

## KSCSAPT 512 Ans with Explanation

1. D

Lakdawala committee formed in 1989

Chairman-D.T Lakdawala

Submitted report in 1993

The committee used CPI-IL and CPI-AL for estimation of poverty

2. D

The HDI was introduced in the first Human Development Report in 1990. It was released as a composite measurement of development challenged purely economic assessment of national progress. HDI, basically, is the composite index of life expectancy, education and per capita income, which are used to rank countries in four tiered human development. The index was devised by Pakistani economist Mahbub-ul-Haq in 1990. Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen utilized Haq's work and develop a composite index model

3. A

capability approach associated with prof. Amartya Sen, access to resources is the key to increasing human development

Income approach: this is one of the oldest approach to human development. Human development is seen as being linked to income. The idea is that the level of income reflects the level of freedom an individual enjoys. Higher the level of income, the higher is the level of human development.

Welfare approach: this approach looks at human beings as beneficiaries or targets of all development activities.the approach argues for higher government expenditure on education.health,social secondary and amenities.people are not participants in development but only passive recipients.the government is responsible by maximizing expenditure on welfare  
Basic needs approach was initially proposed by the international Labour Organisation.six basic needs that is health,education,ood,water supply,sanitation,and housing were identified.the question of human choices is ignored and the emphasis is on the provision of basic needs of defined sections

Capability approach: building human capabilities in the areas of health,education and acess to resources is the key to increasing human development

4. C

Ray - Vietnam

Dipa - Bastar District(Madhya Pradesh)

5. C

Footloose industry is a general term for an industry that can be placed and located at any location without effect from factors of production such as Resources, Land, Labour, Capital and Enterprise.

These industries often have spatially fixed costs, which means that the costs of the products do not change despite where the product is assembled. Diamonds, computer chips and Mobile Manufacturing are some examples of footloose industries. These are generally non-polluting industries. Non footloose industries generally require raw material availability within time limit to make products. Sugar Industry, Jute Industry and Tea Industry are the examples of Non footloose industries.

Footloose industries can also refer to the processing of products that are neither weight-gaining, nor weight-losing, and face significant transportation costs. An example of a footloose processing industry is honey. The weight of the raw honey and wax, is the same as the finishing product. So whether the honey is processed near the source of the raw materials or at the location of the final product demand, the transportation costs are the same

6. B

Knowledge oriented service sector can be divided into Quaternary and Quinary  
Quaternary activities centre around research, development and may be specialized knowledge and technical skills

Quinary activities often referred as 'gold collar' professions

Sectors of economy are classified as primary, secondary, tertiary sectors & tertiary sector is further divided in to quaternary & quinary.

Tertiary activities

Tertiary activities include both production and exchange. The production involves the 'provision' of services that are 'consumed. Exchange, involves trade, transport and communication facilities that are used to overcome distance.

Tertiary jobs = White collar jobs.

Quaternary activities

Quaternary activities are specialized tertiary activities in the 'Knowledge Sector' which demands a separate classification. There has been a very high growth in demand for and consumption of information based services from mutual fund managers to tax consultants, software developers and statisticians. Personnel working in office buildings, elementary schools and university classrooms, hospitals and doctors' offices, theatres, accounting and brokerage firms all belong to this category of services. Like some of the tertiary functions, quaternary activities can also be outsourced. They are not tied to resources, affected by the environment, or necessarily localised by market.

Quinary activities

Quinary activities are services that focus on the creation, re-arrangement and interpretation of new and existing ideas; data interpretation and the use and evaluation of new technologies. Often referred to as 'gold collar' professions, they represent another subdivision of the tertiary sector representing special and highly paid skills of senior business executives, government officials, research scientists, financial and legal consultants, etc. Their importance in the structure of advanced economies far outweighs their numbers. The highest level of decision makers or policy makers perform quinary activities.

Quinary = Gold collar professions.

7. B

West Bengal has the largest Mangrove forest cover in India  
Sarpagandha : used to treat blood pressure, it is only found in India  
Tropical rainforest do not shed their leaves altogether

Andhra Pradesh has the 4<sup>th</sup> largest mangrove forest in India  
The tropical rain forest is a forest with tall trees in a region of year round high temperatures where an average of 50 to 260 inches of rain falls yearly.

Rain forests belong to the tropical wet climate group. The temperature in a rain forest rarely gets higher than 34 °C or drops below 20 °C, average humidity is between 77 and 88%. Rainfall is often more than 100 inches a year. There is usually a brief season of less rain. Almost all rain forests lie near the equator.

Rainforests now cover less than 6% of Earth's land surface. Scientists estimate that more than half of the world's plant and animal species live in tropical rain forests and tropical rainforests produce 40% of Earth's oxygen. A tropical rain forest has more kinds of trees than any other area in the world. Scientists have counted about 100 to 300 species. Seventy percent of the plants in the rainforest are trees. About 1/4 of all the medicines we use come from the rainforest.

All tropical rain forests are similar. Many of the trees have straight trunks that don't branch out. The majority of the trees have a smooth, thin bark because there is no need to protect them from water loss and freezing temperatures. It also makes it difficult for plant parasites to get a hold on the trunks. The bark of different species is so similar that it is difficult to identify a tree by its bark. Many trees can only be identified by their flowers

Each of the three largest rainforests—American, African, and Asian has a different group of animal and plant species. Each rain forest has many species of monkeys, all of which differ from the species of the other two rain forests. In addition, different areas of the same rain forest have different species. Many kinds of trees that grow in the mountains of the Amazon rain forest do not grow in the lowlands

8. A

East Africa –Savanna  
Brazil – Campos  
Venezuela – Llanos

9. C

Tropical deciduous forests are found in large part of India, Central America and Northern Australia

Deciduous or Monsoon type of forests

The Deciduous forests are found on the lower slope of the Himalayas, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Orissa, Karnataka, Maharashtra Jharkhand and the adjoining areas. The precipitation in this area is between 100 cm and 200 cm. The Teak is the dominant species seen

in the area. Along with that Deodar, Blue Gum, Pal Ash, Sal, Sandalwood, Ebony, Arjun, Khair, and Bamboo are also seen. The trees in this forest shed their leaves during dry winter and dry summer. On the basis of the availability of water, these forests are again divided into moist and dry deciduous.

#### Dry deciduous forests

These forests grow in areas where the precipitation is between 50 cm and 100 cm. These are mainly seen in the areas of the Central Deccan plateau, Punjab, Haryana, parts of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and South-east of Rajasthan.

#### 10. D

1. Absolute poverty: Also known as extreme poverty or abject poverty, it involves the scarcity of basic food, clean water, health, shelter, education and information. Those who belong to absolute poverty tend to struggle to live and experience a lot of child deaths from preventable diseases like malaria, cholera and water-contamination related diseases. Absolute Poverty is usually uncommon in developed countries.

It was first introduced in 1990, the "dollar a day" poverty line measured absolute poverty by the standards of the world's poorest countries. In October 2015, the World Bank reset it to \$1.90 a day. This number is controversial; therefore each nation has its own threshold for absolute poverty line.

"It is a condition so limited by malnutrition, illiteracy, disease, squalid surroundings, high infant mortality, and low life expectancy as to be beneath any reasonable definition of human decency." Said by Robert McNamara, the former president of the World Bank

2. Relative Poverty: It is defined from the social perspective that is living standard compared to the economic standards of population living in surroundings. Hence it is a measure of income inequality. For example, a family can be considered poor if it cannot afford vacations, or cannot buy presents for children at Christmas, or cannot send its young to the university.

Usually, relative poverty is measured as the percentage of the population with income less than some fixed proportion of median income.

It is a widely used measure to ascertain poverty rates in wealthy developed nations.

In European Union the "relative poverty measure is the most prominent and most-quoted of the EU social inclusion indicators"

3. Situational Poverty: It is a temporary type of poverty based on occurrence of an adverse event like environmental disaster, job loss and severe health problem.

People can help themselves even with a small assistance, as the poverty comes because of unfortunate event.

## KSCSAPT 512 Ans with Explanation

4. **Generational Poverty:** It is handed over to individual and families from one generation to the one. This is more complicated as there is no escape because the people are trapped in its cause and unable to access the tools required to get out of it.

“Occurs in families where at least two generations have been born into poverty. Families living in this type of poverty are not equipped with the tools to move out of their situation” (Jensen, 2009).

5. **Rural Poverty:** It occurs in rural areas with population below 50,000. It is the area where there are less job opportunities, less access to services, less support for disabilities and quality education opportunities. People are tending to live mostly on the farming and other menial work available to the surroundings.

The rural poverty rate is growing and has exceeded the urban rate every year since data collection began in the 1960s. The difference between the two poverty rates has averaged about 5 percent for the last 30 years, with urban rates near 10–15 percent and rural rates near 15–20 percent (Jolliffe, 2004).

6. **Urban Poverty:** It occurs in the metropolitan areas with population over 50,000. These are some major challenges faced by the Urban Poor:

- Limited access to health and education.
- Inadequate housing and services.
- Violent and unhealthy environment because of overcrowding.
- Little or no social protection mechanism.

11. B

NSSO collects data through scientific technique of random sampling through household enquiry in rural and urban area

12. C

Okun's Law

A description of what happens to unemployment when the rate of growth of gdp changes, based on empirical research by Arthur Okun (1928-80). It predicts that if gdp grows at around 3% a year the jobless rate will be unchanged. If it grows faster, the unemployment rate will fall

13. A

Women workers more in rural area compared to urban area

14. C

Adaptation : building the capacity of the community through financial, technical and other infrastructural support to minimize the losses due to climate change

Mitigation : reducing the emission of the greenhouse gases causing the rise in temperature

15. D

National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), 2008

## KSCSAPT 512 Ans with Explanation

National Solar Mission (MNRE) – Goal for increasing the development of solar technologies such as increasing production of photo-voltaic to 1000 MW/year, Establishing the solar research center and promoting international collaboration.

National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (MoP)– Energy consumption reduction in industries; trading energy-savings certificates; energy incentives like lower taxes on energy-efficient appliances

National Mission on Sustainable Habitat (MoHUA) – Better waste management; power from waste; extending energy conservation building code; incentivizing fuel efficient vehicles; energy efficiency as part of urban planning; public transport promotion

National Water Mission (MoWR) – Improving water use efficiency with the use of pricing and other measures

National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (MoS&T) – conserve biodiversity, forest cover, and glaciers of the Himalayan region

National Mission for “Green India” (MoEFCC) – expanding forest cover from 23% to 33% of India’s territory.

National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (MoA) – climate-resilient crops, crop insurance, sustainable agricultural practices.

National Mission on Strategic Knowledge Platform for Climate Change (MoS&T) – Climate Science Research Fund; better climate modeling; international collaboration; private sector participation in the technologies for the adaptation and mitigation

16. B

White industries do not require environmental impact assessment approval

Industrial sectors with PI of 60 and above are placed under Red Category

Industrial sectors with PI of 41 to 59 are placed under orange Category

Industrial sectors with PI of 21 to 40 are placed under green Category

Industrial sectors with PI of inclu. and up to 20 are placed under White Category

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

Management tool to regulate the impact of industries on the environment for ensuring optimal use of natural resources for sustainable development

Applicable for major projects like infrastructure, thermal and nuclear power, industries, mining etc.

Industrial categorization (Red, Orange, Green and White) according to their impact to maintain balance between regulation and ease of doing business. White industries do not require EIA approval

17. B

Nitrogen tri fluoride is a green house gas, a chemical that is released in some high-tech industries, including in the manufacture of many electronics. The GHG protocol now requires nitrogen tri fluoride to be included in GHG inventories under the corporate standard

18. D

Carbon sequestration refers to the capture and the long term storage of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> for mitigating global warming. Some examples of promoting carbon sequestration:

1. wetland restoration-wetland soil is an important carbon sink; 14.5% of the world's land is composed of wetlands

2. Agriculture

- zero tillage or no tillage farming: no tillage farming has carbon sequestration potential through storage of soil organic matter in the soil of crop fields. tilling results in soil organic matter being broken down much more rapidly and carbon is lost from the soil into the atmosphere
- enhancing carbon removal: using the crop and its relation to the carbon cycle to permanently sequester carbon within the soil. This is done by selecting farming methods that return biomass to the soil and enhance the conditions in which the carbon within the plants will be reduced to its elemental nature and stored in a stable state. Methods of accomplishing this include using cover crops such as grasses and weeds as temporary cover between planting seasons and restoring degraded land, which slows carbon release while returning the land to agriculture or other use

3. Biochar burial-it is charcoal created by the pyrolysis of biomass waste. The resulting material is used as a soil improver. Biochar carbon is relatively inert so that it remains sequestered soil.

19. B

Green climate fund (GCF) was established under UNFCCC

GCF will support projects, policies and other activities in developing country parties. The fund is governed by the GCF board

Adaptation techniques deal with:

- Breed climate resilient crop varieties, which are more tolerant of heat, drought and water logging
- Promote shore protection techniques and open space that allow beaches and coastal wetlands to gradually move inland as sea levels rise
- Identify and improve evacuation routes and evacuation plans for low lying areas, to prepare for increased storm surges and flooding
- Protect and increase migration corridors to allow species to migrate as the climate changes
- Increase energy efficiency to help offset increases in energy consumption
- Improve water use efficiency and build additional water storage capacity

20. D

## KSCSAPT 512 Ans with Explanation

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility is a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society, and Indigenous Peoples focused on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, forest carbon stock conservation, the sustainable management of forests, and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (activities commonly referred to as REDD+)

The four strategic objectives of the FCPF:

To assist countries in their REDD+ efforts by providing them with financial and technical assistance in building their capacity to benefit from possible future systems of positive incentives for REDD+.

To pilot a performance-based payment system for REDD+ activities, with a view to ensuring equitable benefit sharing and promoting future large-scale positive incentives for REDD+. Within the approach to REDD+, to test ways to sustain or enhance livelihoods of local communities and to conserve biodiversity.

To disseminate broadly the knowledge gained in the development of the Facility and the implementation of Readiness Preparation Proposals (RPPs) and Emission Reductions Programs (ERPs).

The FCPF's funding mechanisms:

The FCPF has two separate but complementary funding mechanisms — the Readiness Fund and the Carbon Fund — to achieve its strategic objectives. Both funds are underpinned by a multi-donor fund of governments and non-governmental entities, including private companies that make a minimum financial contribution of \$5 million.

Contributors to the Readiness Fund are known as Donor Participants.

Contributors to the Carbon Fund are known as Carbon Fund Participants.

Developing countries participating in the FCPF (both funds) are known as REDD Country Participants

21. A

The first assessment report of IPCC came out in 1990

IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

H.Q in Geneva

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the leading international body for the assessment of climate change.

It was established by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988.

To have a clear view on the present scenario of Climate change and its future impact on Environment, Livelihood, Economics.

It does not conduct any research nor does it monitor climate related data or parameters.



## KSCSAPT 512 Ans with Explanation

It merely assesses the most recent scientific, technical and socio-economic information produced worldwide relevant to the understanding of climate change.

Thousand of scientists contribute to provide info voluntarily.

It is open to all member countries of the United Nations (UN) and WMO. Currently 195 countries are members of the IPCC

22. D

One of the most significant features of the IPCC's fifth assessment report was quantifying the 'carbon budget'. This is the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> the world can emit while still having a likely chance of limiting average global temperature rise to 2 degree Celsius above pre-industrial levels, an internationally agreed upon target. The total size of the global carbon budget is about 3000 gigatonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>

23. B

Dependency ratio can be defined as the ratio of the non working population to the working population

24. C

Bhilai steel plant was established with Russian collaboration Durg district of Chhattisgarh and started production in 1962

25. B

India is the largest Jute producing country in the world; other countries are Bangladesh(2), China(3), Uzbekistan(4) and Nepal(5)

Other than West Bengal Jute produced in Assam, Orissa, Bihar, U.P, Tripura and Meghalaya

26. D

One of the important achievements of Indian Railway has been the construction of Konkan Railway in 1988. It is 760 km long rail route connecting Roha in Maharashtra to Mangalore in Karnataka. The states of Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka are partners in this undertaking

27. C

India's trade reforms since 1991

One of the major dimensions of the economic reforms undertaken since 1991 was globalizing Indian economy of which liberalization of foreign trade is a central aspect. The following reforms were made

Devaluation of the currency in 1991 to boost exports

Rupee convertibility on the trade account since 1992 to incentivize exporters

Cutting down the peak customs duty that stood at above 300% in 1991 to 10% in 2009 to import goods and services primarily for facilitating exports

Simplification of procedures

SEZs

FTAs/Cepa/Ceca

WTO-led schedule for global trade integration

Incentives exporters like DEPB, interest rate subsidy (subvention) etc.

Sector specific packages

diversification

The effect is that exports have registered remarkable growth; created employment; given the country adequate forex; made the economy competitive; brought in FDI etc

## KSCSAPT 512 Ans with Explanation

### Market Access Initiative (MAI)

MAI scheme is intended to provide financial assistance for medium term export promotion efforts with sharp focus on a country / product.

Financial assistance is available for Export Promotion Councils (EPCs), Industry and Trade Associations (ITAs), Agencies of State Governments, Indian Commercial Missions (ICMs) abroad and other eligible entities as may be notified.

A whole range of activities can be funded under MAI scheme. These include, amongst others

Setting up of showroom / warehouse,

Sales promotion campaigns,

International departmental stores,

Publicity campaigns

28. B

hydrophytic plants, such as water lily or pondweed, that grow in saturated soil or water, xerophytic plants, such as cactus, that grow in extremely dry soil, mesophytes are ordinary plants that exist between the two extremes.

Mesophytic environments are marked by average to hot temperatures and soil that is neither too dry nor too wet

29. A

### Tropical Semi-Evergreen Forests

They are transitional forests between tropical wet evergreen forests and tropical deciduous forests.

They are comparatively drier areas compared to tropical wet evergreen forests.

### Climatic Conditions

Annual rainfall is 200-250 cm

Mean annual temperature varies from 24°C to 27°C

The relative humidity is about 75 per cent

The dry season is not short like in tropical evergreen forests.

### Distribution

Western coast

Assam

Lower slopes of the Eastern Himalayas

Odisha and

Andamans.

Characteristics

## KSCSAPT 512 Ans with Explanation

The semi-evergreen forests are less dense.

They are more gregarious [living in flocks or colonies – more pure stands] than the wet evergreen forests.

These forests are characterized by many species.

Trees usually have buttressed trunks with abundant epiphytes.

Buttressed Trunks

Buttressed Trunks

The important species are laurel, rosewood, mesua, thorny bamboo – Western Ghats, white cedar, Indian chestnut, champa, mango, etc. – Himalayan region.

Timber

Hardwood: Similar to that in tropical evergreen forests except that these forests are less dense with more pure stands (timber industry here is better than in evergreen forests)

30. C

Ozone is what is known as a trace gas, meaning there is very little of it in the atmosphere. In fact, out of every million molecules of gas in the atmosphere, less than ten are ozone. Ozone is measured in what are called Dobson units. A Dobson unit of gas is equal to a layer of gas, at the surface of the Earth, with a thickness of one hundredth of a millimeter. The ozone in the atmosphere is about 300 Dobsons. That means if you brought all of the ozone in the atmosphere down to a layer of pure ozone at the surface, it would be about three millimeters thick. It doesn't seem like much, but it's enough to protect you from the Sun's UV rays. Much of the ozone is located about twenty kilometers above the ground, in a part of the atmosphere called the stratosphere. This is why it's called the "ozone layer"

31. B

NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE

- It has been jointly awarded to James P. Allison and Tasuku Honjo for their discovery of 'immune checkpoint therapy,' a cancer treatment.
- Working: By stimulating the inherent ability of our immune system to attack tumor cells by releasing the brakes on immune cells.
- James P. Allison studied a known protein that functions as a brake on the immune system. He realized the potential of releasing the brake and thereby unleashing our immune cells to attack tumors. He then developed this concept into a brand new approach for treating patients.
- Tasuku Honjo discovered a protein on immune cells and, after careful exploration of its function, eventually revealed that it also operates as a brake, but with a different mechanism of action. Therapies based on his discovery proved to be strikingly effective in the fight against cancer

32. B

Recently, Republic of Seychelles launched the world's first sovereign blue bond.

- The Bond and the programs of marine activities have been developed by the support of World Bank and Global Environment Facility and is part of the project under the World Bank's South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Governance and Shared Growth Program (SWIOFish).
- Blue bonds are debt instruments issued by the governments, development banks etc. to raise capital from impact investors to finance marine and oceanbased projects that have positive

environmental, economic and climate benefits. They have been inspired by the concept of Green Bonds

33. A

IBSAMAR: It is a joint Multi – National Maritime Exercise between the Indian, Brazilian and South African Navies. Its sixth edition was held at Simons Town, South Africa

34. D

Recently, Global Conference on Primary Health Care by UNICEF and World Health Organisation (WHO), has concluded with Astana Declaration in Kazakhstan.

All the 192-member countries of the United Nations, including India, signed the Astana Declaration.

- It is the global commitment to strengthen Primary Health Care. This declaration reaffirms the historic 1978 Declaration of Alma-Ata. Alma-Ata Declaration was the first declaration which identified Primary Health Care as a key to the attainment of the goal of Health for All

35. B

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank launched the Bali Fintech Agenda. About Agenda

- The Bali Fintech Agenda is a set of 12 policy elements established to help member countries harness the benefits and opportunities of rapid advances in financial technology (fintech), while at the same time also managing the risks that arise.
- The Agenda proposes a framework of high-level issues that countries should consider in their own domestic policy discussions and aims to guide staff from the two institutions in their own work and dialogue with national authorities.
- The 12 elements are distilled from members' own experiences and cover topics relating broadly to enabling fintech, building the foundations of the digital economy, ensuring financial sector resilience, addressing risks, promoting international cooperation, improve cross-border payments and remittance transfer systems.
- It provides a framework to support the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in low-income countries, where access to financial services is low.

Fintech in India

- According to EY's Fintech Adoption Index 2017, India has the second highest fintech adoption rate in the world.
- With a range of options, including e-wallets, lending and insurance, the variety of services provided in this sector are immense and have changed the way consumers carry out their daily transactions.
- Fintech in India is especially advantageous, since the country boasts of an unrivalled youth demographic which is rapidly growing. Furthermore, smartphone penetration is likely to witness an upsurge - from 53% in 2014 to 64% by 2018.
- The financial services market in India is primarily untapped, with 40% of the population having no association with any bank and more than 80% of the transactions carried out through cash. This represents an opportunity for Fintech start-ups to massively spread their wings in different segments.

### Challenges in India

- **Adoption of Fintech:** Adoption becomes complicated in an economy like India's which is dominated by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Going digital for payments can be complicated.
- **Cost involved in Integration:** Integrating with Fintech doesn't come cheap. The cost can be prohibitive for MSMEs.
- **Regulatory framework:** Regulatory uncertainty in the fintech sector is posing a major challenge. This would require "the modification and adaptation of regulatory frameworks to contain risks of arbitrage, while recognizing that regulation should remain proportionate to the risks." The regulatory framework for entering in Indian market and performing as one is highly restrictive in nature.

### What is Fintech?

- Fintech (financial technology) is used to describe new tech that seeks to improve and automate the delivery and use of financial services.
- At its core, fintech is utilized to help companies, business owners and consumers better manage their financial operations, processes and lives by utilizing specialized software and algorithms that are used on computers and, increasingly, smartphones.
- **Infrastructure:** Poor infrastructure in terms of Internet Connectivity, unbanked population and low financial literacy level are another hindrance.
- **Cash Dependency:** The conservative approach of users and merchants to deal in cash is really hard to change.

Since it's not part of financial life but a way to their financial transactions.

- **Frauds:** Transaction can easily turn into fraud by tech people aware of glitches in software.
- **Lack of government support:** Lack of government support and some sort of Incentives for protecting the Interest of Fintech in India is demoralizing the start and entrepreneurs at very basic level.
- **Lack of investors:** Fintech do not get the required seed capital and other required investment on time which make their operations and functioning really below the mark.

### Way forward

- **Focusing on the end user:** QR codes have been viewed by fintech companies as a way to acquire merchants at a low cost. End customers are either unfamiliar with navigating the app, or the person sent to make the purchase does not have a smartphone, does not own and control a bank account, or both. Fintech providers have to consider this audience while developing a payment solution.
- **Ensure solution for better alternative:** The availability of small change, which is often refused by banks owing to high storage and transportation costs, inevitably finds its way to small merchants and households, and is used for low-value transactions. Fintech needs to tap the market by ensuring easy small transactions.
- **Identify and empower change agents:** Fintechs could offer business value to merchants for encouraging end customers to pay digitally. A dedicated helpline or interactive voice response service (IVRS) for merchants can help address ongoing issues with using the QR-UPI solution.

- Establish clear business and customer value: Many businesses, which operate in the low-income space, have low profit margins. However, digital financial solutions can lower costs or increase revenue at a marginal cost, driving business value. Hence understanding the need of market becomes really important.
- Create an Enabling Policy Environment: The creation of a 'regulatory sandbox' - a 'safe space' for businesses and startups to co-create innovative products, services and business models, without any immediate regulatory consequences and also providing cyber security becomes important.
- Access to Risk Capital: This is critical to fund innovative ideas and startups. It can be addressed by developing funding mechanisms, including the government setting up a fund of funds or by instituting a matching fund concept along with the private sector.

36. D

With an aim to create a \$400-billion electronics manufacturing industry by 2025, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has come out with the draft 'National Policy on Electronics 2018' (NPE 2018).

ESDM Sector in India

- The ESDM sector in India consists of the following six segments –Semiconductor design and manufacturing; Electronic components manufacturing; Information technology (IT) systems and hardware; Telecom products and equipment; Consumer electronics; and Strategic electronics.
- India allows 100 percent FDI through the automatic route in the ESDM sector.
- The Indian Government attaches high priority to electronics hardware manufacturing and it is one of the important pillars of both "Make in India" and "Digital India" programmes of Government of India.
- Besides the economic imperative, focus on electronics hardware manufacturing up to the Chip level is required due to the growing security concerns.
- Indian electronics hardware production has increased from INR 1,90,366 crore in 2014-15 to an estimated INR 3,87,525 crore (~USD 59 Billion) in 2017-18, registering a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 26.7%, as against a growth rate of 5.5% in 2014-15.
- According to an ASSOCHAM report, electronic imports by India may touch \$300bn by 2020.

Need for National Policy on Electronics

- The electronics hardware manufacturing sector faces lack of level playing field vis-à-vis competing nations on account of several disabilities which render domestic electronics hardware manufacturing uncompetitive.
- These inter-alia includes lack of adequate infrastructure, supply chain and logistics; high cost of finance; inadequate availability of quality power; inadequate components manufacturing base; limited focus on R&D by the industry and high degree of market access, leading to limited value addition.
- With the demand for electronics hardware expected to rise rapidly to about USD 400 Billion by 2023-24, India cannot afford to bear a huge foreign exchange outgo on import of electronics alone. Therefore, promoting domestic electronics hardware manufacturing, with high value addition is of critical importance.

- Implementation of the Schemes/ Programmes under the aegis of NPE 2012 has successfully consolidated the foundations for a competitive Indian ESDM value chain. The Government now seeks to build on that foundation to propel the growth of ESDM industry in the country.

#### Highlights of draft of the National Electronics Policy, 2018

- **Mobile Handsets:** The policy targets production of one billion mobile handsets by 2025, valued at \$190 billion including export of 600 million mobile handsets valued at \$110 billion and improving ease of doing business for ESDM industry.
- **Electronic Manufacturing Clusters:** 20 Greenfield EMCs and three brownfield EMC projects have been sanctioned with the project outlay of \$550 million including \$225 million from the government. It aims to facilitate cost effective loans for EMC.
- **Sub sector of Electronics:** The policy proposes to push development of core competencies in all the sub-sectors of electronics including electronic components and semiconductors, defence electronics, automotive electronics, industrial electronics, strategic electronics and fabless chip design.
- **Tax Benefits:** The draft proposes suitable direct tax benefits, including inter-alia investment-linked deduction under Income Tax Act for electronics manufacturing sector.
- **Support:** It proposes to provide support to skilled manpower in ESDM sector, export led growth, policy support and special package of incentives for highly capital intensive projects.
- **Startup ecosystem:** The policy aims to also push the startup ecosystem in emerging technology areas such as 5G, Internet of Things, artificial intelligence and machine learning, and their applications in areas such as defence, agriculture, health, smart cities and automation.
- **Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme:** It also proposes replacing the M-SIPS (Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme) with schemes that are easier to implement such as interest subsidy and credit default guarantee, etc., in order to encourage new units and expansion of existing units in electronics manufacturing sector.

#### First National Electronic Policy 2012

- It provided the road map for the development of Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) sector in the country.
  - It had proposed creation of 200 electronic manufacturing clusters (EMCs) by 2020 that will house entire ecosystem for development and production of specific category of products.
- #### Initiatives taken for ESDM sector in India
- **Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC):** In order to overcome disadvantages due to infrastructure, EMC was launched which encouraged entities, including State Government entities, to provide good quality infrastructure and logistics within a cluster.
  - **Modified Special Incentive Package scheme (M-SIPS):** In order to compensate for disadvantages in domestic manufacturing, M-SIPS was launched which provides for capital subsidy of 25% for Electronics Industry located in non-SEZ area and 20% for those in SEZ areas.
  - **Preferential Market Access:** It is a scheme guaranteeing preference for locally manufactured products during procurement (minimum 30%) for government projects.

- **Electronics Development Fund (EDF):** In order to promote startups and innovation and also to achieve an ambitious target of 'Net Zero Imports' by 2020, EDF was launched which is a fund of funds which invests in Venture funds, which in turn invests in ventures.
- **Phased Manufacturing Programme (PMP):** PMP for mobile handsets and related sub-assemblies/ components manufacturing has been implemented with the objective of progressively increasing the domestic value addition for establishment of a robust Cellular mobile handsets manufacturing eco-system in the country.
- **The Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS):** MEIS offers export incentives of up to a maximum of five percent on locally manufactured products like refrigerating equipment compressors, fully automatic washing machines, and color television sets.
  
- **Environment:** It aims to promote research, innovation and support to industry for green processes and sustainable e-Waste management, including safe disposal of e-Waste in an environment friendly manner, development of e-Waste recycling industry and adoption of best practices in e-Waste management.
- **Global Presence:** It focuses to become a global leader in the Electronics Manufacturing Services (EMS) segment by promoting progressively higher value addition in manufacturing of electronic products.
- **Governance Structure:** Create specialized governance structures within the Government to cater to specific needs of the ESDM sector, in view of fast changes in technology and business models

37. A

Recently, World Economic Forum released Global Competitive Index 4.0, under Global Competitive Report 2018. About Global Competitive Index (GCI) 4.0

- It is a composite indicator that assesses a set of factors that determine an economy's level of productivity widely considered as the most important determinant of long-term growth.

Key Findings

- In the index U.S. topped the position, followed by Singapore and Germany at the second and the third positions respectively.
- Among the BRICS economies, China topped the list at 28th place with a score of 72.6, ahead of India (score of 62.0, ranked 58th), the Russian Federation (65.6, 43rd), South Africa (60.8, 67th), and Brazil (59.5, 72nd).

1987 Nobel Prize winner Robert M Solow was among the first to identify technological progress as the key determinant of growth in the long run. However for Solow, technological innovation was "exogenous" to his model.

Observations for India and its neighbouring countries

- India, remained the South Asia's main driving force for competitiveness and its rank rose by five places from 2017, the largest gain among G20 economies.
- Top performers in the upper and lower middle-income brackets, such as China and India, are catching up with or even outperforming the average among high-income economies.

38. C



The Strategic Policy Group (SPG) formed to assist the National Security Council (NSC) has been reconstituted with National Security Advisor Ajit Doval as its chief.

Strategic Policy Group (SPG)

- Was set up in 1999 by Vajpayee Government.
- First tier of National Security Council structure
- Mandated to publish National Defense Review draft of short term and long term security threats and defense matters for consideration of NSC.
- Was earlier headed by Cabinet Secretary.

Salient features of the new notification

- NSA replaces Cabinet Secretary as the Chairman on SPG
- The SPG shall be the principal mechanism for inter-ministerial coordination and integration of relevant inputs in the formulation of national security policies
- The other members of SPG are Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, Cabinet Secretary, three services chiefs, RBI Governor, Secretaries of External Affairs, Home, Defense, Finance, Defense Production, Revenue, Atomic National Security Council
- It is the top executive body of India which advises the Prime Minister's Office on matters of national security and strategic interests.
- Established in November, 1998.
- A three tier Organizational Structure consisting of Strategic Policy Group (SPG), National Security Advisor Board (NSAB) and National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS).
- Main task of SPG is to make policy recommendations to the NSC.

Energy, Space and National Security Council Secretariat besides Scientific Advisor to Defense Minister, Secretary (R) in Cabinet Secretariat and the Intelligence Bureau chief.

- The Cabinet Secretary will coordinate the implementation of SPG decisions by the Union Ministries and departments and State governments.

Challenges

- It has shifted the formal and de jure authority of national security from Cabinet Secretariat to National Security Council Secretariat.
  - While Cabinet Secretary, the top civil servant of the country, has more institutional sanctity, National Security Advisor is a political appointee. NSA chairing SPG meetings means a huge shift of power towards Prime Minister's Office.
  - A formal centralization of power towards PMO while marginalizing transitional institutional structures might affect checks and balances of the system. It might raise the issues of accountability of decisions.
  - Shift from a silo-driver approach to a more integrated, centralized and authoritative approach
- National Security Council
- It is the top executive body of India which advises the Prime Minister's Office on matters of national security and strategic interests.
  - Established in November, 1998.
  - A three tier Organizational Structure consisting of Strategic Policy Group (SPG), National Security Advisor Board (NSAB) and National Security Council Secretariat

(NSCS).

- Main task of SPG is to make policy recommendations to the NSC

39. C

India Meteorological Department (IMD), for the first time, has provided a country-wide soil moisture forecast.

Details of Soil Moisture Map

- This forecast is a joint exercise by IIT Gandhinagar and the India Meteorological Department (IMD) which provides soil moisture forecast at seven and 30-day lead times.
- The product, termed 'Experimental Forecasts Land Surface Products' has been developed using the 'Variable Infiltration Capacity' model that takes into consideration soil, vegetation, land use and land cover among other parameters.
- The countrywide forecast prepared at the end of the monsoon season suggests deficit soil moisture conditions are likely in Gujarat, Bihar, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu and southern Andhra Pradesh.
- It also indicates that soil moisture conditions in western Uttar Pradesh, Bundelkhand, and Chhattisgarh are likely to be normal or surplus at the start of the Rabi sowing season.

Advantages of having Soil moisture forecast

- Irrigation requirements: Soil moisture is crucial for agriculture since it directly affects crop growth and helps assess the irrigation requirement for the area. For e.g. Based on observed conditions parts of Andhra Pradesh are deficient in terms of soil moisture right now. This means that if there is not enough rainfall in one or two months, these are regions which will demand heavy irrigation whether that comes from groundwater or surface water storage.

Importance of Soil moisture

- It acts as a nutrient itself and regulates soil temperature.
- It serves as a solvent and carrier of food nutrients for plant growth.
- Yield of crop is more often determined by the amount of water available rather than the deficiency of other food nutrients.
- Soil forming processes and weathering depend on water.
- Microorganisms require water for their metabolic activities.
- Better planning: Timely soil moisture forecasts will help target interventions, like in terms of seed varieties for better planning in agriculture. For e.g. the total area sown under rabi crops is around 625 lakh hectares of which wheat takes up 300 lakh hectares. Timely forecasting will improve productivity and optimizing input cost for wheat.
- Increase farmer's income: In areas like Bundelkhand, Bihar, in low lying areas of Seemanchal and Kosi belt, where most farmers are dependent on rabi crop and keep their land fallow or just grow some fodder crop during the kharif season, the advance forecasting will help augment farmers' income and provide livelihood security.
- Understanding crop pattern: Essentially soil moisture gives us more information on what is needed for crop growth in different parts of the country such as crop pattern, type of crops to be grown etc

40. D

Nomadic tribes (Maldhari) are leaving their villages in Banni region due to water scarcity.

#### About Banni grassland

- The Banni grassland of Gujarat (near Rann of Kutch) is the largest natural grassland in the Indian subcontinent known for its scarce rainfall and semi-drought conditions.
- The land of Banni is formed out of ocean clay, so it includes an element of salt from very beginning. This land is formed out of alluvial and clayey sand.
- Migratory pastoralism has been followed here from centuries with a broader geographical landscape that included Sindh in Pakistan and even extended into parts of Baluchistan and Afghanistan.
- Now, Banni is divided into eastern and western parts separated by National Highway 341, which leads to the India-Pakistan International Border.
- There are 22 ethnic communities living in the area called Maldhari pastoralists ('mal' means animal stock and 'dhari' means keeper).

#### Chhari Dhand

- 'Chhari' means salt affected and 'dhand' means shallow wetland.
- Chhari-Dhand is a legally protected wetland conservation reserve.
- The Banni Grasslands and ChhariDhand form one of the most important bird areas in the desert ecosystems of India.
- A huge freshwater lake locally known as Chhari-Dhand is a prominent feature of the Banni grassland.
- It has been identified as one of the best area for reintroduction of Cheetah by Wild Life Institute of India as the area includes Kala Dungar or Black hills where large number of jackals are present

41. C

Indian standard time passes through Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh

India's time zones were first established in 1884. Pre-independence India had two time zones. In the East, Calcutta Time was 5:30:21 hours ahead of GMT, while Bombay Time in the West was 4:51:00 hours ahead of GMT

Assam already has a Bagan Time (tea garden) time, set an hour ahead of Indian Standard Time (IST)

Council of Scientific & Industrial Research's National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL), which maintains Indian Standard Time (IST), has published a research article describing the necessity of two time zones.

Need for two time zones

- At present, the country observes a single time zone based on the longitude passing through  $82^{\circ}30'E$ .
- India extends from  $68^{\circ}7'E$  to  $97^{\circ}25'E$ , with the spread of  $29^{\circ}$  representing almost two hours from the geographic perspective. Early sunrise in the easternmost parts- (as early as 4AM in June) in the Northeast - causes the loss of many daylight hours by the time offices or educational institutions open, and that early sunset (4PM in winters), for its part, leads to higher consumption of electricity.
- The researchers estimated energy savings at 20 million kWh if we follow two time zones. This will have ecological and environmental benefits too.

## KSCSAPT 512 Ans with Explanation

- More use of sunlight would lead to more agricultural production.
- It will have an impact on circadian rhythm of the body and thus would have health benefits due to better leisure time and sleep. This, in turn, would enhance the productivity of people.

### Proposal for new time zone

- The research paper proposes to call the two time zones IST-I (UTC + 5.30 h) and IST-II (UTC + 6.30 h).
- The proposed line of demarcation is at 89°52'E, the narrow border between Assam and West Bengal. States west of the line would continue to follow IST (to be called IST-I). States east of the line — Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Andaman & Nicobar Islands — would follow IST-II.
- Location of the line is explained as: "As the railway signals have not yet been fully automated in the country, the border between the two time zones should have a very narrow spatial width with minimum number of train stations so that the train timings while crossing the border can be managed manually without any untoward incidents."

### Problems with multiple Time zones

- Having more than one time zone will create confusion and different timings would have to be framed for airlines, railways and communications services. For example; our railway schedules, signaling and track utilization will be a nightmare to manage. It might lead to accidents at the zone of crossing.
- There is also a strong political implication that comes with having multiple time zones.

### Awarding the north-east a separate Legal/Govt Position on Time Zones

- In 2002, based on a suggestion by then governor of Tripura, the Department of Science and Technology (DST) formed a high-level committee to explore the feasibility of two time zones. The committee rejected the idea of separate time zones.
- In 2006, the Planning Commission recommended the introduction of two time zones in the country, saying it would save "a lot of energy".
- The Gauhati High Court, last year dismissed a PIL seeking a direction to the Centre to have a separate time zone for the Northeast.
- Since independence in 1947, the IST has been the official time for the whole country.
- India's time zones were first established in 1884. Pre-independence India had two time zones. In the East, Calcutta Time was 5:30:21 hours ahead of GMT, while Bombay Time in the West was 4:51:00 hours ahead of GMT.
- Calcutta Time was abandoned in 1948 and Bombay Time in 1955.
- Assam already has a Bagaan (tea garden) Time, set an hour ahead of Indian Standard Time (IST) time zone, given the region's long history of self-determination movements, would indicate an unstated support towards their spatial independence.
- Different time zones can be potentially problematic in India. Government offices in those states will close at different times and would be accessible only 75% of the time which can cause a potential loss of productivity.
- The lack of time coordination w.r.t essential services such as banking etc. might further alienate the NE region from the rest of the India.

Alternative to Multiple Time Zones Given the energy saving benefits, a 2012 research paper commissioned by the Union Ministry of Power recommends to advance IST by half-an-hour. Also the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) in Bangalore recommended advancing IST by half-an-hour so that it is six hours ahead of GMT.

- All states will save electricity with amounts of savings varying in different states from 0.2% to 0.7% of daily consumption. As a percentage of peaking energy consumption, however, the savings are very significant, about 17-18%.

- This also keeps us away from the complicated process of Daylight Saving's Time (DST) followed in western countries.

- As per NIAS research, advancing the IST by half an hour will Save energy 2.7 billion units every year. The energy demand in the evenings due to domestic lighting will be reduced by about 16 per cent.

- o Result in estimated saving of about Rs 1,500 crore per annum for the nation.

- o Increase the productivity of the general population. India is primarily an agrarian economy and utilizing sunlight is essential for maximum productivity.

It will optimally accommodate benefits of a separate time zones without creating a chaos

42. A

- In India, the first outbreak was reported in Ahmedabad in January 2017 and second outbreak in July, 2017 from Krishnagiri District in Tamilnadu

First identified in Uganda in 1947 in monkeys, Zika was detected in humans five years later.

Sporadic cases have been reported throughout the world since the 1960s, but the first outbreak happened only in 2007 in the Island of Yap in the Pacific.

- In 2015, a major outbreak in Brazil led to the revelation that Zika can be associated with microcephaly, a condition in which babies are born with small and underdeveloped brains. Generally, the virus is not considered dangerous to anyone other than pregnant women.

- Some countries that have had a Zika outbreak, including Brazil, reported a steep increase in Guillain-Barré syndrome — a neurological disorder that could lead to paralysis and death, according to WHO.

- India is vulnerable to Zika mainly due to the factors such as

- o Poor health facilities.

- o Lack of effective vaccination against Zika virus.

- o Lack of awareness.

- o Lack of after care in case of microcephaly occurrence.

- In India, the first outbreak was reported in Ahmedabad in January 2017 and second outbreak in July, 2017 from Krishnagiri District in Tamilnadu. Both these outbreaks were successfully contained through intensive surveillance and vector management.

India's response to Zika Virus Disease outbreak

- National Guidelines and Action Plan on Zika virus disease have been prepared and shared with the States to prevent outbreak of Zika virus disease and containment of spread in case of any outbreak.

- The Joint Monitoring Group, a Technical group under Directorate General of Health Service, tasked to monitor emerging and re-emerging diseases is regularly reviewing the situation on

Zika virus disease. A 24x7 control room is functioning from Directorate General of Health Services. The situation is being monitored closely.

- All the International Airports / Ports have displayed signage providing information for travellers on Zika virus disease and to report if they are returning from any of the affected countries and suffering from febrile illness.
- Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) is tracking for clustering of acute febrile illness in the community. It has also sensitized its State and District Rapid Response Teams.
- The Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) is monitoring microcephaly from 55 sentinel sites

43. C

It is Europe's first mission to Mercury which will set off in 2018 and reach there in 2025.

- It is a joint mission between ESA and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), executed under ESA leadership.
- The mission comprises two spacecrafts: the Mercury Planetary Orbiter (MPO) and the Mercury Magnetospheric Orbiter (MMO).
- The mission will help in finding out the possibility of water in Mercury. The surface temperature of Mercury varies from 450 degree Celsius to -180 degree Celsius (areas permanently in shade).
- Mercury is the smallest and least explored terrestrial planet in our Solar System. Till now only NASA's Mariner 10 and US Space Agency's Messenger has flown past the planet.

44. A

IMPRESS — Impactful Policy Research in Social Sciences

- Aim: To identify and fund research proposals in social sciences with maximum impact on the governance and society.
- Eligibility: To provide opportunity for social science researchers in any institution in the country, including all Universities (Central and State), private institutions and ICSSR funded/recognised research institutes.

Identified domains under IMPRESS are:

- State and Democracy
- Urban Transformation
- Media, Culture and Society
- Employment Skills and Rural Transformation
- Governance, Innovation and Public Policy
- Growth, Macro Trade and Economic Policy
- Agriculture and Rural Development
- Health and Environment
- Science and Education
- Social Media and Technology
- Politics, Law and Economics

- Implementing Agency: Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)

45. B

India has been ranked at 103 out of 119 countries in the GHI 2018, with hunger levels in the country categorized as “serious”.

About GHI

- It is a tool designed to comprehensively measure and track hunger at global, regional, and national levels.
- GHI is released annually by Welthungerhilfe and Concern Worldwide. (The International Food Policy Research Institute, IFPRI was also involved with the publication until this year.) In 2013, to raise awareness of the global sanitation challenge, the UN adopted the resolution “Sanitation for All”, to commemorate November 19 as World Toilet Day.

Findings related to India:

- India’s ranking has dropped three places from 2017.
- India has shown improvement in three of the indicators over the comparable reference years.
  - o The percentage of undernourished people in the population has dropped from 18.2% in 2000 to 14.8% in 2018.
  - o Child mortality rate has halved from 9.2% to 4.3%, and
  - o Child stunting has dropped from 54.2% to 38.4% over the same period.
- However, the prevalence of child wasting has worsened. It stood at 17.1% in 2000, and increased to 20% in 2005. In 2018, it stands at 21%. At least one in five Indian children under the age of five are wasted.

Other Global Findings

- Globally, the level of hunger falls into the “serious” category at a value of 20.9 on GHI Severity scale. Approximately 124 million people suffer from acute hunger, a steep increase from 80 million in 2016.
- Across South Asia: Child wasting is constituting a “critical public health emergency”.
- ✓ Low Maternal body mass index BMI and lack of access to improved water and sanitation are more closely associated with rates of child wasting than household wealth, suggesting that a reduction in poverty alone may not be sufficient to correct the problem.

46. D

Recently Geological Survey of India (GSI) chose heritage locations in Maharashtra and Karnataka for UNESCO Global Geopark Network site status

- UNESCO Global Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development.
- It aims to enhance awareness and understanding of key issues facing society, such as using our earth’s resources sustainably, mitigating the effects of climate change and reducing natural disasters-related risks.
- The Global Geoparks Network (GGN), is a legally constituted not-for-profit organisation. Its membership is obligatory for UNESCO Global Geoparks.

- At present, there are 140 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 38 countries.
- An aspiring Global Geopark must have a dedicated website, a corporate identity, comprehensive management plan, protection plans, finance, and partnerships for it to be accepted.
- As of now there is no geo-heritage site from India is included under UNESCO Geo park Network.

About the sites chosen:

- Lonar Lake, Maharashtra:

- o It is the world's oldest meteoric crater formed around 50,000 years ago and the only one formed in basalt rock.
- o It is a salt water lake.
- o It became a national geo-heritage site in 1979.

- St. Mary's Island and Malpe Beach, Karnataka:

- o It is a hexagonal mosaic of basaltic rocks in an island off Udupi.
- o It is estimated to be an 88-million-year-old formation that goes back to a time when Greater India broke away from Madagascar.
- o It was declared a national geo-heritage site in 1975.

47. D

On 21-October-2018, Government celebrates the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of formation of Azad Hind Government.

Azad Hind Government

- Subhas Chandra Bose on October 21, 1943, established the provisional Azad Hind government in Singapore. He was the leader of Azad Hind Government and also the Head of State of this Provisional Indian Government-in-exile.
- It was a part of the freedom movement, originating in 1940s outside India with a purpose of allying with Axis powers to free India from British rule.
- The existence of the Azad Hind Government gave a greater legitimacy to the independence struggle against the British.
- The role of Azad Hind Fauj or the Indian National Army (INA) had been crucial in bequeathing a much needed impetus to India's struggle for Independence.

Indian National Army (INA)

- The idea of INA was first conceived in Malaya by Mohan Singh.
- The Indian National Army was founded by prisoners of wars of British Indian Army captured by the Japanese in Singapore, Malaysia and other countries of Southeast Asia during the World War II.
- On 1 September 1942, the first division of INA was formed.
- The main task of gathering them and forming the INA was carried out by Rashbehari Bose, one of the stalwarts of the freedom movement. Later it was reconsolidated as an army by Subhas Chandra Bose.
- The INA was also at the forefront of women's equality, and the formation of a women's regiment, the Rani of Jhansi Regiment was formed as an all-volunteer women's unit to fight the British Raj as well as provide medical services to the INA

48. A



## KSCSAPT 512 Ans with Explanation

For the first time ever the New South Wales Parliament in Sydney, Australia celebrated the ethnic festival of Bathukamma.

- Pochampally Handloom Weavers also got a chance to promote their sarees in this celebration.

About Bathukamma

- Bathukamma that means 'Mother Goddess come Alive' is a colourful floral festival of Telangana celebrated towards the end of monsoon.
- Bathukamma is a beautiful flower stack of different unique seasonal flowers most of them with medicinal value, arranged in seven concentric layers in the shape of temple gopuram.
- The final day of Bathukamma, known as Pedha or Saddula Bathukamma falls two days before Dussehra.

About Pochampalli Sarees

- The art originated in 18th Century in Pochampally town of Telangana and is locally called as Chit-ku. The town is popularly known as the silk city of India.
- These sarees are culturally popular for the Ikat styling and designs (geometrical) imprinted on this fabric.
- The Poochampalli Ikat Sarees also have GI tag in their name.

49. C

Recently, India launched 'Operation Samudra Maitri' to assist the survivors of earthquake and consequent Tsunami in Central Sulawesi province of Indonesia.

This operation includes both air and naval assistance

50. A

Recently Japan launched greenhouse gas observation satellite Ibuki-2.

- The satellite is designed to gather data on the densities of carbon dioxide, methane, carbon monoxide and PM2.5.
- Japan also launched the United Arab Emirates' first locally made satellite, the KhalifaSat Earth observation satellite.

51. A :

The Government has constituted the "National Council of Senior Citizens (NCSrC)" by renaming of the "National Council for Older Persons(NCOP)". The mandate of the National Council of Senior Citizens is to advise the Central and State Governments on the entire gamut of issues related to the welfare of senior citizens and enhancement of their quality of life, with special reference to the following:

Policies, programmes and legislative measures;

Promotion of physical and financial security, health and independent and productive living; and

Awareness generation and community mobilization.

It is headed by the Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment. The Council includes representatives of relevant Central Ministries. Five States are represented on the Council by rotation. Adequate representation is given to non-official members representing Non-Government Organisations, Academic bodies, Media and Experts on Ageing issues from different fields

52. B

53. B: b) 1 and 3 only. RRMR stood for the defence of monotheism. Roy's monotheistic ideas were formed as early as 1804, when he published his Persian tract Tuhfat' ul muhwahhiddin (A Gift to Monotheists). Roy's study of the Upanishads had convinced him that Hinduism taught the existence of a single God, or Absolute Reality and that the development of the many deities, and of venerating their images, was a corruption of originally monotheistic Hinduism.

54. C

Statement 1 is correct: The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 was introduced to provide speedy, inexpensive and simple resolution of concerns of consumers. The Act envisages a three-tier quasi-judicial machinery at the National, State and District levels; (i) National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission - known as –National Commission||, (ii) State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission known as –State Commission|| and (iii) District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum - known as –District Forum||. The Act also provides for establishment of Consumer Protection Councils at the Union, State and District levels, whose main objectives are to promote and protect the rights of consumers.

Statement 2 is not correct: The Act provides that the Consumer Forums are not bound follow the Civil Procedure Code and the Indian Evidence Act. But the Consumer Forum should observe the principle of natural justice while deciding the matters.

Statement 3 is not correct: No fee is required to be paid for filing a complaint upto value of Rs. 1 lakh worth of goods or services and the compensation claimed only for BPL Antyodya card holders. However, for complaints more than Rs 1 lakh different fee structure exists

55) B:

A member of parliament CAN BE disqualified if he voluntarily gives up membership of the political party on whose ticket he is elected to the house

Please read this important post:

<http://www.prsindia.org/media/articles-by-prs-team/in-parliament-part-1-961/>

56. B

57. D

NGT has both appellate powers and original powers. Its appellate powers are exercised against orders passed by statutory authorities under various environmental legislation such as the Air Act and the Water Act. In pursuance of its original powers, the NGT can award damages for death or injury to any person or property if the same has resulted from “an accident or the adverse impact of an activity or operation or process”, under any of the special environmental legislation specified in Schedule I of the NGT Act.

58. A

## KSCSAPT 512 Ans with Explanation

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has been mandated under Section 31 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 to examine and review the safeguards of the rights provided under the act and to recommend measures for its effective implementation; to inquire into complaints relating to violation of child's right to free and compulsory education and to take necessary steps as provided under Section 15 of the Commission for Protection of Child Rights, 2005.

Towards realizing its commitment of Universalizing Elementary Education during 2013 onwards, the Commission has undertaken varied activities providing for equity, inclusive, quality and sustainable education in India.

59. D:

Duties of CAG: As per the provisions of the constitution, the CAG's (DPC) (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 was enacted. As per the various provisions, the duties of the CAG include the audit of:

- Receipts and expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India and of the State and Union Territory having legislative assembly;
- Trading, manufacturing, profit and loss accounts and balance sheets, and other subsidiary accounts kept in any Government department;
- Accounts of stores and stock kept in Government offices or departments;
- Government companies as per the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956;
- Corporations established by or under laws made by Parliament in accordance with the provisions of the respective legislation;
- Authorities and bodies substantially financed from the Consolidated Funds of the Union and State Governments;
- Anybody or authority even though not substantially financed from the Consolidated Fund, the audit of which may be entrusted to the C&AG;
- Grants and loans given by Government to bodies and authorities for specific purposes; and
- Entrusted audits e.g. those of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies under Technical Guidance & Support (TGS).

60. D

61. C

The constitution lays down three conditions without fulfilling which "No money out of the Consolidated Fund of India shall be appropriated" or withdrawn. These conditions are:

- The appropriation must be in accordance with a law authorising appropriation of money from the Consolidated Fund; and
- The appropriation should be for a “purpose provided in this Constitution”; and
- The appropriation must be made “in the manner provided in this Constitution” as the manner for appropriation of money from the Consolidated Fund of India (which is that of a regular budget)

62. D

If the amount authorized to be expended for a particular service for the current financial year is found to be insufficient for the purpose of that year or when a need has arisen during the current financial year for supplementary or additional expenditure upon some ‘new service’ not contemplated in the Budget for that year the President causes to be laid before both the Houses of Parliament another statement showing the estimated amount of that expenditure. If any money has been spent on any service during a financial year in excess of the amount granted or the service for that year, the President causes to be presented to Lok Sabha a demand for such excess. All cases involving such excesses are brought to the notice of Parliament by the Comptroller and Auditor General through his report on the Appropriation Accounts. The excesses are then examined by the Public Accounts Committee which makes recommendations regarding their regularisation in its report to the House. The Supplementary Demands for Grants are presented to and passed by the House before the end of the financial year while the demands for excess grants are made after the expenditure has actually been incurred and after the financial year to which it relates, has expired.

63) D:

64. D

Statement 1 is incorrect. Akbar began his Deccan venture in 1591 when he sent embassies to all the southern states asking them to accept Mughal suzerainty.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Aurangzeb invaded the Deccan sultanates, partly due to his hatred towards Shia faith.

65. A

The first Carnatic War ended in 1748 with the signing of Treaty of Aix-La Chapelle which also brought the Austrian War of Succession to a conclusion. Under the treaty, Madras was handed back to Britishers and the French in return got their territories in North America. Hence, option a is correct answer.

Third Carnatic War ended with signing of Treaty of Paris (1763).

First Anglo Maratha War ended with Series of treaty being signed. Treaty of Surat (1775) was signed which was negated later and Treaty of Purandhar (1776) was signed.

Similarly, in Bombay initially Treaty of Wadgaon (1779) was signed which further led to Treaty of Salabai (1782) bringing the first phase of Anglo Maratha Struggle to an end.

Second Anglo Maratha War was concluded with signing of Treaty of Bassein (1802).

66. C

Treaty of Amritsar: Signed on April 25, 1809 between Ranjit Singh and Britishers. It placed a check on Ranjit Singh's long cherished dream of to extend his rule over the entire Sikh nation by accepting the river Sutlej as the boundary line for his dominions.

Treaty of Lahore: Signed on March 8, 1846 as a consequence of First Anglo Sikh war. It led to annexation of Jalandhar Doab by Britishers. A British resident was to be established at Lahore under Henry Lawrence.

Treaty of Bhairawal: Unsatisfied with issue of Kashmir being addressed in Treaty of Lahore, Sikhs rebelled. Consequence of this Treaty of Bhairawal was signed in December 1846. Rani Jindan was removed as a regent and a council of regency for Punjab was set up. The council consisted of 8 Sikh sardars presided over by the English resident, Henry Lawrence.

Treaty of Purandhar: It was a consequence of First Anglo – Maratha War. Hence, option c (i.e. 1, 2 and 3) is the correct answer.

67. A

The last decade of 18th century and the first half of the 19th centuries witnessed a political triangle in Asia. The Russians started their expansion to the South in Central Asia, while the British though still in Calcutta, but clearly fore-saw that the whole India, soon was to form a part of their vast Empire. They saw Russia, a powerful country of Europe, with vast room for expansion into Asia. This was one of the most important reason behind the annexation of Sindh. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Another major reason behind annexation of Sindh was the debacle of British in the first Anglo Afghan War (1839-42). British had felt the need for a conquest to compensate the loss of the prestige. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Sindh was annexed despite the fact that the Amirs who ruled the Sindh had just signed an agreement in 1839, highly favourable to the British. Amirs had done no wrong and the annexation was purely imperialist in nature. Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.

68. D

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Munda Revolt took place in the eastern part of the India mainly confined to Chhotanagpur.

Statement 2 is correct. The Munda sardars of Chhotanagpur fought against the destruction of their system of common land-holdings by the intrusion of jagirdars, thikadars (revenue farmers) and traders/moneylenders.

Statement 3 is correct. They aimed to establish a Munda rule in the land by killing thikadars, jagirdars, rajas and haldims.

Statement 4 is correct. The Mundas rose under Birsa Munda in a religious movement or rebellion ("ulgulan") with an agrarian and political content. To bring about the liberation, Birsa gathered a force of 6,000 Mundas armed with swords, spears, battle-axes, and bows and arrows. Birsa was, however, captured in 1900 and he died in jail the same year.

69. C

eKranti- is an essential pillar of the Digital India initiative. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

Considering the critical need for e-Governance, mobile Governance and Good Governance in the country, the approach and key components of e-Kranti have been approved by the Union Cabinet on 25.03.2015 with the vision of –Transforming e-Governance for Transforming Governance|. It has been envisaged by Department of Electronics(DeiTy). Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

The e-Kranti framework addresses the electronic delivery of services through a portfolio of mission mode projects that cut across several Government Departments.

The mission of e - Kranti is to ensure a Government-wide transformation by delivering all Government services electronically to the citizens through integrated and interoperable systems via multiple modes while ensuring efficiency, transparency and reliability of such services at affordable costs.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Objectives of e-Kranti

- To redefine National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) with transformational and outcome-oriented e- Governance initiatives
- To enhance the portfolio of citizen-centric services
- To ensure optimum usage of core Information & Communication Technology (ICT)
- To promote rapid replication and integration of e-Governance applications
- To leverage emerging technologies
- To make use of more agile implementation models

70. D

In pursuance of the provision of Article 350-B of the Constitution, the office of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities was created in 1957. He is designated as the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities.

Statement 1 is correct : Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities appointed by the President of India.

Statement 2 is correct : The Constitution does not specify the qualifications, tenure, salaries and allowances, service conditions and procedure for removal of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.

Statement 3 is correct : At the Central level, the Commissioner falls under the Ministry of Minority Affairs. Hence, he submits the annual reports or other reports to the President through the Union Minority Affairs Minister

71. A

The Advanced Technology Vehicle (ATV), a sounding rocket (research rocket) with a solid booster carrying advanced scramjet engines has been successfully tested by ISRO. This first experimental mission of Indian Space Research Organisation is aimed at the realisation of an Air Breathing Propulsion System which uses hydrogen as fuel and oxygen from the atmosphere air as the oxidiser. With this, India became the fourth country to demonstrate the flight testing of a scramjet engines. This mission is a milestone for ISRO's future space transportation system.

72. A

The Centre has announced the formation of District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DDCMC) to be named 'Disha' for effective development coordination of almost all the programmes of Central Government, whether it is for infrastructure development or Social and human resource development. These Committees would monitor the implementation of 28 schemes and programmes of Ministry of Rural Development and other Ministries to promote synergy and convergence for greater impact. The main purpose of this committee is to coordinate with Central and State and local Panchayat Governments, for successful and timely implementation of the schemes. Hence, statement 1 is correct. The meetings of the committee should be held once in every Quarter (Third Saturdays of April, July, October and February) and this has been made mandatory. The Chairperson of the committee will be the senior most Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) elected from the district, nominated by the Ministry of Rural Development. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

73. B

First statement is wrong as it was the British planters who enforced these contracts (not Zamindars)

The indigo planters, nearly all Europeans, compelled the tenants to grow indigo which they processed in factories set up in rural (mofussil) areas. The planters forced the peasants to take a meager amount as advance and enter into fraudulent contracts. The price paid for the indigo plants was far below the market price.

The planters could not withstand the united resistance of the ryots, and they gradually began to close their factories. The cultivation of indigo was virtually wiped out from the districts of Bengal by the end of 1860.

74. B

Tribunals under Article 323A can only be established by parliament while Tribunals under Article 323B can be established by both parliament and state legislature. So statement 1 and 2 are incorrect.

There is no question of hierarchy of tribunals under Article 323 A whereas in 323 B hierarchy of tribunals may be created. So statement 3 is correct.

75. C

Lord Ripon (hence statement 1 is incorrect) wanted to remove two kinds of law that had been prevalent in India. According to the system of law, a European could be tried only by a European Judge or a European Magistrate. The disqualification was unjust and it was sought to cast a needless discredit and dishonor upon the Indian-born members of the judiciary. C.P. Ilbert, Law Member, introduced a bill in 1883 to abolish this discrimination in judiciary. But Europeans opposed this Bill strongly. They even raised a fund of one lakh fifty thousand rupees and established an organization called the Defence Association. They also suggested that it was better to end the English rule in India than to allow the English to be subjected to the Indian Judges and Magistrates. The press in England joined the issue. Hence, Ripon amended the bill to satisfy the English in India and England. So it was withdrawn but was reintroduced and enacted in 1884 in a severely compromised state.

The amended bill had the provisions that the Europeans would be conferred on European and Indian District Magistrates and Sessions Judges alike. However, a defendant would in all cases have the right to claim trial by a jury of which at least half the members must be European. (Hence, statement 3 is incorrect. As it was the amended bill and not the original bill which provided for the provision). Thus, this enactment held that Europeans criminals would be heard only by the Indian Judges "helped by the European Judges".

The Ilbert Bill controversy helped the cause of Indian nationalism. The Ilbert Bill Controversy is a high watermark in the history of Indian National Movement. Ripon was totally disillusioned and heartbroken and he tendered his resignation and left for England. The immediate result of this awakening of India was the birth of the Indian National Congress in 1885, the very next year of Ripon's departure.

76. B

All Central government and State Government Ministries/Departments including its attached/subordinate offices, Central and State autonomous bodies, Central and State Public Sector Units and local bodies etc. are authorized to make procurement through GeM portal.

There is Provision of easy return policy which is an advantage to the buyer.

On GeM, the filters for selecting goods which are Preferential Market Access (PMA) compliant and those manufactured by Small Scale Industries (SSI), enables the Government buyers to procure Make in India and SSI goods very easily.

77. D

The Lokpal shall consist of— (a) a Chairperson, who is or has been a Chief Justice of India or is or has been a Judge of the Supreme Court or an eminent person who fulfills the eligibility specified in clause (b) of sub-section (3); and (b) such number of Members, not exceeding eight out of whom fifty per cent shall be Judicial Members: Provided that not less than fifty per cent of the Members of



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the Lokpal shall be from amongst the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and women.

2016 amendment diluted the asset declaration related norms and stated that on and from the date of commencement of this Act, every public servant shall make a declaration of his assets and liabilities in such form and manner as may be prescribed. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

Jurisdiction of Lokpal extends to Prime minister, Union ministers and MPs, among others but it excludes Judiciary. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

78. D

Statement 1 is correct: Using powers under the Representation of People Act, 1951, EC does not allow exit polls from the time the poll begins till half-an-hour after the polling ends. The date & time is specified by the EC by a general order. Non-compliance can attract imprisonment upto 2 years /fine/both Statement 2 is correct: Under RPA, promoting enmity on grounds of religion, race, caste, community, language, feelings is punishable. It can attract imprisonment upto 3 years /fine/both.

Statement 3 is not correct: Existing law allows EC to ban opinion polls 48 hours prior to voting. However, they are not banned during the application of the model code of conduct. The EC had proposed that there should be a prohibition on publication and broadcast of the results of opinion polls starting from the date of notification of elections till the completion of the last phase of polls to Lok Sabha and state Assemblies. The proposal is pending with the government.

Statement 4 is correct: Booth capturing is an offence under the RPA. It can lead to imprisonment upto 3 years & fine and if committed by a person in service of Government, the term is upto 5 years & fine. Booth capturing involves seizure/taking possession of polling station/place of counting of votes/threatening any elector.

79. D

In 1714, an Englishman John Surman was sent to Delhi Court for securing trading facilities for the company.

He succeeded in obtaining from Emperor Farukhsiyar a farman in 1717

The East India Company secured valuable privileges in 1717 under the royal farman

What's the Farman?

- The Company was permitted to carry on trade in Bengal, Bombay and Madras free of customs duty.
- The Company was also permitted to mint its own coins.
- The Nawabs of Bengal, however, showed scant regard for the imperial farman
- Granted the Company the freedom to export and import their goods in Bengal without paying taxes
- Right to issue passes or dastaks for the movements of such goods.

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- The Company servants were also permitted to trade but were not covered by this farman. They were required to pay the same taxes as Indian merchants. (Hence option b is correct.)

80. D

The core principles on which local governance is based are-

1. Principle of subsidiarity in the context of decentralisation
2. Clear delineation of functions of local governments vis-à-vis State Governments and among different tiers of local governments
3. Democratic decentralization
4. Devolution of the functions and resources accompanied by capacity-building and accountability
5. Integrated view of local services and development through convergence of programmes and agencies
6. Citizen-centricity

81. B

Paramahansa Mandali was a secret socio-religious group in Bombay and is closely related to Manav Dharma Sabha which was found in 1844 in Surat. It was started by Mehtaji Durgaram, Dadoba Pandurang and a group of his friends. Dadoba Pandurang assumed leadership of this organisation after he left Manav Dharma Sabha. He outlined his principles in Dharma Vivechan in 1848 for Manav Dharma Sabha and "Paramhansik Bramhyadharmā" for Paramahansa Mandali. It was the first socio-religious organization of Maharashtra. Founded in 1849 Maharashtra, the founders of these mandali believed in one god. (Hence statement 1 is incorrect.)

They were primarily interested in breaking caste rules. At their meetings food cooked by lower caste people was taken by the members. These mandali also advocated women's education and widow remarriage. (Hence statement is correct.)

82. C

Statement 1 is not correct: The Deccan riots occurred in Deccan region of western India which were under Ryotwari system of taxation and not Zamindari system.

The Deccan riot was the offshoot of a number of adverse circumstances. The excessive government land revenue, slump in the international cotton prices at the end of the American Civil War etc made the economic condition of the Deccan peasants extremely miserable. They were immersed in enormous debts.

The Marwari and the Gujarati moneylenders drew unjust tax and money from the peasants. The peasants being illiterate unknowingly signed the bond without having a proper knowledge of what

is there in the bond. The civil courts invariably gave verdicts in favor of the exorbitant moneylenders

Statement 2 is correct: The Deccan Riots of 1875 targeted conditions of debt peonage (kamiuti) to moneylenders. The sole purpose of the rioters was to obtain and destroy the bonds, decrees, and other documents in the possession of the moneylenders. Initially the movement was peaceful with peasants resorting to social boycott of outside moneylenders. Later the movement turned into riots and the peasants attacked moneylender houses and shops. The peasant uprising spread to most of the Taluks of the Ahmednagar district. The Government of India put the Police assisted by the military into action in order to put an end to the revolt. By June 1875 nearly a thousand peasants were arrested and the uprising was completely suppressed.

Statement 3 is correct: Finally the Government of India appointed the Deccan Riots Commission to investigate into the causes of the uprising. The Deccan Agriculturists Relief Act of 1879 passed several measures for the betterment of the Deccan peasants. The Act put restrictions on the alienation of the peasants land and imposed some restrictions on the Civil Procedure Code. As a result the Peasant could not be arrested and sent to the civil debtors jail owing to the failure of paying debts

83. D

Warren Hastings was the first de facto Governor-General of India from 1772 to 1785. In 1787, he was accused of corruption and impeached, but after a long trial, he was acquitted in 1795.

Pitt's India act 1784 led to changes mainly in Company's Home government in London. It greatly extended the control of the state over the company's affairs through Board of Control in England which controlled the policy of the Court of Directors.

When Warren Hastings assumed the administration of Bengal in 1772, he found it in utter chaos. The financial position of the Company became worse and the difficulties were intensified by famine. Therefore, Warren Hastings realized the immediate need for introducing reforms like abolition of the Dual System. The East India Company decided to act as Diwan and to undertake the collection of revenue by its own agents. Hence, the Dual System introduced by Robert Clive was abolished.

The first Anglo-Maratha war occurred between 1776-82. Raghunath Rao solicited English help and concluded with Bombay government the treaty of surat in 1775. In the Treaty of Purandar company retained Salsette. Treaty of Salbai in May 1782, led to mutual restitution of each others territories. England recognised Madhav rao Narayan as the Peshwa and gave up the cause of Raghunath Rao.

84. A

85. B

86. D

NDSAP aims to provide an enabling provision and platform for proactive and open access to the data generated by various Government of India entities. The objective of this policy is to facilitate

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access to Government of India owned shareable data (along with its usage information) in machine readable form through a wide area network all over the country in a periodically updatable manner, within the framework of various related policies, acts and rules of Government of India, thereby permitting a wider accessibility and usage by public. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

The National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy will apply to all data and information created, generated, collected and archived using public funds provided by Government of India directly or through authorized agencies by various Ministries/Departments/Organizations/Agencies and Autonomous bodies. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

The Department of Science and Technology is serving the nodal functions of coordination and monitoring of policy through close collaboration with all Central Ministries and the Department of Electronics and Information Technology by creating data.gov.in through National Informatics Centre (NIC). Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

87. B

Recently, government has launched National E-Mobility Programme with aims to provide an impetus to the entire e-mobility ecosystem including vehicle manufacturers, charging infrastructure companies, fleet operators, service providers, etc. The Programme will be implemented by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) which will aggregate demand by procuring electric vehicles in bulk to get economies of scale. The per kilometer cost for an electric car is just 85 paise against Rs 6.5 for normal cars and these would also help us achieve autonomy from expensive petroleum imports. Though implementation of programme will result in higher production of electric vehicle but it will not totally replace the existing fleet of petrol and diesel vehicles by 2030. Rather Government is focusing on creating charging infrastructure and policy framework so that by 2030 more than 30 per cent of vehicles are electricity vehicles.

Hence, statement 1 and 3 are correct and 2 is not correct

88. B

Statement 1 is not correct: Singh Sabha movement was founded at Amritsar in 1873. It worked for modern education among Sikh community for western enlightenment.

Statement 2 is correct: It opposed the proselytising activities of the Christian missionaries and Hindu revivalists. It opened Khalsa schools and colleges throughout Punjab.

Statement 3 is not correct: Akali movement originated from the Singh Sabha movement which worked for liberation of Sikh gurdawaras from the control of corrupt mahants. Akalis launched non violent, non cooperation movement against the Mahants in 1921 which led to passing of the Sikh gurdawaras Act in 1922.

89. A

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Statement (a) is correct: Like its predecessor, National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), the NDRF is financed through the levy of a cess on certain items, chargeable to excise and customs duty, and approved annually through the Finance Bill.

Statement (b) is not correct: NDRF is constituted to supplement the funds of the State Disaster Response Funds (SDRF) of the states to facilitate immediate relief in case of calamities of a severe nature. The financial assistance from SDRF/NDRF is for providing immediate relief and is not compensation for loss/damage to properties /crops.

Statement (c) is not correct: In the event of a disaster of 'a severe nature', in which the funds needed for relief operations exceeded the balances in the SDRF account, additional assistance would be provided from the NDRF after following prescribed procedures.

Statement (d) is not correct: The FFC has suggested that in case the cesses are discontinued or when they are subsumed under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in future, the Union Government must consider ensuring an assured source of funding for NDRF.

90. A

The Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) is an initiative of the European Union. Its overall objective is to build a new alliance on climate change between the European Union and the poor developing countries that are most affected and that have the least capacity to deal with climate change. Hence, option 1 is not correct.

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) is a World Bank programme and consists of a Readiness Fund and a Carbon Fund. The FCPF was created to assist developing countries to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, enhance and conserve forest carbon stocks, and sustainably manage forests (REDD+). Hence, option 2 is correct.

The Adaptation Fund (AF) was established in 2001 to finance concrete adaptation projects and programmes in developing country Parties to the Kyoto Protocol that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. The Adaptation Fund is financed with a share of proceeds from the clean development mechanism (CDM) project activities and other sources of funding. The share of proceeds amounts to 2 per cent of certified emission reductions (CERs) issued for a CDM project activity.

The Adaptation Fund is supervised and managed by the Adaptation Fund Board (AFB). Hence, option 3 is not correct.

91. C

The India Hypertension Management Initiative (IHMI) is a collaborative project of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), State Governments, World Health Organization (WHO), and Resolve to Save Lives initiative of Vital Strategies. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

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The primary goal of this project is to reduce morbidity and mortality due to CVDs, the leading cause of death in India, by improving the control of high blood pressure, which is a leading risk factor for CVDs among adults in India. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

IHMI will be progressively rolled out in 25 districts in the first two years across districts selected by the Health Ministry for expansion of active screening and intensification of treatment activities for hypertension.

92. D

WWF-India has been working on rhino conservation for over four decades. As part of this work, in partnership with the Assam Forest Department and other organizations, WWF-India initiated the Indian Rhino Vision 2020 (IRV 2020) in 2005. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

The vision of the programme is to increase the total rhino population in Assam to about 3,000 by the year 2020 and just as significantly ensure that these rhinos are distributed over at least seven protected areas to provide long-term viability of an Assam metapopulation of the species. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

To date, a total of 18 rhinos have been translocated from Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary and Kaziranga National Park to Manas National Park. Recently, one of the translocated rhinos gave birth to a calf in Manas NP. All the rhinos released in Manas are monitored on a daily basis and the rhinos are observed to be doing well, using all the three ranges of the park. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

93. B

Statement 1 is not correct: Lord Cornwallis is considered as the „Father of Indian Civil Services“. He was the first to bring into existence and organise the civil services. In 1800, Wellesley setup the Fort William College for training of new recruits. In 1806, college was disapproved by the Court of Directors and instead the East India College was set up at Haileybury in England to impart two years“ training to the recruit.

Statement 2 is correct: Lord Lytton reduced the age limit to 19 (1878), but on other hand he introduced Statutory Civil Service consisting of one sixth of covenanted posts to be filled by Indians of high families through nominations by local governments subject to approval by the secretary and the viceroy, but the system failed and was abolished.

94. A

The Portuguese traveler Vasco da Gama reached the port of Calicut in 1498 and returned to Portugal in the next year. Pedro Alvarez Cabral arrived in 1500 and Vasco da Gama also made a second trip in 1502.

They established trading stations at Calicut, Cannanore and Cochin. The first governor of the Portuguese in India was Francis de Almeida. Later in 1509 Albuquerque was made the governor of the Portuguese territories in India. In 1510, he captured Goa from the ruler of Bijapur. Thereafter, Goa became the capital of the Portuguese settlements in India. Albuquerque captured Malacca and

Ceylon. He also built a fort at Calicut. Albuquerque died in and his successors established Portuguese settlements at Daman, Salsette and Bombay on the west coast and at San Thome near Madras and Hugli in Bengal on the east coast.

The English East India Company was established in 1600. Captain Hawkins arrived at the royal court of Jahangir in 1609 to seek permission to establish English trading centre at Surat but it was refused by the Mughal Emperor due to Portuguese pressure. Later in 1612 when Portuguese fleet was defeated by English, Jahangir issued a farman (permission letter) to the English and they established a trading factory at Surat in 1613.

95. D

Young Bengal, posed an intellectual challenge to the religious and social orthodoxy of Hinduism. They stood for a number of social reforms, such as the prohibition of caste taboos, child marriage, kulin polygamy or the prohibition on ban on widow remarriage. The Derozians carried forward Roy's tradition of public education on social, economic and political questions. For instance, they demanded induction of Indians in higher grades of services, protection of ryots from oppressive zamindars, better treatment to Indian labour abroad in British colonies, revision of the Company's charter, freedom of press and trial by jury.

96. A

97. D

98. c

Warren Hastings took charge as the Governor-General at a critical period of British rule when the British were to encounter the powerful combination of Marathas, Mysore and Hyderabad. He followed a policy of ring-fence which aimed at creating buffer zones to defend the Company's frontiers. Broadly speaking, it was the policy of defence of their neighbours' frontiers for safeguarding their own territories.

99. C

100. C