

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

1. **Ans: c**
Informative and Self Explanatory.
2. **Ans: c**

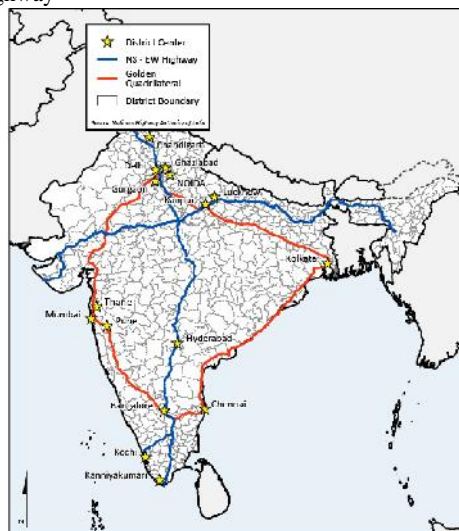


3. **Ans: b**
Four-inch-high copper figure of a dancing girl. Found in Mohenjodaro.
4. **Ans: a**



5. **Ans: d**
The Shramana movement was a Non-Vedic movement parallel to Vedic Hinduism in ancient India. Shrama a means "seeker, one who performs acts of austerity, ascetic". The shrama a tradition includes Jainism, Buddhism, and others such as the Ajeevikas, and Charvakas and was responsible for the related concepts of sa sara (the cycle of birth and death) and moksha (liberation from that cycle).

6. **Ans: d**
Hyderabad is in North South and East West Highway

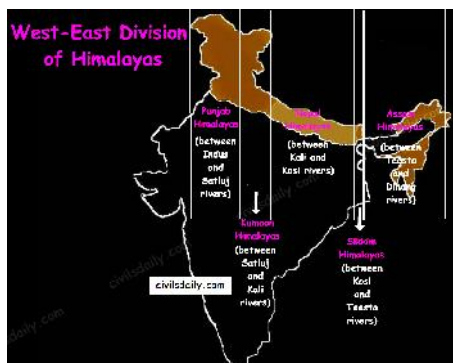


7. **Ans: a**
The shrines of the temples were of three kinds—
 1. Sandhara type (without pradikshinapatha)
 2. Nirandhara type (with pradakshinapatha), and

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

3. Sarvatobhadra (which can be accessed from all sides).

8. **Ans: c**



9. **Ans: b**

Some of the traditional forms of murals are Pithoro in parts of Rajasthan and Gujarat

10. **Ans: c**

Informative and Self Explanatory.

11. **Ans: d**

Various High Court judgments in the past have deemed the appointment of Parliamentary Secretaries unconstitutional and have ruled against such appointments. A parliamentary secretary is a member of a Parliament in the Westminster system who assists a more senior minister with his or her duties. The posts do exist in various States at present, including Gujarat, Punjab and Rajasthan.

12. **Ans: d**

- **The gradual dissipation of the frontal zone is called frontolysis.** The process by which two air masses of different physical characteristics are brought together is Frontogenesis and it leads to the formation of a temperate cyclone
- **Relative humidity** is expressed in terms of percentage. It is the ratio of the actual water vapour content of the air to its water vapour capacity at a given temperature.
- The **hypolimnion or under lake**, is the dense bottom layer of water in a thermally-stratified **lake**. It is the layer that lies below the thermocline.

13. **Ans: c**

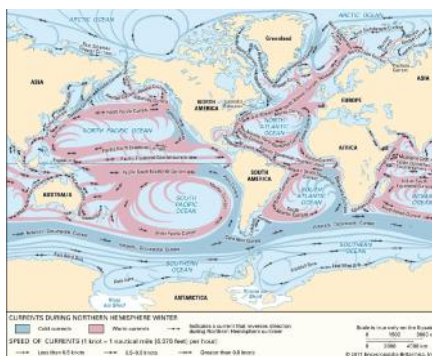
Supreme Court noted that the constitutional power of the executive to grant pardon cannot be exercised by the apex court unless there is a violation of fundamental rights. Article 32 can only be invoked when there is violation of any fundamental right or in the "realm of public interest litigation".

Constitutional provisions:

Under Article 72, the President have the power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites, remit, suspend or commute the sentence of any persons convicted of any offence. Similarly, as per Article 161: Governor of a State has the power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites remit, suspend or commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence.

Cabinet Secretary is the top most executive official and senior-most civil servant in India. The Cabinet Secretary is the ex-officio head of the Civil Services Board, the Cabinet Secretariat, and head of all civil services under the rules of business of the Government of India. The Cabinet Secretary is under the direct charge of the Prime Minister. Though there is no fixed tenure, the average tenure of the Cabinet Secretary has been less than 3 years. His or her tenure however, can be extended. He doesn't belong to any particular ministry.

14. **Ans: a**



15. **Ans: d**

India's first e-court has been opened at High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad, which is the common high court for the states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

The purpose of e-courts was to ensure speedy justice for the litigants.

16. **Ans: a**

- **Suburb** is the development of the fringe areas of an urban centre as the residential area connected to city centre with proper transport connectivity.
- **Satellite Towns** are smaller metropolitan areas which are located somewhat near to, but are mostly independent of larger metropolitan areas. Satellite cities differ from suburbs in that they have distinct employment bases, commuter sheds, and cultural offerings from the central metropolis, as well as an independent municipal government

17. **Ans: a**

Zonal councils have been established by the Parliament to promote interstate cooperation and coordination.

They are **statutory bodies** established under the States Reorganisation Act 1956 and not constitutional bodies. They are only deliberative and advisory bodies.

There are five Zonal councils namely:

1. The Northern Zonal Council
2. The Central Zonal Council
3. The Eastern Zonal Council
4. The Western Zonal Council
5. The Southern Zonal Council

The North Eastern States are not included in the Zonal Councils and their special problems are looked after by **The North Eastern Council**, set up under the North Eastern Council Act, 1972.

According to the Supreme Court, "there is no concept of National Song".

Article 51A (a), citing the citizens' fundamental duties, does not refer to 'National Song.' It only refers to National Flag and National Anthem. Article 51A (a) mandates that citizens should abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem.

In a blow to Ordinance Raj, a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court has widened the boundaries of judicial review to the extent that it can now examine whether the President or the State Governor was spurred by an "oblique motive" to bypass the legislature and promulgate an ordinance. The court has held that the satisfaction of the President under Article 123 and of the Governor under Article 213 is not immune from judicial review. Besides, re-promulgation defeats the constitutional scheme under which a limited power to frame ordinances has been conferred on the President and the Governors. In the Dr. D.C. Wadhwa versus State of Bihar case, the Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court held that the Executive has no arbitrary right to promulgate ordinances.

18. **Ans: d**

- At Syzygy, Spring tide occurs
- A **Seiche** is a standing wave in an enclosed or partially enclosed body of water. Seiches and seiche-related phenomena have been observed on lakes, reservoirs, swimming pools, bays, harbours and seas.

19. **Ans: d**

The Inter-State Council, a constitutional body to facilitate coordination between states and the centre. Note that Zonal councils have been established by the Parliament to promote interstate cooperation and coordination.

The Centre has decided to set up a single, permanent Tribunal to adjudicate all inter-State river water disputes, a step which is aimed at resolving grievances of States in a speedy manner. This body will subsume existing tribunals. To this effect the government has introduced Inter-State River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2017.

There is no provision for categorisation of any State in India as a Special Category Status (SCS) State in our constitution. The concept of a special category state was first introduced in 1969 by the 5th Finance Commission. The decision to grant special category status was held by the National Development Council.

The criteria included:

- Hilly and difficult terrain,
- Low population density or the presence of sizeable tribal population,
- Strategic location along international borders,
- Economic and infrastructural backwardness
- Non-viable nature of State finances.

20. **Ans: b**

- A small number of European adventurers and financiers, largely of the same generation, gained control of the **diamond mining industry at Kimberley, Northern Cape.**
- They set up an infrastructure of financing and industrial consolidation which they then applied to exploit the discoveries of gold from 1886 in Transvaal at Witwatersrand — the "**Rand**".

21. **Ans: b**

Special Provisions for Delhi:

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

The 69th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1991 provided a special status to the Union Territory of Delhi, and redesignated it the National Capital Territory of Delhi and designated the administrator of Delhi as the lieutenant (Lt.) governor.

The council of ministers headed by the chief minister has to aid and advise the Lt. governor in the exercise of his functions except in so far as he is required to act in his discretion.

In the case of difference of opinion between the Lt. governor and his ministers, the Lt. governor is to refer the matter to the president for decision and act accordingly.

22. **Ans: b**

It refers to fossil fuel energy resources that cannot be burnt if the world is to adhere to a given carbon budget. Therefore some of proven reserves of fossil fuels will never be burnt and will remain stranded. Within the 2°C target, we only have about 1,100 Giga Tonnes (gt) of carbon dioxide (CO₂) that can still be emitted. Current proven reserves of fossil fuels are about 812 billion tonnes of oil equivalent (oil, gas and coal). Just burning all these proven reserves would generate about 2,512 gt of CO₂ equivalent emissions. Thus no more than 40 per cent of the existing proven reserves of fossil fuels can ever be burnt.

23. **Ans: b**

The Kalasa-Banduri Nala is a project undertaken by the Government of Karnataka to improve drinking water supply to 3 Districts of Karnataka. It involves building across Kalasa and Banduri, **two tributaries of the Mahadayi River** to divert 7.56 TMC of water to the Malaprabha River, which supplies the drinking water needs of the said 3 districts. The Mahadayi water-sharing dispute has the states of Goa, Maharashtra and Karnataka vying for water from the Mahadayi River. The River Mahadayi is called Mandovi in Goa.

24. **Ans: b**

- The National River Conservation Directorate (NRCD) in the **Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change** is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of **National River Conservation Plan (NRCP)** and **National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA)** for conservation of rivers, lakes and wetlands in the country.
- NRCD is only providing financial assistance under the National River Conservation Plan to the State Governments/ local bodies to set up infrastructure for pollution abatement of rivers in identified polluted river stretches based on proposals received from the State Governments/ local bodies.
- NRCP has also been identified as one of the four core Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) of the ministry approved by the Cabinet.

25. **Ans: b**

Election Commission writes to Centre, seeks power to postpone, revoke polls. The Commission has asked the government to insert a new clause '58 B' in the **Representation of the People Act, 1951** to allow adjournment or countermanding of election in the affected polling areas on the grounds of **use of money power**. The provision would also empower the Commission to re-schedule the elections in such areas.

Why this is necessary?

Presently, ECI can take actions under Article 324 of the Constitution. But, there is no specific provision in the RPA to this effect. Clause 58 A empowers the Election Commission to cancel polls **only if there is an evidence of booth-capturing or use of muscle power** to influence the outcome of elections. Election Commission (EC) has amended rules, whereby it will now review the national and state party status of political parties **every ten years instead of the present five**. TMC qualified for the status as it is recognised as a state party in four states.

26. **Ans: d**

- **India has ratified the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol.** With this, India became the 80th country to accept the amendment relating to the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol.
- The Kyoto Protocol signed in 1997, is an international treaty that commits state parties to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It was adopted in 1997 and entered in to force in 2005. Under the Kyoto Protocol, industrialized nations agreed to cut their greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels. A group of rich and industrialized countries were assigned emission reduction targets with the first commitment period of 2005-2012.
- **The Doha amendment** was made to Kyoto protocol in 2012 to extend the obligations of the developed countries for the **second commitment period of 2013-2020**. It requires ratification from a total of 144 of the 192 parties of the Kyoto Protocol to become operational. As only 75 countries have so far ratified the Doha amendments it could not be enforced. China, Poland, Australia, Mexico, South Africa, Indonesia are some of the countries that ratified Doha amendments. US has not ratified the Kyoto Protocol and Canada withdrew from Kyoto protocol in 2012.

27. **Ans: c**

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is a statutory body established in 1993. It consists of a Chairman and 4 members. Chairman should be a retired Chief Justice of India.

National Commission for Scheduled Castes is a constitutional body established with a view to provide safeguards against the exploitation of Scheduled Castes.

Law Commission of India is an executive body established by an order of the Government of India. The Law Commission shall, on a reference made to it by the Central Government or suo-motu, undertake research in law and review of existing laws in India for making reforms therein and enacting new legislations. The Commission is established for a fixed tenure and works as an advisory body to the Ministry of Law and Justice. 21st Law Commission of India was constituted for a period of three years w.e.f. 1st September, 2015 to 31st August, 2018. Former Supreme Court (SC) judge Justice Balbir Singh Chauhan was appointed as Chairman of the 21st Law Commission of India (LCI).

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

The National Commission for Women (NCW) is a statutory body of the Government of India, concerned with advising the government on all policy matters affecting women. It was established in January 1992 under the National Commission for Women Act 1990. The objective of the NCW is to represent the rights of women in India and to provide a voice for their issues and concerns. The commission regularly publishes a monthly newsletter, Rashtra Mahila in both Hindi and English.

28. **Ans: b**

- The SECURE Himalaya project was launched by the union government in association with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on the occasion of the Global Wildlife Programme (GWP) conference.
- It is a six-year project to ensure conservation of locally and globally significant biodiversity, land and forest resources in the high Himalayan ecosystem spread over four states in India. The SECURE - securing livelihoods, conservation, sustainable use and restoration of high range Himalayan ecosystems is meant for specific landscapes.
- It includes
 1. Changthang (**Jammu and Kashmir**),
 2. Lahaul - Pangi and Kinnaur (**Himachal Pradesh**),
 3. Gangotri - Govind and Darma - Byans Valley in Pithoragarh (**Uttarakhand**) and
 4. Kanchenjunga - Upper Teesta Valley (**Sikkim**).

29. **Ans: a**

Indra Sawhney case (Mandal case)

The 27% reservation quota for backward classes (by The Mandal Commission) and the government notification **reserving 10% government jobs for economically backward classes among the higher castes** was challenged in the Supreme Court in the Indra Sawhney Case of 1992. On 16 November 1992 the Supreme Court upheld the Mandal Commission's 27 percent quota for backward classes, as well as the principle that the combined scheduled-caste, scheduled-tribe, and backward-class beneficiaries should not exceed 50 percent of India's population. At the same time, court also struck down the government notification reserving 10% government jobs for economically backward classes among the higher castes.

30. **Ans: c**

It is a U.K.-based Antarctic research project that has been looking at the ice shelf for many years. Scientists from Project MIDAS have said the formation of icebergs is natural. And there seems no link to human-induced climate change was available in this case. Yet, the impact of such a loss on the stability of the ice shelf itself may not be good.

31. **Ans: d**

The Government of India notified the constitution of Auroville Foundation as a Statutory Body on 29th January, 1991 as per the Auroville Foundation Act, 1988. The Auroville Foundation, headed by a chairman, is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

What is Auroville?

- Auroville (City of Dawn) is an experimental township in Viluppuram district in the state of Tamil Nadu with some parts in the Union Territory of Puducherry.
- Auroville was meant to be a universal town where men and women of all countries are able to live in peace and progressive harmony, above all creeds, all politics and all nationalities. The purpose of Auroville is to realize human unity.
- Auroville is recognized as International living experiment in human unity, endorsed by the UNESCO and supported by the Government of India.

32. **Ans: b**

India's **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) launched its 'Perform, Achieve and Trade' (PAT) Scheme in 2012 to make the industrial sector energy efficient.** The scheme has set energy efficiency targets for industries. PAT is a market based mechanism in which sectors are assigned efficiency targets.

Industries which over-achieve will get incentives in the form of **energy saving certificates**. These certificates are tradable and can be bought by other industries which are unable to achieve their targets. These certificates will be tradable at **two energy exchanges: Indian Energy Exchange and Power Exchange India.**

The price of these certificates will be determined by the market. Under the penalty clause, if an industry fails to achieve its target, it will be penalised. The penalty will be calculated on the basis of what remains to be achieved to meet target.

PAT has been launched under the **National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency**, one of the eight missions under the umbrella National Action Plan on Climate Change.

The government of India had notified targets under the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 for 478 industrial units called 'designated units' -- from eight sectors with high energy consumption. The sectors include aluminium, cement, chlor-alkali, fertilizer, iron & steel, pulp and paper, textiles and thermal power plants. Just these 478 industrial units from energy-intensive industries have reduced their carbon emissions by 31 million tonne, or 2% of India's total annual emissions, and saved over Rs 9,500 crore through more efficient energy use in the three years between 2012 and 2015.

33. **Ans: a**

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT) has been set up under Armed Forces Tribunal Act, 2007 to provide for the adjudication or trial of disputes and complaints with respect to commission, appointments, enrolment and conditions of service in respect of persons subject to the Army Act, 1950, the Navy Act, 1957 and the Air Force Act, 1950. Paramilitary forces don't come under its jurisdiction. It can further provide for appeals arising out of orders, findings or sentences of courts-martial. Appeals against the decision of the AFT can be taken only in Supreme Court. High Courts are not allowed to entertain such appeals. The Tribunal will normally follow the procedure as is practiced in the High Courts of India.

34. **Ans: c**

The Bill defines a pesticide as any substance used to destroy or control pests in agricultural commodities or animal feeds. **So, pesticides used for non-agricultural purposes, such as health care, are outside the ambit.**

The bill seeks to improve the regulations in the manufacture, inspection, testing and distribution of pesticides. It proposes a system of licensing and also sets the criteria for classifying pesticides as misbranded, substandard, or spurious.

Constituting a Central Pesticides Board to advise the government on pesticide related regulation is also among its provisions.

Fixation of tolerance limits by FSSAI for pesticide residues on crops and commodities is touted to become mandatory.

State governments are envisioned to implement the set-up.

Pesticides registered under the Insecticides Act, 1968, are automatically deemed to be registered under the Bill.

The Bill does not specify penalties for pesticide inspectors or analysts who misuse their powers. The Standing Committee has recommended that penalties be imposed on such government officers along the lines of similar provisions in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 or the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

35. **Ans: c**

The NCM was set up under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 to look into complaints of minority communities. Officially, there are 6 minority communities in India viz. Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Parsis and Jains. Unlike other bodies like NCSC and NCST, NCM has no constitutional backing or status.

In India, NGOs can be registered under a plethora of Acts such as the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860; Religious Endowments Act, 1863; Indian Trusts Act, etc.

CBI is the foremost investigative agency in India. It is non constitutional and non-statutory body. CBI was set up by a resolution of Ministry of Home Affairs in 1963 after **Santhanam committee** recommendations. It derives power to investigate from Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.

36. **Ans: d**

The Estuarine or salt water crocodiles are found in the **eastern coast and Andaman & Nicobar Islands in India. Bhitarkanika National park on the Odisha coast houses 70% of India's salt water crocodiles. Project Crocodile was launched by Government of India and UNDP to save the salt water crocodiles in Bhitarkanika. Unlike other crocodiles, estuarine crocodiles lay eggs by creating a mound made of leaves of a particular mangrove species, which are plentifully available in Bhitarkanika.**

Crocodiles start laying eggs by mid-May, with an incubation period of 75 days. Other Crocodile species in India: Mugger crocodile and Gharial Crocodile.



37. **Ans: c**

The Supreme Court recently ruled that a Speaker should refrain from deciding the disqualification of MLAs for defection under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution if he himself is facing the prospect of removal. The ruling was a safeguard against a Speaker using the disqualification proceedings of legislators for his own political ends.

According to article 370,

- Except for defence, foreign affairs, finance & communications, parliament needs the state government's concurrence for applying all other laws.
- The state residents live under a separate set of laws including those related to citizenship, ownership of property, fundamental rights as compared to other Indians.
- The provisions of Article 370 prevent citizens from other states purchasing & owing property in J&K.
- The centre has no power to declare financial emergency under article 360 of the constitution to state of J & K.
- The centre can declare emergency without states concurrence only in case of war or external aggression & not in case of armed rebellion. In case of armed rebellion it can do so only after concurrence with the state government.
- Indian Parliament cannot increase or reduce the borders of the State or change the name of the State. The Union has no power to suspend the Constitution of the State on the ground of failure to comply with the direction given by the union.

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

- In the event of the breakdown of the Constitutional machinery in the State, Governor's Rule is to be imposed under Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir. If it is not possible to revoke Governor's rule within six months of imposition then the President's Rule under Article 356 of the Indian Constitution is imposed.
- The provisions of Part IV relating to the Directive Principle of State Policy do not apply to J&K. No amendment of the Constitution of India can extend to J&K unless it is so extended by the order of the President under Article 370 (1).

Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA)

The Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) is an act of Parliament of India. It is a central law. It was established to ensure the delivery of certain services, which if obstructed would affect the normal life of the people. These include services like public transport (bus services), health services (doctors and hospitals). Although it is a very powerful law, its execution rests entirely on the discretion of the State government. Each state in the union of India hence has a separate state Essential Services Maintenance Act with slight variations from the central law in its provisions. This freedom is accorded by the central law itself.

38. **Ans: b**

Green Energy Corridor is grid connected network for the transmission of renewable energy produced from various renewable energy projects. **It helps in synchronising the electricity produced from solar, wind and other renewable energy resources.**

This dedicated transmission network has been divided into two parts. **Intra state network** is being implemented by State Transmission Utilities and **Inter-state network** by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.

Germany has agreed to provide Euro 1 billion soft loan to this project in 2013. Renewable Energy Management Centre (REMC) will monitor renewable energy generation on a real-time basis and also make forecasts for hassle-free integration of solar and wind energies with the grid.

39. **Ans: a**

A Committee was set up in September, 2003 under the Chairmanship of Shri Sitakant Mohapatra to evolve a set of objective criteria for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule. Article 344(1) and Article 351 of the Constitution provides for the promotion of the Hindi language by the Union Government.

40. **Ans: c**

- The **23rd Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change** concluded recently. It is the first set of negotiations since the US withdrawal from the Paris deal.
- The session ended with the adoption of **Fiji Momentum for Implementation.**
- It is divided into three parts:
 1. Part 1 deals with the 'Completion of the Work Programme' under the Paris Agreement;
 2. Part 2 deals with the 'Talanoa Dialogue' (which is the Facilitative Dialogue to be conducted in 2018);
 3. Part 3 deals with 'pre-2020 implementation and ambition'.

Key outcomes:

1. Alliances were formed for phasing out coal
2. Decision to putting up green buildings and accelerating eco-mobility
3. Recognising gender in dealing with the issue, in a Gender Action Plan
4. Decision to get indigenous people (adivasis) have a say in climate talks
5. Decision to look into the greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture

Above all, the developing countries stood as a solid bloc demanding a balanced deal. The key demands centred on getting agreed upon and including in the official agenda the **pre-2020 actions**. This is mainly in reference to the obligations of the developed countries under the 1997 Kyoto Protocol that still has three years to run. There was also a demand for fixing a deadline for the ratification of 2012 Doha amendments to the Kyoto Protocol to give a legal shape to the **pre-2020 commitments**.

An important outcome of CoP 23 is the '**Talanoa Dialogue**'. Talanoa Dialogue is facilitative dialogue among member of Conference of Parties of Paris Agreement to be taken in 2018. It is a year-long process to take stock of the collective efforts of Parties in relation to progress towards the long-term goal of economy-wide absolute emission reduction and to inform the preparation of nationally determined contributions. **Talanoa is a traditional word used in Fiji and the Pacific to reflect a process of inclusive, participatory and transparent dialogue.**

41. **Ans: d**

Stockholm convention is on POPs and is not related to climate change. The 2001 convention is regarding pollution.

42. **Ans: c**

NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) is an all-sky survey mission that will discover thousands of exoplanets around nearby bright stars. **TESS is scheduled for launch aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.**

TESS is designed to carry out first spaceborne all-sky transiting exoplanet survey. It is equipped with four wide-angle telescopes and associated charge-coupled device (CCD) detectors. **The primary mission objective of TESS is to survey brightest stars near Earth for transiting exoplanets over two-year period.** With TESS, it will be possible to study mass, size, density and orbit of large cohort of small planets, including sample of rocky worlds in habitable zones (goldilocks zone) of their host stars. This will reveal whether planets are rocky (like Earth), gas or Jovian giants (like Jupiter) or something even more unusual.

43. **Ans: c**

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency Bank (MUDRA Bank), is a new institution set-up by the Government of India for development of micro units and refinance of MFIs to encourage entrepreneurship in India and provide the funding to the non-corporate small business sector. Under the guidelines of Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Scheme, MUDRA Bank has launched its three initiative product and its name is **Shishu, Kishor and Tarun** to signify the stage of growth and funding needs of the micro units or entrepreneur. MUDRA Bank is refinancing through state level institutions, MUDRA will deliver the loan through NBFCs, MFIs, Rural Banks, District Banks, Nationalized Banks, Private Banks, Primary Lending Institutions and other intermediaries. Any Indian citizen who are involved in income generating activity such as manufacturing, processing, trading or service sector and whose credit need is less than 10 lakh can approach either bank, MFIs, financial institutions or NBFC for availing of MUDRA loans under Pradhan Mantri Mu ra Yojana (PMMY). MUDRA Bank is not refinancing agriculture sector under PMMY but traders of vegetables and fruits are covered under MUDRA Bank Schemes. There is no fix interest rate in MUDRA loan. According to source banks are charging around Base Rate + 1 per cent to 7 per cent minimum. The interest rate can be higher according to risk and customer profile and it can be different in all banks. So please check all nearest bank branches once before apply the MUDRA Bank Loan.

44. **Ans: d**

India's Department of Space (DoS) and European Union (EU) have signed cooperation agreement related to sharing of earth observation satellite data. The agreement aims to strengthen and stimulate cooperation on earth observation and mutual access to data from **EU's Sentinel series of satellites** and from **Indian earth observation satellites**. The data sharing will provide mutual benefits, in particular in pursuit of United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

Key Facts

- Under this arrangement, EU will provide India with free, full and open access to data from Copernicus Sentinel family of satellites using high bandwidth connections from data hub to data hub. **Reciprocally, India will provide Copernicus programme and its participating states with free, full and open access to data from ISRO's earth observation satellites including historical data sets.**
- This comprises data from land, ocean and atmospheric series of ISRO's civilian satellites (Oceansat-2, Scatsat-1, Megha-Tropiques, SARAL, INSAT-3D, INSAT-3DR) with exception of commercial high-resolution satellites data. The agreement also envisages technical assistance for establishment of high bandwidth connections with ISRO sites, in particular through setting up of mirror servers, data storage and archival facilities.

Copernicus programme

- It is the **world's largest single earth observation programme** directed by European Commission in partnership with the European Space Agency (ESA). It aims at achieving global, continuous, autonomous, high quality, wide range Earth observation capacity.
- It provides wide range of applications like climate change, ocean, land and atmosphere monitoring as well as support in forecasting, management and mitigation of natural disasters. Its full, free and open data policy has proven its merits and allowed development of thriving user base in Europe and beyond.

45. **Ans: b**

India is not a member to ICSID.

46. **Ans: c**

Supercritical refers to state of CO₂ above its critical temperature of 31°C and critical pressure of 73 atmospheres, which makes it twice as dense as steam. S-CO₂ operated in closed loop Brayton cycle increases efficiency of energy conversion by as much as 50% or more.

Significance

- This next generation, efficient, compact, waterless super critical CO₂ **Brayton cycle test loop for power generation** will be useful for meeting energy needs of the country.
- It has potential to replace steam based nuclear and thermal power plants, thus reducing the carbon foot print significantly.
- Besides, increasing power generation and making process more efficient, the **new technology will make power plants cheaper with lower operating costs.**
- It will be indigenous initiative for setting up next generation of solar thermal power plants. This gives India opportunity to become world leader in this technology, and fulfil major objective of National Solar Mission which emphasizes indigenous manufacturing.

47. **Ans: c**

Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is a scheme formulated by Government of India on 23 December 1993 that provides that each member of parliament of India has the choice to suggest to the Head of the District works to the tune of ₹5 crore (US\$770,000) per year, to be taken up in his/her constituency. Initially, this scheme was administered by Ministry of Rural Development. Later, in October 1994, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) has been looking into its working. Elected Members of Rajya Sabha representing the whole of the State as they do, may select works for implementation in one or more district(s) as they may choose. Nominated Members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may also select works for implementation in one or more districts, anywhere in the country. The allocation per MP per year stands increased to ₹2 crore (US\$310,000) from the year 1998-1999 which has been further enhanced to ₹5 crore from the year 2011. It also allows MPs to spend up to ₹10 lakh in any other constituency in India. Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is a scheme formulated by Government of India on 23 December 1993 that provides that each member of parliament of India has the choice to suggest to the Head of the District works to the tune of ₹5 crore (US\$770,000) per year, to be taken up in his/her constituency. Initially, this scheme was administered by Ministry of Rural Development. Later, in October 1994, **Ministry of Statistics and Programme**

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

Implementation (MOSPI) has been looking into its working. Elected Members of Rajya Sabha representing the whole of the State as they do, may select works for implementation in one or more district(s) as they may choose. Nominated Members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may also select works for implementation in one or more districts, anywhere in the country. The allocation per MP per year stands increased to ₹2 crore from the year 1998-1999 which has been further enhanced to ₹5 crore from the year 2011. It also allows MPs to spend up to ₹10 lakh in any other constituency in India.

48. **Ans: a**

SARAS PT1N is **first Indian multi-purpose civilian aircraft in light transport aircraft category** as designed by the CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL). SARAS PT1N upgraded version of envisioned Saras aircraft programme aircraft. **It is 14-seater** and the production version aircraft will have 19-seat capacity. It weighs 7-tonne and has been designed to travel at 425 km/h. It has maximum continuous flight time of around five hours.

The upgraded version of plane is equipped with more modern avionics system, improved radar, linear wing flap actuator, engine flap actuators, environment control, and better flight control system, larger metallic rudder for enhanced control, redesigned landing-gear actuators, brand-new brake system, and fire resistant design for aircraft's nacelle.

Background

The aircraft programme is **named after Indian crane Sarus**. It was first conceptualised in 1990s to establish short-haul civil aviation market. The original design of plane included maximum take-off weight of 6,100kg and a maximum payload of 1,232kg. The first prototype of the plane had made its first flight in May 2004. **SARAS PT1N is upgraded version of plane**, after second prototype of SARAS that had crashed during test flight killing all three crew members on board in March 2009.



49. **Ans: b**

“A novel ‘Niryat Bandhu’ scheme for mentoring first generation entrepreneurs has been conceptualized. The Officer (Niryat Bandhu) would primarily mentor interested individuals in the arena of international business. Such hand-holding by officers of DGFT would help the new exporters/importers by leveraging the knowledge base of officers and by providing timely and appropriate guidance.”The objective of the Scheme is essentially to reach out to the new and potential exporters and mentoring them through orientation programmes, counselling sessions, individual facilitation, etc., for being able to get into international trade.

50. **Ans: b**

Scientists from **New Zealand** have developed **world's first artificial intelligence politician** named **SAM**. It was created by Nick Gerritsen, entrepreneur in New Zealand.

Key Facts

- The virtual politician SAM can answer person's queries regarding local issues such as policies around housing, education and immigration.
- It constantly learns to respond to people through Facebook Messenger as well as a survey on its homepage. It may help to bridge the growing political and cultural divide in many countries

Artificial intelligence

Artificial intelligence is branch of computer science concerned with making intelligent machines, especially intelligent computer programs in order to make them behave like computers. AI enables a machine to perceive and respond to its changing environment. It is related to similar task of using computers to understand human intelligence.

51. **Ans: c**

It promises to boost the growth of domestic biopharma industry by accelerating the translation of research concepts into viable products and supporting clinical validation. Moreover, it will enable sustainable networks for collaboration between industry and academia, and support entrepreneurial ecosystem. The program will witness an investment of \$250 million with \$125 million as a loan from World Bank. It will strive to increase India's global biopharmaceutical market share from current 2.8% to 5% and generate additional business opportunity of \$16 billion. The program will help to innovate, co-create and co-facilitate scientific discoveries and offer young entrepreneurs an avenue to engage with the best in the industry.

52. **Ans: a**

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

Toll is to be collected by the government while the private participator gets a fixed amount of annuity for a defined period of time. In India, the new Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) is a mix of Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) Annuity and Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) models.

As per the design, the government will contribute to 40% of the project cost in the first five years through annual payments (annuity). The remaining payment will be made on the basis of the assets created and the performance of the developer. Here, hybrid annuity means the first 40% payment is made as fixed amount in five equal installments whereas the remaining 60% is paid as variable annuity amount after the completion of the project depending upon the value of assets created.

As the government pays only 40%, during the construction stage, the developer should find money for the remaining amount. Here, he has to raise the remaining 60% in the form of equity or loans. There is no toll right for the developer. Under HAM, Revenue collection would be the responsibility of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

Advantage of HAM is that it gives enough liquidity to the developer and the financial risk is shared by the government. While the private partner continues to bear the construction and maintenance risks as in the case of BOT (toll) model, he is required only to partly bear the financing risk.

Government's policy is that the HAM will be used in stalled projects where other models are not applicable.

53. **Ans: b**

The Union Ministry of Science & Technology has launched National Biopharma Mission, a first ever Industry-Academia mission to accelerate biopharmaceutical development in India. Under this mission, the ministry also launched Innovate in India (i3) program to create an enabling ecosystem to promote entrepreneurship and indigenous manufacturing in the sector. The mission aims to enable and nurture an ecosystem for preparing India's technological and product development capabilities in biopharmaceuticals to be globally competitive level over the next decade. It will also strive to transform the health standards of India's population through affordable product development. The mission will be implemented by Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), a PSU of Department of Biotechnology. It will bring together expertise from national and international corridors to provide strategic direction and guidance to move promising solutions through the product development value chain. It will provide a holistic and integrated approach to strengthen and support the entire product development value chain for accelerating the research leads to product development. This will help not only in immediate product development for addressing public health needs, but also help to create an ecosystem which will facilitate development of a continuous pipeline of products. The mission will concentrate on development of specific products such as vaccines, medical devices, biotherapeutics and diagnostics etc. Besides, it will also work on establishment of shared infrastructure and facilities. It will help in building and strengthening domain specific knowledge and management skills at the same time creating and enhancing technology transfer capabilities in public and private sector.

54. **Ans: b**

11th plan; Inclusive growth is a concept that advances equitable opportunities for economic participants during economic growth with benefits incurred by every section of society. This concept expands upon traditional economic growth models to include focus on the equity of health, human capital, environmental quality, social protection, and food security

55. **Ans: a**

Abortion in India is legal only up to 20 weeks of pregnancy, under specific conditions and situations, which are defined as:

1. If the continuance of pregnancy risks the life of the woman or may result in grave physical or mental injury.
2. If there is a substantial possibility of the child being born with physical or mental abnormalities, as to be seriously handicapped.

The Supreme Court has permitted a woman, who is in her 26th week of pregnancy, to abort her fetus that is suffering from severe cardiac ailments.

MTP Act:

The Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act in India came into existence in 1971. It was amended in 2003 to facilitate better implementation and increase access for women especially in the private health sector.

The MTP Act sets some limitations regarding the circumstances when abortion is permissible, the persons who are competent to perform the procedure, and the place where it could be performed. Outside the ring of protection that the Act draws, the IPC still operates.

The MTP Act overrides the IPC by allowing a woman to get an abortion within the first 12 weeks of pregnancy, provided a registered medical practitioner diagnoses grave danger to the pregnant woman's physical and mental health. If the foetus is between 12 and 20 weeks old, then the procedure requires permission from two medical practitioners. The Act also allows abortion if the foetus will be born with severe abnormalities.

To determine the risk of physical and mental harm to a pregnant woman seeking abortion, the Act takes into account the woman's actual as well as reasonably foreseeable environment.

It also defines circumstances which can constitute grave injury to the mental health of a woman. The mentally grievous situations include pregnancy resulting from rape as well as contraceptive failure – of any contraception used by a married woman or her husband – if a married couple is attempting to limit their number of children.

Abortion beyond 20 weeks is also legal if a registered medical practitioner, in good faith, thinks that emergency termination is necessary to save a pregnant woman's life

56. **Ans: a**

The proposed 'Bad Bank' would be a centralised agency that would take over the largest and most difficult stressed loans from public sector banks in order to help clean their balance sheets, and would take politically tough decisions to reduce debt, providing an impetus to further lending to spur economic activity

57. **Ans: c**

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

A critical minimal inflow of freshwater is necessary for the luxuriant growth of mangroves. When freshwater inflow is missing, there is a change in mangrove succession, and freshwater loving species of mangroves are replaced by salt-water loving ones. The immediate impact of salinity will be on the fishing community, where commercially sought-after fish species will be replaced by fish that does not have as much market value. In the western part of Sundarbans delta, there is less fresh water flow and sediment supply. This has led to the starvation of sediment. Besides, the rate of sea level rise is higher than sediment supply. This has led to the erosion of Islands.

58. **Ans: a**

Whenever a subsidy takes the form of a cash payment or grant to a recipient, it is characteristically considered a **direct subsidy**. Any non-cash benefit that a recipient receives that helps it operate or compete is regarded as an **indirect subsidy**.

59. **Ans: d**

IRV 2020 is a partnership between the Assam Forest Department, the Bodoland Territorial Council, WWF, IRF, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Its goal is to have a wild population of at least 3,000 Greater one-horned rhinos in the Indian state of Assam – spread over seven protected areas – by the year 2020. IRV 2020 is an ambitious rhino range and population expansion programme. SRI has supported the programme since 2006 through the IRF.

IRV 2020 is a collaborative programme with the vision to secure the future of rhinos in Assam by increasing the population in situ by spreading rhinos in key grassland habitats within Assam.

This programme has provided a launching pad to enhance the capacity of local conservationists in terms of rhino capture, translocation and post-release monitoring, using scientific tools to know more about the behaviour of the translocated rhinos in release sites.

60. **Ans: c**

Participatory notes, also referred to as "P-notes," are financial instruments used by investors or hedge funds that are not registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to invest in Indian securities. Any dividends or capital gains collected from the underlying securities go back to the investors. Indian regulators are against participatory notes because they fear that hedge funds acting through participatory notes will cause economic volatility in India's exchanges as they are used by short-term speculative traders from overseas can cause volatility. SEBI is worried about hot money causing volatility, for foreign fund flows will be erratic and volatility is on par for the course for markets.

61. **Ans: c**

62. **Ans: c**

This method can be applied to projects that are taken up on a PPP basis but can also be used to supplement PPP in sectors that are not covered under the PPP framework. Describing the challenge, Finance Minister said, "Swiss challenge method is a new process of giving contracts. Any person with credentials can submit a development proposal to the government. That proposal will be made online and a second person can give suggestions to improve and beat that proposal."

He added that an expert committee will accept the best proposal and the original proposer will get a chance to accept it if it is an improvement on his proposal.

In case the original proposer is not able to match the more attractive and competing counter proposal, the project will be awarded to the counter-proposal.

63. **Ans: c**

Uda Devi- One of the fiercest battles in Lucknow was the Battle in Sikandar Bagh in November 1857. Sikandar Bagh was manned by the rebels and fell along commander Colin Campbell's route as he marched to rescue the Europeans besieged in the Residency. A bloody battle ensued and thousands of Indian soldiers were killed.

A story goes that the British heard a crack shot, who was firing from atop a tree. It was only when they managed to fell the tree that they discovered that the person shooting was a woman, who was then identified as Uda Devi from the Pasi community. Her statue graces the square outside Sikandar Bagh in Lucknow today.

Jhalkari Bai was part of the Durga Dal, or women's brigade, of Jhansi. Her husband was a soldier in the Jhansi army, and Jhalkari too was trained in archery and swordplay. Her striking similarity to Lakshmibai helped the Jhansi army evolve a military strategy to deceive the British. To elude the British, Jhalkari dressed up like her queen and took command of the Jhansi army, allowing Lakshmibai to escape unnoticed. Jhalkari gave the British quite a shock when she was caught and imprisoned. According to legend, when the British discovered the impersonation, they released her and she went on to live a long life till 1890.

Jhansi, with its Durga Dal, saw the participation of many women who fought alongside their queen and sacrificed their lives for their kingdom. Some of the women we've found references to include Mandar, Sundari Bai, Mundari Bai and Moti Bai.

64. **Ans: c**

The marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR) refers to the minimum interest rate of a bank below which it cannot lend, except in some cases allowed by the RBI. It is an internal benchmark or reference rate for the bank. MCLR actually describes the method by which the minimum interest rate for loans is determined by a bank - on the basis of marginal cost or the additional or incremental cost of arranging one more rupee to the prospective borrower.

The MCLR methodology for fixing interest rates for advances was introduced by the Reserve Bank of India with effect from April 1, 2016. This new methodology replaces the base rate system introduced in July 2010. In other words, all rupee loans sanctioned and credit limits renewed w.e.f. April 1, 2016 would be priced with reference to the Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate (MCLR) which will be the internal benchmark (means a reference rate determined internally by the bank) for such purposes. Existing loans and credit limits linked to the Base Rate

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

(internal benchmark rate used to determine interest rates up till 31 March 2016) or Benchmark Prime Lending Rate (BPLR or the internal benchmark rate used to determine the interest rates on advances/loans sanctioned up to June 30, 2010) would continue till repayment or renewal, as the case may be. However, existing borrowers will have the option to move to the Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate (MCLR) linked loan at mutually acceptable terms.

65. **Ans: a**

British Indian Association was created after amalgamating the “**Landholders Society**” and “**British India Society**” on 31 October 1851.

- This was the first political organization that brought the Indian Together.
- The President of the first committee of this organization was **Raja Radhakanta Deb**, while Debendranath Tagore was its secretary.

The newspaper of this society was “**Hindu patriot**” which adopted a strongly critical political tone. Its editor **Harish Chandra Mukherjee** wrote in the Hindu Patriot on 14 January 1858, the following lines:

“Can a revolution in the Indian government be authorized by Parliament without consulting the wishes of vast millions of men for whose benefit it is proposed to made? The reply must be in the negative. The time has nearly come when all Indian questions must be solved by Indians”

In the wake of the upcoming charter act (of 1853) in 1852, this organization sent a delegation to England, pleading for separation of Judiciary with executive, higher posts and pays for Indians, abolition of salt duty and inclusion of Indians in the legislative councils. But all expectations were negated by the **Charter Act of 1853**.

66. **Ans: c**

RBI announced this route in 2011–12 as a ‘penal’ route for banks to borrow once they have exhausted all borrowing option, i.e., the repo route. MSF rate is regulated by the RBI above the current repo rate. This route can be used by banks for only overnight borrowings and is linked to their net demand and time liabilities (NDTL).

67. **Ans: a**

68. **Ans: b**

This happens when there is a fear that the bank has insufficient funds with it—depositors lose confidence in the bank and start withdrawing their deposits in the concerned bank. Similar situations were seen in the wake of the sub-prime crisis in the US economy.

69. **Ans: d**

Din Bandhu Mitra’s play **Neel Darpan** displayed the oppression of indigo farmers.

70. **Ans: a**

OECD initiated it; The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)’s Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) initiative seeks to close gaps in international taxation for companies that allegedly avoid taxation or reduce tax burden in their home country by engaging in tax inversions (moving operations) or by migrating intangibles to lower tax jurisdictions.

The OECD has issued **15 Action Items** to address the main areas where they feel companies have been most aggressively accomplishing this shifting of profit — addressing the digital economy, treaty abuse, transfer pricing documentation, and more. BEPS Action Item 13, in particular, aims to transform transfer pricing documentation, forcing multinational corporations to reconsider how transfer pricing details are reported to local tax authorities as well as worldwide with country-by-country reporting

71. **Ans: c**

During the 1870s young leaders in Bombay also established a number of provincial political associations, such as the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha (Poona Public Society), founded by Mahadev Govind Ranade (1842–1901).

It started with the aim of working as a mediating body between the government and people of India. It started as an elected body of 95 members elected by 6000 persons on April 2, 1870. The organisation was a precursor to the Indian National Congress which started with its first session from Maharashtra itself.

72. **Ans: d**

Capital consumption is the other term for ‘**depreciation**’. In the process of their uses, fixed assets depreciate (go for wear and tear) at the rate decided by the government of the economy—the rates for the same assets may vary across economies. In the new system of national income accounting it is written as CPC (Consumption of fixed capital)—in use since 2015–16 after the advice of the IMF

73. **Ans: c**

Vande Mataram—literally, “I praise thee, Mother”—is a poem from Bankim Chandra Chatterjee’s 1882 novel Anandamath. It was written in Bengali and Sanskrit.

It is a hymn to the Mother Land. It played a vital role in the Indian independence movement, first sung in a political context by Rabindranath Tagore at the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress. Thereafter, it became popular as the theme song of the Swadeshi movement. The movement was also called as the Vandemataram movement.

74. **Ans: c**

Unanticipated inflation benefits government because government gains tax revenue as nominal income increases. The increase in nominal income pushes people into higher tax brackets.

75. **Ans: d**

Charles Wood was a British Liberal politician and Member of Parliament. He served as Chancellor of the Exchequer from 1846 to 1852. Later he became the President of the Board of Control of the East India Company. In 1854 he sent the “Wood’s despatch” to the Governor General Lord Dalhousie.

As per this despatch:

- An education department was to be set in every province.

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

- Universities on the model of the London University be established in big cities such as Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.
- At least one government school be opened in every district.
- Affiliated private schools should be given grant in aid.
- The Indian natives should be given training in their mother tongue also.
- Wood's Despatch is called Magnacarta of English Education in India.
- In accordance with Wood's despatch, Education Departments were established in every province and universities were opened at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras in 1857 on the model of the London University.
- Later more universities were opened in Punjab in 1882 and at Allahabad 1887.

76. **Ans: d**

Following the 'expansionist' policy means **encouraging the circulation of money in the economy**. Here, except the MSFR increase, all other measures are dedicated to increase liquidity in the system.

77. **Ans: d**

It was framed by Lord Wellesley, British Governor-General in India from 1798 to 1805. Early in his governorship, Wellesley adopted a policy of non-intervention in the princely states, but he later adopted the policy of forming subsidiary alliances, which played a major role in the expansion of British rule in India.

- An Indian ruler entering into a subsidiary alliance with the British would accept British forces within his territory and to pay for their maintenance.
- The ruler would accept a British Resident in his state.
- The ruler who entered into a subsidiary alliance would not join any alliance with any other power or declare war against any power without the permission of the British.
- The ruler would dismiss any Europeans other than the British and avoid employing new ones.
- The ruler would let the British rule on any conflict any other state.
- The ruler would acknowledge the East India Company as the paramount power in India.
- The ruler would have his state be protected by the Company from external dangers and internal disorders.
- If the rulers failed to make the payments that were required by the alliance, part of their territory would be taken away as a penalty.

Indian rulers have to maintain British troops in his state.

78. **Ans: c**

Angel investors invest in small startups or entrepreneurs. Often, angel investors are among an entrepreneur's family and friends. The capital angel investors provide may be a one-time investment to help the business propel or an ongoing injection; venture capitalists are willing to invest in such companies because they can earn a massive return on their investments if these companies are a success.

79. **Ans: a**

In British India, the Vernacular Press Act (Act of 1878) was enacted to curtail the freedom of the Indian press and prevent the expression of criticism toward British policies—notably, the opposition that had grown with the outset of the Second Anglo-Afghan War (1878–80).[1] The act was proposed by Lord Lytton, then Viceroy of India, and was unanimously passed by the Viceroy's Council on March 14, 1878. The act excluded English-language publications as it was meant to control seditious writing in 'publications in Oriental languages' everywhere in the country, except for the South. But the British totally discriminated the Indian Press.

The act empowered the government to impose restrictions on the press in the following ways:

1. Modelled on the Irish press act, this act provided the government with extensive rights to censor reports and editorials in the Vernacular press.
2. From now on the government kept regular track of Vernacular newspapers.
3. When a report published in the newspaper was judged as seditious, the newspaper was warned.

The Vernacular Press Act stated that any magistrate or Commissioner of Police had the authority to call upon any printer or publisher of a newspaper to enter into a bond, undertaking not to print a certain kind of material, and could confiscate any printed material it deemed objectionable. The Act provided for submitting to police all the proof sheets of contents of papers before publication. What was seditious news was to be determined by the police, and not by the judiciary. Under this Act many of the papers were fined, their editors jailed. Thus, they were subject to prior restraint. The affected party could not seek redress in a court of law. General threats to the Indian language press included:

- Subversion of democratic institutions
- Agitations and violent incidents
- False allegations against British authorities or individuals
- Endangering law and order to disturb the normal functioning of the state
- Threats to internal stability

Because the British government was in a hurry to pass the bill without encouraging any reactions whatever, the bill was not published in the usual papers in Calcutta and the North-Western Provinces were the slowest in obtaining information. While the Amrita Bazar Patrika in Calcutta had converted itself into an all-English weekly within a week of the passing of the Vernacular Press Act, papers in the north were wondering what the exact provisions of the act were, even after two weeks of its existence. The following years saw the appearance and disappearance of a number of Bengali journals in quick succession, failing to gain support with their poverty of language and thought.

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

80. **Ans: c**

81. **Ans: c**

- Lucile was a verse novel written by Lord Lytton, published in 1860.
- The Indian Arms Act of 1878 was legislated during Lord Lytton's time. By this act, no Indians could keep unlicensed arms. However, the English people could hold arms without license.
- Lord Lytton also was responsible for the economic distress caused by abolishing the Tax on the foreign cotton coming to India, to safeguard the British Traders.
- The maximum age to enter in to the Civil Services Examination was reduced from 21 years to 19 years.
- Mohammadan Anglo-Oriental College was founded by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, the leader of Muslim renaissance in Indian subcontinent, in 1875 at Aligarh during the tenure of Lord Lytton. It later became Aligarh Muslim University.

82. **Ans: b**

The real GDP growth projections for 2017-18 is expected to be around 6.75%, which is further expected to reach to 7-7.5% in 2018-19 driven by major reforms initiated by the government. There was reversal of declining trend of GDP growth in second quarter of 2017-18. The growth during this period was led by industry sector. Agriculture, industry and services sectors are expected to grow at the rate of 2.1%, 4.4%, and 8.3% respectively in 2017-18.

83. **Ans: c**

In 1854 Dadabai Naoroji founded a **Gujarati** fortnightly publication, the Rast Goftar (or The Truth Teller), to clarify Zoroastrian concepts and promote Parsi social reforms.

In 1874, he became Prime Minister of Baroda and was a member of the Legislative Council of Mumbai (1885-88). He was also a member of the Indian National Association founded by Sir Surendranath Banerjee from Calcutta a few years before the founding of the Indian National Congress in Bombay, with the same objectives and practices. The two groups later merged into the INC, and Naoroji was elected President of the Congress in 1886. Naoroji published Poverty and un-British Rule in India in 1901.

He was a member of the British House of Commons from 1892-1895. During his time he put his efforts towards improving the situation in India. He had a very clear vision and was an effective communicator. He set forth his views about the situation in India over the course of history of the governance of the country and the way in which the colonial rulers ruled.

Naoroji moved to Britain once again and continued his political involvement. Elected for the Liberal Party in Finsbury Central at the 1892 general election, he was the first British Indian MP. He refused to take the oath on the Bible as he was not a Christian, but was allowed to take the oath of office in the name of God on his copy of Khordeh Avesta. In Parliament, he spoke on Irish Home Rule and the condition of the Indian people. He was also a notable Freemason.

In his political campaign and duties as an MP, he was assisted by Muhammed Ali Jinnah, the future Muslim nationalist and founder of Pakistan.

In 1906, Naoroji was again elected president of the Indian National Congress. Naoroji was a staunch moderate within the Congress, during the phase when opinion in the party was split between the moderates and extremists. Naoroji was a mentor to Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Gopal Krishna Gokhale and Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi.

He was married to Gulbai at the age of eleven. He died in Bombay on 30 June 1917, at the age of 91. Today the Dadabhai Naoroji Road, a heritage road of Mumbai, is named after him. Also, the Dadabhai Naoroji Road in Karachi, Pakistan is also named after him as well, as Naoroji Street in the Finsbury area of London. A prominent residential colony for central government servants in the south of Delhi is also named Naoroji Nagar. He had less hair because he had cancer. His granddaughter Khrushedben was also involved in the freedom struggle. In 1930, she was arrested along with other revolutionaries for attempting to hoist the Indian flag in a Government College in Ahmedabad.

84. **Ans: a**

Statement 1 is true.

Growth of exports rebounded into positive one during 2016-17 and expected to grow faster in 2017-18 to 12.1% after remaining in negative territory for a couple of years.

85. **Ans: c**

The 'Ilbert Bill' was a bill introduced in 1883 under the reign of the Viceroy Lord Ripon (who earned the epithet Ripon-The good) which was written by Sir C.P Ilbert (The law member of the Viceroy's Council). According to the said Act, Indian judges could try a European accused. Lord Ripon had a marathon discussion with Sir CP Ilbert to change the act, thereby favouring the Indians. This is called the famous Ilbert Bill or the White Mutiny (1883).

It was named after Courtenay Ilbert, the recently appointed legal adviser to the Council of India, who had proposed it as a compromise between two previously suggested bills. However, the introduction of the bill led to intense opposition in Britain and from British settlers in India that ultimately played on racial tension before it was enacted in 1884 in a severely compromised state. The issue served to make clear the ceiling of Indian advancement in their own country. The bitter controversy deepened antagonism between the British and Indians and was a prelude to the formation of the Indian National Congress in the next two years.

86. **Ans: a**

Finance Minister proposed that it would be launched with an allocation of Rs 500 crore on the lines of Operation Flood.

87. **Ans: a**

Calcutta session (1906) under presidency of Dadabhai Naoroji, declared that the goal of the Indian National Congress was 'self-government or Swaraj like the United Kingdom or the colonies.

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

Chidambaram Pillai launched the first indigenous Indian shipping service between Tuticorin and Colombo with the Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company, competing against British ships. At one time a member of the Indian National Congress, he was later charged with sedition by the British government and sentenced to life imprisonment; his barrister license was revoked

Programme of Swadeshi or national education. Bengal National Collage, inspired by Tagore's Shantiniketan, was set with Aurobindo Ghosh as its principal. Soon national school and colleges sprang up in various parts of the country.

On August 15, 1906, the National Council of Education was set up to organize a system of education—literary, scientific and technical—on national lines and under national control. Education was to be imparted through the medium of vernaculars. A Bengal Institute of Technology was set up for technical education and funds were raised to send students to Japan for advanced learning.

Impact in the cultural sphere:

- The nationalists of all hues took inspiration from songs written by Rabindranath Tagore, RajnikantSen, Dwijendralal Ray, Mukunda Das, Syed Abu Mohammad and others. Togore's Amar Sonar Bangla written on this occasion was later to inspire the liberation struggle of Bangladesh and was adopted by it as its national anthem.
- In painting, Abanindranath Tagore broke the domination of Victorian naturalism over Indian art and took inspiration of Victorian naturalism over Indian art and took inspiration from Muhgal, Ajanta and Rajput paintings. Nandlal Bose, who left a major imprint on Indian art, was the first recipient of a scholarship offered by the Indian Society of Oriental Art, founded in 1907.
- In science, Jagdish Chandra Bose, Prafullachandra Roy and others pioneered original research which was praised the world over.

88. **Ans: b**

The Department of Science and Technology would start a mission on cyber security and set up a centre of excellence.

89. **Ans: b**

It was presided by **C. Vijayaraghavachariar** in December 1920. At the Nagpur session of the Indian National Congress:

1. The programme of non-cooperation was endorsed;
2. An important change was made in Congress creed: now, instead of having the attainment of self-government through constitutional means as its goal, the Congress decided to have the attainment of swaraj through peaceful and legitimate means, thus committing itself to an extra-constitutional mass struggle;
3. Some important organisational changes were made: a Congress Working Committee (CWC) of 15 members was set up to lead the Congress from now onwards; Provincial Congress Committees on linguistic basis were organised; ward committees was organised; and entry fee was reduced to four annas
4. Gandhi declared that if the non-cooperation programme was implemented completely, swaraj would be ushered in within a year.

Many groups of revolutionary terrorists, especially those from Bengal, also pledged support to the Congress programme. At this stage, some leaders like Mohammad Ali Jinnah, Annie Besant, G.S. Kharpade and B.C. Pal left the Congress as they believed in a constitutional and lawful struggle while some others like Surendranath Banerjee founded the Indian National Liberal Federation and played a minor role in national politics henceforward.

The adoption by the Congress of the non-cooperation movement initiated earlier by the Khilafat Committee gave it a new energy, and the years 1921 and 1922 saw an unpre- dented popular upsurge.

90. **Ans: c**

In his speech for the Union Budget 2018, Finance Minister announced that the corporate tax rate that was lowered from 30% to 25% last year for companies with an annual turnover of up to Rs 50 crore will, this fiscal onwards be extended to companies with annual revenue of up to Rs 250 crore. The intent behind this move is to benefit a wider base of MSMEs and leave them with a "higher investible surplus which in turn will create more jobs".

91. **Ans: b**

Gandhi demanded that the depressed classes be elected through joint and if possible a wider electorate through universal franchise, while expressing no objection to the demand for a larger number of reserved seats. And to press for his demands, he went on a fast unto death in the Yeravada jail.

92. **Ans: a**

The Government announced two major initiatives in health sector, as part of Ayushman Bharat programme. The Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Shri Arun Jaitely while presenting the General Budget 2018-19 in Parliament here today said that this was aimed at making path breaking interventions to address health holistically, in primary, secondary and tertiary care systems, covering both prevention and health promotion. The initiatives are as follows:

1. **Health and Wellness Centres**

The National Health Policy, 2017 has envisioned Health and Wellness Centres as the foundation of India's health system.

2. **National Health Protection Scheme**

Scheme will cover over 10 crore poor and vulnerable families (approximately 50 crore beneficiaries) providing coverage upto 5 lakh rupees per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization. This will be the world's largest government funded health care programme. Adequate funds will be provided for smooth implementation of this programme.

93. **Ans: b**

The Pala Empire was founded by Gopala.

94. **Ans: b**

TEST SERIES 16/20 7/04/2018

Urea Subsidy is a part of Central Sector Scheme of Department of Fertilizers w.e.f 1st April, 2017 and is wholly financed by the Government of India through Budgetary Support. The continuation of Urea Subsidy Scheme will ensure the timely payment of subsidy to the urea manufacturers resulting in timely availability of urea to farmers. Urea subsidy also includes Imported Urea subsidy which is directed towards import to bridge the gap between assessed demand and indigenous production of urea in the country. It also includes freight subsidy for movement of urea across the country.

This is in continuation to farmer-friendly policies of the Central Government. Earlier, 100% Neem Coated Urea was made mandatory in 2015.

95. **Ans: d**

- Sulaiman the Arab traveler visited the Pala Empire
- He called the Pala Empire 'Ruhma' and attests to their military power
- He gave a detailed account of the war of Palas against combined force of Pratiharas and Rashtrakudas

96. **Ans: a**

Salient Features of the Scheme:

- The scheme will benefit 85 lakh people in the silk sector.
- It will provide livelihood opportunities for women, those belonging to SCs and STs, and other weaker sections of the society across the country, including those from Left-Wing Extremism affected areas and North Eastern Region.
- Silk farmers, seed producers and chawki rearers will be brought under Direct Benefit Transfer, with Aadhaar linkage.
- A helpline will be set up for timely redressal of grievances & outreach programmes will be undertaken.
- Registration process & reporting by seed production centres, basic seed farms and extension centre will be automated through web-based software.
- Support to be given to: Private graineurs to produce quality seed Chawki Rearing Centres with incubation facilities, to produce and supply chawki worms Adopted seed-rearers to generate quality seed cocoons
- Cold storage will be set up, which will also provide mobile disinfection units and equipment support for mechanization.
- 131 new Chawki Rearing Centres (CRCs) will be established for scientific handling of silkworm eggs and rearing of young age silkworm larvae under controlled conditions to enhance quality of cocoon and their harvest.
- 81 units will be installed to provide cocoon drying facility in a scientific manner for improved reeling.
- Automatic reeling machine for mulberry, improved reeling/spinning machineries and Buniyaad Reeling machines for Vanya silk under Make in India program will be disseminated to produce quality silk.
- For Government-owned facilities, 100% cost will be borne by the Government of India.
- For individual beneficiaries: SC/ST- 65% cost by Central Government, 25% by State Government and 10% by the beneficiary.
- Beneficiaries from NE states, J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh - 80% cost to be borne by Central Government whereas individual and State Government will bear 10% each.
- General: 50% cost will be borne by the Central Government, 25% by the State Government.

97. **Ans: b**

All students at Nalanda studied Mahayana as well as the texts of the eighteen (Hinayana) sects of Buddhism. Their curriculum also included other subjects such as the Vedas, logic, Sanskrit grammar, medicine and Samkhya.

Nalanda was initially a prosperous village by a major trade route that ran through the nearby city of Rajagriha (modern Rajgir) which was then the capital of Magadha. It is said that the Jain thirthankara, Mahavira, spent 14 rainy seasons at Nalanda. Gautama Buddha too is said to have delivered lectures in a nearby mango grove named Pavarika and one of his two chief disciples, Shariputra, was born in the area and later attained nirvana there. This traditional association with Mahavira and Buddha tenuously dates the existence of the village to at least the 5th-6th century BCE.

98. **Ans: d**

The Prime Minister's Shram Award Scheme was instituted in the year 1985. The award has been instituted to recognize the outstanding contributions made by workmen as defined in the Industrial Dispute Act, 1947 in organizations both in public and private sector and who have distinguished record of performance, devotion to duty of a high order, specific contribution in the field of productivity, proven innovation abilities, presence of mind and exceptional courage and also to the workmen who have made supreme sacrifice of laying down their lives in the conscientious discharge of their duties.

99. **Ans: c**

At a D pa kara r jñ na was a Buddhist Bengali religious leader and master. He was one of the major figures in the spread of 11th-century Mahayana and Vajrayana Buddhism in Asia and inspired Buddhist thought from Tibet to Sumatra. In 1013 CE, He traveled to the Srivijaya kingdom and stayed there for 12 years and came back to India. He is recognised as one of the greatest figures of classical Buddhism, and Atisa's chief disciple Dromtön was the founder of the Kadam School, one of the New Translation schools of Tibetan Buddhism.

100. **Ans: c**