

SET General Awareness

Sample Paper – 10

Duration: 16 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 16

Instructions

- This paper contains **16** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the General Awareness portion of the **Symbiosis Entrance Test (SET)**.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is **no negative marking** for incorrect or unattempted answers.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose carefully.
- Syllabus: Current Affairs (national & international), History, Geography, Economy, Science & Technology, Sports, Awards, Polity, and Environment.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited during the actual exam.

Q1. In May 2025, India launched “Operation Sindoor” — a series of precision airstrikes against terrorist infrastructure. Which terror attack directly triggered this military operation?

- (A) The Pahalgam terror attack (April 22, 2025) that killed 26 tourists in Jammu and Kashmir
- (B) The 2019 Pulwama attack that killed 40 CRPF personnel
- (C) The 2001 attack on the Indian Parliament
- (D) The 2008 Mumbai attacks carried out by Lashkar-e-Taiba

Q2. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), the world’s largest financial inclusion initiative providing zero-balance bank ac-



counts with RuPay debit cards and accident insurance cover, was officially launched on:

- (A) August 15, 2014
- (B) August 28, 2014
- (C) October 2, 2014
- (D) November 14, 2014

Q3. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), launched on May 1, 2016 from Ballia, Uttar Pradesh, primarily provides which benefit to women from Below Poverty Line (BPL) households?

- (A) Accident insurance cover at Rs. 12 per year premium
- (B) Life insurance for women who hold bank accounts
- (C) Free LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) connections to replace harmful solid cooking fuels
- (D) Midday meals for children enrolled in government schools

Q4. The One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme enables National Food Security Act (NFSA) beneficiaries to purchase their entitled quota of subsidised foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop anywhere in India. What is the primary authentication mechanism used?

- (A) It provides free ration to all Indian citizens irrespective of income
- (B) It creates one digital identity for accessing all government welfare schemes



- (C) It operates a single online portal for all government food schemes nationwide
- (D) Aadhaar-based biometric or OTP authentication using the existing ration card

Q5. NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) is a joint Earth observation satellite mission. Which combination of radar systems does it carry?

- (A) L-band SAR (NASA) and S-band SAR (ISRO)
- (B) Multi-wavelength optical telescope (NASA) and infrared scanner (ISRO)
- (C) UV-visible spectrometer (ISRO) and gamma-ray detector (NASA)
- (D) X-band SAR (ISRO) and Ka-band SAR (NASA)

Q6. Under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), launched in 2016, the farmer premium contribution is capped at different rates for different crop seasons. Which of the following correctly states these caps?

- (A) A flat 1% of sum insured for all crop seasons equally
- (B) 2% for Kharif crops, 1.5% for Rabi food and oilseed crops, and 5% for annual commercial/horticultural crops
- (C) 3% for Kharif crops and 2% for Rabi crops
- (D) 5% for Kharif crops and 3% for Rabi crops

Q7. The International Solar Alliance (ISA), launched jointly by



India and France at COP21 in Paris in 2015, is the first treaty-based international intergovernmental organisation headquartered in India. Where is its Secretariat located?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Geneva, Switzerland
- (C) Gurugram, Haryana
- (D) Nairobi, Kenya

Q8. India's first bullet train project — the Mumbai–Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) — uses technology from which country, and what is the approximate length of the corridor?

- (A) France; 450 km connecting Delhi to Varanasi
- (B) Germany; 380 km connecting Delhi to Amritsar
- (C) China; 600 km connecting Chennai to Bengaluru
- (D) Japan (Shinkansen technology); 508 km connecting Sabar-mati to Bandra-Kurla Complex

Q9. The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), constituted under Section 45ZB of the RBI Act, 1934 (as amended in 2016), decides the policy repo rate. How many members does the MPC have, and who chairs it?

- (A) 6 members; chaired by the RBI Governor who has a casting vote in case of a tie
- (B) 4 members; chaired by the Finance Minister of India
- (C) 8 members; chaired by the Deputy Governor of RBI in charge of monetary policy



(D) The RBI Governor alone decides the policy repo rate without a committee

Q10. India's official nuclear doctrine, published in January 2003, is anchored in which of the following core principles?

(A) First Strike capability — India reserves the right to launch a pre-emptive nuclear strike

(B) No First Use (NFU) — India will not use nuclear weapons first but will respond with massive retaliation to any nuclear attack

(C) Launch-on-Warning — India will fire nuclear missiles upon receiving warning of an incoming attack, before detonation

(D) Tactical nuclear weapons will be deployed for battlefield use against conventional troop concentrations

Q11. The first edition of “Kashi Tamil Sangamam,” organised by the Ministry of Education in collaboration with IIT Madras and IIT BHU, was held in November–December 2022. What was its primary purpose?

(A) A national festival of classical dance forms celebrating India's intangible heritage

(B) An IT and trade summit connecting start-ups from Kashi and Tamil Nadu

(C) Reconnecting Tamil Nadu and Kashi through their shared cultural, religious, historical, and scholarly traditions



(D) A cultural outreach programme focused on Odia language and Jagannath tradition

Q12. The Sagarmala Programme, launched in 2015 by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, is India's port-led development strategy. Which of the following correctly lists its four pillars?

(A) National highway development, expressway construction, rural roads, and border roads

(B) Regional air connectivity, airport modernisation, MRO hubs, and cargo logistics

(C) Urban renewal, smart city infrastructure, metro rail, and sewage treatment

(D) Port Modernisation, Port Connectivity Enhancement, Port-led Industrialisation, and Coastal Community Development

Q13. Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY), the world's largest government-funded health assurance scheme launched on September 23, 2018, provides what amount of annual health cover per family?

(A) Rs. 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary hospitalisation

(B) Rs. 1 lakh per family per year

(C) Rs. 10 lakh per family per year

(D) Rs. 2.5 lakh per family per year



- Q14.** The Nari Shakti Puraskar, India's highest civilian honour for women recognising exceptional contributions to women's empowerment, is awarded by the President of India on which day each year?
- (A) November 19 (Women's Entrepreneurship Day)
 - (B) March 8 (International Women's Day)
 - (C) January 26 (Republic Day)
 - (D) October 15
- Q15.** According to the Global Hunger Index 2023 published by Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe, what was India's rank and classification?
- (A) 55th out of 125 countries (classified as "Moderate")
 - (B) 125th out of 125 countries (classified as "Alarming")
 - (C) 111th out of 125 countries (classified as "Serious")
 - (D) 80th out of 127 countries (classified as "Moderate")
- Q16.** Aditya-L1, India's first dedicated solar mission launched by ISRO on September 2, 2023, was placed in a halo orbit around which point in space, and what is its approximate distance from Earth?
- (A) Low Earth Orbit (LEO) at approximately 600 km from Earth
 - (B) Geo-stationary orbit at approximately 36,000 km from Earth



- (C) Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 2 (L2) at approximately 1.5 million km from Earth
- (D) Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 1 (L1) at approximately 1.5 million km from Earth



Detailed Solutions

Solution

Concept: Operation Sindoor — India's precision strikes of May 7, 2025

Step 1 — Pahalgam attack: On **April 22, 2025**, terrorists attacked tourists in Baisaran meadow near Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, killing **26 people** (mostly tourists). The attack was one of the deadliest on civilians in the region in recent years.

Step 2 — Operation Sindoor: On **May 7, 2025**, the Indian Armed Forces launched **Operation Sindoor** — a coordinated strike using precision munitions against terrorist infrastructure in **Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK)**. The operation was named "Sindoor" in honour of the victims' wives (sindoor being the vermilion mark of a married Hindu woman).

Step 3 — Significance: Operation Sindoor represented a significant escalation in India's counter-terrorism posture, demonstrating the willingness to strike across the international border at terrorist infrastructure in response to attacks on civilians.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q1.**
- **(B) Pulwama attack (2019)** — The Pulwama attack of February 14, 2019 triggered the Balakot airstrikes (Operation Bandar), not Operation Sindoor.
 - **(C) 2001 Parliament attack** — The December 2001 Parliament attack led to Operation Parakram (the 2001–02 military standoff), not Operation Sindoor.
 - **(D) 2008 Mumbai attacks** — The 26/11 Mumbai attacks led to diplomatic action and the suspension of the composite dialogue process, not Operation Sindoor.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q1](#)

Solution

Concept: Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) — Launch Date

Step 1 — Launch: PM Narendra Modi launched **PMJDY on August 28, 2014** — a day after his announcement in the Independence Day address (August 15, 2014). On the launch day alone, **1.5 crore bank accounts** were opened, setting a Guinness World Record.

Step 2 — Key benefits: PMJDY provides: zero-balance savings accounts with **RuPay debit card**; **Rs. 2 lakh** accident insurance cover; **Rs. 30,000** life insurance (for early enrollees); and **Rs. 10,000 overdraft** facility after satisfactory account operation.



Step 3 — Impact: PMJDY is the world's largest financial inclusion initiative. By 2024, over 52 crore accounts were opened, enabling direct benefit transfers (DBT) and reducing leakages in government subsidy delivery.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q2.**
- **(A) August 15, 2014** — PM Modi announced PMJDY in his Independence Day speech, but the formal launch was on August 28, 2014.
 - **(C) October 2, 2014** — Gandhi Jayanti; the Swachh Bharat Mission (Clean India Mission) was launched on this date, not PMJDY.
 - **(D) November 14, 2014** — Children's Day; the POCSO Act came into force on November 14, 2012 — not a PMJDY date.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q2](#)

Solution

Concept: Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) — Free LPG Connections for BPL Women

Step 1 — Launch: PMUY was launched on **May 1, 2016** (International Labour Day) from **Ballia, Uttar Pradesh**, by PM Modi. It is administered by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Step 2 — Objective: The scheme provides **free LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) connections** to women from Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in rural areas, replacing harmful and polluting solid cooking fuels such as firewood, cow dung cakes, and coal. The target was 8 crore connections under Phase 1, extended to 9.6 crore under Ujjwala 2.0 (2021), which also covered migrants and the homeless.

Step 3 — Health and environment impact: Indoor air pollution from biomass cooking fuels causes millions of deaths annually. PMUY directly addresses this by transitioning households to clean cooking energy.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q3.**
- **(A) Accident insurance at Rs. 12/year** — This describes the **Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)**, launched in May 2015, which provides Rs. 2 lakh accident insurance cover.
 - **(B) Life insurance for bank account holders** — This describes the **Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)**, which provides Rs. 2 lakh life insurance at Rs. 330/year premium.
 - **(D) Midday meals for school children** — This describes the **PM POSHAN Scheme** (formerly Mid-Day Meal Scheme), not PMUY.



Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q3](#)

Solution

Concept: One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) — Portability via Aadhaar

Step 1 — Scheme design: ONORC enables beneficiaries of the **National Food Security Act (NFSA)** to purchase their entitled subsidised foodgrains (rice, wheat) from **any Fair Price Shop (FPS) anywhere in India** using their existing ration card and **Aadhaar-based biometric or OTP authentication**. No new card is needed.

Step 2 — Coverage and rollout: The scheme particularly benefits **migrant workers** who relocate to cities for work and were previously unable to access their ration entitlement away from their home state. Implemented across all **36 states and UTs** by August 2021.

Step 3 — Technology backbone: The scheme runs on the Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS) portal and uses electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices at FPS outlets to authenticate transactions.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q4.
- **(A) Free ration to all Indians** — ONORC is a portability scheme for existing NFSA beneficiaries; it does not extend free ration to all citizens.
 - **(B) One digital ID for all government schemes** — This describes **Aadhaar**, India's biometric identification system, not ONORC.
 - **(C) Single online portal for all food schemes** — PM-POSHAN and PM-GKAY operate through separate portals; ONORC provides inter-state portability for PDS ration.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q4](#)

Solution

Concept: NISAR Mission — NASA-ISRO Joint SAR Satellite

Step 1 — Mission overview: NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) is a joint Earth observation satellite developed by **NASA** and **ISRO**. It carries **two radar systems**: the **L-band SAR** (provided by NASA, wavelength ≈ 24 cm) and the **S-band SAR** (provided by ISRO, wavelength ≈ 10 cm).

Step 2 — Mission objectives: NISAR will map the entire Earth's land surface and ice sheets every 12 days to study: ecosystems and biomass; ice masses and sea-level rise; natural hazards (earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides); and groundwater dynamics. It will be launched aboard ISRO's **LVM3 rocket** from Sriharikota.

Step 3 — Scientific significance: The dual-frequency SAR provides complemen-



tary data — L-band penetrates forest canopies (useful for biomass estimation) while S-band excels at surface deformation and agriculture monitoring.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q5.**
- **(B) ASTROSAT** — India's first dedicated multi-wavelength space observatory (launched September 2015) is an ISRO-only mission for stellar and galactic observation, not a joint NASA-ISRO SAR mission.
 - **(C) AstroSat-2** — The planned follow-on to ASTROSAT; it is not the NISAR mission and had not been launched as of 2025.
 - **(D) XPoSat** — India's first dedicated X-ray polarimetry mission (launched January 1, 2024) is an ISRO-only mission studying black holes and neutron stars, not a joint SAR Earth observation mission.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q5](#)

Solution

Concept: PMFBY — Farmer Premium Rates by Crop Season

Step 1 — Scheme launch: Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was launched in **February 2016**, replacing the earlier NAIS and MNAIS. It provides comprehensive crop insurance against natural calamities, pests, and diseases.

Step 2 — Premium structure: The farmer's share of the premium is capped at: **2%** of the sum insured for **Kharif** (summer/monsoon) crops; **1.5%** for **Rabi** (winter) food and oilseed crops; and **5%** for annual **commercial and horticultural** crops. The remaining premium (difference between the actuarial rate and the farmer-paid rate) is shared equally between the state and central governments.

Step 3 — Actuarial basis: Using actuarial/risk-based premiums ensures insurers are commercially viable while the subsidy keeps farmer-paid premiums affordable.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q6.**
- **(A) Flat 1% for all crops** — PMFBY uses differentiated rates (2%, 1.5%, 5%); a flat rate was not adopted.
 - **(C) 3% Kharif, 2% Rabi** — These are higher than PMFBY's actual caps; the Kharif cap is 2%, not 3%.
 - **(D) 5% Kharif, 3% Rabi** — These rates would make premiums unaffordable for small and marginal farmers; Kharif cap is 2% and Rabi cap is 1.5%.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q6](#)



Solution

Concept: International Solar Alliance (ISA) — Headquarters in Gurugram

Step 1 — Launch: The **International Solar Alliance** was jointly launched by India's PM Narendra Modi and France's President Francois Hollande at the **UN Climate Change Conference (COP21)** in Paris in **November 2015**. It became a treaty-based international intergovernmental organisation in 2017.

Step 2 — Headquarters: ISA's Secretariat is located at the **National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), Gurugram, Haryana**. ISA is the **first treaty-based international intergovernmental organisation to be headquartered in India**.

Step 3 — Mission: ISA aims to mobilise over **\$1 trillion** in solar energy investment by 2030 and has over 120 member countries (initially restricted to nations between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, later expanded to all UN member states).

Why other options are wrong:

- Q7.**
- **(A) New Delhi** — ISA's Secretariat is in Gurugram (part of the National Capital Region), not in central New Delhi.
 - **(B) Geneva, Switzerland** — Geneva hosts WTO, WHO, UNHCR, and other UN bodies; ISA is headquartered in India.
 - **(D) Nairobi, Kenya** — The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is headquartered in Nairobi; ISA is in Gurugram.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q7](#)

Solution

Concept: Mumbai–Ahmedabad High Speed Rail — Japan's Shinkansen Technology

Step 1 — Project overview: The **Mumbai–Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR)**, India's first bullet train project, covers a **508 km** corridor from **Sabarmati (Ahmedabad)** to **Bandra-Kurla Complex (Mumbai)**. The foundation stone was laid by PM Modi and Japanese PM Shinzo Abe on **September 14, 2017**.

Step 2 — Japanese technology: MAHSR uses Japan's **Shinkansen E5 series** technology under a bilateral MoU signed in December 2015. Japan provides **81% financing** through a soft loan at 0.1% interest rate for 50 years.

Step 3 — Operational features: The bullet train will reach speeds of up to 320 km/h, reducing travel time between Mumbai and Ahmedabad from over 7 hours (current fastest train) to approximately 2 hours 7 minutes (non-stop). There will be 12 stations along the route.



Why other options are wrong:

- Q8.
- (A) **France; Delhi to Varanasi** — The Delhi–Varanasi corridor is served by Vande Bharat Express; it is not the bullet train project. France is not the technology partner.
 - (B) **Germany; Delhi to Amritsar** — Delhi–Amritsar is an existing train route; Germany is not the technology partner for MAHSR.
 - (C) **China; Chennai to Bengaluru** — Chennai–Bengaluru is a proposed high-speed corridor; China is not the technology partner for India's first bullet train.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q8](#)

Solution

Concept: Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) — Composition and Chairperson

Step 1 — Legal basis: The MPC was constituted under **Section 45ZB of the RBI Act, 1934**, inserted by the Finance Act, 2016, following a landmark agreement between the Government of India and the RBI to adopt a formal inflation-targeting framework.

Step 2 — Composition: The MPC has **6 members**: (i) the **RBI Governor** (Chairperson); (ii) the Deputy Governor in charge of monetary policy; (iii) one RBI officer nominated by the Central Board; and (iv) three **external members** nominated by the Central Government. All members have equal voting rights; in case of a tie, the **Governor has a casting vote**.

Step 3 — Mandate: The MPC meets at least **4 times a year** (bi-monthly) to set the **policy repo rate** with the primary objective of maintaining retail inflation (CPI) at 4% (with a tolerance band of $\pm 2\%$).

Why other options are wrong:

- Q9.
- (B) **4 members; Finance Minister** — MPC has 6 members; the Finance Minister is not on the MPC. The RBI Governor chairs it.
 - (C) **8 members; Deputy Governor** — MPC has 6 members, not 8; the Governor (not Deputy Governor) is the Chairperson.
 - (D) **Governor alone decides** — The MPC is a statutory committee; the Governor chairs it but cannot decide unilaterally — all 6 members vote.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q9](#)



Solution

Concept: India's Nuclear Doctrine — No First Use (NFU)

Step 1 — Doctrine publication: India's nuclear doctrine was officially published by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) in **January 2003**. Its cornerstone is "**No First Use**" (NFU): India pledges not to use nuclear weapons first against any state, but reserves the right to respond with **massive retaliation** to a nuclear attack on Indian territory or Indian forces anywhere in the world.

Step 2 — Other pillars: The doctrine rests on: **credible minimum deterrence** (no arms race); **non-use against non-nuclear states** (negative security assurance); and **civilian political control** via the **Nuclear Command Authority (NCA)** chaired by the Prime Minister.

Step 3 — Strategic context: NFU allows India to maintain a smaller, survivable nuclear arsenal without needing the hair-trigger readiness of first-strike doctrines, while still deterring adversaries through the certainty of devastating retaliation.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q10.**
- **(A) First Strike capability** — India's doctrine explicitly rejects first use; it commits to retaliation only after absorbing a nuclear attack.
 - **(C) Launch-on-Warning** — India's doctrine requires confirmed detonation before retaliatory launch, not just warning of an incoming missile.
 - **(D) Tactical nuclear weapons for battlefield use** — India does not officially endorse a tactical nuclear weapons (TNW) doctrine; its strategy is focused on strategic-level deterrence.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q10](#)

Solution

Concept: Kashi Tamil Sangamam — Cultural Reconnection Programme

Step 1 — Event overview: The **first Kashi Tamil Sangamam** was held in **November–December 2022** in **Varanasi (Kashi)**, organised by the **Ministry of Education** in collaboration with **IIT Madras, IIT BHU (Varanasi)**, and other institutions.

Step 2 — Purpose: The programme aimed to **reconnect Tamil Nadu and Kashi** through their deep shared roots in religion, language, culture, arts, and scholarship. Pilgrims, scholars, artists, craftspeople, and students from Tamil Nadu were brought to Kashi to rediscover common civilisational links — including the Tamil connection to the Kashi Vishwanath temple and ancient Shaivite traditions. A second edition followed in 2023.



Step 3 — Significance: Kashi Tamil Sangamam is part of India's broader "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" programme, which promotes cultural exchange and unity between different states and regions.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q11.**
- **(A) Festival of classical dance** — While Kashi Tamil Sangamam included cultural performances, it was not specifically a classical dance festival; it covered religion, scholarship, arts, and handicrafts.
 - **(B) IT and trade summit** — Kashi Tamil Sangamam was a cultural-civilisational reconnection initiative, not a business or technology summit.
 - **(D) Odia cultural outreach** — Odisha and the Jagannath tradition are featured in different "Ek Bharat" programmes; Kashi Tamil Sangamam was specifically Tamil Nadu–Kashi focused.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q11](#)

Solution

Concept: Sagarmala Programme — Four Pillars of Port-Led Development

Step 1 — Launch: The **Sagarmala Programme** was launched in **2015** by the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways** as India's national port-led development strategy to harness the country's 7,500 km coastline and 14,500 km of potentially navigable waterways.

Step 2 — Four pillars: (1) **Port Modernisation and New Port Development**; (2) **Port Connectivity Enhancement** (road, rail, waterways, and pipeline links to/from ports); (3) **Port-led Industrialisation** (coastal economic zones and industrial clusters near ports); (4) **Coastal Community Development** (livelihood support for fishing communities and coastal population).

Step 3 — Objective: Sagarmala aims to reduce logistics costs for EXIM (export-import) and domestic trade by leveraging cost-efficient sea and waterways transport, targeting a significant reduction in India's logistics cost as a share of GDP.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q12.**
- **(A) Bharatmala** — Bharatmala Pariyojana is India's national highway and expressway development programme; it is road-focused, not port-focused.
 - **(B) UDAN** — UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) is the regional air connectivity scheme for underserved airports; it is aviation-focused, not maritime.
 - **(C) AMRUT** — AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) is an urban renewal and infrastructure mission for cities with over



1 lakh population; not a ports programme.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q12](#)

Solution

Concept: Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY — Rs. 5 Lakh Annual Health Cover

Step 1 — Launch: Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) was launched on **September 23, 2018** (Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's birth anniversary) by PM Modi. It is the world's largest government-funded health assurance scheme.

Step 2 — Coverage: PM-JAY provides a health cover of **Rs. 5 lakh per family per year** for **secondary and tertiary hospitalisation** at empanelled public and private hospitals across India. Treatment is **cashless and paperless** at the point of service. It covers approximately **55 crore individuals** (12 crore+ poor and vulnerable families) from the bottom two income quintiles.

Step 3 — Benefits: Coverage includes pre-hospitalisation (up to 3 days) and post-hospitalisation (up to 15 days) expenses. All pre-existing conditions are covered from Day 1.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q13.**
- (B) **Rs. 1 lakh** — Rs. 1 lakh was the cover under the earlier **Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY)**, which PM-JAY replaced and subsumed.
 - (C) **Rs. 10 lakh** — This exceeds PM-JAY's actual cover of Rs. 5 lakh. Some state-level top-up schemes extend cover beyond Rs. 5 lakh.
 - (D) **Rs. 2.5 lakh** — Some state health insurance schemes have lower caps; PM-JAY's central scheme provides Rs. 5 lakh per family.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q13](#)

Solution

Concept: Nari Shakti Puraskar — Awarded on March 8 (International Women's Day)

Step 1 — Award overview: The **Nari Shakti Puraskar** is India's highest civilian honour conferred on women and institutions working for women's empowerment. It is instituted by the **Ministry of Women and Child Development** and awarded by the **President of India**.

Step 2 — Date of award: The Nari Shakti Puraskar is presented every year on **March 8 — International Women's Day** — at a function in New Delhi. It recog-



nises outstanding contributions in fields including social work, grassroots leadership, education, health, arts, science, and innovation that benefit women.

Step 3 — Recognition: Recipients receive a medal, a certificate, and a cash prize. The award celebrates achievements by both individuals and institutions across India.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q14.**
- **(A) November 19 (Women’s Entrepreneurship Day)** — This is an internationally observed day but is not the date of the Nari Shakti Puraskar.
 - **(C) January 26 (Republic Day)** — Republic Day ceremonies confer **Padma Awards** and **Gallantry Awards**; the Nari Shakti Puraskar is presented on March 8.
 - **(D) October 15** — October 15 is observed as World Students’ Day (A.P.J. Abdul Kalam’s birthday) in India; it is not the Nari Shakti Puraskar date.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q14](#)

Solution

Concept: Global Hunger Index 2023 — India’s Rank and Classification

Step 1 — GHI 2023 findings: The **Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2023**, published by **Concern Worldwide** and **Welthungerhilfe**, ranked India **111th out of 125 countries** with a GHI score of **28.7**, classified as **“Serious”** on the hunger severity scale.

Step 2 — Key indicator: India’s score was particularly dragged down by a child wasting rate of **18.7%** — the **highest child wasting rate in the world** — indicating acute undernutrition. India also ranked below several South Asian neighbours: **Nepal (69th)**, **Bangladesh (81st)**, **Sri Lanka (60th)**, and **Pakistan (102nd)**.

Step 3 — GHI methodology: GHI scores countries on four indicators: (i) under-nourishment; (ii) child wasting (low weight-for-height); (iii) child stunting (low height-for-age); (iv) child mortality.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q15.**
- **(A) 55th out of 125** — India’s actual rank was 111th, not 55th; a 55th rank would imply a “moderate” level of hunger.
 - **(B) 125th out of 125** — India is not the worst-ranked country; GHI 2023’s lowest ranks were held by countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.
 - **(D) 80th out of 127** — GHI 2023 covered 125 countries (not 127); India ranked 111th, not 80th.



Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q15](#)

Solution

Concept: Aditya-L1 — India's First Solar Mission at Sun-Earth L1

Step 1 — Launch: Aditya-L1 is India's first dedicated solar observation mission, launched by ISRO on **September 2, 2023** from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC-SHAR), Sriharikota, aboard a **PSLV-C57** rocket.

Step 2 — Orbit: Aditya-L1 was placed in a **halo orbit around the Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 1 (L1)** on **January 6, 2024**, at approximately **1.5 million km from Earth**. L1 allows the spacecraft an unobstructed, continuous view of the Sun without any occultation/eclipse.

Step 3 — Payloads and science: Aditya-L1 carries **7 payloads** to study: the solar corona, solar wind, solar flares, coronal mass ejections (CMEs), and space weather. Understanding solar activity is critical for protecting Earth's communication satellites and power grids.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q16.**
- **(A) ASTROSAT** — ASTROSAT (launched 2015) is India's first multi-wavelength space observatory for stellar and galactic observations; it is not a solar mission and is not at L1.
 - **(B) XPoSat** — XPoSat (launched January 1, 2024) studies X-ray polarisation from cosmic sources like black holes and neutron stars; it is in a Low Earth Orbit, not at L1, and is not solar-focused.
 - **(C) Sun-Earth L2 at 1.5 million km** — Aditya-L1 is at **L1** (between Earth and Sun), not L2 (beyond Earth away from the Sun). L2 is where JWST and Gaia operate.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q16](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	A	2	B	3	C	4	D	5	A
6	B	7	C	8	D	9	A	10	B
11	C	12	D	13	A	14	B	15	C
16	D								

