

AILET Current Affairs & General Knowledge

Sample Paper – 1

Duration: 21 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 35

Instructions

- This paper contains **35** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the Current Affairs & General Knowledge portion of **AILET** entrance.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is a **deduction of 0.25 marks per wrong answer**. **Unattempted questions carry no penalty**.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose carefully.
- Syllabus level: **National and international current affairs (last 18 months); Indian Polity and Constitution; Geography; Economy; Science and Technology; Sports and Awards**.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

Q1. The PM SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages Abadi and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas) scheme primarily aims to:

- (A) Map rural inhabited (abadi) land using drones and issue property rights documents (“rights cards”) to rural households
- (B) Provide subsidised housing to urban slum dwellers under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)
- (C) Connect all gram panchayats with high-speed optical fibre under the BharatNet programme
- (D) Distribute Kisan Credit Cards to marginal and small farmers in rural areas

Q2. India’s first dedicated solar observation spacecraft, Aditya-L1, achieved



a landmark milestone in January 2024. Which of the following correctly describes this milestone?

- (A) It successfully performed a soft landing on the solar corona surface
- (B) It was successfully inserted into a halo orbit around the Sun–Earth Lagrangian Point 1 (L1) on January 6, 2024
- (C) It captured the first-ever images of the far side of the Moon from a distance of 1.5 million km
- (D) It became the first Indian spacecraft to cross the orbit of Mars

Q3. Which of the following statements about the Union Budget 2025–26, presented on February 1, 2025, is CORRECT?

- (A) The budget was presented by Finance Minister Piyush Goyal; it was his seventh consecutive budget presentation
- (B) India's fiscal deficit target for 2025–26 was set at 6.4% of GDP, unchanged from the revised estimate for 2024–25
- (C) The capital expenditure outlay was fixed at Rs. 11.21 lakh crore in pursuit of the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision
- (D) The personal income tax exemption limit under the new tax regime was retained at Rs. 5 lakh per annum

Q4. The Supreme Court of India struck down the Electoral Bonds Scheme in February 2024. Which of the following statements about this landmark judgment is CORRECT?

- (A) A two-judge bench upheld the scheme, holding that donor anonymity was protected as a fundamental right
- (B) Justice Sanjiv Khanna led a three-judge bench that partially struck down the scheme while retaining anonymity provisions
- (C) The matter was referred to a larger seven-judge Constitution Bench for further deliberation



- (D) A five-judge Constitution Bench led by Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud unanimously struck down the scheme, holding it violated voters' right to information under Article 19(1)(a)

Q5. Three new criminal laws – the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) – came into effect on:

- (A) July 1, 2024, replacing the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), and the Indian Evidence Act, respectively
- (B) January 26, 2024, replacing the IPC, the CrPC, and the Official Secrets Act, respectively
- (C) August 15, 2024, as a tribute on India's 78th Independence Day
- (D) April 1, 2024, coinciding with the commencement of the new financial year

Q6. Operation Sindoor, launched by India's armed forces in May 2025, was a direct response to:

- (A) Chinese military incursions along the Line of Actual Control in the Depsang Plains, Ladakh
- (B) The Pahalgam terror attack in Jammu & Kashmir; Indian forces conducted precision strikes on terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir
- (C) Pakistan's unilateral suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, triggering a cross-border military response
- (D) Drone attacks on Indian oil refineries in Gujarat and Rajasthan in April 2025

Q7. The High-Level Committee on "One Nation, One Election," chaired by former President Ram Nath Kovind, submitted its report in 2024. Which of the following best describes its primary recommendation?



- (A) Simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha and all state assemblies should be held from the 2024 general election onwards, without requiring any constitutional amendment
- (B) The President of India should be empowered to dissolve all state assemblies simultaneously whenever the Lok Sabha is dissolved mid-term
- (C) Simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha and all state legislative assemblies should be implemented in two phases – requiring constitutional amendments – with local body elections to follow within 100 days
- (D) Rajya Sabha should be abolished to reduce election costs, with its functions merged into an expanded Lok Sabha

Q8. The PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, launched in February 2024, is primarily aimed at:

- (A) Installing rooftop solar panels to provide up to 300 units of free electricity per month to 1 crore households across India
- (B) Providing 24×7 uninterrupted power supply to all Below Poverty Line (BPL) households through smart grid technology
- (C) Setting up 500 grid-scale solar power parks of 10 MW capacity each in semi-arid rural regions
- (D) Distributing free LPG connections to all households in aspirational districts under the Ujjwala 3.0 scheme

Q9. Who was the Chief Guest at India's 76th Republic Day celebrations held on January 26, 2025?

- (A) Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates
- (B) Prabowo Subianto, President of Indonesia
- (C) Emmanuel Macron, President of France
- (D) Cyril Ramaphosa, President of South Africa



- Q10.** The Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023, related to Women's Reservation, provides for:
- (A) Immediate reservation of 33% seats for women in Lok Sabha and all state legislative assemblies from the next general election after the Act's enactment
 - (B) Reservation of 50% seats for women in Rajya Sabha, effective from the 2024 Rajya Sabha elections
 - (C) Reservation of one-third of seats for women in Lok Sabha and state assemblies, to take effect only after the first delimitation exercise following the census conducted after the Act's commencement
 - (D) Reservation of 25% seats for women in urban local bodies and gram panchayats across all states
- Q11.** Article 324 of the Indian Constitution vests superintendence, direction, and control over the preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of elections to Parliament, state legislatures, and the offices of the President and Vice-President in:
- (A) The Ministry of Law and Justice of the Central Government
 - (B) The Parliament, which may delegate this power to a statutory Delimitation Commission
 - (C) The Chief Election Commissioner alone, whose decisions are binding on all other commissioners
 - (D) The Election Commission of India
- Q12.** Who was appointed as the Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission of India?
- (A) Dr. Arvind Panagariya, former Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog
 - (B) Dr. Urjit Patel, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India
 - (C) Dr. Vijay Kelkar, former Finance Secretary and Chairman of the 13th Finance Commission



(D) Dr. Raghuram Rajan, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India and former Chief Economist of the IMF

Q13. The original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India under Article 131 of the Constitution extends to:

- (A) Disputes between a citizen of India and a foreign national permanently residing in India
- (B) Disputes between the Government of India and one or more states, or between two or more states
- (C) Disputes between a High Court and the State Government regarding judicial appointments
- (D) All disputes where the constitutional validity of a central or state law is directly challenged

Q14. Article 44 of the Indian Constitution, which directs the State to endeavour to secure a Uniform Civil Code for citizens, falls under which category of constitutional provisions?

- (A) A Fundamental Right under Part III, enforceable in any court of law in India
- (B) A Fundamental Duty under Part IV-A, constituting a binding obligation on every citizen
- (C) A Directive Principle of State Policy under Part IV, not enforceable in any court but fundamental to governance
- (D) A provision under the Concurrent List (Seventh Schedule) requiring central legislation for implementation

Q15. The G20 Summit in 2024 was held under which country's presidency, and in which city?

- (A) South Africa; Johannesburg
- (B) India; New Delhi (a second Indian presidency continued from 2023)
- (C) Italy; Rome



(D) Brazil; Rio de Janeiro

Q16. The India–Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) is notable primarily because:

- (A) It was the first Free Trade Agreement signed by India with a developed economy in over a decade, providing duty-free access for the majority of Indian goods exported to Australia
- (B) It established a joint India–Australia defence manufacturing corridor in the Indo-Pacific region
- (C) It set up a bilateral currency swap arrangement between the RBI and the Reserve Bank of Australia worth AUD 10 billion
- (D) It provided for 100% duty-free access for all Australian agricultural products into India immediately upon signing

Q17. The 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was held in November 2024 in:

- (A) Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- (B) Baku, Azerbaijan
- (C) Cairo, Egypt
- (D) Nairobi, Kenya

Q18. Which of the following statements about India’s engagement with the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in 2024–25 is CORRECT?

- (A) India has been a permanent member of the UNSC since 1963 under a reformed UN Charter
- (B) India has never held a seat as a non-permanent member of the UNSC
- (C) India has served as a non-permanent member of the UNSC for eight terms, most recently in 2021–22, and has consistently advocated for comprehensive UNSC reforms including expansion of permanent membership



(D) India's bid for a permanent UNSC seat was formally approved with the unanimous consent of all P5 nations in 2024

Q19. At the BRICS Summit held in Kazan, Russia in October 2024, which group of countries participated as newly admitted full members?

- (A) Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates
- (B) Saudi Arabia, Argentina, Nigeria, and Turkey
- (C) Indonesia, Vietnam, Bangladesh, and Pakistan
- (D) Mexico, Algeria, Kazakhstan, and Cuba

Q20. At the Paris Olympics 2024, India's total medal tally was 6 medals (1 silver and 5 bronze). Which Indian athlete won the silver medal?

- (A) P.V. Sindhu in Badminton (Women's Singles)
- (B) Manu Bhaker in 10m Air Pistol (Women's, individual event)
- (C) Lakshya Sen in Badminton (Men's Singles)
- (D) Neeraj Chopra in Athletics (Men's Javelin Throw)

Q21. India won the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 by defeating South Africa in the final. Which of the following statements about this tournament is CORRECT?

- (A) Rohit Sharma announced his retirement from T20 International cricket after India's victory; the final was played at Kensington Oval, Barbados
- (B) Virat Kohli led India as captain throughout the tournament and was the tournament's top run-scorer overall
- (C) The tournament was hosted entirely in England and Wales across six venues
- (D) India defeated Australia in the semifinal and England in the final to win the title



- Q22.** At the 45th Chess Olympiad held in Budapest, Hungary in 2024, India achieved a historic milestone by:
- (A) Winning the gold medal in the Open category only; the women's team finished second behind China
 - (B) Winning gold medals in both the Open (men's) and Women's team events simultaneously for the first time in India's history
 - (C) Finishing second (silver) in both the Open and Women's categories, behind China in both
 - (D) Winning silver in the Open category and bronze in the Women's category
- Q23.** Jyothi Yarraji, who received the Arjuna Award in 2024, is a national record-holder associated with which sport?
- (A) Weightlifting
 - (B) Wrestling (freestyle)
 - (C) Athletics (100 metres hurdles)
 - (D) Shooting (10m air rifle)
- Q24.** The Nobel Peace Prize 2024 was awarded to:
- (A) Greta Thunberg, Swedish climate activist, for her role in mobilising global youth-led climate action
 - (B) The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), for protecting displaced persons worldwide
 - (C) Narges Mohammadi, Iranian human rights activist, for her fight against oppression of women in Iran
 - (D) Nihon Hidankyo, a Japanese organisation of atomic bomb survivors (hibakusha), for its decades-long efforts towards a world free of nuclear weapons
- Q25.** The Nobel Prize in Physics 2024 was awarded jointly to Geoffrey Hinton and John J. Hopfield for:



- (A) Foundational discoveries and inventions that enable machine learning with artificial neural networks
- (B) The first direct detection of gravitational waves using the LIGO interferometer
- (C) The development of quantum error-correction algorithms for fault-tolerant quantum computing
- (D) The theoretical prediction and experimental confirmation of the Higgs boson at the Large Hadron Collider

Q26. Justice Sanjiv Khanna was sworn in as the 51st Chief Justice of India on November 11, 2024. He succeeded which Chief Justice?

- (A) Justice U.U. Lalit
- (B) Justice D.Y. Chandrachud
- (C) Justice N.V. Ramana
- (D) Justice S.A. Bobde

Q27. The Pragyan rover of India's Chandrayaan-3 mission, which landed near the lunar south pole on August 23, 2023, confirmed the in-situ presence of which element on the lunar surface – a finding of major scientific significance?

- (A) Helium-3, potentially useful as fuel for future nuclear fusion reactors
- (B) Liquid water, indicating the possibility of a future habitable lunar environment
- (C) Sulphur (S), along with other elements such as aluminium, iron, calcium, chromium, titanium, manganese, oxygen, and silicon
- (D) Methane gas, suggesting the presence of ancient organic compounds on the Moon

Q28. The Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT) onboard India's Aditya-L1 spacecraft made a notable scientific observation in 2024. Which of the following best describes this?



- (A) It captured the first direct image of a supermassive black hole at the centre of the Andromeda galaxy
- (B) It detected a new class of repeating X-ray bursts from a neutron star in the Milky Way
- (C) It confirmed the existence of a previously unknown subsurface magnetic field layer beneath the solar photosphere
- (D) It captured the first full-disc images of the Sun in near-ultraviolet wavelengths and observed solar flare and sunspot activity

Q29. India's first indigenously developed quantum computer (a superconducting quantum processor) was reported to have been developed by which institution?

- (A) Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore
- (B) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay
- (C) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai
- (D) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Hyderabad

Q30. GSAT-20 (also designated GSAT-N2), India's heaviest communication satellite at the time of launch, was launched in November 2024. Which launch vehicle was used?

- (A) ISRO's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mk III (LVM3)
- (B) SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket – the first time ISRO used a foreign commercial launcher for a heavyweight communication satellite
- (C) Arianespace's Ariane 5 rocket from the Kourou launch site in French Guiana
- (D) India's Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV), which made its commercial debut for this mission

Q31. As per international rankings in 2024, India consolidated its position as the world's 5th largest economy by nominal GDP, having overtaken which country?



- (A) Germany
- (B) Japan
- (C) United Kingdom
- (D) France

Q32. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reduced the policy repo rate for the first time in approximately five years. In which Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting was this rate cut announced?

- (A) August 2024 MPC meeting
- (B) October 2024 MPC meeting
- (C) December 2024 MPC meeting
- (D) February 2025 MPC meeting

Q33. The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, launched by the Government of India to boost domestic manufacturing and reduce import dependence, covers how many key sectors with a total financial outlay of approximately Rs. 1.97 lakh crore?

- (A) 7 sectors
- (B) 9 sectors
- (C) 11 sectors
- (D) 13 sectors

Q34. India achieved a major conservation milestone by crossing 75 Ramsar-designated wetland sites. Which of the following statements about India's Ramsar sites is CORRECT?

- (A) India has the highest number of Ramsar sites in the world, surpassing the United Kingdom and France
- (B) India has the highest number of Ramsar sites in Asia, and Tamil Nadu is the state with the most Ramsar sites within India



- (C) India's first Ramsar site was Chilika Lake in Odisha, designated as recently as 2022
- (D) The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands was originally signed in a city located in Rajasthan, India

Q35. India's first officially designated Dark Sky Reserve was established to protect pristine astronomical observation conditions from light pollution. Where is it located?

- (A) Spiti Valley, Himachal Pradesh
- (B) Nubra Valley, Ladakh
- (C) Hanle, in the Changthang region of Ladakh
- (D) Pangong Lake area, Eastern Ladakh



Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Concept — PM SVAMITVA Scheme: SVAMITVA stands for **Survey of Villages Abadi and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas**. Launched on National Panchayati Raj Day (April 24, 2020) by PM Narendra Modi, the scheme uses **drone technology** to demarcate the inhabited (abadi) land in rural villages. The survey is conducted by the Survey of India in collaboration with state revenue departments and gram panchayats.

Step 1 — Objective and Benefits: The scheme provides legal property rights documents – known as *property cards* or *adhikar abhilekh* – to rural homeowners. These documents help resolve long-standing property disputes, enable monetisation of rural assets (by allowing property as collateral for loans), and improve delivery of government welfare benefits to rural households.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): PM Awas Yojana (Urban) is a separate housing construction scheme for urban slum dwellers; SVAMITVA deals with rural property rights mapping, not housing.
- Option (C): BharatNet is an optical fibre connectivity programme for gram panchayats; it is entirely unrelated to drone mapping of rural land.
- Option (D): Kisan Credit Cards are a credit delivery mechanism for farmers for agricultural inputs; this is a banking scheme unrelated to property rights mapping.

Final Answer: PM SVAMITVA maps rural habitation land via drones and issues property rights documents to rural households. ⇒ A

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

Q2.

Solution

Concept — Aditya-L1 Mission: Aditya-L1 is India's first dedicated solar observatory mission, launched by ISRO on **September 2, 2023**, using the PSLV-C57 rocket. It was designed to study the Sun's corona, chromosphere, photosphere, solar wind, and space weather from a vantage point at the first Sun–Earth Lagrangian Point (L1), approximately 1.5 million km from Earth.



Step 1 — L1 Halo Orbit Insertion: After a journey of approximately 127 days involving several Earth-bound manoeuvres and a trans-Lagrangian injection, Aditya-L1 was successfully inserted into its designated **halo orbit around L1 on January 6, 2024**. This made India the fourth space agency (after NASA, ESA, and China) to place a spacecraft in the L1 orbit. From L1, the spacecraft can continuously observe the Sun without any eclipse or occultation.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): No spacecraft has landed on the Sun or its corona; the temperatures (millions of degrees Celsius) make this impossible. Aditya-L1 is an orbiting observatory, not a solar lander.
- Option (C): Aditya-L1 is a solar observatory; it does not study or image the Moon. Lunar imaging is the domain of Chandrayaan missions.
- Option (D): Aditya-L1 remains in the inner solar system at the L1 point; it has not exited the solar system.

Final Answer: Aditya-L1 was successfully inserted into its L1 halo orbit around the Sun on January 6, 2024. ⇒ **B**

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

Q3.

Solution

Concept — Union Budget 2025–26: The Union Budget 2025–26 was presented by Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** on February 1, 2025 – her eighth consecutive budget and a record for any Finance Minister in Indian history. The budget was framed around the **Viksit Bharat 2047** vision, targeting India to become a developed nation by its centenary of independence.

Step 1 — Key Budgetary Allocations:

- Capital expenditure: Rs. 11.21 lakh crore (approx. 3.1% of GDP), sustaining India's infrastructure investment push.
- Fiscal deficit target: **4.4%** of GDP for 2025–26.
- Personal income tax exemption under the new regime: raised to **Rs. 12 lakh** per annum (from Rs. 7 lakh), a major relief for the middle class.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): The budget was presented by Nirmala Sitharaman, not Piyush Goyal. Goyal had only presented the interim budget in 2019.



- Option (B): The fiscal deficit target for 2025–26 was 4.4% of GDP, not 6.4%. The 6.4% figure was the pandemic-era deficit of 2020–21.
- Option (D): The exemption limit was raised to Rs. 12 lakh (new regime), not retained at Rs. 5 lakh.

Final Answer: The capital expenditure outlay for Union Budget 2025–26 was Rs. 11.21 lakh crore, aligned with the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision. ⇒ **C**

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

Q4.

Solution

Concept — Electoral Bonds Scheme and Supreme Court Ruling: The Electoral Bonds Scheme was introduced in 2018 to allow anonymous donations to political parties via bonds purchased from the State Bank of India. It was challenged before the Supreme Court on the grounds that anonymous political funding violated citizens' right to information.

Step 1 — The February 2024 Judgment: On February 15, 2024, a five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court, led by **Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud** (with Justices Sanjiv Khanna, B.R. Gavai, J.B. Pardiwala, and Manoj Misra), **unanimously** struck down the Electoral Bonds Scheme. The court held that the scheme violated voters' **right to information** under **Article 19(1)(a)**, as it allowed unlimited, anonymous corporate funding of political parties without public disclosure. The SBI was directed to submit details of bonds purchased and redeemed to the Election Commission.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): The scheme was unanimously struck down – not upheld. Donor anonymity was held to be unconstitutional, not a protected right.
- Option (B): Justice Sanjiv Khanna was part of the five-judge bench as an associate justice, not as the leader. He became CJI only in November 2024, after this judgment.
- Option (C): The case was decided by the existing Constitution Bench; no referral to a larger bench occurred.

Final Answer: A five-judge bench led by CJI D.Y. Chandrachud unanimously struck down the Electoral Bonds Scheme in February 2024. ⇒ **D**

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



Q5.

Solution

Concept — New Criminal Laws (2023): Three landmark criminal law reform Acts were enacted by Parliament in December 2023, replacing colonial-era criminal statutes with India-centric legislation. This was one of the most significant reforms to the criminal justice system since independence.

Step 1 — Laws, Replacements, and Effective Date:

- **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023** replaced the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860.
- **Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) 2023** replaced the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973.
- **Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) 2023** replaced the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.

All three laws came into effect on **July 1, 2024**.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): The effective date was July 1, 2024, not January 26, 2024. The Official Secrets Act was not replaced by any of these three laws.
- Option (C): August 15, 2024 is incorrect; the laws were operational from July 1, 2024.
- Option (D): April 1, 2024 (start of financial year) is incorrect; the laws had a different implementation date.

Final Answer: BNS, BNSS, and BSA came into effect on July 1, 2024, replacing the IPC, CrPC, and the Indian Evidence Act respectively. ⇒ **A**

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

Q6.

Solution

Concept — Operation Sindoor (May 2025): Operation Sindoor was a major tri-services counter-terrorism military operation launched by India in May 2025. It represented a significant escalation in India's doctrine of response to cross-border terrorism.

Step 1 — Trigger and Execution: The operation was India's direct response to the **Pahalgam terror attack** in Jammu & Kashmir (April 2025), in which several



tourists were killed by Pakistan-backed militants. India's Army, Navy, and Air Force conducted **precision strikes** on identified terrorist infrastructure – training camps and launchpads – in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK). The operation was named “Sindoor” as a tribute to the victims and the families affected.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Operation Sindoor was not related to Chinese military activity in Ladakh; the provocation was Pakistan-based terrorism following the Pahalgam attack.
- Option (C): While India did announce a suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty as a diplomatic measure, Operation Sindoor was a military response specifically to the Pahalgam terror attack, not to any treaty dispute.
- Option (D): There were no drone attacks on Indian oil refineries triggering Operation Sindoor; the direct cause was the Pahalgam massacre.

Final Answer: Operation Sindoor was India's military response to the Pahalgam terror attack, involving precision strikes on terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and PoJK. ⇒ B

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

Q7.

Solution

Concept — One Nation One Election Committee: The High-Level Committee on “One Nation, One Election” was constituted by the Government of India in September 2023, chaired by former President **Ram Nath Kovind**. It submitted its report in **March 2024**, recommending a framework for simultaneous elections.

Step 1 — Key Recommendations: The committee recommended a **two-phase approach**:

- **Phase 1:** Simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha and all state legislative assemblies, requiring constitutional amendments to Articles 83, 85, 172, 174, and 356, and coordination on fixed terms.
- **Phase 2:** Local body (municipal and panchayat) elections to be held within **100 days** of the simultaneous general/state elections.

The committee emphasised that constitutional amendments would be necessary for implementation.



Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): The committee explicitly stated constitutional amendments are required; implementation cannot happen unilaterally without changes to the Constitution.
- Option (B): The committee did not recommend giving the President power to dissolve all state assemblies unilaterally; it proposed a structured legislative framework.
- Option (D): Abolishing Rajya Sabha was never part of the committee's terms of reference or recommendations.

Final Answer: The committee recommended simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha and state assemblies in two phases, requiring constitutional amendments, with local body elections within 100 days. ⇒ C

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

Q8.

Solution

Concept — PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana: Launched by PM Narendra Modi on **February 13, 2024**, this flagship rooftop solar scheme is designed to make Indian households energy self-reliant while eliminating or drastically reducing electricity bills. It is one of the largest residential rooftop solar programmes globally.

Step 1 — Scheme Targets and Benefits:

- Target: Install rooftop solar systems in **1 crore (10 million)** households across India.
- Benefit: Up to **300 units of free electricity per month** for eligible households.
- Subsidy: Central financial assistance of up to 60% for systems up to 2 kW and 40% for up to 3 kW.
- Net metering: Excess solar power generated can be sold to the grid, providing additional income.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): The scheme focuses on generating electricity via rooftop solar at the household level, not on establishing smart grids for 24×7 supply to BPL households.
- Option (C): The scheme targets individual household rooftop installations, not the creation of 500 grid-scale solar parks.



- Option (D): The Ujjwala scheme provides free LPG gas connections; PM Surya Ghar deals with solar electricity – these are entirely different programmes with different beneficiaries and objectives.

Final Answer: PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana installs rooftop solar panels to provide up to 300 units of free electricity per month to 1 crore households. ⇒ **A**

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

Q9.

Solution

Concept — 76th Republic Day Chief Guest: The selection of the Chief Guest for India's Republic Day reflects the country's foreign policy priorities and bilateral relationships. The 76th Republic Day was celebrated on January 26, 2025 at Kartavya Path, New Delhi.

Step 1 — Chief Guest Identification: **Prabowo Subianto**, who assumed office as the **President of Indonesia** in October 2024, was invited as the Chief Guest at India's 76th Republic Day. His invitation underscored the deepening India–Indonesia strategic partnership, rooted in maritime cooperation, defence ties, and the shared Indo-Pacific vision. Indonesia is also a significant partner in ASEAN and the Indian Ocean region.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan of the UAE was not the Republic Day Chief Guest in 2025; UAE's head of state had a different diplomatic engagement with India.
- Option (C): Emmanuel Macron, President of France, was the Chief Guest at the **75th Republic Day** (January 26, 2024) – one year earlier, not 2025.
- Option (D): President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa was not the Chief Guest at the 76th Republic Day celebrations.

Final Answer: Prabowo Subianto, President of Indonesia, was the Chief Guest at India's 76th Republic Day on January 26, 2025. ⇒ **B**

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



Q10.

Solution

Concept — 106th Constitutional Amendment (Women's Reservation): The Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023, also known as the **Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam**, was passed by both Houses of Parliament in September 2023 and received Presidential assent on September 28, 2023. It inserts new Article 330A (Lok Sabha) and Article 332A (state assemblies) into the Constitution.

Step 1 — Key Provisions and Deferred Implementation: The Act reserves **one-third (approximately 33%)** of seats in the Lok Sabha and all state legislative assemblies (including the Delhi assembly) for women. Crucially, this reservation will not come into effect immediately. It will be activated only **after**:

- The first census conducted after the commencement of the Act (i.e., the post-2023 census), and
- Delimitation of constituencies based on that census data.

This effectively deferred implementation to 2029 at the earliest.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): The reservation does not take immediate effect; it requires a post-enactment census and subsequent delimitation before it can be operationalised.
- Option (B): The 106th Amendment does not deal with Rajya Sabha; it applies only to Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies.
- Option (D): Urban local bodies and panchayats have separate reservation provisions under Articles 243D and 243T; the 106th Amendment does not address them.

Final Answer: The 106th Amendment reserves one-third seats for women in Lok Sabha and state assemblies, effective only after the first post-enactment census and delimitation. ⇒ C

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



Q11.

Solution

Concept — Article 324 and the Election Commission: Article 324 of Part XV (Elections) of the Indian Constitution establishes the constitutional basis for the conduct of free and fair elections in India. It is one of the most important provisions relating to democracy.

Step 1 — Text and Scope of Article 324: Article 324(1) vests the **superintendence, direction, and control** of the preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of all elections to Parliament, the state legislatures, and the offices of the President and Vice-President of India in the **Election Commission of India**. The ECI is a constitutional body that functions independently of the executive government.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): The Ministry of Law and Justice handles electoral legislation, but constitutional authority over election conduct rests with the ECI under Article 324, not the Ministry.
- Option (B): Parliament enacts election laws (under Article 327), but Article 324 does not delegate election conduct to the Delimitation Commission. The Delimitation Commission is a separate statutory body for re-drawing constituency boundaries.
- Option (C): Article 324 vests authority in the “Election Commission of India” as a collective body. Since the Chief Election Commissioners Act 2023, it is a three-member body; the CEC does not act alone in most matters.

Final Answer: Article 324 vests election supervision and conduct in the Election Commission of India – a constitutional body. ⇒ D

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

Q12.

Solution

Concept — 16th Finance Commission: The Finance Commission is a constitutional body established under Article 280, constituted every five years to recommend the distribution of tax revenues between the Union and the States, and among states inter se.

Step 1 — Appointment and Mandate: The Government of India constituted the **16th Finance Commission** in December 2023, with **Dr. Arvind Panagariya** – former Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog (2015–2017) and professor at Columbia



University – as its Chairman. The 16th Finance Commission is mandated to make recommendations for the period **2026–27 to 2030–31**. It succeeded the 15th Finance Commission chaired by N.K. Singh.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): Dr. Urjit Patel was the Governor of the RBI (2016–2018); he was not appointed Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission.
- Option (C): Dr. Vijay Kelkar chaired the **13th Finance Commission** (2010–15); he is not associated with the 16th Finance Commission.
- Option (D): Dr. Raghuram Rajan was RBI Governor (2013–2016) and IMF Chief Economist; he was not appointed to chair the 16th Finance Commission.

Final Answer: Dr. Arvind Panagariya, former Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog, was appointed Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission. ⇒ A

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

Q13.

Solution

Concept — Original Jurisdiction under Article 131: The Supreme Court of India exercises different types of jurisdiction: original, appellate, advisory, and writ jurisdiction. Article 131 specifically defines the **original jurisdiction** of the Supreme Court – its power to hear certain cases as a first court, without them coming through any lower court.

Step 1 — Scope of Article 131: Article 131 grants the Supreme Court **exclusive original jurisdiction** in disputes involving:

- Disputes between the Government of India and one or more states;
- Disputes between the Government of India and any state or states on one side, and one or more other states on the other;
- Disputes between two or more states.

These must involve questions of law or fact on which the existence or extent of a legal right depends.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Disputes involving foreign nationals are not within the scope of Article 131; such matters may fall under civil courts or international law.



- Option (C): Disputes regarding judicial appointments between a High Court and a State Government are not within Article 131's scope; these are handled differently (e.g., the collegium system).
- Option (D): Constitutional validity challenges may reach the Supreme Court through writ petitions (Article 32) or appeals; Article 131 specifically covers Centre–State or inter-State disputes.

Final Answer: Article 131 grants the Supreme Court exclusive original jurisdiction over disputes between the Centre and states, or between two or more states. ⇒

B

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

Q14.

Solution

Concept — Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP): Part IV of the Indian Constitution (Articles 36–51) contains the Directive Principles of State Policy. Article 37 explicitly states that DPSPs are not enforceable in any court. Article 44 specifically deals with the Uniform Civil Code (UCC).

Step 1 — Nature of Article 44: Article 44 reads: “The State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India.” It is a **Directive Principle of State Policy** under **Part IV** of the Constitution. DPSPs are **not justiciable** (not enforceable by any court) but are “fundamental in the governance of the country” and the State is duty-bound to apply these principles while making laws. Article 44 came into prominence in 2024 when Uttarakhand enacted the country's first UCC.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): DPSPs are explicitly non-justiciable (Article 37); Article 44 is not a Fundamental Right under Part III and cannot be enforced in a court.
- Option (B): Fundamental Duties are enumerated in Article 51A under Part IV-A; they apply to citizens, not to the State. Article 44 is a directive to the State, not a duty of citizens.
- Option (D): The Seventh Schedule's Concurrent List deals with legislative competence (e.g., marriage, divorce – Entry 5); Article 44 itself is a DPSP, not a Concurrent List entry.

Final Answer: Article 44 (Uniform Civil Code) is a Directive Principle of State Policy under Part IV – not enforceable in court but fundamental to governance. ⇒

C



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

Q15.

Solution

Concept — G20 2024 Brazilian Presidency: The G20 (Group of Twenty) rotates the Presidency annually among its members. After India's successful G20 Presidency in 2023 (New Delhi Summit, September 2023), **Brazil** took over the Presidency for 2024.

Step 1 — Brazil's G20 Presidency and Rio Summit: Under Brazil's G20 Presidency (theme: *Building a Just World and a Sustainable Planet*), the **G20 Leaders' Summit** was held on **November 18–19, 2024** in **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**. The summit focused on key issues including the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty, sustainable development, climate finance, and reforming international financial institutions.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): South Africa holds the G20 Presidency in **2025** (not 2024), with its summit to be held in Johannesburg.
- Option (B): India held the G20 Presidency in 2023 (New Delhi); it did not hold a second presidency in 2024.
- Option (C): Italy held the G20 Presidency in 2021 (Rome Summit); the 2024 presidency was Brazil's.

Final Answer: The G20 Summit 2024 was held under Brazil's Presidency in Rio de Janeiro, in November 2024. ⇒

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

Q16.

Solution

Concept — India-Australia ECTA: The India–Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) was signed on **April 2, 2022** and entered into force on **December 29, 2022**. It was a landmark agreement in India's trade diplomacy.

Step 1 — Significance of ECTA: The ECTA was the **first Free Trade Agreement** concluded by India with a major developed economy in over a decade (India's previous comprehensive FTA with a developed nation was with Japan in 2011). Under the agreement:



- Australia agreed to eliminate tariffs on approximately **96%** of Indian goods exported to Australia (by value), including textiles, leather, jewellery, and machinery.
- India agreed to eliminate tariffs on approximately **85%** of Australian goods exported to India, including minerals, wool, and lentils.

It also provided for easier mobility of Indian professionals and students in Australia.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): The ECTA is a trade and economic cooperation agreement; it does not establish a defence manufacturing corridor. India–Australia defence cooperation is covered by separate bilateral frameworks.
- Option (C): No currency swap arrangement of AUD 10 billion was established under the ECTA.
- Option (D): The ECTA does not provide for 100% duty-free access for all Australian agricultural products immediately; many agricultural tariffs remain with phased reduction.

Final Answer: India–Australia ECTA was the first FTA by India with a developed economy in over a decade, providing significant duty-free access for Indian goods in Australia. ⇒

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

Q17.

Solution

Concept — COP29 Location: The United Nations Climate Change Conferences (COP – Conference of the Parties) rotate among regions. COP29 was a high-stakes conference particularly focused on establishing a new collective quantified goal on climate finance for developing nations.

Step 1 — COP29 Details: COP29 was held from **November 11 to 22, 2024** in **Baku, Azerbaijan**. Azerbaijan, as an oil-and-gas-producing nation, hosting a climate summit drew significant international attention. The conference produced the *Baku Climate Unity Pact*, including agreement on a new climate finance goal for developing countries (USD 300 billion per year by 2035 from developed nations, with a broader goal of USD 1.3 trillion annually from all sources).

Why other options are wrong:



- Option (A): Dubai, UAE hosted **COP28** in November–December 2023 – one year earlier.
- Option (C): Cairo, Egypt hosted **COP27** in November 2022.
- Option (D): Nairobi, Kenya has hosted various UNEP events; it did not host COP29.

Final Answer: COP29 was held in Baku, Azerbaijan in November 2024. ⇒ B

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

Q18.

Solution

Concept — India and the United Nations Security Council: The UNSC has 15 members – 5 permanent (P5: USA, UK, France, Russia, China) and 10 non-permanent elected members (2-year terms). India is not a permanent member but has served multiple terms as an elected member.

Step 1 — India's UNSC Record and Reform Advocacy: India has served as a non-permanent member of the UNSC for **eight terms**, the most recent being **2021–22**. Throughout 2024–25, India continued its diplomatic campaign for **comprehensive UNSC reform**, including securing a permanent seat for India and enlarging the Council to reflect contemporary geopolitical realities. India's case is supported by the G4 group (India, Germany, Japan, Brazil).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): India is not a permanent member of the UNSC. The P5 members (USA, UK, France, Russia, China) were established by the original UN Charter in 1945 and have never changed.
- Option (B): India has been a non-permanent UNSC member eight times, so this statement is factually incorrect.
- Option (D): The P5 has not unanimously approved India's bid for a permanent seat; UNSC reform remains stalled due to lack of P5 consensus on enlargement.

Final Answer: India has served as a UNSC non-permanent member eight times (most recently 2021–22) and consistently advocates for comprehensive UNSC reform. ⇒ C

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



Q19.

Solution

Concept — BRICS Expansion and Kazan Summit: BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) announced at the Johannesburg Summit in August 2023 the invitation of six new countries to join. Four of these accepted and formally became full members from **January 1, 2024**.

Step 1 — New BRICS Members at Kazan Summit: The four countries that formally joined BRICS as full members (effective January 1, 2024) and participated in the **Kazan Summit (October 22–24, 2024)** as full members were: **Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates**. Saudi Arabia was also invited but had not confirmed full membership as of the Kazan summit, maintaining observer-like participation. Argentina, which had been invited, withdrew following a change of government.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): Argentina was invited but *declined* to join after the election of President Javier Milei in 2023. Saudi Arabia was invited but its formal membership was not confirmed at Kazan. Nigeria and Turkey were not among the invited nations.
- Option (C): Indonesia, Vietnam, Bangladesh, and Pakistan were not part of the BRICS expansion round announced in 2023.
- Option (D): Mexico, Algeria, Kazakhstan, and Cuba were not among the six countries invited at Johannesburg 2023.

Final Answer: Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the UAE joined BRICS as full members and participated as such at the Kazan Summit in October 2024. ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q19](#)

Q20.

Solution

Concept — India at Paris Olympics 2024: The 2024 Summer Olympics were held in Paris, France (July 26 – August 11, 2024). India sent its largest-ever Olympic contingent of 117 athletes across 16 sports disciplines, but the country's medal performance was below expectations.

Step 1 — India's Medal Tally and the Silver Medal: India won a total of **6 medals** at Paris 2024 – **1 silver and 5 bronze**. The sole silver medal was won by **Neeraj Chopra** in the **Men's Javelin Throw** event on August 8, 2024. He threw



89.45 m, finishing second behind Arshad Nadeem of Pakistan (92.97 m). This was Neeraj's second consecutive Olympic medal (he won gold at Tokyo 2020).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): P.V. Sindhu did not win a medal at Paris 2024; she was eliminated in the round of 16.
- Option (B): Manu Bhaker won **two bronze medals** at Paris 2024 – in 10m Air Pistol (Women's) and in 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team (with Sarabjot Singh) – not a silver medal.
- Option (C): Lakshya Sen reached the Men's Badminton semifinals but lost the bronze medal match; he did not win a silver.

Final Answer: Neeraj Chopra won the only silver medal for India at Paris Olympics 2024, in the Men's Javelin Throw event. ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q20](#)

Q21.

Solution

Concept — ICC T20 World Cup 2024: The ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 was co-hosted by the **USA and the West Indies** from June 1 to 29, 2024. India, under captain Rohit Sharma, went unbeaten throughout the tournament.

Step 1 — Final and Post-Tournament Retirements: India defeated **South Africa** in a thrilling final played at **Kensington Oval, Barbados** on June 29, 2024, by 7 runs. After the victory, both **Rohit Sharma** and **Virat Kohli** announced their retirement from T20 International cricket. The tournament ended India's 11-year wait for an ICC title (previous ICC trophy: 2013 Champions Trophy).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): Virat Kohli was not the captain; **Rohit Sharma** led India. While Kohli was the Player of the Tournament, he was not the captain, and the top run-scorer overall was not necessarily Kohli (Rohit and Kohli both had key contributions).
- Option (C): The tournament was hosted in the **USA and the West Indies** (Caribbean), not in England and Wales. England and Wales hosted the ICC Men's T20 World Cup in 2009.
- Option (D): India's semifinal opponent was **England** (India won by 68 runs), not Australia. India beat South Africa in the final, not England.



Final Answer: Rohit Sharma retired from T20Is after India's T20 World Cup 2024 victory; the final was played at Kensington Oval, Barbados. ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q21](#)

Q22.

Solution

Concept — 45th Chess Olympiad 2024: The Chess Olympiad is the most prestigious team chess tournament in the world, held biennially. The 45th Chess Olympiad was held in **Budapest, Hungary** from September 10 to 23, 2024.

Step 1 — India's Historic Double Gold: India achieved an **unprecedented historic milestone** at the 45th Chess Olympiad by winning **gold medals in both the Open (men's) and Women's team events simultaneously** – for the first time in India's Chess Olympiad history. In the Open section, India's team (led by D. Gukesh, Arjun Erigaisi, R. Praggnanandhaa, Vidit Gujrathi, and P. Harikrishna) defeated Slovenia in the final round. The Women's team (led by Harika Dronavalli, D. Vaishali, Divya Deshmukh, and others) also clinched gold.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): India won gold in *both* the Open and Women's sections, not just the Open. China did not win the Women's gold.
- Option (C): India did not finish second in either category; it won gold in both events.
- Option (D): India won gold (not silver) in the Open category and gold (not bronze) in the Women's category.

Final Answer: India won gold in both the Open and Women's team events at the 45th Chess Olympiad in Budapest 2024 – a historic first. ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q22](#)



Q23.

Solution

Concept — Arjuna Award 2024: The Arjuna Award is given by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, to recognise outstanding achievement in sports at the national level. The 2024 recipients were announced in recognition of performances leading up to the Paris Olympics year.

Step 1 — Jyothi Yarraji's Sport and Achievement: Jyothi Yarraji is a prominent Indian athlete specialising in the 100 metres hurdles. She is the national record-holder in the event and has represented India at major international competitions including the Asian Games and World Athletics Championships. She received the Arjuna Award in 2024 for her achievements in athletics, specifically the hurdles discipline.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Jyothi Yarraji is an athletics (track) athlete, not a weightlifter. Prominent Indian weightlifters include Mirabai Chanu and Bindyarani Devi.
- Option (B): Jyothi Yarraji is not associated with wrestling. Indian wrestling is represented by athletes like Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat, and Ravi Dahiya.
- Option (D): She is not a shooter. Indian shooting stars include Manu Bhaker, Sift Kaur Samra, and Avani Lekhara.

Final Answer: Jyothi Yarraji, Arjuna Award 2024 recipient, is a national record-holder in the 100 metres hurdles in Athletics. ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q23](#)

Q24.

Solution

Concept — Nobel Peace Prize 2024: The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded annually by the Norwegian Nobel Committee to the individual or organisation that has done the most or best work for fraternity between nations, the abolition or reduction of standing armies, and the establishment and promotion of peace.

Step 1 — 2024 Nobel Peace Prize Winner: The Nobel Peace Prize 2024 was awarded to **Nihon Hidankyo** (literally “Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organisations”), a grassroots Japanese organisation comprising survivors (*hibakusha*) of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima (August 6, 1945) and Nagasaki (August 9, 1945). The Norwegian Nobel Committee cited the organisation's extraordinary efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons and its



powerful witness testimony about the humanitarian consequences of nuclear war, in the context of rising nuclear risks globally.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Greta Thunberg has not received the Nobel Peace Prize; she was nominated but not selected. She received the Amnesty International Ambassador of Conscience Award in 2019.
- Option (B): UNHCR won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1954 and 1981; it was not the 2024 recipient.
- Option (C): Narges Mohammadi won the **Nobel Peace Prize 2023**, not 2024.

Final Answer: The Nobel Peace Prize 2024 was awarded to Nihon Hidankyo, the Japanese organisation of atomic bomb survivors (hibakusha). ⇒ D

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

Q25.

Solution

Concept — Nobel Prize in Physics 2024: The Nobel Prize in Physics 2024 recognised foundational work in artificial intelligence and machine learning – a first for the physics prize, reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of AI research.

Step 1 — The 2024 Physics Nobel: The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the **Nobel Prize in Physics 2024** to **John J. Hopfield** (Princeton University) and **Geoffrey E. Hinton** (University of Toronto / Google) for their **foundational discoveries and inventions that enable machine learning with artificial neural networks**. Hopfield invented the *Hopfield network* (1982) – an associative memory model. Hinton developed key techniques including the Boltzmann machine and backpropagation algorithms that underpin modern deep learning. Hinton is often called the “Godfather of AI.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): The first detection of gravitational waves (LIGO) was the basis for the **Nobel Prize in Physics 2017**, awarded to Rainer Weiss, Barry Barish, and Kip Thorne.
- Option (C): Quantum error-correction research has not yet been recognised by a Nobel; this remains an active area of research.
- Option (D): The theoretical and experimental confirmation of the Higgs boson was the basis for the **Nobel Prize in Physics 2013**, awarded to Peter



Higgs and Francois Englert.

Final Answer: The Nobel Prize in Physics 2024 was awarded to Geoffrey Hinton and John J. Hopfield for foundational work enabling machine learning with artificial neural networks. $\Rightarrow$

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q25](#)

Q26.

Solution

Concept — 51st Chief Justice of India: The Chief Justice of India is appointed by the President of India on the recommendation of the outgoing CJI, following the convention of seniority.

Step 1 — Succession of CJI: Justice D.Y. Chandrachud served as the **50th Chief Justice of India** from November 9, 2022 to November 10, 2024. On his retirement, Justice Sanjiv Khanna was sworn in as the **51st Chief Justice of India** on **November 11, 2024**. Justice Sanjiv Khanna served until May 13, 2025. He is known for landmark judgments including the upholding of the Electoral Bond verdict and the Delhi CM bail order.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Justice U.U. Lalit served as the **49th CJI** (August–November 2022); he was succeeded by D.Y. Chandrachud, not Sanjiv Khanna directly.
- Option (C): Justice N.V. Ramana served as the **48th CJI** (April 2021 – August 2022); he was succeeded by U.U. Lalit.
- Option (D): Justice S.A. Bobde served as the **47th CJI** (November 2019 – April 2021); he was succeeded by N.V. Ramana.

Final Answer: Justice Sanjiv Khanna (51st CJI) succeeded Justice D.Y. Chandrachud (50th CJI) on November 11, 2024. $\Rightarrow$

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q26](#)



Q27.

Solution

Concept — Chandrayaan-3 Pragyan Rover Findings: Chandrayaan-3's Vikram lander made a successful soft landing near the lunar south pole on **August 23, 2023**, making India the first country to land at the lunar south pole and the fourth country overall to achieve a soft lunar landing. The Pragyan rover then deployed and conducted in-situ scientific analysis.

Step 1 — Sulphur Discovery: The Pragyan rover's **Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS)** instrument – developed by ISRO's Laboratory for Electro-Optics Systems (LEOS) – conducted elemental analysis of the lunar surface near the south pole. It confirmed the in-situ presence of **Sulphur (S)** on the lunar surface for the first time, a finding not previously possible from orbit. Along with sulphur, the rover detected aluminium (Al), iron (Fe), calcium (Ca), chromium (Cr), titanium (Ti), manganese (Mn), silicon (Si), and oxygen (O).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Helium-3 detection was not reported by Pragyan's instruments; He-3 is speculated to exist on the Moon but was not directly confirmed by Chandrayaan-3.
- Option (B): Liquid water was not confirmed; previous missions found evidence of water ice in shadowed craters, but Pragyan did not report liquid water.
- Option (D): Methane was not detected; the Moon lacks an atmosphere capable of sustaining organic chemistry of this type at the surface.

Final Answer: Chandrayaan-3's Pragyan rover confirmed the in-situ presence of Sulphur (and other elements) near the lunar south pole, a historic first. ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q27](#)

Q28.

Solution

Concept — SUIT Instrument on Aditya-L1: The **Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT)** is one of seven payloads aboard Aditya-L1. It was built by the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune. SUIT operates in the **near-ultraviolet (NUV) wavelength range** (200–400 nm) to image the Sun's photosphere and chromosphere.

Step 1 — SUIT's First Scientific Observations (2024): In January 2024, ISRO



released the **first full-disc images of the Sun in near-ultraviolet wavelengths** captured by SUT – a first in India’s space science history. Subsequently, in May 2024, SUT captured images of an **X-class solar flare** and its impact on the solar chromosphere and photosphere. These observations are crucial for understanding the Sun’s ultraviolet radiation output and its effect on Earth’s upper atmosphere (space weather).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Imaging black holes at the centre of galaxies is done by radio telescope arrays (Event Horizon Telescope, Very Large Baseline Array); SUT observes the Sun in UV wavelengths.
- Option (B): X-ray burst detection from neutron stars is done by X-ray space telescopes (e.g., XMM-Newton, Chandra, AstroSat); SUT is a UV solar imaging telescope.
- Option (C): Confirming unknown subsurface magnetic field layers is beyond SUT’s capabilities; magnetic field measurements use magnetographs (like VELC and HELIOS instruments aboard Aditya-L1).

Final Answer: SUT on Aditya-L1 captured the first full-disc near-ultraviolet images of the Sun and observed solar flare activity in 2024. ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q28](#)

Q29.

Solution

Concept — India’s Quantum Computing Milestone: Quantum computing is a priority area under India’s National Quantum Mission (NQM), approved by the Cabinet in April 2023 with an outlay of Rs. 6,003.65 crore over 2023–2031. Developing indigenous quantum processors is central to this mission.

Step 1 — IISc Bangalore’s Quantum Processor: The **Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore** developed and demonstrated India’s first **indigenously built superconducting quantum processor** – a key step toward a fully functional quantum computer. IISc’s Quantum Technology Initiative (QuTI) and its Supercomputer Education and Research Centre (SERC) have been at the forefront of this development. The processor operates at near absolute zero temperature to maintain quantum coherence in superconducting qubits.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (B): IIT Bombay has active quantum research but was not the in-



stitution credited with developing India's first indigenous superconducting quantum processor.

- Option (C): BARC (Bhabha Atomic Research Centre) focuses on nuclear science and technology; its quantum computing contributions are in a different domain (quantum cryptography).
- Option (D): DRDO focuses on defence technology; its quantum work is primarily in quantum communication and QKD (quantum key distribution), not superconducting quantum processors.

Final Answer: India's first indigenously developed superconducting quantum processor was developed by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore. ⇒ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q29](#)

Q30.

Solution

Concept — GSAT-20 / GSAT-N2 Launch: GSAT-20 (officially GSAT-N2) is an advanced Ka-band high-throughput communication satellite built by ISRO. It was India's heaviest communication satellite at the time of launch, weighing approximately 4,700 kg – exceeding the payload capacity of ISRO's own LVM3 rocket.

Step 1 — SpaceX Falcon 9 Launch: Since GSAT-N2's mass exceeded LVM3's geostationary transfer orbit (GTO) payload limit of approximately 4,000 kg, ISRO contracted **SpaceX** to launch it aboard a **Falcon 9** rocket. The satellite was launched on **November 18, 2024** from Cape Canaveral, Florida, USA – marking a milestone as **the first time ISRO used a foreign commercial launch provider for a heavyweight communication satellite**. GSAT-N2 will provide broadband internet services across India, especially to Northeast India, Andaman & Nicobar, and Lakshadweep.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): ISRO's LVM3 (formerly GSLV Mk III) could not carry a satellite this heavy to GTO; hence ISRO had to use SpaceX Falcon 9.
- Option (C): Ariane 5 was retired in July 2023 after its final launch; it was not available for GSAT-N2's November 2024 launch.
- Option (D): ISRO's SSLV (Small Satellite Launch Vehicle) is designed for small satellites (up to 500 kg to LEO); it cannot launch a 4,700 kg satellite to GTO.

Final Answer: GSAT-20 (GSAT-N2) was launched by SpaceX's Falcon 9 in November 2024 – the first time ISRO used a foreign commercial rocket for a heavyweight



communication satellite. $\Rightarrow$ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q30](#)

Q31.

Solution

Concept — India's GDP Ranking: India's rapid economic growth has resulted in it climbing the global GDP rankings. As measured by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank, nominal GDP rankings determine a country's economic size.

Step 1 — India Overtaking the UK: India **overtook the United Kingdom** to become the world's **5th largest economy** by nominal GDP. This milestone was achieved in 2022 and consolidated through 2024, with India's GDP (approximately USD 3.7 trillion in 2024) exceeding the UK's (approximately USD 3.1 trillion). The current top-5 ranking: (1) USA, (2) China, (3) Germany, (4) Japan, (5) India. India's growth is driven by strong domestic consumption, infrastructure investment, and manufacturing expansion under initiatives like Make in India and PLI schemes.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Germany is ranked **3rd** globally and has a larger economy than India (approximately USD 4.5 trillion); India has not yet overtaken Germany.
- Option (B): Japan is ranked **4th** with approximately USD 4.2 trillion GDP; India has not surpassed Japan (though the gap is narrowing).
- Option (D): France (ranked 7th) has a smaller economy than both the UK and India; India had already surpassed France before surpassing the UK.

Final Answer: India became the 5th largest economy by nominal GDP in 2024, having overtaken the United Kingdom. $\Rightarrow$ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q31](#)



Q32.

Solution

Concept — RBI Monetary Policy and Repo Rate: The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India meets every two months to decide the policy repo rate – the rate at which the RBI lends short-term funds to commercial banks. The repo rate is the primary tool for controlling inflation and stimulating growth.

Step 1 — The February 2025 Rate Cut: The RBI's MPC, under Governor Sanjay Malhotra (who took over from Shaktikanta Das in December 2024), announced a **25 basis points (0.25%) reduction** in the policy repo rate in the **February 2025 MPC meeting**. The rate was cut from 6.50% to 6.25%. This was the **first rate cut since May 2020** (approximately five years), when the RBI had cut rates aggressively during the COVID-19 pandemic. The cut was justified by easing inflation (CPI trending toward the 4% target) and the need to support growth.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): In the **August 2024** MPC meeting, the RBI kept the repo rate unchanged at 6.50%; no rate cut was announced.
- Option (B): In the **October 2024** MPC meeting, the repo rate was unchanged; the MPC changed its stance to “neutral” from “withdrawal of accommodation.”
- Option (C): In the **December 2024** MPC meeting, the repo rate was unchanged at 6.50%; only the CRR was reduced by 50 bps to inject liquidity.

Final Answer: The RBI's first repo rate cut in approximately five years was announced in the February 2025 MPC meeting (6.50% to 6.25%). ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q32](#)

Q33.

Solution

Concept — Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme: The PLI scheme was introduced by the Government of India to boost domestic manufacturing, attract investments, create employment, and reduce India's import dependence across key sectors. Incentives are provided as a percentage of incremental sales above a base year threshold over a defined period.

Step 1 — Sector Coverage and Outlay: The PLI scheme was approved across **13 key sectors** with a total financial outlay of approximately **Rs. 1.97 lakh crore** over



five years. These 13 sectors include: mobile phones and electronic components, pharmaceutical drugs (APIs and formulations), medical devices, automobiles and auto components, advanced chemistry cell (ACC) batteries, textile products, food processing, telecom and networking products, white goods (ACs and LED lights), specialty steel, solar photovoltaic (PV) modules, large-scale electronics manufacturing, and the drone industry.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): 7 sectors significantly undercounts the PLI coverage; the scheme was deliberately designed to be broad-based across 13 sectors.
- Option (B): 9 sectors is also incorrect; the Government's approved framework explicitly covers 13 sectors.
- Option (C): 11 sectors is incorrect; the full count of PLI-approved sectors is 13.

Final Answer: The PLI scheme covers **13 key sectors** with a total outlay of approximately Rs. 1.97 lakh crore. $\Rightarrow$ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q33](#)

Q34.

Solution

Concept — Ramsar Convention and India's Wetlands: The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (1971) is an international treaty for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands. India is a signatory since 1982. The Ramsar List includes wetlands of international importance designated for their ecological, botanical, zoological, limnological, or hydrological significance.

Step 1 — India's Ramsar Milestones: India crossed the **75 Ramsar site milestone** in August 2023 (coinciding with Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav). As of 2024, India has the **highest number of Ramsar sites in Asia**. Within India, **Tamil Nadu** has the most Ramsar-designated wetlands of any state, with over 14 sites (including Pallikaranai Marsh, Karikili Bird Sanctuary, Vembannur Wetland Complex, Point Calimere, Pichavaram Mangrove, and others).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): India does not have the highest number of Ramsar sites *in the world*; the UK (with 175+ sites) leads globally. India leads in Asia.
- Option (C): India's first two Ramsar sites were **Chilika Lake (Odisha)** and **Keoladeo Ghana National Park (Rajasthan)**, designated in **1981** – not



2022.

- Option (D): The Ramsar Convention was signed in **Ramsar, Iran** in 1971 – not in a city in Rajasthan. The Ramsar Convention is named after the Iranian city of Ramsar.

Final Answer: India has the most Ramsar sites in Asia, and Tamil Nadu is the state with the highest number of Ramsar-designated wetlands within India. ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q34](#)

Q35.

Solution

Concept — India's First Dark Sky Reserve: A Dark Sky Reserve is a designated area with exceptional night sky quality, protected from light pollution to preserve astronomical observation conditions and nocturnal ecosystems. The International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) provides global certification.

Step 1 — Hanle Dark Sky Reserve, Ladakh: India's **first Dark Sky Reserve** was established at **Hanle** in the **Changthang region of Ladakh**, at an altitude of approximately 4,500 metres above sea level. It is managed by the **Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO)**, operated by the **Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIAp)**, Bangalore, in partnership with the **Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC)** and local *Changpa* nomadic communities. The reserve was formally launched in 2022 and is home to some of India's most powerful telescopes, including the Himalayan Chandra Telescope.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option (A): Spiti Valley in Himachal Pradesh has excellent dark sky conditions and hosts the Hanle-like Indian Astronomical Observatory at Hanle (which is in Ladakh, not Spiti). Spiti has not been officially designated as India's first Dark Sky Reserve.
- Option (B): Nubra Valley is in Northern Ladakh near the Siachen glacier; it is not the location of India's first designated Dark Sky Reserve.
- Option (D): The Pangong Lake area, while in Ladakh and at high altitude, is not the designated site for India's first Dark Sky Reserve; Hanle in Changthang holds that distinction.

Final Answer: India's first Dark Sky Reserve is located at Hanle in the Changthang region of Ladakh, managed by the Indian Astronomical Observatory (IIAp). ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q35](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	A	2	B	3	C	4	D	5	A
6	B	7	C	8	A	9	B	10	C
11	D	12	A	13	B	14	C	15	D
16	A	17	B	18	C	19	A	20	D
21	A	22	B	23	C	24	D	25	A
26	B	27	C	28	D	29	A	30	B
31	C	32	D	33	D	34	B	35	C

