

SET General Awareness

Sample Paper – 9

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. The Statue of Unity, the world's tallest statue at 182 metres, is located at Kevadia Colony on the Narmada River in Gujarat. It depicts which Indian leader?

- (A) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- (B) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (C) Mahatma Gandhi
- (D) Subhas Chandra Bose

Q2. India's G20 Presidency in 2023, under which the New Delhi Declaration was adopted at Bharat Mandapam (September 9–10, 2023), was guided by which theme?



- (A) “Recover Together, Recover Stronger”
- (B) “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam — One Earth, One Family, One Future”
- (C) “Building Consensus for Fair, Sustainable and Inclusive Development”
- (D) “Shaping an Interconnected World”

Q3. Chandrayaan-3 made India the first country to land near the lunar south pole. Which of the following correctly describes the mission?

- (A) Orbiter Pragyaan soft-landed on August 23, 2023, and the landing site was named “Nehru Point”
- (B) Rover Vikram landed on the Moon and deployed lander Pragyaan
- (C) Lander Vikram soft-landed on August 23, 2023 (now National Space Day), deploying rover Pragyaan; PM Modi named the landing site “Shiv Shakti Point”
- (D) India became the second country after China to land near the lunar south pole

Q4. Which words were added to the Preamble of the Indian Constitution by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976 (enacted during the Emergency)?

- (A) “Democratic” and “Republic”
- (B) “Sovereign” and “Socialist”
- (C) “Justice” and “Liberty”



(D) “Secular”, “Socialist”, and “Integrity”

Q5. INS Vikrant (IAC-1), India’s first indigenously built aircraft carrier, was commissioned on September 2, 2022. At which shipyard was it built?

(A) Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi, Kerala

(B) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai

(C) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata

(D) Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Visakhapatnam

Q6. M.S. Swaminathan, who passed away in 2023, was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna in 2024. He is widely called the “Father of the Green Revolution in India”. Who is known as the “Father of the Green Revolution” globally?

(A) Norman Borlaug

(B) M.S. Swaminathan

(C) Verghese Kurien

(D) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

Q7. PM-KISAN (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi), launched in February 2019, provides income support to farmer families. What is the annual financial benefit and how is it paid?

(A) Rs. 2,000 per year in two equal installments of Rs. 1,000 each

(B) Rs. 4,000 per year in two equal installments of Rs. 2,000 each



- (C) Rs. 6,000 per year in three equal installments of Rs. 2,000 each
- (D) Rs. 8,000 per year in four equal installments of Rs. 2,000 each

Q8. The first Vande Bharat Express (Train 18) was flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 15, 2019. On which route did it operate?

- (A) Mumbai to Ahmedabad
- (B) New Delhi to Amritsar
- (C) New Delhi to Agra
- (D) New Delhi to Varanasi

Q9. PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, launched on October 13, 2021, is best described as:

- (A) A digital GIS platform integrating infrastructure planning of 16 ministries to reduce logistics costs and improve multimodal connectivity
- (B) A scheme to issue digital identity cards to all citizens for accessing government services
- (C) A proposal to replace NITI Aayog with a new infrastructure planning body
- (D) A programme to digitise all land records across rural India

Q10. Bhadla Solar Park, considered the world's largest solar park



with approximately 2,245 MW capacity spread over about 5,700 hectares, is located in which state?

- (A) Gujarat
- (B) Rajasthan
- (C) Andhra Pradesh
- (D) Karnataka

Q11. Operation Ganga (February 26 – March 11, 2022) was conducted by India to evacuate over 22,500 Indian citizens (mostly medical students) from which country following a military conflict?

- (A) Afghanistan
- (B) Yemen
- (C) Ukraine
- (D) Sudan

Q12. The SVAMITVA scheme, launched on April 24, 2020 (National Panchayati Raj Day), uses drone technology to:

- (A) Provide piped drinking water connections to every household in rural India
- (B) Map agricultural land and issue soil health cards to farmers
- (C) Build pucca houses for the rural homeless under a housing mission
- (D) Map inhabited (abadi) land in villages and issue property



rights cards to residents, enabling use as collateral for bank loans

Q13. Constitution Day (Samvidhan Divas) is observed in India on November 26 every year. Why is this date significant?

- (A) The Constituent Assembly adopted the Constitution of India on November 26, 1949
- (B) The Constitution of India came into force on November 26, 1950
- (C) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar presented the final draft Constitution to Parliament on November 26, 1948
- (D) India officially became a republic on November 26, 1950

Q14. The National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), launched in January 2019 by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, targets:

- (A) The complete elimination of coal-fired power plants in India by 2030
- (B) A 40% reduction in PM 2.5 and PM 10 concentrations from 2017 baseline levels by 2026 in 131 non-attainment cities
- (C) Mandatory conversion of all public transport vehicles to CNG by 2025
- (D) A nationwide ban on stubble burning by farmers

Q15. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 replaced the ear-



lier 10+2 schooling structure with a new curricular framework. What is the new structure under NEP 2020?

- (A) 6+4+2+2
- (B) 4+4+4
- (C) 5+3+3+4
- (D) 8+2+2

Q16. PM Vishwakarma Yojana, launched on September 17, 2023 (Vishwakarma Jayanti), covers 18 traditional trades. What is the maximum collateral-free credit available under this scheme?

- (A) Rs. 50,000 only
- (B) Rs. 1 lakh (maximum)
- (C) Rs. 5 lakh
- (D) Rs. 3 lakh (first tranche Rs. 1 lakh at 5% concessional rate; second tranche Rs. 2 lakh after repayment)



Detailed Solutions

Solution

Concept: Statue of Unity — World's Tallest Statue, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Step 1 — The statue: The **Statue of Unity** depicts **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**, the first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of India, credited with the political integration of 562 princely states into the Indian Union after independence. Standing at **182 metres**, it is the world's tallest statue, surpassing the Spring Temple Buddha (153 m) in China.

Step 2 — Location and inauguration: It is situated at **Kevadia Colony on the Narmada River**, Narmada district, Gujarat, facing the Sardar Sarovar Dam. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated it on **October 31, 2018** — Sardar Patel's birth anniversary (also observed as Rashtriya Ekta Diwas / National Unity Day).

Step 3 — Construction: Designed by sculptor Ram V. Sutar, built by Larsen & Toubro (L&T), it took approximately 33 months to construct. Iron collected from farmers across India was incorporated symbolically.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q1.
- **(B) Jawaharlal Nehru near Rajghat Delhi** — No such statue of Nehru at 182 m exists; Rajghat is Gandhi's memorial.
 - **(C) Mahatma Gandhi near Sabarmati Ahmedabad** — Gandhi's memorial is the Sabarmati Ashram; the Statue of Unity is not Gandhi.
 - **(D) Subhas Chandra Bose at Port Blair** — A large statue of Bose was unveiled at India Gate (New Delhi) canopy, not the Statue of Unity.

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

Solution

Concept: India's G20 Presidency 2023 Theme — Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam

Step 1 — Theme: India held the G20 Presidency from December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2023. The theme was "**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam — One Earth, One Family, One Future**", drawn from the Sanskrit text *Maha Upanishad*, meaning "The World is One Family."

Step 2 — New Delhi Summit: The G20 New Delhi Declaration was adopted at the **Bharat Mandapam**, New Delhi, on September 9–10, 2023. A historic outcome was the admission of the **African Union** as a permanent G20 member (55 countries), expanding the group beyond the original 19 countries + EU.

Step 3 — Significance: India used the G20 Presidency to champion the Global



South, push for debt restructuring frameworks for developing nations, and advance climate finance commitments, while hosting over 200 meetings in 60+ cities across India.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q2.
- (A) “Recover Together, Recover Stronger” — This was **Indonesia’s** G20 Presidency theme in 2022.
 - (C) “Building Consensus for Fair, Sustainable and Inclusive Development” — This was **Argentina’s** G20 Presidency theme in 2018.
 - (D) “Shaping an Interconnected World” — This was **Germany’s** G20 Presidency theme in 2017.

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

Solution

Concept: Chandrayaan-3 — Lander Vikram, Rover Pragyaan, Shiv Shakti Point

Step 1 — Mission components: Chandrayaan-3 consisted of a **lander named Vikram** and a **rover named Pragyaan**. The lander successfully soft-landed on the lunar surface on **August 23, 2023**, deploying the rover Pragyaan to explore the lunar south pole region.

Step 2 — Historic achievement: India became the **first country in the world** to successfully land a spacecraft near the lunar south pole — a region of scientific interest for its permanently shadowed craters that may contain water ice. The date August 23 has been declared **National Space Day** by PM Modi.

Step 3 — Naming: PM Modi named the landing site “**Shiv Shakti Point**” and the site where Chandrayaan-2’s lander had crash-landed in 2019 was named “Tiranga Point.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Q3.
- (A) “Orbiter Pragyaan” and “Nehru Point” — Pragyaan is the rover, not orbiter; the site was named Shiv Shakti Point, not Nehru Point.
 - (B) “Rover Vikram, lander Pragyaan” — The roles are reversed; Vikram is the lander and Pragyaan is the rover.
 - (D) “Second country after China” — India was the *first* country to land near the lunar south pole; China has landed at other lunar locations but not the south pole.

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



Solution

Concept: 42nd Constitutional Amendment 1976 — Words Added to the Preamble

Step 1 — The Amendment: The **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976**, enacted during the Emergency under PM Indira Gandhi, made sweeping changes to the Constitution. Among them, it amended the **Preamble** by inserting three new words.

Step 2 — Words inserted: The three words added were “**Socialist**”, “**Secular**”, and “**Integrity**”. The Preamble now reads: “...Sovereign *Socialist Secular* Democratic Republic...” and “...promote among them all Fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and *Integrity* of the Nation.”

Step 3 — Original Preamble (1949): The original Preamble adopted on November 26, 1949 described India as a “Sovereign Democratic Republic” with aims of Justice, Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity. The words “Socialist,” “Secular,” and “Integrity” were not present originally.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q4.**
- (A) “**Democratic**” and “**Republic**” — Both were already in the original 1949 Preamble; they were not added by the 42nd Amendment.
 - (B) “**Sovereign**” and “**Socialist**” — “Sovereign” was already in the original; only “Socialist” was added (along with “Secular” and “Integrity”).
 - (C) “**Justice**” and “**Liberty**” — Both were in the original 1949 Preamble; not added by the 42nd Amendment.

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

Solution

Concept: INS Vikrant (IAC-1) — First Indigenous Aircraft Carrier, Cochin Shipyard

Step 1 — Commissioning: **INS Vikrant** (Indigenous Aircraft Carrier-1 / IAC-1) was commissioned by PM Narendra Modi on **September 2, 2022**, at **Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi, Kerala**. India became the 5th country in the world (after the USA, UK, France, and Russia) to design and build its own aircraft carrier indigenously.

Step 2 — Specifications: INS Vikrant has a displacement of **45,000 tonnes**, is **262 metres long**, and uses the **STOBAR (Short Take-Off But Arrested Recovery)** system. It can carry approximately 30 aircraft including MiG-29K fighters and MH-60R Seahawk helicopters. Over 76% of its components are of Indian origin.

Step 3 — Name legacy: The name “Vikrant” (meaning “Brave”) was previously



carried by India's first aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant (R11), which played a decisive role in the 1971 Indo-Pakistan War.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q5.**
- **(B) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai** — MDL builds submarines (Scorpene class) and destroyers (Kolkata class) for the Navy; not IAC-1.
 - **(C) GRSE, Kolkata** — Garden Reach Shipbuilders builds frigates and corvettes, not the aircraft carrier.
 - **(D) HSL, Visakhapatnam** — Hindustan Shipyard is primarily involved in ship repair and some smaller naval vessels; not the aircraft carrier.

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

Solution

Concept: M.S. Swaminathan — Father of Green Revolution in India; Bharat Ratna 2024

Step 1 — M.S. Swaminathan: Dr. M.S. Swaminathan (1925–2023), a renowned agricultural scientist, is celebrated as the “**Father of the Green Revolution in India**” for his pioneering work in developing and introducing high-yielding variety (HYV) seeds of wheat and rice in India during the 1960s–70s, transforming India from a food-deficit nation to a food-surplus one. He was posthumously awarded the **Bharat Ratna in 2024**.

Step 2 — Global context: The global “Father of the Green Revolution” is **Norman Borlaug** (1914–2009), an American agronomist and humanitarian who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for developing high-yielding, disease-resistant wheat varieties and promoting their use in developing countries.

Step 3 — Bharat Ratna 2024: The 2024 Bharat Ratnas were awarded to five individuals: M.S. Swaminathan (posthumous), Karpoori Thakur (posthumous), Charan Singh (posthumous), P.V. Narasimha Rao (posthumous), and L.K. Advani.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q6.**
- **(A) Norman Borlaug** — He is the “Father of the Green Revolution” globally, not specifically in India; the question asks about M.S. Swaminathan.
 - **(C) Verghese Kurien** — Known as the “Father of the White Revolution” and the “Milkman of India,” credited with Operation Flood and Amul; not the Green Revolution.
 - **(D) Bal Gangadhar Tilak** — A freedom fighter and social reformer; not



associated with agricultural science or the Green Revolution.

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

Solution

Concept: PM-KISAN — Rs. 6,000 per Year in Three Installments of Rs. 2,000

Step 1 — Launch and benefit: PM-KISAN (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi) was launched on **February 24, 2019** at Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh by PM Narendra Modi. It provides an annual income support of **Rs. 6,000 per year** to eligible farmer families with cultivable landholding.

Step 2 — Payment structure: The Rs. 6,000 is disbursed in **three equal installments of Rs. 2,000 each**, transferred directly to bank accounts via DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) in three four-monthly intervals: April–July, August–November, and December–March.

Step 3 — Coverage: Over **11 crore farmer families** have been enrolled. The scheme is funded entirely by the Central Government at an annual outlay of over Rs. 60,000 crore. It was initially limited to small/marginal farmers (below 2 hectares) but was expanded to cover all farmer families.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q7.
- **(A) Rs. 2,000 in two installments** — Rs. 2,000 is the amount of each of the three installments, not the total; the total is Rs. 6,000.
 - **(B) Rs. 4,000 in two installments** — The total is Rs. 6,000, not Rs. 4,000; installments are three, not two.
 - **(D) Rs. 8,000 in four installments** — Neither the total amount (Rs. 8,000) nor the number of installments (four) is correct.

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

Solution

Concept: First Vande Bharat Express — New Delhi to Varanasi Route (February 15, 2019)

Step 1 — Inauguration: The first **Vande Bharat Express** (officially “Train 18”) was flagged off by PM Narendra Modi on **February 15, 2019** on the **New Delhi to Varanasi** route (758 km, travel time approximately 8 hours).

Step 2 — Made in India: Vande Bharat Express is designed and manufactured entirely in India by the **Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai**, under the Make in India initiative. It is a self-propelled electric multiple unit (EMU) train with a



maximum operational speed of **160 km/h**.

Step 3 — Significance: Vande Bharat is India's first semi-high-speed train. It features automatic doors, GPS-based passenger information system, Wi-Fi, and bio-vacuum toilets. As of 2024, over 100 Vande Bharat trains operate across the country.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q8.**
- **(A) Mumbai to Ahmedabad** — This is the proposed High-Speed Rail (bullet train) corridor; not the Vande Bharat route.
 - **(B) New Delhi to Amritsar** — The second Vande Bharat (launched October 2019) ran from New Delhi to Katra (Vaishno Devi); the Delhi–Amritsar Vande Bharat came later.
 - **(C) New Delhi to Agra** — The Gatimaan Express (Delhi–Agra) was India's fastest train before Vande Bharat; Agra was not the first Vande Bharat route.

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

Solution

Concept: PM GatiShakti National Master Plan — Digital GIS Platform for Infrastructure

Step 1 — Launch: PM GatiShakti National Master Plan was launched by PM Narendra Modi on **October 13, 2021** (Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's birth anniversary). It is a **digital GIS-based platform** that integrates the infrastructure planning of **16 central ministries** (railways, roads, shipping, civil aviation, petroleum, power, telecom, etc.) and all state governments on a single digital map.

Step 2 — Objective: The primary objective is to reduce India's high **logistics cost** (currently 13–14% of GDP vs. 8% in developed economies), ensure last-mile connectivity, eliminate inter-ministerial silos, and improve multimodal transport networks for faster project execution.

Step 3 — Six pillars: GatiShakti is built on six pillars: **Comprehensiveness, Priority, Optimisation, Synchronisation, Analytical** decision-making, and **Dynamic** real-time updates. It enables advance planning of utilities before road/rail construction to avoid later disruption.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q9.**
- **(B) Digital identity cards** — Issuing digital identity cards is Aadhaar's domain; GatiShakti is an infrastructure planning tool.
 - **(C) Replace NITI Aayog** — GatiShakti is a digital planning and coordination platform, not a replacement for any policy body.



- **(D) Digitise land records** — Digitisation of land records is done under the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP); it is separate from GatiShakti.

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

Solution

Concept: Bhadla Solar Park — World's Largest Solar Park, Rajasthan

Step 1 — Location: Bhadla Solar Park is located in Jodhpur district, Rajasthan, in the Thar Desert. Spread over approximately **5,700 hectares** with an installed capacity of about **2,245 MW**, it is recognised as the **world's largest solar park**. Developed by NTPC, RRECL (Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation), IL&FS, and Saurya Urja.

Step 2 — Why Rajasthan: Rajasthan receives the highest solar irradiation in India (over 5.5 kWh per sq. metre per day) due to its vast arid plains, clear skies, and low humidity — ideal conditions for solar energy generation. Rajasthan is also India's leading state in total installed solar capacity.

Step 3 — National significance: Bhadla Solar Park plays a key role in India's target of 500 GW renewable energy by 2030. The low land cost and abundant sunlight make solar power from Bhadla among the cheapest in the world (tariffs as low as Rs. 2.44/kWh have been achieved).

Why other options are wrong:

- Q10.**
- **(A) Gujarat** — Gujarat has significant solar capacity including the Charanka Solar Park (≈ 600 MW), but it is not the world's largest.
 - **(C) Andhra Pradesh** — The Kurnool Ultra Mega Solar Park ($\approx 1,000$ MW) is in Andhra Pradesh; it is smaller than Bhadla.
 - **(D) Karnataka** — Karnataka is a leader in wind energy; its solar parks are not the world's largest.

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

Solution

Concept: Operation Ganga (2022) — Evacuation of Indians from Ukraine

Step 1 — Context: Russia launched its full-scale military invasion of Ukraine on **February 24, 2022**. Tens of thousands of Indian nationals, mainly medical students studying at Ukrainian universities, were stranded in the conflict zone.

Step 2 — Operation Ganga: India launched **Operation Ganga** from **February 26 to March 11, 2022** to evacuate over **22,500 Indian citizens** from Ukraine.



Four Union Cabinet Ministers (Hardeep Puri, Jyotiraditya Scindia, Kiren Rijiju, Gen. V.K. Singh) were deployed to neighbouring countries — Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, and Romania — to coordinate the evacuation. Over 90 relief flights were operated.

Step 3 — Significance: Operation Ganga was one of India's largest overseas evacuation operations. The government also facilitated transit through Belarus and other routes as border crossings became congested.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q11.**
- (A) **Afghanistan** — The 2021 Taliban takeover evacuation from Afghanistan was called **Operation Devi Shakti**.
 - (B) **Yemen** — The 2015 evacuation of Indians from Yemen during the civil war was called **Operation Rahat**.
 - (D) **Sudan** — The 2023 evacuation of Indians from Sudan during the civil conflict was called **Operation Kaveri**.

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

Solution

Concept: SVAMITVA Scheme — Drone Mapping, Village Property Rights Cards

Step 1 — Full form and launch: SVAMITVA stands for **Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas**. It was launched by PM Modi on **April 24, 2020** (National Panchayati Raj Day) as a pilot and extended nationally in 2021.

Step 2 — What it does: The scheme uses **drone technology** to map the inhabited land ("abadi" areas or residential areas) in rural villages — land that was previously unmapped and for which no formal property records existed. Based on the drone survey, the government issues **property rights cards** ("**aabaadi cards**" or "**Adhikar Patra**") to villagers.

Step 3 — Benefits: Possession of formal property cards allows rural households to use their property as **collateral for bank loans**, enabling access to credit, reducing land disputes, and facilitating better village-level planning.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q12.**
- (A) **Piped drinking water** — Providing piped water to every rural household is the objective of the **Jal Jeevan Mission (Har Ghar Jal)**.
 - (B) **Agricultural land and soil health cards** — Mapping agricultural land and issuing soil health cards is done under the **Soil Health Card Scheme**; SVAMITVA covers residential/abadi land.



- (C) **Pucca houses for the rural homeless** — Construction of pucca houses is the goal of **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G)**.

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

Solution

Concept: Constitution Day (Samvidhan Divas) — November 26, 1949 Adoption

Step 1 — Date significance: **November 26, 1949** is the date on which the **Constituent Assembly of India formally adopted the Constitution of India**. The Constitution came into *force* on January 26, 1950 — celebrated as Republic Day.

Step 2 — Declaration: The Government of India officially declared November 26 as **Constitution Day (Samvidhan Divas)** in 2015 to mark the **125th birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**, the principal architect of the Constitution.

Step 3 — Drafting facts: The Constitution was drafted over **2 years, 11 months, and 18 days**. The Constituent Assembly had **299 members**. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar chaired the Drafting Committee. The Constitution has a Preamble, 395 Articles (originally), 8 Schedules (originally), and numerous amendments since.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q13.**
- (B) **Constitution came into force** — The Constitution came into force on **January 26, 1950** — celebrated as Republic Day, not November 26.
 - (C) **Ambedkar presented the draft** — November 26 marks the *adoption* of the Constitution by the Constituent Assembly, not just the presentation of the draft.
 - (D) **India became a republic** — India officially became a republic on **January 26, 1950** (Republic Day), not November 26.

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

Solution

Concept: National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) — 40% Reduction Target, 131 Cities

Step 1 — Launch: The **National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)** was launched in **January 2019** by the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** as India's first long-term national strategy to tackle air pollution comprehensively.

Step 2 — Target: NCAP targets a **40% reduction in PM 2.5 and PM 10 concentrations** from the 2017 baseline levels by **2026** in **131 non-attainment cities** —



cities that have consistently violated the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). (The initial target was 20–30% by 2024, later revised upward.)

Step 3 — Non-attainment cities: Key cities include Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Patna, Varanasi, Agra, Kanpur, and Lucknow. NCAP provides city-specific action plans, monitoring infrastructure, and city challenge funds to reduce emissions from vehicles, industries, construction dust, and biomass burning.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q14.**
- **(A) Eliminate coal plants by 2030** — Phasing out coal plants is part of broader climate commitments; NCAP specifically targets ambient air quality standards in polluted cities.
 - **(C) Mandatory CNG conversion** — Mandatory CNG conversion orders have been issued by city-specific courts/authorities (e.g., NGT for Delhi); it is not NCAP's primary mandate.
 - **(D) Ban on stubble burning** — Crop residue burning restrictions are enforced by the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR (CAQM); NCAP covers a broader national framework.

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

Solution

Concept: NEP 2020 — 5+3+3+4 Curricular Structure Replacing 10+2

Step 1 — NEP 2020 structure: The **National Education Policy 2020** (approved July 29, 2020, replacing NEP 1986) replaced the traditional 10+2 schooling structure with a new **5+3+3+4** structure: **Foundational** (5 years: 3 pre-primary + Class 1–2, age 3–8), **Preparatory** (3 years: Class 3–5, age 8–11), **Middle** (3 years: Class 6–8, age 11–14), **Secondary** (4 years: Class 9–12, age 14–18).

Step 2 — Key NEP features: Mother-tongue/regional language as the medium of instruction up to at least Grade 5 (preferably Grade 8), introduction of coding from Grade 6, a 4-year undergraduate degree with Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) enabling multiple entry-exit options, emphasis on vocational education from Grade 6.

Step 3 — ECCE integration: One of NEP 2020's most important features is the integration of **Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)** into the formal schooling structure (the Foundational stage), recognising that the first 8 years are critical for brain development.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q15.**
- **(A) 6+4+2+2** — This is not the NEP 2020 structure; NEP uses 5+3+3+4.



- (B) 4+4+4 — A three-phase equal-division structure; not the NEP 2020 framework.
- (D) 8+2+2 — Not the NEP 2020 structure; this does not correspond to any recognised Indian education policy framework.

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

Solution

Concept: PM Vishwakarma Yojana — 18 Trades, Maximum Credit Rs. 3 Lakh

Step 1 — Launch: PM Vishwakarma Yojana was launched by PM Narendra Modi on **September 17, 2023** (Vishwakarma Jayanti). It supports **18 traditional trades** including carpenters (Suthar), blacksmiths (Lohar), goldsmiths (Sonar), potters (Kumhar), weavers, cobblers (Mochi), boat-makers, armourers, barbers (Nai), and others.

Step 2 — Credit facility: The scheme offers collateral-free credit in **two tranches**: (1) **First tranche: Rs. 1 lakh** at a **5% concessional rate of interest**; (2) **Second tranche: Rs. 2 lakh** (available after satisfactory repayment of the first). The **maximum credit available is Rs. 3 lakh**.

Step 3 — Other benefits: The scheme also provides: (a) skill training — 5–7 days basic training and 15+ days advanced training; (b) **Rs. 500 per day training stipend**; (c) a **PM Vishwakarma ID card and certificate**; (d) toolkit incentive of Rs. 15,000; (e) digital transaction incentives of Rs. 1 per transaction (up to 100 per month).

Why other options are wrong:

- Q16.**
- (A) **Rs. 50,000 only** — Even the first tranche alone is Rs. 1 lakh; Rs. 50,000 is not the correct figure.
 - (B) **Maximum Rs. 1 lakh** — Rs. 1 lakh is only the first tranche; the second tranche of Rs. 2 lakh brings the maximum to Rs. 3 lakh.
 - (C) **Rs. 5 lakh** — The scheme provides a maximum of Rs. 3 lakh total credit; Rs. 5 lakh is incorrect.

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								

