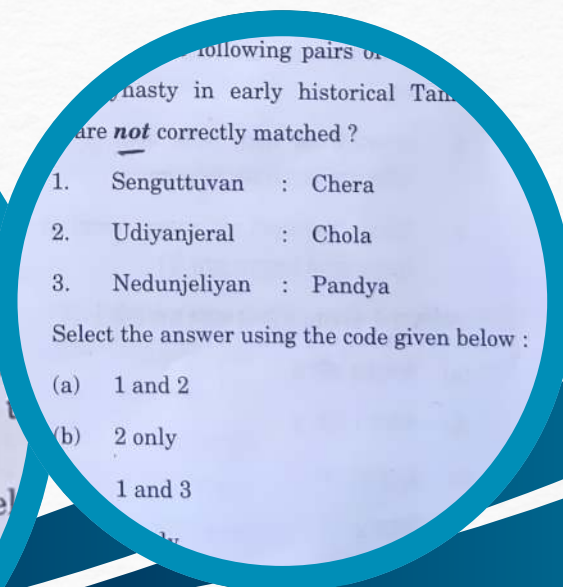
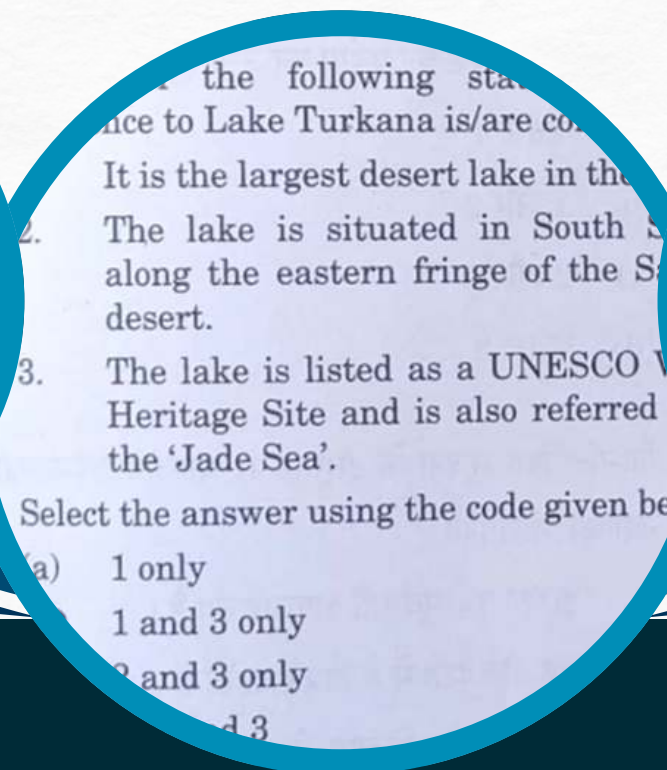
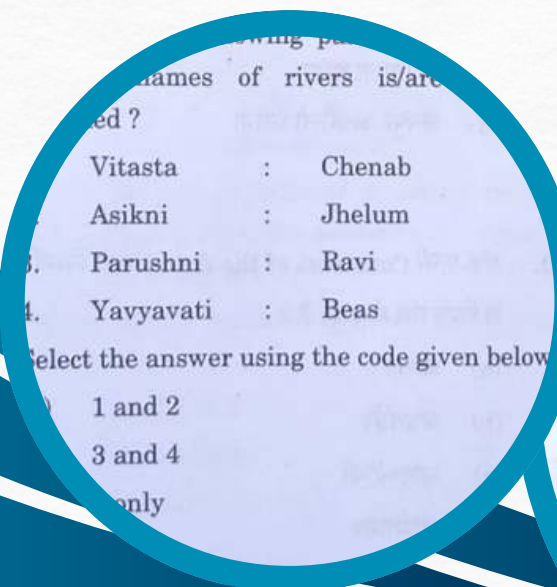




SOURCES OF PRELIMS 2026 QUESTIONS

DIRECT HITS FROM X IAS COVERAGE & REFERENCES IN 63 QUESTIONS

Plan & Prepare with X IAS strategically with CONTENT ACCOUNTABILITY & TRUST



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hello@reallygreatsite.com

LAKE TURKANA

Recent Update: Studies link falling water levels to seismic activity.

About:

1. World's largest desert lake located in East Africa.
2. Fed mainly by the Omo River.

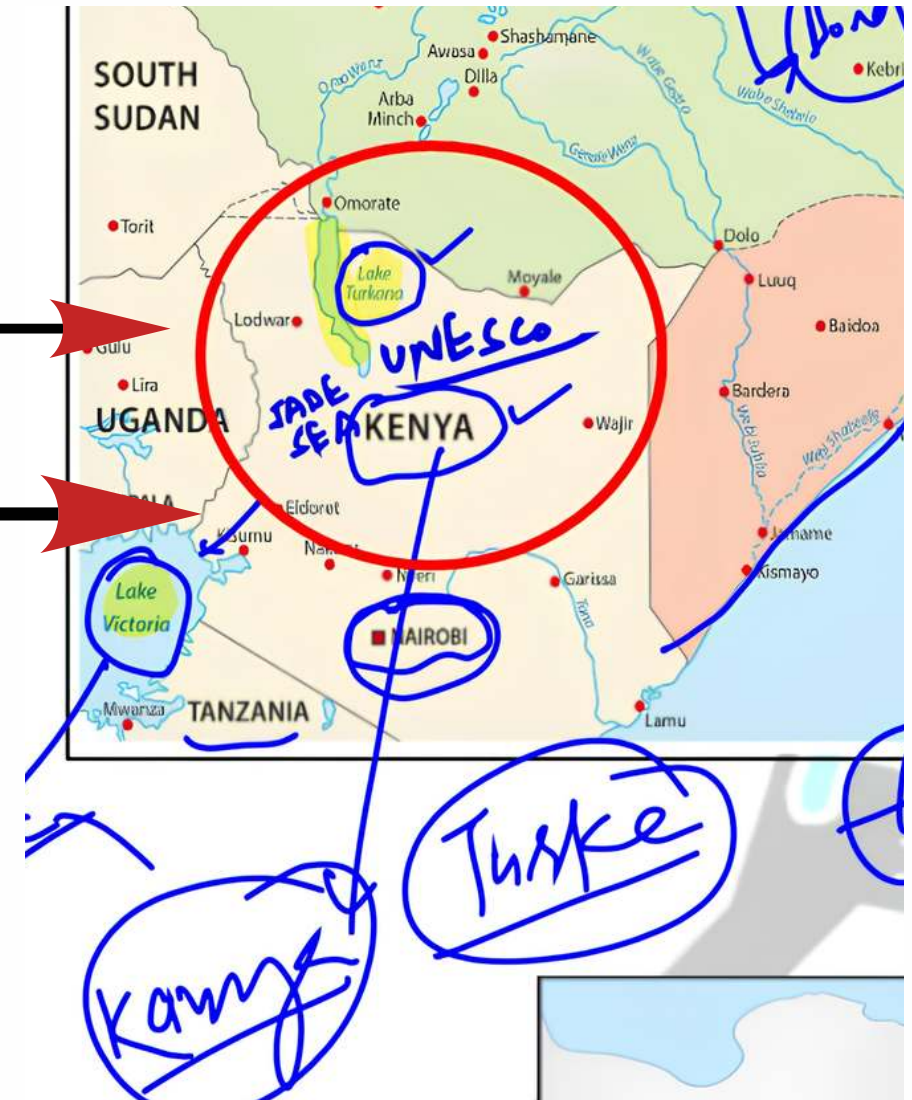
6. UNESCO World Heritage Site.
7. Demonstrates climate-geological linkages.

29. Which of the following statements with reference to Lake Turkana is/are correct ?

1. It is the largest desert lake in the world.
2. The lake is situated in South Sudan along the eastern fringe of the Sahara desert.
3. The lake is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is also referred to as the 'Jade Sea'

Select the answer using the code given below :

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



Covered in X IAS NOTES



All three statements covered by X IAS in 2 lines !

TURKANA LAKE = JADE SEA , UNESCO , DESERT LAKE



- **Great Nicobar Project** → mega infrastructure project+includes port+airport+township+Environmental clearance controversy important.
- **Kaziranga National Park** → UNESCO World Heritage Site+One-horned rhinoceros habitat+Located in Assam+Tiger reserve also.
- **Lake Natron** → Tanzania alkaline lake+Major flamingo breeding habitat+High salinity and temperature.
- **Lake Turkana** → Largest permanent desert lake+Located in Kenya+UNESCO WHS+Climate vulnerability important.
- **E-fuels** → Synthetic fuels from green hydrogen and captured carbon+Useful for aviation/shipping decarbonisation.
- **Syngas** → Mixture of CO + hydrogen+Produced through coal gasification+Used for fuel and chemicals.
- **Flue Gas** → Emissions from thermal plants+Contains SO₂, NO_x, particulate matter+FGD removes

Covered in X IAS classes with tricks too :D



ALL PROOFS ARE OF CONTENT TAUGHT BEFORE EXAM, CAN BE VERIFIED TOO FOR COURSES VISIT:

WWW.XIAS.IN



48. Which of the following statements with regard to **GenomeIndia Project** is/are correct?

1. It is a part of the **Human Genome Project**.
2. The project is funded by the Department of Biotechnology (**DBT**), Government of India.
3. Its primary aim is to build a **catalogue of genetic diversity of the Indian population**.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

word to word matched !
see "catalogue of genetic diversity if indian population"

SOURCE : X IAS CURRENT AFFAIRS NOTES

GENOME INDIA PROJECT

Recent Update: Genome India Project (GIP) has achieved a significant milestone by making the genomic data of 10,000 individuals publicly accessible.

About:

- **Initiated in 2020 by Department of Biotechnology (DBT)**, Government of India.
- Collaborated with **20 institutions** to map India's genetic diversity.
- **Primary objective:** Build a comprehensive **catalogue of genetic variations** to reflect India's population diversity.
- Key Achievements:
 - **20,000 samples** collected from 83 populations, establishing a **bio-bank**.
 - **10,000 genomes** sequenced in the first phase, creating a **reference genome for India**.

GENOME INDIA PROJECT

Recent Update: Prime Minister hailed the completion of the **Genome India Project** as a historic research achievement.

About:

- **Mapping Genetic Diversity:** Launched in **2020** to map **genetic variations** across **99 Indian populations**.
- **Healthcare Advancements:** Data will improve diagnostics, personalized medicine, and precision healthcare.
- **Research Support:** Aims to deepen understanding of **genetic diseases** and enhance targeted **clinical interventions**.



Which of the following pairs of ancient and modern names of rivers is/are correctly matched?

1. Vitasta : Chenab
2. Asikni : Jhelum
3. Parushni : Ravi
4. Yavyavati : Beas

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

X IAS PRELIMS NOTES

- **Geography (The Sapta Sindhu):** Settled in the "Land of
 - *Ancient River Names (Must Memorize):* **Sindhu** (Indus), **Vitasta** (Jhelum), **Asikni** (Chenab), **Parushni** (Ravi), **Vipas** (Beas), **Sutudri** (Sutlej), **Saraswati** (now lost/Ghaggar-Hakra), and **Drishadvati**.
 - They had absolutely no knowledge of the sea, the Vindhya mountains, or the Narmada river.
- **Polity & Administration:**
 - **Tribal Polity:** The basic tribe was called **Jana**. The chief was the **Rajan** (whose position was initially *not* hereditary but actively chosen by tribal assemblies). The

X IAS class notes

UPSC PYQs – 1996

Q1. The river most mentioned in early Vedic literature is

- (a) Sindhu
(b) Sutudri
(c) Sarasvati
(d) Ganga

Answer: (a)

- The **Rigveda**, the oldest Vedic text, frequently refers to the **Sindhu (Indus)** River
- The region is called **Sapta-Sindhu** – the land of seven rivers, which includes:
 - **Sindhu (Indus)**
 - **Sarasvati**
 - **Tributaries like Sutudri (Sutlej), Parusni (Ravi), Asikni (Chenab), Vitasta (Jhelum), and Vipas (Beas)**

X IAS PRISMA PYQs detailed solution

Covered in X IAS class notes ,
PYQ notes & classes



5. Which of the following pairs of the king and his dynasty in early historical Tamilakam is/are not correctly matched ?

1. Senguttuvan : Chera
2. Udiyanjeral : Chola
3. Nedunjeliyan : Pandya

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

**SOURCE : X IAS
BTS
CLASSES HISTORY
LEVEL -1
class no 6.**

Cheras

The Cheras ruled over parts of modern Kerala. Their capital was Vanji and their important seaports were Tondi and Musiri. They had the palmyra flowers as their garland. The Pugalur inscription of the first century A.D refers to three generations of Chera rulers. Padirrupattu also provides information on Chera kings. Perum Sorru Udhiyan Cheralathan, Imayavaramban Nedum Cheralathan and Cheran Senguttuvan were the famous rulers of this dynasty.

Cheran Senguttuvan belonged to 2nd century A.D. His younger brother was Elango Adigal, the author of Silappathigaram. Among his military achievements, his expedition to the Himalayas was remarkable. He defeated many north Indian monarchs. Senguttuvan introduced the Pattini cult or the worship of Kannagi as the ideal

A. The Cheras

- **Territory:** Central and Northern Kerala and the Kongu region of Tamil
- **Capitals:** Vanji (identified archaeologically with modern Karur in TN)
- **Major Ports:** Muziris (Pattanam) and Thondi.
- **Royal Emblem:** Bow and Arrow.
- **Key Rulers:** * Imayavaramban Nedunceralathan: (A mighty king who the Himalayas and carved the Chera bow emblem onto the mountain).
 - Cheran Senguttuvan: (The "Red Chera"). His achievements a Silappathigaram. He led a massive military expedition to the an idol for Kannagi. He formally founded the Pattini Cult (the the ideal chaste goddess of fidelity).

C. The Pandyas

- **Territory:** Southern Tamil Nadu (specifically centered around the Vaig
- **Capital:** Madurai (the prestigious seat of the Tamil Sangam literary as
- **Major Port:** Korkai (internationally renowned for its massive, highly l
- **Royal Emblem:** Fish (Twin carp).
- **Key Rulers:** * Mudukudumi Peruvaluthi: (A great patron of orthodox Pandya copper coins and performed many Vedic sacrifices).
 - Nedunchezhiyan: He famously won the monumental Battle

Pandyas

The Pandyas ruled over the present day southern Tamil Nadu. Their capital was Madurai. The earliest kings of the Pandyan dynasty were Nediyan, Palyagasalai Mudukudumi Peruvaludhi and Mudathirumaran. There were two Neduncheliyans. The first one was known as Aryappada Kadantha Neduncheliyan (one who won victories over the Aryan forces). He was responsible for the execution of Kovalan for which Kannagi burnt Madurai. The other



DIRECT HITS IN PRELIMS 2026 FROM X IAS NOTES/CLASSES

4. Which of the following temples has/have a Nagara-style shikhara?

1. Malegitti Shivalaya, Badami
2. Huchimalligudi Temple, Aihole
3. Dashavatara Temple, Deogarh
4. Virupaksha Temple, Pattadakal

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

The **Chalukya temples** may be divided into two stages. The first stage is represented by the temple among the **seventy temples found at Aihole**.

1. **Ladkhan temple** is a low temple consisting of a pillared hall.
2. **Durga temple** resembles a B
3. **Huchimalligudi** temple.
4. **The Jain temple at Meguti**.



Virupaksha temple at
Pattadakal

The **second stage** is represented by the temples at **Pattadakal**. There are **ten temples** here, **four in the northern style** and **the remaining six in the Dravidian style**. The Papanatha temple is the most notable in the northern style.

The **Sangamesvara temple** and the **Virupaksha temple** are famous for their **Dravidian style**. The **Virupaksha temple** is built on the model of the **Kailasanatha temple** at **Kanchipuram**. It was built by one of the queens of **Vikramaditya II**. **Sculptors brought from Kanchi** were employed in its construction.

Rashtrakutas (755 – 975 A.D.)

6. ART AND ARCHITECTURE

The **Guptas** definitively initiated the classic era of Indian structural, free-standing temple building.

- **Temple Architecture:** Marks the definitive, historical beginning of the **Nagara Style (North Indian style)** of temple architecture, featuring a flat roof that **slowly transitioned into a Shikhara (tower)**, and an enclosed **Garbhagriha** (inner sanctum).
 - **Dashavatara Temple:** Located at **Deogarh, Uttar Pradesh**. A world-class masterpiece of early stone temple architecture.

3. **Pattadakal (A globally recognized UNESCO World Heritage Site):** Features exactly 10 massive, highly mature temples representing the absolute climax of early Chalukyan art.
 - **Exactly four temples** are built in the northern **Nagara** style (e.g., the highly famous **Papanatha Temple**).
 - **Exactly six temples** are built in the southern **Dravida** style (e.g., the massive **Virupaksha Temple**, proudly built by Queen Lokamahadevi).

**SOURCE :
BTS NOTES**



ALL PROOFS ARE OF CONTENT TAUGHT BEFORE EXAM, CAN BE VERIFIED TOO FOR COURSES VISIT:

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DIRECT HITS IN PRELIMS 2026 FROM X IAS NOTES/CLASSES

What does an empty seat represent in early Buddhist iconography ?

- (a) The meditation of the Buddha
- (b) The Buddha's First Sermon
- (c) The Buddha's *Mahaparinibbana*
- (d) The Buddha's *Mahabhinishkramana*

option B means
option c means

form. His presence is indicated strictly through aniconic symbols: the **Empty Throne, Bodhi Tree, Footprints (Chatuskam), Dharma Wheel, and Stupa**. Human depictions only began in the **1st Century CE (Kushana era)** under Mahayana influence.

3. The Hinayana vs. Theravada Language

- **The Trap:** Using the terms Hinaya sects used Pali.
- **The Reality: Theravada** (Doctrin school of the broader, now-extinct

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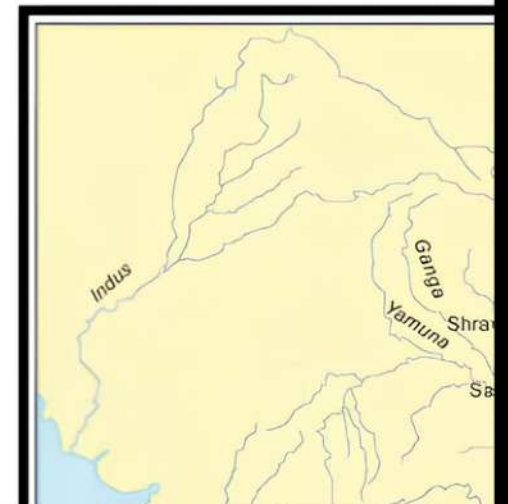
X IAS PRELIMS NOTES

4. BUDDHISM

Founded by **Gautama Buddha** (originally named Siddhartha).

• Gautama Buddha (563 – 483 BCE):

- **Birth:** Lumbini (in Kapilavastu, near the Nepal border). **Symbolized by the Lotus and Bull.**
- **Parents:** **Suddhodana** (Chief of the **Shakya** Kshatriya clan, hence Buddha is called *Shakyan*) and **Mahapajapati Gotami** (Kosalan princess who died 7 days after his birth; he was raised by his aunt/stepmother **Prabhavati**).
- **Family:** Married to **Yashodhara**; had a son named **Rahula**.
- **The Great Renunciation (Mahabhinishkramana):** Left home, his wife, and son at age 29 after seeing the "Four Sights" (an old man, a sick man, a corpse, and a serene ascetic). He left with his charioteer **Chandala** and horse **Kanthaka**. **Symbolized by the Horse.**
- **Teachers:** **Alara Kalama** (taught him early meditation techniques) and **Uddaka Ramaputta**.
- **Enlightenment (Nirvana):** At age 35, after exactly 49 days of continuous meditation under a **Pipal tree (Bodhi tree)** at **Bodh Gaya (Bihar)** on the banks of the **Niranjana river**. **Symbolized by the Bodhi Tree.**
- **First Sermon (Dharmachakra Pravartana):** Delivered at the Deer Park in **Sarnath** (near Varanasi) to his 5 former ascetic companions. **Symbolized by the Wheel.**
- **Death (Mahaparinirvana):** **Kushinagar** (capital of the **Mallas**, UP) at age 80 after supposedly eating spoiled food offered by a blacksmith named **Chunda**. **Symbolized by the Stupa.**



X IAS BTS NOTES

parinibbana: the passing away of the Buddha

patichcha-samuppada: Pali, the law of dependent origination; a key concept of the Buddha's teaching

dharmachakka-pavattana: Pali, literally 'turning of the wheel'; the Buddha's first sermon in the deer park at Sarnath



ALL PROOFS ARE OF CONTENT TAUGHT BEFORE EXAM, CAN BE VERIFIED TOO FOR COURSES VISIT:

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15. Among the four main forms of existence of life recognized in Jainism, which one of the following is **not** included ?

- (a) *Deva* (gods)
- (b) *Yaksha* (demi-gods)
- (c) *Manushya* (humans)
- (d) *Tiryancha* (animals and plants)

SOURCE : X IAS BTS
COURSE CLASSES

Yaksha, Parkham



pillar capital symbolising *Dhammachakrapravartana* (the first sermon by the Buddha) has become a standard symbol of this great historical event in the life of the Buddha.

Monumental images of *Yaksha*, *Yakhinis* and animals, pillar columns with capital figures, rock-cut caves belonging to the third century BCE have been found in different parts of India. It shows the popularity of *Yaksha* worship and how it became part of figure representation in Buddhist and Jaina religious monuments.

Large statues of *Yakshas* and *Yakhinis* are found at many places like *Patna*, *Vidisha* and *Mathura*. These monumental images are mostly in the standing position. One of the distinguishing elements in all these images is their polished surface. The depiction of faces is in full round with pronounced cheeks and physiognomic detail. One of the finest examples is a *Yakshi* figure from *Didarganj*, Patna, which is tall and well-built. It shows sensitivity towards depicting the human physique. The image has a polished surface.

Terracotta figurines show a very different delineation of

YAKSHA & YAKSHINI ARE BUDDHIST demi gods. not jainism. COVERED in classes. BOTH IN LEVEL 1 (NCERT , DIDARGANJ REFERENCE & BTS level 2 classes)

- *Shishupalgarh* is identified by some with *Tosali*, an important administrative centre mentioned by Ashoka, not far from the location of the edict at *Dhauili*.
- **yakshas and yakshis, demi-gods and spirits** (such as the now famous one from *Didarganj*)
- **Megasthenes** speaks of Mauryan society as having **seven divisions** - **philosophers, farmers, artisans, magistrates and councillors**. These have been interpreted as castes because he states that they were not to marry outside his own division or change one profession for another. **Only the philosophers** had the privilege. All the seven divisions did not follow identical rules. Curiously, he makes no mention of



- 13) Consider the following statements :
- I. Pali texts contain the first definite references to coins, e.g., *kahapana*, *nikkha*, *kamsa*, and *kakanika*.
 - II. The literary evidence from Pali texts is corroborated by archaeological evidence of punch-marked coins from many sites, most of them made of silver.
- The above statements have been associated with which of the following ?
1. Emergence of urban life
 2. Transition to money economy
- Select the answer using the code given below
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2

tyesna elder, as in the *gund-like* organization of the *shreni*
kahapana/karshapana/pana widely used coin series, often *silver*
kakini copper coins
Kalamukha a Shaiva sect
kaliyuga the fourth and final age of the great cycle of time, the *manu*
kalpa a frame of time-reckoning
kama desire
Kapalika a Shaiva sect
karma action or deed, and also used in the theory of future births be

SOURCE : X IAS BTS CLASSES

- The post-Mauryan centuries saw a great spurt in the minting of coins. The kings of the north-west imitated Greek and Iranian coin-types, others issued local coins which were vastly superior to the *punch-marked* coins of the Mauryas. Foreign currencies such as the *denarii* of the Romans circulated freely.
- coins were used in *towns*; these were of gold (*nishka*, *suvarna*, and *pala*), silver (*shatamana*), copper (*kakini*), and lead. The most commonly used coin was the *karshapana*, in all four metals.

SOURCE : X IAS BTS CLASSES

A large variety of *coins* was referred to in the texts, particularly from the ninth century, although the quantity in circulation varied: *dramma*, *dinara*, *nishka*, *rupaka*, *gadyanaka*, *vimshatika*, *karshapana*, *gadhaiya*, *tanka* *Gadhaiya* coins, although of low value, *drammas*, of mixed silver and copper, gold *gadyanaka* *Brahman* castes covered a range of *gradations*. The most respected were the learned brahmins, the *shrotriyas*, who could have been from wealthy brahman settlements or *agraharas*.

Explained many times these coin terms in BTS classes , told coinage is sign of urban life. spellings vary source wise. niska=nikka here



49. Which of the following statements with regard to India's indigenous new high resolution weather model, the 'Bharat Forecast System,' is/are correct ?

1. Its objective is to generate forecasts at the Panchayats cluster level.
2. It was developed by IIT Delhi.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Bharat Forecast System (BFS) – High-Resolution Weather Forecasting

Recent Context:

- Ministry of Earth Sciences unveiled BFS, one of the world's first indigenously developed high-resolution weather forecast systems.

Relevant Pointers

- Developer:** IITM Pune, Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- Resolution:** Improves forecast scale from 12 km → 6 km; enables village-level predictions.
- Data Inputs:** 40 Doppler Weather Radars; Doppler effect improves velocity & local accuracy.
- Performance:** 64% more accurate in high-risk zones; forecast time cut from 12–14 hrs → 4–6 hrs.
- Global Standing:** Higher resolution than US, UK, EU systems (6 km vs 9–14 km).
- Applications:** Disaster management, agriculture, coastal alerts, crop & irrigation planning.
- Tech & Economic Gains:** Uses HPC "Arka" (IITM) & "Arunika" (NCMRWF); reduces climate-related losses.

SOURCE : X IAS CURRENT AFFAIRS

3. Monsoon Factors — Comprehensive List

Key factors: ITCZ shift, Tibetan Plateau heating, El Nino/La Nina, Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), Mascarene High, Somali Jet.
2024-25: La Nina active — above average rainfall predicted. Bharat Forecasting System launched 2025 — Doppler radars, AI-based prediction. UPSC asks: which factor influences onset, which affects withdrawal.

SOURCE : X IAS CA REVISION SHEET



22. With respect to the **Western Hoolock Gibbons**, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. A Sanctuary in North-east India is home to this ape species listed as **Endangered** in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.
2. They have specialized **brachiation** and can easily swing between trees.
3. They possess a strong and heavy build like gorillas, yet are remarkably agile tree climbers.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

SOURCE :

X IAS CURRENT AFFAIRS MODULE

HOOLOCK GIBBON

Recent Update: Largest concentration found in **Hollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary, Assam.**

About

1. The Hoolock Gibbon is the **only ape species** found in India.
2. It is the **smallest** and fastest of all apes, adapted for **brachiation**.
3. Found in Northeast India south of the Brahmaputra River.
4. It is divided into **Eastern (Vulnerable)** and **Western (Endangered)** species.
5. Both are protected under Schedule I of



7. Habitat loss from logging and plantations threatens their forest corridors.

**smallest
ape , not
heavy like
gorillas .
so S3 is
not right**



DIRECT HITS IN PRELIMS 2026 FROM

X IAS NOTES/CLASSES

With reference to Madhav National Park, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It was declared a Tiger Reserve in India in 2025.
2. Sakhya Sagar, which is designated as a Ramsar Site, is situated within this National Park.
3. Its area is shared between Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

MADHAV NATIONAL PARK

~~Recent Update: In-principle approval as a tiger reserve by NTCA.~~

About:

- Located in **Madhya Pradesh**, part of Upper Vindhyan Hills.
- **Sakhya Sagar and Mahesh Sagar** lakes are present.

SOURCE :

X IAS CURRENT AFFAIRS MODULE

31. Madhav National Park

- Located near **Shivpuri**
- Former royal hunting grounds
- Rich grassland ecosystem
- **Sakhya Sagar Lake** nearby
- Habitat of chinkara & leopard
- Dry deciduous forests

PRELIMS TRAP: State confusion occurs repeatedly.

✓ Madhav NP = **Madhya Pradesh**

X **NOT Rajasthan.**

SOURCE :

BTS NOTES

Sakhya Sagar

Site number: 2483 | Country: India | Administrative region: The wetland is situated in Shivpuri District in the state of Madhya Pradesh

Area: 248 ha | Coordinates: 25°26'03"N 77°42'25"E | Designation dates: 07-01-2022

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Sakhya Sagar is a human-made reservoir on the outskirts of Shivpuri town within the Madhav National Park. The Site features a mosaic of landforms including open water and surrounding marshes, plantations and a small patch of agricultural land. The north-eastern part meanders open water and

SOURCE :

**X IAS RAMSAR
SITES NOTES**



ALL PROOFS ARE OF CONTENT TAUGHT BEFORE EXAM, CAN BE VERIFIED TOO FOR COURSES VISIT:

WWW.XIAS.IN

79. Which of the following statements about DHRUV64 is/are correct?

1. It is the third chip fabricated under the DIR-V Programme with an overall aim to enable the creation of microprocessors for India.
2. It is India's first homegrown 1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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



DHRUV64 MICROPROCESSOR

Recent Update: India launched DHRUV64, its first indigenously designed 1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core processor under the Digital India RISC-V programme

About

1. DHRUV64 is India's first fully indigenous 64-bit dual-core microprocessor based on the open-source RISC-V architecture.
2. Designed by C-DAC under MeitY's Microprocessor Development Programme (MDP) to reduce reliance on imported chips.
3. Operates at 1.0 GHz, suitable for embedded systems, IoT, industrial electronics, and secure strategic platforms.
4. Fabricated as the third chip under DIR-V, following THEJAS32 and THEJAS64 processors.

**EXACT LINE TO LINE
MATCHED DIRECT
HITS**

**SOURCE :
X IAS CURRENT AFFAIRS MODULE
ANS C**



DIRECT HITS IN PRELIMS 2026 FROM X IAS NOTES/CLASSES

30. Ships from which of the following countries have to cross the Strait of Hormuz to reach out to the Indian Ocean?

1. Bahrain
2. Syria
3. Qatar
4. Egypt

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

1. STRAIT OF HORMUZ



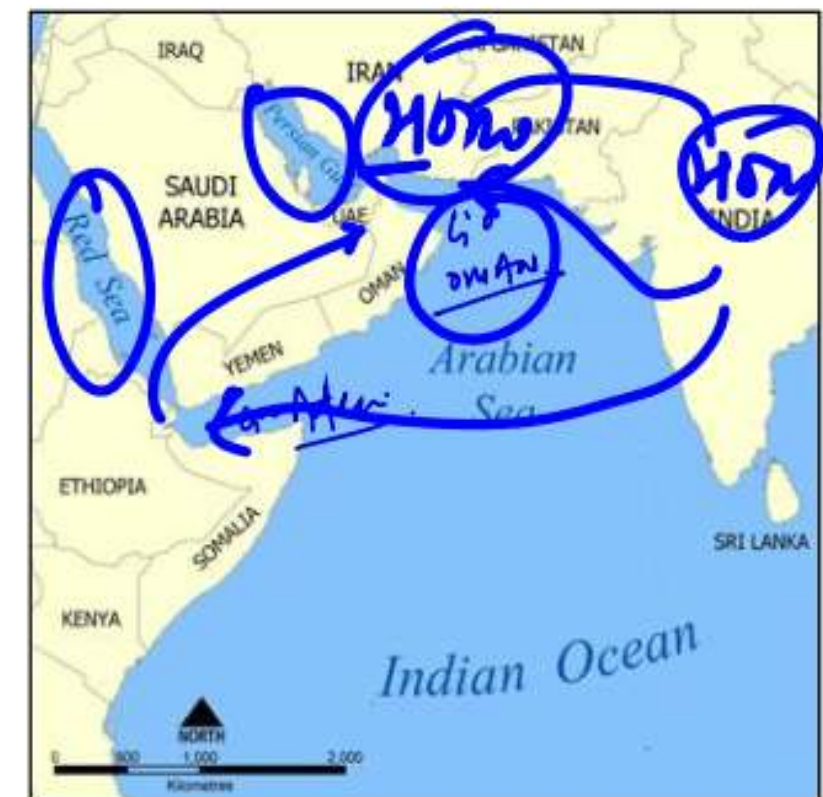
SOURCE :
X IAS
CURRENT
AFFAIRS
MODULE

Prelims Facts

1. Between Iran and Oman (Musandam F
2. Connects Persian Gulf with Gulf of Om
3. Gateway from Persian Gulf to Arabian
4. Most important oil chokepoint in world
5. Used by Gulf countries for oil export
6. Near UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Ira

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS — COMPLETE PRELIMS 2026 REVISION

- **West Asia Mapping** → Iran borders Strait of Hormuz+Israel located on M between Israel and Egypt+Syria borders Turkey, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon.
- **Strait of Hormuz** → Connects Persian Gulf with Gulf of Oman+World's m located on northern coast.
- **Iran-Israel Conflict** → Nuclear facilities and missile strikes major concern important+West Asian geopolitical instability impacts oil prices.
- **Sudan** → Conflict between army and RSF+Located in northeast Africa+N
- **DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo)** → Rich in cobalt and critical mining



ALL PROOFS ARE OF CONTENT TAUGHT BEFORE EXAM, CAN BE VERIFIED TOO FOR COURSES VISIT:

WWW.XIAS.IN

39. Which of the following is/are the most significant implication(s) of obtaining Oeko-Tex certification for Eri Silk in the global textile industry ?

1. It allows Indian exporters to compete in high-end markets that prioritise chemical-free products.
2. It confirms that Eri Silk meets international safety, environmental, and quality standards, enabling its entry into premium eco-conscious markets.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

ERI SILK

Recent Update: NEHHDC's Eri Silk achieved the Oeko-Tex certification, emphasizing eco-friendly production.

About:

World's only vegan silk, preserving moths during production.

- Expands global market recognition as an Assam GI product.
- India produces all five major silk types, with Mulberry silk being cultivated.

SOURCE : X IAS CURRENT AFFAIRS



DIRECT HITS IN PRELIMS 2026 FROM X IAS NOTES/CLASSES

58. Consider the following statements in respect of questions asked by the Members in the Parliament of India:

1. **Unstarred questions** are those to which a Member desires an oral answer in the House.
2. **Starred questions** are those to which a Member desires a written answer.
3. **No supplementary question can be asked on an unstarred question.**

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct?

- (a) All the three statements are correct.
- (b) There are two correct statements, that include statement 2.
- (c) There is only one correct statement.
- (d) There is no correct statement.

- **Prorogation:** Terminates a sitting AND the session of the House. Done by the **President**.
- **Dissolution:** Ends the very life of the **Lok Sabha** (RS is not subject to it). Done by the **President**. All pending bills, motions, and resolutions lapse (*Exceptions: Bills pending in RS but not passed by LS do not lapse; Bills pending President's assent do not lapse; Bills subjected to a Joint Sitting notification before dissolution do not lapse*).

Devices of Parliamentary Proceedings

- **Question Hour:** The strictly **first hour** of every parliamentary sitting.
 1. **Starred Question:** Distinguished by an asterisk. Requires an **Oral answer**; hence **Supplementary questions CAN follow**. (Printed on Green paper).
 2. **Unstarred Question:** Requires a **Written answer**; hence **Supplementary questions CANNOT follow**. (Printed on White paper).
 3. **Short Notice Question:** Asked by giving notice of strictly **less than 10 days**. Answered **Orally**. (Printed on Light Pink paper).

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46. Consider the following statements with regard to involvement of private entities in India's space programme:

1. The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) is an autonomous agency formed to facilitate participation of private entities.
2. Agnikul Cosmos launched the world's first flight using 3D-printed rocket engine.
3. Skyroot Aerospace has developed liquid fuel for GSLV.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

SOURCE :
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INDIA'S 1ST 3D PRINTED ROCKET

Recent Update: Chennai-based start-up **Agnikul Cosmos** has launched the **Agnibaan** Sub Orbital Technology Demonstrator (SOrTeD), powered by the world's first fully 3D-printed engine.

spaceflight (Gaganyaan), and sharing its facilities.

3. **Mandate for IN-SPACe:** Serves as the single-window agency for authorizing and regulating NGEs' space activities.
4. **New Commercial Arm:** NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) will be the commercial wing, owning and operating assets created by public funds.
5. **Private Sector Scope:** NGEs are allowed to undertake end-to-end activities in space, including satellite manufacturing and launch services.

Scheme launched by the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) in 2020.

Private Sector Participation in Space

1. India has encouraged space-based startups.
2. In 2022, **Vikram-S**, India's first privately built rocket, was launched by **Skyroot Aerospace** under 'Mission Prarambh.'
3. **Agnikul Cosmos**, incubated at IIT Madras, test-launched the world's first rocket with a single-piece 3D printed engine.



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49. Which of the following statements with regard to the National Quantum Mission (NQM) is/are correct?

1. It aims at developing intermediate-scale quantum computers with 50–1000 physical qubits.
2. Its implementation includes setting up of four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) in academic and national R&D institutes across India.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

SOURCE :
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AFFAIRS NOTES

NATIONAL QUANTUM MISSION (NQM)

RECENT UPDATE: The Union Cabinet approved the National Quantum Mission (NQM) with an outlay of ₹6,000 crores to boost research and development in quantum technologies.

ABOUT:

1. **Objective:** To seed, nurture, and scale up scientific and industrial R&D in quantum computing and communications.
2. **Timeframe:** The mission has a duration of eight years (2023-2031).

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National Quantum Mission

3. **Technology:** Aims to develop a 50-1000 physical qubit quantum computer within 8 years.

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Which one of the following statements with regard to the Moidams, built by the Tai-Ahom kingdom and inscribed as a **World Heritage Site** by **UNESCO**, is/are correct?

1. They acted as army fortresses.
2. They were recreation centres of the Royals and Nobles.
3. They were burial grounds of the Royals and Nobles.
4. They were battle drill centres of the Royals and Nobles.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

MOIDAMS (MAIDAMS)

Recent Update: Growing global recognition of Ahom funerary traditions.



About:

1. Moidams are **mound-burial structures** of the Ahom dynasty in Assam.
2. They date from the **13th–19th centuries**.

CHARAIDEO MOIDAMS

Recent Update: Charaideo Moidams, an ancient burial site in Assam, has been recognized as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.

About:

- Located in Assam, it consists of **burial mounds** (maidams) of Ahom kings and queens.
- The mounds are **hemispherical** in shape, with sizes reflecting the power and status of the buried.
- **Charaideo** was the original capital of the **Ahom Kingdom**, founded by **Chaolung Sukapha in 1229 CE**.
- **Now Assam's third World Heritage site**, after **Kaziranga and Manas National Parks**.
- A symbol of the **Ahom dynasty's** cultural legacy.
- Recognized during the **46th session of the World Heritage Committee** in New Delhi.

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65. Consider the following statements with respect to the AI Impact Summit, 2026 held in New Delhi:

1. The Summit's intellectual framework was based on three foundational Sutras: People, Planning, and Progress.
2. The Preamble of the Summit stresses Democratising AI Resources, which acknowledges the Charter for Democratic Diffusion of AI as a binding framework to support locally relevant innovation and strengthen resilient AI ecosystems while respecting national laws.
3. The New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact was structured around seven Chakras (Pillars), which included Access for Social Empowerment, AI for Science, and Secure and Trusted AI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

INDIA-AI IMPACT SUMMIT 2026

Recent Update: First Global South AI summit held at Bharat Mandapam

About:

1. The summit marks India's leadership in inclusive and development-oriented Artificial Intelligence governance.
2. Focus shifts from AI safety to AI for development and societal impact.
3. Based on philosophy of "Sarvajana Hitaya, Sarvajana Sukhaya", emphasising welfare for all.
4. Built around Three Sutras – People, Planet, Progress, aligning AI with human development goals.
5. Features Seven Chakras (working groups) covering sectors like health, agriculture, and

- **Peptides** → Short amino acid chains+Used in therapeutics, cosmetics and fitness industry.
- **AI Impact Summit – New Delhi Declaration** → Focus on responsible and inclusive AI governance+Global AI cooperation.
- **Axiom Mission** → Private space mission to ISS+Commercial spaceflight era important.
- **Space Docking** → Joining spacecraft in orbit+Important for space stations and future missions.
- **AstroSat** → India's first space observatory+Multi-wavelength astronomical observations.
- **GSAT-7** → Communication satellite for Indian Navy+Enhances maritime surveillance.
- **HOPE Mission** → UAE's Mars mission+Studies Martian atmosphere and climate.

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60. Consider the following statements about **Mission Sudarshan Chakra** of India:

1. It aims to enhance India's air defence, ballistic missile defence and aerial offensive capabilities.
2. This Mission is being designed to enhance rapid, precise, and powerful defence responses, reinforcing India's strategic autonomy.
3. One of the **aims of this Mission is** to cover all public places of India by an expanded nationwide security shield **by 2035.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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Sudarshan Chakra Mission

Recent Context :

PM launched **Mission Sudarshan Chakra** during Independence Day 2025 to develop a **multi-layered air defence system**, integrating missiles, laser-DEWs, cyber protection, and nationwide security coverage.

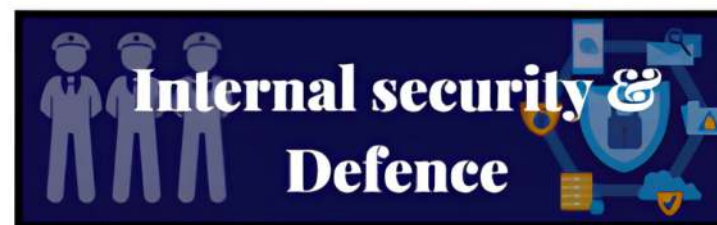


ABOUT-

1. **Objective:** Strengthen **deterrent & offensive capabilities** to protect strategic, civilian, and religious assets.
2. **Timeline:** **Mission completion by 2035;** Project Kusha LRSAM by 2028–29.
3. **Indigenous Technology:** Entirely **researched, developed, and manufactured in India.**
4. **Key Components:** QRSAM, VSHORADS, Laser-DEW, integrated via **Centralised Command & Control Centre.**

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TOPICS COVERED-

1. **High-Powered Demography Mission** – Launched to tackle illegal immigration, enhance border security, and ensure social cohesion through monitoring and repatriation.
2. **Increased Private Sector Share In Defence Production** – Private sector contribution rises to 23%, promoting Make in India, innovation, and defence self-reliance.
3. **Sudarshan Chakra Mission** – Multi-layered air defence system integrating missiles, lasers, cyber protection, and nationwide coverage.



45. Which of the following statements with regard to Green Hydrogen is/are correct?

1. It is decarbonized hydrogen obtained from natural gas reforming combined with carbon capture and storage (CCS).
2. It is produced using electrolysis of water with electricity generated by renewable energy.
3. National Green Hydrogen Mission of India aims for abatement of nearly 50 MMT of annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

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GREEN HYDROGEN MISSION

Recent Update: The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) has increased the annual Green Ammonia allocation for the fertilizer sector from 550,000 to 750,000 tonnes to support rising demand and Green Hydrogen development in India.

National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM):

- Launched in January 2023, the NGHM aims to produce 5 million tonnes of Green Hydrogen annually by 2030.
- Implemented by MNRE, the mission includes the SIGHT programme, which offers incentives for manufacturing electrolyzers and producing green ammonia.
- A dedicated portal provides information on the mission and green hydrogen development.
- Scheme guidelines have been released for using Green Hydrogen in steel, transport, and shipping sectors.
- The Department of Science and Technology has launched Hydrogen Valley Innovation Clusters to foster innovation and boost the green hydrogen ecosystem.

7. Green Hydrogen & Green Ammonia

Green Hydrogen: produced by electrolysis of water using renewable energy (no carbon emissions). Green Ammonia: produced using green hydrogen + nitrogen (Haber-Bosch process with renewables); can be used as fuel cell fuel, fertiliser feedstock. **National Green Hydrogen Mission: India's target — 5 MMT/year production by 2030; ₹ 80,000 crore outlay.**



34. In what way(s) does the **Vizhinjam** International Seaport represent a structural shift in India's maritime trade and logistics policy ?

1. By functioning exclusively as a domestic cargo hub to reduce reliance on coastal shipping and eliminate the need for foreign collaborations.
2. By focusing primarily on passenger cruise tourism and heritage shipping to increase Kerala's profile as a maritime heritage destination.
3. By leveraging its natural deep draft and strategic location to reduce dependence on foreign trans-shipment ports, enhance revenue retention, and reposition India in regional maritime trade.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

8. Major & Minor Ports — Key Facts

12 operational Major Ports (Central Govt): Deendayal (Gujarat), Mangalore, Cochin, Kolkata, Paradip, Visakhapatnam, Kamarajar (State Govt). **Vizhinjam: Kerala, first transshipment port.** Bay: 14th major (Great Nicobar).

Correct Answer: D

Solution:

- **A transshipment port** facilitates inter-vessel cargo transfer for long-distance shipping.
- Option A and C describe **inland** or **dry port** roles.
- Option B is unrelated to cargo movement.

Value Addition:

- **Colombo, Singapore, and Dubai** are major global transshipment hubs.
- **India is developing the Vizhinjam Port in Kerala as its transshipment hub to reduce reliance on foreign ports.**



68. Which of the following items of defence hardware is/are manufactured in India?

1. Su-30 MKI Fighter Jets
2. T-90 MK-III Tanks
3. Akula Class Submarine

Select the answer using the code given below

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

SUKHOI-30MKI

Recent Update: Su-30MKI is a long-range fighter/bomber aircraft with advanced missile capability.

About:

Russia remains India's largest defence supplier, providing platforms such as Su-30MKI aircraft, T-90 tanks, submarines and the S-400 air defence system.

SOURCE :
X IAS CURRENT AFFAIRS NOTES

ANS A

- Developed by Russia's Sukhoi Aviation and HAL.
- Part of Indian Air Force fleet, equipped with BrahMos supersonic missiles.
- Capable of speeds up to Mach 2 with a range of 3000 km.



35. Consider the following statements with reference to the Sagarmala Programme of the Government of India:

- I. The Sagarmala Programme seeks to achieve port-led economic growth through cost-effective and sustainable coastal infrastructure.
- II. The success of the Sagarmala Programme is reflected in significant growth in coastal and inland waterway shipping, along with improved global port rankings.
- III. Sagarmala 2.0 aims to position India as a global maritime innovation hub aligned with Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat 2047 visions.

Which of the following relationships among the above statements is/are correct?

1. Statement II validates the effectiveness of the strategies envisioned in statement I.
2. Statement III extends the objectives of statement I by embedding them into a future-oriented innovation framework.
3. Statement I contradicts statement III by focusing only on traditional infrastructure instead of modern innovation.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

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SAGARMALA PROGRAMME (10 YEARS & 2.0)

Recent Context -

Sagarmala Programme achieved 118% growth in coastal shipping over a decade, reducing logistics costs and emissions; Sagarmala 2.0 launched in 2025 focusing on port modernization, shipbuilding, and maritime innovation.

ABOUT-

1. **Launch & Ministry:** 2015, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways; aims at port-led economic development, job creation, and skill development.
2. **Objectives:** Reduce logistics costs, enhance domestic waterways, promote multi-modal

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35

market dominance.

24. **Indian Ports Act, 2025** – Modernizes port governance, integrates development, and improves maritime trade management.
25. **Sagarmala Programme (10 Years & 2.0)** – Port-led economic development, coastal shipping growth, maritime innovation, and sustainability.
26. **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)** – Provides all-weather rural road connectivity, especially in LWE and remote areas.
27. **M.S. Swaminathan (100th Birth Anniversary)** – Recognizes the architect of Green and Evergreen Revolutions, promoting sustainable agriculture and biohappiness.



DIRECT HITS IN PRELIMS 2026 FROM X IAS NOTES/CLASSES

41. Which of the following statements with regard to **genetic medicine** is/are correct?

1. Genetic medicines correct/compensate for the faulty genes responsible for disease.
2. Engineered viruses and lipid nanoparticles are used as carriers of the genetic medicine.
3. **Genetic medicines alter the entire DNA sequence.**

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

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& STATIC NOTES

Table 2: Biotechnology – Key Concepts & UPSC PYQs

Topic/Concept	Key Points / Detailed Notes	Representative UPSC PYQ (Prelims/Mains Year)
Genetic Engineering & Recombinant DNA	- Involves manipulating an organism's genetic material.- Uses vectors (like plasmids) to insert desired genes into host cells. - Fundamental for creating GMOs, producing therapeutic proteins, and research applications.	UPSC Prelims 2013: "Which technology is used to develop genetically modified organisms (GMOs)?"

NEW CRISPR/CAS9 GENE-EDITING PLATFORM

Recent Update: Scientists at Columbia University developed SafeEXO-Cas, an exosome-based platform.

- **Exosomes** are **natural vesicles** that can be engineered for drug delivery and gene editing.
- It **enhances the delivery of CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing components** to specific cells.
- The platform supports precision medicine and improves cancer treatment.
 - Precision medicine tailors prevention and treatment based on individual genetic, environmental, and lifestyle factors.

About CRISPR/Cas9 Technology

- CRISPR-Cas9 is a **genome editing tool** that alters **DNA at specific locations.**
- It works like a **cut-and-paste mechanism**, using Cas9 protein to cut DNA **strands and modify genetic codes.**
- Applications include **gene editing in human**



6. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

1. Gene Editing Technologies — CRISPR & Alternatives

CRISPR-Cas9: molecular scissors using guide RNA to cut DNA at specific location; J. Charpentier (Nobel 2020). **TALEN** — alternative to CRISPR; uses protein-DNA binding. **Editing:** modifies gene expression **WITHOUT** changing DNA sequence. **CAR-T Cell**



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50. Which of the following statements with regard to India's Deep Ocean Mission is/are correct?

1. It was launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India.
2. Matsya-6000 has been designed to carry 3 people for deep sea exploration.
3. Samudrayaan is a project under this mission.

Select the answer using

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

Samudrayaan Project

Recent Context :

Two Indian aquanauts dived 5,000+ metres in the Atlantic aboard French submersible Nautilie as part of training for India's first manned deep-sea mission, Samudrayaan Project.

ABOUT-

1. **Objective:** Explore deep ocean up to 6,000 m for resources, biodiversity, and scientific research.
2. **Approval:** 2021, under Deep Ocean Mission (DOM) with ₹4,077 crore outlay.
3. **Submersible:** Matsya-6000, capacity three aquanauts, 12-hour missions (96 hours emergency).
4. **Technology:** Personnel sphere 2.1 m, titanium alloy, electron-beam welded, indigenously developed acoustic communication.

Survey: Focus on polymetallic nodules in manganese, cobalt, nickel, rare earths.
Agency: National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) for submersible

Samudrayaan Project

Recent Context :

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ABOUT-

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2. **Approval:** 2021, under Deep Ocean Mission (DOM) with ₹4,077 crore outlay.
3. **Submersible:** Matsya-6000, capacity three aquanauts, 12-hour missions (96 hours emergency).

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MATSYA 6000

Update: India's first manned submersible, Matsya 6000, will be launched under the Deep Ocean Mission by 2026.

- **Matsya 6000:** A manned submersible for underwater exploration.
- **Development:** Built by NIOT Chennai under the Samudrayaan Project.
- **Objectives:** Explore marine biodiversity, survey mineral resources, and support oceanic research.
- **Budget:** Part of ₹4,077 crore Deep Ocean Mission.

**S1 IS WRONG
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42. Which of the following statements with regard to **Large Language Models (LLMs)** used in machine learning is/are correct?

1. LLMs assign probabilities to the next possible words and then pick the one with the highest probability.
2. LLMs process data through mathematical optimization to minimise prediction errors.
3. LLMs produce unbiased outputs.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

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LARGE LANGUAGE MODEL



About

1. LLMs are AI systems trained on massive text data to understand and generate language.
2. Use transformer architecture with billions of parameters.
3. Work by tokenisation, embeddings, self-attention, and next-token prediction.
4. Enable text generation, translation, summarisation, and coding.
5. Capable of zero-shot reasoning and in-context learning.
6. Support multilingual communication and global accessibility.
7. Challenges include bias, hallucinations, and data privacy issues.
8. Core to AI ecosystems, governance, and digital transformation.



54. 'X' was addressing a seminar on the meaning of the term 'law' as provided under Article 13, Part III of the Constitution of India. 'X' explained that the meaning of the term 'law' in the Constitution of India was very comprehensive. It included ordinances, orders and even rules and regulations. 'Y' pointed out that the term 'law' in Article 13 also included custom or usage having in the territory of India the force of law, to which 'X' was not convinced.

Based on the above, select the correct conclusion from the options given below:

- (a) 'X' is correct in the interpretation of law, including the view on non-inclusion of custom.
- (b) The view of 'Y' that 'law' included custom is not correct.
- (c) The views of both 'X' and 'Y' are correct.
- (d) The view of only 'Y' is correct.

3. ARTICLE 13: LAWS INCONSISTENT WITH FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

- **Core Doctrine:** Expressly provides for the **Doctrine of Judicial Review** (*The power of courts to the constitutionality of legislative enactments and executive orders*).
- **Enforcing Courts:** Power conferred upon the **Supreme Court (Article 32)** and **High Courts (Article 226)** to declare a law unconstitutional and void.
- **Definition of "Law" in Art 13:** Extremely wide. Includes:
 - Permanent laws (Acts of Parliament/State Legislature).
 - Temporary laws (**Ordinances** by President/Governors).
 - Statutory instruments (**Order, bye-law, rule, regulation, notification**).
 - Non-legislative sources (**Custom or usage** having the force of law).
- **The Amendment Caveat (Article 13(4)):** Inserted by **24th CAA 1971**. Declared that a Constitutional Amendment is **NOT** a law under Article 13 and hence cannot be challenged.
 - *Kesavananda Bharati Ruling (1973)*: SC modified this, stating a Constitutional Amendment can be challenged if it violates a Fundamental Right that forms a part of the "**Basic Structure**".

**EXPLAINED IN BTS
CLASSES ART 13
AND "LAW"**



DIRECT HITS IN PRELIMS 2026 FROM X IAS NOTES/CLASSES

56. Which of the following statements with regard to the persons with disabilities in India is/are correct?

1. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, an Act passed by the Parliament of India in 2018, mandates reservation in education and employment, places a legal duty on Governments to ensure accessibility and non-discrimination.
2. The Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan focuses on achieving universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities across three key domains – built infrastructure, transport systems and information and communication technology.
3. The National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC) is a public sector organisation set up by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs as a not-for-profit company to promote entrepreneurship among Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

5. **Inclusivity:** Aligned with **Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan)**; ramps, Braille signage, tactile paths, accessible toilets, lifts in subways/FOBs.
6. **Urban Integration:** Stations act as **multimodal city centres**, connecting bus, metro, and city infrastructure.
7. **Sustainability Focus:** Incorporates **eco-friendly and noise-reducing infrastructure** to enhance urban mobility and environmental standards.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

Recent Update: Supreme Court directed the Centre to frame rules under the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016** to ensure **accessibility in public places**.

About:

- Constitutional provisions ensure **equality and justice** for persons with disabilities, including **Articles 14, 19, and 21**.
- Panchayats and municipalities are responsible for **social welfare** under the **XIth and XIIth Schedule**.

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8. Consider the following statements about the archaeological findings in Harappan towns:

- I. There is wide occurrence of spindle-whorls in the houses but absence of spinning wheels.
- II. Weights and measurement scales, complete with graduations have been discovered.
- III. There are houses built in large part with baked bricks, around relatively spacious courtyards, with their own wells, bathing platforms, and large rooms.

Which of the following inferences can be drawn from the above statements?

1. Statement I suggests that spinning was a laborious activity done at home.
2. Statement II suggests the extent of the scientific knowledge that the Harappans possessed.
3. Statement III suggests the emergence of a common property system.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

manufacture of these beads.

The Harappan people also made brilliantly naturalistic models of animals, especially monkeys and squirrels, used as pin-heads and beads.

It is evident from the discovery of a large number of spindles and spindle whorls in the houses of the Indus

Valley that spinning of cotton and wool was very common. The fact that both the rich and the poor practised spinning is indicated by finds of whorls made of the expensive faience

citadel. Generally, the part to the east was larger but lower. This is called the lower town. Very often walls of baked brick were built around each part. The bricks were so well made that they have lasted for thousands of years. The bricks were laid in an interlocking pattern and that made the walls strong.

restricted to a fixed area on the platforms. So it seems that the settlement was first planned and then implemented accordingly. Other signs of planning include bricks, which, whether sun-dried or baked, were of a standardised ratio, where the length and breadth were four times and twice the

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57. Consider the following statements about the provisions pertaining to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in India:

1. Provisions regarding the administration of the Tribal Areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram are given in the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
2. Some tribes of India are entitled to exemption from paying Income Tax on certain incomes.
3. The Constitution of India provides for reservation of seats in Panchayats for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct?

- (a) There are two correct statements, that include statement 2.
- (b) There are two correct statements, that are statements 1 and 3.
- (c) There is only one correct statement.
- (d) All three statements are correct.

- **Sixth Schedule of the Constitution contains special provisions for the administration of tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.**
- In these states, certain tribal areas are designated as **Autonomous Districts** with **District and Regional Councils**, enjoying legislative, administrative and judicial powers.
- The **Governor of Assam** plays a **key role**:
 - He can **organise and reorganise autonomous districts**, alter their boundaries, or change names.
 - He also has oversight powers over laws passed by District Councils.
- These powers are **unique to Assam's Governor** and not found in Bihar, MP, or Arunachal Pradesh.

- **Election of Members & Chairpersons (Article 243C):**
 - **Members:** ALL members at village, intermediate, and district levels **MUST** be elected **DIRECTLY** by the people.
 - **Chairpersons (Intermediate & District):** **MUST** be elected **INDIRECTLY** by and from amongst the elected members thereof.
 - **Chairperson (Village):** Election manner is left strictly to the **State Legislature**.
- **Reservation of Seats (Article 243D):**
 - **SC/STs:** Reservation provided at all three levels exactly in proportion to their population.
 - **Women:** **Strictly NOT LESS THAN 1/3rd of the total number of seats (including those reserved for SC/ST women) must be reserved for women.**
 - **Chairperson Reservation:** Not less than 1/3rd of the total number of offices of chairpersons at all levels reserved for women.
 - **OBC Exception:** Reservation for Backward Classes is strictly a **Voluntary provision** (left to the discretion of the State Legislature).
- **3 Absolute Exceptions to Parliamentary Supremacy:**
 1. **Presidential Regulations:** The President can make regulations for 4 UTs (**A&N Islands, Lakshadweep, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Ladakh**). Such regulations have the same force as an Act of Parliament and can completely repeal/amend parliamentary laws.
 2. **Governor's Power (Fifth Schedule):** The Governor can direct that an Act of Parliament does NOT apply to a **Scheduled Area** in the state or applies with specific modifications.
 3. **Governor/President Power (Sixth Schedule):** The Governor of Assam (for tribal areas in Assam) and the President (**for tribal areas in Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram**) can direct that a parliamentary act does NOT apply or applies with modifications to **Autonomous Districts**.



62. Which of the following statements about a Zero First Information Report (Zero FIR) under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 is/are correct?

1. A Zero FIR can be lodged at a police station, even though the place of commission of a cognizable/non-cognizable offence is outside the territorial jurisdiction of that police station.
2. The Officer-in-Charge of the police station where a Zero FIR has been lodged may, with the permission of the competent authority, initiate a preliminary enquiry.
3. Under Zero FIR, it is obligatory for the informant to furnish information electronically.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

- **Zero FIR** → FIR can be filed anywhere irrespective of jurisdiction+Tr station+Important in crimes against women.
- **Personality Rights** → Right to publicity/privacy+Derived from Article misuse disputes increasing.
- **OBC Creamy Layer** → Applies only to OBCs+Income/social advancement case important+Not applicable to SC/ST.
- **NCBC** → Constitutional status via 102nd Amendment+Article 338B+grievances and inclusion.
- **Contempt of Court** → Civil contempt → disobedience+Criminal contempt judiciary+Contempt of Courts Act 1971 important.
- **Civil vs Criminal Contempt** → Civil for non-compliance+Criminal for authority+Truth can be defence.
- **Right to Recall** → Direct democracy mechanism+Not available national laws+Linked with participatory governance.

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Other two statements
are artificially made by
examiner hence not in
X IAS content !



88. Which one of the following correctly represents the three key sub-indices of the Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- (a) Credit access, Insurance depth, and Pension coverage
- (b) Banking access, GDP contribution, and Financial literacy
- (c) Access, Usage, and Quality
- (d) Access, Affordability, and Transparency

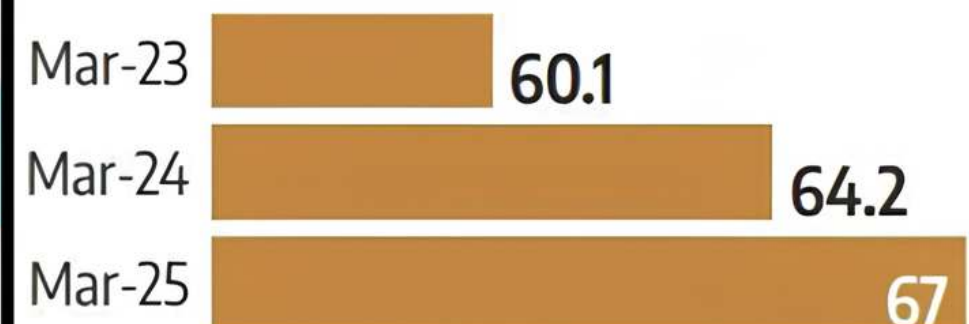
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Financial Inclusion in India

Recent Context - India's Financial Inclusion Index rises to 67 in 2025, supported by PMJDY, PMSBY, APY, MUDRA, KCC, UPI, and women-focused schemes, enhancing access, usage, quality, and digital empowerment.

Improving parameters RBI financial-inclusion index



Source: RBI



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63. With reference to the organisations under the Government of India, consider the following details:

Organisation	Function	Controlling Union Ministry
1. Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB)	To coordinate between various law enforcement agencies	Ministry of Home Affairs
2. Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO)	To investigate complex corporate frauds	Ministry of Finance
3. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	To preserve values in public life and ensure the health of the national economy	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

In how many of the above rows are the given details correctly matched?

(a) 1

SERIOUS FRAUD INVESTIGATION OFFICE (SFIO)

Recent Update:

SFIO investigates corporate frauds, operating under the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs**.

About:

Established in **2015**.

- Focus on **white-collar crime** detection and prosecution.
- Headquartered in **New Delhi**, with regional offices in major cities.

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2. CENTRAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (CBI)

- **Establishment:** Set up in **1963** by an **Executive Resolution** of the Ministry of Home Affairs. (Later transferred to the **Ministry of Personnel**).
- **Status Doctrine:** The CBI is completely a **Non-Statutory Body**. It derives its powers strictly from the **Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946**.
- **Origin Committee:** Recommended by the **Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption (1962-1964)**.
- **Appointment of CBI Director:** Appointed by the Central Government on the recommendation of a 3-member committee:
 1. **Prime Minister** (Chairperson)
 2. **Leader of Opposition (LoP) in Lok Sabha** (or leader of single largest opposition party)
 3. **Chief Justice of India (CJI)** or a sitting SC Judge nominated by CJI.



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11. Consider the following assertion:

In the Pleistocene period either the Yamuna once flowed into the Indus, or the Sutlej flowed into the Yamuna and one major tributary of either had shifted from the Ganga to the Indus or vice versa.

Which of the following is/are the basis of the above assertion?

1. The Nadi-Sukta of the Rigveda
2. The explorations of the Sutlej and the Yamuna by Robert Bruce Foote
3. The presence of the same species of dolphins in both the Indus and the Ganga river systems

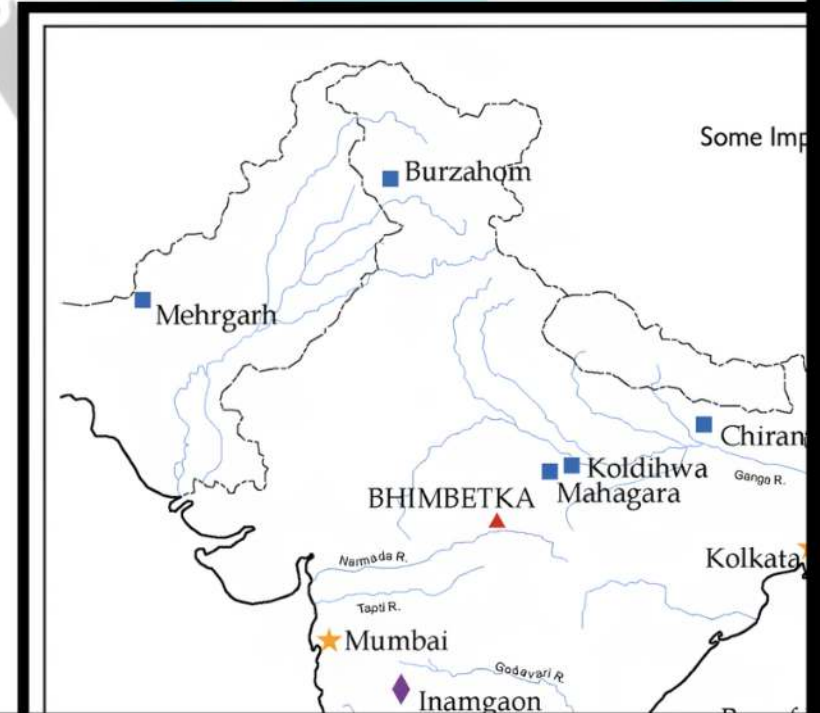
Select the answer using the code given below:

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

ROBERT FOOTE is geologist known for paleolithic tools , not for Yamuna explorations. so S2 is wrong .

A. Palaeolithic Age (Old Stone Age: up to ~10000 BCE)

- **Terminology:** The term 'Palaeolithic' was officially coined by the British archaeologist John Lubbock.
- **Lower Palaeolithic Culture (upto ~400,000 BP [Before Present]):**
 - **Human Ancestor: Homo erectus.**
Lived as nomadic hunter-gatherers in open air, river valleys, and caves.
 - **Tools:** Hand axes (teardrop-shaped), cleavers (broad cutting edges), and choppers. This specific tool-making tradition is universally called the **Acheulian industry** (named after the site of St. Acheul in France).
 - **First Discovery: Robert Bruce Foote** (A British geologist working for the Geological Survey of India) discovered the absolute first Palaeolithic tool in India at **Pallavaram** (near Chennai) in **1863**.
 - **Key Sites & Discoveries:**



Reference:

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Consider the following statements regarding the British policy in Awadh immediately after its annexation in 1856:

1. The taluqdars were dispossessed of their estates but allowed to retain their arms and forts.
2. A Summary Revenue Settlement was made in 1856 assuming that the taluqdars were outsiders.
3. The British believed in taking revenue directly from the peasants by removing the taluqdars.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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- iv. The Indian trade and mercantile class was deliberately crippled by the British who imposed high tariff duties on Indian-made goods.
- v. At the same time, the import of British goods into India attracted low tariffs, thus encouraging their entry into India.
- vi. Free Trade and refusal to impose protective duties against machine-made goods from Britain simply killed Indian manufacture.
- vii. Zamindars, the traditional landed aristocracy, often saw their land rights forfeited with frequent use of a *quo warranto* by the administration.

EXAMPLE- In Awadh, the storm centre of the revolt, 21,000 taluqdars had their estates confiscated and suddenly found themselves without a source of income, "unable to work, ashamed to beg, condemned to penury".

S1 is wrong. hence eliminated . ans A.

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66. Which of the following connectivity projects is/are a part of cooperation between India and the ASEAN member countries?

1. Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project
2. IMT Trilateral Highway
3. Agartala-Akhaura Rail Line

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

INDIA'S MAJOR OVERSEAS PORT INVESTMENTS

Recent Update: US pressure on Iran regarding Chabahar Port raises concerns over India's overseas port investments.

About:

- **Haifa Port (Israel):** Strengthens India-Israel trade and Mediterranean connectivity.
- **Mongla & Chittagong Ports (Bangladesh):** Improves India-Bangladesh trade and Northeast connectivity.
- **Duqm Port (Oman):** Enhances India's Gulf presence and naval operations.
- **Sittwe Port (Myanmar):** Part of Kaladan Project, boosts connectivity with ASEAN and Northeast India.

India-ASEAN Relations

Recent Context :

Amid **China's** assertiveness and US strategic shifts, ASEAN is central to India's **Act East Policy** and **Indo-Pacific vision**, promoting a **free, rules-based, and resilient Indo-Pacific**.

ABOUT-

1. Economic & Trade:

- ASEAN: 650 million people, \$3.2 trillion GDP, 11% of India's global trade.
- India withdrew from RCEP (2019); trade deficit \$45.2B (2024-25).

2. FDI & Connectivity:

- Singapore: largest ASEAN FDI source.
- Key projects: **IMT Trilateral Highway**, **Kaladan Multi-Modal Transport (KMMT)**.

3. Defense & Security:

- Cooperation via **BrahMos** sale to Philippines, **ADMM-Plus**, **EAS**, and **ARF**.
- Support for **rules-based regional order**, aligned with **SAGAR doctrine**.

4. Energy & Technology:



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ANS A



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89. Which one of the following best describes the key objective of India's 'Open Network for Digital Commerce' (ONDC) initiative?

- (a) To allow government control over all digital commerce transactions
- (b) To replace private e-commerce players
- (c) To break the dominance of large e-commerce platforms by enabling interoperability across networks
- (d) To mandate UPI-based payments for all online transactions

About:

1. ONDC is an open digital network launched in 2022 to democratise e-commerce.
2. Initiative of Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.
3. Enables interoperability between buyers and sellers across platforms.
4. Reduces platform monopolies and promotes fair competition.
5. Supports MSMEs and small sellers with wider market access.
6. Expands use cases beyond retail, including services and ticketing (e.g., ASI monuments).
7. Built on open-source protocols for scalability and innovation.
8. Key pillar in India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) ecosystem.

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- up 1,452%; 4.74 lakh 5G towers cover 99.6% districts; BharatNet connected 2.18 lakh GPs.
- 2. Digital Finance: UPI handles 49% of global real-time transactions, operational in 7+ countries; DBT transferred ₹44 lakh crore via Aadhaar, removing crores of fake beneficiaries.
- 3. E-Commerce Platforms: ONDC onboarded lakhs of sellers; GeM has 22.5 lakh sellers and 1.6 lakh govt buyers.

SOURCE :

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81. 'X', born in the UK, was conferred the Nobel Prize in 2025. He was a professor in an American university when this prize was announced. Identify 'X':

- (a) Michel H. Devoret
- (b) Richard Robson
- (c) John Clarke
- (d) Joel Mokyr



- 7. **Quantum Tech Impact:** Foundation for quantum computing and ultra-sensitive sensors.
- 8. **Scientific Bridge:** Connects microscopic quantum rules with real-world engineering.

THE SVERIGES RIKSBANK PRIZE IN ECONOMIC SCIENCES IN MEMORY OF ALFRED NOBEL 2025

About Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences:

- Establishment:** Created in 1968 by **Sveriges Riksbank**; it is **not** part of Alfred Nobel's original 1895 will but is awarded alongside Nobel Prizes.
- Awarding Body:** Conferred by the **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences**, with the first award given in 1969 to Frisch and Tinbergen.
- Indian Laureate:** **Amartya Sen** won in 1998 for welfare economics and social choice theory.
- Joel Mokyr's Contribution:** Identified prerequisites for sustained technological progress, including science-technology co-evolution, mechanical competence, and openness to change.

NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY 2025

Recent Update: Awarded to **Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson, and Omar M. Yaghi** for developing **Metal-Organic Frameworks (MOFs)**.

About

- MOF Structure:** Built from metal ions and organic linkers forming network frameworks.
- Porous Design:** Large internal cavities make MOFs extremely porous.
- Customisable:** Metals and linkers can be changed to tune pore size and chemistry.
- Gas Storage:** Useful for storing hydrogen, methane, and CO₂.
- Catalysis:** High surface area supports efficient reactions.
- Environmental Use:** Applied in water purification and pollutant capture.
- Industrial Relevance:** Important for sensors, batteries, and green chemistry.

SOURCE :
X IAS CURRENT AFFAIRS MODULE
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95. Which of the following statements about Rare Earth Elements (REEs) and Critical Minerals is/are correct?

1. Modern technological innovations including Artificial Intelligence, robotics and space exploration extensively utilise Rare Earth Elements (REEs).
2. China has the highest share in mining of REEs followed by India.
3. The Government of India launched the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) in 2025 to establish a robust framework for self-reliance in the critical mineral sector.
4. Rare Earth Elements are a set of 13 metallic elements.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

INDIA'S RARE EARTH STRATEGY

Recent Update: Budget 2026-27 announced Rare Earth Corridors and ₹7,280 crore REPM scheme

About

1. India's strategy focuses on building an integrated rare earth value chain covering mining, processing, R&D, and manufacturing.
2. Rare Earth Elements (REEs) include 17 elements (lanthanides + scandium + yttrium) critical for advanced technologies.
3. Rare Earth Permanent Magnets (REPMs) are essential for EVs, wind turbines, aerospace, and defence systems.
4. India has 13.15 million tonnes monazite reserves with 7.23 million tonnes REO, monazite metal sands.

6. Critical Minerals — India's Priority List

India identified 30 critical minerals (29 + Rare Earth as group). REE: 17 elements (lanthanides + Sc + Y). wind turbines, defence. Germanium — China imposed export restrictions 2023 (semiconductor use). India 100% import dependent on many. Critical minerals are not Rare minerals (some abundant but strategically important).

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90. Which one of the following statements about India's 'Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Central Bank Digital Currency (Digital Rupee)' is not correct?

- (a) UPI is a real-time payment system but Digital Rupee is akin to sovereign paper currency.
- (b) In case of UPI, settlement for end users happens instantly as the money gets immediately debited or credited but in case of Digital Rupee, there is no settlement as the wallet balance gets transferred to another wallet.
- (c) UPI transactions are recorded by banks and reflected in bank statements but in case of Digital Rupee, no data is captured in bank statements as transactions are from one wallet to another.
- (d) In both the cases (UPI and Digital Rupee), the liability lies with the users and their respective banks.

CBDC-BASED DIGITAL FOOD COUPONS

Recent Update Pilot launched for PDS reform using digital rupee (₹)

About

1. Uses Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) in Public Distribution System
2. Ensures **direct transfer of benefits into digital wallets**
3. Allows usage only for **foodgrain purchase at Fair Price Shops**
4. Enables **real-time, traceable, and secure transactions**
5. **CBDC is legal tender issued by RBI under RBI Act, 1934**
6. Improves **transparency** and reduces leakages in **welfare delivery**
7. Empowers beneficiaries with **targeted subsidy utilization**
8. Strengthens **digital governance and financial inclusion**

UPI AS WORLD'S LARGEST REAL-TIME PAYMENT SYSTEM

Recent Update: IMF recognises UPI as world's largest real-time payment system, accounting for 49% of global transactions

About

1. **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** is an **instant, interoperable, bank-to-bank digital payment system**.
2. Operated by **NPCI** and regulated by **RBI**.
3. Enables **real-time 24x7 transfers** within **seconds**.
4. Offers **interoperability** across banks, apps, QR codes, and merchants.
5. **Zero/low MDR** structure promotes mass adoption among small vendors.
6. Handles **billions of monthly transactions** through scalable architecture.
7. Supports **P2P, P2M, autopay, credit lines, RuPay linkage, and cross-border payments**.
8. Strengthens **digital inclusion and cashless economy transformation**.

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67. Match List I with List II and select the answer using the code given below the Lists:

List I (Project Supported by India)

List II (Country)

- A. Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project
- B. Restoration of Stor Palace
- C. District Hospital at Dickoya
- D. Institute of Security and Law Enforcement Studies

- 1. Maldives
- 2. Afghanistan
- 3. Bhutan
- 4. Sri Lanka

Codes:

	A	B	C	D
(a)	1	4	2	3
(b)	3	2	4	1
(c)	3	4	2	1
(d)	1	2	4	3

3. Key projects include **Chukha, Tala, Mangdechhu, and Punatsangchhu** hydropower projects.

4. Hydropower exports form a major part of **Bhutan's revenue** and **India's energy supply**.

5. Joint **hydro-meteorological networks** provide real-time flood data.

6. Collaboration includes **Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF)** monitoring.

7. India provides **technical expertise and capacity building through agencies like WAPCOS**.

8. Represents a model of **successful water diplomacy and regional cooperation**.



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34. Which of the following geographical features or phenomena is/are associated with the Peninsular Block of India?

1. Submergence of parts of the western coast due to tectonic activity
2. Presence of residual mountain ranges such as the Veliconda hills and Mahendragiri hills
3. Deep, V-shaped river valleys formed by fast-flowing rivers

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

SOURCE :
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GEOGRAPHY LEVEL 1, CLASS 12

Since the Cambrian period, the Peninsula has been standing like a rigid block with the exception of some of its western coast which is submerged beneath the sea and some other parts changed due to tectonic activity without affecting the original basement. As a part of the Indo-Australian Plate, it has been subjected

to various vertical movements and block faulting. The rift valleys of the Narmada, the Tapi and the Mahanadi and the Satpura block mountains are some examples of it. The Peninsula mostly consists of relict and residual mountains like the Aravali hills, the Nallamala hills, the Javadi hills, the Veliconda hills, the

→ ie old fold mts.

Peninsular Block
m/s
STRUCTURE AND PHYSIOGRAPHY
Peninsular Block m/s + old mts + You are aware of the method of calculating the gradient of your study of the book

Palkonda range and the Mahendragiri hills, etc. The river valleys here are shallow with low gradients.



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69. Consider the following statements about platforms for multilateral co-operation:

1. The 'Colombo Process' is a regional consultative process in which member states take binding decisions by consensus.
2. The 'Abu Dhabi Dialogue' is a voluntary non-binding consultative process among Asian countries of labour origin and destination to facilitate regional cooperation on contractual labour mobility.
3. The 'Global Forum for Migration and Development', created upon the proposal of a former UN Secretary General, is a voluntary forum whose decisions are non-binding in nature.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

COLOMBO PROCESS

Recent Update: India chaired its first meeting as Chair of the Colombo Process.

About Colombo Process:

- A regional consultative platform for managing overseas employment and contractual labor.
- Comprises 12 Asian member states, including Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. India is a founding member.
- Key priorities: Skills and qualification recognition, ethical recruitment practices.
- Supported by the UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM).

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94. Which one of the following best describes the 'Crowding Out Effect' in the context of fiscal policy?

- (a) A situation where private investment increases due to increased Government spending
- (b) A situation where Government borrowing leads to higher interest rates, which reduces private investment
- (c) A situation where an increase in taxes leads to increased private sector investment
- (d) A situation where Government spending has no impact on aggregate demand

Solution: All statements are correct. Crowding out occurs when government borrowing competes with private sector borrowing, pushing up interest rates and reducing private investment, especially when the economy is close to full capacity.

Value Addition:

Crowding out is a key argument against high fiscal deficits in developed economies. It is less prominent in economies with excess capacity.

Assertion (A) is true: The "Crowding Out" effect is a well-known economic concept where increased government borrowing to finance deficits absorbs a large share of available savings or loanable funds, leaving less available for private sector borrowing and investment.

Reason (R) is true: The primary mechanism through which crowding out occurs is the impact on the market for loanable funds. Increased government demand for funds shifts the demand curve outwards, leading to higher equilibrium interest rates (unless offset by monetary policy or other factors). Higher interest rates increase the cost of borrowing for private firms, discouraging private investment projects that might otherwise have been profitable.

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- Internal debt (loans from banks, bonds, savings schemes)
- External debt (sovereign bonds, multilateral/bilateral borrowings)
- 5. **Risks of High Public Debt:** Increased interest burden, limited fiscal space, crowding out private investment, inflationary pressures, intergenerational burden.
- 6. **Global Context:** IMF projects global public debt above 95% of GDP in 2025, reaching 100% by 2030; India still performing better than many EMEs.

SOURCE :

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86. Which of the following statements regarding the features of blockchain technology are correct?

1. Records stored in the database may be made visible to relevant stakeholders without risk of alteration.
2. Copies of the entire database are stored on multiple computers on a network, syncing within seconds.
3. Consortium blockchain is a blend of public and private blockchains allowing selective data access.
4. Mathematical algorithms make it impossible to change or delete any data once recorded and accepted.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Blockchain Technology

Blockchain is a distributed ledger technology (DLT) that enables secure, transparent, and tamper-proof transactions without a central authority. It consists of blocks that store transaction data, which are linked to each other using cryptographic hashes, forming a chain.

Key Characteristics of Blockchain

- **Decentralized:** No single entity controls the system.
- **Immutable:** Once recorded, data cannot be altered.
- **Transparent:** All transactions are visible to participants.

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5. Completion – The transaction is permanently recorded and visible to all participants.

Types of Blockchain

Type	Access Level	Examples
Public	Open to everyone	Bitcoin, Ethereum
Private	Controlled access	Hyperledger, Corda
Consortium	Controlled by a group of	R3 Corda, Quorum

Type	Access Level	Examples
	organizations	
Hybrid	Combines elements of public & private blockchains	IBM Blockchain

SOURCE :

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DIRECT HITS IN PRELIMS 2026 FROM X IAS NOTES/CLASSES

98. With reference to different Committees in India, consider the following details:

Committee	Objective	Organisation under which it was formed
1. R.N. Malhotra Committee	Comprehensive reforms of Insurance sector in India	Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India
2. L.C. Gupta Committee	Preparing a roadmap for the introduction of derivatives trading in India	Securities and Exchange Board of India
3. Urjit R. Patel Committee	Preparing a roadmap for reforming bank lending to the Housing sector	Reserve Bank of India
4. Y.H. Malegam Committee	Preparing a roadmap for reforms in Microfinance sector in India	Reserve Bank of India

In which of the above rows are all the details correctly matched?

- 2 only
- 2 and 3
- 1, 3 and 4
- 2 and 4

RBI'S FLEXIBLE INFLATION TARGETING (FIT) FRAMEWORK

RECENT UPDATE:

RBI reaffirmed the FIT framework's success in keeping inflation around 4–5% (2016–2025) despite global shocks.

ABOUT:

- Origin:** Adopted in 2016 based on **Urjit Patel Committee (2014)** recommendations.
- Structure:** CPI-based target at 4% $\pm$ 2%, reviewed every 5 years.
- Key Body:** Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) established under **RBI Act, 1934 (amended)**.
- Successes:** Achieved disinflation, anchored expectations, and improved transparency.
- Challenges:** Global shocks, outdated CPI base year (2012), and internal MPC disagreements.

Microfinance in India

Recent Context

RBI Deputy Governor warned of a microfinance crisis as gross loan portfolio fell 13.9% and NPAs surged to ₹55,000 crore, driven by defaults, over-indebtedness, and rising borrower distress.

7 Key Facts for Prelims

- Definition** – Small-ticket loans, savings, insurance for low-income households excluded from formal banking.
- Objective** – Financial inclusion, poverty alleviation, and entrepreneurship without collateral.
- History** – 1974: SEWA Bank (India's first MFI); 1976: Grameen Bank concept; 2010: Malegam Committee norms.
- Regulator** – Reserve Bank of India (NBFC-MFI regulations under RBI Act, 1934).
- crore; average loan size: ₹53,897; sharp fall in disbursements (-34% YoY).

SOURCE :

X IAS CURRENT AFFAIRS MODULE & PRELIMS



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99. Consider the following statements about the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) in India:

1. NBFCs cannot accept demand deposits.
2. All the NBFCs operating in India have to be registered with the RBI.
3. NBFCs form part of the payment and settlement system and can issue cheque drawn on itself.
4. Deposit insurance facility of Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) is not available to the depositors of deposit taking NBFCs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- Banks are financial institutions authorised to accept deposits, grant loans, and provide a range of financial services to individuals and businesses.
- NBFCs (NBFCs), though engaged in financial services, do not hold a banking licence and mainly focus on term lending, leasing, infrastructure finance, and other specific financial functions.
- NBFCs cannot accept demand deposits, and their regulation is less stringent compared to banks.
- Banks play a larger role in monetary policy, whereas NBFCs cater to niche credit needs, especially of large enterprises and long-term finance.

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9. SEBI vs RBI — Jurisdiction Overlap

SEBI: regulates securities market, listed companies, mutual funds, stock exchanges, credit rating agencies. RBI: regulates banks, NBFCs, monetary policy, payment systems. Overlap areas: Corporate bonds (both), Housing Finance Companies (moved to RBI from NHB), payment aggregators. UPSC asks: which entity regulates what specific financial product.



100. Consider the following statements about Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI):

1. MPI is calculated using Alkire-Foster methodology.
2. MPI calculated by NITI Aayog has a total of twelve indicators.
3. Maternal Health and Bank Account are common indicators in the MPI of NITI Aayog and MPI of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A. NITI Aayog

Solution:

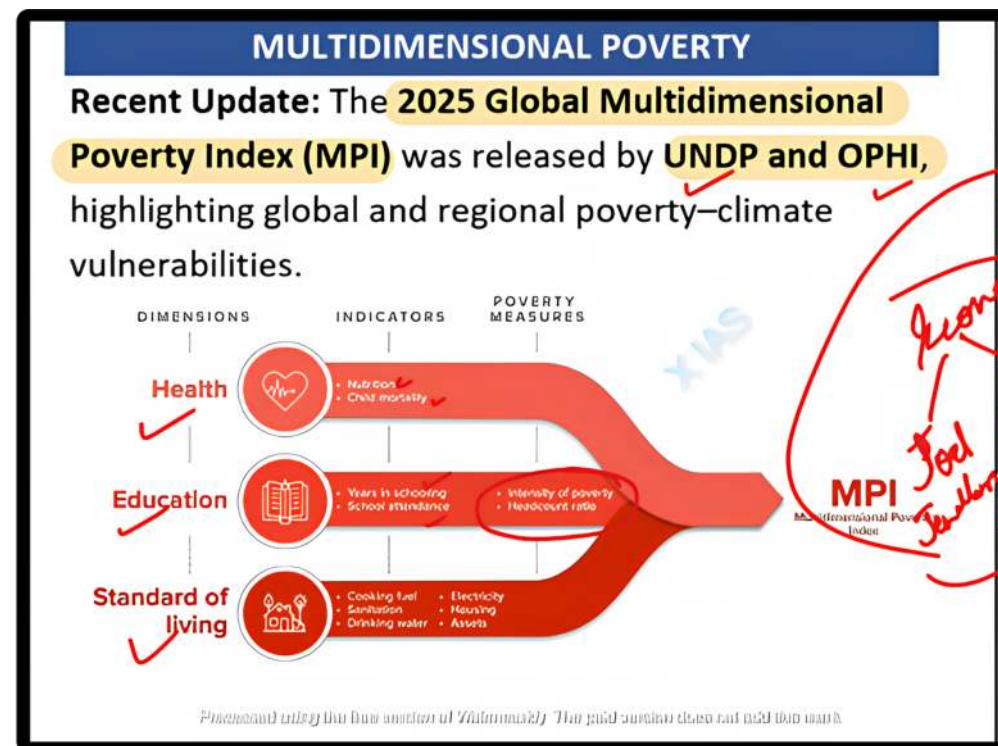
The National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) is released by NITI Aayog, developed with technical support from the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) and UNDP.

Value Addition:

It captures poverty using 12 indicators across health, education, and standard of living. This index aligns India's poverty assessment methodology with the global MPI framework used in over 100 countries.

10. Global Indices — Key Facts

WEF Energy Transition Index: measures progress towards clean energy expectancy), education (mean/expected years of schooling), income (GDP per capita).
Multidimensional Poverty Index (NITI Aayog) — state-level. SDG Index.



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DIRECT HITS IN PRELIMS 2026 FROM X IAS NOTES/CLASSES

91. Which of the following statements about Real-World Assets (RWA) **Tokenization** are correct?

1. Tokenization is the process of turning real world assets into digital tokens using blockchain technology.
2. **Tokenization of real world assets offers 24×7 access, promoting financial inclusion.**
3. Tokenization of real world assets will allow the access to high growth investment opportunities for individuals in India.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

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UPSC PRELIMS 2026 – HIGH-VALUE ECONOMIC TERMS (2025–26)
(Curated from The Hindu, Indian Express, Economic Survey, RBI, IMF, World Bank, PIB)

1. **Tokenisation**

Tokenisation refers to replacing **actual card details (like card number, CVV)** with a unique **digital token** during transactions. This **ensures** that even if data is intercepted, it cannot be misused.
Exam Insight: RBI has mandated tokenisation for card payments. It is **data substitution, not encryption**.

**SOURCE :
COVERED IN X IAS NOTES**



UPSC PRELIMS 2026 – HIGH-VALUE ECONOMIC TERMS (2025–26) X IAS PRELIMS revision charts



No.	Term	Core Idea (Understanding)	Exam Insight
1	Tokenisation	Replace card details with digital token	RBI mandate; not encryption
2	Pre-pack Insolvency	Pre-negotiated insolvency resolution	Only MSMEs



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14. Which of the following statements on the Amaravati Stupa and its relief sculpture is/are correct?

1. It was located in the lower Krishna valley.
2. In India, it was next only to the Sanchi Stupa in size.
3. The Amaravati school of sculpture made a lasting impact on the later South Indian sculpture, and its products were carried to Sri Lanka and South-east Asia.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

murals, and sculptures representing both Hinayana and Mahayana traditions.

- Option (b) is incorrect: Sanchi Stupa lies to the west of the Betwa River in Madhya Pradesh, built by Ashoka in the 3rd century BCE.
- Option (c) is incorrect: Pandu-Lena (Nasik) Caves are located near the Gomai River, not the Narmada.
- Option (d) is incorrect: Amaravati Stupa lies near the Krishna River, not the Godavari.



2. The artificially fixed rupee-sterling exchange rate prescribed by the Hilton-Young Commission (1926) was adopted by the British Government for which one of the following reasons?
- (a) Aiding the flow of remittances from India and maintaining India's creditworthiness
 - (b) Providing support to Indian importers
 - (c) Encouraging export of cotton produce from India
 - (d) Preventing depreciation of the Rupee in terms of gold

1.3 Reserve Bank of India — History, Structure and Functions

- **Established:** RBI Act 1934 → commenced operations **April 1, 1935** on recommendation of **Hilton Young Commission (1926)**. HQ: initially Calcutta; shifted to **Mumbai 1937**.
- **Ownership:** Originally a private shareholders' bank. **Nationalised January 1, 1949** under Transfer to Public Ownership Act, 1948. Now 100% government-owned.
- **Governor:** Appointed by Central Government; term **3 years (renewable)**. Current: **Sanjay Malhotra** (appointed December 2024, succeeding Shaktikanta Das).
- **Central Board:** 21 members — 1 Governor + up to 4 Deputy Governors + 2 government nominees + 10 nominated directors + 4 local board directors.



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25. Identify the river of the Indian sub-continent on the basis of the following information:

1. It has an **antecedent drainage** system.
2. It flows through three countries.
3. **It** originates in the Tibetan Plateau and is an important river for irrigation.
4. It does not form distributaries.

Select the answer from the following:

- (a) Brahmaputra
- (b) Indus
- (c) Sutlej
- (d) Teesta

tributary streams flowing in **SAME direction** as master stream; originate later; usually smaller tributaries

- **Antecedent drainage** — rivers **pre-dating** the mountains; maintained course through continuous downcutting as land rose; examples — **Indus, Sutlej, Ganga, Ghaghra, Kali, Gandak, Kosi, Brahmaputra**

- **Superimposed drainage** — rivers developed over newer

Harke, projects — **Fong Dam, Pandon Dam**

- **Satluj**: Origin — **Raksas Tal** near Mansarovar, Tibet (called **Langchen Khambab** in Tibet); through **Shipki La (HP)**; projects — **Bhakra Nangal Project, Gobind Ballabh Sagar**
- **Shyok River** (right bank) — drains northern Karakoram; joined by **Nubra River** (origin: Sia)
- **Suru River** — origin **Deosai mountains**; obsequent tributary; **Kargil** situated on its bank

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SATLUJ WATER IS WIDELY USED FOR IRRIGATION IN PANJAB through BHAKHRA NANGAL DAMS ETC . explained in class , green revolution etc.

- The Satluj River enters India from Tibet and flows through Himachal Pradesh and Punjab, south of the main course of the Spiti river before their confluence.



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Which one of the following statements about the Eka Movement and Bardoli Satyagraha is correct?

- (a) The Eka Movement was throughout supported and organized by the Congress while Bardoli Satyagraha was initially independent of Congress influence and was only in the last stages supported by the Congress.
- (b) The Eka Movement was provided leadership by the taluqdars of Awadh, whereas the Bardoli Satyagraha was a movement of the landless labourers.
- (c) The Bardoli Satyagraha was a campaign against the enhancement of land revenue, while the Eka Movement was a protest against excessive extraction of rents.
- (d) The Eka Movement was located in the Varanasi and Mirzapur districts of the present-day U.P., while the Bardoli Satyagraha took place in Saurashtra.

- **Eka Movement (1921-22)**: This was a peasant unity movement that emerged in the Awadh region of present-day Uttar Pradesh, protesting against high rents and landlord oppression. (C-4)
- **Birsa Munda revolt (1899-1900)**: This was a major tribal uprising, also known as the Ulgulan (Great Tumult), led by Birsa Munda against the encroachment of outsiders and the destruction of their traditional way of life in the Chotanagpur region of Bihar (now Jharkhand). (D-2)

- The **Bardoli Satyagraha of 1928** was a major peasant movement in the Bardoli taluka of Gujarat against an arbitrary and excessive hike in land revenue (by 30%) by the British government.
- The local Congress leaders invited Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel to lead the agitation.
- Patel organized the peasants with remarkable efficiency, dividing the region into camps and using methods of social boycott and non-violent resistance to defy the government. His masterful leadership earned him the title "Sardar" (leader) from the women of Bardoli. The movement was a resounding success, forcing the government to appoint an inquiry and reduce the revenue enhancement.



16. Which of the following factors contributed to the formation of the Forward Bloc by Subhas Chandra Bose in 1939?

1. Bose failed to win the confidence of Mahatma Gandhi.
2. The Congress Left was disunited and failed to support Bose.
3. The Communists did not support Bose in his endeavours.
4. The supporters of M.N. Roy and socialist leaders like Jayaprakash Narayan preferred Congress unity to supporting Bose.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

- In 1939, Subhas Chandra Bose was re-elected as the President of the Indian National Congress, defeating Mahatma Gandhi's preferred candidate, Pattabhi Sitaramayya. However, due to ideological differences with Gandhi and the Congress Working Committee, he resigned from the presidency.
- Immediately after his resignation, in May 1939, he announced the formation of the Forward Bloc as a new faction within the Congress.
- The aim of the Forward Bloc was to consolidate all the left-wing and radical elements within the party to push for a more militant and uncompromising struggle against British rule. It later emerged as an

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18. Consider the following assertion:

The genesis of political alliances based on community lay in the very nature of the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms, 1919.

Which of the following statements support/supports the above assertion?

1. Reforms retained and extended the principle of separate electorates.
2. Separate electorates were supposed to counter Indian nationalism, which was growing stronger.
3. Deprived classes rallied around the favours inherent in separate electorates.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Governor and his council) and Transferred subjects (administered by the Governor with the help of ministers responsible to the legislative council).

- **Statement 2 is incorrect. The introduction of separate communal electorates for Muslims was done earlier, by the Morley-Minto Reforms of 1909. The 1919 Act did not introduce them but extended the principle to other communities like Sikhs, Indian Christians, and Anglo-Indians.**

Montagu-Chelmsford Act, 1919:

- By demarcating and separating the central and provincial subjects, it retained the central control over the
- Extended the principle of communal representation among the Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians and Europeans.

SOURCE :

COVERED IN X IAS classes and Notes



23. Which of the following best explain(s) the rationale for protecting mangrove ecosystems in the context of climate resilience?

1. Mangroves reduce tidal energy and store **freshwater**, making them ideal sites for paddy cultivation in saline estuarine belts.
2. **Their salt-sensitive roots filter seawater**, making mangroves key to converting coastal land into freshwater aquaculture zones.
3. By withstanding tidal surges and offering biomass resources, mangroves function both as natural bio-shields and livelihood bases for rural communities.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

7. Act as **natural barriers against storm surges and tsunamis**, reducing coastal erosion.
8. Insights may help develop **salt-tolerant crops**, supporting climate-resilient agriculture.

WORLD MANGROVE DAY

Recent Update:

International Day for the Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystems is celebrated on July 26, as declared by **UNESCO** to raise awareness about the importance of **mangroves** in **coastal protection**, **storm mitigation**, and **carbon sequestration**.

About International Day for the Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystems:

- **Celebrated annually** on July 26.
- Established by **UNESCO** in **2015**.
- Focuses on raising awareness about the **importance** of mangroves.
- Promotes **sustainable management** and **conservation** solutions for mangrove ecosystems.

About Mangroves:

- **Salt-tolerant plant communities** found in **tropical and subtropical intertidal** regions.
- **Vital for coastal biodiversity** and act as **bio-shields against extreme climatic events**.
- Positioned in the **intermediate zone** between land and sea, representing a **key ecotone**.

SOURCE : COVERED IN X IAS classes and Notes

Mangroves are salt tolerance not sensitive , found salty water



26. Which of the following with reference to Indian States is/are not correct?

1. Uttar Pradesh shares its boundary with the highest number of other Indian States.
2. Rajasthan shares the longest international border among all Indian States.
3. Sikkim is the only State that shares its boundary with just one other Indian State.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

State Borders:

- **Uttar Pradesh** shares its boundary with **eight states and one Union Territory** (Delhi): Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Bihar.
- **Madhya Pradesh** borders five states: Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Maharashtra. Its capital is **Bhopal**.
- **Andhra Pradesh** borders Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu. With the inclusion of the Yanam region of Puducherry, this increases to **six bordering regions**.
- **Karnataka** borders six states: Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Goa, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu.
- **Kerala** borders two states: Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Including the Mahe region of Puducherry, the number increases to three.
- **Tamil Nadu** borders three states: Kerala, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh, increasing to four with Puducherry.

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EASTERN HILLS AND PURVANCHAL

- The **Eastern Hills**, or **Purvanchal**, is the southward extension of the **Himalayas** and includes ranges such as **Arakan Yoma**, **Naga Hills**, and **Patkai Bum**. **ASN**
- These hills form the land boundary between **Myanmar** and India, defined by the **Irrawaddy River**.
- The state of **Tripura** is almost encircled by **Bangladesh** on **three sides**. **Dolphin**
- **Sikkim** is unique, as it shares its boundaries with **three countries**: **Nepal**, **Bhutan**, and **China**.
- **West Bengal** borders **Nepal**, **Bhutan**, and **Bangladesh**. **Chilika**



28. Which among the following is/are the objective(s) of the Rainfed Area Development (RAD) initiative under the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)?

1. Encouraging monoculture in rainfed areas
2. Increasing rice cultivation in irrigated regions
3. Enhancing productivity and minimising climatic risks through Integrated Farming Systems (IFS)

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

INTEGRATED FARMING SYSTEM (IFS)

Recent Update: Government promotes IFS for small and marginal farmers (~89.4%).

About

1. IFS integrates crops, livestock, fisheries, poultry, horticulture, and apiary.
2. Enhances income diversification and risk reduction.
3. Promotes resource recycling (waste-to-input cycles).
4. Improves soil fertility and sustainability.
5. Supported by schemes like NMSA, RKVY, PKVY.
6. ICAR develops location-specific models across agro-climatic zones.
7. Challenges: High capital, labour, and knowledge requirements.
8. Crucial for climate-resilient and sustainable agriculture.

t

- CRA integrates climate-smart seeds, bio-inputs, precision irrigation and AI advisories.
- Around 51% of India's net sown area is rainfed, making farming climate-sensitive.
- Over 75% of annual rainfall occurs in four monsoon months, increasing volatility.
- CRA enhances food security for a population projected to reach 1.7 billion.
- Programmes like NICRA and NMSA support research and sustainable farming practices.
- Micro-irrigation under Per Drop More Crop improves water efficiency.
- 7. Challenges include high upfront costs and limited digital literacy among small farmers.
- 8. Expansion of weather-based insurance under PM Fasal Bima Yojana strengthens resilience.

SOURCE : COVERED IN X IAS classes and Notes
1,2 are against the philosophy of NMSA as they are not sustainable . hence ans 3 only



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76. Match List I with List II and select the answer using the code given below the Lists:

List I (INTERPOL Notice) **List II (Description)**

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| A. Silver Notice | 1. To seek information on unidentified bodies |
| B. Blue Notice | 2. To collect additional information about a person's identity, location, or activities in relation to a criminal investigation |
| C. Black Notice | 3. To provide warning about a person's criminal activities, where the person is considered to be a possible threat to public safety |
| D. Green Notice | 4. To identify and trace criminal assets |

Codes:



- **Empowering India's Defence Sector – 2025** – Indigenous tech: BrahMos, IDEX, ADIII, Defence Industrial Corridors, UAVs, AI, quantum communication; indigenisation at 65%; strategic autonomy enhanced.
- **Terrorism & India's Security Landscape – 2025** – Cross-border terrorism (Pakistan), cyber-terrorism, Naxalism, NE insurgency; counter-terror agencies (NIA, NSG, CAPFs, RAW); legislative tools: UAPA 1967, NSA 1980; AI & drones for surveillance.
- **Fifth-Generation Fighter Jet – AMCA** – Indigenous Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft; stealth, supercruise, networked warfare; prototype 2028-29, induction 2034-35; counters regional threats; public-private participation.
- **Silver Notice – INTERPOL** – International asset tracking notice; India requests first for Shubham Shokeen (2025 51-country pilot; INTERPOL: HQ Lyon, 196 members; supports global fugitive asset monitoring).

INTERPOL

Recent Update: INTERPOL issued its first **Silver Notice** in a **52-country pilot, including India**, and the Ministry of Home Affairs launched the **BHARATPOL** portal for seamless integration with INTERPOL.

About:

- **Bharatpol:** Online portal for international

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33. With reference to the climate of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which of the following statements is/are correct ?

1. The climate can be defined as a humid, tropical coastal climate.
2. It receives rainfall from both South-west monsoon and North-east monsoon.
3. Maximum precipitation is between December and May.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

5.4 NATURAL VEGETATION

- India's diverse vegetation due to climate and soil variations; **5 broad types**:
 - Tropical Evergreen and Semi-Evergreen; Tropical Deciduous; Tropical Thorn; Montane; Littoral and Swamp (Mangroves)

Tropical Wet Evergreen Forests

- **Conditions:** Warm + humid areas; precipitation >200 cm; mean annual temperature >22°C
- **Location:** Western slope of Western Ghats, Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Tamil Nadu coast, Purvanchal hills [UPSC 2015]

A&N is in tropics , are coastal islands

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PYQ Bullseye

- [UPSC 2021] Black soil = Regur Soil = Black Cotton Soil — formed by the rock (Deccan Trap basalt)
- [UPSC 2015] Tropical Wet Evergreen forests are found on the western slope of Western Ghats, Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Tamil Nadu coast, and Purvanchal hills
- [UPSC 2013/2021] In Tropical Wet Evergreen forests, leaf litter decomposes rapidly — the soil surface is often almost bare as a result
- [UPSC 2015/2023] Flora of Tropical Moist Deciduous forests includes T

Andaman & Nicobar

- Barren Island WLS: India's only active volcano. Narcondam Island WLS: dormant
- Great Nicobar BR: Campbell Bay NP + Galathea NP; tropical wet evergreen forests; Crocodile (LC).

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74. Which of the following statements with respect to the Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) is/are correct ?

1. The period of its implementation is 1st April, 2021 to 31st March, 2026.
2. The key objective of the Revamped RGSA is to develop the governance capabilities of the Panchayati Raj Institutions to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. The share of the Central funding for the Revamped RGSA is 100% for all States and Union Territories.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

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3. Panchayat NIRNAY – real-time monitoring of Gram Sabha meetings.
4. eGramSwaraj – planning, finance, reporting, asset tracking.
5. Gram Manchitra – GIS mapping of village assets & infrastructure.
6. RGSA – strengthens Panchayati Raj governance.
7. AuditOnline & SVAMITVA – digital audits, land ownership.

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NOTES



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Taught atleast 50 times the
"accountability" case studies in BTS
CLASSES

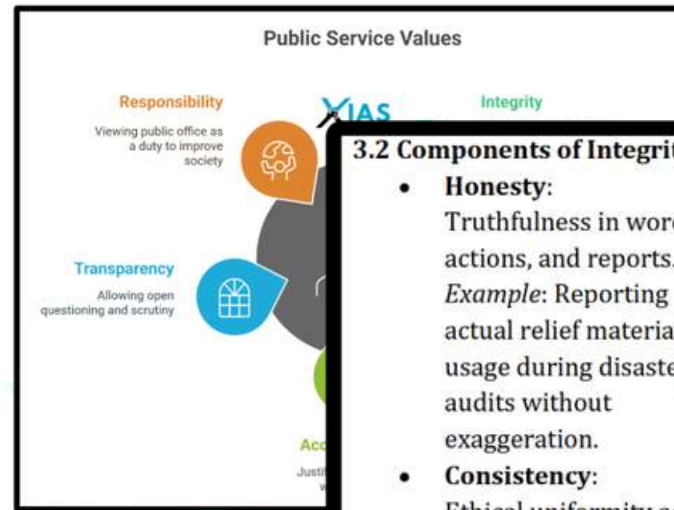
51. Mr. X, a senior officer, was overseeing a critical vaccination programme during a pandemic. He found that a private service provider responsible for vaccine distribution was compromising on quality to make profits. Despite immense pressure to manage the issue due to vested interests, he raised his voice based on the principles of public administration which he learnt during various training programmes attended across his career. He reported the issue to the appropriate vigilance authority and halted the contract to ensure citizen welfare.

Which one among the following principles of public administration was most strongly demonstrated by Mr. X's actions ?

- (a) Esprit de corps
- (b) Equity
- (c) Accountability
- (d) Delegation

Key alignments with public service values:

- **Integrity:** Uphold moral truth even in complex situations
- **Courage:** Take decisions rooted in conscience, not convenience
- **Accountability:** Justify decisions publicly with reason
- **Transparency:** Build systems that allow questioning, not suppression
- **Responsibility:** View public office as a duty to improve society, not merely execute orders



3.2 Components of Integrity

- **Honesty:** Truthfulness in words, actions, and reports.
Example: Reporting actual relief material usage during disaster audits without exaggeration.
- **Consistency:** Ethical uniformity across situations and time.
Example: An officer who refuses bribes even when superiors or circumstances change.
- **Moral Courage:** Willingness to uphold truth despite risks or consequences.
Example: Exposing financial irregularities despite political pressure.
- **Accountability:** Accepting responsibility for decisions and actions.
Example: Admitting an error in procurement procedure and taking corrective measures.



Integration with Civil Service Ethics

Bentham's ideas reinforce the modern civil servant's role as a **public welfare maximiser**, accountable to citizens and guided by real-world impact.

Public service values linked to Bentham:

- **Responsiveness:** Actively address needs with measurable benefit
- **Accountability:** Justify actions through outcomes, not intent
- **Impartiality:** Treat all citizens' interests equally
- **Efficiency:** Deliver maximum results with limited resources
- **Evidence-Based Decision-Making:** Use data, surveys and field input to shape ethical policy

His utilitarianism is not only philosophical—it is a blueprint for **outcome-based ethical governance**.



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