

Competition Care[®]

FULL LENGTH TEST 3

1. Which of the following is/are correct with reference to the Cantonment Board?
 - i. It is established for municipal administration for civilian population in the cantonment area.
 - ii. It works under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
 - iii. It consists of partly elected and partly nominated members.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) i only
- b) ii and iii only
- c) i and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer – C

A cantonment board is established for municipal administration for the civilian population in the cantonment area. It is set up under the provisions of the Cantonments Act of 2006—legislation enacted by the Central government. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- It works under the administrative control of the Defence Ministry of the Central government. Thus, a cantonment board is created as well as administered by the Central government. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- A cantonment board consists of partly elected and partly nominated members. The elected members hold office for a term of five years while the nominated

members (i.e., ex-officio members) continue so long as they hold the office in that station. The military officer commanding the station is the ex-officio president of the board and presides over its meetings. The Vice-President of the board is elected by the elected members from amongst themselves for a term of five years. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

2. Which of the following statements is correct regarding a State's bill?
- a) The president has no role to play in the passage of a state's bill.
 - b) State's bill can be reserved for the President but once reserved the Governor has no role to play.
 - c) State's bill can be reserved for the President but the President has to give assent to the bill.
 - d) None of the above

Answer – B

When the Governor reserves a bill for the consideration of the President, he will not have any further role in the enactment of the bill. If the bill is returned by the President for the reconsideration of the House or Houses and is passed again, the bill must be presented again for the Presidential assent only.

- However, The President is not obliged to give assent to the bill. If the President gives his assent to the bill, it becomes an Act. This means that the assent of the Governor is no longer required.
- Hence option (b) is the correct answer.

3. Consider the following statements:

- i. Adjournment motion can be introduced in Lok Sabha only.
- ii. Non confidence motion can be moved against an individual minister or the entire council of minister.
- iii. Censure motion can be moved against the entire council of minister only.

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

- a) i and ii only
- b) ii and iii only
- c) i and iii
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer – B

- Statement 1 is correct: Adjournment motion can be introduced in Lok Sabha only.
- Statement 2 is not correct: No confidence motion can be moved against the entire council of minister only.
- Statement 3 is not correct: Censure motion can be moved against an individual minister or the entire council of minister.

4. What is the total number of oil refineries situated in Assam?

- a) 2
- b) 3
- c) 4
- d) 7

Answer-C

Assam state of India is rich in mineral resources. Petroleum or crude oil is the most important of them all. In fact, Assam is the mother of Indian petroleum industry. In

India, petroleum was first discovered in Assam. It was Digboi in Assam where the first Oil Refinery in Asia came up. Indian petroleum companies like OIL and ONGC were born out of Assam. Four Oil Refineries of Assam are Digboi Refinery, Noonmati refinery in Guwahati, Dhaligoan refinery near Bongaigaon, Numaligarh Refinery of Golaghat district.

5. Who among the following is responsible for the conduct of elections in the Parliamentary or assembly constituency?
- a) Returning officer
 - b) Chief Electoral Officer
 - c) District Election Officer
 - d) Electoral Registration Officer

Answer – A

The Returning Officer of a Parliamentary or assembly constituency is responsible for the conduct of elections in the Parliamentary or assembly constituency concerned. The Election Commission of India nominates or designates an officer of the Government or a local authority as the Returning Officer for each of the assembly and parliamentary constituencies in consultation with the State Government / Union Territory Administration. In addition, the Election Commission of India also appoints one or more Assistant Returning Officers for each of the assembly and Parliamentary constituencies to assist the Returning Officer in the performance of his functions in connection with the conduct of elections.

6. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the salary and allowances of Supreme Court judges in India?

- a) They are determined by the President
- b) It can be altered by the Parliament to the judge's disadvantage after his appointment
- c) It is charged on the Consolidated Fund of state
- d) None of the above statements are correct

Answer – D

- The Parliament determines the salary, other allowances, leave of absence, pension, etc. of the Supreme Court judges. Hence statement (a) is not correct.
- The Parliament cannot alter any of these privileges and rights to the judge's disadvantage after his appointment. Hence statement (b) is not correct. Salaries, allowances, and pensions of the judges of the Supreme Court are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India. Hence statement (c) is not correct.
- Hence option (d) is the correct answer.

7. In the context of the Indian polity, in which of the following matters can the governor act 'in his discretion'?
- i. Submitting a report to the President under article 356 on the failure of Constitutional machinery in the state.
 - ii. Reserving bills for the consideration of the President
 - iii. Appointing a Chief Minister if no single party has secured a majority in the state election.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) i only
- b) i and ii only
- c) i, ii and iii

d) iii only

Answer – C

- Art 163(1) of the Constitution empowers the Governor to act in his discretion on certain matters. Based on various court rulings and conventions, the discretion of the Governor has been limited to:
 - Exercising the powers given to Governor of Assam under para 9 of 6th Schedule
 - Exercising the functions of a Governor-appointed as an administrator of a Union Territory under Art 239(2).
 - Special responsibilities are assigned to the Governors of various states under the provisions of Article 371.
 - Submitting a report to the President under Art 356 on the failure of Constitutional machinery in the state.
 - Reservation of bills for the consideration of the President (under Art 200).
 - Appointing a Chief Minister if no single party has secured a majority in the state election.
- In all the other matters, he has to act on the advice of the Council of Ministers. Appointment of members of the State Election Commission is done on the advice of the Council of Ministers.
- Hence option (c) is the correct answer.

8. With reference to the District Planning Committee (DPC), consider the following statements:

- i. The 74th amendment act provides for the establishment of DPC.
- ii. All members of the DPC are nominated by the Governor of the state.
- iii. It has representation of both rural and urban population of the district.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii and iii only
- c) i and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer – C

- The 74th Amendment Act (Article 243ZD) provides that every state shall constitute at the district level, a District Planning Committee to consolidate the plans prepared by panchayats and municipalities in the district, and to prepare a draft development plan for the district as a whole. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- The Act lays down that four-fifths of the members of a district planning committee should be elected by the elected members of the district panchayat and municipalities in the district from amongst themselves. Hence statement 2 is not correct.
- The representation of these members in the committee should be in proportion to the ratio between the rural and urban population in the district. Hence statement 3 is correct.

9. With reference to Vice President of India, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- i. Vice President is elected by the same electoral college as that of the President.
- ii. A resolution for his removal need to be passed with special majority in both the houses.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer – D

- The method of election of the Vice President is similar to that of the President. The only difference is that members of State legislatures are not part of the Electoral College. Hence statement 1 is not correct.
- The Vice President acts as the ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and takes over the office of the President when there is a vacancy by reasons of death, resignation, removal by impeachment or otherwise.
- Removal of the Vice-President of India: Article 67 of the Indian Constitution states that Vice-President can be removed from office before the completion of his term.
 - A formal impeachment is not required for his removal.
 - He can be removed by a resolution of the Rajya Sabha passed by a majority of all the then members of the Rajya Sabha and agreed to by the Lok Sabha. This means that this resolution should be passed in the Rajya Sabha by an effective majority and in the Lok Sabha by a simple majority. But, no such resolution can be moved unless at least 14 days advance notice has been given.
 - No ground has been mentioned in the Constitution for his removal.

10. Consider the following statements regarding Committee on Public Undertakings:

- i. The chairman of this committee can be only from Lok Sabha.
- ii. The members are elected every year for a term of one year.

Which of the following statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer – C

Committee on Public Undertakings: This committee was created in 1964 on the recommendation of the Krishna Menon Committee.

- The functions of the committee are:
 - To examine the reports and accounts of public undertakings.
 - To examine the reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General on public undertakings.
 - The committee is not to examine and investigate any of the following:
 - Matters of major government policy as distinct from business or commercial functions of the public undertakings;
 - Matters of day-to-day administration;
 - Matters for the consideration of which machinery is established by any special statute under which a particular public undertaking is established;
 - Technical matters as its members are not technical experts.
- The chairman of the committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst its members who are drawn from the Lok Sabha only. Hence statement 1 is correct.

- The members are elected every year for a term of 1 year. The elections are done through proportional representation using a single transferable vote. Hence statement 2 is correct.
- A minister cannot be elected as a member of the committee.

11. The Vice- President gives his resignation letter to

- a) Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha
- b) Speaker of Lok Sabha
- c) Secretary General, Rajya Sabha
- d) President of India

Answer – D

- Vice-President (also acts as the Chairman of Rajya Sabha) shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office: Provided that – Article 67(a) - Vice-President may, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office.
- Hence option (d) is the correct answer.

12. Department of Act East Policy Affairs (AEPA) under the Government of Assam was set up in

- a) 2012
- b) 2015
- c) 2017
- d) 2020

Answer-C

It was set up in 2017.

13. Consider the following statements:

- i. There is no fixed tenure for the supreme court judge as he can be removed from his office by the President on the recommendation of the Parliament.
- ii. The conduct of the supreme court judges cannot be discussed in the legislature except during impeachment motions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer – C

- With regard to the office of Supreme Court judge there are following provisions in the Constitution:
 - He holds office until he attains the age of 65 years. (Any question regarding his age is to be determined by such authority and in such manner as provided by Parliament).
 - He can resign his office by writing to the president.
 - He can be removed from his office by the President on the recommendation of the Parliament. Hence he does not have a fixed tenure.
 - The conduct of Judges cannot be discussed in the legislature except during impeachment motions.

- Hence both the statements are correct.

14. The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has launched a Roll on-Roll off (Ro-Ro) service in Assam from Neamati to ____?

- a) Jorhat
- b) Dibrugarh
- c) Majuli
- d) Tezpur

Answer-C

On October 11, the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) launched a Roll on-Roll off (Ro-Ro) service in Assam from Neamati to Majuli island. This service will reduce the road route distance of 423 km that trucks take from Neamati to Majuli Island via Tezpur Road Bridge to only 12.7 km with the use of river route. The IWAI has procured a new vessel MV Bhupen Hazarika at a cost of Rs 9.46 crore for the new service. The vessel which is 46.50 meter long and 13.30 meter wide has a carrying capacity of 8 trucks and 100 passengers. The vessel can sail at the speed of 22 km per hour. Majuli is one of the biggest riverine islands in the world located on river Brahmaputra and faces serious challenges of connectivity. It has 144 villages with a population of over 1,50,000. The RoRo service was launched in collaboration between IWAI and Assam government.

15. Consider the following statements regarding Legislative Council:

- i. The creation of the Legislative Council of states needs a constitutional amendment.

ii. It enjoys equal powers as the legislative assembly for ordinary bills.

Which of the following given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer – D

- The parliament can abolish a Legislative Council or create it if the Legislative Assembly of the concerned state passes a resolution to that effect. This act of parliament is not deemed to be an amendment to the Constitution and is passed as an ordinary piece of legislation by a simple majority.
- The ultimate power of passing an ordinary bill is vested in the assembly. At most, the council can detain or delay the bill for a period of four months—three months in the first instance and one month in the second instance.

16. Consider the following matches:

- i. Bohag Bihu – advent of the cropping season
- ii. Bhogali Bihu – harvest festival
- iii. Kongali Bihu – Assamese new year

Which among the above is / are correct?

- a) Only i & ii
- b) Only ii & iii
- c) Only i & iii
- d) i, ii & iii

Answer-A

Assam has an exclusive range of colourful festivals. Bihu is the chief festival celebrated on three occasions. Rongali Bihu or Bohag Bihu marks the advent of the cropping season and it also ushers in the Assamese New Year. Bhogali Bihu or Magh Bihu is the harvest festival and Kati Bihu or Kongali Bihu coming in autumn is a simple affair.

17. Under which of the following circumstances the members of the state Legislative Assembly is/are disqualified?

- i. If he is an undischarged insolvent
- ii. If he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a court
- iii. If he is disqualified under the provisions of the tenth schedule

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) i and ii only
- b) ii only
- c) i and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer – D

Under the Constitution, a person shall be disqualified for being chosen as and for being a member of the legislative assembly -

- If he holds any office of profit under the Union or State government (except that of a minister or any other office exempted by state legislature).
- If he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a court. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

- If he is an undischarged insolvent. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- If he is not a citizen of India or has voluntarily acquired the citizenship of a foreign state or is under any acknowledgement of allegiance to a foreign state; and
- If he is so disqualified under any law made by Parliament.

18. With reference to the evolution of Panchayati Raj in India, consider the following statements:

- i. The Balwant Rai Mehta Committee recommended establishment of a two tier Panchayati Raj system.
- ii. Rajasthan was the first state in independent India to establish Panchayati Raj.
- iii. The Panchayati Raj Institutions got constitutional status in 1982.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i and ii only
- b) ii only
- c) i and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer – B

- Balwant Rai Mehta Committee recommended three tier Panchayati Raj system – Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad.
- Rajasthan was the first state to establish Panchayati Raj.
- 73rd constitutional amendment act, 1992, which came into effect on 24 April, 1993, gave constitutional status to the Panchayati Raji institution. So, statement 3 is not correct.

19. With reference to inter- state trade and commerce, consider the following statements:

- i. The Constitution of India remains totally silent on trade and commerce within the Indian territory and leaves it to the Parliament to legislative on.
- ii. Parliament can impose restrictions on the freedom of trade and commerce between the states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer – B

- Article 301 of the Indian Constitution declares that trade, commerce and intercourse throughout the territory of India shall be free. The freedom guaranteed by Article 301 is a freedom from all restrictions, except those which are provided for in the other provisions (Articles 302 to 305) of Part XIII of the Constitution itself. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- Parliament can impose restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse between the states or within a state in public interest. But, the Parliament cannot give preference to one state over another or discriminate between the states except in the case of scarcity of goods in any part of India. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

20. Temperature and water are the most ecologically relevant environmental factors.

In this context, consider the following statements:

- i. Stenothermal organisms can tolerate and thrive in a wide range of temperatures.
- ii. Euryhaline organisms are restricted to a narrow range of salinity.

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

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer: C

- Temperature is the most ecologically relevant environmental factor. The average temperature on land varies seasonally, decreases progressively from the equator towards the poles and from plains to the mountain tops. It ranges from subzero levels in polar areas and high altitudes to >50 degrees in tropical deserts in summer. There are, however, unique habitats such as thermal springs and deep-sea hydrothermal vents where average temperatures exceed 100 degrees.
- Temperature affects the kinetics of enzymes and through basal metabolism, activity and other physiological functions of the organism. A few organisms can tolerate and thrive in a wide range of temperatures (they are called eurythermal), but, a vast majority of them are restricted to a narrow range of temperatures (such organisms are called stenothermal). The levels of thermal tolerance of different species determine to a large extent their geographical distribution.
- Next to temperature, water is the most important factor influencing the life of organisms. In fact, life on earth originated in water and is unsustainable without

water. Its availability is so limited in deserts that only special adaptations make it possible to live there.

- The productivity and distribution of plants is also heavily dependent on water. For aquatic organisms the quality (chemical composition, pH) of water becomes important.
- The salt concentration (measured as salinity in parts per thousand), is less than 5 in inland waters, 30-35 the sea and > 100 percent in some hypersaline lagoons.
- Some organisms are tolerant of a wide range of salinities (euryhaline) but others are restricted to a narrow range (stenohaline). Many freshwater animals cannot live for long in sea water and vice versa because of the osmotic problems, they would face.
- Hence, both statements are not correct.

21. With reference to the hunting of wild animals in India, consider the following statements:

- i. The Chief Wildlife Warden can permit to hunt the wild animal that has become dangerous for human life.
- ii. The killing of wild animal in self defence is not considered as an offence.
- iii. Any wildlife animal killed or wounded in defence of a person is considered the property of Government.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) i and ii only
- b) ii and iii only
- c) i and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer: D

- A comprehensive central legislation was enacted in 1972 called the Wildlife (Protection) Act for providing special legal protection to our wildlife and to the endangered species of fauna in particular.
- Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 provides a legal framework for the protection of various species of wild animals and plants, the management of their habitats, and the regulation and control of trade in wild animals, plants and products made from them. The Act also lists schedules of plants and animals that are afforded various degrees of protection and monitoring by the government. The Act provides for punishment for violation of its provisions. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that is used for committing wildlife offence(s). A provision was incorporated in 2002 for the constitution of the National Board for Wildlife
- Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 forbids hunting and poaching of wild animals. But under section 11 of the Act, hunting of wild animals is permitted in the following cases.
- The Chief Wild Life Warden may, if he is satisfied that any wild animal specified in Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 has become dangerous to human life or is so disabled or diseased as to be beyond recovery, permit any person to hunt such animal. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The killing or wounding in good faith of any wild animal in defence of oneself or of any other person shall not be an offence. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Any wild animal killed or wounded in defence of any person shall be Government property. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

22. In the context of biodiversity, Allen's rule states that

- a) mammals from colder climates have shorter ears and limbs to minimise heat loss.
- b) mammals from colder climates have thick blubber of fat to protect themselves from cold.
- c) mammals from tropical climate exhibit higher genetic diversity compared to colder climate mammals.
- d) mammals from tropical climate have longer lifespan on an average compared to mammals from colder climate.

Answer: A

- Allen's rule states that mammals from colder climates generally have shorter ears and limbs to minimise heat loss. A smaller body surface area helps animals in colder regions stay warm by slowing down the loss of body heat. It is named after American biologist Joel Asaph Allen who proposed it in his 1877 paper "The influence of physical conditions in the genesis of species".
- Bergmann's rule states that organisms at higher latitudes should be larger and thicker than those closer to the equator to better conserve heat.
- Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

23. The novel Abhijatri is based on the life and achievements of

- a) Nalani Bala Devi
- b) Aideu Handique
- c) Chandraprabha Sikiani
- d) Rajbala Handique

ANSWER-C

Chandraprabha Saikiani (16 March 1901 – 16 March 1972) or Chandraprava Saikiani was an Assamese freedom fighter, activist, writer and social reformer considered to be the pioneer of the feminist movement in Assam. She was the founder of The All Assam Pradeshik Mahila Samiti, a non governmental organization working for the welfare of the women of Assam and was a recipient of the fourth highest Indian civilian award of Padma Shri for the year 1972 from the Government of India. Three decades later, the Indian government issued a commemorative stamp on Saikiani under the series, Social Reformers, in 2002.

24. With reference to different zones of an aquatic ecosystem, consider the following statements:

- i. The limnetic zone is well-lit and is dominated by plankton.
- ii. Profundal zone is the deep-water part of the lake or pond.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer: C

- Aquatic Ecosystem: Lakes and ponds are divided into three different "zones" which are usually determined by depth and distance from the shoreline.

- Littoral Zone: The topmost zone near the shore of a lake or pond is the Littoral zone. This zone is the warmest since it is shallow and can absorb more of the sun's heat. It sustains a fairly diverse community, which can include several species of algae (like

diatoms), rooted and floating aquatic plants, grazing snails, clams, insects, crustaceans, fishes, and amphibians. The vegetation and animals living in the littoral zone are food for other creatures such as turtles, snakes, and ducks.

- Limnetic Zone: The near-surface open water surrounded by the littoral zone is the limnetic zone. The limnetic zone is well-lighted (like the littoral zone) and is dominated by plankton, both phytoplankton and zooplankton. plankton are small organisms that play a crucial role in the food chain. Without aquatic plankton, there would be few living organisms in the world, and certainly no humans. A variety of freshwater fish also occupy this zone. Hence statement 1 is correct.

- Profundal zone: The deep-water part of the lake or pond is called the profundal zone. This zone is much colder and denser than the other two. Little light penetrates all the way through the limnetic zone into the profundal zone. The fauna are heterotrophs, meaning that they eat dead organisms and use oxygen for cellular respiration. Hence statement 2 is correct.

25. Which of the following reasons account for lesser biodiversity in temperate regions as compared to tropical regions of the world?

- i. Tropical regions have been subjected to frequent glaciations in the past while temperate latitudes have remained undisturbed.
- ii. Temperate environments are less seasonal and stable thus promoting niche specialisation.
- iii. There is more solar energy available in the tropics, which contributes to higher productivity.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) i and ii only
- b) ii and iii only

- c) iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer: C

- Ecologists and evolutionary biologists have proposed various hypotheses to account for the greater biological diversity in the Tropics.
- Speciation is generally a function of time, unlike temperate regions subjected to frequent glaciations in the past, tropical latitudes have remained relatively undisturbed for millions of years and thus, had a long evolutionary time for species diversification. Hence statement 1 is not correct.
- Tropical environments, unlike temperate ones, are less seasonal, relatively more constant and predictable. Such constant environments promote niche specialisation and lead to a greater species diversity. Hence statement 2 is not correct.
- There is more solar energy available in the tropics, which contributes to higher productivity; this in turn might contribute indirectly to greater diversity. Hence statement 3 is correct.

26. With reference to parasitism, consider the following statements:

- i. Parasites that feed on the external surface of the host organism are called endoparasites.
- ii. Ectoparasites live inside the host body at different sites.
- iii. In brood parasitism, a parasite does not feed on the organism.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) iii only

- b) i and ii only
- c) ii and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer: A

- Parasitism has evolved in so many taxonomic groups from plants to higher vertebrates. Many parasites have evolved to be host-specific (they can parasitise only a single species of host) in such a way that both host and the parasite tend to co-evolve; that is, if the host evolves special mechanisms for rejecting or resisting the parasite, the parasite has to evolve mechanisms to counteract and neutralise them, in order to be successful with the same host species.
- In accordance with their life styles, parasites evolved special adaptations such as the loss of unnecessary sense organs, presence of adhesive organs or suckers to cling on to the host, loss of digestive system and high reproductive capacity. The life cycles of parasites are often complex, involving one or two intermediate hosts or vectors to facilitate parasitisation of its primary host.
- The human liver fluke (a trematode parasite) depends on two intermediate hosts (a snail and a fish) to complete its life cycle. The malarial parasite needs a vector (mosquito) to spread to other hosts. Majority of the parasites harm the host; they may reduce the survival, growth and reproduction of the host and reduce its population density.
- Parasites that feed on the external surface of the host organism are called ectoparasites. The most familiar examples of this group are the lice on humans and ticks on dogs. Many marine fish are infested with ectoparasitic copepods. *Cuscuta*, a parasitic plant that is commonly found growing on hedge plants, has lost its chlorophyll and leaves in the course of evolution. It derives its nutrition from the host plant which it parasitises. Hence statement 1 is not correct.

- In contrast, endoparasites are those that live inside the host body at different sites (liver, kidney, lungs, red blood cells, etc.). The life cycles of endoparasites are more complex because of their extreme specialisation. Their morphological and anatomical features are greatly simplified while emphasising their reproductive potential. Hence statement 2 is not correct.

- Brood parasitism in birds is a fascinating example of parasitism that lets the host incubate them. During the course of evolution, the eggs of the parasitic bird have evolved to resemble the host's egg in size and colour to reduce the chances of the host bird detecting the foreign eggs and ejecting them from the nest. In brood parasitism in birds, the parasitic species does not obtain food, nor does it depend on the host species for other functions, but only to incubate the eggs and feed the parasitic bird's chicks. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

27. Which of the following processes are involved in decomposition?

- i. Fragmentation
- ii. Catabolism
- iii. Humification
- iv. Mineralisation

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) i and iv only
- b) ii and iii only
- c) i, ii and iv only
- d) i, ii, iii and iv

Answer: D

- DECOMPOSITION:

- o When a plant, animal or insect dies it breaks into tiny pieces and eventually, these small pieces become part of the soil. This process is known as decomposition. It is the process where organic substances break down into a simpler matter. bodies of any living organism start decomposing shortly after their death. Animals such as worms help in decomposing the organic matter.

- o Decomposers break down complex organic matter into inorganic substances like carbon dioxide, water and nutrients and the process is called decomposition. Dead plant remains such as leaves, bark, flowers and dead remains of animals, including fecal matter, constitute detritus, which is the raw material for decomposition. The important steps in the process of decomposition are fragmentation, leaching, catabolism, humification and mineralisation. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

- o Detritivores (e.g., earthworm) break down detritus into smaller particles. This process is called fragmentation.

- o By the process of leaching, water soluble inorganic nutrients go down into the soil horizon and get precipitated as unavailable salts. Bacterial and fungal enzymes degrade detritus into simpler inorganic substances. This process is called as catabolism. It is important to note that all the above steps in decomposition operate simultaneously on the detritus.

- o Humification and mineralisation occur during decomposition in the soil. Humification leads to accumulation of a dark coloured amorphous substance called humus that is highly resistant to microbial action and undergoes decomposition at an extremely slow rate. Being colloidal in nature it serves as a reservoir of nutrients. The humus is further degraded by some microbes and release of inorganic nutrients occur by the process known as mineralisation.

28. Consider the following statements:

- i. The first National Wildlife Action Plan was adopted under the provisions of National Forest Policy, 1988.
- ii. The National Board for Wildlife is headed by the Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer: D

- The first National Wildlife Action Plan (NWAP) was adopted in 1983, based upon the decision taken in the meeting of the Indian Board for Wildlife held in 1982. The plan had outlined the strategies and action points for wildlife conservation. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

- Now, India's National Wildlife Action Plan (NWAP) for the period 2017-2031 is released. The five components under the plan are:

- o strengthening and promoting the integrated management of wildlife and their habitats

- o adaptation to climate change and promoting integrated sustainable management of aquatic biodiversity in India; promoting eco-tourism

- o nature education and participatory management

- o strengthening wildlife research and monitoring of development of human resources in wildlife conservation
 - o enabling policies and resources for conservation of wildlife in India.
- Due to the rapid decline in wildlife population, the Government of India during 1952 had constituted an advisory body designated as the Indian Board for Wildlife (IBWL).
 - o The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 was subsequently amended during 1991 and last during 2002. As per the amendment of the Act in 2002, a provision was incorporated for the constitution of the National Board for Wildlife, replacing the Indian Board for Wildlife. The National Board for Wildlife is chaired by the Prime Minister. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

29. Consider the following pairs:

Sacred Grove: State

- i. Than : Assam
- ii. Kavus : Tamil Nadu
- iii. Devara Kadu : Karnataka

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- a) i and ii only
- b) ii and iii only
- c) i and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer: C

- Sacred Groves are the tracts of virgin forests that are left untouched by the local inhabitants and are protected by the local people due to their culture and religious

beliefs. Sacred groves are relic vegetation of once-dominant flora. They are repositories of our rich biodiversity; they are also the last bastion where the rich culture and the customs of the indigenous people are still preserved.

- A sacred grove usually consists of a dense cover of vegetation including climbers, herbs, shrubs and trees, with the presence of a village deity and is mostly situated near a perennial water source.

- They are called with different names in different states:

- o Sarna in Bihar

- o Dev Van in Himachal Pradesh

- o Devarakadu in Karnataka. Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.

- o Kavu in Kerala. Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.

- o Dev in Madhya Pradesh

- o Devarahati or Devarai in Maharashtra

- o Lai Umang in Manipur

- o Law Kyntang or Asong Khosi in Meghalaya

- o Oran in Rajasthan

- o Kovil Kadu or Sarpa Kavu in Tamil Nadu

- o Than in Assam. Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.

30. Which of the following are the ex-situ methods of biodiversity conservation?

- i. Botanical Garden

- ii. Biosphere Reserve
- iii. Zoo

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) i and ii only
- b) ii and iii only
- c) i and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer: C

- Ex-situ conservation means conservation of wildlife outside its natural habitat. The conservation takes place in captivity under man's supervision. Some times the populations of species may decline or may become extinct due to genetic or environmental factors such as inbreeding, habitat loss, disease and over-exploitation. In such cases in-situ conservation may not prove to be effective and a species can be protected from becoming extinct only through maintaining them in artificial conditions under human care. Such, measures are included under Ex-Situ Conservation Methods.

- Examples are: Botanical gardens, zoo, aquariums, parks, agricultural research centre, forest research centres, etc.

- o A botanical garden is a garden dedicated to the collection, cultivation, preservation and display of an especially wide range of plants, which are typically labelled with their botanical names.

- o A zoo is a facility in which animals are housed within enclosures, cared for, displayed to the public, and in some cases bred for conservation purposes.

- A Biosphere Reserve is a unique and representative ecosystem of terrestrial and coastal areas which are internationally recognised within the framework of

UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme. The Biosphere Reserve aims at achieving the three objectives - conservation, development and research. Biosphere Reserve is an example of In-Situ Conservation method.

- Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

31. Conformers are those types of organisms that depend on external sources of body heat as they cannot regulate their body temperature as per the variations in the external temperature. In this context, which of the following are examples of conformers?

- i. Shrews
- ii. Hummingbirds
- iii. Peacock

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) i and ii only
- b) ii and iii only
- c) i and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer: A

- Conformer organism: Conformers engage in behavior to regulate their temperature, such as basking in the sun for warmth or retreating underground or into water to cool. Some aquatic animals even alter their salinity to match that of the environment around them. An overwhelming majority of animals and nearly all plants cannot maintain a constant internal environment. Their body temperature changes

with the ambient temperature. In aquatic animals, the osmotic concentration of the body fluids changes with that of the ambient air, and water osmotic concentration.

- Many simply 'sweat it out and resign themselves to suboptimal performance in hot summer months. Thermoregulation is energetically expensive for many organisms. This is particularly true for small animals like shrews and hummingbirds. At night, hummingbirds lower their body temperature and metabolism drastically by dropping into an energy-saving state of inactivity called torpor.

- Heat loss or heat gain is a function of surface area. Since small animals have a larger surface area relative to their volume, they tend to lose body heat very fast when it is cold outside; then they have to expend much energy to generate body heat through metabolism. This is the main reason why very small animals are rarely found in polar regions.

- During the course of evolution, the costs and benefits of maintaining a constant internal environment are taken into consideration. Some species have evolved the ability to regulate, but only over a limited range of environmental conditions, beyond which they simply conform.

- Regulators are often referred to as warm-blooded animals. Examples of this class – Mammals and birds (peacock).

- Hence option (a) is the correct answer.

32. With reference to the environmental impact of chemicals used in day-to-day life, consider the following statements:

- i. Alum (aluminum sulfate) is a non-toxic liquid that is commonly used in water treatment plants to clarify drinking water.

- ii. Hydrogen peroxide is a more environmentally friendly chemical for bleaching of clothes than chlorine gas.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer: C

- Green chemistry: It is also called as sustainable chemistry, is an area of chemistry and chemical engineering focused on the design of products and processes that minimize or eliminate the use and generation of hazardous substances.

- Green Chemistry in day-to-day Life:

- o Dry Cleaning of Clothes: Tetrachloroethene ($\text{Cl}_2\text{C}=\text{CCl}_2$) was earlier used as solvent for dry cleaning. The compound contaminates the ground water and is also a suspected carcinogen. The process using this compound is now being replaced by a process, where liquefied carbon dioxide, with a suitable detergent is used. Replacement of halogenated solvent by liquid CO_2 will result in less harm to ground water. These days hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) is used for the purpose of bleaching clothes in the process of laundry, which gives better results and makes use of lesser amount of water.

- o Bleaching of Paper: Chlorine gas was used earlier for bleaching paper. These days, hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) with suitable catalyst, which promotes the bleaching action of hydrogen peroxide, is used. Hence statement 2 is correct.

o 'Green Solution' to Clean Turbid Water: Powder of kernel of tamarind seeds has been found to be an effective material to make municipal and industrial waste water clean. It is non-toxic, biodegradable and cost-effective material. This powder is usually discarded as agricultural waste. The present practice is to use alum to treat such water. It has been found that alum increases toxic ions in treated water and can cause diseases. Hence statement 1 is correct.

33. In the context of interspecific interactions among various species, in which of the following cases only one organism is benefited?

- i. Competition
- ii. Predation
- iii. Parasitism
- iv. Commensalism
- v. Amensalism

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) ii, iii and iv only
- b) ii, iv and v only
- c) i, ii, iii and iv only
- d) i, iii and iv only

Answer: A

For any species, the minimal requirement is one more species on which it can feed. Even a plant species, which makes its own food, cannot survive alone; it needs soil microbes to break down the organic matter in the soil and return the inorganic nutrients for absorption.

- Even in minimal communities, many interactive linkages exist, although all may not be readily apparent. Interspecific interactions arise from the interaction of populations of two different species. They could be beneficial, detrimental or neutral (neither harm nor benefit).
- Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
- Interspecific Competition, in ecology, is a form of competition in which individuals of different species compete for the same resources in an ecosystem. It adversely affects both organisms.
- Mutualism is an association between organisms of two different species in which each benefit. Mutualistic arrangements are most likely to develop between organisms with widely different living requirements. One example of a mutualistic relationship is that of the bee and the flower. In this mutualistic relationship, the bees get to eat, and the flowering plants get to reproduce.
- Predation is a biological interaction where one organism, the predator, kills and eats another organism, its prey. Predators help in maintaining species diversity in a community by reducing the intensity of competition among competing prey species. Examples are leopards, tigers etc.
- Parasitism is a close relationship between species, where one organism, the parasite, lives on or inside another organism, the host, causing it some harm, and is adapted structurally to this way of life. Roundworm, malaria parasite, many bacteria, fungi and viruses are common parasites of humans.
- Commensalism is a type of relationship between two living organisms in which one organism benefits from the other without harming it. The relationship between trees and epiphytic plants is an example of commensalism.
- Amensalism is an association between organisms of two different species in which one is inhibited or destroyed and the other is unaffected. Example - A large tree

shades a small plant and retards the growth of the small plant. The small plant has no effect on the larger tree.

34. Consider the following pairs of sports with their associated states/UTs:

- i. Asol Aap – Andaman and Nicobar islands
- ii. Dhopkhel – Assam
- iii. Jallikattu – Tamil Nadu

Which of the above is/are correct?

- a) i & ii Only
- b) i Only
- c) ii & iii Only
- d) i, ii & iii

Answer-D

Asol Aap or Canoe Race is a boat race prevalent in the Nicobar Islands. Dhopkhel is a very famous indigenous ball game played in the Assam state of India. Dhopkhel is also called as 'dhop khel' and 'dhoop khel'. Jallikattu is an ancient bull taming sport practised widely in Tamil Nadu.

35. With reference to Radioactive pollution, consider the following statements:

- i. Radioactive dust can remain at altitudes as high as 3000 meters.
- ii. X-ray machines at airports are a source of radioactive pollution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer- C

- Radioactive wastes are the most hazardous of all. For example, some of the components can retain half of their dangerous levels even one million years later after production. The storing and reprocessing are further complicated by the long half-life of the radioactive materials in the nuclear waste.
- Radioactive materials such as uranium and radium possess highly unstable atomic nuclei whose disintegration results in radiation emission which may be highly injurious. During nuclear tests, radioactive dust may encircle the globe at altitudes of 3000 meters or more. This dust often comes down to earth as rain. Some of it percolates down through the soil into ground, water reservoirs or is carried into rivers and streams. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- Radioactive wastes are generated from X-ray machines in hospitals and airports, nuclear energy industry which include substances used in cooling and storing nuclear fuel from reactors in power stations and submarines. Hence statement 2 is correct.

36. With reference to the biomass production, consider the following statements:

- i. Gross primary productivity of an ecosystem is the rate of production of organic matter during photosynthesis.

- ii. Gross primary productivity minus respiration losses (R) is equal to net primary productivity (NPP).
- iii. The contribution of oceans to the net primary productivity of the biosphere is more than 50 percent.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) i and ii only
- b) i and iii only
- c) ii and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer: A

- A constant input of solar energy is the basic requirement for any ecosystem to function and sustain itself. Primary production is defined as the amount of biomass or organic matter produced per unit area over a time period by plants during photosynthesis. The rate of biomass production is called productivity.
- Primary productivity depends on the plant species inhabiting a particular area. It also depends on a variety of environmental factors, availability of nutrients and the photosynthetic capacity of plants. Therefore, it varies in different types of ecosystems. It can be divided into gross primary productivity (GPP) and net primary productivity (NPP). The gross primary productivity of an ecosystem is the rate of production of organic matter during photosynthesis. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- A considerable amount of GPP is utilized by plants in respiration. Gross primary productivity minus respiration losses (R), is the net primary productivity (NPP). Net primary productivity is the available biomass for the consumption of heterotrophs (herbivores and decomposers). Secondary productivity is defined as the rate of formation of new organic matter by consumers. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

- The annual net primary productivity of the whole biosphere is approximately 170 billion tonnes (dry weight) of organic matter. Of this, despite occupying about 70 percent of the surface, the productivity of the oceans is only 55 billion tonnes. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

37. Consider the following statements:

Statement I:- During the general elections in India, a candidate who secures the highest number of votes in that constituency is declared elected.

Statement II:- The First Past the Post system is followed in the general elections.

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

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

Answer:-A

- In India, general elections are held on the basis of the Universal Adult Franchise. Herein, all adult citizens of India are allowed to participate. E.g., Lok Sabha Elections or State Assembly elections. For such general elections, the First Past the Post system is followed. Hence Statement II is correct.
- In this kind of voting system, the candidate with the most votes in a constituency is declared elected. Hence Statement I is correct.

- Further, since India follows the FPTP system, the candidate securing the most votes in a general election is declared elected. Hence, Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I.

38. The chutiya kingdom was annexed by the Ahoms during the reign of which king ?

- a) Suhungmung
- b) Suklengmung
- c) Suteupha
- d) Subinpha

Answer- A

The chutiya kingdom was annexed by the Ahoms during the reign of Suhungmung.

39. The two UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Assam are

- a) Nameri National Park and Dibru-Saikhowa National Park
- b) Kaziranga National Park and Manas National Park
- c) Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park and Hollongpar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary
- d) Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary and Dibru- Saikhowa National Parks

ANSWER-B

Kaziranga National Park was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1985 for its large population of one-horned rhino, tigers, elephants, panthers, bears and many birds, and its representation of the Brahmaputra floodplain and grassland ecosystem undisturbed by man. Manas National Park was declared a World Heritage Site in December 1985 by UNESCO.

40. Identify the primate with the help of given information:

- i. This primate is mainly concentrated in Assam and the low-end forests of eastern Brahmaputra
- ii. It is a tailless and the only ape found in India
- iii. Poaching is a serious threat to these apes as their body parts are used as traditional medicines

Select the correct answer from options given below:

- a) Hoolock Gibbon
- b) Golden Langur
- c) Lion tailed Macaque
- d) White Cheeked Macaque

Answer-A

All given features are of Hoolock Gibbons. Hoolock Gibbons are exclusively forest-dwelling and depend on a contiguous canopy. They are found in broad-leaved, moist deciduous forest.

41. Consider the following statements with respect to cooperative societies:

- i. Only state legislatures can make laws related to cooperatives of any kind.
- ii. The Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution provides for the state legislature to legislate on cooperative societies.

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

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Answer:- D.

With Parliament having control over Multi-State Co-operative Societies and State legislatures responsible for enacting laws governing "other Co-operative Societies," the scheme governing Multi-State Co-operative Societies differs from the scheme governing "Other Co-operative Societies." Thus in the case of multi-state cooperatives (with aims and objectives not confined to one state), the Centre or the Union can make laws. Hence Statement I is not correct.

Entry 32 - Corporation, other than those specified in List I, and universities; unincorporated trading, literary, scientific, religious, and other societies, and associations; co-operative societies. Hence, statement II is correct.

42. Consider the following statements regarding Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA):

- i. It guarantees 100 days of unskilled work per year for every rural household.
- ii. It covers all the districts in the country except those with more than 50 percent urban population.
- iii. If work is not provided within 30 days from when it is demanded, the worker has to be given a daily unemployment allowance.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: A

The primary objective of MGNREGS is to provide 100 days of unskilled work per year for every rural household that wants it, covering all districts in the country except those with a 100% urban population. Hence statement 1 is correct and statement 2 is not correct. If work is not provided within 15 days from when it is demanded, the worker has to be given a daily unemployment allowance. Hence statement 3 is not correct.

43. Which Assamese film won first ever National Film Award the President's Certificate of Merit for regional language category in 1955?

- a) Piyoli Phukan
- b) Maniram Dewan
- c) Indramalati
- d) Ronga Police

ANSWER-A

Piyoli Phukan is a black & white Assamese language film directed by Phani Sarma, released in 1955. The film is based on the life and struggle of a historical character

of Assam, Piyoli Phukan, son of Badan Borphukan, who revolted against British occupation. He was sentenced to death and hanged in 1830 at Jorhat.

44. Consider the following statements with reference to star campaigners in elections in India:

- i. The Election Commission of India has the power to revoke the status of a star campaigner of a party.
- ii. As per revised guidelines, the list of the star campaigners has to be communicated to the returning officer within five days from the date of notification of an election.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer:-D

The Supreme Court stayed the Election Commission's order of revoking the star campaigner status of a person in the recently concluded Madhya Pradesh state assembly elections, observing the poll body "has no power" to decide who is a star campaigner. Hence statement 1 is not correct.

The list of the star campaigners has to be communicated to the Chief Electoral Officer and Election Commission within a week from the date of notification of an election. As per the revised guidelines due to the pandemic, the period of

submission of the list of star campaigners is extended from 7 days to 10 days from the date of notification. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

45. With reference to the alphabet 'T' in the abbreviation ChatGPT, consider the following statements:

- i. It stands for 'translator'.
- ii. Its main task is to translate a sentence from one language to another.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer: B

The capital 'T' in ChatGPT stands for 'transformer'. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

Transformers are tasked with translating a sentence from one language to another, similar to what Google Translate does when converting from, say, English to Hindi.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

46. Consider the following languages:

- i. Kannada
- ii. Malayalam
- iii. Assamese

Which of the above are recognized as classical languages of India?

- a) i & ii Only
- b) ii & iii Only
- c) i & iii Only
- d) i, ii & iii

Answer-A

The classical languages of India are: Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Sanskrit, Odia & Telugu.

47. Consider the following statements regarding the Right to Education Act, 2009:

- i. It provides free and compulsory education to all children between the ages of 6 and 14 years.
- ii. All private schools must keep 25% of seats reserved for children belonging to economically weaker sections of society.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer:- C

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, represents the legislation envisaged under Article 21-A. Hence statement 1 is correct.

All private schools must keep 25% of seats reserved for children belonging to weaker sections of society. Hence statement 2 is correct.

48. Consider the following statements regarding Consumer Protection Rights Act, 2019:

- i. E-commerce entities are not covered under this act.
- ii. There will be no fee for filing cases for settlement by consumers up to Rs. 5 lakh.
- iii. Compensation can be claimed against product manufacturer or service provider under the concept of product liability but not against product seller.

How many of the above statements are not correct?

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

Answer: A

The e-commerce platforms have to acknowledge the receipt of any consumer complaint within forty-eight hours and redress the complaint within one month from the date of receipt under this Act. Hence statement 1 is not correct.

New Act introduces the concept of product liability and brings within its scope, the product manufacturer, product service provider and product seller, for any claim for compensation. Hence statement 3 is not correct.

49. Consider the following statements with reference to the official language of the states:

- i. Article 343 (1) of the Constitution provides that Hindi in Devanagari script and English shall be the official languages of the Union.
- ii. Article 345 declares that the state legislature can declare only one language as an official language.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer: D

Article 343 (1) of the Constitution provides that Hindi in Devanagari script shall be the official language of the Union. Hence statement 1 is not correct.

Article 345 states that, subject to the provisions of Articles 346 and 347, the legislature of a state may by law adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the State or Hindi as the language or languages to be used for all or any of the official purposes of that State provided that, until the Legislature of the State otherwise provides by law, the English language shall continue to be used for those official purposes within the State for which it was being used immediately before the commencement of this Constitution. Hence statement 2 is not correct.

50. With reference to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC), consider the following statements:

- i. The 102nd Constitution Amendment Act added Article 338 B and changed NCBC from a statutory to a constitutional body.
- ii. (ii) It presents an annual report to the President.
- iii. The Commission, while investigating any matter or enquiring into any complaint, has all the powers of a civil court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i and ii only
- b) iii only
- c) i and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer: D

The 102nd Amendment Act of 2018 conferred a constitutional status on the Commission. The amendment inserted a new Article 338-B in the constitution. Hence, the Commission ceased to be a statutory body and became a constitutional body. Hence statement 1 is correct. It presents an annual report to the President. Hence, statement 2 is correct. The Commission, while investigating any matter or enquiring into any complaint, has all the powers of a civil court trying a suit and in particular in respect of the following matters:

o Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him on oath. Hence statement 3 is correct.

51. Consider the following about deep sea mining.

- i. Deep-sea mining involves removing mineral deposits and metals from the ocean's seabed.
- ii. Controlled by: Intergovernmental Seabed Authority (ISA), a UN body.

Select the correct codes.

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) None of them.

Answer: C

52. The Assam Government has signed an MoU with National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) for construction of Twin Tower Trade Centre in Guwahati.

Where is the headquarters of NBCC is located?

- a) New Delhi
- b) Kochi
- c) Chennai
- d) Kanpur

Answer: A

The Assam Government has signed an MoU with the National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) Limited to build a Twin Tower Trade Centre in Guwahati at a cost of Rs 1950 crore. The Twin Tower Trade centre has enacted a pro-active Act East Policy to elevate and harness the strengths of North-East India and reduce the

isolation of the region by improving all round connectivity and civic infrastructure. This trade centre will generate once established and made operational, by connecting us with South East Nations and being a major trading hub thereby increasing economic interlinkages. The headquarters of NBCC is located in New Delhi.

53. Deodhani, a dance form is associated with which of the following goddess ?

- a) Maa Kamakhya
- b) Maa Kali
- c) Maa Saraswati
- d) Maa Manasa

Answer- D

Deodhani, a dance form is associated with the worship of the snake Goddess Manasa.

54. Which of the following archaeological site/s is/are located at Gujarat?

- i. Lothal
- ii. Surkotada
- iii. Banawali

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer- B

Explanation: Harappa (Punjab, Pakistan), Mohenjo-Daro (Sindh, Pakistan), Dholavira, Lothal, and Surkotada (Gujarat, India), Kalibangan and Banawali (Rajasthan, India), and Rakhigarhi (Haryana, India) are the major cities in the Harappan period.

55. The Nameri National Park (NNP) is located in which district of Assam?

- a) Sonitpur
- b) Darrang
- c) Goalpara
- d) Karbi Anglong

Answer: A

The Nameri National Park (NNP) is located in the foothills of the eastern Himalayas in the Sonitpur District of Assam and covers an area of 200 km². This forest has over 600 species. Some notable species are *Gmelina arborea*, *Michelia champaca*, *Amari* and *Bonjolokia*. The park is an ideal habitat for a host of other animals including the tiger, leopard, sambar, dhole (the Asiatic wild dog), pygmy hog and Indian wild bison. It is home for orchids like *Dendrobium*, *Cymbidium* and *Cypripedioideae*.

56. Which of the following is/are the feature/s of Harappan Civilization?

- i. Fortification
- ii. Planned Streets
- iii. Drainages

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Fortification, well planned streets and lanes and drainages are noticed in the Harappan towns.

57. The Assam Reorganization act 1969 created which of the following State / states?

- a) Meghalaya only
- b) Meghalaya & Mizoram
- c) Mizoram only
- d) Arunachal Pradesh only

Answer: A

The Assam Reorganization (Meghalaya) act 1969 was enacted to establish an autonomous state of Meghalaya within the State of Assam and to make special provisions with respect to application of laws in the state of Meghalaya.

58. The Constitution of India makes transitional and special provisions for ___:

- i. Jammu & Kashmir
- ii. Nagaland

- iii. Assam
- iv. Andhra Pradesh

Select the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) Only i, ii & iii
- b) Only ii, iii & iv
- c) Only ii & iii
- d) Only ii

Answer-B

59. Which of the following crop/s is/are grown in "Harappan area"?

- i. Wheat
- ii. Barley
- iii. Lentil

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation: Agriculture was an important source of subsistence for the Harappans.

The Harappans cultivated diverse crops such as wheat, barley, lentil, chickpea, sesame and various millets.

60. Whose SOBRIQUETS is "SEWALIR KOBI"?

- a) Jyotiprasad Agarwala
- b) Chandradhar Baruah
- c) Ratnakanta Borkakati
- d) Gajen Baruah

Answer- C

Ratnakanta Borkakati is known as SEWALIR KOBI.

61. Gorokhiya Doul was built during the reign of which of the following Ahom king?

- a) Gadadhar Singha
- b) Rudra Singha
- c) Pratap Singha
- d) Chandrakanta Singha

Answer- C

Gorokhiya Doul was built during the reign of Ahom King Swargadeo Pratap Singha (1603- 1648CE).

62. Where is Lachit Moidam that preserves the remains of Lachit Barphukan?

- a) Gachtal
- b) Charaideo

- c) Hoolungapara
- d) Saraighat

Answer- C

At Hoolungapara, 16km from Jorhat , is the Lachit Moidam that preserves the remains of Lachit Barphukan.

63. Consider the following statements:

- i. The Early Vedic culture is correlated with some of the Chalcolithic cultures of India.
- ii. The Later Vedic culture is correlated with the Painted Grey Ware Culture of the Iron Age in North India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer: C

Explanation: The Early Vedic culture is correlated with some of the Chalcolithic cultures of India, while the later Vedic culture is correlated with the Painted Grey Ware Culture of the Iron Age in North India.

64. The famous megalithic site "Adichanallur" is located at?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Kerala
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Karnataka

Answer: A

Explanation: Adichanallur, 22 km from Tirunelveli, is located in Thoothukudi district.

65. Which of the following ancient city/town is a centre for trade and commerce?

- a) Taxila
- b) Vaishali
- c) Kaushambi
- d) Champa

Answer- A

66. Consider the following statements:

- i. The mahajanapadas on the Gangetic plains were all monarchies.
- ii. The kingdoms were governed by kings and the administration was decentralized.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii

d) Neither i nor ii

ANSWER: A

Explanation: The mahajanapadas on the Gangetic plains were all monarchies. Vedic orthodoxy was an established practice in these kingdoms.

67. The famous "Bimbisara" belongs to which of the following dynasty?

- a) Haryanka dynasty
- b) Shishunaga dynasty
- c) Nanda dynasty
- d) Maurya dynasty

ANSWER- A

Explanation: The political conflict among the Mahajanapadas ultimately led to the emergence of Magadha as the most powerful state and the centre of a vast empire.

68. Consider the following statements regarding "Kalasoka":

- i. He belongs to Nanda dynasty.
- ii. He held second Buddhist council.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii

d) Neither i nor ii

ANSWER: B

Kalasoka was the son and successor of Shishunaga.

69. Consider the following statements regarding "Buddhist councils":

- i. The First Buddhist Council was held at Rajgriha after Buddha's death.
- ii. The Second Buddhist Council met at Vaishali a century after Buddha's death.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

ANS: C

70. With reference to Sayyid Ahmad Khan, consider the following statements:

- i. In 1875, he founded the Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental College in Lahore.
- ii. He interpreted the Quran in the light of contemporary rationalism and science.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii

d) Neither i nor ii

Answer: B

Sayyid Ahmad Khan was one of the most important reformers among Muslims. He was tremendously impressed by modern scientific thought and worked all his life to reconcile it with Islam.

- The Muslim upper class tended to avoid contact with Western education and culture, and it was mainly after the revolt of 1857 that modern ideas of education and religious reform began to appear. A beginning in this direction was made when the Mohammedan literary society was founded at Calcutta in 1863.
- In 1875 he founded at Aligarh the Muhammedan Anglo-Oriental College at Aligarh as a center for spreading Western science and culture, later this college grew into an Aligarh Muslim university. Hence statement 1 is not correct.
- In his view, any interpretation of the Quran that conflicted with human reason, science, or nature was in reality a misinterpretation. He also interpreted Quran in the light of contemporary rationalism and science. Hence statement 2 is correct.
- He was opposed to communal friction, appealing to Hindus and Muslims to unite, he was a great believer in religious toleration.

71. Who among the following is associated with 'The Philosophy of the Bomb', a critique of non-violence that sought to explain the thinking behind revolutionary actions?

- a) Sardar Bhagat Singh
- b) Jatin Das
- c) Sachindranath Sanyal
- d) Bhagwati Charan Vohra

Answer: D

- 'The Philosophy of the Bomb' was written by Bhagwati Charan Vohra in early January 1930 as a polemical intervention into debates among nationalist circles about the role of violence in the anticolonial movement in India.
- Bhagwati Charan Vohra was part of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA), and he also authored the manifesto of HSRA.
- Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

72. With reference to the Office of Secretary of State during the British colonial rule in India, consider the following statements:

- i. It was created by the Government of India Act 1858 to supervise the administration of India.
- ii. The Secretary of the State served as the personal representative of the British Crown in India and was accountable to it.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer: A

The Government of India Act of 1858 ended the Company rule and the system of Double Government by the Board of Control in England and the Court of Directors of the company introduced by the Pitt's India Act, of 1784. Indian Administration came directly under the Crown. The Act created the office of the Secretary of State who was a cabinet minister in the British cabinet. His salary and establishment were paid from the Indian revenue. He was assisted by a council of fifteen members to make him familiar with Indian affairs.

- The Secretary of State was given the power of sending and receiving secret messages and despatches from the Governor General without the necessity of communicating them to the Indian Council. The Secretary of State was to present to the House of Commons periodically report on the moral and material progress of India. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- As per the administrative changes introduced by the Government of India Act 1858, the Governor General got an additional title of Viceroy or Crown's representative. Thus, the Governor-general served as the personal representative of the British Crown in India. The Secretary of State sat in the British Parliament and was accountable to the Parliament. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

73. With reference to the Swadeshi Movement, consider the following statements:

- i. It had its genesis in the anti-partition movement of Bengal.
- ii. The big zamindars of Bengal did not extend support to the Swadeshi cause.
- iii. Samitis (Corps of volunteers) helped in mobilisation of the mass support for the movement.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii and iii only

- c) i and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer: A

In pursuance of his reactionary policies in India Lord Curzon announced the partition of Bengal in December 1903 which took effect on 16 October 1905. A massive anti-partition movement was started in Bengal which evolved into the Swadeshi and Boycott movement. The formal proclamation of the Swadeshi Movement was, made on 7 August 1905, in a meeting held at the Calcutta town hall. At this meeting, the famous Boycott Resolution was passed.

Hence statement 1 is correct

- Samitis (corps of volunteers) helped in the mobilization of the mass to support the Swadeshi Movement. The samitis took the swadeshi message to the villages through magic lantern lectures and swadeshi songs, gave physical and moral training to the members, did social work during famines and epidemics, organized schools, trained in the swadeshi craft, and organized arbitration courts. The

Swadesh Bandhab Samiti of Ashwini Kumar Dutt is such a prominent example.

Hence statement 3 is correct.

- Indian National Congress took up the Swadeshi call and at the 1905 Banaras Session, presided over by G.K. Gokhale, a resolution supporting the Swadeshi and Boycott Movement for Bengal was passed. During Swadeshi Movement, the big zamindars, who had so far remained loyal to the Raj, joined forces with the Congress leaders in support of the movement. Hence statement 2 is not correct.

- A very important characteristic of the Movement is the active participation of women in the movement, it marked the first instance of women participating in large numbers in the national movement. The woman of the urban middle class came out in large numbers and participated in the Swadeshi movement they carried out positions and picketing work.

74. In the context of Indian freedom struggle, Bengalee, Hitabadi and Sanjibani were:

- a) journals and newspapers
- b) revolutionary organizations
- c) societies focused on social reform
- d) educational organizations

Answer -A

Bengalee was a newspaper started by Surendranath Banerjee in 1879. Sanjibani (by Krishna Kumar Mitra) and Hitabadi (by Dwijendranath Tagore) were journals. A powerful press campaign was launched against the partition proposals through these journals and newspapers

- Hence option (a) is the correct answer.

75. The object of the Cunningham circular of 1930 was

- a) to defend the honour of the National flag.
- b) to forbid students from participating in political activities.
- c) to refuse to pay chowkidara tax.
- d) to suppress the separate manjari sena or cat army.

Answer B

To discourage and stop students to participate in the Civil Disobedience Movement, J.R. Cunningham, the then powerful Director of Public Information of Assam, issued the Cunningham circular in 1930 imposing a blanket ban on any anti-British and pro-Swadeshi activity by students.

- In Assam, a powerful agitation led by students was launched against the infamous 'Cunningham circular' which forced students and their guardians to furnish assurances of good behavior.
- It forced parents, guardians and students to furnish assurances of good behavior and also asked them to sign an undertaking that they would have to quit their schools and colleges if they participated in antigovernment demonstrations or movements.
- The circular was aimed to forbid students from participating in political activities and so, it raised a very strong response.
- Thousands of students, throughout Assam, left their educational institutions. Many Swadeshi educational institutions like Kamrup Academy of Guwahati and Sibsagar Vidyapeeth were also established at the same time to accommodate the students leaving British Government schools & colleges.
- The Kamrup Academy, the first Swadeshi school in the Northeast, was conceived with Rai Bahadur Kalicharan Sengupta as its president and Gaurikanta Talukdar as its secretary.
- The school started functioning on July 15, 1930, and initially, lessons were imparted in both Bengali and Assamese languages. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

76. In which of the following congress sessions, the congress formally announced its changed policy towards princely states, from that of non-intervention to the removal of any self imposed constraint on its participation in the princely states?

- a) Nagpur session, 1920
- b) Lahore session, 1929
- c) Tripuri session, 1939
- d) Haripura session, 1938

Answer: C

The policy of the Indian National Congress towards the Indian states had been first enunciated in 1920 at Nagpur when a resolution calling upon the Princes to grant full responsible government in their States had been passed. Simultaneously, however, the Congress, while allowing residents of the States to become members of Congress, made it clear that they could not initiate political activity in the States in the name of Congress but only in their individual capacity or as members of the local political organizations.

- In the mid-thirties, two associated developments brought about a distinct change in the situation in the Indian States.
- First, the Government of India Act of 1935 projected a scheme of federation in which the Indian States were to be brought into a direct constitutional relationship with British India and the States were to send representatives to the Federal Legislature.
- The second development was the assumption of office by Congress Ministries in the majority of the provinces in British India in 1937. The fact that Congress was in power created a new sense of confidence and expectation in the people of the Indian States and acted as a spur to greater political activity. The Princes too had to reckon with a new political reality — the Congress was no longer just a party in opposition but a party in power with a capacity to influence developments in contiguous Indian States.

- The years 1938-39, in fact, stand out as years of a new awakening in the Indian States and were witness to a large number of movements demanding responsible government and other reforms. Praja mandals mushroomed in many States that had earlier no such organizations. Major struggles broke out in Jaipur, Kashmir, Rajkot, Patiala, Hyderabad, Mysore, Travancore, and the Orissa States.
- These new developments brought about a significant change in Congress policy as well. Whereas, even in the Haripura session in 1938, the Congress had reiterated its policy that movements in the States should not be launched in the name of the Congress but should rely on their own independent strength and fight through local organizations, a few months later, on seeing the new spirit that was abroad among the people and their capacity to struggle. Gandhiji and the Congress changed their attitude on this question. The radicals and socialists in Congress, as well as political workers in the States, had in any case been pressing for this change for quite some time.
- Following upon this, the Congress at Tripuri in March 1939 passed a resolution enunciating its new policy: 'The great awakening that is taking place among the people of the States may lead to a relaxation, or to a complete removal of the restraint which the Congress imposed upon itself, thus resulting in an ever-increasing identification of the Congress with the States' peoples'. Also in 1939, the AISPC elected Jawaharlal Nehru as its President for the Ludhiana session, thus setting the seal on the fusion of the movements in Princely India and British India.
- Hence option (c) is the correct answer.

77. Champaran Satyagraha was launched against the:

- a) withdrawal of plague bonus given to the workers.
- b) increase in land revenues imposed by the colonial government in the district.

- c) exploitation of peasants working on indigo plantations by the European planters.
- d) refusal of the government to remit land revenue in light of the crop failure.

Answer: C

Gandhi's first great experiment in satyagraha came in 1917 in Champaran, a district in Bihar. The peasantry on the indigo plantations in the district was excessively oppressed by the European planters. They were compelled to grow indigo on at least 3/20th of their land and to sell it at prices fixed by the planters. In the Champaran Satyagraha, the Government appointed a Commission of Inquiry to go into the whole issue and nominated Gandhiji as one of its members. Armed with evidence collected from 8,000 peasants, he had little difficulty in convincing the Commission that the tinkathia system needed to be abolished and that the peasants should be compensated for the illegal enhancement of their dues. As a compromise with the planters, he agreed that they refund only twenty-five percent of the money they had taken illegally from the peasants. Answering critics who asked why he did not ask for a full refund, Gandhiji explained that even this refund had done enough damage to the planters' prestige and position. As was often the case, Gandhiji's assessment was correct and, within a decade, the planters left the district altogether. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

78. The Charter Act of 1813, provided for

- i. opening of Indian trade for all British merchants.
- ii. allocation of Company resources for the spread of modern sciences in India.
- iii. ending of the East India Company's monopoly in the tea trade.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) i only
- b) i and ii only

- c) ii and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

Answer: B

The Charter Act of 1813 was passed by the British Parliament due to increasing pressure from the British industrialists who wanted to take part in the profitable Indian trade.

- By the Charter Act of 1813, the trade monopoly of the Company in India was ended and trade with India was thrown open to all British subjects (private merchants). But trade in tea and trade with China was still exclusive to the Company. Hence option 1 is correct.
- A humble beginning for the spread of education was made in 1813 through the Charter Act. It incorporated the principle of encouraging learned Indians and promoting the knowledge of modern sciences in the country. The Act directed the Company to spend the sum of one lakh of rupees for the purpose. But even this petty amount was not made available by Company authorities till 1823. Hence option 2 is correct.
- The Charter Act of 1833 brought the Company's monopoly of tea trade and trade with China to an end. At the same time, the debts of the Company were taken over by the Government of India, which was also to pay its shareholders a 10½ percent dividend on their capital. Hence option 3 is not correct.

79. Consider the following statements with respect to the INA Relief and Enquiry Committee:

- i. It was set up by Subhash Chandra Bose.

ii. Its main objective was to rehabilitate the INA prisoners after their trial.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer: B

The issue which caught the popular imagination was the fate of the members of Subhas Chandra Bose's Indian National Army (INA), who were captured by the British in the eastern theatre of War.

- An announcement by the Government, limiting trials of the INA personnel to those guilty of brutality or active complicity, was due to be made by the end of August 1945.
- However, before this statement could be issued. Nehru raised the demand for leniency at a meeting in Srinagar on 16 August 1945 — making the proposed statement seem a response to his call rather than an act of generosity on the part of the Government.
- The defense of the INA prisoners was taken up by the Congress and Bhulabhaj Desai, Tej Bahadur Sapru, K.N. Katju, Nehru, and Asaf Ali appeared in court at the historic Red Fort trials.
- The Congress organized an INA Relief and Enquiry Committee, which provided small sums of money and food to the men on their release, and attempted, though with marginal success, to secure employment for these men. Hence, statement 1 is not correct and statement 2 is correct.
- A significant feature of the INA campaign was its wide geographical reach and the participation of diverse social groups and political parties.

- The Muslim League, the Communist Party of India, the Unionist Party, the Akalis, the Justice Party, the Ahrars in Rawalpindi, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, the Hindu Mahasabha, and the Sikh League supported the NA cause in varying degrees.

80. The term “market socialism” was coined by which of the following?

- a) Adam Smith
- b) David Ricardo
- c) J. M. Keynes
- d) Oscar Lange

ANS: D

Explanation: On the margins of these developments, it is interesting to note the developments that occurred in the state economies of the time.

- It was Oscar Lange (1904–65), the Polish philosopher, who in 1950s suggested the same things for the socialist economy as Keynes had suggested for the capitalist economy.
- Lange praised the state economy for many of its good things, but also suggested inclusion of some of the good things of the capitalistic economy.
- He advised the state economies to adopt ‘market socialism’ (the term was coined by him).

81. The term “Washington Consensus” is related to which of the following?

- a) Economic reforms
- b) Migratory species protection

- c) Marine pollution
- d) Organic farming

ANS: A

Explanation: The term 'Washington Consensus' was coined by the US economist John Williamson (in 1989) under which he had suggested a set of policy reforms which most of the official in Washington (i.e., International Monetary Fund and World Bank) thought would be good for the crisis-driven Latin American countries of the time.

82. Which of the following is/are come/s under Gross Domestic Product (GDP)?

- i. National private consumption
- ii. Gross investment
- iii. Government spending

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) i only
- b) i and ii only
- c) ii and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

ANS: D

Explanation: Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the value of the all final goods and services produced within the boundary of a nation during one year period. For India, this calendar year is from 1st April to 31st March. It is also calculated by adding national private consumption, gross investment, government spending and trade balance (exports-minus-imports).

83. Which of the following is/are the participant/s of call money market?

- i. Commercial banks
- ii. Cooperative banks
- iii. Regional rural banks

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) i only
- b) i and ii only
- c) ii and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

ANS: C

Explanation: The call money market is an important segment of the money market where borrowing and lending of funds take place on overnight basis.

- Participants in the call money market in India currently include scheduled commercial banks (SCBs)—excluding regional rural banks), cooperative banks (other than land development banks), insurance.
- Prudential limits, in respect of both outstanding borrowing and lending transactions in the call money market for each of these entities, are specified by the RBI.

84. Consider the following statements regarding “NBFCs (Non-Banking Financial Companies)”:

- i. NBFC’s raise funds from the public, directly or indirectly, and lend them to ultimate spenders.

- ii. NBFC's advance loans to the various wholesale and retail traders, small-scale industries and self-employed persons.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

ANS: C

Explanation: NBFC's raise funds from the public, directly or indirectly, and lend them to ultimate spenders.

- They advance loans to the various wholesale and retail traders, small-scale industries and self-employed persons.
- Thus, they have broadened and diversified the range of products and services offered by a financial sector.

85. Consider the following statements regarding "Reserve Bank of India":

- i. It was set up by the RBI Act, 1934.
- ii. It was nationalized in 1955.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

ANS: A

Explanation: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was set up in 1935 (by the RBI Act, 1934) as a private bank with two extra functions—regulation and control of the banks in India and being the banker of the government. After nationalization in 1949, it emerged as the central banking body of India and it did not remain a 'bank' in the technical sense.

86. The statutory liquidity ratio (SLR) is/are maintained under which of the following form/s?

- i. Cash.
- ii. Gold.
- iii. Unencumbered approved securities valued at a price as specified by the RBI from time to time.

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) i only
- b) ii and i only
- c) ii and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

ANS: D

Explanation: In terms of Section 24 (2-A) of the B.R. Act, 1949 all Scheduled Commercial Banks, in addition to the average daily balance which they are required to maintain under Section 42 of the RBI, Act, 1934, are required to maintain in India,

a) in cash, or

b) in gold valued at a price not exceeding the current market price,

c) in unencumbered approved securities valued at a price as specified by the RBI from time to time.

An amount which shall not, at the close of the business on any day, be less than 25 per cent or such other percentage not exceeding 40 per cent as the RBI may from time to time, by notification in gazette of India, specify, of the total of its demand and time liabilities in India as on the last Friday of the second preceding fortnight, At present, all SCBs are required to maintain a uniform SLR of 25 per cent of the total of their demand and time liabilities in India as on the last Friday of the second preceding fortnight which is stipulated under section 24 of the B.R. Act, 1949.

87. Which of the following institution/s is/are raise the money under “Bank Rate”?

- i. Government of India
- ii. State Governments
- iii. RBI

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) i only
- b) i and ii only
- c) ii and iii only
- d) i, ii and iii

ANS: B

Explanation: The interest rate which the RBI charges on its long-term lending's is known as the Bank Rate. The clients who borrow through this route are the Government of India, state governments, banks, financial institutions, co-operative banks, NBFCs, etc.

88. Consider the following statements:

- i. The rate of interest the RBI charges from its clients on their short-term borrowing is the repo rate.
- ii. In practice it is not called an interest rate but considered a discount on the dated government securities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) Both i and ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

ANS: C

Explanation: The rate of interest the RBI charges from its clients on their short-term borrowing is the repo rate in India.

- Basically, this is an abbreviated form of the 'rate of repurchase' and in western economies it is known as the 'rate of discount'.
- In practice it is not called an interest rate but considered a discount on the dated government securities, which are deposited by institution to borrow for the short term.
- When they get their securities released from the RBI, the value of the securities is lost by the amount of the current repo rate.
- The Call Money Market of India (inter-bank market) operates at this rate and banks use this route for overnight borrowings.

89. Consider the following results of the Treaty of Yandabo:

- i. The only territorial acquisition given to British was Assam
- ii. Indemnity of one million pounds sterling was promised to British
- iii. Guaranteed protection to British merchants was promised

Which among the above statements is / are correct?

- a) Only i
- b) i & ii
- c) ii & iii
- d) i, ii & iii

Answer: C

The only territorial acquisition given to British was Assam. This is incorrect statement because British got Manipur, Arakan, Taninthai along with Assam.

Indemnity of one million pounds sterling was promised to British. This is a correct statement. Guaranteed protection to British merchants was promised. This is a correct statement.

90. Approximately what fraction of world's tea output comes from Assam?

- a) 10%
- b) 15%
- c) 20%
- d) 25%

ANSWER- B

91. The “Chai Taret Khuntakpa” is a period ranging from 1817-1826, which the Manipuris remember it as 7 years of devastation. In this context consider the following statements:

- i. During this period, the rule of Assam and Manipur had gone into hands of the Burmese
- ii. The “Chai Taret Khuntakpa” ended with the Treaty of Yandabu

Which among the above statements is / are correct?

- a) Only i
- b) Only ii
- c) Both i & ii
- d) Neither i nor ii

Answer: C

Assam was ruled by Ahom kingdom from 1228 to 1826 and it was sovereign even in the Mughal era. But in 1817, it was attacked by the Burmese and thus Ahom Kingdom went into the control of Burmese till 1826. The Assamese call this 7 years period as Manor din and the Manipuris call it Chai Taret Khuntakpa which means 7 years of devastation. The independent and powerful Ahom dynasty ended with the Burmese invasion. But, after the First Anglo Burmese War, the Burmese lost control over Assam in 1826 by Treaty of Yandabu.

92. In context with the Indian Fauna, consider the following statements:

- i. The maximum number of species in India is that of Arthropods
- ii. Butterflies constitute 65% of Indian Fauna
- iii. Assam is home to around 50% of India's Butterfly species

Which among the above statements is / are correct?

- a) Only i
- b) Only i & ii
- c) Only i & iii
- d) All

ANSWER-D

93. The Assam Government has signed MoU with which cab company for a pilot project of app-based river taxi services in Guwahati?

- a) Ola
- b) Uber
- c) Meru
- d) Carzonrent

Answer- A

The Government of Assam has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with cab-hailing company Ola for a pilot project of app-based river taxi services in Guwahati. This MoU was signed during the ongoing Global Investors Summit: Advantage Assam. According to the MOU, bringing water taxis on the online platform will strengthen the transportation ecosystem. The river taxi will be a machine-operated boat, a faster and safer mode of travel than its conventional alternatives. Ola will pilot high-speed taxis on the Lachit Ghat, Machkhowa to North Guwahati route, bringing the commute time down to 2-5 minutes from 45 minutes by road.

94. Find the odd one in the context of Athkheliya namghar, Golaghat :

- a) Ghiladhari River
- b) Matrang River
- c) Kakodonga River
- d) Bhogdoi River

Answer- D

Athkheliya namghar is located at the place where the rivers Ghiladhari , Matrang and Kakodonga meet.

95. Surya image dateable to 1200 CE is found in which of the following place ?

- a) Guwahati
- b) Sonitpur
- c) Tinsukia
- d) Golaghat

Answer- B

Surya image dateable to 1200 CE is found in Golchepa, Sonitpur.

96. Singri temple present towards west of Tezpur which is mentioned as Shringatak
in which of the following:

- a) Kalikapuran
- b) Joginitantra
- c) Vishnupuran
- d) Ramayana

Answer- A

Singri temple present towards west of Tezpur which is mentioned as Shringatak in Kalikapuran.

97. Which one is not the capital of Kacharis?

- a) Cachar
- b) Dimapur
- c) Maibong
- d) Khaspur

Answer- A

The Kacharis had its first capital in Dimapur and then later shifted to Maibong and Khaspur.

98. Which one of the following has remarked that the women of Kamrupa are habitually addicted to tambuls?

- a) Kalikapuran
- b) Yogini Tantra
- c) Vishnupuran
- d) Ramayana

Answer- B

Yogini Tantra has remarked that the women of Kamrupa are habitually addicted to tambuls.

99. The Phulaguri Uprising took place in:

- a) 17 October 1922
- b) 16 October 1922
- c) 17 October 1861
- d) 17 October 1863

Answer- C

The Phulaguri Uprising took place in 17 October 1861 in Nagaon District.

100. We often hear the term 'CTC' in the context of Assam Tea. What does CTC stand for?

- a) Crush, tear, curl
- b) Check, thrash, curl
- c) Curl, tear, crush
- d) check, tear, curl

ANSWER-A

Crush, tear, curl (sometimes cut, tear, curl) is a method of processing tea leaves into black tea in which the leaves are passed through a series of cylindrical rollers with hundreds of sharp teeth that crush, tear, and curl the tea into small, hard pellets.