

# YASASVI Social Science

## Sample Paper – 6

Duration: 38 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 100

### Instructions

- This paper contains **25** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the Social Science portion of the **YASASVI** entrance test.
- Each correct answer carries **+4 marks**. There is **no negative marking** for incorrect or unattempted answers.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose carefully.
- Syllabus level: **Class 8 NCERT — History (Our Past III), Geography (Resources and Development), Civics (Social and Political Life III), and Economics basics.**
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

**Q1.** The Indian National Congress (INC) was founded in 1885 with A.O. Hume playing a key role in its establishment. Which of the following **CORRECTLY** describes the approach of the early Congress under its moderate leaders?

- (A) The Congress in its very first session in 1885 demanded complete independence (Purna Swaraj) and the immediate withdrawal of all British officials from India
- (B) The early Congress was dominated by moderates who used constitutional methods — petitions, resolutions, and delegations to the British government — to seek greater Indian representation in governance and administrative reforms, not immediate independence
- (C) A.O. Hume founded the INC as a platform to organise armed resistance against British economic policies and to demand immediate self-rule for all of India



(D) The early Congress had no political demands and served purely as a cultural organisation to promote understanding between different Indian communities

**Q2.** Gandhi's Champaran Satyagraha of 1917 is considered his first experiment with civil disobedience in India. What was the primary grievance of the indigo farmers in Champaran, Bihar?

- (A) Farmers were forced to pay excessive land revenue under the Permanent Settlement without any relief during seasons of crop failure or drought
- (B) British planters denied Champaran farmers access to nearby market towns and compelled them to sell all produce at fixed, artificially low prices set by the colonial government
- (C) Under the tinkathia system, indigo farmers were forced to cultivate indigo on a fixed portion (3 out of 20 kathas) of their land at prices dictated by British planters, leaving them unable to grow food crops on that land
- (D) British zamindars seized the most fertile agricultural land of Champaran farmers and converted it into indigo plantations without offering any compensation to displaced families

**Q3.** The Civil Disobedience Movement launched in 1930 involved far more than just the Dandi March. Which of the following CORRECTLY describes events that followed the Salt March of March–April 1930?

- (A) The Civil Disobedience Movement succeeded immediately; the British granted India Dominion Status within six months of the Dandi March in response to mass protests
- (B) The British government rapidly agreed to negotiate and granted full provincial autonomy to all Indian provinces by the end of 1930, effectively ending the movement
- (C) After the Dandi March, Indian leaders voluntarily suspended the movement and participated in all three Round Table Conferences



without any prior conditions or pact with the British

- (D) The British government responded to the movement with mass arrests and repression; Gandhi signed the Gandhi-Irwin Pact in March 1931 and attended the Second Round Table Conference in London but returned to India without substantial concessions, and the movement was eventually withdrawn

**Q4.** The Rowlatt Act of 1919, popularly called the “Black Act” by Indians, triggered massive nationwide protests. What did this Act empower the British government to do?

- (A) Detain any person suspected of revolutionary or seditious activity without trial, without bail, and without the right to appeal or even be informed of the reason for arrest
- (B) Impose heavy taxes on Indian merchants who traded goods with countries outside the British Empire without a licence from the colonial government
- (C) Confiscate the property of any Indian who participated in or provided financial support to the Indian National Congress or similar political organisations
- (D) Banish any Indian leader deemed dangerous to British rule to remote island territories outside the Indian subcontinent without judicial proceedings

**Q5.** Gandhi allied with the Khilafat Movement (1919–22) led by Muhammad Ali and Shaukat Ali (the Ali Brothers). Why did Indian Muslims launch the Khilafat Movement?

- (A) Muslims launched the movement specifically to protest against the Rowlatt Act, which they believed targeted Muslim religious leaders for detention without trial more than any other community
- (B) Indian Muslims were deeply concerned about the fate of the Ottoman Caliph, whose authority as the spiritual leader of Sunni Muslims worldwide was threatened by British decisions during and af-



ter the First World War; Gandhi allied with the movement to build Hindu-Muslim unity against colonial rule

- (C) The Khilafat Movement was launched to demand the creation of a separate Muslim-majority homeland carved out of the north-western regions of British India
- (D) Muslim leaders launched the movement to demand reserved seats for Muslims in the central and provincial legislative assemblies as a protection against a Hindu majority

**Q6.** British rule transformed Indian cities in distinctive ways. Which of the following BEST describes how Bombay (Mumbai) developed under British colonial rule?

- (A) Bombay grew primarily as the administrative capital of British India after the colonial government chose it over Calcutta and Delhi as the permanent seat of the central government
- (B) Bombay developed as an industrial city when the British relocated their cotton textile mills from Lancashire to take advantage of cheap Indian labour and locally available raw cotton
- (C) Bombay grew as a major port city and presidency town; British administrators and European merchants lived in segregated European residential areas (“White Town”), while the Indian population was concentrated in separate “Black Town” areas with overcrowded tenements
- (D) Bombay rose to prominence after the British East India Company shifted its entire Indian headquarters from Surat to Bombay in the late 17th century and made it the capital of the Bombay Presidency

**Q7.** The Government of India Act of 1935 was a landmark in India’s constitutional development. Which of the following CORRECTLY describes what happened as a direct result of this Act?

- (A) The Act introduced provincial autonomy; in the elections held in 1937, the Indian National Congress won majorities in seven out of



eleven provinces and formed governments, gaining direct experience of running administration

- (B) The Act granted India full Dominion Status, making India an equal and self-governing partner within the British Commonwealth with complete control over its internal affairs
- (C) The federal provisions of the Act became operational immediately in 1936 because Indian princes enthusiastically agreed to join the All-India Federation on the terms proposed by the British
- (D) The Act gave India's central legislature the power to pass laws on any subject without the approval or veto of the British Parliament or the Viceroy, for the very first time

**Q8.** Women played a vital role in India's freedom struggle. Which of the following statements about women leaders in the national movement is CORRECT?

- (A) Annie Besant, who served as INC President in 1917, was the first India-born woman to hold that office; she later led the Home Rule League campaign across the country
- (B) Kasturba Gandhi formally led the Dandi March after Mahatma Gandhi was arrested midway to the sea coast, personally completing the salt-making ceremony on the beach at Dandi
- (C) Women were deliberately excluded from the Quit India Movement of 1942 because the Congress Working Committee decided the movement would become too violent for women to participate safely
- (D) Sarojini Naidu served as the first Indian woman President of the Indian National Congress in 1925, while Aruna Asaf Ali became famous for hoisting the Congress flag at Gowalia Tank Maidan in Mumbai at the launch of the Quit India Movement in August 1942

**Q9.** Rivers in India are classified as perennial and non-perennial (seasonal). Which of the following CORRECTLY distinguishes between these two types?



- (A) Perennial rivers flow only during the monsoon season and dry up completely in summer, while non-perennial rivers flow throughout the year because they are fed by both glaciers and rainfall
- (B) Perennial rivers are found exclusively in the peninsular plateau region, while non-perennial rivers are found only in the Himalayan and sub-Himalayan region
- (C) Perennial rivers flow throughout the year because they receive water from glaciers (snowmelt) and rainfall even in dry seasons, while non-perennial (seasonal) rivers flow mainly during the rainy season and may reduce to a trickle or dry up in summer
- (D) Non-perennial rivers carry more total water annually than perennial rivers because the Deccan plateau receives concentrated heavy rainfall that fills seasonal rivers to very high levels

**Q10.** Traditional rainwater harvesting structures have been used for centuries in arid and semi-arid India. Which of the following CORRECTLY describes a traditional harvesting method used in the Rajasthan desert region?

- (A) Johads are large underground cylindrical tanks unique to Rajasthan used exclusively for rooftop rainwater collection, while stepwells (vav) in Gujarat serve the same purpose for urban households
- (B) Kunds (also called tankas) are underground cylindrical tanks plastered with lime mortar, built in homes and courtyards across Rajasthan to collect and store rainwater for drinking; they keep the water cool and protected from evaporation and contamination throughout the long dry season
- (C) The khadin system involves constructing large concrete dams across seasonal streams to divert rainwater into pipelines supplying water to cities and towns in the Thar Desert region of Rajasthan
- (D) Rooftop harvesting using bamboo pipe channels is the traditional method developed specifically for the Thar Desert communities, as open kunds lose too much water to the intense desert evaporation



- Q11.** Non-ferrous minerals are metallic minerals that do not contain iron as the primary component. Which of the following CORRECTLY identifies a non-ferrous mineral and its major deposits and uses in India?
- (A) Bauxite (the ore of aluminium) has major deposits in Odisha and Jharkhand and is used to produce aluminium for aircraft bodies, electrical cables, and packaging; copper, another important non-ferrous metal, is found in large quantities in Khetri (Rajasthan) and Malanjkhand (Madhya Pradesh)
  - (B) Bauxite is the primary iron ore found in the Damodar Valley region, while copper is mined mainly from the Koderma and Jharia regions of Jharkhand alongside coal
  - (C) Non-ferrous minerals include iron ore, manganese, and chromite; these are found in large deposits in Odisha and Karnataka and are used in making alloy steels
  - (D) Copper deposits in India are concentrated in the Jharia coalfields of Jharkhand and are processed at the Bhilai Steel Plant along with iron ore to make copper-alloy steel
- Q12.** Minerals are finite, non-renewable resources that took millions of years to form under the earth. Which of the following BEST explains why conservation of minerals is essential?
- (A) Minerals can be regenerated within a few decades through active geological processes; conservation helps speed up this natural regeneration so that supplies remain adequate for industry
  - (B) Conservation of minerals is important only for developing countries like India that currently lack the technology to discover new mineral deposits; rich countries with advanced exploration technology do not face this problem
  - (C) Minerals should be conserved primarily to reserve them as a future energy source that will replace fossil fuels like oil and coal once those are exhausted in the coming century





- (D) Since minerals took millions of years to form and cannot be replenished within any meaningful human timeframe, they must be used wisely through recycling, improving the efficiency of extraction and processing, and developing alternative materials to ensure their availability for future generations

**Q13.** Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) operates several integrated iron and steel plants set up in the public sector after independence. Which of the following CORRECTLY matches a SAIL plant with its state and the foreign collaboration used to establish it?

- (A) The Tata Iron and Steel Company (TISCO) plant, set up with Soviet collaboration, is located at Bhilai in Chhattisgarh and is today the largest producer of steel rails in India
- (B) The Rourkela Steel Plant was set up in West Bengal with West German technical collaboration and remains the largest steel plant in eastern India by output
- (C) The Bhilai Steel Plant in Chhattisgarh was set up with Soviet (USSR) collaboration, the Rourkela Steel Plant in Odisha with West German collaboration, and the Durgapur Steel Plant in West Bengal with British collaboration — all three are SAIL plants established in the 1950s
- (D) SAIL's corporate headquarters are in Chennai and its flagship plant, the Vizag Steel Plant (Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited), produces the largest volume of steel among all public-sector plants

**Q14.** India's petrochemical industry produces a wide range of products derived from petroleum and natural gas. Which of the following CORRECTLY describes the petrochemical industry in India?

- (A) India's largest petrochemical complex is located in Kochi, Kerala, and is best known for producing edible oils and food-grade preservatives using petroleum-based chemical processes
- (B) Major petrochemical complexes in India are located at Mumbai (linked





to ONGC's operations) and Vadodara in Gujarat (formerly IPCL), producing synthetic fibres, plastics, synthetic rubber, fertilizers, and other downstream chemicals used across industry

- (C) Petrochemical industries in India are concentrated exclusively in the northeastern states of Assam and Tripura because all of India's on-shore crude oil reserves are found only in that region
- (D) The petrochemical industry in India is entirely in the private sector; the government owns no petrochemical manufacturing facility and has never invested in this industry

**Q15.** The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is responsible for the development, maintenance, and management of National Highways across India. Which of the following is CORRECT about National Highways in India?

- (A) National Highway 44 (NH 44), which runs from Srinagar in Jammu & Kashmir in the north to Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu in the south, is the longest National Highway in India, stretching over approximately 3,700 km
- (B) The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) was established in 1947 immediately after independence with the primary goal of connecting all state capitals through a network of four-lane highways within ten years
- (C) National Highways in India are built and maintained by the respective State Public Works Departments (PWDs); the central government only provides financial grants without any direct construction or maintenance responsibility
- (D) India has the longest network of National Highways in the world in terms of total length, surpassing both China and the United States, which have shorter highway networks

**Q16.** India has developed inland waterways as an important mode of transport. Which of the following CORRECTLY identifies India's National Wa-



terways and their routes?

- (A) National Waterway 1 runs along the Godavari river connecting Dhauleshwar in Andhra Pradesh to the sea, while National Waterway 2 runs along the Krishna river in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh
- (B) India's National Waterways consist only of designated coastal shipping lanes connecting major seaports such as Mumbai, Kochi, and Chennai along the western and eastern coasts
- (C) National Waterway 1 connects Mumbai to Goa along the Konkan coast, while National Waterway 2 connects Kolkata to Haldia via the Hooghly river in West Bengal
- (D) National Waterway 1 runs along the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system from Prayagraj (Allahabad) to Haldia, covering approximately 1,620 km, while National Waterway 2 runs along the Brahmaputra river from Sadiya to Dhubri (approximately 891 km) in Assam

**Q17.** The Indian Parliament exercises important financial powers through its two Houses. Which of the following CORRECTLY describes the procedure for Money Bills in Parliament?

- (A) A Money Bill can be introduced in either the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha at the discretion of the Finance Minister; the other House must pass it within 30 days or the bill is deemed to have been rejected
- (B) A Money Bill can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha; if the Rajya Sabha does not pass it or return it within 14 days of receiving it, the bill is deemed to have been passed by both Houses, effectively giving the Lok Sabha final authority over all financial legislation
- (C) A Money Bill requires the prior written approval of the President of India before it can even be introduced in either House of Parliament; the President may refuse approval if the bill contradicts the Directive Principles
- (D) Both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha have completely equal powers over Money Bills; if the two Houses disagree, a joint sitting of



both Houses is convened and the matter is decided by a simple majority vote

**Q18.** The Bhopal Gas Tragedy of December 1984 is considered one of the worst industrial disasters in history. Which of the following CORRECTLY describes the tragedy and the issues of justice it raised?

- (A) The Bhopal tragedy was caused by the accidental release of sulphur dioxide from a government-owned coal-fired thermal power station, and led to demands for shutting down all public-sector energy plants near cities
- (B) The tragedy involved a toxic gas leak from the Hindustan Organic Chemicals factory in Bhopal; the Indian government was internationally praised for quickly compensating all victims and prosecuting the factory owners within two years
- (C) The American company Union Carbide's pesticide plant in Bhopal leaked methyl isocyanate (MIC) gas in December 1984, killing thousands immediately and leaving many more with permanent injuries; the Indian government's handling of the disaster was later criticised for accepting an inadequate out-of-court settlement and allowing the Union Carbide chairman Warren Anderson to leave India
- (D) The Bhopal gas leak of 1984 was established in court to have been caused by deliberate sabotage by disgruntled workers of the plant, and the Indian government successfully prosecuted Union Carbide executives in international criminal courts

**Q19.** The Environment Protection Act was enacted by the Indian Parliament in 1986. Which of the following CORRECTLY describes this Act and its significance for environmental governance in India?

- (A) The Environment Protection Act 1986 was enacted primarily to protect wildlife sanctuaries and national parks from encroachment, and gives the Forest Department the legal power to forcibly relocate villages located inside protected forest areas



- (B) The Act was passed to regulate plastic waste in Indian cities and towns; it banned single-use plastics and imposed fines on manufacturers who produced non-biodegradable packaging materials from 1986 onwards
- (C) The Environment Protection Act 1986 established the National Green Tribunal (NGT) as the primary constitutional body to hear all disputes related to environmental damage and to impose penalties on polluting industries
- (D) Enacted in the direct aftermath of the Bhopal gas disaster, the Environment Protection Act 1986 gives the central government broad powers to protect and improve the quality of the environment, establishes the principle of strict liability for industries that cause environmental damage, and sets penalties for polluters — marking a turning point in India's approach to industrial accountability

**Q20.** The Right to Information Act (RTI), enacted in 2005, is a powerful tool for citizens to hold the government accountable. How does the RTI Act enable citizens to fight corruption and demand transparency?

- (A) Under the RTI Act, any citizen can file a written application to seek specific information from public authorities about government decisions, expenditures, and actions; this transparency helps expose corruption and delays in public work, and the authority must respond within 30 days or face penalties
- (B) The RTI Act gives all citizens the constitutional right to vote in local body, state, and general elections and to demand a re-election in their constituency if they believe the results were manipulated
- (C) Under the RTI Act, only journalists and registered media organisations are entitled to seek government information; ordinary citizens must file a writ petition in the High Court to access government files or records
- (D) The RTI Act requires every public authority to automatically publish all government records, budgets, and decisions on its website every



year, eliminating the need for citizens to file individual applications for information

**Q21.** Indian criminal law classifies offences as either bailable or non-bailable. Which of the following CORRECTLY explains the key difference and the authority to grant bail in each case?

- (A) In a bailable offence, bail can only be granted by the Sessions Court after a formal hearing; in a non-bailable offence, any magistrate can grant bail immediately without imposing any conditions on the accused
- (B) In a bailable offence (such as a minor theft), the accused has a legal right to bail and the police themselves can grant it at the police station; in a non-bailable offence (such as murder or kidnapping), bail is not a right and can only be granted at the discretion of a magistrate or court, which may impose conditions
- (C) All offences listed in the Indian Penal Code are bailable by default; the distinction between bailable and non-bailable applies only to special legislation such as the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act
- (D) A non-bailable offence means the accused can never be granted bail under any circumstances whatsoever, and must remain in judicial custody until the trial in court is completely concluded and a verdict is delivered

**Q22.** The Dowry Prohibition Act was passed in 1961. Which of the following CORRECTLY describes what this Act prohibits and the punishment it prescribes?

- (A) The Dowry Prohibition Act makes it illegal to demand dowry but allows voluntary gifts to be given freely at the time of marriage without any restriction; it imposes only a nominal civil fine and no criminal punishment on those who demand dowry
- (B) The Act applies only to Hindu marriages and does not cover Muslim,



Christian, or Sikh marriages, since dowry as a practice was traditionally found only in Hindu communities across India

- (C) The Dowry Prohibition Act 1961 prohibits both the giving and the taking of dowry; any person who demands, gives, or takes dowry can face imprisonment of up to five years and a fine; the Act was strengthened through amendments in the 1980s to address the alarming rise in dowry-related violence and deaths
- (D) Under the Dowry Prohibition Act, any dowry given by the bride's family automatically becomes the permanent property of the husband's family, and the wife cannot reclaim it even in the event of divorce or the husband's death

**Q23.** Multinational corporations (MNCs) are companies that own or control production and services in more than one country. Which of the following BEST explains why MNCs invest in developing countries like India?

- (A) MNCs invest in developing countries primarily to take advantage of cheaper labour costs, the ready availability of raw materials, and access to large and growing consumer markets, all of which reduce production costs and increase profits for the corporation
- (B) MNCs invest in developing countries because governments of their home countries have banned domestic production of certain goods due to strict environmental regulations, and developing countries have no comparable environmental rules
- (C) Developing countries offer MNCs the unique benefit of superior technology infrastructure and a greater concentration of highly specialised technical workers that are simply unavailable in developed countries
- (D) MNCs invest in developing countries solely to fulfil their corporate social responsibility commitments and international aid obligations, and financial profit plays no role in their decision to set up operations abroad

**Q24.** Globalisation has had uneven effects on different groups of workers in



India. Which of the following CORRECTLY describes the impact of globalisation on workers in India's unorganised (informal) sector?

- (A) Globalisation has greatly benefited unorganised sector workers in India by compelling multinational employers to provide minimum wages, permanent contracts, paid leave, and health insurance in line with international labour standards
- (B) Informal sector workers have been the greatest beneficiaries of globalisation because they can now sell their handmade and craft products directly to global buyers through the internet, bypassing middlemen entirely
- (C) The unorganised sector has shrunk significantly as a direct result of globalisation, with the vast majority of informal workers now absorbed into the organised formal economy as multinational factories expanded their permanent workforce
- (D) Globalisation has increased job insecurity for informal workers, as factories and contractors pressure them to accept lower wages and short-term flexible contracts with no job security or benefits; workers who resist face the threat of replacement by cheaper alternatives, making them highly vulnerable to exploitation

**Q25.** Under the Consumer Protection Act (COPRA), consumers who have been cheated or sold defective goods can seek redressal through consumer courts. Which of the following CORRECTLY describes the process of filing a consumer complaint at the District Consumer Forum?

- (A) A consumer who wishes to file a complaint at the District Consumer Forum must first engage a lawyer and obtain a No-Objection Certificate from the local police station confirming that a criminal offence has been committed
- (B) Any consumer can file a written complaint at the District Consumer Forum without hiring a lawyer; the complaint should include details of the goods or services purchased, supporting evidence such as receipts, bills, or warranty cards, and a clear statement of the remedy





sought; the Forum is generally expected to resolve the complaint within 90 days

- (C) Consumer complaints can only be filed by registered consumer organisations or NGOs acting on behalf of an individual; a single consumer cannot approach the District Consumer Forum directly without organisational support
- (D) The District Consumer Forum handles complaints only against government departments and public-sector undertakings; complaints against private companies, retailers, or service providers must be filed in regular civil courts



**Detailed Solutions**

Q1.

**Solution**

**Concept — Indian National Congress 1885:** The INC was founded on 28 December 1885 in Bombay, with A.O. Hume (a retired British civil servant) playing a key organisational role. The first session was presided over by Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee. The early Congress was dominated by moderates — educated lawyers, journalists, and professionals — who believed in constitutional agitation within the British framework.

**Step 1 — The moderate approach:** Moderates like Dadabhai Naoroji, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, and Pherozeshah Mehta used petitions, resolutions, and deputations to the British Parliament. They sought expanded Indian representation in legislative councils and civil services, fair economic policies, and administrative reforms — not independence.

**Step 2 — Not immediate independence:** Purna Swaraj (complete independence) was not a Congress demand in 1885. It was only in December 1929, at the Lahore session, that the Congress formally adopted it as its goal.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Purna Swaraj came 44 years later in 1929–1930; the 1885 session made no such demand.
- Option C: A.O. Hume helped found the INC as a constitutional body, not an armed resistance organisation; the British even initially saw it as a safety valve.
- Option D: The INC did have clear political demands from the start (representation, civil service reform, reduction of military expenditure) — it was not merely cultural.

**Final Answer:** The early Congress used constitutional methods to seek representation and reforms, not immediate independence. ⇒ **B**

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q1](#)



Q2.

**Solution**

**Concept — Champaran Satyagraha 1917:** Champaran in Bihar was a region where British and European planters controlled indigo cultivation. Gandhi arrived in April 1917 after being approached by a local farmer, Rajkumar Shukla, and investigated the conditions of indigo growers. This became his first Satyagraha experiment on Indian soil.

**Step 1 — The tinkathia system:** Under this system, indigo farmers were compelled to grow indigo on 3 out of every 20 kathas (3/20th) of their land. The word tinkathia comes from “tin” (three) and “katha” (a unit of land). Farmers could not choose what to grow on this portion and were paid meagre, fixed prices by the planters.

**Step 2 — Gandhi’s response:** Gandhi conducted a detailed inquiry, collected farmers’ testimonies, and defied British orders to leave Champaran. The British eventually agreed to an inquiry committee, and the tinkathia system was abolished.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The Permanent Settlement was a revenue system affecting all peasants in Bengal/Bihar; the Champaran grievance was specifically the tinkathia indigo cultivation obligation.
- Option B: The issue was forced cultivation on their own land, not denial of market access.
- Option D: Farmers were not dispossessed of land; they retained their land but were forced to devote part of it to indigo against their will.

**Final Answer:** The tinkathia system forced indigo farmers to grow indigo on a fixed portion of their land at dictated prices. ⇒

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q2](#)



Q3.

**Solution**

**Concept — Civil Disobedience Movement 1930:** Gandhi launched the CDM with the Dandi March (12 March – 6 April 1930), defying the salt tax. This was the opening act, not the whole movement. What followed was far more significant.

**Step 1 — British response and mass participation:** The government arrested Gandhi and tens of thousands of protesters. Boycotts of foreign cloth, picketing of liquor shops, and refusal to pay taxes spread across the country. Congress women's wings played a large role.

**Step 2 — Gandhi-Irwin Pact and Round Table Conference:** Gandhi signed the Gandhi-Irwin Pact (March 1931), agreeing to suspend the movement and attend the Second Round Table Conference in London. He attended in late 1931 but returned without any substantial constitutional gains. The British refused Congress's core demands. The movement was relaunched briefly in 1932 but was ultimately withdrawn.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Dominion Status was not granted in 1930 or as a result of the CDM.
- Option B: Provincial autonomy came only with the Government of India Act 1935, not in 1930.
- Option C: Congress boycotted the first Round Table Conference (1930); Gandhi attended only the second (1931) after the Gandhi-Irwin Pact — not “without conditions.”

**Final Answer:** The CDM was met with mass arrests; Gandhi attended the Second RTC after the Gandhi-Irwin Pact but returned without substantial gains. ⇒ **D**

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q3](#)

Q4.

**Solution**

**Concept — Rowlatt Act 1919:** Officially called the Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act, 1919, it was based on the recommendations of the Rowlatt Committee (chaired by Sir Sidney Rowlatt). It was enacted to suppress political activities and to allow the British to deal with revolutionary conspiracies.

**Step 1 — What the Act allowed:** The Act empowered the colonial government



to arrest and imprison any person suspected of revolutionary or terrorist activity without a trial, without bail, and without any right of appeal. The accused need not even be informed of the charges or evidence against them.

**Step 2 — Indian reaction:** Indians called it the “Black Act.” Gandhi called for a hartal (work stoppage) on 6 April 1919. Protests spread across the country, culminating in the Jallianwala Bagh massacre (April 13, 1919). The Rowlatt Act became a symbol of colonial repression and injustice.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: The Act was about political detention, not trade taxes on merchants.
- Option C: Confiscating the property of Congress supporters was not a provision of the Rowlatt Act.
- Option D: Banishing Indians to remote territories was not a feature of this Act; transportation had been used earlier but was not the Rowlatt Act’s mechanism.

**Final Answer:** The Rowlatt Act allowed detention without trial, bail, or right of appeal for suspected revolutionaries. ⇒ A

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q4](#)

Q5.

### Solution

**Concept — Khilafat Movement 1919–22:** After the First World War, the victorious Allied powers (including Britain) dismembered the Ottoman Empire and threatened to remove the Ottoman Sultan’s role as Caliph (Khalifa) — the supreme spiritual authority of Sunni Muslims worldwide. Indian Muslims saw this as an attack on their faith.

**Step 1 — Why the Caliph mattered:** For Sunni Muslims, the Caliph was the successor to the Prophet and the guardian of holy places. The Ali Brothers (Muhammad Ali and Shaukat Ali) mobilised Indian Muslims to defend the institution of the Caliphate against British interference in the post-war settlement.

**Step 2 — Gandhi’s alliance:** Gandhi saw the Khilafat cause as an opportunity to unite Hindus and Muslims in a joint anti-colonial struggle. By supporting the Khilafat Movement and linking it with his Non-Cooperation campaign (launched 1920), he created a brief but powerful moment of Hindu-Muslim unity against British rule.



**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The Khilafat Movement was specifically about the Ottoman Caliph, not about the Rowlatt Act (which had its own separate protests in 1919).
- Option C: The demand for a separate Muslim homeland (Pakistan) arose much later, primarily in the 1930s–40s with the Muslim League.
- Option D: Demands for reserved legislative seats were a separate communal political question; the Khilafat Movement was about religious authority.

**Final Answer:** Indian Muslims launched the Khilafat Movement to protect the Ottoman Caliph's authority threatened by Britain after WWI; Gandhi allied to build Hindu-Muslim unity. ⇒ **B**

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q5](#)

**Q6.**

**Solution**

**Concept — Colonial Urban Development in Bombay:** The British established three presidency towns — Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras — as centres of trade, administration, and European settlement. Each grew from a small trading post into a major city, with distinctive spatial patterns shaped by colonial power.

**Step 1 — Bombay as a port and presidency town:** Bombay (present-day Mumbai) was a group of seven islands ceded to the British by the Portuguese in 1661. It became the headquarters of the Bombay Presidency. Its deep natural harbour made it an ideal port for trade with Britain, especially for cotton exports.

**Step 2 — White Town and Black Town:** Colonial cities were spatially segregated. Europeans and company officials lived in well-planned areas with wide roads and bungalows (White Town or “Civil Lines”), while the Indian population was crowded into older, denser neighbourhoods (Black Town). This racial geography of space was a deliberate feature of colonial urban planning.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Delhi became the capital of British India only in 1911; Calcutta was the earlier capital and Bombay was never the central administrative capital.
- Option B: British cotton mills were never relocated to India; Indian cotton mills were largely set up by Indian entrepreneurs (e.g., the Tata mills in Bombay).
- Option D: The EIC shifted its western India base from Surat to Bombay in the



1670s, not as a formal “headquarters” shift; this partial fact does not capture Bombay’s growth as a port-city presidency.

**Final Answer:** Bombay grew as a port city and presidency town with a White Town/Black Town spatial segregation under British rule. ⇒

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q6](#)

Q7.

### Solution

**Concept — Government of India Act 1935:** This Act, the longest and most detailed piece of legislation for India by the British Parliament, introduced provincial autonomy (abolishing the system of dyarchy in provinces), created an All-India Federation (which never became operational), and established a bicameral legislature at the centre.

**Step 1 — Provincial elections of 1937:** The provincial autonomy provisions came into force in April 1937, after elections held in early 1937. The Indian National Congress contested on the basis of “office acceptance” policy. It won majorities in seven out of eleven provinces: Madras, Central Provinces, Bihar, Orissa, United Provinces, Bombay, and the North-West Frontier Province.

**Step 2 — Congress governments:** Congress formed governments in these provinces (after initial hesitation about the Governor’s reserve powers). This gave Congress leaders valuable administrative experience, though they resigned in October–November 1939 after India was declared to be at war without consultation.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: The Act did not grant Dominion Status; India remained under British imperial control with the Viceroy retaining emergency powers.
- Option C: The federal provisions of the Act required the Indian princes to sign Instruments of Accession. Most princes were reluctant or unwilling, and the federation never came into operation.
- Option D: The Viceroy retained the power to certify bills and had overriding emergency powers; the British Parliament’s supremacy was not removed.

**Final Answer:** The 1935 Act introduced provincial autonomy; Congress won 7 of 11 provinces in 1937 and formed governments. ⇒

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q7](#)





Q8.

**Solution**

**Concept — Women in the National Movement:** Women participated at every stage of India's freedom struggle — in the Non-Cooperation Movement, Civil Disobedience, and Quit India Movement. Several women rose to national prominence as leaders in their own right.

**Step 1 — Sarojini Naidu:** A poet and nationalist leader, Sarojini Naidu (1879–1949) was the first Indian woman to serve as President of the Indian National Congress, elected at the Kanpur session in 1925. (Annie Besant, a British-born Theosophist, had been INC President in 1917, but she was not Indian-born.)

**Step 2 — Aruna Asaf Ali:** On 9 August 1942, the day the Quit India Movement was launched at Gowalia Tank Maidan (now August Kranti Maidan) in Mumbai, most senior Congress leaders were arrested before they could speak. Aruna Asaf Ali hoisted the Congress flag at the Gowalia Tank meeting, a defiant act of courage that became iconic.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Annie Besant was born in London (of Irish descent) — she was NOT India-born; Sarojini Naidu was the first Indian-born woman INC president.
- Option B: Gandhi was not arrested midway to Dandi; he completed the march and made salt on 6 April 1930. Kasturba did not lead the Dandi March.
- Option C: Women participated actively and prominently in the Quit India Movement; they were not excluded.

**Final Answer:** Sarojini Naidu was the first Indian woman INC President (1925); Aruna Asaf Ali hoisted the Congress flag at Gowalia Tank during Quit India 1942.

⇒ D

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



Q9.

**Solution**

**Concept — Perennial vs Non-Perennial Rivers:** Rivers are classified based on whether they flow year-round or only seasonally. This distinction is closely tied to their sources of water.

**Step 1 — Perennial rivers:** These rivers flow throughout the year. They receive water from two main sources: (i) glacier/snowmelt from the Himalayas during summer and (ii) rainfall during the monsoon season. Examples: the Ganga, Brahmaputra, and Indus. Even in dry summer months, melting Himalayan glaciers keep them flowing.

**Step 2 — Non-perennial (seasonal) rivers:** These depend almost entirely on monsoon rainfall. When the monsoon retreats, their flow diminishes and many dry up completely by summer. Most rivers of the Deccan plateau (peninsular rivers) are non-perennial or have very reduced flow outside monsoon months. Examples: the Mahanadi, Kaveri (partly seasonal), many smaller Deccan rivers.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: This exactly reverses the correct definitions — perennial rivers do NOT dry up in summer.
- Option B: Many Himalayan rivers (Ganga, Brahmaputra) are perennial; not all peninsular rivers are strictly non-perennial (the Kaveri has some year-round flow).
- Option D: Annual discharge of perennial rivers is typically larger than seasonal rivers; the premise of non-perennial rivers carrying more water is false.

**Final Answer:** Perennial rivers flow year-round (glacier + rain fed); non-perennial rivers flow mainly during the monsoon and may dry up in summer.

⇒

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q9](#)



Q10.

**Solution**

**Concept — Traditional Rainwater Harvesting in Rajasthan:** The Thar Desert region has almost no perennial rivers and receives very scarce annual rainfall (less than 300 mm in many areas). Over centuries, communities developed ingenious structures to capture and store every drop of rainwater.

**Step 1 — Kunds and tankas:** A kund (or tanka) is an underground cylindrical cistern, typically plastered inside with lime mortar to prevent seepage and keep the water cool. They are built in the courtyard of a house or in community spaces. Rainwater from rooftops is channelled into the kund through pipes or channels. The stored water is used for drinking during the long dry season and is protected from evaporation and contamination.

**Step 2 — Significance:** In arid Rajasthan, kunds and tankas were (and still are) crucial for household water security. They represent an indigenous technology perfectly adapted to an extreme environment.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Johads are traditional earthen check dams/ponds (surface storage), not underground tanks; they are associated with Haryana and Rajasthan for groundwater recharge and community use, not exclusively for rooftop collection. The description in Option A incorrectly calls them “underground.”
- Option C: The khadin is an earthen embankment system used in western Rajasthan for harvesting surface runoff for agricultural purposes, not for piped city water supply.
- Option D: Bamboo drip irrigation and bamboo pipe rainwater harvesting is a northeastern tradition (Meghalaya, Assam), not a Rajasthan desert tradition.

**Final Answer:** Kunds (tankas) are underground lime-plastered cisterns used in Rajasthan to collect and store rooftop rainwater for drinking. ⇒ **B**

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



Q11.

**Solution**

**Concept — Non-Ferrous Minerals in India:** Ferrous minerals contain iron (iron ore, manganese, chromite). Non-ferrous minerals do not — they include bauxite (aluminium ore), copper, lead, zinc, gold, and silver. India has significant deposits of bauxite and copper.

**Step 1 — Bauxite:** India is one of the world's leading producers of bauxite. Major deposits are in Odisha (Koraput, Kalahandi), Jharkhand (Lohardaga), Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Chhattisgarh. Bauxite is refined to produce alumina, which is then smelted into aluminium — used in aircraft, electrical cables, automobiles, and packaging (aluminium foil, cans).

**Step 2 — Copper:** India's largest copper mine is at Khetri in Rajasthan (operated by Hindustan Copper Limited). Another significant deposit is at Malanjkhand in Madhya Pradesh. Copper is used in electrical wiring, plumbing, coins, and electronics.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: Bauxite is the ore of aluminium, NOT iron. Koderma is famous for mica, not copper; Jharia is a major coalfield, not a copper-mining region.
- Option C: Iron ore, manganese, and chromite are all ferrous or ferro-alloy minerals — they are NOT non-ferrous.
- Option D: Copper deposits are not in Jharia (a coalfield); the Bhilai Steel Plant makes iron and steel, not copper products.

**Final Answer:** Bauxite (aluminium ore) is found in Odisha/Jharkhand; copper is found in Rajasthan/Madhya Pradesh — both are non-ferrous minerals. ⇒ **A**

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q11](#)

Q12.

**Solution**

**Concept — Why Minerals Need Conservation:** Minerals are formed over geological timescales — millions of years of heat, pressure, and chemical reactions beneath the earth's crust. Once extracted and consumed, they cannot be replaced within any human timeframe.

**Step 1 — Non-renewable nature:** Unlike renewable resources (solar energy, wind, water), minerals are finite. Current rates of extraction mean that several im-



portant minerals (copper, zinc, rare earth elements) face depletion within decades to a couple of centuries if used wastefully.

**Step 2 — Conservation strategies:** Wise mineral use involves recycling metals (recycled aluminium requires only 5% of the energy of primary smelting), improving efficiency in mining and processing to reduce waste, substituting scarce minerals with alternatives where possible, and using minerals at sustainable rates.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Minerals do NOT regenerate within decades. Geological processes that form mineral deposits take millions of years — this option is factually incorrect.
- Option B: Conservation is important for all countries; even countries with large reserves face eventual depletion. This option introduces a false distinction.
- Option C: Most minerals (copper, bauxite, manganese) are not energy sources; the conservation argument is not about replacing fossil fuels, it is about the finite nature of mineral stocks themselves.

**Final Answer:** Minerals are non-renewable and took millions of years to form; conservation through recycling and efficient use ensures availability for future generations. ⇒ D

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

**Q13.**

### Solution

**Concept — SAIL Plants and Foreign Collaboration:** After independence, India set up integrated iron and steel plants in the public sector with foreign technical and financial assistance under the Second Five-Year Plan (1956–61). These plants became the backbone of India's heavy industry.

**Step 1 — The three SAIL plants and their collaborations:**

- Bhilai Steel Plant, Chhattisgarh — USSR (Soviet Union) collaboration (established 1959)
- Rourkela Steel Plant, Odisha — West Germany collaboration (established 1959)
- Durgapur Steel Plant, West Bengal — United Kingdom (British) collaboration (established 1962)



**Step 2 — All are SAIL plants:** All three are today operated under Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), a public-sector enterprise under the Government of India.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: TISCO (Tata Iron and Steel Company, now Tata Steel) is a private-sector enterprise located in Jamshedpur (Jharkhand), not in Bhilai; it was founded in 1907 with no Soviet involvement.
- Option B: Rourkela is in Odisha (not West Bengal); West Bengal is the location of Durgapur.
- Option D: SAIL's headquarters are in New Delhi; Vizag Steel Plant (in Andhra Pradesh) is run by RINL (Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited) — a separate public-sector entity, not SAIL.

**Final Answer:** Bhilai (Soviet), Rourkela (West German), and Durgapur (British) — all three are SAIL plants established with foreign collaboration in the 1950s–60s. ⇒

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q13](#)

Q14.

### Solution

**Concept — Petrochemical Industry in India:** Petrochemicals are chemicals derived from petroleum (crude oil) and natural gas. They are the raw materials for a vast range of modern products — synthetic fibres (nylon, polyester), plastics, synthetic rubber, fertilizers (urea, ammonia), detergents, and medicines.

**Step 1 — Major petrochemical centres:** India's petrochemical industry is concentrated in western India, close to refineries and oil/gas sources.

- Mumbai region: ONGC's operations at Uran and nearby units feed petrochemical feedstocks; Reliance Industries has a massive petrochemical complex at Jamnagar/Hazira.
- Vadodara, Gujarat: The Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL, now merged with Reliance) was one of India's pioneering petrochemical companies at Vadodara (Baroda).

**Step 2 — Products:** These complexes produce polyester fibres, polypropylene, PVC (plastics), synthetic rubber, ethylene, nitrogenous fertilizers (using natural gas), and industrial chemicals.

**Why other options are wrong:**



- Option A: Kochi has a major refinery (Kochi Refineries) but is not the home of India's largest petrochemical complex; edible oils are not petrochemical products — they are agricultural/food products.
- Option C: While Assam and Tripura have oil fields, the major petrochemical complexes are in Gujarat and Maharashtra, not exclusively the northeast.
- Option D: ONGC and IPCL (formerly) were government-owned companies; the sector is a mix of public and private, not entirely private.

**Final Answer:** Major petrochemical complexes are at Mumbai and Vadodara, producing synthetic fibres, plastics, fertilizers, and synthetic rubber. ⇒ **B**

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

Q15.

### Solution

**Concept — National Highways of India:** National Highways (NHs) connect major cities, state capitals, ports, and strategic border regions. They are built and maintained by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. India has one of the largest road networks in the world.

**Step 1 — NH 44:** After the renumbering of national highways in 2010–2013, NH 44 (old NH 7 merged with several others) became India's longest National Highway. It runs from Srinagar (J&K) in the north to Kanyakumari (Tamil Nadu) in the south, passing through Jalandhar, Delhi, Agra, Nagpur, Hyderabad, and Bangalore. Its length is approximately 3,745 km.

**Step 2 — NHAI:** The National Highway Authority of India was established by the NHAI Act 1988 (not in 1947). It is responsible for development, maintenance, and management of NHs assigned to it.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: NHAI was established in 1988 under the NHAI Act, not in 1947 immediately after independence.
- Option C: National Highways are the responsibility of the central government (NHAI/Ministry); state PWDs maintain State Highways, not National Highways.
- Option D: The United States has the world's largest highway network; India's NH network, though large, does not surpass the USA or China in total length.

**Final Answer:** NH 44 runs from Srinagar to Kanyakumari (approximately 3,745



km) and is India's longest National Highway.  $\Rightarrow$

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q15](#)

Q16.

### Solution

**Concept — National Waterways of India:** India has a vast network of rivers, canals, and backwaters that can be used for inland water transport. The government has declared several routes as National Waterways (NWs) to promote this low-cost, fuel-efficient mode of freight and passenger movement.

**Step 1 — National Waterway 1 (NW1):** NW1 runs along the Ganga–Bhagirathi–Hooghly river system from Prayagraj (Allahabad) in Uttar Pradesh to Haldia in West Bengal, covering approximately 1,620 km. This was declared India's first National Waterway in 1986.

**Step 2 — National Waterway 2 (NW2):** NW2 runs along the Brahmaputra river from Sadiya in eastern Assam to Dhubri in western Assam (near the Bangladesh border), covering approximately 891 km. Declared in 1988.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: NW1 is on the Ganga (not Godavari); the Godavari waterway is a different, separately declared waterway.
- Option B: National Waterways are inland waterways (rivers and canals), not coastal shipping lanes; coastal shipping is a separate category.
- Option C: NW1 runs in eastern India (UP/West Bengal), not from Mumbai to Goa; the western coast is served by separate waterways.

**Final Answer:** NW1 runs along the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly (Allahabad to Haldia); NW2 runs along the Brahmaputra (Sadiya to Dhubri, Assam).  $\Rightarrow$

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





Q17.

**Solution**

**Concept — Money Bills and Parliament:** A Money Bill is a bill that deals exclusively with financial matters: taxation, government borrowing, appropriation of funds, the Consolidated Fund of India, etc. Its passage is governed by a special procedure under Article 110 of the Indian Constitution.

**Step 1 — Where Money Bills originate:** A Money Bill can ONLY be introduced in the Lok Sabha (the directly elected lower house). It cannot be introduced in the Rajya Sabha. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha certifies whether a bill is a Money Bill.

**Step 2 — Role of Rajya Sabha:** After the Lok Sabha passes a Money Bill, it is sent to the Rajya Sabha. The Rajya Sabha can only make recommendations — it CANNOT amend or reject the bill. If the Rajya Sabha does not return the bill within 14 days, it is deemed to have been passed by both Houses. The Lok Sabha may accept or reject the Rajya Sabha's recommendations. This gives the Lok Sabha (and by extension, the elected government) final authority over financial legislation.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: A Money Bill CANNOT be introduced in the Rajya Sabha; the 14-day limit is correct but the premise of the question is wrong (introduction in Rajya Sabha is not permitted).
- Option C: The President's recommendation (not signature) is required before introduction; this is for bills involving expenditure. The framing in Option C is inaccurate and misleading.
- Option D: The Rajya Sabha does NOT have equal power over Money Bills; a joint sitting is not convened for Money Bills.

**Final Answer:** A Money Bill is introduced only in the Lok Sabha; the Rajya Sabha can only delay it for 14 days and cannot reject it. ⇒ **B**

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q17](#)



Q18.

**Solution**

**Concept — Bhopal Gas Tragedy 1984:** On the night of 2–3 December 1984, the Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) pesticide factory in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, leaked methyl isocyanate (MIC) — a highly toxic industrial gas. It was caused by water accidentally entering a storage tank containing MIC, triggering a runaway chemical reaction.

**Step 1 — Scale of the disaster:** Over 3,000 people died immediately, with estimates of eventual deaths ranging from 15,000 to 20,000. Hundreds of thousands suffered permanent lung, eye, and neurological damage. It remains the world's worst industrial chemical disaster.

**Step 2 — Justice and criticism:** Union Carbide, the American parent company, paid a settlement of \$470 million to the Indian government in 1989 — widely criticised as grossly inadequate. Warren Anderson, the then-chairman of Union Carbide, was declared an absconder by Indian courts after being allowed to leave India. Survivors have continued to seek justice for decades. The incident accelerated the enactment of the Environment Protection Act 1986.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The gas was methyl isocyanate (MIC), not sulphur dioxide; the plant was privately owned by the American company Union Carbide, not a government power plant.
- Option B: The company was Union Carbide, not Hindustan Organic Chemicals; the government was criticised, not praised, for the settlement.
- Option D: Indian courts found evidence of negligence, not deliberate sabotage; and Union Carbide executives were not successfully prosecuted in international courts.

**Final Answer:** Union Carbide's Bhopal plant leaked methyl isocyanate gas in December 1984; the government's response was criticised for an inadequate settlement and allowing Union Carbide's chairman to leave India. ⇒ C

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q18](#)



Q19.

**Solution**

**Concept — Environment Protection Act 1986:** The Bhopal disaster exposed a critical gap in India's legal framework: there was no comprehensive central law to protect the environment and hold polluters accountable. The EPA 1986 was enacted to fill this gap, just two years after the disaster.

**Step 1 — Key provisions:** The EPA 1986 empowers the central government to take all measures necessary to protect and improve the quality of the environment. It covers air, water, land, and noise pollution. It establishes the principle of strict liability — industries that release hazardous substances are liable for damage caused, regardless of intent or negligence.

**Step 2 — Penalties:** The Act prescribes imprisonment of up to five years or a fine up to one lakh rupees (or both) for violating environmental standards. It authorises the government to issue directions to close or regulate any industry causing pollution.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Wildlife protection falls under the Wildlife Protection Act 1972, not the EPA 1986; the EPA covers all environmental media, not just forests.
- Option B: Single-use plastic bans were introduced much later (various state laws and a central notification in 2022); the EPA 1986 does not specifically ban plastics.
- Option C: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was established under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010, enacted 24 years after EPA 1986.

**Final Answer:** Enacted after Bhopal, the EPA 1986 gives the central government broad environmental protection powers, establishes strict liability for industries, and sets penalties for polluters. ⇒ D

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q19](#)



Q20.

**Solution**

**Concept — RTI Act 2005 and Anti-Corruption Transparency:** The Right to Information Act 2005 gives every Indian citizen the right to request information from any public authority (central or state government, local bodies, public-sector institutions). It was a landmark law to promote government accountability and expose corruption.

**Step 1 — How RTI fights corruption:** If a citizen suspects that a government office is misusing funds, delaying approvals for bribes, or making biased decisions, they can file an RTI application asking for specific records, files, decisions, or expenditure statements. The public authority must respond within 30 days (or 48 hours for life-and-liberty matters).

**Step 2 — Consequences of non-compliance:** If information is denied without legal justification, the applicant can appeal to the First Appellate Authority and then to the Central or State Information Commissioner. Public officials who wrongfully withhold information face a penalty of up to Rs. 250 per day.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: The RTI Act is about accessing information from government bodies, not about voting rights or election re-runs — those are governed by the Representation of the People Act.
- Option C: Any Indian citizen can file an RTI application; it is not restricted to journalists. No court petition is required.
- Option D: Section 4 of the RTI Act does require proactive disclosure of certain information, but citizens must still file applications for specific information not proactively published. Automatic full disclosure of all government records is not mandated.

**Final Answer:** Any citizen can seek government information under RTI to expose corruption; authorities must respond within 30 days or face penalties. ⇒ A

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q20](#)



Q21.

**Solution**

**Concept — Bailable and Non-Bailable Offences:** Under the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), offences are listed in the First Schedule as either bailable or non-bailable. This classification determines who has the right to bail and who can grant it.

**Step 1 — Bailable offences:** These are generally less serious offences (e.g., public nuisance, minor assault, cheating below a threshold). The accused has a statutory right to be released on bail. The police officer-in-charge of a police station can grant bail even before the accused is produced before a magistrate.

**Step 2 — Non-bailable offences:** These include serious crimes (murder, kidnapping, robbery, dacoity, rape). The accused does NOT have a right to bail — bail is at the discretion of the magistrate or court. The court considers factors like the nature of the offence, criminal antecedents, and risk of absconding before deciding whether to grant bail.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: In bailable offences, the police (not Sessions Court) can grant bail; in non-bailable offences, a magistrate exercises discretion (not “without conditions”).
- Option C: Many IPC offences are non-bailable (e.g., murder under Section 302, dacoity under Section 395); the bailable/non-bailable distinction applies throughout the CrPC, not just to special laws.
- Option D: Even in non-bailable offences, bail can be granted by courts under appropriate conditions; it is incorrect to say bail is never possible.

**Final Answer:** In bailable offences, bail is a right and police can grant it; in non-bailable offences, bail is discretionary and only a magistrate or court can grant it.

⇒ **B**

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q21](#)



Q22.

**Solution**

**Concept — Dowry Prohibition Act 1961:** The practice of dowry — giving money, property, or goods by the bride's family to the groom's family — was widespread in India and often led to harassment, cruelty, and even murder of brides whose families could not meet demands. The Dowry Prohibition Act 1961 was the first central law to address this.

**Step 1 — What it prohibits:** The Act makes it illegal to give, take, or demand dowry. Both the giver and the taker are liable. The Act applies to all communities and all forms of marriage — it is not restricted to any single religion.

**Step 2 — Punishment and amendments:** Originally, the penalties were mild. After a sharp rise in dowry-related deaths ("bride burning") in the 1980s, the Act was strengthened through amendments and complementary legislation. The Dowry Prohibition (Amendment) Act 1983 and 1986 increased punishments. Section 498A IPC (added in 1983) made cruelty by husband or relatives a cognisable and non-bailable offence. Imprisonment under the amended Act can extend up to five years with a fine.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The Act does impose criminal punishment (imprisonment), not merely a civil fine; voluntary gifts at marriage are regulated under the Act (they must be listed and become the bride's property, not the husband's family's property).
- Option B: The Act applies to all religious communities in India, not just Hindus.
- Option D: Under the Act, any property given as dowry is for the benefit of the wife (stridhan); it does not become the permanent property of the husband's family.

**Final Answer:** The Dowry Prohibition Act 1961 bans giving and taking dowry, prescribes imprisonment up to five years, and was strengthened in the 1980s after a rise in dowry deaths. ⇒

**Answer: (C)**

[Go Back to Q22](#)



Q23.

**Solution**

**Concept — Why MNCs Invest in Developing Countries:** Multinational corporations are driven primarily by the goal of maximising profit. To do so, they seek the most cost-effective locations for production, sourcing, and sales.

**Step 1 — Cheap labour:** Wages in developing countries are a fraction of those in developed countries. A factory worker in India, Bangladesh, or Vietnam may earn in a day what a European or American worker earns in an hour. This dramatically lowers production costs for labour-intensive industries such as textiles, electronics assembly, and call centres.

**Step 2 — Raw materials and markets:** Developing countries often have abundant natural resources (minerals, agricultural produce) that MNCs need. Additionally, countries like India and China have enormous and growing consumer markets of hundreds of millions of people. Producing near the market also reduces transport and import costs.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: While some “pollution haven” cases exist, this is a secondary and contested reason; the primary driver is cost reduction through cheap labour and resources. Many developing countries do have environmental regulations, even if enforcement varies.
- Option C: Developed countries typically have superior technology infrastructure; developing countries’ appeal is lower costs, not better technology.
- Option D: MNCs are profit-driven entities. CSR obligations may influence their public image but are never the primary reason for setting up production in another country.

**Final Answer:** MNCs invest in developing countries for cheap labour, raw materials, and large consumer markets — all of which increase profitability. ⇒ A

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q23](#)



Q24.

**Solution**

**Concept — Globalisation and Informal Workers:** India's informal (unorganised) sector employs over 90% of the workforce — including domestic workers, construction labourers, street vendors, home-based piece-rate workers, and seasonal agricultural workers. These workers have no written contracts, no job security, no minimum wage guarantee, and no social security benefits in most cases.

**Step 1 — Pressure from globalisation:** As global competition intensifies, companies (including Indian ones) are under constant pressure to reduce costs. One way they do this is by replacing permanent workers with contract or casual workers in the informal sector, who can be hired and fired easily, paid less, and denied benefits.

**Step 2 — Impact on workers:** Informal workers face increased job insecurity, stagnant or falling real wages, longer working hours, and loss of whatever minimal protections existed earlier. The threat of being replaced by even cheaper labour (domestic or foreign) keeps workers in a weak bargaining position.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Globalisation has NOT ensured minimum wages or health insurance for informal workers; in fact, labour market “flexibility” promoted by global competitiveness has often eroded these protections.
- Option B: While e-commerce platforms do help some artisans, most informal workers are not artisans and cannot directly access global markets; the digital divide limits this.
- Option C: India's informal sector has NOT shrunk significantly; it continues to account for the majority of employment. The formal sector has grown but not absorbed the informal workforce.

**Final Answer:** Globalisation has increased job insecurity and wage cuts for informal workers, who face pressure to accept flexible contracts with fewer benefits.

⇒

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q24](#)





Q25.

**Solution**

**Concept — Filing a Consumer Complaint under COPRA:** The Consumer Protection Act (COPRA) 1986 established a three-tier quasi-judicial redressal system: District Consumer Forum (disputes up to Rs. 20 lakh), State Consumer Commission (Rs. 20 lakh – Rs. 1 crore), and the National Consumer Commission (above Rs. 1 crore). The system was deliberately designed to be accessible and affordable.

**Step 1 — No lawyer needed:** One of the key features of consumer courts is that consumers can appear without engaging a lawyer. This makes the system accessible to ordinary citizens who cannot afford legal fees for small disputes.

**Step 2 — What to include and time taken:** The written complaint should state the facts of the case, include documents proving the purchase (cash memo, bill, warranty card, delivery receipt), describe the defect or unfair practice, and specify the relief sought (replacement, refund, compensation). Cases not requiring product testing are expected to be resolved within 90 days of filing.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: No lawyer is required and no police NOC is needed; consumer courts are designed to be directly accessible to ordinary citizens.
- Option C: Individual consumers can file directly without organisational support; consumer organisations can also file on behalf of individuals, but this is an additional option, not a requirement.
- Option D: Consumer courts handle complaints against all sellers and service providers — private companies, retailers, service providers, and public-sector entities — not only the government.

**Final Answer:** Any consumer can file a written complaint at the District Forum without a lawyer, attaching purchase evidence; the Forum resolves it generally within 90 days. ⇒ **B**

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q25](#)



**Answer Key**

| Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans |
|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|
| 1  | B   | 2  | C   | 3  | D   | 4  | A   | 5  | B   |
| 6  | C   | 7  | A   | 8  | D   | 9  | C   | 10 | B   |
| 11 | A   | 12 | D   | 13 | C   | 14 | B   | 15 | A   |
| 16 | D   | 17 | B   | 18 | C   | 19 | D   | 20 | A   |
| 21 | B   | 22 | C   | 23 | A   | 24 | D   | 25 | B   |

