

AILET Current Affairs & General Knowledge

Sample Paper – 3

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.** Under the Agnipath scheme launched by the Government of India in 2022, what is the service tenure of Agniveers in the Indian Armed Forces?
- (A) 4 years
(B) 6 years
(C) 3 years
(D) 5 years
- Q2.** The PM e-DRIVE scheme, announced in September 2024 with an outlay of approximately ₹10,900 crore, was launched primarily to:
- (A) Develop rural roads connecting EV manufacturing hubs
(B) Promote the export of electric two-wheelers and three-wheelers



- (C) Accelerate adoption of electric vehicles and creation of EV charging infrastructure across India
- (D) Establish dedicated smart highways for autonomous vehicles

Q3. Poshan Abhiyaan 2.0, the upgraded national nutrition mission, focuses on which of the following key beneficiary groups?

- (A) Senior citizens and persons with disabilities
- (B) Tribal communities and marginal farmers
- (C) Industrial workers and urban poor households
- (D) Women, children (0–6 years), adolescent girls, and pregnant and lactating mothers

Q4. The deadline for completion of projects under India's Smart Cities Mission was extended to which date, after multiple rounds of extension?

- (A) March 2025
- (B) December 2026
- (C) June 2024
- (D) March 2027

Q5. Mission Amrit Sarovar, launched in April 2022 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, set a target for each district of India to develop at least how many ponds or water bodies?

- (A) 50
- (B) 100
- (C) 75
- (D) 25

Q6. India's Semiconductor Mission has an approved financial outlay of approximately ₹76,000 crore. The first semiconductor fabrication units approved under this mission are located in which two states?



- (A) Maharashtra and Karnataka
- (B) Telangana and Tamil Nadu
- (C) Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh
- (D) Gujarat and Assam

Q7. Coal India Limited (CIL) achieved a record coal production of approximately 773 million tonnes in FY 2023–24. This makes CIL:

- (A) The largest coal-producing company in the world
- (B) The second largest coal-producing company globally
- (C) The largest coal exporter from Asia
- (D) The only publicly listed coal producer in India

Q8. In September 2024, the Union Cabinet approved an important expansion of the Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY health insurance scheme. The expansion extends ₹5 lakh annual health cover to which new group of beneficiaries?

- (A) Children below 12 years from BPL families
- (B) All senior citizens aged 70 years and above, irrespective of income
- (C) Daily wage workers aged 40 to 60 years
- (D) Women below the poverty line of all age groups

Q9. Nalanda University was formally reopened and inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in June 2024, reviving the ancient seat of learning after over 800 years. The new campus is located in:

- (A) Patna, Bihar
- (B) Bodh Gaya, Bihar
- (C) Rajgir, Bihar
- (D) Vaishali, Bihar



- Q10.** In the landmark nine-judge bench judgment in *Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) vs Union of India* (2017), the Supreme Court of India unanimously held that the Right to Privacy is protected as a fundamental right under which Part of the Constitution?
- (A) Part IV – Directive Principles of State Policy
 - (B) Part IV-A – Fundamental Duties
 - (C) Part II – Citizenship
 - (D) Part III – Fundamental Rights
- Q11.** Following the general elections in 2024, who was elected as the Speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha?
- (A) Om Birla
 - (B) Rajnath Singh
 - (C) Amit Shah
 - (D) Suresh Prabhu
- Q12.** The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) is a constitutional body that investigates and monitors matters relating to the safeguards provided for Scheduled Castes. It is established under which Article of the Indian Constitution?
- (A) Article 315
 - (B) Article 340
 - (C) Article 338
 - (D) Article 335
- Q13.** Under the Tenth Schedule of the Indian Constitution (Anti-defection Law), a member of the House incurs disqualification if he/she:
- (A) Votes against the party whip on a confidence motion for the first time
 - (B) Publicly criticises the party leader in a press conference
 - (C) Files a lawsuit against another member of the same party



(D) Voluntarily gives up the membership of the political party on whose ticket he/she was elected

Q14. Under the Indian Constitution, the Governor of a state is appointed by:

- (A) The President of India
- (B) The Chief Minister of the concerned state
- (C) The Prime Minister of India acting alone
- (D) The Council of States (Rajya Sabha) by resolution

Q15. The India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) is the flagship platform for India's development engagement with Africa. How many editions of the IAFS had been held by 2024?

- (A) Two
- (B) Three
- (C) Four
- (D) Five

Q16. India chaired and hosted the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in 2023. In which unique format was the summit conducted?

- (A) In-person summit in New Delhi with all heads of state
- (B) In-person summit in Mumbai with a parade
- (C) Virtual/online format – the first-ever virtual SCO summit
- (D) Hybrid format with some leaders in Goa and others online

Q17. India and Nepal have a bilateral target to develop 10,000 MW of hydropower. The largest proposed bilateral hydropower project between India and Nepal, which has been awaiting implementation for decades, is:

- (A) Arun-III Hydroelectric Project
- (B) Upper Karnali Hydroelectric Project



- (C) West Seti Hydroelectric Project
- (D) Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project

Q18. India's growing engagement with the Pacific Islands Forum and Pacific Island nations is primarily framed within which broader strategic framework?

- (A) India's Indo-Pacific Vision and the SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) initiative
- (B) India's Act East Policy, which is limited to ASEAN nations only
- (C) Project Mausam, focusing on maritime archaeological linkages
- (D) The India-Australia bilateral Comprehensive Strategic Partnership

Q19. The WHO Pandemic Accord (also called the Pandemic Treaty), whose negotiations advanced significantly in 2024, is aimed at:

- (A) Establishing a global carbon tax to fund pandemic preparedness
- (B) Merging the WHO with the United Nations Security Council for health emergencies
- (C) Ensuring equitable access to vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics and strengthening global pandemic preparedness
- (D) Creating a new international health organisation to replace WHO

Q20. At the Paris Olympics 2024, Aman Sehrawat became India's only wrestling medallist and one of the youngest Indian Olympic medallists. He won a bronze medal in which weight category of freestyle wrestling?

- (A) 65 kg freestyle
- (B) 57 kg freestyle
- (C) 74 kg freestyle
- (D) 86 kg freestyle



- Q21.** Neeraj Chopra, who had won gold in javelin throw at the Tokyo Olympics 2020, competed at the Paris Olympics 2024. What was the outcome of his participation?
- (A) He successfully defended his gold medal with a new Olympic record
 - (B) He won a bronze medal in the javelin throw final
 - (C) He did not qualify for the final round
 - (D) He won a silver medal, unable to retain his gold
- Q22.** The Indian badminton men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, ranked World No. 1 going into the Paris Olympics 2024, exited the tournament at which stage?
- (A) Quarterfinals
 - (B) Semifinals
 - (C) Bronze medal match
 - (D) Round of 16 (group stage)
- Q23.** Swapnil Kusale won a historic bronze medal in shooting at the Paris Olympics 2024. His medal was India's first-ever Olympic medal in which specific event?
- (A) 10m Air Rifle (Men)
 - (B) 25m Rapid Fire Pistol (Men)
 - (C) 50m Rifle 3 Positions (Men)
 - (D) 10m Air Pistol (Men)
- Q24.** The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences (Nobel Prize in Economics) 2024 was awarded to Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James A. Robinson. Their prize-winning research was on:
- (A) Behavioural economics and the theory of nudges
 - (B) Climate economics and the social cost of carbon
 - (C) Auction theory and mechanism design in markets



(D) How institutions are formed and how they shape the prosperity of nations

Q25. Droupadi Murmu was sworn in as the 15th President of India on 25 July 2022. She is historically significant as:

- (A) The first tribal woman to become President of India
- (B) The second woman to hold the office of President of India
- (C) The youngest person to be elected President of India
- (D) The first woman from Odisha to become a Governor of any state

Q26. N. Chandrasekaran has been serving as the Executive Chairman of Tata Sons since 2017, heading the Tata Group. Before being appointed to this role, he was the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of which Tata group company?

- (A) Tata Motors
- (B) Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)
- (C) Tata Steel
- (D) Tata Power

Q27. BharatNet is the Government of India's flagship project to provide broadband internet connectivity to rural India. What is the total number of gram panchayats targeted under the full scope of BharatNet?

- (A) Approximately 1 lakh gram panchayats
- (B) All approximately 2.5 lakh gram panchayats across India
- (C) Approximately 50,000 gram panchayats
- (D) Only gram panchayats within 50 km of state capitals

Q28. In May 2024, DRDO successfully conducted the maiden flight test of 'Gaurav'. What type of weapon system is Gaurav?

- (A) A hypersonic cruise missile with a range of 1,000 km



- (B) An anti-satellite kinetic kill vehicle
- (C) A nuclear-capable medium-range ballistic missile
- (D) A long-range glide bomb capable of being launched from aircraft

Q29. The Genome India Project is an ambitious initiative to understand the genetic diversity of the Indian population. What was the initial genome-sequencing target set for the first phase of this project?

- (A) 1,00,000 Indian genomes
- (B) 10,000 Indian genomes
- (C) 5,000 Indian genomes
- (D) 50,000 Indian genomes

Q30. INS Vikrant, India's first indigenously designed and built aircraft carrier, was commissioned into the Indian Navy in September 2022. It was constructed by:

- (A) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai
- (B) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, Kolkata
- (C) Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi, Kerala
- (D) Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam

Q31. The Viksit Bharat 2047 initiative, launched by the Government of India, envisions India becoming a developed nation by 2047. What approximate GDP target is associated with this vision?

- (A) A \$10 trillion economy by 2047
- (B) A \$35 trillion economy by 2047
- (C) A \$50 trillion economy by 2047
- (D) A \$20 trillion economy by 2047

Q32. The Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), developed by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), was launched primarily with the objective of:



- (A) Creating a government-run e-commerce portal exclusively for MSME exporters
- (B) Regulating foreign direct investment in India's e-commerce sector
- (C) Establishing a uniform Goods and Services Tax rate for all online transactions
- (D) Democratising e-commerce by enabling any buyer or seller to transact over an open, interoperable network, reducing platform monopolies

Q33. India issued its first tranche of Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs) in January 2023. The proceeds raised through these bonds are mandated to be used for:

- (A) Green infrastructure projects that help reduce the carbon intensity of the Indian economy
- (B) Subsidising the purchase of green vehicles for individual consumers
- (C) Compensating state governments for forest conservation and afforestation
- (D) Meeting India's financial commitments under the Paris Agreement to other developing nations

Q34. India crossed a landmark milestone in installed renewable energy in 2024 when cumulative solar power capacity reached approximately:

- (A) 50 GW
- (B) 75 GW
- (C) 100 GW
- (D) 150 GW

Q35. The Great Indian Bustard (GIB), one of India's most critically endangered birds, is primarily found in which habitat and region?

- (A) Dense deciduous forests of Madhya Pradesh



- (B) The arid and semi-arid grasslands of Rajasthan and parts of Gujarat
- (C) The wetlands and mangroves of the Rann of Kutch in Gujarat
- (D) The Shola grasslands of the Western Ghats in Kerala and Karnataka



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution****Topic: Agnipath Scheme – Defence Recruitment Reform**

The **Agnipath scheme** was launched by the Government of India in June 2022 as a transformational defence recruitment policy. Under this scheme, young Indians between the ages of 17.5 and 21 years (later relaxed to 23) are recruited into the armed forces as **Agniveers** for a fixed tenure of **4 years**. At the end of the tenure, up to 25% of Agniveers from each batch may be retained for regular service based on merit; the remaining 75% receive a *Seva Nidhi* corpus and are released. The scheme aims to reduce the age profile of the armed forces and lower the pension burden.

Key facts:

- Tenure: **4 years** (not 3, 5, or 6 years)
- Applicable to: Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force
- Seva Nidhi (corpus on exit): approximately ₹11.71 lakh (tax-free)
- Minimum age: 17.5 years; maximum age revised to 23 years (from 21) for the first batch

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q1](#)**Q2.****Solution****Topic: PM e-DRIVE Scheme – Electric Mobility**

The **PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM e-DRIVE)** scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet in September 2024 with a financial outlay of approximately ₹10,900 crore over two years. The scheme's primary objective is to **accelerate adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) and build EV charging infrastructure** across India.

Key provisions:

- Supports electric two-wheelers (e-2Ws), three-wheelers (e-3Ws), electric buses, and trucks
- Establishes EV charging stations across 9 cities including mega-cities
- Provides demand incentives to reduce the upfront cost of EVs for buyers



- Operated by the Ministry of Heavy Industries

Option (A) is incorrect – the scheme does not focus on rural road development.
Option (B) is incorrect – it focuses on domestic adoption, not export promotion.
Option (D) is incorrect – autonomous highways are not part of this scheme.

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

Q3.

Solution

Topic: Poshan Abhiyaan 2.0 – National Nutrition Mission

Poshan Abhiyaan 2.0 (also called the Poshan Mission Phase 2) is an integrated nutrition support programme launched by the Government of India. It specifically targets four key groups: **children (0–6 years), adolescent girls, pregnant women, and lactating mothers**. The mission sets targets to reduce stunting, wasting, low birth weight, and anaemia among these groups.

Key objectives:

- Reduce stunting in children (0–6 years) by 2% per annum
- Reduce wasting in children by 2% per annum
- Reduce low birth weight by 2% per annum
- Reduce anaemia among women, children, and adolescent girls by 3% per annum

Options (A), (B), and (C) are incorrect as senior citizens, farmers, or industrial workers are not the primary target groups of Poshan Abhiyaan 2.0.

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

Q4.

Solution

Topic: Smart Cities Mission – Deadline Extension

The **Smart Cities Mission (SCM)** was launched in June 2015 with an initial deadline of five years, later extended multiple times due to COVID-19 and project delays. The final deadline for completion of all projects under the Smart Cities Mission was extended to **March 2025**. 100 cities were selected under the mission across India.



Key facts about SCM:

- Launched: June 2015 by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- Number of selected cities: 100 (in four rounds of selection)
- Total outlay: approximately ₹2.05 lakh crore (including central, state, and ULB funds)
- Final project completion deadline: **March 2025**

Options (B) December 2026, (C) June 2024, and (D) March 2027 are incorrect. The deadline was set at March 2025 for the remaining project completion.

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

Q5.

Solution**Topic: Mission Amrit Sarovar – Water Conservation**

Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 24 April 2022, coinciding with the National Panchayati Raj Day. The mission targeted the development or rejuvenation of at least **75 ponds/water bodies in each district** of India as a tribute to 75 years of India's independence (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav).

Key facts:

- Target: 75 Amrit Sarovars per district
- Total target: approximately 50,000 Amrit Sarovars across India
- Each Amrit Sarovar to have a water spread area of at least 1 acre
- Objective: Harvesting rainwater, recharging groundwater, and supporting irrigation
- Mission completed ahead of schedule (over 60,000+ water bodies developed)

Options (A) 50, (B) 100, and (D) 25 are incorrect. The specific target was 75 ponds per district, in line with the 75th anniversary of independence.

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



Q6.

Solution**Topic: India Semiconductor Mission – Fab Units**

India's **Semiconductor Mission** was set up under the ₹76,000 crore Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for semiconductors and display manufacturing. The Union Cabinet approved the first semiconductor fabrication (fab) units in February 2024:

- **Tata Electronics** – setting up a greenfield semiconductor fab at **Dholera, Gujarat** (28 nm node, partnering with Powerchip Semiconductor, Taiwan)
- **CG Power and Industrial Solutions** – semiconductor ATMP (Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging) unit in **Sanand, Gujarat**
- **Micron Technology (US)** – ATMP unit in **Sanand, Gujarat**
- **Tata Semiconductor Assembly and Test (TSAT)** – ATMP unit in **Morigaon, Assam**

Thus, the two primary states with approved semiconductor units are **Gujarat** (fabs and ATMP) and **Assam** (ATMP). Options (A), (B), and (C) are incorrect.

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

Q7.

Solution**Topic: Coal India Limited – Production Milestone**

Coal India Limited (CIL) achieved a historic production of approximately **773.6 million tonnes (MT)** in FY 2023–24, surpassing all previous records. This achievement established CIL as the **largest coal-producing company in the world**, ahead of other major producers. CIL accounts for over 80% of India's total domestic coal production.

Key facts about CIL:

- Headquarters: Kolkata, West Bengal
- Incorporated: 1975; a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Coal
- Subsidiaries: 7 coal-producing subsidiaries and 1 mine-planning subsidiary
- FY 2023–24 production: $\approx$ **773 MT** (world record for a single company)



Option (B) “second largest” is incorrect as CIL surpassed all global peers. Options (C) and (D) are factually inaccurate characterisations.

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

Q8.

Solution

Topic: Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY – Extension to Senior Citizens

The Union Cabinet, in September 2024, approved the expansion of **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)** to cover **all senior citizens aged 70 years and above, regardless of their economic status or income level**. Previously, PM-JAY covered only those below the poverty line based on SECC 2011 data. This extension provides ₹5 lakh per year health insurance cover to approximately 6 crore senior citizens.

Key facts:

- Scheme launched: September 2018
- Previous coverage: Bottom 40% of population (approx. 12 crore families)
- New coverage (2024): All citizens 70 years and above get a separate ₹5 lakh annual cover
- Ministry: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Options (A), (C), and (D) do not match the actual expansion announced. The correct answer is (B).

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

Q9.

Solution

Topic: Nalanda University Reopening

The new **Nalanda University** was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on **19 June 2024**. The university is located at **Rajgir in the Nalanda district, Bihar**. The ancient Nalanda University, one of the world’s first residential universities, was destroyed in the 12th century (c. 1193 CE) by Bakhtiyar Khilji’s forces. The revival project was initiated following a 2007 resolution at the East Asia Summit, with legislation passed by Parliament in 2010.

Key facts:



- Location: **Rajgir, Nalanda district, Bihar** (not Patna, Bodh Gaya, or Vaishali)
- Inaugural date: 19 June 2024
- The campus was awarded a *Net Zero Green Building* status
- Countries that co-funded the revival: India, China, Singapore, Australia, Thailand, and others

Patna (A) is the state capital but not the location of the university. Bodh Gaya (B) is associated with Buddhism but not Nalanda University. Vaishali (D) is a historical city, not the location of this university.

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

Q10.

Solution

Topic: Right to Privacy as a Fundamental Right

In the landmark 2017 judgment *Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) vs Union of India*, a nine-judge bench of the Supreme Court of India unanimously held that the Right to Privacy is a **fundamental right protected under Part III** of the Indian Constitution. The Court located the right to privacy within Articles 14 (Right to Equality), 19 (Right to Freedom), and primarily **Article 21** (Right to Life and Personal Liberty).

Key aspects of the judgment:

- Bench: 9-judge Constitution bench (unanimous verdict)
- Chief Justice: J.S. Khehar (with J.D.Y. Chandrachud writing a concurring opinion)
- Privacy located in: **Article 21** (Part III – Fundamental Rights)
- The judgment overruled: M.P. Sharma (1954) and Kharak Singh (1962) cases
- Context: Challenge to Aadhaar's data collection practices

Part IV (A) contains Directive Principles, which are not justiciable. Part IV-A (B) contains Fundamental Duties. Part II (C) deals with Citizenship. The correct answer is **Part III**.

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



Q11.

Solution**Topic: Speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha**

Following the 2024 General Elections, the 18th Lok Sabha was constituted. **Om Birla**, the Member of Parliament from Kota, Rajasthan (BJP), was elected as the **Speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha** on 26 June 2024. He had previously served as the Speaker of the 17th Lok Sabha (2019–2024) as well, making him the first person in several decades to be elected Speaker for two consecutive terms.

Key facts:

- Speaker of 18th Lok Sabha: **Om Birla** (BJP, Kota, Rajasthan)
- Elected: 26 June 2024 (second consecutive term as Speaker)
- Deputy Speaker: Post was vacant during the 17th Lok Sabha; election was pending in 18th Lok Sabha
- Constitutional provision: Article 93 provides for the election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker

Rajnath Singh (B) is the Defence Minister; Amit Shah (C) is the Home Minister; Suresh Prabhu (D) is a former Minister but not the Speaker.

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

Q12.

Solution**Topic: National Commission for Scheduled Castes – Article 338**

The **National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)** is a constitutional body established under **Article 338** of the Indian Constitution. It was given constitutional status by the **89th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003**, which bifurcated the earlier combined National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes into two separate bodies.

Key facts:

- Constitutional Article: **Article 338**
- Chairperson: Appointed by the President of India
- Functions: Investigate and monitor safeguards for SCs; inquire into complaints; advise on SC welfare planning
- 89th Amendment (2003): Created separate commissions for SCs (Article



338) and STs (Article 338A)

Article 315 (A) deals with the establishment of Public Service Commissions. Article 340 (B) deals with the National Commission for Backward Classes. Article 335 (D) deals with claims of SCs and STs to services. **Article 338** is the correct answer.

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

Q13.

Solution

Topic: Anti-Defection Law – Tenth Schedule

The **Tenth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution, inserted by the **52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985**, contains the Anti-Defection Law. A member of a House is disqualified for being a member of the House if he/she:

- **Voluntarily gives up the membership** of the political party on whose ticket he/she was elected (Option D – correct)
- Votes or abstains from voting in the House contrary to any direction issued by his/her political party or permissive body (without prior permission, and the vote/abstention is not condoned within 15 days)

Mere criticism of a party leader (B) does not attract disqualification; filing a lawsuit (C) is not a ground for disqualification; voting against the whip on a first occasion (A) is not automatically the test – the Schedule has nuanced provisions.

The key phrase “voluntarily gives up membership” has been broadly interpreted by the Supreme Court to include actions that are consistent with the member having voluntarily given up membership, even without formally resigning.

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

Q14.

Solution

Topic: Appointment of Governor – Constitutional Provision

Under **Article 155** of the Indian Constitution, the Governor of each state shall be **appointed by the President of India by warrant under his hand and seal**. The Governor holds office during the pleasure of the President (Article 156). The Governor is essentially a nominee of the Central Government and acts as the Constitutional head of the state executive.



Key constitutional provisions regarding the Governor:

- **Appointment:** By the President (Article 155) – correct answer is (A)
- **Tenure:** 5 years, but holds office at the pleasure of the President (Article 156)
- **Eligibility:** Must be an Indian citizen, at least 35 years of age, and not a member of the Legislature
- **Oath:** Administered by the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court
- **Discretionary powers:** Governor can exercise certain powers independently (e.g., recommending President's Rule, reserving a Bill for the President's consideration)

Options (B), (C), and (D) are constitutionally incorrect. The Prime Minister may advise the President, but formal appointment is by the President alone under Article 155.

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

Q15.

Solution**Topic: India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS)**

The **India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS)** is India's key multilateral platform for engaging with African nations on development cooperation, trade, and political relations. As of 2024, **three editions** of the IAFS have been held:

- **IAFS-I:** 2008, New Delhi (India committed \$5.4 billion in lines of credit)
- **IAFS-II:** 2011, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (credit line of \$5 billion announced)
- **IAFS-III:** 2015, New Delhi (India committed \$10 billion credit and 50,000 scholarships)

The 4th edition was being planned but had not been held by 2024, meaning **three editions** had been conducted. India's development partnership with Africa also includes capacity building, healthcare, IT, and agricultural collaboration.

Options (A) two, (C) four, and (D) five are all incorrect. Only three editions of IAFS had been held by 2024.

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



Q16.

Solution**Topic: SCO Summit 2023 – India's Virtual Format**

India held the Presidency of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** for 2022–2023. India hosted the **23rd SCO Heads of State Summit** in July 2023 in a **virtual format**, making it the **first-ever SCO summit to be conducted online**. Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the summit via video conferencing. The decision to go virtual was notable as it meant leaders from Pakistan, China, and other member states participated remotely.

SCO membership facts:

- Full members (as of 2023): China, Russia, India, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, Belarus
- Observer states: Afghanistan, Mongolia, etc.
- India joined SCO as a full member in 2017 (along with Pakistan)
- India also hosted the SCO Foreign Ministers' meeting in Goa (in-person, May 2023)

Options (A) and (B) are incorrect – no in-person heads of state summit was held in New Delhi or Mumbai. Option (D) hybrid format is incorrect. The summit was entirely virtual.

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

Q17.

Solution**Topic: India-Nepal Hydropower – Pancheshwar Project**

The **Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project (PMP)** is the largest bilateral hydropower project between India and Nepal. It is to be built on the Mahakali River (also called Sharda in India) at the India-Nepal border in Uttarakhand/Sudurpashchim province, Nepal. The project has a planned installed capacity of approximately **5,040 MW** and is envisioned as part of the 1996 **Mahakali Treaty** between India and Nepal. Despite decades of negotiations, the project remained under discussion.

Key facts:

- **Pancheshwar Project:** Planned capacity $\approx 5,040$ MW; based on 1996 Mahakali Treaty



- India-Nepal 10,000 MW target: Set during PM Modi's visit to Nepal and subsequent bilateral meetings
- Other India-financed projects: Arun-III (900 MW, to be developed by SJVN, India)
- Upper Karnali and West Seti: To be developed with Indian companies under build-own-operate-transfer model

The Pancheshwar project is the **largest** (by planned capacity) among all bilateral India-Nepal hydropower projects. Options (A), (B), and (C) are smaller or separately financed projects.

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

Q18.

Solution

Topic: India's Engagement with Pacific Islands – SAGAR Initiative

India's outreach to Pacific Island nations is framed within its **Indo-Pacific Vision** and PM Modi's **SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region)** doctrine, articulated in 2015. India engages with the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) to strengthen people-to-people ties, maritime security cooperation, climate resilience support, and development partnerships.

Key aspects of India's Pacific engagement:

- India is a *Post Forum Dialogue Partner* with the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)
- PM Modi made the first-ever visit by an Indian PM to Papua New Guinea in 2023 and addressed the India-Pacific Islands Cooperation Forum (FIPIC) summit
- FIPIC III was held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, in May 2023
- India's support: disaster relief, healthcare, scholarships, renewable energy assistance
- SAGAR doctrine: focuses on India as a net security provider in the Indian Ocean and Pacific region

Option (B) is incorrect as Act East Policy encompasses a broader range than just ASEAN. Option (C) Project Mausam is a cultural/archaeological initiative, not Pacific-focused. Option (D) is incorrect as this is a separate bilateral arrangement.

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



Q19.

Solution**Topic: WHO Pandemic Accord**

The **WHO Pandemic Accord** (formally the “WHO CA+” – Convention, Agreement or other International Instrument), under negotiation since 2021, aims to create a binding international framework to **ensure equitable access to vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics (the VDT triad)** and strengthen global pandemic preparedness and response. Negotiations were ongoing in 2024 with a target for adoption at the World Health Assembly.

Key provisions under discussion:

- Equity provisions: Sharing of 20% of vaccine/drug/test production with WHO during pandemics
- Pathogen Access and Benefit Sharing (PABS): Sharing pathogen samples in exchange for access to products derived from them
- One Health approach: Integrating human, animal, and environmental health
- IP flexibilities: Enabling compulsory licensing for developing countries in emergencies
- Surveillance: Strengthening WHO’s early warning capacity (IHR reforms)

Option (A) – a global carbon tax – is not part of the WHO Pandemic Accord. Option (B) – merging WHO with the UNSC – is incorrect. Option (D) – creating a new organisation to replace WHO – is not the treaty’s aim.

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

Q20.

Solution**Topic: Aman Sehrawat – Wrestling Bronze, Paris Olympics 2024**

Aman Sehrawat won India’s only wrestling medal at the **Paris Olympics 2024** – a **bronze medal in men’s freestyle wrestling in the 57 kg category**, defeating Puerto Rico’s Darian Toi Cruz in the bronze medal bout. At 21 years of age, he became one of the youngest Indian Olympic medallists. He trains at the Chhatrasal Stadium in Delhi and was mentored by the late wrestler Sushil Kumar’s coach.

India’s wrestling at Paris 2024:

- **Aman Sehrawat:** Bronze medal, 57 kg freestyle (India’s only wrestling medal)



- He was the *only* Indian wrestler to make the podium at Paris 2024
- Weight category: **57 kg freestyle** – not 65 kg, 74 kg, or 86 kg
- He had won gold at the World Wrestling Championships (U-23) in 2023

Options (A) 65 kg, (C) 74 kg, and (D) 86 kg are incorrect weight categories for Aman Sehrawat.

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

Q21.

Solution

Topic: Neeraj Chopra – Silver Medal, Paris Olympics 2024

Neeraj Chopra, the reigning Olympic champion (gold medalist at Tokyo 2020), competed in the men's javelin throw final at the **Paris Olympics 2024**. He could not defend his gold medal and finished with a **silver medal**, with a best throw of **89.45 metres**. The gold medal went to Arshad Nadeem of Pakistan, who set a new Olympic record of 92.97 metres.

Key facts:

- Paris 2024 result: **Silver medal** (89.45 m)
- Gold medalist (Paris 2024): Arshad Nadeem (Pakistan) – 92.97 m (Olympic record)
- Tokyo 2020 gold: Neeraj Chopra – 87.58 m
- Neeraj also won gold at World Athletics Championships 2023 (Budapest)
- He was the first Indian to win Olympic gold in a track and field event (Tokyo 2020)

Option (A) gold and (B) bronze are incorrect for Paris 2024. Option (C) “no medal” is incorrect – he won silver. The correct answer is **(D) Silver**.

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



Q22.

Solution**Topic: Satwik-Chirag – Badminton Pair, Paris Olympics 2024**

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, India's top-ranked men's doubles badminton pair and World No. 1 at the time of the Paris Olympics 2024, were the strong medal contenders. However, they exited the tournament at the **quarterfinal stage** after losing to the eventual silver medalists Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto of Indonesia.

Key facts:

- Paris 2024 result: **Quarterfinals** (lost to Indonesian pair)
- World ranking at time of Paris Olympics: World No. 1 in men's doubles
- Notable wins: Thomas Cup 2022 (India won, ended 73-year drought), World Championships bronze
- Paris gold (badminton men's doubles): Lee Zii Jia (Malaysia) – wait, gold went to Malaysian pair Fajar/Rian? Let me correct: actually the gold was won by Chinese pair Liu Yuchen/Ou Xuanyi; Fajar/Rian (Indonesia) won silver
- Satwik-Chirag lost to Fajar/Rian (Indonesia) in the QF

Options (B) semifinals, (C) bronze medal match, and (D) Round of 16 are all incorrect. They reached the quarterfinals but could not advance further.

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

Q23.

Solution**Topic: Swapnil Kusale – 50m Rifle 3 Positions, Paris Olympics 2024**

Swapnil Kusale, a member of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), won the bronze medal in **50m Rifle 3 Positions (Men)** at the Paris Olympics 2024 – India's **first-ever Olympic medal in this specific event**. He finished with a score of 451.4 in the final, behind gold medalist Liu Yukun (China) and silver medalist Serhiy Kulish (Ukraine).

Key facts:

- Event: **50m Rifle 3 Positions (Men)** – a combined kneeling, prone, and standing position event



- Medal: Bronze (451.4 points)
- Significance: **India's first-ever Olympic medal** in the 50m Rifle 3P event
- He trains at the Pune-based Maharashtra Nishanabaaj Sangh academy
- India's total shooting medals at Paris 2024: Three (including Manu Bhaker's two bronze medals)

10m Air Rifle (A) is a different event. 25m Rapid Fire Pistol (B) is yet another event. 10m Air Pistol (D) is the event in which Manu Bhaker won medals. Swapnil's event was **50m Rifle 3 Positions**.

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

Q24.

Solution

Topic: Nobel Prize in Economics 2024

The **Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences 2024** (Sveriges Riksbank Prize) was awarded to **Daron Acemoglu** (MIT), **Simon Johnson** (MIT), and **James A. Robinson** (University of Chicago) for their seminal research on **how institutions are formed and how they shape the long-term prosperity of nations**.

Key contributions of the laureates:

- Their research shows that societies with inclusive economic and political institutions tend to prosper, while those with extractive institutions stagnate
- They used colonial history as a natural experiment – demonstrating that settler mortality affected institutional quality, which in turn determined long-run GDP
- Key works: *Why Nations Fail* (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2012); *Power and Progress* (Acemoglu & Johnson, 2023)
- The research helps explain persistent inequality between countries

Option (A) nudge theory was recognised by Richard Thaler (2017 Nobel). Option (B) climate economics was recognised by William Nordhaus (2018 Nobel). Option (C) auction theory/mechanism design was recognised by Milgrom and Wilson (2020 Nobel).

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



Q25.

Solution**Topic: Droupadi Murmu – 15th President of India**

Droupadi Murmu was sworn in as the **15th President of India** on 25 July 2022. She is historically significant as the **first tribal woman to become President of India**. She belongs to the Santali tribal community of Odisha. Before becoming President, she served as the Governor of Jharkhand (2015–2021) and earlier as a minister in Odisha.

Key facts:

- She is the **first** tribal woman (and second woman overall) to serve as President of India
- First woman President of India: Pratibha Patil (12th President, 2007–2012)
- Community: Santali tribal community, Odisha
- Previous role: Governor of Jharkhand (2015–2021)
- She is not the youngest – that record belonged to Neelam Sanjiva Reddy

Option (B) “second woman President” is technically true but incomplete and not historically notable – what makes her unique is being the **first tribal woman**. Option (A) is the most accurate and historically significant characterisation. Options (C) and (D) are incorrect.

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

Q26.

Solution**Topic: N. Chandrasekaran – Tata Sons Chairman**

N. Chandrasekaran (Natarajan Chandrasekaran) became the Executive Chairman of **Tata Sons** in February 2017. Before this appointment, he served as the **Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** from 2009 to 2017. Under his leadership, TCS became one of the world’s most valuable IT companies. As Chairman of Tata Sons, he oversees the entire Tata Group, which includes over 100 companies across multiple sectors.

Key facts:

- Previous role: **CEO and MD of TCS** (Tata Consultancy Services) – 2009 to 2017



- Current role: Executive Chairman, Tata Sons (since February 2017)
- He is the first non-Parsi, non-Tata family member to chair Tata Sons
- Under him, Tata Group acquired Air India (2022) and expanded into semi-conductors and EV batteries

Option (A) Tata Motors, (C) Tata Steel, and (D) Tata Power are all Tata group companies, but Chandrasekaran was the CEO of TCS (B) before becoming Chairman of Tata Sons.

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

Q27.

Solution

Topic: BharatNet – Rural Broadband Connectivity

BharatNet is the Government of India's flagship programme under the Ministry of Communications to provide **broadband internet connectivity to all approximately 2.5 lakh (250,000) gram panchayats** across rural India using optical fibre, radio, and satellite technologies. It is the world's largest rural broadband connectivity programme.

Key facts about BharatNet:

- Target: All **≈2.5 lakh (250,000) gram panchayats** – correct answer is (B)
- Phase I: Connected approximately 1 lakh gram panchayats
- Phase II: Extended to remaining gram panchayats including tribal and hilly areas
- Implementing agency: Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), later merged with BSNL in 2022
- Technology: Primarily optical fibre cable (OFC) underground and aerial, with satellite and microwave as alternatives

Option (A) 1 lakh is only Phase I coverage. Option (C) 50,000 is an underestimate. Option (D) only capital gram panchayats is incorrect – BharatNet covers all rural gram panchayats.

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



Q28.

Solution**Topic: DRDO's Gaurav – Long-Range Glide Bomb**

In May 2024, the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** successfully conducted the maiden flight test of **Gaurav**, India's first indigenously developed **long-range glide bomb**. The weapon was released from a Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force. Gaurav is designed to strike targets at long range with high accuracy using a stand-off capability (the aircraft does not need to enter the target's air defence zone).

Key specifications of Gaurav:

- Type: **Long-range glide bomb** (stand-off weapon)
- Range: Approximately 100 km (some sources indicate longer glide range depending on release altitude)
- Launch platform: Su-30 MKI (Indian Air Force)
- Developed by: DRDO's Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad
- Significance: India's first indigenous glide bomb; adds to IAF's precision strike capabilities

Option (A) – Gaurav is not a hypersonic cruise missile (BrahMos-NG or HGV programs are separate). Option (B) – DRDO's A-SAT was tested in 2019 (Mission Shakti), not 2024. Option (C) – nuclear-capable ballistic missiles are a different category (e.g., Agni series). Gaurav is specifically a glide bomb.

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

Q29.

Solution**Topic: Genome India Project – Sequencing Target**

The **Genome India Project (GIP)**, launched in 2020 and coordinated by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, aims to understand the **genetic diversity of the Indian population**. The initial Phase I target was to sequence the whole genomes of **10,000 individuals** from diverse ethnic, linguistic, and geographic groups across India.

Key facts:

- Coordinating institution: Centre for Brain Research, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru



- Phase I target: **10,000 Indian genomes** – correct answer is (B)
- Participating institutions: 20+ hospitals and research institutions across India
- First results: Published in early 2024, revealing unique genetic variants in Indian population
- Significance: Enables precision medicine, drug development tailored to Indians, disease risk profiling

Option (A) 1,00,000 is the expanded future target; Option (C) 5,000 is an underestimate; Option (D) 50,000 is incorrect. Phase I specifically targeted **10,000 genomes**.

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

Q30.

Solution

Topic: INS Vikrant – India's Indigenous Aircraft Carrier

INS Vikrant (IAC-1) is India's first indigenously designed and constructed aircraft carrier. It was commissioned into the Indian Navy on **2 September 2022** by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Kochi, Kerala. The carrier was built by **Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)**, Kochi, Kerala, making it a landmark achievement in Indian shipbuilding.

Key specifications of INS Vikrant:

- Builder: **Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi, Kerala** – correct answer is (C)
- Displacement: Approximately 45,000 tonnes (fully loaded)
- Length: Approximately 262 metres
- Aircraft capacity: 30+ aircraft (MiG-29K fighters, Kamov-31 helicopters, etc.)
- Propulsion: 4 General Electric LM2500 gas turbines; 4 shafts; 28 knots maximum speed
- India became the 5th nation (after USA, UK, Russia, France) to build its own aircraft carrier

Mazagon Dock (A) builds submarines and destroyers. Garden Reach Shipbuilders (B) builds frigates and patrol vessels. Hindustan Shipyard (D) builds tankers and



repair work. INS Vikrant was built at **Cochin Shipyard**.

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

Q31.

Solution

Topic: Viksit Bharat 2047 – Economic Vision

Viksit Bharat 2047 (Developed India 2047) is the Government of India's vision document for making India a fully developed nation by the centenary of its independence in 2047. The vision encompasses economic, social, environmental, and governance dimensions. The economic ambition associated with this vision is to grow India's GDP to approximately **\$35 trillion by 2047**, making it the world's third-largest economy.

Key pillars of Viksit Bharat 2047:

- **GDP target:** Approximately **\$35 trillion** by 2047 – correct answer is (B)
- **Current GDP (2024):** Approximately \$3.7 trillion (world's 5th largest)
- **Target requires sustained GDP growth of 8%+ per annum for 23 years**
- **Four pillars:** Yuva (Youth), Garib (Poor), Mahila (Women), Kisan (Farmers)
- **India@100** aims to be a: prosperous, inclusive, sustainable, and resilient nation

Options (A) \$10 trillion, (C) \$50 trillion, and (D) \$20 trillion are all incorrect for the Viksit Bharat 2047 stated ambition.

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

Q32.

Solution

Topic: ONDC – Open Network for Digital Commerce

The **Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)** was launched by the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)**, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, with the primary objective of **democratising e-commerce** by creating an open, interoperable network where any buyer (using any buyer-side app) can discover and transact with any seller (listed on any seller-side app), thus reducing the dominance of large e-commerce platforms.

How ONDC works:



- Based on open protocols (like UPI for payments), not a government e-commerce app
- Any buyer app (e.g., Paytm, Mystore, Pincode) can transact with any seller app (e.g., Meesho, Bazaar, local apps)
- Sellers: MSMEs, kirana stores, farmers, artisans can list on any platform and be discovered by buyers on any other platform
- Reduces the “platform lock-in” that large players like Amazon and Flipkart have
- Incorporated as a private non-profit company (Section 8)

Option (A) is incorrect – it is not a portal but a protocol network. Option (B) is incorrect – it does not regulate FDI. Option (C) is incorrect – it does not set GST rates.

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

Q33.

Solution

Topic: India's Sovereign Green Bonds

India issued its first **Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs)** in two tranches in January and February 2023. The proceeds are earmarked exclusively for **green infrastructure projects that help reduce the carbon intensity of the Indian economy**, as set out in India's Green Bond Framework (2022).

Key uses of SGrB proceeds (as per India's framework):

- Renewable energy (solar, wind, small hydro)
- Energy efficiency
- Clean transportation (metro rail, e-buses)
- Climate change adaptation
- Sustainable water and waste management
- Green buildings
- Biodiversity conservation and afforestation

Key facts:

- First tranche: January 2023 (₹8,000 crore raised); second tranche: February 2023 (₹8,000 crore)



- Managed by: Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on behalf of the government
- Framework published: October 2022 by Ministry of Finance

Options (B), (C), and (D) are all incorrect – the bonds do not fund individual EV subsidies, pay states for forest cover, or transfer money to other nations under Paris Agreement.

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

Q34.

Solution

Topic: India's 100 GW Solar Capacity Milestone

India crossed the **100 GW installed solar power capacity milestone** in 2024, becoming one of only a few countries globally to achieve this. This achievement is part of India's **500 GW non-fossil fuel energy target by 2030** (committed under the Paris Agreement NDCs). The 100 GW solar milestone includes utility-scale solar parks, rooftop solar, and off-grid installations.

Key facts on India's solar journey:

- 2010: $\approx$ 10 MW installed solar capacity
- 2022: $\approx$ 67 GW
- 2024: Crossed **100 GW** – correct answer is (C)
- India's total renewable capacity (2024): $>$ 200 GW (including wind, hydro, biomass)
- India's solar target by 2030: 280 GW solar capacity
- India ranks 3rd globally in renewable energy capacity additions

Option (A) 50 GW was crossed earlier (around 2022). Option (B) 75 GW was also a milestone crossed in 2023. Option (D) 150 GW had not been achieved by 2024. The **100 GW milestone** was specifically crossed in 2024.

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



Q35.

Solution**Topic: Great Indian Bustard – Conservation**

The **Great Indian Bustard (GIB)** (*Ardeotis nigriceps*) is one of India's most critically endangered birds, with a wild population estimated at fewer than 150 individuals as of 2024. It is primarily found in the **arid and semi-arid grasslands of Rajasthan** (especially the Desert National Park and Pokhran area) and smaller populations in **parts of Gujarat** (Kutch grasslands), Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Andhra Pradesh.

Conservation status and efforts:

- IUCN status: **Critically Endangered**
- Listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
- Project Great Indian Bustard: Conservation breeding programme initiated in Rajasthan
- Key threat: Powerline collisions (GIB cannot detect overhead powerlines due to limited frontal vision); the Supreme Court ordered underground cabling in critical GIB habitats in 2021
- Primary habitat: **Grasslands of Rajasthan and parts of Gujarat** – correct answer is (B)

Option (A) “Thar Desert of Rajasthan only” is incomplete – GIB is also found in Gujarat and other states. Option (C) wetlands and mangroves is incorrect. Option (D) Shola grasslands of Western Ghats is incorrect – GIBs are not found there.

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

Answer Key

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

