

IIFT General Knowledge

Sample Paper – 3

Duration: 22 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 30

Instructions

- This paper contains **20** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the **General Knowledge & Current Affairs** section of the **IIFT MBA** entrance exam (NTA CBT).
- Each correct answer carries **+1.5 marks**. An incorrect answer carries a penalty of **–0.5 marks**. Unattempted questions carry **zero** marks.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose carefully.
- Time allocation: **22 minutes** (based on the 120-min/110-Q full paper structure).
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or other electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

Q1. The grand consecration ('Pran Pratishtha') of the Ram Mandir (Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple) was held on 22 January 2024 in which city?

- (A) Varanasi
- (B) Mathura
- (C) Ayodhya
- (D) Prayagraj

Q2. The high-level committee set up by the Government of India to examine the feasibility of 'One Nation, One Election' was chaired by:

- (A) CJI D.Y. Chandrachud
- (B) Niti Aayog CEO B.V.R. Subrahmanyam
- (C) Former CEC S.Y. Quraishi



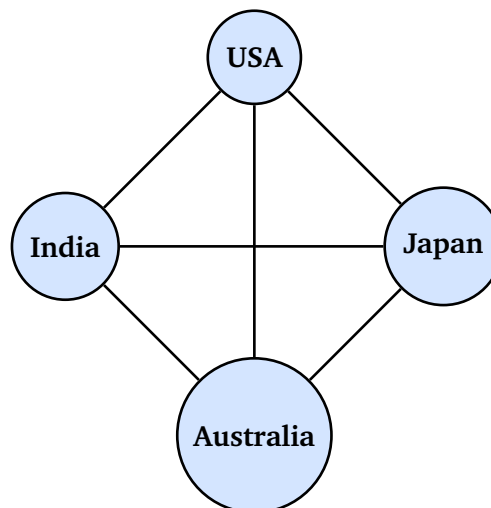
(D) Former President Ramnath Kovind

Q3. India's first domestic semiconductor Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) facility, approved under the India Semiconductor Mission, is being set up in Sanand, Gujarat, in partnership with which company?

- (A) Micron Technology (USA)
- (B) TSMC (Taiwan) in Hyderabad
- (C) Samsung (South Korea) in Bengaluru
- (D) Intel (USA) in Pune

Q4. Which of the following correctly lists all four member nations of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD)?

QUAD Members



- (A) USA, UK, Australia, Canada
- (B) USA, India, Japan, Australia
- (C) USA, India, Japan, South Korea
- (D) India, Japan, South Korea, Australia



- Q5.** The G7 Summit held in June 2024 was hosted by which country?
- (A) USA (Camp David)
 - (B) Japan (Hiroshima)
 - (C) Italy (Fasano, Puglia)
 - (D) France (Paris)
- Q6.** The Houthi militant attacks on commercial vessels in the Red Sea in late 2023–early 2024 most directly affected India’s trade because:
- (A) The Red Sea/Suez Canal route handles approximately 30% of global container traffic, including a large share of India–Europe trade; attacks forced costly diversions via the Cape of Good Hope.
 - (B) India’s crude oil imports from Iran are exclusively routed via the Red Sea, disrupting energy supply.
 - (C) India’s IT exports travel through Red Sea undersea data cables, causing service outages.
 - (D) The Strait of Malacca connects to the Red Sea, making India’s ASEAN trade uniquely vulnerable.
- Q7.** Which authority serves as the unified financial regulator for India’s International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at GIFT City (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City)?
- (A) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
 - (B) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
 - (C) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
 - (D) International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)
- Q8.** Which of the following best describes the key distinguishing feature of **UPI Lite** compared to regular UPI?
- (A) It enables transactions without internet using NFC tap technology.



- (B) It allows small-value transactions (up to ₹500 per transaction) without PIN authentication, using funds pre-loaded onto a device wallet.
- (C) It facilitates transfers without a linked bank account.
- (D) It enables international payments without a forex card.

Q9. The 'Doctrine of Lapse', under which princely states without a natural male heir were annexed to British India, was most extensively implemented by which Governor-General?

- (A) Lord Dalhousie (1848–1856)
- (B) Lord Cornwallis
- (C) Lord Wellesley
- (D) Lord Hastings

Q10. The ancient Nalanda University (5th–12th centuries CE), a renowned centre of learning that attracted scholars from across Asia, was primarily associated with which religious tradition?

- (A) Hinduism — a Brahminical centre for Vedic studies
- (B) Jainism — founded by Mahavira's disciples
- (C) Buddhism — a mahavihara and international seat of Buddhist scholarship
- (D) Sikhism — established under Mughal patronage

Q11. From which place did Mahatma Gandhi begin the historic Dandi March on 12 March 1930?



- (A) Surat, Gujarat
- (B) Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad



- (C) Porbandar, Gujarat
- (D) Rajkot, Gujarat

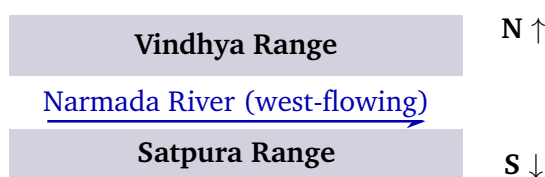
Q12. The Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023 established a new selection committee for appointing Election Commissioners. Which of the following correctly describes this committee?

- (A) Prime Minister + Finance Minister + Chief Justice of India
- (B) Prime Minister + Leader of the Opposition + Chief Justice of India (the Supreme Court's recommended formula)
- (C) Prime Minister + Speaker of Lok Sabha + Leader of the Opposition
- (D) Prime Minister + a Cabinet Minister nominated by the PM + Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha

Q13. The National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Act, 2014 was struck down by the Supreme Court of India in 2015 primarily on which ground?

- (A) Violation of Article 21 (Right to Life and Personal Liberty)
- (B) Excessive delegation of parliamentary authority to the executive
- (C) Violation of the basic structure doctrine — specifically the independence of the judiciary
- (D) Conflict with the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971

Q14. Which of the following correctly describes the relative positions of the Vindhya Range and the Satpura Range?



- (A) Vindhya Range lies to the north of Satpura Range; the Narmada River flows westward between them through the Narmada Rift Valley.
- (B) Satpura Range lies to the north of Vindhya Range; the Tapti River flows between them.
- (C) Both ranges run east–west with no major river flowing between them.
- (D) Vindhya is part of the Eastern Ghats; Satpura is part of the Western Ghats.

Q15. The Sundarbans mangrove delta, the world's largest mangrove forest and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, straddles the border between India and which other country?

- (A) Sri Lanka
- (B) Bangladesh
- (C) Myanmar
- (D) Nepal

Q16. The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2023 was awarded for discoveries enabling the development of effective mRNA vaccines. Who were the recipients?

- (A) Jennifer Doudna and Emmanuelle Charpentier (2020 Chemistry — CRISPR-Cas9)
- (B) Craig Mello and Andrew Fire (2006 — RNA interference)
- (C) Luc Montagnier and Françoise Barré-Sinoussi (2008 — HIV discovery)
- (D) Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman

Q17. Who was the first Indian woman cricketer to score 10,000 international runs across all formats, retiring in 2022 as the leading run-scorer in women's international cricket?

- (A) Jhulan Goswami

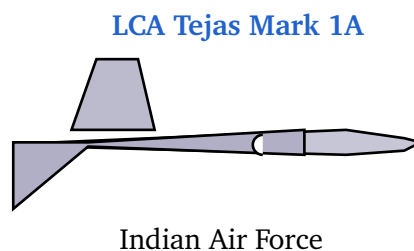


- (B) Mithali Raj
- (C) Smriti Mandhana
- (D) Harmanpreet Kaur

Q18. The Pulitzer Prize, one of the most prestigious awards in the United States, recognises excellence in which fields?

- (A) Science and technology journalism exclusively
- (B) Peace-keeping and humanitarian work globally
- (C) Journalism (multiple categories), Letters and Drama (fiction, history, biography, poetry, general nonfiction), and Music
- (D) Economics and finance innovation

Q19. The Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) **Tejas Mark 1A**, developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) under a major production contract signed in 2021, is designated for which branch of the Indian armed forces?



- (A) Indian Navy (carrier-borne fighter variant)
- (B) Border Security Force (border surveillance aircraft)
- (C) Indian Coast Guard (maritime patrol aircraft)
- (D) Indian Air Force (replacing ageing MiG-21 squadrons)

Q20. The Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), launched by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Government of India, has which primary objective?

- (A) Create an open, interoperable digital commerce ecosystem that prevents monopolisation by proprietary platforms, allowing any buyer app to connect with any seller app.



- (B) Regulate the pricing of essential commodities sold through online platforms.
- (C) Provide government subsidies to domestic e-commerce start-ups.
- (D) Facilitate cross-border e-commerce between India and ASEAN nations.



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution**

Concept — Ram Mandir Consecration 2024: The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple (Ram Mandir) was consecrated in a grand 'Pran Pratishtha' ceremony on 22 January 2024, attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and thousands of dignitaries.

Step 1 — Location: The Ram Janmabhoomi site is located in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, traditionally regarded as the birthplace of Lord Ram. The Supreme Court's 2019 verdict in the Ayodhya case cleared the path for temple construction.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Varanasi): Varanasi is associated with the Kashi Vishwanath Temple corridor, not Ram Mandir.
- Option B (Mathura): Mathura is the birthplace of Lord Krishna; the Krishna Janmabhoomi dispute is separate.
- Option D (Prayagraj): Prayagraj is known for the Kumbh Mela and Triveni Sangam, not the Ram Mandir.

Final Answer: The Pran Pratishtha ceremony was held in **Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh** ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 1](#)

Q2.**Solution**

Concept — One Nation, One Election Committee: The Government of India constituted a high-level committee in September 2023 to study the feasibility of simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha, State Assemblies, and local bodies.

Step 1 — Chairperson: Former President of India **Ramnath Kovind** was appointed to chair this committee. The committee submitted its report in March 2024 recommending a two-phase implementation of simultaneous elections.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (CJI D.Y. Chandrachud): The CJI heads the judiciary; this was an executive-constituted committee.



- Option B (B.V.R. Subrahmanyam): He was a member of the committee, not its chair.
- Option C (S.Y. Quraishi): Former Chief Election Commissioner; not associated with this committee.

Final Answer: Former President **Ramnath Kovind** chaired the committee ⇒ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 2](#)

Q3.

Solution

Concept — India Semiconductor Mission (ISM): India launched the India Semiconductor Mission under the \$10 billion Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme to build a domestic chip ecosystem covering design, fabrication, and packaging.

Step 1 — Micron Technology Partnership: In June 2023, US-based **Micron Technology** became the first company to receive approval under ISM, investing approximately \$825 million (with government support totalling \$2.75 billion) to set up an ATMP facility in **Sanand, Gujarat**.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (TSMC in Hyderabad): TSMC has not announced a confirmed India facility; Hyderabad is not the ISM ATMP site.
- Option C (Samsung in Bengaluru): Samsung's India operations are predominantly consumer electronics; no semiconductor fab announced.
- Option D (Intel in Pune): Intel's India presence is in software and design; no ATMP facility in Pune under ISM.

Final Answer: **Micron Technology (USA)** in Sanand, Gujarat ⇒ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 3](#)



Q4.

Solution

Concept — Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD): The QUAD is an informal strategic security dialogue among four Indo-Pacific democracies, revived in 2017 and elevated to leader-level summits from 2021, focused on a free, open, and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

Step 1 — Members: The four member nations are **United States of America, India, Japan, and Australia**. The grouping cooperates on maritime security, vaccines, critical technologies, and supply chain resilience.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (USA, UK, Australia, Canada): This resembles the Five Eyes intelligence alliance minus New Zealand, not QUAD.
- Option C (USA, India, Japan, South Korea): South Korea is not a QUAD member.
- Option D (India, Japan, South Korea, Australia): Excludes the USA, which is central to the grouping.

Final Answer: QUAD members are **USA, India, Japan, Australia** ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 4](#)

Q5.

Solution

Concept — G7 Summit 2024: The Group of Seven (G7) comprises the USA, UK, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, and Japan. The presidency rotates annually among members.

Step 1 — 2024 Host: **Italy** held the G7 Presidency in 2024 and hosted the 50th G7 Summit on 13–15 June 2024 in **Fasano, Puglia**. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended as an outreach partner.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (USA/Camp David): The USA hosted in 2012; not in 2024.
- Option B (Japan/Hiroshima): Japan hosted the G7 Summit in **2023** (Hiroshima).
- Option D (France/Paris): France is scheduled to hold future presidencies; did not host in 2024.



Final Answer: The G7 Summit 2024 was hosted by **Italy (Fasano, Puglia)** ⇒ C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 5](#)

Q6.

Solution

Concept — Red Sea/Suez Canal Trade Route: The Suez Canal (accessed via the Red Sea) is one of the world's most critical maritime chokepoints, handling approximately 12–15% of global trade by volume and about 30% of global container traffic.

Step 1 — India's Exposure: A significant portion of India's trade with Europe, the Americas, and the Mediterranean transits through the Suez Canal. Houthi attacks forced vessels to divert around the Cape of Good Hope, adding 10–14 days of sailing time and substantially increasing shipping costs and insurance premiums.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: India sources crude oil from multiple routes; Iranian oil (under sanctions) does not exclusively use the Red Sea.
- Option C: IT exports are digital services delivered via internet; undersea data cables do pass through the region but are not disrupted by ship attacks.
- Option D: The Strait of Malacca connects the Indian Ocean with the Pacific, not the Red Sea; it is a separate chokepoint.

Final Answer: The Red Sea/Suez Canal handles ~30% of global container traffic; attacks forced Cape of Good Hope diversions ⇒ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 6](#)

Q7.

Solution

Concept — GIFT City IFSC Regulation: GIFT City (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) houses India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC). Given the cross-sectoral nature of IFSC activities (banking, securities, insurance, pension), a dedicated unified regulator was needed.

Step 1 — IFSCA: The **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)**, established under the IFSCA Act 2019 and operationalised in 2020, is the unified regulator for all financial products and services in India's IFSCs, replacing



the fragmented oversight previously exercised by RBI, SEBI, IRDAI, and PFRDA.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (RBI): Regulated banking in IFSC before IFSCA but is no longer the standalone regulator.
- Option B (SEBI): Regulated capital markets in IFSC previously; now subsumed under IFSCA.
- Option C (IRDAI): Regulated insurance in IFSC; now under the IFSCA unified framework.

Final Answer: IFSCA is the unified regulator for GIFT City IFSC ⇒ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 7](#)

Q8.

Solution

Concept — UPI Lite: UPI Lite was launched by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and RBI in September 2022 to enable frictionless small-value payments and reduce load on the banking core.

Step 1 — Key Feature: UPI Lite allows transactions up to ₹500 per transaction (with a wallet limit of ₹2,000) **without requiring a UPI PIN**, as funds are pre-loaded onto an on-device wallet. This makes micropayments faster and reduces failed transactions due to bank server latency.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: NFC-based offline payments are a different feature (UPI 123PAY is for feature phones; NFC is used in tap-and-pay but not the defining feature of UPI Lite).
- Option C: UPI Lite still requires a linked bank account to load the wallet.
- Option D: International UPI payments are enabled through separate bilateral agreements, not UPI Lite.

Final Answer: UPI Lite enables **small-value transactions up to ₹500 without PIN** using a pre-loaded device wallet ⇒ B

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 8](#)



Q9.

Solution

Concept — Doctrine of Lapse: The Doctrine of Lapse was a British colonial annexation policy under which any princely state under the suzerainty of the East India Company would automatically lapse (be annexed) to British India if the ruler died without a natural male heir — adoption was not recognised without prior British approval.

Step 1 — Lord Dalhousie's Extensive Application: Lord Dalhousie (Governor-General 1848–1856) applied the doctrine most aggressively, annexing Satara (1848), Jaitpur and Sambalpur (1849), Baghat (1850), Udaipur (1852), Jhansi (1853), and Nagpur (1854). This became a major grievance fuelling the Revolt of 1857.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Lord Cornwallis): Known for the Permanent Settlement (1793) and Cornwallis Code; did not use the Doctrine of Lapse.
- Option C (Lord Wellesley): Known for the Subsidiary Alliance system; the Doctrine of Lapse was not his policy.
- Option D (Lord Hastings): Known for the Third Anglo-Maratha War and expansion; did not implement the Doctrine of Lapse.

Final Answer: Lord Dalhousie most extensively implemented the Doctrine of Lapse ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 9](#)

Q10.

Solution

Concept — Nalanda Mahavihara: Nalanda, located in present-day Bihar, was one of the greatest centres of learning in the ancient world. It flourished from the 5th to the 12th century CE before being destroyed during the Bakhtiyar Khilji's invasion (c. 1193 CE).

Step 1 — Buddhist Identity: Nalanda was a **Buddhist mahavihara** (great monastery-university). Founded during the Gupta period, it housed thousands of monks and scholars who studied Buddhist philosophy, logic, grammar, medicine, and other subjects. Distinguished scholars like Hieun Tsang (Xuanzang) and I-Tsing visited from China. UNESCO inscribed it as a World Heritage Site in 2016.

Why other options are wrong:



- Option A: Nalanda was not a Brahminical Vedic institution; Hindu texts were studied alongside Buddhist ones but it was primarily Buddhist.
- Option B: Jainism had its own educational centres (e.g., Vallabhi); Nalanda was not a Jain institution.
- Option D: Nalanda predates Sikhism by over 900 years and had no Mughal patronage connection.

Final Answer: Nalanda was primarily a centre of **Buddhist** scholarship ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 10](#)

Q11.

Solution

Concept — Dandi March (Salt Satyagraha), 1930: The Dandi March was a landmark act of civil disobedience by Mahatma Gandhi against the British salt monopoly and the Salt Tax, marking a turning point in the Indian independence movement.

Step 1 — Starting Point: Gandhi began the march on **12 March 1930** from **Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad**, with 78 chosen followers. They walked approximately 385 km over 24 days to reach the coastal village of **Dandi** (in Navsari district, Gujarat), where Gandhi broke the salt law on 6 April 1930.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Surat): Surat was not the starting point; Gandhi passed through the Surat district but began from Sabarmati.
- Option C (Porbandar): Porbandar is Gandhi's birthplace, not the starting point of the Dandi March.
- Option D (Rajkot): Rajkot is associated with Gandhi's early life and education, not the Dandi March.

Final Answer: The Dandi March began from **Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad** ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 11](#)



Q12.

Solution

Concept — Election Commissioner Appointment Act, 2023: The Supreme Court had ruled in *Anoop Baranwal v. Union of India* (March 2023) that a committee comprising the PM, Leader of the Opposition, and CJI should appoint Election Commissioners until Parliament legislated. Parliament subsequently passed the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023, establishing its own committee — notably excluding the CJI.

Step 1 — New Selection Committee: The Act provides for a three-member selection committee: (i) **Prime Minister** (Chairperson), (ii) **a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the PM**, and (iii) **Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha** (or leader of the largest opposition party if no formal Leader of Opposition exists).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (PM + Finance Minister + CJI): The Finance Minister is not specified; the CJI was explicitly excluded.
- Option B (PM + Leader of Opposition + CJI): This was the Supreme Court's interim formula, not the enacted law.
- Option C (PM + Speaker + Leader of Opposition): The Speaker is not part of this selection committee.

Final Answer: The committee comprises **PM + a Cabinet Minister nominated by PM + Leader of Opposition** ⇒ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 12](#)

Q13.

Solution

Concept — Basic Structure Doctrine and NJAC: The basic structure doctrine (originating from *Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala*, 1973) holds that Parliament cannot amend the Constitution so as to destroy its basic features. Judicial independence is a recognised pillar of this doctrine.

Step 1 — NJAC Struck Down (Supreme Court Advocates on Record Association v. Union of India, 2015): The five-judge Constitution Bench struck down the 99th Constitutional Amendment (2014) and the NJAC Act by a 4:1 majority primarily on the ground that the NJAC — which included the Law Minister and two eminent persons — violated the **independence of the judiciary**, a component of



the basic structure of the Constitution.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Article 21): The challenge was not primarily about personal liberty; it centred on judicial independence.
- Option B (Excessive delegation): This was not the ground for striking down the NJAC.
- Option D (Contempt of Courts Act): The case had no direct conflict with contempt law.

Final Answer: NJAC was struck down for violating the **basic structure doctrine** — **independence of the judiciary** ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 13](#)

Q14.

Solution

Concept — Vindhya and Satpura Ranges (Central Highlands): These two parallel east–west hill ranges form the core of the Central Indian highlands and are separated by the Narmada Rift Valley, through which the Narmada River flows westward into the Arabian Sea.

Step 1 — Relative Positions: The **Vindhya Range** runs broadly east–west and lies to the **north**; the **Satpura Range** runs parallel and lies to the **south**. The **Narmada River** occupies the rift valley **between** them, flowing westward. The Tapi (Tapi) River flows to the south of the Satpura Range.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: Satpura is NOT north of Vindhya; the positions are reversed, and the Tapi flows south of Satpura, not between the ranges.
- Option C: Both ranges run broadly east–west, but the Narmada River does flow between them.
- Option D: Vindhya and Satpura are neither part of the Eastern nor Western Ghats; they are distinct hill ranges in Central India.

Final Answer: Vindhya north of Satpura; Narmada River flows westward between them ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 14](#)



Q15.

Solution

Concept — Sundarbans Mangrove Delta: The Sundarbans is the world's largest mangrove forest, covering approximately 10,000 sq. km, formed by the confluence of the Ganges, Brahmaputra, and Meghna rivers in the Bay of Bengal.

Step 1 — Transboundary Location: The Sundarbans straddles the India–**Bangladesh** border. Approximately 40% lies in the Indian state of West Bengal (Sundarbans National Park, a UNESCO WHS and Tiger Reserve) and 60% lies in **Bangladesh** (Sundarbans Reserved Forest, also a UNESCO WHS). It is home to the Bengal tiger and Irrawaddy dolphins.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Sri Lanka): Sri Lanka is a separate island nation; it does not share the Sundarbans delta.
- Option C (Myanmar): Myanmar borders India in the northeast; the Sundarbans delta is on the eastern coast (Bay of Bengal/West Bengal).
- Option D (Nepal): Nepal is landlocked and does not border the Sundarbans region.

Final Answer: Sundarbans straddles India and **Bangladesh** ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 15](#)

Q16.

Solution

Concept — Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2023: The 2023 Nobel Prize was awarded for foundational discoveries that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines — a technology that proved transformative during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Step 1 — Recipients: Hungarian-American biochemist **Katalin Karikó** and American immunologist **Drew Weissman** received the prize for their discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19 (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Doudna and Charpentier): They won the 2020 **Chemistry** Nobel for CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing — a different technology.
- Option B (Mello and Fire): They won the 2006 Nobel for RNA interference



(RNAi) — different from mRNA vaccine technology.

- Option C (Montagnier and Barré-Sinoussi): They won the 2008 Nobel for the discovery of HIV — unrelated to mRNA vaccines.

Final Answer: Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman won the 2023 Medicine Nobel ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 16](#)

Q17.

Solution

Concept — Women's International Cricket Milestones: India has produced several celebrated women cricketers. Reaching 10,000 international runs across Tests, ODIs, and T20Is is a landmark that very few players worldwide have achieved.

Step 1 — Mithali Raj: Mithali Raj became the first Indian woman cricketer to score 10,000 international runs. She retired in June 2022 as the all-time leading scorer in women's international cricket with over 10,868 runs across formats. She captained India to ICC Women's World Cup finals in 2005 and 2017.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Jhulan Goswami): The world's leading wicket-taker in women's ODIs; a pace bowler, not primarily a batter.
- Option C (Smriti Mandhana): A top-order batter who is still active and building her career tally.
- Option D (Harmanpreet Kaur): Current captain; an important batter but has not matched Mithali's run tally.

Final Answer: Mithali Raj was the first Indian woman to score 10,000 international runs ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 17](#)



Q18.

Solution

Concept — Pulitzer Prize Overview: The Pulitzer Prize, established in 1917 under the will of newspaper publisher Joseph Pulitzer and administered by Columbia University, is one of America's most prestigious annual awards.

Step 1 — Fields Covered: The Pulitzer Prize covers three broad domains: (i) **Journalism** (including categories such as Public Service, Breaking News, Investigative Reporting, Feature Writing, Editorial Writing, Editorial Cartooning, Breaking News Photography, and Feature Photography); (ii) **Letters, Drama and Music** (Fiction, Drama, History, Biography/Autobiography, Poetry, General Nonfiction); and (iii) **Music** (one award per year for a distinguished musical composition).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: The Pulitzer covers journalism broadly; it is not limited to science and technology journalism.
- Option B: The Nobel Peace Prize recognises peace-keeping; the Pulitzer has no such category.
- Option D: The Nobel Prize in Economics covers finance innovation; the Pulitzer does not.

Final Answer: The Pulitzer Prize covers **Journalism, Letters & Drama, and Music** ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 18](#)

Q19.

Solution

Concept — LCA Tejas Mark 1A: The Light Combat Aircraft Tejas is India's indigenously designed and manufactured 4th-generation fighter, developed by the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) and produced by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

Step 1 — Designated Service: In February 2021, the Government of India signed a contract worth approximately ₹48,000 crore with HAL for 83 **Tejas Mark 1A** aircraft for the **Indian Air Force (IAF)**, marking the largest-ever defence procurement contract for an indigenous aircraft. The Tejas Mark 1A will progressively replace the ageing MiG-21 'Bison' fleet.

Why other options are wrong:



- Option A (Indian Navy): A separate naval variant (LCA Navy / Tejas NP2) is under development for carrier operations but is distinct from Mark 1A.
- Option B (Border Security Force): BSF does not operate combat jets; it uses helicopters and light aircraft for border surveillance.
- Option C (Indian Coast Guard): The Coast Guard operates maritime patrol aircraft and helicopters, not supersonic combat jets.

Final Answer: LCA Tejas Mark 1A is designated for the **Indian Air Force** ⇒ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 19](#)

Q20.

Solution

Concept — Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC): ONDC is a government-backed initiative launched in 2022 by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Step 1 — Primary Objective: ONDC aims to **democratise digital commerce** by creating an open, interoperable network (similar to UPI for payments) where any buyer-side app can discover and transact with any seller-side app, regardless of the platform. This prevents monopolisation by large proprietary platforms (e.g., Amazon, Flipkart) and enables small and medium retailers, kirana stores, and service providers to participate in e-commerce without being tied to a single gatekeeper platform.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: ONDC is not a price-regulation mechanism; it is a network protocol.
- Option C: ONDC does not directly provide subsidies; it provides open network infrastructure access.
- Option D: ONDC's primary focus is domestic trade democratisation; cross-border ASEAN facilitation is not its mandate.

Final Answer: ONDC creates an **open, interoperable digital commerce ecosystem** preventing platform monopolisation ⇒ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 20](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	C	2	D	3	A	4	B	5	C
6	A	7	D	8	B	9	A	10	C
11	B	12	D	13	C	14	A	15	B
16	D	17	B	18	C	19	D	20	A

