

IIFT General Knowledge

Sample Paper – 5

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. India's **Aditya-L1** is the country's first dedicated space-based solar observatory, launched by ISRO in September 2023. Which of the following statements **best** describes the mission's primary scientific objective and its chosen orbit?

- (A) To study solar wind acceleration by orbiting the Moon's south pole and relaying data to Earth
- (B) To observe the Sun's corona and solar phenomena from a halo orbit around the Sun–Earth **L1** Lagrange point, approximately 1.5 million km from Earth
- (C) To map the Sun's surface magnetic field from a low-Earth orbit at 500 km altitude
- (D) To measure gamma-ray bursts near the Sun from a geostationary orbit at 36,000 km



Q2. The **PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan**, launched by the Prime Minister in October 2021, is a transformative initiative for economic growth and sustainable development. What is the **primary objective** of this plan?

- (A) To provide universal broadband internet connectivity to all gram panchayats by 2025
- (B) To create a unified digital portal for direct benefit transfer of all government subsidies
- (C) To deliver integrated and seamless multi-modal infrastructure connectivity across logistics, roads, railways, ports, and airways through a GIS-based platform
- (D) To establish 100 smart cities with world-class urban infrastructure by 2024

Q3. In February 2023, India launched **Operation Dost** as part of its humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) efforts following a devastating natural disaster. To which country (countries) did India deploy National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams and relief material under this operation?

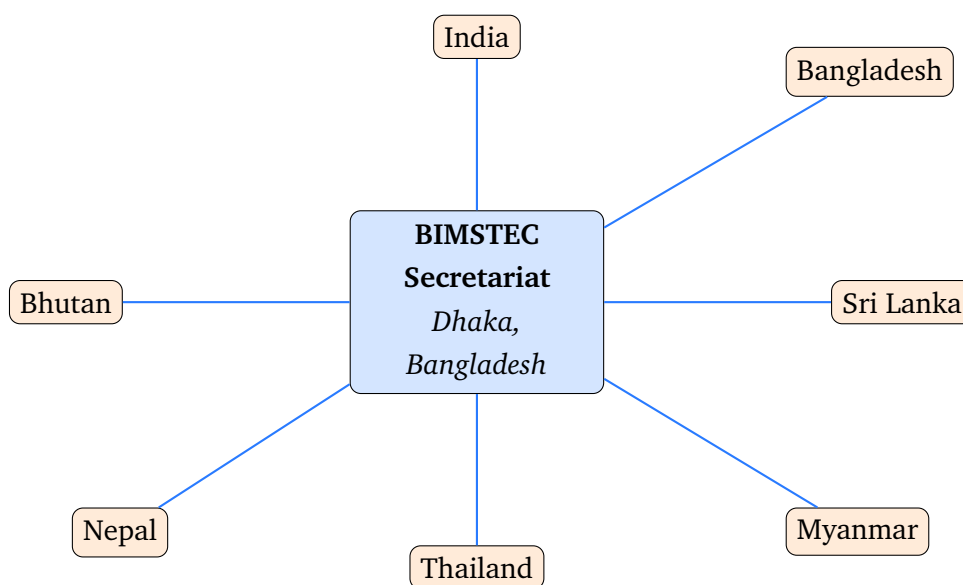
- (A) Turkey and Syria, which were struck by a series of catastrophic earthquakes in February 2023
- (B) Morocco, which suffered a major earthquake near Marrakech in September 2023
- (C) Libya, which experienced severe flooding following the cyclone Daniel in September 2023
- (D) Nepal, which was hit by a strong earthquake near Jajarkot in November 2023

Q4. The World Trade Organisation (WTO) is the global body that oversees international trade rules and dispute settlement. Who became the Director-General of the WTO in March 2021, making history as the **first African** and **first woman** to hold the position?



- (A) Kristalina Georgieva
- (B) Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
- (C) Amina J. Mohammed
- (D) Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

Q5. The **Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)** is a regional organisation linking South and Southeast Asian nations. The star-topology diagram below shows the member countries linked to the Secretariat:



How many member nations does BIMSTEC have, and in which city is its Permanent Secretariat located?

- (A) 5 members; Kathmandu, Nepal
- (B) 7 members; Dhaka, Bangladesh
- (C) 8 members; Colombo, Sri Lanka
- (D) 6 members; Bangkok, Thailand

Q6. India's **Foreign Trade Policy 2023–28**, announced by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) in March 2023, sets an ambitious target for India's merchandise and services exports. What is the combined goods and services export target set under this policy?



- (A) \$2 trillion by 2030
- (B) \$1.5 trillion by 2027
- (C) \$3 trillion by 2035
- (D) \$800 billion by 2025

Q7. In September 2023, India–Canada relations deteriorated sharply following Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s allegations in Parliament. Which Indian-origin Sikh leader’s killing in June 2023 on Canadian soil triggered this major diplomatic dispute?

- (A) Gurpatwant Singh Pannun
- (B) Avtar Singh Khanda
- (C) Hardeep Singh Nijjar
- (D) Jaswant Singh Khalra

Q8. The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) is a military alliance of 32 member nations. Who became the **Secretary General of NATO** in October 2024, succeeding Jens Stoltenberg who held the position for a decade?

- (A) Ursula von der Leyen
- (B) Charles Michel
- (C) Josep Borrell
- (D) Mark Rutte

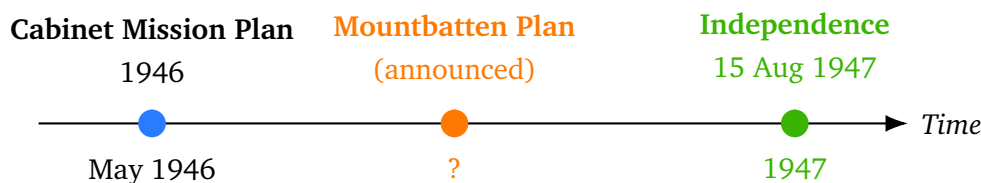
Q9. The **Statue of Unity**, the world’s tallest statue at 182 metres, is a tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and was inaugurated in October 2018. On the bank of which river, near the Sardar Sarovar Dam in Kevadia, Gujarat, does this iconic structure stand?

- (A) Tapti
- (B) Narmada
- (C) Sabarmati



(D) Mahi

Q10. The **Mountbatten Plan** laid down the framework for the partition of British India into two independent nations. Study the timeline below:



On which exact date was the **Mountbatten Plan** officially announced, setting the terms for Indian independence and partition?

- (A) 3 June 1947
- (B) 18 July 1947
- (C) 20 February 1947
- (D) 26 January 1947

Q11. The **Eighth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution contains a list of officially recognised languages of India. These languages receive recognition and are eligible for representation on the Official Languages Commission. How many languages are currently listed in the Eighth Schedule?

- (A) 14
- (B) 18
- (C) 22
- (D) 29

Q12. In the landmark judgment **Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) v. Union of India** (2017), a nine-judge constitutional bench of the Supreme Court of India delivered a unanimous ruling. What constitutional right did the Supreme Court recognise in this judgment?

- (A) The right to free and compulsory education for children aged 6–14 as a fundamental right under Article 21A



- (B) The right to form associations and trade unions as an absolute fundamental right under Article 19(1)(c)
- (C) The right to property as a fundamental right reinstated under Part III of the Constitution
- (D) The right to privacy as an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21

Q13. The **Right to Information (RTI) Act** empowers every citizen of India to request information from any public authority, promoting transparency and accountability in governance. In which year was the Right to Information Act enacted by the Parliament of India?

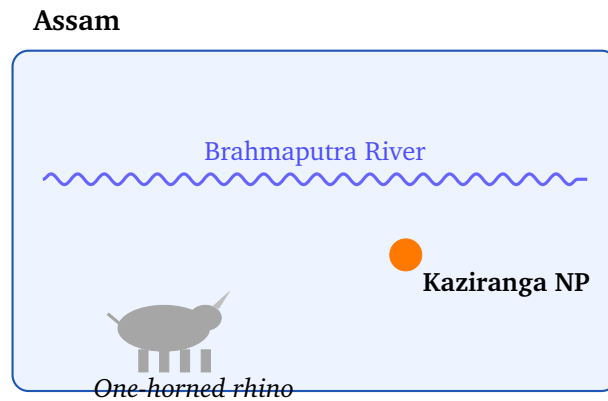
- (A) 2005
- (B) 2002
- (C) 2009
- (D) 2012

Q14. The **Polavaram Irrigation Project**, declared a National Project by the Government of India, is a major multipurpose irrigation and hydroelectric project in Andhra Pradesh. On which river is this project constructed?

- (A) Krishna
- (B) Godavari
- (C) Mahanadi
- (D) Tungabhadra

Q15. **Kaziranga National Park** is a UNESCO World Heritage Site celebrated for hosting the world's largest population of the **Indian one-horned rhinoceros** (*Rhinoceros unicornis*). The schematic below marks its location:





In which Indian state is Kaziranga National Park located, and when was it designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site?

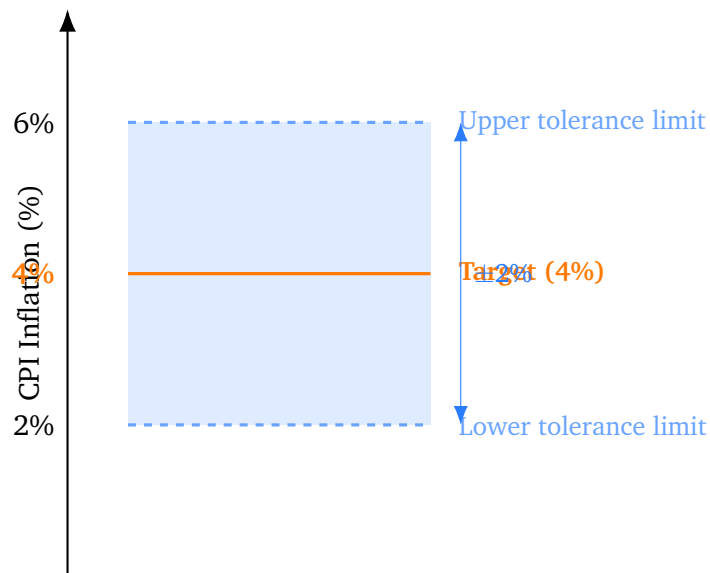
- (A) West Bengal; designated in 1987
- (B) Arunachal Pradesh; designated in 2000
- (C) Assam; designated in 1985
- (D) Meghalaya; designated in 1992

Q16. The **Nobel Prize in Physics 2023** was awarded for experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light — enabling the study of electron dynamics inside atoms and molecules. Which group of scientists received this award?

- (A) Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann, and Giorgio Parisi — for work on complex physical systems and climate modelling
- (B) Alain Aspect, John F. Clauser, and Anton Zeilinger — for experiments on entangled photons and Bell inequality violations
- (C) Roger Penrose, Reinhard Genzel, and Andrea Ghez — for discoveries about black holes and the galactic centre
- (D) Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz, and Anne L’Huillier — for experimental methods producing attosecond pulses of light

Q17. The Reserve Bank of India operates a **flexible inflation targeting (FIT)** framework, as mandated by the amended RBI Act, 1934. The diagram below illustrates the CPI inflation target and tolerance band:





Under the RBI's flexible inflation targeting framework, what is the **CPI inflation target** and what is the **tolerance band** around it?

- (A) 4% target with a tolerance band of $\pm 2\%$ (i.e., 2%–6%)
- (B) 5% target with a tolerance band of $\pm 1\%$ (i.e., 4%–6%)
- (C) 3.5% target with a tolerance band of $\pm 1.5\%$ (i.e., 2%–5%)
- (D) 6% target with a tolerance band of $\pm 2\%$ (i.e., 4%–8%)

Q18. The **Bhupen Hazarika Setu**, also known as the **Dhola-Sadiya Bridge**, was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in May 2017. It holds the distinction of being India's longest river bridge. In which state is it located, and what is its approximate length?

- (A) Bihar; approximately 5.6 km, spanning the Ganga river
- (B) Odisha; approximately 4.2 km, spanning the Mahanadi river
- (C) Assam; approximately 9.15 km, spanning the Lohit river (a tributary of the Brahmaputra)
- (D) Andhra Pradesh; approximately 7.1 km, spanning the Krishna river

Q19. The **Arjuna Award** is one of India's most prestigious sports honours, conferred annually by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. Which of the following **correctly** describes the primary eligibility criterion and the conferring authority for this award?



- (A) Awarded to coaches who have produced medal-winning athletes at the Olympics, conferred by the Sports Authority of India
- (B) Awarded for outstanding performance in sports and games over the previous four years at the international level, conferred by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India
- (C) Awarded to retired athletes with a lifetime of service to Indian sports, conferred by the Prime Minister's Office
- (D) Awarded exclusively to Olympic gold medallists from India, conferred by the President of India at the National Sports Day ceremony

Q20. The **Jallianwala Bagh massacre** was one of the most tragic events of India's freedom struggle, in which British Indian Army troops under Brigadier-General Reginald Dyer opened fire on a peaceful gathering of unarmed civilians in Amritsar. In which month and year did this massacre take place?

- (A) March 1918
- (B) August 1920
- (C) December 1919
- (D) April 1919



Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Concept — Aditya-L1 Solar Observatory: Aditya-L1 is ISRO's first space-based mission dedicated to studying the Sun. The name "L1" refers to the first Lagrange point between the Sun and Earth, a gravitationally stable location that enables continuous, unobstructed observation of the Sun.

Step 1 — Identify mission objective and orbit: Aditya-L1 was launched on 2 September 2023 aboard a PSLV-C57 rocket. Its primary scientific objectives include studying the **solar corona** (the outermost layer of the Sun's atmosphere), understanding solar wind origin and acceleration, monitoring space weather, and observing solar flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs). It was inserted into a **halo orbit around the Sun–Earth L1 Lagrange point**, approximately **1.5 million km** from Earth, in January 2024. This vantage point provides an uninterrupted view of the Sun without any occultation or eclipse.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Aditya-L1 does not orbit the Moon; it orbits the L1 Lagrange point between the Sun and Earth.
- Option (C): Aditya-L1 is not in low-Earth orbit; it is about 1.5 million km from Earth at L1.
- Option (D): Aditya-L1 does not study gamma-ray bursts and is not in geostationary orbit; it is a solar observatory at L1.

Final Answer: Aditya-L1 studies the solar corona from a halo orbit at the Sun–Earth L1 Lagrange point ⇒ **B**

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

Q2.

Solution

Concept — PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan: PM Gati Shakti was launched on 13 October 2021. It is a digital platform built on a Geographic Information System (GIS) framework, integrating data from 16 ministries to enable coordinated infrastructure planning and reduce delays caused by siloed approvals and overlapping projects.

Step 1 — Identify the primary objective: The plan's central aim is to deliver in-



egrated, seamless, and multi-modal infrastructure connectivity across roads, railways, waterways, airways, mass transport, logistics infrastructure, and digital connectivity. By bringing all line ministries onto a single digital platform, it seeks to reduce logistics costs (India's logistics cost is about 13–14% of GDP versus 8% globally) and improve last-mile connectivity. It is also tied to the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) and the National Logistics Policy.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Universal broadband connectivity is the goal of BharatNet, a separate scheme under the Ministry of Communications.
- Option (B): A unified DBT portal refers to the Direct Benefit Transfer system under the Ministry of Finance/PFMS, unrelated to Gati Shakti.
- Option (D): Smart Cities Mission is a separate urban development scheme under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Final Answer: PM Gati Shakti aims at integrated multi-modal infrastructure connectivity via a GIS-based platform ⇒

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

Q3.

Solution

Concept — Operation Dost and India's HADR: India has a robust tradition of providing Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) to neighbouring and partner nations. Operation Dost ("Dost" means "friend" in Turkish, Urdu, and several regional languages) reflects India's "Neighbourhood First" and "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" principles.

Step 1 — Identify the recipient country/countries: On 6 February 2023, two massive earthquakes (magnitude 7.8 and 7.7) struck **southeastern Turkey and northern Syria**, killing over 50,000 people. India launched **Operation Dost** and deployed NDRF teams, field hospitals, medical supplies, sniffer dogs, and tonnes of relief material to both **Turkey and Syria**. The Indian Air Force and Army facilitated the airlift of these resources.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): The September 2023 Morocco earthquake triggered India's humanitarian response, but the specific operation was *not* named Operation Dost.
- Option (C): Libya's flooding in 2023 saw Indian sympathies but was not the



focus of Operation Dost.

- Option (D): Nepal's Jajarkot earthquake in November 2023 prompted Indian assistance, but that response carried a different operational designation.

Final Answer: Operation Dost was India's humanitarian relief operation to Turkey and Syria following the February 2023 earthquakes ⇒ **A**

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

Q4.

Solution

Concept — WTO Leadership: The World Trade Organisation (WTO), headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, was established in 1995 as the successor to GATT. Its Director-General leads the Secretariat and facilitates multilateral trade negotiations and dispute resolution.

Step 1 — Identify the Director-General: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, a Nigerian-American economist and former Finance Minister of Nigeria, was appointed WTO Director-General in **March 2021**. She is the **first African** and the **first woman** to lead the organisation. She was previously a managing director at the World Bank and served two terms as Nigeria's Finance Minister. She was re-appointed for a second term in 2025.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Kristalina Georgieva is the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), not the WTO.
- Option (B): Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus is the Director-General of the World Health Organisation (WHO), not the WTO.
- Option (C): Amina J. Mohammed is the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, not associated with the WTO directorship.

Final Answer: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala became the first African and first woman WTO Director-General in March 2021 ⇒ **D**

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



Q5.

Solution

Concept — BIMSTEC: The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) was established in 1997. It is a sub-regional organisation of countries adjacent to the Bay of Bengal, bridging South Asia and Southeast Asia without overlapping with SAARC or ASEAN.

Step 1 — Count members and locate Secretariat: BIMSTEC has **7 member nations**: India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Nepal, and Bhutan. The **Permanent Secretariat** was established in **Dhaka, Bangladesh** in 2014. The 5th BIMSTEC Summit was held in Colombo in 2022, where the BIMSTEC Charter was adopted, giving the organisation a legal foundation.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): BIMSTEC has 7, not 5, members; the Secretariat is in Dhaka, not Kathmandu.
- Option (C): BIMSTEC has 7, not 8 members (Pakistan and Afghanistan are not members); the Secretariat is not in Colombo.
- Option (D): BIMSTEC has 7, not 6 members; the Secretariat is not in Bangkok (that is ASEAN's host city for several agencies).

Final Answer: BIMSTEC has 7 members and its Secretariat is in Dhaka, Bangladesh ⇒ **B**

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

Q6.

Solution

Concept — Foreign Trade Policy 2023–28: India's Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) is formulated by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The FTP 2023–28 replaced the earlier FTP 2015–20 (which had been extended multiple times during the COVID-19 pandemic).

Step 1 — Identify the export target: The FTP 2023–28, announced on 31 March 2023, set an ambitious target of **\$2 trillion** in combined goods and services exports **by 2030**. India's merchandise exports were around \$450 billion and services exports around \$320 billion in 2022–23, implying more than doubling the total. The policy's four key pillars are: (1) Incentive to Remission, (2) Export Promotion through Collaboration, (3) Ease of Doing Business, and (4) Emerging Areas.

Why other options are wrong:



- Option (B): \$1.5 trillion by 2027 is not the stated target; this figure is an underestimate.
- Option (C): \$3 trillion by 2035 is beyond the policy's horizon and overstates the target.
- Option (D): \$800 billion by 2025 is a near-term interim figure discussed in policy circles but not the headline FTP 2023–28 target.

Final Answer: FTP 2023–28 targets \$2 trillion in goods and services exports by 2030 ⇒

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

Q7.

Solution

Concept — India–Canada Diplomatic Row 2023: India–Canada relations experienced a severe rupture in September 2023 when Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau alleged in Parliament that Indian government agents had been involved in a killing on Canadian soil. This allegation led to the expulsion of diplomats from both sides and a freeze in trade and visa relations.

Step 1 — Identify the individual: The killing that triggered the dispute was that of **Hardeep Singh Nijjar**, a Canadian citizen of Indian origin and a prominent Sikh separatist leader who headed the Khalistan Tiger Force. He was shot dead outside the Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara in Surrey, British Columbia, on 18 June 2023. India had designated him a terrorist under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. Trudeau directly alleged India's involvement, which India denied "absurd and motivated."

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Gurpatwant Singh Pannun is a US-based Sikh separatist leader (head of Sikhs for Justice); a separate alleged plot against him in the US was reported later.
- Option (B): Avtar Singh Khanda was a UK-based Khalistan activist who died in the UK in June 2023 of illness, not assassination in Canada.
- Option (D): Jaswant Singh Khalra was a human rights activist killed in 1995; this is a historical figure unrelated to the 2023 diplomatic row.

Final Answer: Hardeep Singh Nijjar's killing triggered the India–Canada diplomatic crisis in 2023 ⇒

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



Q8.

Solution

Concept — NATO Secretary General: The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) is a collective defence alliance founded in 1949. Its Secretary General serves as the chief civilian spokesperson and chair of the North Atlantic Council. Jens Stoltenberg, a former Norwegian Prime Minister, served as Secretary General from October 2014, making him NATO's longest-serving Secretary General.

Step 1 — Identify the successor: Mark Rutte, the former Prime Minister of the Netherlands (2010–2024), succeeded Jens Stoltenberg as NATO Secretary General on **1 October 2024**. He was unanimously endorsed by NATO member states. Rutte is known for managing a broad coalition government in the Netherlands and for his pragmatic approach to European security and trans-Atlantic relations.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Ursula von der Leyen is the President of the European Commission (re-elected in 2024), not the NATO Secretary General.
- Option (B): Charles Michel served as President of the European Council (2019–2024) and was succeeded by Antonio Costa; he has no role in NATO leadership.
- Option (C): Josep Borrell served as the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy; he is not associated with NATO's top post.

Final Answer: Mark Rutte became NATO Secretary General in October 2024, succeeding Jens Stoltenberg ⇒ D

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

Q9.

Solution

Concept — Statue of Unity: The Statue of Unity, designed by sculptor Ram V. Sutar, depicts Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in a striding pose. At 182 metres (597 feet), it is the world's tallest statue — nearly twice the height of the Statue of Liberty (93 m) including its pedestal. It was built in just 33 months and inaugurated on 31 October 2018, on Patel's 143rd birth anniversary.

Step 1 — Identify the river: The Statue of Unity stands on the Sadhu Bet islet in the **Narmada River**, facing the Sardar Sarovar Dam in **Kevadia**, Narmada district, Gujarat. The Narmada River, one of India's major rivers flowing westward across the Deccan, provides the scenic backdrop to the statue. The Sardar Sarovar Project



on the Narmada is itself named after Sardar Patel.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): The Tapti (Tapi) River also flows through Gujarat but the Statue of Unity is not situated on it.
- Option (C): The Sabarmati River flows through Ahmedabad and is associated with Mahatma Gandhi's Sabarmati Ashram; the Statue of Unity is not on the Sabarmati.
- Option (D): The Mahi River flows through central Gujarat into the Gulf of Khambhat; the statue is on the Narmada, not the Mahi.

Final Answer: The Statue of Unity stands on the Narmada River near Kevadia, Gujarat ⇒

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

Q10.

Solution

Concept — Mountbatten Plan (3 June Plan): The Mountbatten Plan, also known as the “3 June Plan” or the “Partition Plan,” was the blueprint for the independence and partition of British India into two dominions — India and Pakistan. It was formulated by Lord Mountbatten, the last Viceroy of India, in consultation with Indian political leaders.

Step 1 — Recall the exact date: The Mountbatten Plan was officially announced on **3 June 1947**. It accepted the demand for partition, provided for separate constituent assemblies for India and Pakistan, and set out the process for the transfer of power. The Indian Independence Act, 1947 was subsequently passed by the British Parliament on 18 July 1947, formally enacting the plan. Independence was granted on 15 August 1947.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): 18 July 1947 is the date the Indian Independence Act was passed by the British Parliament, not the Mountbatten Plan announcement.
- Option (C): 20 February 1947 is when British Prime Minister Clement Attlee announced in Parliament that Britain would transfer power to India by June 1948 — this preceded the Mountbatten Plan.
- Option (D): 26 January 1947 has no direct significance in this context (26 January later became India's Republic Day in 1950).



Final Answer: The Mountbatten Plan was announced on 3 June 1947 ⇒ A

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

Q11.

Solution

Concept — Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution: The Eighth Schedule (Article 344 and Article 351) originally listed 14 languages when the Constitution came into force in 1950. Languages have been added through constitutional amendments over time to recognise regional linguistic identities.

Step 1 — Identify the current count: The Eighth Schedule was amended three times to add languages: the 21st Amendment (1967) added Sindhi (15th language); the 71st Amendment (1992) added Konkani, Manipuri, and Nepali (making 18); and the **92nd Amendment (2003)** added Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, and Santhali, bringing the total to **22 languages**. These 22 languages include Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Marathi, Tamil, Urdu, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Odia, Punjabi, Assamese, Kashmiri, Sanskrit, and others.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): 14 was the original count at the Constitution's commencement in 1950, not the current figure.
- Option (B): 18 was the count after the 71st Amendment (1992) but before the 92nd Amendment (2003).
- Option (D): 29 is not a recognised figure for the Eighth Schedule; it may be confused with the number of states (also now 28 after Telangana formation and J&K reorganisation).

Final Answer: The Eighth Schedule currently lists 22 languages ⇒ C

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



Q12.

Solution

Concept — K.S. Puttaswamy Judgment (Right to Privacy): Justice K.S. Puttaswamy, a retired judge of the Karnataka High Court, filed a writ petition challenging the constitutional validity of the Aadhaar scheme. The Supreme Court referred the matter to a nine-judge constitutional bench to examine whether the right to privacy is a fundamental right.

Step 1 — Identify the ruling: In a landmark unanimous judgment delivered on **24 August 2017**, all nine judges of the constitutional bench held that the **right to privacy is a fundamental right** protected under **Article 21** (right to life and personal liberty) of the Indian Constitution. The judgment overruled two earlier judgments — M.P. Sharma (1958) and Kharak Singh (1962) — which had held that privacy was not a fundamental right. This ruling has wide implications for data protection, surveillance, and personal autonomy.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): The right to free and compulsory education was inserted as Article 21A by the **86th Constitutional Amendment, 2002**, not through a Supreme Court judgment.
- Option (B): The right to form associations is already guaranteed under Article 19(1)(c) and was not the subject of the Puttaswamy case.
- Option (C): The right to property was a fundamental right under Article 31, which was **removed** by the 44th Constitutional Amendment (1978); the Puttaswamy judgment did not reinstate it.

Final Answer: The Puttaswamy judgment (2017) recognised the right to privacy as a fundamental right under Article 21 ⇒ **D**

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

Q13.

Solution

Concept — Right to Information Act, 2005: The RTI Act is a landmark legislation that operationalises the constitutional right to information. It mandates timely response to citizen requests for government information, with specific exemptions for sensitive categories. India's RTI Act is widely regarded as one of the strongest access-to-information laws globally.

Step 1 — Identify the year of enactment: The **Right to Information Act, 2005**



was passed by the Parliament of India and received the President's assent on 15 June 2005. It came into full force on 12 October 2005. The Act replaced the earlier Freedom of Information Act, 2002 (which was enacted but never brought into force). The RTI Act established the Central Information Commission (CIC) and State Information Commissions (SICs) as quasi-judicial appeal bodies.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): 2002 is the year the Freedom of Information Act was passed, which was never brought into force and was replaced by the RTI Act 2005.
- Option (C): 2009 is not associated with the enactment of the RTI Act; the Act was already operational from 2005.
- Option (D): 2012 has no significance for the RTI Act's enactment.

Final Answer: The Right to Information Act was enacted in 2005 ⇒ A

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

Q14.

Solution

Concept — Polavaram Irrigation Project: The Polavaram Project (also known as the Indira Sagar Project on the Godavari) is a major infrastructure project in Andhra Pradesh. It was accorded national project status by the Central Government, which means the Union Government bears the entire project cost. The project is designed for irrigation, hydroelectric power, and drinking water supply.

Step 1 — Identify the river: The Polavaram Irrigation Project is constructed across the **Godavari River** in West Godavari and Eluru districts of Andhra Pradesh. The Godavari is India's second-largest river by discharge (after the Ganga), and is also called "the Ganga of the South." The project's reservoir is intended to provide irrigation to 2.91 lakh hectares and generate 960 MW of hydroelectric power.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): The Krishna River also flows through Andhra Pradesh and has the Nagarjuna Sagar and Srisailem projects, but not the Polavaram project.
- Option (C): The Mahanadi has the Hirakud Dam in Odisha; Polavaram is not on the Mahanadi.
- Option (D): The Tungabhadra River has the Tungabhadra Dam (a joint project of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh); Polavaram is on the Godavari, not the Tungabhadra.



Final Answer: Polavaram Irrigation Project is constructed on the Godavari River
⇒

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

Q15.

Solution

Concept — Kaziranga National Park: Kaziranga is one of India's most celebrated wildlife sanctuaries and a global conservation success story. It is particularly known for the dramatic recovery of the Indian one-horned rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) from near extinction to a thriving population of over 2,600 individuals.

Step 1 — Identify state and UNESCO designation year: Kaziranga National Park is located in the **Golaghat, Karbi Anglong, and Nagaon districts of Assam**, spread along the southern bank of the Brahmaputra River. It was designated a **UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985**. Kaziranga is also a Tiger Reserve under Project Tiger and a Ramsar wetland site. It hosts two-thirds of the world's one-horned rhinoceros population.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): West Bengal does not host Kaziranga; its famous wildlife site is Sundarbans National Park (UNESCO 1987).
- Option (B): Arunachal Pradesh is adjacent to Assam but does not contain Kaziranga; Namdapha National Park is Arunachal's major sanctuary.
- Option (D): Meghalaya does not host Kaziranga; its wildlife is centred in the Nokrek Biosphere Reserve and Balpakram National Park.

Final Answer: Kaziranga NP is in Assam and was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985 ⇒

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



Q16.

Solution

Concept — Nobel Prize in Physics 2023: The Nobel Prize in Physics is awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. The 2023 prize recognised experimental work that opened a new window into ultrafast electron dynamics — a field with major implications for understanding chemical reactions, semiconductor devices, and biological processes at the quantum level.

Step 1 — Identify the 2023 laureates: The Nobel Prize in Physics 2023 was awarded jointly to **Pierre Agostini** (Ohio State University, USA), **Ferenc Krausz** (Max Planck Institute for Quantum Optics, Germany), and **Anne L’Huillier** (Lund University, Sweden) “for experimental methods that generate **attosecond pulses of light** for the study of electron dynamics in matter.” An attosecond is 10^{-18} seconds — so short that light travels only about 0.3 nanometres in that time, allowing snapshots of electron motion inside atoms.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Manabe, Hasselmann, and Parisi won the Nobel Prize in **Physics 2021** for complex systems and climate modelling, not 2023.
- Option (B): Aspect, Clauser, and Zeilinger won the Nobel Prize in **Physics 2022** for entangled photon experiments and Bell inequality violations.
- Option (C): Penrose, Genzel, and Ghez won the Nobel Prize in **Physics 2020** for discoveries about black holes.

Final Answer: Nobel Prize in Physics 2023 was awarded to Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz, and Anne L’Huillier for attosecond light pulses $\Rightarrow$ **D**

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

Q17.

Solution

Concept — RBI Flexible Inflation Targeting (FIT): The RBI Act, 1934, was amended in May 2016 to provide a statutory basis for the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) and the inflation targeting framework. The Central Government, in consultation with the RBI, determines the inflation target for every five-year period.

Step 1 — Identify the target and band: The inflation target for the period 2021–26 (and renewed thereafter) is 4% Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation, with a **tolerance band of $\pm 2\%$** , meaning the acceptable range is **2% to 6%**. The RBI



is deemed to have failed in its inflation mandate if CPI remains outside the 2%–6% band for three consecutive quarters. The lower bound (2%) guards against deflationary pressures and the upper bound (6%) against inflationary overheating.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): A 5% target with $\pm 1\%$ band (4%–6%) is incorrect; the target is 4%, not 5%, and the band is $\pm 2\%$, not $\pm 1\%$.
- Option (C): A 3.5% target with $\pm 1.5\%$ band (2%–5%) does not match the officially notified target.
- Option (D): A 6% target would imply tolerating persistent high inflation; the actual target is 4% with an upper limit of 6%.

Final Answer: RBI's CPI inflation target is 4% with a tolerance band of $\pm 2\%$ (2%–6%) $\Rightarrow$

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

Q18.

Solution

Concept — Bhupen Hazarika Setu (Dhola-Sadiya Bridge): The bridge is named after the legendary Assamese musician and filmmaker Bhupen Hazarika. It was built to improve connectivity between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh in India's strategically important Northeast, facilitating faster troop and logistics movement close to the China border.

Step 1 — Identify the state, length, and river: The **Bhupen Hazarika Setu (Dhola-Sadiya Bridge)** is located in **Assam**, spanning the **Lohit River** (a major tributary of the Brahmaputra) near Dhola in Tinsukia district, Assam, connecting to Sadiya. Its length is approximately **9.15 km** (9.15 kilometres / 5.69 miles), making it the **longest river bridge in India** at the time of its inauguration in May 2017. It was surpassed as India's longest bridge by the Bogibeel Bridge (Assam, 4.94 km across the Brahmaputra) only in a different category (rail-cum-road).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Bihar's major bridges span the Ganga (e.g., the Mahatma Gandhi Setu at Patna, 5.75 km), but none holds the "longest river bridge in India" title; the Dhola-Sadiya bridge is longer.
- Option (B): No major 4.2 km bridge spanning the Mahanadi in Odisha is associated with this distinction.
- Option (D): Andhra Pradesh's Krishna River bridges are significant but the



Bhupen Hazarika Setu in Assam is the longest river bridge.

Final Answer: Bhupen Hazarika Setu is in Assam, approximately 9.15 km long, spanning the Lohit river, and is India's longest river bridge ⇒ **C**

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

Q19.

Solution

Concept — Arjuna Award: The Arjuna Award was instituted by the Government of India in 1961 to recognise outstanding achievement in national sports. It is named after the legendary archer-warrior Arjuna from the Mahabharata. The award carries a statuette of Arjuna, a certificate, and a cash prize.

Step 1 — Identify the eligibility criterion and authority: The Arjuna Award is given to athletes who have demonstrated **outstanding performance in sports and games** at the international level consistently **over the previous four years**, along with leadership qualities and sportsmanship. It is conferred by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India**, on the occasion of **National Sports Day** (29 August, Dhyan Chand's birth anniversary). The award is for sportspersons across recognised disciplines including Olympic, non-Olympic, para, and indigenous sports.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): The Dronacharya Award (not the Arjuna Award) recognises coaches who have produced medal-winning sportspersons; it is also awarded by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- Option (C): The Arjuna Award is not exclusively for retired athletes; active sportspersons receive it. The Lifetime Achievement Award in Dhyan Chand Award covers lifetime service.
- Option (D): The Arjuna Award is not limited to Olympic gold medallists; it covers a wide range of sports performance at the international level.

Final Answer: Arjuna Award recognises outstanding international sports performance over four years, conferred by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports ⇒ **B**

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



Q20.

Solution

Concept — Jallianwala Bagh Massacre: The Jallianwala Bagh massacre (also known as the Amritsar massacre) is one of the darkest events in the history of British India and a pivotal moment in the Indian independence movement. It galvanised Mahatma Gandhi and millions of Indians against British rule.

Step 1 — Identify the month and year: The massacre occurred on **13 April 1919** — the auspicious occasion of Baisakhi (the Punjabi New Year harvest festival). Brigadier-General Reginald Dyer ordered his troops to open fire, without warning, on thousands of unarmed men, women, and children who had gathered at the Jallianwala Bagh walled garden in Amritsar, Punjab, to attend a public meeting against the repressive Rowlatt Act (1919). The official British inquiry (Hunter Commission) reported 379 deaths, while Indian National Congress estimates placed the figure at over 1,000.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): March 1918 predates the massacre by more than a year; the Rowlatt Act that triggered the protests was passed in March 1919.
- Option (B): August 1920 was when the Non-Cooperation Movement was launched by Gandhi in response to the massacre and other grievances, not the massacre itself.
- Option (C): December 1919 is after the massacre; by then, the Hunter Commission had already begun its inquiry.

Final Answer: The Jallianwala Bagh massacre took place in April 1919 ⇒ D

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



Answer Key

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

