the reaction of rain water with the mineral grains in the rock to form new minerals and soluble salts. The acidic water is a pre-condition for such reactions to occur.
- It occurs more rapidly at higher temperature and thus warm and damp regions are best for this type of weathering.
- It is the first stage of production of soils.
- Hydrolysis is a type of this weathering in which the breakdown of rock takes place by acidic water to produce clay and soluble salts.

Q 71. (D)

Explanation:

- Option (d) is correct

Chemical Weathering Processes

- A group of weathering processes viz; solution, carbonation, hydration, oxidation, and reduction act on the rocks to decompose, dissolve or reduce them to a fine clastic state through chemical reactions by oxygen, surface and/or soil water and other acids.

Solution

- When something is dissolved in water or acids, the water or acid with dissolved contents is called solution. This process involves removal of solids in solution and depends upon solubility of a mineral in water or weak acids.

Carbonation

- Carbonation is the reaction of carbonate and bicarbonate with minerals and is a common process helping the breaking down of feldspars and carbonate minerals. Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and soil air is absorbed by water, to form carbonic acid that acts as a weak acid.

Hydration

- Hydration is the chemical addition of water. Minerals take up water and expand; this expansion causes an increase in the volume of the material itself or rock.

Oxidation and Reduction

- In weathering, oxidation means a combination of a mineral with oxygen to form oxides or hydroxides. Oxidation occurs where there is ready access to the atmosphere and oxygenated waters.

- When oxidised minerals are placed in an environment where oxygen is absent, reduction takes place. Such conditions exist usually below the water table, in areas of stagnant water and waterlogged ground.

{36} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 58

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-04 Q-24**

58. Consider the following countries :

1. Finland
2. Germany ✓
3. Norway
4. Russia ✓

How many of the above countries have a border with the North Sea ?

- (a) Only one
(b) Only two ✓
(c) Only three
(d) All four

KSPC-P-GSPO

(27 - D)

Q 24. Due to climate change dam-like structure is a proposed solution to the problem of rising water levels in the North Sea. Consider the following statements about the North Sea:

1. Because of the low rate of evaporation and the addition of fresh water, the North Sea has low salinity.
2. The North Sea is linked with the Baltic Sea by the strait of the Skagerrak.
3. It is surrounded by Germany, Denmark, Belgium, Luxemburg, Netherland, and Norway.

Which of the statement given above is/are correct?

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

Q 24. (A)

EXPLANATION:

Even though the North sea has a low evaporation rate which is because of higher latitudes, and it is fed by large river systems like the Thames, Rhine, and the Elbe, it shows higher salinity because of the North Atlantic Drift Current, which is a wind-driven surface movement of warm water. It transports warm waters to latitudes higher than any other ocean, producing the moderate climate of Europe and western Scandinavia.

Salinity at the surface increases by the loss of water to ice or evaporation or decreased by the input of fresh waters, such as from the rivers. Thus the North Sea shows higher salinity, not less salinity. So, Statement 1 is not correct.

The North Sea is linked with the Baltic Sea by the Skagerrak and the Kattegat strait. So, Statement 2 is correct.

The sea is bordered by the island of Great Britain to the southwest and west, the Orkney and Shetland islands to the northwest, Norway to the northeast, Denmark to the east, Germany and the Netherlands to the southeast, and Belgium and France to the south. Whereas it is not surrounded by Luxemburg. So, Statement 3 is not correct.



{37} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 60

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-63 Q-22 | Test-63 Q-32**

60. Consider the following information :

	Region	Name of the mountain range	Type of mountain
1.	Central Asia	Vosges	Fold mountain
2.	Europe	Alps	Block mountain
3.	North America	Appalachians	Fold mountain
4.	South America	Andes	Fold mountain

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched ?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Q 22. How many of the following statements is/are correct regarding **Fold Mountains**?

- 1. This type of mountains is associated with continental crust.
- 2. The fold mountain is formed at continental collision zones.
- 3. These are formed under low pressure and relatively high temperatures.

4. The Alps is an example of the **Fold Mountains**.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Q 32. With reference to the **Fold Mountains**, consider the following statements:

- 1. Fold mountains are the most common type of mountains in the world
- 2. They are mostly found on the margins of a continent and ocean.
- 3. They are mainly associated with igneous rocks.
- 4. Recurrent seismicity is a common feature of Fold Mountains.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Q 32. (D)

Fold Mountains

- Fold mountains are one of the most common types of mountain ranges on Earth, formed through the tectonic processes of convergent plate boundaries. These mountains are characterized by their long, linear ridges and the folding of rock layers due to the immense pressure created when tectonic plates collide. The folding of rock layers results in the creation of steep, often rugged terrain with high elevations.
- One classic example of fold mountains is the Himalayas, located in Asia. These towering peaks are the result of the ongoing collision between the Indian Plate and the Eurasian Plate. The intense pressure at their convergent boundary has caused extensive folding and uplifting of the Earth's crust, leading to the formation of some of the world's highest peaks, including Mount Everest.
- Another well-known example of fold mountains is the Andes, which stretch along the western edge of South America. These mountains are the outcome of the subduction of the Nazca Plate beneath the South American Plate. The resulting compressional forces have led to the folding of rocks and the formation of the Andes, with peaks like Aconcagua, the highest in the Western Hemisphere.
- The Appalachian Mountains in eastern North America are another instance of fold mountains, created when the North American Plate and African Plate collided more than 300 million years ago. Over time, the Appalachians have eroded, but their folded structure is still visible in the landscape.

Q 22. (C)

- Most Fold Mountains are composed primarily of sedimentary rock and metamorphic rock formed under high pressure and relatively low temperatures. Many fold mountains are also formed where an underlying layer of ductile minerals, such as salt, is present. Some examples of Fold Mountains are the Himalayas, the Rockies, The Alps, the Aravalli's, etc.

{38} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 61

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-63 Q-91**

61. The organisms "Cicada, Froghopper and Pond skater" are :

- (a) Birds
- (b) Fish
- (c) Insects
- (d) Reptiles

Q 91. Consider the following statements about Cicada species:

1. Cicadas are hemipteran insects known for their loud, complex and species-specific acoustic signals or songs.
2. They prune mature trees, aerate the soil, and once they die, their bodies serve as an important source of nitrogen for growing trees.

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

Q 91. (C)

Explanation:

- Both statements are correct

Cicada Species

- Cicadas are hemipteran insects known for their loud, complex and species-specific acoustic signals or songs.
- The generic diversity of cicadas in India and Bangladesh ranks the highest in the world, followed by China.
- Most cicadas are canopy dwellers and are found in natural forests with large trees.
- P. cheeveeda could extend across the tropical evergreen forests ranging from Goa to Kanyakumari.
- They prune mature trees, aerate the soil, and once they die, their bodies serve as an important source of nitrogen for growing trees.

Why in news?

- The insect species that has now been named as Purana cheeveeda (after its Malayalam name Cheeveedu) used to be mistaken for Purana tigrina, a species that was first described in Malaysia in 1850.
- Due to the differences in their morphological characteristics, the Association for Advancement in Entomology has corrected the longstanding error in taxonomic identification and has excluded the Malaysian species from the South Indian cicada fauna.

{39} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 70

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-57 Q-66 | Test-12 Q-08**

70. Consider the following :

1. Cashew
- ~~2.~~ Papaya
3. Red sanders

How many of the above trees are actually native to India ?

☒ (a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) All three

(d) None

Q 8. Match the Correct pair from the following:

- 1) Individual Satyagraha launched during 1940s because
– Congress did not want to adversely impact Britain's war efforts.
- 2) legal recognition of slavery was abolished by
– The Act V of 1843
- 3) Introduction of Tobacco cultivation in India
– The Dutch
- 4) 'Indian Association' was founded by
– Surendra Nath Banerjee and Anand Mohan Bose

Q 66. Consider the following statements with respect to Red Sanders

1. It is endemic to few districts in Andhra Pradesh.
2. It is listed as Appendix II under Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) since 1994.
3. India was recently included in the Review of Significant Trade process of CITES for Red Sanders.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All Three
- d. None of the above

Q 8. (C)

Explanation:

Portuguese introduced new crops like Tobacco and Cashew nut, or better plantation varieties of Coconut.

Additional information:-

Portuguese-India connect:-

The Portuguese men who had come on the voyages and stayed back in India were, from Albuquerque's day, encouraged to take local wives.

Test: 12 (2024) History III | Test Code: 12412 upscwithnikhil@gmail.com / +91-75586 44556

Q 66. (B)

Red Sanders In the recently concluded CITES Standing Committee meeting, India was removed from the Review of Significant Trade process for Red Sanders.

- Red sanders is also known as red sandalwood, is a tree species with the scientific name *Pterocarpus santalinus*.
- It is endemic to few districts in Andhra Pradesh.
- The species is listed as Appendix II under Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) since 1994.
- The Red sanders species was listed for Review of Significant Trade (RST) process of CITES since 2004.
- India was recently removed from the Review of Significant Trade process of CITES for Red Sanders.

Test: 57 (Full Length Test - 1) (2024) | Test Code: 12457 upscwithnikhil@gmail.com / +91-75586 44556

3. With reference to "water vapour", which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a gas, the amount of which decreases with altitude.
2. Its percentage is maximum at the poles.

Select the answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q 99. Consider the following statements:

1. Argon is the most abundant inert gas in the atmosphere.
2. Carbon dioxide is the only gas which is transparent to the incoming solar radiation but opaque to the outgoing terrestrial radiation.
3. The concentration of water vapor decreases with altitude.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) None

Q 99. (B)

Carbon dioxide is meteorologically a very important gas as it is transparent to the incoming solar radiation but opaque to the outgoing terrestrial radiation. It absorbs a part of terrestrial radiation and reflects back some part of it towards the earth's surface. It is called the greenhouse effect. Ozone, Water vapor, and Methane are other greenhouse gases.

Water Vapor

- Water vapor is also a variable gas in the atmosphere, which decreases with altitude.

Dust Particles

- The Solid Particles present in the atmosphere consist of sand particles (from weathered rocks and also derived from volcanic ash), pollen grains, small organisms, soot, ocean salts, the upper layers of the

Q 95.

- Other gases found in almost negligible quantities in the atmosphere are neon, helium, hydrogen, xenon, krypton, methane, etc.

Water Vapour

- The vapour content in the atmosphere ranges from 0 to 5 % by volume.
- The atmospheric vapour is received through the evaporation of moisture and water from the water bodies (like seas and oceans, lakes, tanks and ponds, rivers, etc.), vegetation, and soil cover.
- Vapour depends on temperature and therefore it decreases from the equator poleward in response to decreasing temperature towards the poles.
- The content of the vapour in the surface air in the moist tropical areas, at 50-degree and 70-degree latitudes, is 2.6%, 0.9%, and 0.2% (by volume) respectively.
- The content of vapour decreases upward.
- More than 90% of the total atmospheric vapour is found up to the height of 5 km.
- The moisture content in the atmosphere creates several forms of condensation and precipitation e.g. clouds, fogs, dew, rainfall, frost, hailstorm, ice, snowfall, etc.
- Vapour is almost transparent for incoming shortwave solar radiation so that the electromagnetic radiation waves reach the earth's surface without many obstacles but vapour is less transparent for outgoing longwave terrestrial radiation and therefore it helps in heating the earth's surface and

{41} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 74

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-04 Q-11 | Test-06 Q-57 | Test-64 Q-77**

74. With reference to "Coriolis force", which of the following statements is/are correct ?

1. It increases with increase in wind velocity.
2. It is maximum at the poles and is absent at the equator.

Select the answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q 11. Consider the following statement:

1. Annual average temperatures are largely similar across the latitudes.
2. Annual rainfall largely similar across the latitudes.
3. Coriolis force is largely the same throughout longitude.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q 57. Which of the following forces affect the velocity and direction of wind?

1. Pressure Gradient Force
2. Coriolis Force
3. Frictional Force
4. Gravitational Force

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 3 and 4 only
(C) 1, 2 and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q 57. (D)

Explanation:

- All statements are correct

Supplementary notes:

Factors Affecting Wind

- The air is set in motion due to the differences in atmospheric pressure. The air in motion is called wind. The wind blows from high pressure to low pressure.
- The wind at the surface experiences friction. In addition, rotation of the earth also affects the wind movement. The force exerted by the rotation of the earth is known as the Coriolis force.
- Thus, the horizontal winds near the earth surface respond to the combined effect of three forces – the pressure gradient force, the frictional force and the Coriolis force. In addition, the gravitational force acts downward.

Q 77. (D)

Explanation:

- Option (d) is correct: The correct order is: Bengaluru-Chennai-Hyderabad-Mumbai.

Supplementary notes:

Coriolis Effect

- The Coriolis Effect is the name given to the imaginary force that deflects objects, such as rockets or large storms, which move over the surface of the Earth.

· The Coriolis force is directly proportional to the angle of latitude. It is maximum at the poles and is absent at the equator. Its effect increases northwards.

Test: 64 (Full Length Test - 08) (2024) | Test Code: 12464 upscwithnikhil@gmail.com / +91-75586 44556

{42} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 75
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-17 Q-85**

75. On June 21 every year, which of the following latitude(s) experience(s) a sunlight of more than 12 hours ?

1. Equator
2. Tropic of Cancer
3. Tropic of Capricorn
4. Arctic Circle

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

Q 85. Consider the following statements with respect to **Summer Solstice**

1. It is also called as hibernal solstice.
2. It occurs when the path of the Sun in the sky is farthest south in the Northern Hemisphere.
3. **At the Arctic Circle the sun does not set during the summer solstice.**

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (A) Only one
(B) Only two
(C) All Three
(D) None

Q 85. (A)

The Northern Hemisphere experiences summer solstice in June 21, the longest day of the year

- Summer solstice occurs when the path of the Sun in the sky is farthest north in the Northern Hemisphere (June 20 or 21) or farthest south in the Southern Hemisphere (December 21 or 22).
- Summer solstice does not necessarily mean the earliest sunrise or latest sunset because it depends on the latitudinal location of the country.
- **During Summer Solstice the North Pole is pointed towards the Sun than at any other time during the year.**
- **At the Arctic Circle, the sun does not set during the solstice.**
- It occurs when the sun is directly over the Tropic of Cancer, or more specifically right over 23.5 degrees north latitude.
- While the solstice occurs at the same time across the world, different countries experience it at different times according to their time zones.
- Winter solstice is also called as hibernal solstice.
- The Northern Hemisphere gets more direct sunlight between March and September over the course of a day.
- The maximum amount of sunlight received by the Northern Hemisphere during this time is usually on June 20, 21 or 22.
- The amount of light received by a specific area in the Northern Hemisphere during the summer solstice depends on the latitudinal location of the place.

{43} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 77
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-46 Q-95**

7. With reference to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) that are used in making many consumer products, consider the following statements :

1. PFAS are found to be widespread in drinking water, food and food packaging materials.
2. PFAS are not easily degraded in the environment.
3. Persistent exposure to PFAS can lead to bioaccumulation in animal bodies.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

Q 95. Which of the following products contains Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)?

1. Cosmetics
 2. Non-stick cookware
 3. Water resistant clothing
 4. Paints, varnishes and sealants
 5. Stain-resistant carpets and fabrics
- Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
- (A) 3 and 5 only
(B) 3, 4 and 5 only
(C) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Q 95. (D)

Applications of Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

• Food packaging materials

- Nonstick cookware
- Stain-resistant carpets and fabrics
- Water resistant clothing
- Cleaning products
- Paints, varnishes and sealants
- Firefighting foam
- Cosmetics

{44} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 83

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-21 Q-18 | Test-62 Q-46**

83. In India, which of the following can trade in Corporate Bonds and Government Securities?

- 1. Insurance Companies
- 2. Pension Funds
- 3. Retail Investors

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

Q 46. Under the "Retail Direct Scheme" launched by RBI in 2021, consider the following statements:

1. It is a one-stop solution to facilitate investment in Government Securities by Individual Investors.

2. Under this scheme Individual Retail investors can open Gilt Securities Account – "Retail Direct Gilt (RDG)" Account with the RBI.

3. Non-Resident retail investors eligible to invest in Government Securities under Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 are excluded under the scheme.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) None
- (b) Only one
- (c) Only two
- (d) All three

Q 18. Consider the following statements with respect to Corporate Debt Market Development Fund

1. It is an Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) under the aegis of Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

2. The CDMDF will purchase investment grade corporate bonds from fund houses in distress to help them meet redemption requests.

Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) Both 1 and 2
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Q 46. (C)

Explanation:

- Statement 3 is incorrect: Non-Resident retail investors eligible to invest in Government Securities under Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 are eligible under the scheme. Retail Direct Scheme
- Retail Direct scheme is a one-stop solution to facilitate investment in Government Securities by Individual Investors. Under this scheme Individual Retail investors can open Gilt Securities Account – “Retail Direct Gilt (RDG)” Account with the RBI.
- Retail investors, as defined under the RBI Retail Direct scheme, can register under the Scheme and maintain a RDG Account, if they have the following:
 - Rupee savings bank account maintained in India;
 - Permanent Account Number (PAN) issued by the Income Tax Department;
 - Any OVD for KYC purpose;
 - Valid email id; and
 - Registered mobile number
- Non-Resident retail investors eligible to invest in Government Securities under Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 are eligible under the scheme.
- The RDG account can be opened singly or jointly with another retail investor who meets the eligibility criteria.
- Retail investors (individuals) will have the facility to open and maintain the ‘Retail Direct Gilt Account’ (RDG Account) with RBI.

Q 18. (B)

Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF) SEBI has recently created framework for CDMDF to protect the investors investing in mutual funds

- The CDMDF aids to help stabilize the Indian corporate bond market in times of stress.
- Corporate bonds are debt security which is issued by a corporation and issued to bondholders/investors.
- CDMDF is an Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) under Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- The mutual funds will have to contribute 25 basis points (bps) of the specified debt asset under management to the CDMDF.
- The initial contribution of mutual funds to CDMDF will be based on Asset Under Management of the specified Mutual Fund schemes as of last December-end.
- The CDMDF will purchase investment grade corporate bonds from fund houses in distress to help them meet redemption requests.
- CDMDF shall purchase listed corporate debt securities from the specified debt-oriented Mutual Fund schemes.
- The fund aims to avert Franklin Templeton type debt fund crisis.
- Franklin Templeton debt fund crisis occurred aftermath of the covid-19, since it couldn't sell most of its underlying lower-rated securities.

{45} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 85

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-68 Q-66**

With reference to the sectors of the Indian economy, consider the following pairs :

Economic activity	Sector
1. Storage of agricultural produce	Secondary
2. Dairy farm	Primary
3. Mineral exploration	Tertiary
4. Weaving cloth	Secondary

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched ?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

Q 66. Certain activities do not produce goods, but they help in the development of the **primary and secondary sectors**. Which of the following initiatives supports the growth of such activities?

1. Introducing private freight terminals and mini rakes
2. Aadhar-enabled payment systems
3. Providing high-speed WiFi in railway stations.
4. **Cold storage warehouse facility for farmers**

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

Q 66. (D)

The activities that fall under the tertiary sector, also known as the service sector encompasses a wide range of services that provide essential inputs, support, and infrastructure for the primary and secondary sectors to function effectively.

- The primary sector is responsible for extracting raw materials from nature, such as agriculture, mining, and forestry.
- The secondary sector transforms these raw materials into finished goods, such as manufacturing and construction.
- The tertiary sector provides services to both the primary and secondary sectors, as well as to consumers and other businesses. Whereby the activities of tertiary sector do not produce goods, but they help in the development of the primary and secondary sectors.

o Railways and roadways fall under the service sector. Introducing private freight terminals and mini rakes aims to modernize and streamline freight transportation by introducing private freight terminals and mini rakes. Private freight terminals can provide more efficient and faster cargo handling, while mini rakes can reduce the time it takes to transport goods. This can lead to lower transportation costs, faster delivery times, and improved supply chain efficiency.

o An Aadhar-enabled payment system aims to promote financial inclusion and make it easier for people to make payments by linking their Aadhar cards to payment systems. Aadhar-enabled payment systems can be used for a variety of transactions, including paying for goods and services, withdrawing money from ATMs, and transferring funds. This can make it easier for people to access and use financial services.

o Providing high-speed WiFi in railway stations aims to improve the travel experience for passengers by providing high-speed WiFi in railway stations. High-speed WiFi can be used for a variety of purposes, including browsing the internet, staying connected with friends and family, and accessing work or school materials. This can make train travel more convenient, productive, and enjoyable.

o Cold storage warehouse facility for farmers aims to reduce post-harvest losses and improve farmers' incomes by providing cold storage warehouse facilities. Cold storage facilities can help to keep fruits, vegetables, and other perishable goods fresh for longer periods of time, which can reduce spoilage and waste. This can help farmers to get a better price for their products and increase their earnings.

{46} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 87

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-21 Q-99 | Test-62 Q-66**

87. With reference to physical capital in Indian economy, consider the following pairs :

	Items	Category
1.	Farmer's plough	Working capital
2.	Computer	Fixed capital
3.	Yarn used by the weaver	Fixed capital
4.	Petrol	Working capital

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched ?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Q 99. Consider the following:

- 1. Investment on health
- 2. Firms spending on the job training
- 3. Budget allocation on agriculture subsidies
- 4. Buying an S-400 air defense missile system from Russia
- 5. Investment in education

Which of the scenarios mentioned above are the source of **Human Capital Formation**?

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

Q 66. In the context of the Indian economy, consider the following:

- 1. Acquisition of produced assets
- 2. Purchases of second-hand assets by producers
- 3. Investments by resident producers
- 4. Disposal of fixed assets

How many of the above are included in the Gross **Fixed Capital Formation** (GFCF)?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Q 99. (C)

Difference from Physical Capital

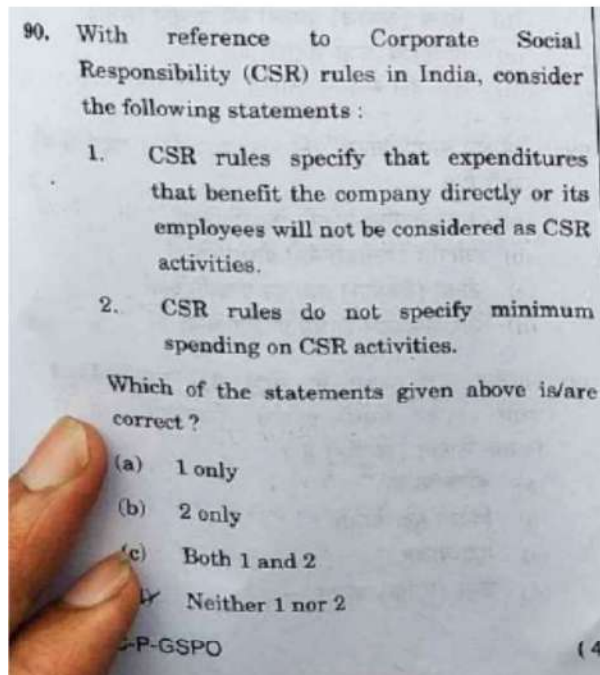
- The ownership of physical capital is the outcome of the conscious decision of the owner — the physical capital formation is mainly an economic and technical process. A substantial part of human capital formation takes place in one's life when she/he is unable to decide whether it would maximize her/his earnings.
- **Physical capital is tangible and can be easily sold in the market like any other commodity.** Human capital is intangible; it is endogenously built in the body and mind of its owner.
- Human capital is not sold in the market; only the services of the human capital are sold, and hence, there arises the necessity for the owner of the human capital to be present in the place of production. Physical capital is separable from its owner, whereas human capital is inseparable from its owner.
- The two forms of capital differ in terms of mobility across space. Physical capital is completely mobile between countries except for some artificial trade restrictions. Human capital is not perfectly mobile between countries as movement is restricted by nationality and culture. Therefore, the physical capital formation can be built even through imports. In contrast, human capital formation is to be done through conscious policy formulations in consonance with the nature of the society and economy and expenditure by the state and the individuals.

Q 66. (C)

Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF)

- Gross capital formation refers to the 'aggregate of gross additions to fixed assets (that is fixed capital formation) plus change in stocks of inventories' during the counting period.
- **Fixed asset refers to the construction, machinery and equipment.** Gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) is defined as the acquisition of produced assets (including purchases of second-hand assets), including the production of such assets by producers for their own use.
- Construction for military purposes (other than construction or alteration of family dwellings for military personnel), acquisition of defence equipment, durable goods in the hands of the households and increase in the stocks of defence materials are excluded from the scope of gross fixed capital formation. Gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) includes the acquisition of produced assets including purchases of second-hand assets.
- It also includes the production of such assets by producers for their own use, minus disposals. However, the expenditure incurred on usual/ routine repair and maintenance is not covered for compilation of capital formation.
- Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) measures the value of acquisitions of new or existing fixed assets by the business sector, governments and "pure" households (excluding their unincorporated enterprises) fewer disposals of fixed assets.

{47} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 90
> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-13 Q-22**



Q 22. With reference to **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** in India, consider the following statements:

1. India became the first country to legally mandate corporate social responsibility.
2. India's Companies Act, 2013 makes it mandatory for companies of a certain turnover and profitability to spend 2% of their average net profit for the past three years on CSR.
3. Profit after tax is used for the computation of net profit under section 135 of the Act.
4. As per section 135(5) of the Act, CSR activity shall be mandatorily carried out in local areas where the entity operates.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q 22. (A)

Section 135 of the Companies Act made it mandatory for every company with a net worth of at least Rs 500 crore, turnover of Rs 1,000 crore or more, or a minimum net profit of Rs 5 crore during the immediately preceding financial year to spend at least 2% of the average net profits, made during the three immediately preceding financial year to spend at least two per cent of the average net profits. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Profit Before Tax (PBT) is used for the Computation of net profit under section 135 of the companies Act 2013. The average net profit is used to determine the spending on CSR activities is computed under the provisions of section 198 of the Companies Act 2013, which specifies certain additions/deletions (adjustments) to be made while calculating the net profit of a company (mainly it excludes capital payments/receipts, income tax, set-off of past losses).

Hence, the Computation of net profit for section 135 is as per section 198 of the Companies Act, 2013, which primarily is Net Profit Before Tax and not by the Profit after Tax. **So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

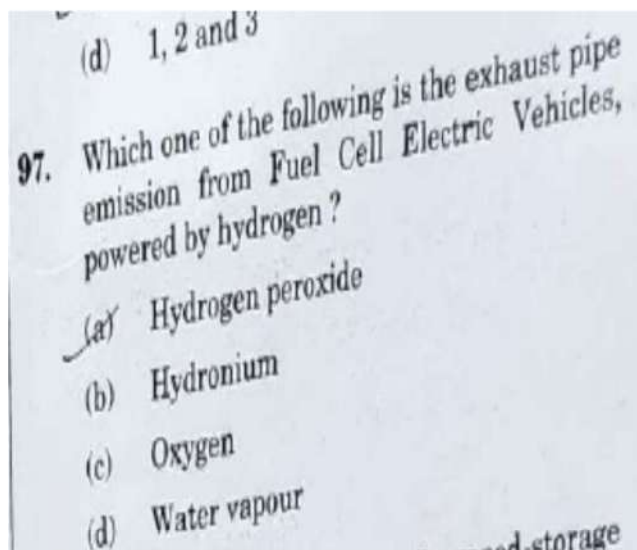
Under the Companies Act 2013, section 135(5) provides that the company shall give preference to the local area and areas around it where it operates for spending the amount earmarked for Corporate Social Responsibility activities. Thus, the preference for the local area in the Act is only directory and not mandatory, and companies need to balance local area preference with national priorities. **So, Statement 4 is not correct.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN INDIA

{48} UPSC 2024/ Set-D / Q- 97

> UPSC with Nikhil **Test-44 Q-01**



Q 1. (B)

Hydrogen Fuel Cell Technology

- Hydrogen Fuel Cell continue to produce electricity as long as there is a supply of hydrogen.
- Just like conventional cells, a fuel cell consists of an anode (negative electrode) and cathode (positive electrode) sandwiched around an electrolyte.
- Hydrogen is fed to the anode and air is fed to the cathode. At the anode, a catalyst separates the hydrogen molecules into protons and electrons and both subatomic particles take different paths to the cathode.
- The electrons go through an external circuit, creating a flow of electricity that can be used to power electric motors.
- The protons, on the other hand, move to the cathode through the electrolyte. Once there, they unite with oxygen and electrons to produce water and heat.
- The primary advantage of hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEV) is that they produce no tailpipe emissions.
- They only emit water vapour and warm air.
- Another advantage is that they are more efficient than internal combustion engine vehicles.
- Hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles have another advantage when it comes to refuelling time, which makes them more practical than battery-powered electric vehicles for public transportation purposes.