



UPSC WITH NIKHIL

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We claim one of the best all over India performance- 29 questions with proof from our 'UPSC with Nikhil' prelims test series 2019 of just 30 test. We have asked many questions in our multiple tests repeatedly. We have explained some answers with the help of maps also. Following is the complete list of all the 29 questions.

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Thank You! We hope to serve you better in coming years.

Team UPSC with Nikhil!

3. The Global Competitiveness Report is published by the

- (a) International Monetary Fund
- (b) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- (c) World Economic Forum
- (d) World Bank

{1} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q- 03

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-02/ Q- 04
(11 Jan 2019)

Q. 4) Which of the following report is released by 'World Economic Forum'?

- 1. Global competitive report
- 2. Global energy architecture performance report
- 3. Global economic prospects

Identify the correct answer:

- a) 1 and 2 only b) 1 only
- c) 1 and 3 only d) All of these

The Global Competitiveness Report (GCR) is a yearly report published by the World Economic Forum. Since 2004, the Global Competitiveness Report ranks countries based on the Global Competitiveness Index, developed by Xavier Sala-i-Martin and Elsa V. Artadi. The Global Competitiveness Index integrates the macroeconomic and the micro/business aspects of competitiveness into a single index. The report "assesses the ability of countries to provide high levels of prosperity to their citizens. This in turn depends on how productively a country uses available resources. Therefore, the Global Competitiveness Index measures the set of institutions, policies, and factors that set the sustainable current and medium-term levels of economic prosperity."

4. Consider the following statements about 'the Charter Act of 1813' :

{2} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q- 04

1. It ended the trade monopoly of the East India Company in India except for trade in tea and trade with China.
2. It asserted the sovereignty of the British Crown over the Indian territories held by the Company.
3. The revenues of India were now controlled by the British Parliament.

>UPSC with Nikhil Test-01/ Q- 04
(09 Jan 2019)

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q. 4) Which of the following was a part of charter act, 1813?

- a) Court of directors and Board of Control where created.
- b) Companies Monopoly over the trade ended.
- c) The British employee's where to be paid out of the Indian revenue.
- d) Abolished dual government i.e. court of directors and board of control.

Q 4. (B)

End of Monopoly of East India Company:

Charter act of 1813 ended the monopoly of the East India Company in India, however the company's monopoly in trade with china and trade in tea with India was kept intact. Thus, trade with India for all commodities except Tea was thrown open to all British subjects. This lasted till 1833 when the next charter abolished the trade of the company.

Permission to Christian Missionaries:

The act also granted permission to the persons who wished to go to India for promoting moral and religious improvements. (Christian Missionaries)

Other Provisions:

- ☑ This act regulated the company's territorial revenues and commercial profits. It was asked to keep its territorial and commercial accounts separate.
 - ☑ The company debt was to be reduced and dividend was fixed @10.5% per annum.
 - ☑ There was also a provision that Company should invest Rs. 1 Lakh every year on the education of Indians.
 - ☑ This act also empowered the local governments to impose taxes on the persons subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.
- Nothing substantial was changed in terms of governance in India except that the Charter Act 1813 for the first time explicitly defined the constitutional position of the British territories in India. The Act also empowered the Local Governments in India to impose taxes on persons and to punish those who did not pay them.

6. Consider the following pairs :

Movement/ Organization	Leader
1. All India Anti-Untouchability League	: Mahatma Gandhi
2. All India Kisan Sabha	: Swami Sahajanand Saraswati
3. Self-Respect Movement	: E. V. Ramaswami Naicker

{3} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q- 06

>UPSC with Nikhil Test-24 (Q- 83), 29 (Q-29), 30 (Q- 91).

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

Q 83. Which of the following statements are correct about the Self-Respect Movement?

- 1. The Self-Respect Movement was started by E. V. Ramaswamy Naicker.
- 2. Tamil and Tegu languages, and cultural identity remained the main centre of this Movement.
- 3. The Movement was opposed to Aryan identity, and made scathing attacks on Sanskrit language and literature.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Q 83. (C)

Tamil language remained the centre of the Self-Respect Movement, which created tension between Tamil and other Dravidian identities.

Self-Respect Movement

This movement was started by E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker, a Balija Naidu, in the mid-1920s. The movement aimed at nothing short of a rejection of the brahminical religion and culture which Naicker felt was the prime instrument of exploitation of the lower castes. He sought to undermine the position of brahmin priests by formalising weddings without brahmin priests.

The All India Kisan Congress/Sabha

This sabha was founded in Lucknow in April 1936 with Swami Sahjanand Saraswati as the president and N.G. Ranga as the general secretary. A kisan manifesto was issued and a periodical under Indulal Yagnik started. The AIKS and the Congress held their sessions in Faizpur in 1936. The Congress manifesto (especially the agrarian policy) for the 1937 provincial elections was strongly influenced by the AIKS agenda.

11. Building 'Kalyaana Mandapas' was a notable feature in the temple construction in the kingdom of

- (a) Chalukya
- (b) Chandela
- (c) Rashtrakuta
- (d) Vijayanagara

{4} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q- 11

>UPSC with Nikhil Test-06/ Q- 55
(22 Feb. 2019)

Q 55. Cholas took the art of temple making to a new level. Which of the following statements are correct regarding Chola Temple architecture?

1. They were the first to make granite temples.
2. Chola temples have elaborate gates called Gopuram.
3. A tall pyramidal dome is constructed over Garbhagriha which is intricately carved.
4. The temple is entirely covered with multiple domes.
5. On the left side of the Vimana, there is a platform called KalyanMandap which is used to arrange wedding ceremonies of Gods and Goddesses.

Select the code from following:

- A) 1,2 and 3 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 2,3,4 and 5 only
- D) All of the above

Q 55. (B)

A shift from Rock cut temples to Granite started during Pallava Dynasty. The art of Dravidian temple architecture was taken to its pinnacle by Cholas.

Features of Chola temple

- A pyramidal Vimana is constructed over Garbhagriha. Chola temples have one of the tallest Vimanas. Vimana is multistoried and every step is intricately sculptured.
- An open courtyard is made in front of Vimana. It is called Mandap. It is surrounded by Pillars.
- Temple entrance has a huge gate called Gopuram. Gopuram is an independent structure and it is sculptured too.

Note: Kalyan Mandap in Dravidian temples were added by Vijayanagar Rulers.

- The Dravidian order of temples attained its zenith under the Cholas and ultimately under Rajaraja I, which is reflected in the Brihadisvara Temple.
- The main shrine is the most dominant feature of the Chola temples, and in the Brihadisvara temple, it reaches the highest watermark. The sikhara of the Brihadisvara temple is the tallest among all the temples of south India. The construction of the entrance gopura also crystallises during this period which is reflected in the first entrance gopura of the temple.

12. Consider the following statements :

1. In the revenue administration of Delhi Sultanate, the in-charge of revenue collection was known as 'Amil'.
2. The Iqta system of Sultans of Delhi was an ancient indigenous institution.
3. The office of 'Mir Bakshi' came into existence during the reign of Khalji Sultans of Delhi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

{5} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q- 12

>UPSC with Nikhil Test-17/ Q- 67
(05 Apr. 2019)

Q 67. Under Akbar's administration, the head of the military was called

- A) Wazir
- B) Deewan
- C) Mir Bakshi
- D) Mir Saman

Q 68. Consider the following statements

Q 67. (C)

Various heads during Akbar's Administration:

- Wazir: Prime Minister
- Mir Bakshi: Incharge of Military
- Mir I Insha: Incharge of letters and correspondence
- Mir I Saman: Incharge of Royal factories
- Qazi ul Qazzat: Chief Justice
- Mir I Atish: Incharge of artillery
- Mir I Baher: Incharge of ships

18. Which one of the following National Parks lies *completely* in the temperate alpine zone?

- (a) Manas National Park
- (b) Namdapha National Park
- (c) Neora Valley National Park
- (d) Valley of Flowers National Park

{6} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-18

>UPSC with Nikhil
Test-08/ Q- 76
(05 Mar. 2019)

BKL-F-GHP/54A

Q 76. This national park along with the Nanda Devi National Park encompasses a unique transition zone between the mountain ranges of the Zaskar and Great Himalaya and known for its meadows of endemic alpine vegetation.

- A. Khirganga National Park
- B. Inderkilla National Park
- C. Nokerek National Park
- D. Valley of Flowers National Park

would help generate **clean energy** from future power plants including solar thermal. This next generation technology loop was developed indigenously by Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

This is India's first test-bed for next generation, efficient, compact, waterless super critical carbon dioxide Brayton cycle test loop for power generation.

Q 76. (D)

Both parks are encompassed in the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve which is further surrounded by a buffer zone, this Reserve is in the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves since 2004.

The Valley of Flowers has gained importance as a region containing a diversity of alpine flora, representative of the Western Himalayan alpine shrub and meadows ecoregion. The rich diversity of species reflects the valley's location within a transition zone between the Zaskar and Great Himalayas ranges to the north and south, respectively, and between the Eastern Himalaya and Western Himalaya flora.

19. Atal Innovation Mission is set up under the

{7} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-19

(a) Department of Science and Technology

>UPSC with Nikhil Test-02/ Q- 34
(11 Jan. 2019)

(b) Ministry of Labour and Employment

(c) NITI Aayog

(d) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Q. 34) With reference to the 'Atal Innovation Mission' consider the following statements:

1. It aims to help the entrepreneurial spirit in the country in technology driven areas.
2. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Which of the statements given above is correct?

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

Q 34. (A)

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM):

o AIM aims to be an innovation promotion platform involving academics, entrepreneurs, and researchers drawing upon national and international experiences to foster a culture of innovation, R&D in India. The platform will also promote a network of world-class innovation hubs Grand Challenges, Startup businesses and other self-employment activities, particularly in technology driven areas.

o The Government has set up Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) in NITI Aayog.

o The key initiatives identified under the Mission include:

Setting up of Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATLs) in schools: for fostering curiosity, creativity and imaginations in young minds, and inculcate skills such as design mind set, computational thinking, adaptive learning, physical computing etc.

◀ The Mission will provide a one-time grant-in-aid of 10 lakh towards establishment of ATLs in the first year and another grant of 10 lakh over a period of five years. Setting up of Atal Incubation Centres (AICs) for creating high class incubation facilities across India with suitable physical infrastructure in terms of capital equipment and operating facilities, coupled with the availability of sectoral experts for mentoring the start-ups.

Providing scale up support to Established Incubation Centres (EICs) in different parts of the country for upgrading their capacity. In addition, the Mission will also launch Atal Grand Challenge (AGC) awards for developing novel disruptive technologies/ solutions for stubborn socio-economic problems of the country that are ultra-low cost, low maintenance, durable and customised to the local conditions of the country.

20. On 21st June, the Sun

- (a) does not set below the horizon at the Arctic Circle
- (b) does not set below the horizon at Antarctic Circle
- (c) shines vertically overhead at noon on the Equator
- (d) shines vertically overhead at the Tropic of Capricorn

{8} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-20
>UPSC with Nikhil
Test-07/ Q-29 & 49
(11 Jan. 2019)

Q 29. Consider the following statements:

1. The festival of christmas is celebrated in summer in Australia.
 2. Direct rays of the sun fall on the equator on 21st June
 3. Winter solstice is seen in the Southern hemisphere on 21st December.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q 49. Areas lying between the Arctic Circle and the North Pole in the Northern Hemisphere are very cold. It is because

1. Earth's effective radius is lesser at these points.
2. Sun rises above the horizon at these areas almost the entire year.
3. Air pressure at these locations is much lesser as compared to lower latitudes.

Select the correct answer using the codes:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 2 only
- D. None of the above

8

Q 49. (D)

This is also the case with the area between Antarctic Circle and the South Pole in the Southern Hemisphere.

Statement 1: An absurd statement.

Statement 2: Here the sun does not rise much above the horizon. Therefore, its rays are always slanting. So, these areas receive much lesser solar insolation (heat) and remain cold. They are, therefore, called Frigid Zones.

Statement 3: It is actually higher. Colder the air higher is its pressure.

22. Consider the following statements :

1. Asiatic lion is naturally found in India only.
2. Double-humped camel is naturally found in India only.
3. One-horned rhinoceros is naturally found in India only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

{9} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-22

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-10 (Q- 96), 11 (Q 92),

23 (Q- 80), 29 (Q-46).

Q 96. Consider the following statements about the Gir national park:

1. Its eco region includes Kathiawar-Gir dry deciduous forests, including Kathiawar Peninsula and Ranthambore National Park.
2. Pure Asiatic Lions are also found across northern Africa, south west Asia and northern Greece.
3. The lion population of Gir has been steadily decreasing in the last decade.

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

- A) 1 and 2 only
B) 1 and 3 only
C) 3 only
D) All of the above

Q 92. Consider the following statements related to Indian Rhinos Vision 2020:

1. The goal of IRV 2020 is to increase the total rhino population in Assam from 2,000 to at least 5,000 by the year 2020
2. Kaziranga National Park in Assam, India, holds about 70% of the world population of one horn rhino.
3. Translocations of rhinos from source populations in Kaziranga and Pabitora to target areas such as Manas.
4. The project concentrates on integrating the local communities into the conservation effort.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q 96. (B)

The Gir Forest National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary (also known as Sasan-Gir) is a forest and wildlife sanctuary near Talala Gir in Gujarat, India. Its ecoregion is that of Kathiawar-Gir dry deciduous forests, which not only includes Kathiawar Peninsula, where the forest is located, but also other places, like Ranthambore National Park in Rajasthan.

Its region is the sole home of the Asiatic lion (*Panthera leo persica*) in the wilderness, and is considered to be one of the most important protected areas in Asia due to its supported

What are some endemic species of India?

Here is the list of wild animals only found in India, Endangered and Endemic.

Asiatic Lion, Gir Forest

Asiatic Lion also known as the Indian lions are listed as endangered and only found in and around Gir Forest National Park of Gujarat. Gujarat Lion is one of five big cats inhabit India others being the Bengal Tiger and Indian Leopards.

P.T.O.

Q 92. (B)

WHO-India launched India Rhino Vision (IRV) 2020 to protect and increase the population of the one horned rhinoceros. Partner to programme include Government of Assam, International Rhino Foundation, World Wide Fund for Nature, Bodoland Territorial Council.

Hence statement 4 is correct.

It aims to increase population of one horned rhino to 3000 in seven of Assam's protected areas by year 2020. **Hence statement 1 is incorrect.**

Currently 70% of worlds one horned rhinos population is found in Kaziranga National Park of Assam. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

One of aim of project is to Translocat rhinos from source populations in Kaziranga and Pabitora to target areas such as Manas. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 80. (D)

The **New Delhi Declaration** on Asian Rhinos 2019 = 2nd Asian Rhino Range Countries (i.e. India, Nepal, Bhutan, Indonesia and Malaysia) meeting, has signed it. Intends to conserve and review the population of the Greater one-horned, Javan and Sumatran rhinos (three species of Asian Rhino) every 4 years to reassess the need for joint actions to secure their future. Declaration outlines a series of strategic actions including Trans-boundary collaboration among India, Nepal, and Bhutan for one-horned rhino; engagement of the local communities; initiate proactive monitoring on potential adverse impacts of climate change; accelerate natural and conservation breeding of Sumatran rhino etc. Javan and Sumatran rhinos are currently classified as critically endangered. Sumatran rhino, the smallest of all rhino species and the only Asian rhino with two horns, became extinct in the wild in Malaysia (There is only one found now in the Sabah island of Malaysia while Indonesia has a few). There are no rhinos in Bhutan, but some from the Manas National Park in adjoining Assam or Buxa Tiger Reserve in West Bengal are known to cross over occasionally. The current global population of the Indian onehorned rhinoceros is 3,584. Assam's Kaziranga National Park has the bulk of 2,938 rhinos in India while Nepal 646 + NO MYANMAR OR BANGLADESH.

25. In the context of which of the following do some scientists suggest the use of cirrus cloud thinning technique and the injection of sulphate aerosol into stratosphere?

- (a) Creating the artificial rains in some regions
- (b) Reducing the frequency and intensity of tropical cyclones
- (c) Reducing the adverse effects of solar wind on the Earth
- (d) Reducing the global warming

{10} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-25

>UPSC with Nikhil Test-18/ Q-31
(08 Apr. 2019)

Q 31. Which of the following will be considered as climate engineering techniques?

1. Planting Artificial Trees
2. Adding huge amounts of lime to oceans
3. Spraying sulphate aerosols into stratosphere.
4. Painting world's roof white.
5. Floating mirrors in space between Earth and Sun.
6. Spraying Seawater into the air.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A) 3 and 5 only
- B) 1, 3 and 5 only
- C) 2, 3 and 5 only
- D) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6

Q 31. (D)

Geo-Engineering, also known as climate engineering, refers to calculated wideranging manipulation of environmental processes that affect the Earth's climate, to curb the effects of global warming.

- To reduce the presence of CO in the atmosphere, the following plans of action have been suggested by experts in this field
- Planting 'Artificial Trees' that are actually machines which absorb CO from the air using plastic polymers. **Hence 1 is correct.**
- Making oceans a bigger carbon sink than they already are by adding huge amounts of lime to the oceans. **Hence 2 is correct.**
- Firing sulphate aerosols into the stratosphere to reflect sunlight back to space. **Hence 3 is correct.**
- Spraying seawater into the air to increase above-ocean cloud cover. **Hence 6 is correct.**
- Painting the world roofs white to increase reflectivity. **Hence 4 is correct.**
- Floating thousands of tiny mirrors in space between Earth and the sun. **Hence 5 is correct.**

26. In the context of which one of the following are the terms 'pyrolysis and plasma gasification' mentioned?

- (a) Extraction of rare earth elements
- (b) Natural gas extraction technologies
- (c) Hydrogen fuel-based automobiles
- (d) Waste-to-energy technologies

{11} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-26
> UPSC with Nikhil
Test-10 (Q- 28),
21 (Q- 83),

Q 28. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to Pyrolysis:

1. It is a process of combustion of waste material in the presence of oxygen.
2. The gas and liquid thus obtained can be used as fuels.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Q 83. With reference to the process of 'Pyrolysis', consider the following statements:

1. It is the chemical decomposition of organic material through the application of heat.
2. It helps in removing organic contaminants from soils and oily sludges.
3. It is used in creating biofuel from crops and waste products.

Identify the correct statements:

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

Q 28. (B)

Pyrolysis:

It is a process of combustion in **absence of oxygen** or the material burnt under controlled atmosphere of oxygen. It is an alternative to incineration. The gas and liquid thus obtained can be used as fuels. Pyrolysis of carbonaceous wastes like firewood, coconut, palm waste, com combs, cashew shell, rice husk paddy straw and saw dust, yields charcoal along with products like tar, methyl alcohol, acetic acid, acetone and a fuel gas.

Q 83. (B)

Pyrolysis is a chemical decomposition of organic (carbon-based) materials through the application of heat. Pyrolysis, which is also the first step in gasification and combustion, occurs in the absence or near absence of oxygen, and it is thus distinct from combustion (burning), which can take place only if sufficient oxygen is present. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

Pyrolysis has numerous applications of interest to green technology. It is useful in extracting materials from goods such as vehicle tires, removing organic contaminants from soils and oily sludges, and creating biofuel from crops and waste products. Pyrolysis can help break down vehicle tires into useful components, thus reducing the environmental burden of discarding the tires. **Hence statement 2 and 3 are correct.**

27. Which of the following are in Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve?

- (a) Neyyar, Peppara and Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve
- (b) Mudumalai, Sathyamangalam and Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Silent Valley National Park
- (c) Kaundinya, Gundla Brahmeswaram and Papikonda Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Mukurthi National Park
- (d) Kawal and Sri Venkateswara Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Nagarjunasagar-Srisaïlam Tiger Reserve

{12} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-27
>UPSC with Nikhil
Test-19/ Q-57 & 76
(12 Apr. 2019)

Q 57. Consider the following statements about Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary:

1. It is a part of the Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve and lies in the state of Kerala.
2. The famous Banasura Sagar Dam lies in this Sanctuary.

Identify the correct statement:

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

Q 57. (B)

- It is part of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. It is a safe haven for White Rumped vulture, Himalyan Griffon, Egyptian Vulture and Red headed vultures.
- Banasura Sagar dam is a part of the sanctuary. It is also known as virgin paradise because of its lush green mountains. Recently, it was also in the news, because three new invasive alien species have been found in the region.
- It is bounded by Nagarhole and Bandipur National Park in Karnataka and Mudumalai in Tamil Nadu.

Q 76. (B)

The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve is an 'International Biosphere Reserve', in the Western Ghats and the Nilgiri Hills ranges of South India. The Nilgiri sub-cluster is a part of the Western Ghats, which was declared a 'World Heritage Site' by UNESCO in 2012.

- It includes the Aralam, Mudumalai, Mukurthi, Nagarhole, Bandipur and the Silent Valley National Parks, as well as the Wayanad and Sathyamangalam Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- The forests in Bandipur and Wayanad have been facing the fury of forest fire.

29. Consider the following pairs :

Wildlife	Naturally found in
1. Blue-finned Mahseer	: Cauvery River
2. Irrawaddy Dolphin	: Chambal River
3. Rusty-spotted Cat	: Eastern Ghats

{13} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-29

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-28 (Q- 48),
30 (Q- 07),

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Q 48. Consider the following statements regarding the hump-backed mahseer:

- 1. They are found only in the Cauvery river basin.
- 2. They have been categorized as 'Threatened' in IUCN Red list.

Which of the above statements is/are true?

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

Q 48. (A)

o The hump-backed mahseer, found in the waters of the Cauvery, has been added to the Red List as Critically Endangered.

Humpback mahseer:

- o It is a large freshwater fish also called the tiger of the water.
- o The huge carp is known to grow up to 1.5 metres in length and weigh about 55 kg.
- o It is found only in the Cauvery river basin (including Kerala's Pambar, Kabini and Bhavani rivers).
- o The fish was not classified as an endangered species till June of 2018.
- o For a species to be classified, it needs a taxonomic name.
- o So the hump-backed mahseer has been allocated a scientific name, *Tor remadevii*.

Threat

o The effects of construction of dams, regulated flows, deforestation, drought, pollution and sediment transport has a great toll on this river water species.

Conservation Status

- o Critically Endangered under IUCN Red List.
- o Shoal, an international organisation working to conserve freshwater species initiated 'Project Mahseer' to enable conservation action for the hump-backed mahseer.

Chilika Lake

In 1981, Chilika Lake was designated the first Indian wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.

Nalbana Island (bird sanctuary) is the core area of the Ramsar designated wetlands of Chilika Lake.

The Irrawaddy dolphin (Vulnerable) is the flagship species of Chilika lake.

Chilika is home to the only known population of Irrawaddy dolphins in India.

It is classified as critically endangered in five of the six other places it is known to live.

34. Which of the following statements are correct about the deposits of 'methane hydrate'?

1. Global warming might trigger the release of methane gas from these deposits.
2. Large deposits of 'methane hydrate' are found in Arctic Tundra and under the seafloor.
3. Methane in atmosphere oxidizes to carbon dioxide after a decade or two.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Q 48. Researchers at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras have experimentally shown that methane and carbon dioxide (CO₂) can exist as gas hydrates. In this context, consider the following statements regarding Gas hydrates:

1. They are formed when a gas such as methane gets trapped in well-defined cages of water molecules forming crystalline solids.
2. Natural gas hydrates occur on continental margins and shelves worldwide from Polar Regions to the tropics.
3. Total amount of carbon in the form of methane hydrates is estimated to be 13% of carbon content in all the fossil fuels.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

**{14} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-34
> UPSC with Nikhil Test-18 (Q-80),**

26 (Q-48),

Q 80. Consider the following statements regarding gas hydrates:

1. Gas hydrates are known as one of the potential source of methane.
2. Gas hydrates exist only on the world's continental margins.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

P.T.O.

Q 48. (A)

Gas Hydrates

☑ **Statement 1 is Correct:** They are formed when a gas such as methane gets trapped in well-defined cages of water molecules forming crystalline solids. It is a solid ice-like form of water that contains gas molecules in its molecular cavities.

☑ **Statement 2 is Correct:** Natural gas hydrates occur on continental margins and shelves worldwide from Polar Regions to the tropics. Gas hydrate reservoirs are generally associated with biologically rich cold seep ecosystems at the seafloor. Cold seeps are locations where hydrocarbon-rich fluid seeps up from below the sea floor, often as methane or hydrogen sulphide.

☑ **Statement 3 is incorrect:** It is estimated that total amount of carbon in the form of methane hydrates, far exceeds the carbon content in all the fossil fuel reserves put together and hence these are supposed to be the future potential energy resource.

Q 80. (A)

Gas hydrates are known as one of the potential source of methane and therefore it is sometimes called as fuel of the future. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

The natural gas from gas hydrate can be produced via depressurization, thermal stimulation, chemical inhibitor injection, and CO₂ sequestration. The CO₂ Sequestration is a green technology which consumes the greenhouse gas like CO₂ and gives an energy resource in return. Gas hydrates are also found under glaciers. **Hence statement 2 is incorrect.**

36. Consider the following pairs :

Sea	Bordering country
1. Adriatic Sea	: Albania
2. Black Sea	: Croatia
3. Caspian Sea	: Kazakhstan
4. Mediterranean Sea	: Morocco
5. Red Sea	: Syria

{15} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-36
> UPSC with Nikhil
Test-24 (Q- 82), 30 (Q- 77).

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Q 82. Which of the following countries has/have the coastline on the Black sea?

1. Georgia
2. Turkey
3. Ukraine
4. Hungary

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Q 82. (B)

A Greek merchant ship dating back more than 2,400 years has been found lying on Black sea off the Bulgarian coast. It is being hailed as officially the world's oldest known intact shipwreck.



The countries with coastlines on the Mediterranean Sea are

- Albania
- Algeria
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Croatia



Azerbaijan
Iran
Kazakhstan
Russia
Turkmenistan

The six countries bordering the Red Sea proper are:



Eastern shore:
Saudi Arabia
Yemen
Western shore:
Egypt

40. Consider the following statements :

1. Under Ramsar Convention, it is mandatory on the part of the Government of India to protect and conserve all the wetlands in the territory of India.
2. The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 were framed by the Government of India based on the recommendations of Ramsar Convention.
3. The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 also encompass the drainage area or catchment regions of the wetlands as determined by the authority.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

{16} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-40

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-12 (Q- 02).
(18 Mar. 2019)

Q 2. The ministry of Environment and Forests have notified new Wetland (Conservation and Management) Rules 2017 which have replaced the 2010 rules. Which of the following statements are correct about the new notification?

1. It stipulates setting up of State Wetland authority in each state and Union Territory.
 2. The rules prohibit activities like conversion of wetland for non – wetland users.
 3. The Central Wetlands Regulatory Authority (CWRA) will be replaced by a National Wetlands Committee.
- Select the code from below:
- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| A) 1 and 2 only | B) 2 and 3 only |
| C) 1 and 3 only | D) All of the above |

Q 2. (A)

The union environment ministry notified the new Wetland (Conservation and Management) Rules 2017 which prohibit a range of activities in wetlands like setting up and expansion of industries, waste dumping and discharge of effluents.

Highlights:

It replaces the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010.

The new rules stipulate setting up of a State Wetlands Authority in each State and union territories that will be headed by the State's environment minister and include a range of government officials. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

The rules prohibit activities like conversion of wetland for non-wetland uses including encroachment of any kind, setting up of any industry and expansion of existing industries, manufacture or handling or storage or disposal of hazardous substances and construction and demolition waste, solid waste dumping, discharge of untreated wastes and effluents from industries, cities, towns, villages and other human settlements. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

As per the 2010 version of the rules, there was a Central Wetlands Regulatory Authority (CWRA) which will now be replaced by a national committee. **Hence statement 3 is incorrect.**

To oversee the work carried out by States, the rules stipulates for setting up of National Wetlands Committee, which will be headed by the MoEFCC Secretary, to monitor implementation of these rules.

41. Consider the following statements :

1. Agricultural soils release nitrogen oxides into environment.
2. Cattle release ammonia into environment.
3. Poultry industry releases reactive nitrogen compounds into environment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

{17} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-41

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-20 (Q- 55).
(15 Apr. 2019)

Q 55. Consider the following statements about recently published 'Nitrogen assessment report':

1. Agriculture is the largest contributor to nitrogen emissions in India.
2. India is the biggest source of Ammonia emissions in the world.
3. Cattle account for 80% of the ammonia production in the country.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

Select one:

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

9

Q 55. (D)

Nitrogen assessment report:

The first-ever quantitative assessment of nitrogen pollution in India stated that nitrogen particles make up the largest fraction of PM2.5, the class of pollutants closely linked to cardiovascular and respiratory illness.

The report also says:

1. Agriculture in India is largest contributor to nitrogen emission, the non agriculture emission of nitrogen oxides and nitrous oxide are growing rapidly, with sewage and fossile fuel burning for power, transport and industry. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
2. As per report India is biggest source of ammonia emission; nearly double that of NOx emission. It also says that cattle amount to 80% of ammonia production. **Hence statement 2 and 3 are correct.**

46. Consider the following statements :

1. The motion to impeach a Judge of the Supreme Court of India cannot be rejected by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha as per the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
2. The Constitution of India defines and gives details of what constitutes 'incapacity and proved misbehaviour' of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India.
3. The details of the process of impeachment of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India are given in the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
4. If the motion for the impeachment of a Judge is taken up for voting, the law requires the motion to be backed by each House of the Parliament and supported by a majority of total membership of that House and by not less than two-thirds of total members of that House present and voting.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

{18} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-46

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-01 (Q- 86),
24 (Q- 68).

Q 68. With reference to the Impeachment of the Supreme Court Judge, consider the following statement:

1. The procedure for the regulation of the impeachment process is done under the rules of procedure of the parliament under article 118 of constitution of India.
2. The Speaker/ Chairman may admit the motion or refuse to admit it.
3. For the impeachment motion to be passed it must be passed by atleast $2/3^{\text{rd}}$ of the total members of both the house separately.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3
- d) None

Q. 86) On which ground can Chief Justice of India can be removed?

1. Insolvency
2. Incapacity
3. Misbehaviour

Select the correct answer:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of these

Q 86. (B)

Removal of a Supreme Court or High Court judge is governed by Articles 124 (4) and (5) and 217 (1) (b) and 218 of the Constitution on the ground of proven misbehaviour or incapacity. The words '**misbehaviour**' or '**incapacity**' have neither been defined nor clarified in the Constitution.

The complaint about misbehaviour or incapacity against a judge has to be probed under the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968. Removal motion is signed by 100 members (for Lok Sabha) or 50 members (for Rajya Sabha).

This is given to the Speaker/Chairman. The Speaker/Chairman may admit or refuse the motion. If admitted, a 3- member committee is formed by the Speaker/Chairman to investigate into the charges.

The committee should consist of -

- (a) the Chief Justice or a judge of the Supreme Court;
- (b) a Chief Justice of a High Court; and
- (c) a distinguished jurist.

The House can take up the consideration of the motion, if the committee finds the judge to be guilty of misbehavior or suffering from incapacity. On passing the motion by each House of Parliament by special majority, an address is presented to the president for removal of the judge. Lastly, the president passes an order removing the judge. No judge of the High Court has been impeached up to now.

Q 68. (B)

Removal of Judges

❑ **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Judges Enquiry Act (1968) (not rules of parliament) regulates the procedure relating to the removal of a judge of the Supreme Court by the process of impeachment: ❑ A removal motion signed by 100 members (in the case of Lok Sabha) or 50 members (in the case of Rajya Sabha) is to be given to the Speaker/Chairman.

❑ **Statement 2 is correct:** The Speaker/ Chairman may admit the motion or refuse to admit it.

❑ If it is admitted, then the Speaker/ Chairman is to constitute a three member committee to investigate into the charges. ❑ The committee should consist of (a) the chief justice or a judge of the Supreme Court, (b) a chief justice of a high court, and (c) a distinguished jurist. ❑ If the committee finds the judge to be guilty of mis-behavior or suffering from an incapacity, the House can take up the consideration of the motion.

❑ **Statement 3 is incorrect:** After the motion is passed by each House of Parliament by special majority (special majority of the Parliament, that is, a majority (that is, more than 50 per cent) of the total membership of each House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of each House present and voting. The expression 'total membership' means the total number of members comprising the House), an address is presented to the president for removal of the judge.

❑ ❑ Finally, the president passes an order removing the judge

*Impeachment of President's resolution require a vote by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the House.

47. The Ninth Schedule was introduced in the Constitution of India during the prime ministership of

- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (b) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- (c) Indira Gandhi
- (d) Morarji Desai

Q. 21) Which of the following is correct about Ninth schedule of our constitution?

- 1. It was inserted by the first Amendment Act, 1951.
- 2. It includes those laws which are beyond the preview of Judicial review.

Identify the correct answer:

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

{19} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-47

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-02 (Q- 21),
23 (Q- 69).

Q 69. Consider the following statements about the Indian Constitution:

- 1. Judicial Review is mentioned in Article 31B of the Constitution.
- 2. Ninth schedule was added by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act.
- 3. In I.R. Coelho case (2007), the Supreme Court removed immunity of Ninth Schedule from Judicial Review.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only
- (b) 3 Only
- (c) 1 and 3 Only
- (d) 2 and 3 Only

Q 69. (B)

The provisions of several Articles explicitly confer the power of judicial review on the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

Statement 1 is Incorrect: Judicial Review is not mentioned anywhere in the constitution.

Statement 2 is Incorrect: Ninth Schedule was added by the 1st Constitutional Amendment Act of 1951.

Statement 3 is correct: In a significant judgment delivered in I.R. Coelho case (2007), the Supreme Court ruled that there could not be any blanket immunity from judicial review of laws included in the Ninth Schedule.

Q 21. (C)

Ninth Schedule was added by first constitutional amendment in 1951. The reason for adding ninth schedule to the Constitution was that at that point of time various State Govt. and Union Govt. wanted to implement policy of zamindari abolition and other land reforms. However, Supreme Court in Kameshwar Singh case had ruled that right to property cannot be taken away. Therefore, Ninth Schedule was added which made provision that any law put in Ninth Schedule will be outside the purview of Courts and Courts cannot question the validity of those laws which are put under Ninth Schedule. Slowly and slowly the number of Acts under Ninth Schedule grew and today 284 laws are under Ninth Schedule.

In I.R. Coelho case, Supreme Court finally held that Judicial Review is the basic feature of the Constitution and Supreme Court can test the validity of a law if it violates the basic feature of the Constitution even if it is put under Ninth Schedule.

50. Under which Schedule of the Constitution of India can the transfer of tribal land to private parties for mining be declared null and void?

- (a) Third Schedule
- (b) Fifth Schedule
- (c) Ninth Schedule
- (d) Twelfth Schedule

{20} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-50

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-21 (Q- 36),

Q 36. Consider the following statements with reference to Administration of Tribal areas:

1. The provisions for the administration of tribal areas are found in fifth Schedule.
2. Each Autonomous district has a district council.
3. The district and regional councils are empowered to assess and collect land revenue.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Q 36. (D)

Fifth Schedule deals with provisions relating to the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes. The tribal areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram are separately dealt with and provisions for their administration are to be found in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution. **Hence statement 1 is incorrect.**

Each autonomous district has a district council consisting of 30 members, of whom four are nominated by the governor and the remaining 26 are elected on the basis of adult franchise. The elected members hold office for a term of 5 years and nominated members hold office during the pleasure of Governor. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Each autonomous region also has a separate regional council. The district and regional councils administer the areas under their jurisdiction.

They can make laws on certain specified matters like land, forests, canal water, shifting cultivation, village administration, and inheritance of property, marriage and divorce, social customs and so on. But all such laws require the assent of the governor.

The district and regional councils within their territorial jurisdictions can constitute village councils or courts for trial of suits and cases between the tribes. They hear appeals from them.

The jurisdiction of high court over these suits and cases is specified by the Governor. The district council can establish, construct or manage primary schools, dispensaries, markets, ferries, fisheries, roads and so on in the district. It can also make regulations for the control of money lending and trading by nontribal. But, such regulations require the assent of the governor.

The district and regional councils are empowered to assess and collect land revenue and to impose certain specified taxes. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

51. Consider the following statements about Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in India :

1. PVTGs reside in 18 States and one Union Territory.
2. A stagnant or declining population is one of the criteria for determining PVTG status.
3. There are 95 PVTGs officially notified in the country so far.
4. Irular and Konda Reddi tribes are included in the list of PVTGs.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q 54. Consider the following statements about 'Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups' :

- (1) 'Sentinelese' are categorized as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group.
- (2) Sentinelese are only tribal groups of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are categorized as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups.

Select the correct statement/s-

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

**{21} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-51
> UPSC with Nikhil Test-07 (Q- 89),
09 (Q- 54),
25 (Q- 16)**

Q 89. Which of the following criteria is/are followed for the determination of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in India?

1. A pre-agriculture level of technology
2. A stagnant or declining population
3. Extremely low literacy
4. A subsistence level of economy

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Q 89. (D)

The criteria followed for determination of PVTGs are as under:

- A pre-agriculture level of technology;
- A stagnant or declining population;
- Extremely low literacy; and
- A subsistence level of economy.

There are 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) notified in the country. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing a scheme namely Development of PVTGs which covers the 75 identified PVTGs.

Q 54. (A)

Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) is the category with in Scheduled Tribes created on recommendation of Dhebar commission. Presently there are 75 tribal groups categorized by Ministry of Home Affairs as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). PVTGs reside in 18 States and UT of A&N Islands.

Q 16. (A)

Chenchu tribes are seen in Andhra Pradesh and Bharia tribes are seen in Madhya Pradesh. Mankidia, one of the 13 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) in Odisha, were denied habitat rights inside the Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) under the Forest Rights Act, 2006.

About Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)

Particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG) is a government of India classification created with the purpose of enabling improvement in the conditions of certain tribal communities with particularly low development indices.

There is a total of 75 PVTGs out of 705 Scheduled Tribes, spread over 17 states and one Union Territory (UT), in the country (2011 census).

What are some features to be recognized as PVTG?

- o a pre-agriculture level of technology
- o a stagnant or declining population
- o extremely low literacy
- o a subsistence level of economy.

How they are identified?

o According to the procedure, the state governments or UT governments submit proposals to the Central Ministry of Tribal Welfare for identification of PVTGs.

o After ensuring the criteria is fulfilled, the Central Ministry selects those groups as PVTGs.

Distribution

o Among the 75 listed PVTG's the highest number are found in Odisha (13), followed by Andhra Pradesh (12), Bihar including Jharkhand (9) Madhya Pradesh including Chhattisgarh (7) Tamil Nadu (6) Kerala and Gujarat having five groups each.

55. Consider the following statements :

1. As per recent amendment to the Indian Forest Act, 1927, forest dwellers have the right to fell the bamboos grown on forest areas.
2. As per the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, bamboo is a minor forest produce.
3. The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 allows ownership of minor forest produce to forest dwellers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

{22} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-55

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-11 (Q- 84),
(15 Mar. 2019)

Q 84. Consider the following statements with regard to the Forest Right Act, 2006:

1. It recognises the rights of tribes and other forest communities to manage forest.
2. It empowers the forest department to manage forest by giving additional rights.
3. It recognises the tribe's right of ownership and the right to use and collect the minor forest produce.
4. It recognises forest dwelling Scheduled tribe's community right to Intellectual property and traditional knowledge related to biodiversity and cultural diversity.

Identify the correct answer:

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

Q 84. (C)

Forest Right Act, 2006 empowers the Grama sabha to manage the forest. **Hence statement 2 is incorrect.**

The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 is unique in being a legislation that guarantees traditional local communities, the right over forest land on which they have been dependent since ancient times. The act recognises the rights of forest dwellers, including Scheduled Tribes and others, to use, protect and manage forest resources where they live. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

It recognizes the right of ownership and also to use and collect minor forest produce. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

It also provides for Intellectual property rights and traditional knowledge related to biodiversity. **Hence statement 4 is correct.**

67. Which of the following is issued by registered foreign portfolio investors to overseas investors who want to be part of the Indian stock market without registering themselves directly?

- (a) Certificate of Deposit
- (b) Commercial Paper
- (c) Promissory Note
- (d) Participatory Note

{23} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-67
> UPSC with Nikhil Test-23 (Q- 77),
(26 Apr. 2019)

Q 77. Which of the following Money Market Instruments and their characteristic features are correctly matched?

1. *T-Bills*: The Treasury Bills are marketable, affordable and risk free.
2. *Banker's Acceptance*: Companies use these negotiable time drafts to finance imports, exports and other trade.
3. *Commercial Papers*: These are time deposits that are issued by the commercial banks.

Select the correct answer:

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

Types of Money Market Instruments

Statement 1 is correct: The Treasury bills are short-term money market instrument that mature in a year or less than that. The purchase price is less than the face value. At maturity the government pays the Treasury bill holder the full face value. The Treasury Bills are marketable, affordable and risk free. The security attached to the treasury bills comes at the cost of very low returns.

Statement 2 is correct: Bankers Acceptance: It is a short-term credit investment. It is guaranteed by a bank to make payments. The Banker's Acceptance is traded in the Secondary market. The banker's acceptance is mostly used to finance exports, imports and other transactions in goods.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Commercial Paper – Commercial paper refers to unsecured short-term promissory notes issued by financial and nonfinancial corporations. Certificates of Deposits - The certificates of deposit are basically time deposits that are issued by the commercial banks with maturity periods ranging from 3 months to five years.

71. With reference to Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), consider the following statements :

1. AIIB has more than 80 member nations.
2. India is the largest shareholder in AIIB.
3. AIIB does not have any members from outside Asia.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

{24} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-71

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-18 (Q- 51),
02 (Q- 74),

Q. 74) Which of the following is not correct about 'Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank':

- a) Its objective is to improve social and economic outcome in Asia and beyond.
- b) It was created by the group of BRICS nations.
- c) China has the largest share among the member countries.
- d) It is multilateral development bank headquartered in Beijing, China.

Q 51. Which of the following statements is/are correct about the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)?

1. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is a multilateral development bank with a mission to improve social and economic outcomes in Asia.
2. India is the only country apart from China to enjoy a permanent seat on the Bank's board of directors.
3. It is headquartered in Beijing.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Q 51. (D)

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is a multilateral development bank with a mission to improve social and economic outcomes in Asia. Headquartered in Beijing, it began operations in 2016 and has now grown to 93 approved members worldwide. **Hence statement 1 and 3 are correct.**

In January, 2019, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) marked its third anniversary.

India has been the bank's biggest beneficiary, with a quarter of the AIIB's approved projects geared towards its development.

India is also the only country apart from China to enjoy a permanent seat on the Bank's board of directors. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Q 74. (B)

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is multilateral development bank initiated by China. It was officially established in December 2015 with mission to improve social and economic outcomes in Asia and beyond and opened for business in January 2016. It is headquartered in Beijing, China. Its goals are to boost economic development in Asia-Pacific region, provide infrastructure, and promote regional cooperation and partnership. It priorities investments in energy, power generation, transport, rural infrastructure, environmental protection and logistics in Asia.

So far it has 86 members including India (US is not its member of AIIB but its allies Canada, Germany, UK, Australia and South Korea have joined it). It has an authorised capital of US \$100 billion. China is largest shareholder of AIIB with 26.06% voting shares. India with 7.5% vote share is second largest shareholder followed by Russia, Germany and South Korea.

73. The Chairmen of public sector banks are selected by the

- (a) Banks Board Bureau
- (b) Reserve Bank of India
- (c) Union Ministry of Finance
- (d) Management of concerned bank

{25} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-73

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-22 (Q- 73),
(22 Apr. 2019)

Q 73. Consider the following statements regarding the Bank Boards Bureau (BBB):

1. BBB help Banks in developing strategies and capital raising plans.
2. BBB appoint the heads of public sector banks and other financial Institutions.
3. All the Members and Chairman of BBB are part time appointment.

Select the correct answer:

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

Q 73. (C)

With a view to improve the governance of Public Sector Banks (PSBs), the Government of India has set up an autonomous Banks Board Bureau (BBB). The Bureau will recommend for selection of heads - Public Sector Banks and Financial Institutions and help banks in developing strategies and capital raising plans. It will also advise banks how to go ahead with mergers and acquisitions. Banks Board Bureau has three ex-officio members and three expert members in addition to Chairman. All the Members and Chairman will be part time. The appointments have been made for a period of two years.

BBB, which came to life in 2016, as part of the seven-point Indradhanush plan will constantly engage with the boards of all 22 public sector banks to formulate appropriate strategies for their growth and development. It would also be responsible for selection of nonexecutive chairman and non-official directors on the boards. Presently BBB is chaired by B P Sharma.

75. With reference to communication technologies, what is/are the difference/differences between LTE (Long-Term Evolution) and VoLTE (Voice over Long-Term Evolution)?

1. LTE is commonly marketed as 3G and VoLTE is commonly marketed as advanced 3G.
2. LTE is data-only technology and VoLTE is voice-only technology.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

{26} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-75

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-19 (Q- 47),
(12 Apr. 2019)

Q 47. LTE is the new set of operating standard with wireless technology, which aims to offer improved service to the mobile phone users. With respect to "LTE" which among the following features will be seen in its communication?

1. Data only network
2. Interoperability is required
3. Data speed rates in Gbps
4. Data pack affects the call quality

Identify the correct answer:

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

Q 47. (A)

LTE (Long Term Evolution) is a standard for 4G wireless broadband technology that offers increased network capacity and speed to mobile device users.

LTE offers higher peak data transfer rates -- up to 100 Mbps (not gbps) downstream and 30 Mbps upstream. It also provides reduced latency, scalable bandwidth capacity and backward-compatibility with existing GSM and UMTS technology. Future developments could yield peak throughput on the order of 300 Mbps.

Users enjoy the benefits of the LTE standard compared to older standards, such as 3G and HSPA. Users can see improved streaming, downloads and even uploads. Globally, the average LTE download speed is 13.5 Mbps.

As a result, mobile device carriers can expect consumers to burn through data more quickly, which can lead to overage charges on data plans. LTE can also connect consumers with services in real time.

Users can talk to others without experiencing any lag or stutters. The upper layers of LTE are based on TCP/IP, which will likely result in an all-IP network similar to the current state of wired communications. LTE supports mixed data, voice, video and messaging traffic. LTE uses OFDM (orthogonal frequency division multiplexing) and, in later releases, MIMO (multiple input, multiple output) antenna technology similar to that used in the IEEE 802.11n wireless local area network (WLAN) standard. The higher signal-to noise ratio (SNR) at the receiver enabled by MIMO, along with OFDM, provides improved wireless network coverage and throughput, especially in dense urban areas. In LTE, voice call and data works on different platform, hence interoperability is required.

Voice-over-LTE (VoLTE) is a new technology with which users can place phone calls over the LTE network as data packets instead of as typical phone calls. This is called packet voice, and it can share packets along a network of several phone conversations. As

voice is carried by data packets, the voice/call quality is affected by data. VoLTE can support many callers and reallocate bandwidth as needed to support it. Pauses in conversation on phone calls won't waste bandwidth. Packet voice also allows the user to view if the person they intend to call is currently busy or if their phone is available.

82. Consider the following statements :

1. Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) exchange rates are calculated by comparing the prices of the same basket of goods and services in different countries.
2. In terms of PPP dollars, India is the sixth largest economy in the world.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

{27} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-82

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-25 (Q- 88),
24 (Q- 24),

Q 88. Currencies are said to be at Purchasing Power Parity when:

- (a) Real exchange rate is equal to one.
- (b) Nominal exchange rate is equal to one.
- (c) Real exchange rate is equal to zero.
- (d) Nominal exchange rate is equal to zero

Q 24. India's per capita GDP on ppp basis is higher than which of these nations?

1. All other G-4 Nations
2. All other SAARC countries
3. All OECD countries

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) None of the above

Q 88. (A)

Purchasing Power Parity

Purchasing power parity (PPP) is a concept that states that the exchange rate between two countries is equal to the ratio of the currencies' respective purchasing power.

The concept of purchasing power parity allows one to estimate what the exchange rate between two currencies would have to be in order for the exchange to be at par with the purchasing power of the two countries' currencies.

Option (a) is correct :

The real exchange rate (RER) compares the relative price of two countries' consumption baskets.

Q 24. (D)

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) was established in 1961 as a forum for governments to share experiences and seek solutions to common economic and social problems. Today, approximately 50 industrialised and emerging-economy countries have joined the OECD as members or adherents. India's per capita GDP is nowhere even close to OECD countries or G4 countries. Infact within the SAARC group India's per capita GDP is lower than Sri Lanka and Maldives.

SAARC countries in the region in USD (Nominal / at-PPP):

☐ Maldives: 9,247 / 15,288 ☐ Sri Lanka: 3,870 / 11,189 ☐ Bhutan: 2,635 / 8,129 ☐ India: 1,719 / 6,658 ☐ Pakistan: 1,474 / 5,120 ☐ Bangladesh: 1,404 / 3,891.

86. Which one of the following is **not** the most likely measure the Government/ RBI takes to stop the slide of Indian rupee?

- (a) Curbing imports of non-essential goods and promoting exports
- (b) Encouraging Indian borrowers to issue rupee denominated Masala Bonds
- (c) Easing conditions relating to external commercial borrowing
- (d) Following an expansionary monetary policy

Q 38. Consider the following statements about currency exchange

1. The domestic currency depreciates when it becomes expensive in terms of foreign currency.
2. The currency appreciates when it becomes less expensive in terms of foreign currency.
3. Exchange rates in the market depend only on the demand and supply of exports and imports and not other factors.

Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 only
- C) 1, 2 and 3
- D) None of the above

Q 38. (C)

The domestic currency (rupee) depreciates when it becomes less expensive in terms of foreign currency. **Hence statement 1 is incorrect.**

The currency appreciates when it becomes more expensive in terms of foreign currency. **Hence statement 2 is incorrect.**

Exchange rates in the market depend not only on the demand and supply of exports and imports, and investment in assets, but also on foreign exchange speculation where foreign exchange is demanded for the possible gains from appreciation of the currency. **Hence statement 3 is incorrect.**

Q 37. (C)

To contain the widening current account deficit (CAD) and check the fall of the rupee, the government has announced specific steps to attract dollars:

- The government eased overseas borrowing norms for manufacturing companies. **Hence statement 1 is incorrect.**
- Removed restrictions on foreign portfolio investors (FPI) investment in corporate bonds. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

- Provided tax benefits on Masala bonds. **Hence statement 3 is correct.** Masala bonds are rupee-denominated debt securities issued outside India by Indian companies.

{28} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-86

> UPSC with Nikhil Test-13 (Q- 38),
15 (Q- 37),

97. Recently, scientists observed the merger of giant 'blackholes' billions of light-years away from the Earth. What is the significance of this observation?

- (a) 'Higgs boson particles' were detected.
- (b) 'Gravitational waves' were detected.
- (c) Possibility of inter-galactic space travel through 'wormhole' was confirmed.
- (d) It enabled the scientists to understand 'singularity'.

Q 30. Consider the following statements :

- (1) Supernova occurs when two black holes collide.
- (2) Discovery shows that silica/glass is made out from supernova.

Select the correct statement/s

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

{29} UPSC 2019/ Set-A / Q-97

**> UPSC with Nikhil Test- 03 (Q- 81),
09 (Q- 30),
22 (Q- 69).**

Q 69. With reference to 'Gravitational waves', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. Gravitational waves are ripples in the fabric of space-time.
- 2. Conflating neutron stars produce gravitational waves.
- 3. It was first discovered by Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory (LIGO).

Select the correct answer:

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

Q 69. (D)

Gravitational waves are 'ripples' in the fabric of space-time caused by some of the most violent and energetic processes in the Universe. Albert Einstein predicted the existence of gravitational waves in 1916 in his general theory of relativity. The strongest gravitational waves are produced by catastrophic events such as colliding black holes, the collapse of stellar cores (supernovae), coalescing neutron stars or white dwarf stars, the slightly wobbly rotation of neutron stars that are not perfect spheres, and the remnants of gravitational radiation created by the birth of the Universe itself.

The milestone of detecting gravitational waves was achieved by Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory (LIGO), a pair of giant laser detectors in the U.S located in Louisiana and Washington State. The detection at once improves our understanding of the workings of the universe and, more important, throws open a big opportunity to study it from completely new angles. It opens the way to get information about the evolution of galaxies and black holes.

Q 81. (D)

Gravitational waves were predicted by Albert Einstein a century ago as part of his theory of general relativity, but the first hard evidence of their existence came only in 2015, when two U.S. detectors found the first such signal.

Gravitational waves can be explained as ripples in the fabric of space-time which can only be caused by massive astronomical events such as neutron stars or black holes orbiting each other so that these waves would finally radiate from them. These gravitational waves, if detected, will carry signatures of their origin, explaining much about the nature of gravity and the origin of the universe. **Hence, all the given statements are correct.**

Thank You!



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