

MH CET LAW General Knowledge & Current Affairs

Sample Paper – 5

Duration: 24 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 30

Instructions

- This paper contains **30** Multiple Choice Questions modelled on the General Knowledge & Current Affairs section of **MH CET LAW** (5-Year LLB).
- Questions cover Indian History, Polity, Geography, Economy, Science & Technology, Current Affairs, Sports, and related topics.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is **no negative marking** for incorrect or unattempted answers.
- Only **one** option is correct per question. Choose carefully.
- Use of mobile phones or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

- Q1.** The Lucknow Pact of 1916 was a landmark agreement in Indian political history signed during the Lucknow session of Congress. It brought together the Indian National Congress and the All India Muslim League on a common political platform, representing a rare moment of Hindu-Muslim unity in the freedom struggle. Which of the following BEST describes the key achievement of the Lucknow Pact of 1916?
- (A) It established a joint Hindu-Muslim political front by conceding separate electorates for Muslims in legislative councils and committing both organisations to work together against British colonial rule.
- (B) It called for complete independence (Purna Swaraj) from British rule as the primary and immediate goal of the Indian national movement.
- (C) It proposed a federal structure for India with Muslim-majority provinces being granted autonomous legislative powers and the right to secession.



(D) It formally merged the Indian National Congress and the All India Muslim League into a single, unified political organisation with a joint constitution.

Q2. The Lok Sabha is the directly elected lower house of the Parliament of India, representing the will of the people. The Constitution of India lays down specific provisions regarding the duration of the Lok Sabha and the circumstances under which it may be dissolved or extended. What is the MAXIMUM duration of the Lok Sabha as prescribed in the Constitution, and under what circumstances can it be extended beyond this period?

- (A) 4 years from the date of its first sitting; it cannot be extended under any circumstances including during a national emergency.
- (B) 5 years from the date of its first sitting; it can be extended by Parliament by one year at a time during the operation of a Proclamation of National Emergency under Article 352.
- (C) 6 years from the date of its first sitting; it can be extended once, by two years, with the approval of a two-thirds majority in both Houses of Parliament.
- (D) 5 years from the date of its first sitting; it cannot be extended under any circumstances, even during a proclamation of national emergency.

Q3. The Krishna River is one of the major eastward-flowing rivers of peninsular India and the second longest after the Godavari, with a total length of approximately 1,400 km. It drains an extensive basin covering parts of several Indian states before finally meeting the Bay of Bengal. Where does the Krishna River ORIGINATE, and in which state is this source located?

- (A) It originates at Nashik in Maharashtra, from the Tryambakeshwar hills near the Brahmagiri mountain in the Western Ghats.
- (B) It originates at Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh, the same plateau that is also the source of the Narmada and Son rivers.



- (C) It originates at Mahabaleshwar in Maharashtra, rising from the Sahyadri (Western Ghats) at an altitude of approximately 1,337 metres above sea level.
- (D) It originates at Coorg (Kodagu) in Karnataka, near the Brahmagiri mountain peak, before flowing eastward through the Deccan Plateau.

Q4. Startup India is a flagship initiative of the Government of India that aims to build a strong ecosystem for fostering innovation and promoting economic growth. The initiative offers multiple benefits including tax exemptions for three years, self-certification under six labour and environment laws, and fast-track patent examination at reduced fees. Which of the following correctly states BOTH the year of launch of Startup India AND the full expansion of the acronym DPIIT, the nodal ministry that administers it?

- (A) Launched in 2015; DPIIT stands for Department of Public Investment and Industrial Technology.
- (B) Launched in 2017; DPIIT stands for Department for Productivity, Innovation, and Industrial Transformation.
- (C) Launched in 2016; DPIIT stands for Department for Planning, Infrastructure, and Internal Trade.
- (D) Launched in 2016; DPIIT stands for Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.

Q5. Gaganyaan is India's ambitious first human spaceflight programme being developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). The mission is designed to demonstrate India's capability to undertake human spaceflight to low Earth orbit, which would make India only the fourth country to independently send humans to space after the USSR, USA, and China. What is the TARGET ORBITAL ALTITUDE of the Gaganyaan mission, and what is the planned crew size?

- (A) 400 km orbital altitude with a crew of 3 Indian astronauts (called Gaganauts) for a mission duration of 3 days.



- (B) 500 km orbital altitude with a crew of 4 Indian astronauts (called Vyomanauts) for a mission duration of 7 days.
- (C) 350 km orbital altitude with a crew of 2 Indian astronauts (called Gaganaauts) for a mission duration of 5 days.
- (D) 600 km orbital altitude with a crew of 3 Indian astronauts (called Akashnauts) for a mission duration of 14 days.

Q6. Viswanathan Anand is India's most celebrated chess Grandmaster, who became the first Indian to win the World Chess Championship and went on to dominate the global chess arena for nearly two decades. He was conferred the Padma Vibhushan in 2008 and holds multiple national and international chess records. How many times did Viswanathan Anand win the FIDE World Chess Championship title during his illustrious career?

- (A) Three times, winning the World Chess Championship in the years 2000, 2007, and 2008.
- (B) Five times, winning the World Chess Championship in the years 2000, 2007, 2008, 2010, and 2012.
- (C) Four times, winning the World Chess Championship in the years 2007, 2008, 2010, and 2012.
- (D) Six times, winning the World Chess Championship in the years 1995, 2000, 2007, 2008, 2010, and 2012.

Q7. The new Parliament building of India was inaugurated as part of the Central Vista Redevelopment Project in New Delhi. Designed by renowned architect Bimal Patel, it incorporates traditional Indian architectural motifs and state-of-the-art legislative facilities. The Lok Sabha chamber in the new building has a significantly larger seating capacity than the old building to accommodate potential future expansion of Parliament following delimitation. What is the seating capacity of the Lok Sabha chamber in India's new Parliament building inaugurated in 2023?



- (A) 543 seats, exactly matching the current total elected strength of the Lok Sabha.
- (B) 1,224 seats, designed to accommodate the combined joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament.
- (C) 888 seats, designed to accommodate an expanded Lok Sabha membership that may follow delimitation.
- (D) 650 seats, providing additional space beyond the current strength for visiting dignitaries and officials.

Q8. India's highest honour in the field of sports was renamed in August 2021 by the Government of India following widespread requests from the sporting community and the general public. The award recognises spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports over a period of four years and is given annually by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. What is the CURRENT official name of India's highest sports honour, and in whose honour was it renamed from its previous name?

- (A) It is currently called the Dronacharya Award and was renamed in 2021 in honour of legendary hockey player Major Dhyan Chand.
- (B) It is currently called the Arjuna Award and was named after the mythological hero Arjuna from the Mahabharata; there was no renaming in 2021.
- (C) It retained the name Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna in 2021 after extensive public consultations found majority support for the original name.
- (D) It is currently called the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, renamed in August 2021 in honour of hockey wizard Major Dhyan Chand, having previously been called the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna.

Q9. Odissi is one of the oldest surviving classical dance forms of India, with documentary evidence from sculptures found in the Udayagiri and Khandagiri caves. It is deeply rooted in devotional Vaishnavism and draws heavily from Jayadeva's Sanskrit composition Gita Govinda as well as the



principles of the Natya Shastra. From which Indian state does the classical dance form Odissi originate, and by which national body has it been officially recognised as a classical dance of India?

- (A) Odissi originates from Odisha, and is officially recognised by the Sangeet Natak Akademi as one of the eight classical dance forms of India.
- (B) Odissi originates from Andhra Pradesh, and is officially recognised by the Lalit Kala Akademi as a classical heritage art form of peninsular India.
- (C) Odissi originates from Tamil Nadu, and is officially recognised by the Sangeet Natak Akademi alongside Bharatanatyam as the two major southern classical dances.
- (D) Odissi originates from West Bengal, and is officially recognised by the Sahitya Akademi as a classical performing art tradition of eastern India.

Q10. BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) is a regional intergovernmental organisation that connects South Asian and Southeast Asian nations sharing the Bay of Bengal. The organisation focuses on accelerating economic growth and social progress through cooperation in areas including trade, technology, energy, transport, tourism, fisheries, and agriculture. Where is the BIMSTEC Secretariat located, and what is the total number of member states?

- (A) The BIMSTEC Secretariat is located in Kathmandu, Nepal; the organisation has 6 member states comprising India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka.
- (B) The BIMSTEC Secretariat is located in Dhaka, Bangladesh; the organisation has 7 member states comprising Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.
- (C) The BIMSTEC Secretariat is located in Colombo, Sri Lanka; the organisation has 7 member states including all South Asian nations



plus Thailand and Cambodia.

- (D) The BIMSTEC Secretariat is located in New Delhi, India; the organisation has 8 member states after the Maldives joined as the latest member in 2022.

Q11. The Indian National Congress (INC) was established as India's first major political organisation with a truly national character, bringing together educated Indians from different regions to present grievances before the British colonial government. The founding of the INC in 1885 marked the beginning of organised political activity in colonial India and set the stage for the freedom movement. Who is primarily credited as the principal founder of the Indian National Congress, and in which city was the first session held?

- (A) Bal Gangadhar Tilak; the first session of the Indian National Congress was held in Pune (Poona) during the Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations of December 1885.
- (B) Dadabhai Naoroji; the Indian National Congress was founded in Calcutta (Kolkata) in December 1885 with Surendranath Banerjea as its first president.
- (C) Allan Octavian Hume, a retired British Indian Civil Service officer; the Indian National Congress was founded in Bombay (Mumbai) in December 1885, with Womesh Chunder Bonnerjee as its first president.
- (D) Surendranath Banerjea; he dissolved his Indian National Association and merged it into the newly formed Indian National Congress at Madras in December 1885.

Q12. The Anti-Defection Law was enacted to address the problem of political instability caused by elected representatives switching parties after elections — a practice that had destabilised several state governments. The law disqualifies an elected member who voluntarily gives up membership of the political party on whose ticket they were elected, or who votes



against the party's directions in the legislature. Through which Constitutional Amendment Act was the Anti-Defection Law incorporated, and in which Schedule of the Indian Constitution is it enshrined?

- (A) Through the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976; it is incorporated as the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
- (B) Through the 44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978; it is incorporated as the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
- (C) Through the 61st Constitutional Amendment Act, 1988; it is incorporated as the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India.
- (D) Through the 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985; it is incorporated as the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution of India, and adjudicated by the Speaker or Chairman.

Q13. Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) is recognised as the world's largest government-funded health assurance scheme. Launched in September 2018, it seeks to make quality healthcare accessible to India's most economically vulnerable population by eliminating out-of-pocket expenditure at the time of hospitalisation at empanelled hospitals. What is the ANNUAL HEALTH COVER provided to each eligible family under PM-JAY, and how many beneficiaries does it target?

- (A) Rs. 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation, covering approximately 55 crore beneficiaries from the bottom 40% of India's population.
- (B) Rs. 2 lakh per family per year for secondary hospitalisation only, covering approximately 40 crore beneficiaries from the bottom 25% of India's population.
- (C) Rs. 10 lakh per family per year for all types of medical treatment including outpatient care, covering approximately 80 crore beneficiaries.
- (D) Rs. 3 lakh per family per year for tertiary hospitalisation only, cover-



ing approximately 50 crore beneficiaries from economically weaker urban families.

Q14. The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international climate accord adopted at the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21) of the UNFCCC in December 2015. It entered into force in November 2016 and represents a historic commitment by nearly all nations of the world to combat climate change through nationally determined contributions. What is the primary TEMPERATURE LIMIT TARGET set by the Paris Agreement for the global average temperature rise above pre-industrial levels?

- (A) To limit the global average temperature increase to no more than 3°C above pre-industrial levels by the end of the 21st century.
- (B) To hold the global average temperature increase to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and to pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C.
- (C) To achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions globally by 2030 and to maintain temperatures at current pre-industrial levels indefinitely.
- (D) To reduce global average temperatures by 1°C from current observed levels by 2050 through mandated carbon capture technologies.

Q15. Aditya-L1 is India's first dedicated space-based solar observatory mission launched by ISRO on 2 September 2023. The mission aims to study the Sun's corona, solar winds, coronal mass ejections (CMEs), and solar ultraviolet radiation, which directly influence space weather around Earth and affect satellite-based communication systems. At which Sun-Earth Lagrange point has the Aditya-L1 spacecraft been positioned, and what is the approximate distance of this point from Earth?

- (A) At the Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 2 (L2), approximately 1.5 million km from Earth in the anti-sunward direction, opposite to where the Sun is.
- (B) At the Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 4 (L4), approximately 150 million



km from Earth in a stable equilateral triangular position ahead of Earth in its orbit.

- (C) At the Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 1 (L1), approximately 1.5 million km from Earth in the direction of the Sun, allowing uninterrupted observation of the Sun.
- (D) At the Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 5 (L5), approximately 150 million km from Earth trailing Earth in its orbit, in an equilateral triangular arrangement.

Q16. “Midnight’s Children” is a celebrated postcolonial novel by British-Indian author Salman Rushdie, published in 1981. The novel uses magical realism to narrate the story of India from independence and partition in 1947 through its protagonist Saleem Sinai, who is born at the exact moment of India’s independence. Which prestigious literary prize did “Midnight’s Children” win in 1993 that recognised it as the finest work among all previous Booker Prize winners?

- (A) The Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1993, awarded by the Pulitzer Prize Board in the United States as international recognition of its literary excellence.
- (B) The Nobel Prize in Literature in 1993, awarded by the Swedish Academy to Salman Rushdie for his body of work including “Midnight’s Children”.
- (C) The International Booker Prize in 1993, awarded for the best translated fiction from South Asian literature.
- (D) The Booker of Bookers Prize in 1993, awarded on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Booker Prize by selecting the best of all past winners.

Q17. Dr. Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam was one of India’s most eminent scientists and a beloved statesman. He played a pivotal role in developing India’s missile technology as part of the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) and was instrumental in the



Pokhran-II nuclear tests of 1998, earning the title “Missile Man of India.” Which ordinal number President of India was Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, and what were the years of his presidential tenure?

- (A) He was the 11th President of India, serving from July 2002 to July 2007, widely regarded as the “People’s President”.
- (B) He was the 10th President of India, serving from July 1997 to July 2002, succeeding Shankar Dayal Sharma.
- (C) He was the 12th President of India, serving from July 2007 to July 2012, after succeeding K.R. Narayanan in office.
- (D) He was the 13th President of India, serving from July 2012 to July 2017, before Ram Nath Kovind assumed the office.

Q18. The Commonwealth of Nations is a voluntary association of independent sovereign states, most of which are former territories of the British Empire. It promotes democracy, human rights, good governance, the rule of law, individual liberty, and free trade among its members. Where is the Commonwealth Secretariat headquartered, and what is the total number of member states of the Commonwealth of Nations as of 2022?

- (A) The Commonwealth Secretariat is headquartered in Edinburgh, Scotland, and the organisation has 53 member states spread across all continents.
- (B) The Commonwealth Secretariat is headquartered at Marlborough House in London, England, and the organisation has 56 member states.
- (C) The Commonwealth Secretariat is headquartered in Canberra, Australia, and the organisation has 54 member states with representation from six continents.
- (D) The Commonwealth Secretariat is headquartered in New York, USA, near the United Nations complex, and the organisation has 52 member states.



- Q19.** The Battle of Plassey on 23 June 1757 was one of the most consequential battles in Indian history, fundamentally altering the balance of power in the subcontinent. Fought in the plains of Bengal, this battle ended the rule of an independent Nawab and laid the foundation for two centuries of British colonial dominance in India. Who COMMANDED the British East India Company's forces at the Battle of Plassey, and against which Nawab of Bengal was this battle primarily fought?
- (A) Sir Eyre Coote commanded the British East India Company forces against Nawab Mir Qasim, whose French allies were also defeated in the plains of Bengal.
 - (B) Lord Wellesley commanded the British forces against Nawab Mir Jafar, who later became a puppet Nawab after betraying his predecessor.
 - (C) Robert Clive commanded the British East India Company forces against Siraj ud-Daulah, the Nawab of Bengal, with the treachery of Mir Jafar contributing to the EIC's decisive victory.
 - (D) Warren Hastings commanded the British forces against Nawab Shuja ud-Daulah of Awadh in the decisive engagement on the plains near Plassey.
- Q20.** The Indian Constitution under its Directive Principles of State Policy contains a specific provision obligating the State to ensure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunity. This provision was inserted by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976 and has been operationalised through subsequent legislation and national programmes. Which ARTICLE of the Indian Constitution mandates the State to provide free legal aid, and which statutory body was created to give effect to this directive?
- (A) Article 39, which directs the State to ensure equal distribution of material resources of the community to sub-serve the common good.
 - (B) Article 32, which provides the constitutional remedy and the right to approach the Supreme Court for enforcement of fundamental rights.



- (C) Article 43A, which directs the State to take steps by suitable legislation to secure the participation of workers in the management of industrial undertakings.
- (D) Article 39A, which mandates the State to ensure equal justice and provide free legal aid through suitable legislation; operationalised through NALSA (National Legal Services Authority) under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Q21. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is a direct benefit transfer scheme of the Government of India that provides income support to all farmer families with cultivable land across the country. The scheme aims to supplement the financial needs of farmers in procuring agricultural inputs and for their domestic needs. What is the TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME SUPPORT provided under PM-KISAN, and in how many installments is it paid?

- (A) Rs. 6,000 per year, disbursed in three equal installments of Rs. 2,000 each directly into the beneficiary farmer family's bank account every four months.
- (B) Rs. 4,000 per year, disbursed in two equal installments of Rs. 2,000 each, with an additional Rs. 2,000 supplement during crop loss situations.
- (C) Rs. 8,000 per year, disbursed in four equal installments of Rs. 2,000 each, conditional upon Aadhaar-linked bank account verification.
- (D) Rs. 12,000 per year, disbursed in six equal monthly installments of Rs. 2,000 each, linked to compliance with crop insurance under PMFBY.

Q22. The concept of “One Nation, One Election” proposes holding simultaneous elections for the Lok Sabha and all State Legislative Assemblies across India at the same time, potentially reducing the frequency of elections and their associated administrative burden. The Government of India constituted a High-Level Committee to examine this proposal



comprehensively and make recommendations. Who CHAIRED the High-Level Committee on “One Nation, One Election” whose recommendations were accepted by the Union Cabinet in September 2024?

- (A) Justice (Retd.) Deepak Gupta, a former Judge of the Supreme Court of India, chaired the committee which was formed in early 2024.
- (B) Ram Nath Kovind, former President of India, chaired the committee which submitted its comprehensive report recommending a two-phase implementation of simultaneous elections.
- (C) N.K. Singh, former Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission, chaired the committee on simultaneous elections constituted in late 2022.
- (D) Ratan Watal, former Principal Economic Adviser to the Government of India, chaired the High-Level Committee on electoral reforms.

Q23. The Paris 2024 Summer Olympics witnessed a historic achievement by young Indian wrestler Aman Sehrawat, who won a Bronze medal in Men’s Freestyle Wrestling (57 kg category). His victory not only added to India’s Olympic medal tally but also set a remarkable record in Indian Olympic history that transcended just the medal itself. What specific historic distinction did Aman Sehrawat earn at the Paris Olympics 2024 by virtue of his Bronze medal win?

- (A) He became the first Indian wrestler to win an Olympic medal in any freestyle wrestling weight category in the entire history of the Olympic Games.
- (B) He won the first-ever Olympic medal for India in the 57 kg freestyle wrestling category, breaking a long-standing national drought in this division.
- (C) At 21 years of age, he became the youngest Indian to win an individual medal at the Olympic Games, surpassing the previous record held in this category.
- (D) He became the first Indian male athlete to win a wrestling medal at the Olympic Games since Bajrang Punia’s Bronze at the Tokyo 2020



Olympics.

- Q24.** The Tropic of Cancer is the circle of latitude at approximately 23.5 degrees North that marks the northernmost point where the Sun can appear directly overhead at solar noon during the June solstice. It passes through a significant portion of India, dividing it into tropical and subtropical zones and influencing the climate of regions it traverses. Through how many Indian states does the Tropic of Cancer pass, and which of the following is the COMPLETE AND CORRECT list of these states?
- (A) 6 states: Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and West Bengal.
 - (B) 7 states: Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Tripura.
 - (C) 9 states: Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Tripura, Mizoram, and Assam.
 - (D) 8 states: Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Tripura, and Mizoram.
- Q25.** The Padma Awards are among the highest civilian honours of the Republic of India, instituted in 1954 and conferred annually by the President. They are given in recognition of distinguished contributions to public service, science, art, literature, sports, industry, social work, medicine, and other fields of excellence. What is the RANK of the Padma Vibhushan in the hierarchy of India's civilian honours, and when is it formally announced each year?
- (A) Padma Vibhushan is the second highest civilian award of India, ranking after the Bharat Ratna; it is announced on 26 January (Republic Day) each year.
 - (B) Padma Vibhushan is the highest civilian award of India, ranking above the Bharat Ratna; it is presented for the most exceptional service to the nation.



- (C) Padma Vibhushan is the third highest civilian award, ranking below both the Bharat Ratna and the Padma Bhushan, and is announced on 15 August each year.
- (D) Padma Vibhushan ranks on par with the Bharat Ratna and is announced on 15 August (Independence Day) for contributions in national security and defence.

Q26. BrahMos is one of the world's fastest operational supersonic cruise missiles and a jewel of India's indigenous defence capability. It has been successfully integrated on multiple platforms including ships, submarines, aircraft, and land-based mobile launchers and is named after two great rivers. Which countries are JOINTLY responsible for developing and producing the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, and what is the joint venture entity that manufactures it?

- (A) India and the United States; BrahMos was developed under a joint defence agreement with DARPA and Raytheon, achieving speeds of up to Mach 3.5.
- (B) India and Russia; BrahMos is a joint venture between India's DRDO and Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya (BrahMos Aerospace Pvt. Ltd.), operating at approximately Mach 2.8.
- (C) India and France; BrahMos was jointly developed through a bilateral defence cooperation agreement with France's MBDA missile systems group.
- (D) India and Israel; BrahMos was co-developed by DRDO and Israel Aerospace Industries and achieves speeds of up to Mach 4.5 during its terminal phase.

Q27. Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 prompted a seismic shift in European security thinking, leading historically neutral Nordic countries to reconsider their long-standing policies of military non-alignment. Finland applied for NATO membership together with Sweden, ending over two centuries of Swedish military neutrality. As which NUMBER member



state did Sweden officially join NATO, and in what year did this historically significant accession take place?

- (A) Sweden joined NATO as its 33rd member state in June 2024 after the final ratification by all existing members of the alliance.
- (B) Sweden joined NATO as its 31st member state in April 2023, with Finland scheduled to join later in a separate accession process.
- (C) Sweden officially joined NATO as its 32nd member state in March 2024, with Finland having already joined as the 31st member in April 2023.
- (D) Sweden joined NATO as its 30th member state in late 2022, shortly after submitting its application following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Q28. The Regulating Act of 1773 was a path-breaking piece of British parliamentary legislation that for the first time established parliamentary oversight over the East India Company's administration in India. It sought to address widespread corruption, mismanagement, and the Company's financial difficulties arising from its expanding territorial responsibilities in Bengal. What was the MOST SIGNIFICANT administrative innovation introduced by the Regulating Act of 1773?

- (A) It established the position of Viceroy of India, who replaced the Court of Directors of the East India Company as the supreme authority over Company territories.
- (B) It created the Indian Civil Service (ICS) examination system to recruit trained and merit-based administrators for the Company's growing territories across India.
- (C) It introduced the system of dual government in Bengal through the separation of Diwani rights (revenue collection) and Nizamat rights (law and order).
- (D) It created the position of Governor-General of Bengal, with Warren Hastings becoming the first incumbent in 1774; it also established the Supreme Court of Calcutta.



- Q29.** The Minimum Support Price (MSP) is an important agricultural price intervention mechanism of the Government of India designed to protect farmers against distress sales during bumper production years when market prices fall below the cost of production. It is announced for major agricultural crops before each sowing season. Which body is MANDATED to recommend the Minimum Support Price to the Government of India, and for how many crops is MSP currently declared?
- (A) The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) recommends MSP for 23 major crops; the final decision is taken by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).
 - (B) The National Commission for Farmers (NCF) recommends MSP for 25 crops based on the formula of cost of production plus a 50% profit margin.
 - (C) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) recommends MSP annually based on procurement targets, buffer stock norms, and available storage capacity.
 - (D) The Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) recommends MSP exclusively for export-oriented crops and cash crops.
- Q30.** The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was established in India as a specialised quasi-judicial body to handle environmental disputes more efficiently. It was conceived to provide faster and more specialised justice in cases involving environmental protection, conservation of forests and natural resources, and enforcement of legal rights relating to the environment. Under which ACT was the National Green Tribunal established, and where is its principal bench located?
- (A) Under the Environment Protection Act of 1986; the NGT's principal bench is located in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
 - (B) Under the National Green Tribunal Act of 2010; the NGT's principal bench is located in New Delhi, with additional regional benches across India.



- (C) Under the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972; the NGT's principal bench is located in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- (D) Under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act of 1974; the NGT's principal bench is located in Kolkata, West Bengal.



Detailed Solutions**Solution****Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q1](#)

The Lucknow Pact of 1916 was a crucial agreement between the Indian National Congress and the All India Muslim League, signed at the Lucknow session. It achieved a rare moment of Hindu-Muslim political unity: the Congress accepted separate electorates for Muslims in the legislative councils, while the League agreed to support demands for self-government and constitutional reforms from the British. The pact was negotiated primarily by Bal Gangadhar Tilak (for the Congress) and Muhammad Ali Jinnah (for the League). It represented the high-water mark of Hindu-Muslim political cooperation in the pre-Gandhian era of the freedom movement.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Solution 1.**
- **(B)** The demand for Purna Swaraj (complete independence) was adopted much later, at the Lahore session of Congress in December 1929 — more than a decade after the Lucknow Pact of 1916.
 - **(C)** The Lucknow Pact did not propose a federal structure with autonomous legislative powers for Muslim-majority provinces; those ideas emerged in later constitutional discussions and proposals.
 - **(D)** The Lucknow Pact was a political agreement between two separate organisations (INC and AIML), not a merger; both organisations continued to exist independently after the pact was concluded.

Final Answer: The Lucknow Pact of 1916 achieved a joint Hindu-Muslim political front through separate electorates and common agitation against British rule. ⇒

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

Under Article 83(2) of the Indian Constitution, the Lok Sabha shall continue for five years from the date appointed for its first meeting unless dissolved sooner by the President. However, this five-year term can be extended by Parliament by law for a period not exceeding one year at a time, while a Proclamation of National Emergency under Article 352 is in operation. This extension cannot continue beyond six months after the Proclamation ceases to operate. The Lok Sabha may also be dissolved earlier by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.

Why the other options are wrong:



Solution 2.

- (A) The maximum term is 5 years, not 4 years; and it can be extended by one year at a time during a national emergency — it is not absolutely prohibited.
- (C) The term is 5 years, not 6 years; and the extension permitted is one year at a time during a national emergency, not two years with a two-thirds majority.
- (D) While the 5-year term is correct, the claim that it cannot be extended under any circumstances is wrong — it can be extended during the operation of a Proclamation of National Emergency under Article 352.

Final Answer: The maximum term of the Lok Sabha is 5 years, extendable by one year during a Proclamation of National Emergency. ⇒ **B**

Solution

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

The Krishna River originates at Mahabaleshwar in the Sahyadri (Western Ghats) range in Maharashtra at an altitude of approximately 1,337 metres above sea level. It flows eastward through Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh before emptying into the Bay of Bengal near Hamasaladevi in Andhra Pradesh. With a total length of about 1,400 km, it is the second longest eastward-flowing river in peninsular India after the Godavari. Its major tributaries include the Bhima, Tungabhadra, Koyna, Musi, and Ghataprabha rivers.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 3.

- (A) Nashik/Tryambakeshwar is the origin of the Godavari River, not the Krishna River.
- (B) Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh is the origin of the Narmada River (flowing westward) and the Son River, not the Krishna.
- (D) Coorg (Kodagu) in Karnataka is the origin of the Cauvery River at Talakaveri, not the Krishna River.

Final Answer: The Krishna River originates at Mahabaleshwar in Maharashtra in the Western Ghats. ⇒ **C**

Solution

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

Startup India was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 16 January 2016 with the aim of creating a robust ecosystem for nurturing innovation and startups in the country. The initiative is administered by the DPIIT — the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (formerly DIPP, the Department of



Industrial Policy and Promotion, renamed in 2019). Key benefits include a three-year income tax holiday for eligible startups, self-certification under six labour laws and three environment laws, fast-track patent examination at 80% reduced fees, and a Fund of Funds of Rs. 10,000 crore to support startup investments through SIDBI.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 4.

- (A) The launch year was 2016, not 2015; and “Department of Public Investment and Industrial Technology” is an incorrect expansion of DPIIT.
- (B) The launch year was 2016, not 2017; and “Department for Productivity, Innovation, and Industrial Transformation” is not the correct expansion of DPIIT.
- (C) The launch year of 2016 is correct in this option, but “Department for Planning, Infrastructure, and Internal Trade” is an incorrect expansion of DPIIT.

Final Answer: Startup India was launched on 16 January 2016; DPIIT = Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade. ⇒ D

Solution

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

Gaganyaan is ISRO’s ambitious human spaceflight mission designed to demonstrate India’s capability to send humans to space and safely return them to Earth. The mission plans to carry a crew of three Indian astronauts — officially called Gaganauts — to a Low Earth Orbit altitude of 400 km for a mission duration of approximately 3 days, after which the crew module will re-enter Earth’s atmosphere and splash down in the Arabian Sea. If successful, India will become only the fourth nation after the USSR/Russia, USA, and China to independently launch humans into Earth orbit.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 5.

- (B) The planned crew size is 3, not 4; the planned altitude is 400 km, not 500 km; and Indian astronauts on the Gaganyaan mission are called Gaganauts, not Vyomanauts.
- (C) The planned altitude is 400 km, not 350 km; and the planned crew size is 3, not 2.
- (D) The planned altitude is 400 km, not 600 km; the mission duration is approximately 3 days, not 14 days.

Final Answer: Gaganyaan targets a 400 km orbit with a crew of 3 Indian Gaganauts for approximately 3 days. ⇒ A



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

Viswanathan Anand won the FIDE World Chess Championship five times: in 2000 (FIDE World Championship, held in a knockout format), 2007 (World Chess Championship in Mexico City), 2008 (World Chess Championship in Bonn, defeating Vladimir Kramnik), 2010 (World Chess Championship in Sofia, defeating Veselin Topalov), and 2012 (World Chess Championship in Moscow, defeating Boris Gelfand). He became the dominant force in world chess for over a decade and was the first Indian to win the title. He was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 2008 and the Padma Bhushan in 2000.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 6.

- (A) Anand won five titles, not three; his championships include 2000, 2007, 2008, 2010, and 2012 — listing only three misses two of his five titles.
- (C) Four is incorrect; Anand won five FIDE World Chess Championships. This option also omits the 2000 title that Anand won.
- (D) While Anand did win the 1995 PCA (Professional Chess Association) World Championship, the universally recognised FIDE world title count is five (2000, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2012). The 1995 title was under a rival body and is generally not counted in the official FIDE tally.

Final Answer: Viswanathan Anand won the World Chess Championship five times: 2000, 2007, 2008, 2010, and 2012. ⇒ **B**

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

The new Parliament building of India was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 28 May 2023. Designed by architect Bimal Patel of HCP Design, Planning and Management (Ahmedabad), the building incorporates traditional Indian architectural elements and is shaped like a triangle fitting into the Central Vista plan. The Lok Sabha chamber in the new building has a seating capacity of 888 seats — significantly larger than the old building's Lok Sabha hall — to accommodate potential expansion of Lok Sabha membership following delimitation of constituencies. The Rajya Sabha chamber seats 300 members, and the joint sitting hall can accommodate all members of both Houses.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 7.

- (A) 543 is the current total elected strength of the Lok Sabha, but the Lok Sabha chamber in the new building has 888 seats — designed for future expansion following post-2026 delimitation.



- (B) 1,224 is not the Lok Sabha chamber capacity; the Central Hall in the old Parliament could seat around 735 for joint sittings. The new Parliament's joint sitting capacity is approximately 1,280.
- (D) 650 is not the actual seating capacity of the Lok Sabha chamber; the correct figure is 888 seats.

Final Answer: The Lok Sabha chamber in the new Parliament building (inaugurated May 2023) has 888 seats. ⇒

Solution

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

India's highest sports honour was renamed from the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award to the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award in August 2021. The renaming was announced by the Government of India following widespread requests from athletes across the country, particularly inspired by renewed attention to Major Dhyan Chand's extraordinary contributions to Indian hockey. Major Dhyan Chand — often called the “Wizard of Hockey” — led India to three consecutive Olympic gold medals in field hockey in 1928 (Amsterdam), 1932 (Los Angeles), and 1936 (Berlin). The award is the highest sporting honour in India, given annually by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 8.

- (A) The Dronacharya Award is a different and separate award given to coaches for outstanding contributions to sports coaching; it was not renamed in 2021 in honour of Dhyan Chand.
- (B) The Arjuna Award is a lower-ranked sports award given to players for consistent outstanding performance over four years; it was not subject to any renaming in August 2021.
- (C) The Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna was indeed the previous name, but the award WAS officially renamed in August 2021 to the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award; it was not retained.

Final Answer: India's highest sports honour is now the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, renamed from Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna in August 2021. ⇒

Solution

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

Odissi is one of the oldest surviving classical dance forms of India, originating from the state of Odisha (formerly Orissa). Sculptural evidence of Odissi dance postures



exists in the Udayagiri and Khandagiri caves near Bhubaneswar, dating back to the 1st century BCE. The dance form is closely associated with the Jagannath temple tradition at Puri and draws extensively from Jayadeva's Sanskrit composition Gita Govinda as its literary and devotional foundation. The Sangeet Natak Akademi — India's national academy of the performing arts — officially recognises Odissi as one of the classical dance forms of India.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 9.

- (B) Odissi does not originate from Andhra Pradesh; it is from Odisha. Additionally, the Lalit Kala Akademi deals with visual arts (painting, sculpture), not performing arts like dance.
- (C) Odissi does not originate from Tamil Nadu; Bharatanatyam is the classical dance form of Tamil Nadu. The Sangeet Natak Akademi recognises Odissi and Bharatanatyam as completely separate classical traditions from different states.
- (D) Odissi does not originate from West Bengal. The Sahitya Akademi deals with literary works and authors, not classical dance forms.

Final Answer: Odissi originates from Odisha and is recognised by the Sangeet Natak Akademi as a classical dance of India. ⇒ A

Solution

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

BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Co-operation) has its Secretariat located in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The organisation has seven member states: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. It was established in 1997 as BIST-EC, with Thailand joining shortly after and the current name adopted in 2004 when Myanmar and Bhutan were admitted. BIMSTEC serves as a bridge between South Asia and Southeast Asia and focuses on cooperation in 14 priority sectors including trade, energy, transport, tourism, fisheries, agriculture, and counter-terrorism.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 10.

- (A) The BIMSTEC Secretariat is in Dhaka, Bangladesh, not Kathmandu, Nepal. Also, BIMSTEC has 7 members, not 6 — Thailand is the 7th member and must be included.
- (C) The Secretariat is in Dhaka, not Colombo. Also, Cambodia is not a BIMSTEC member; the 7th member is Thailand, not Cambodia.
- (D) The Secretariat is in Dhaka, not New Delhi. The Maldives is not a BIMSTEC member; BIMSTEC has exactly 7 members as listed above.



Final Answer: BIMSTEC Secretariat is in Dhaka, Bangladesh; it has 7 member states. ⇒ **B**

Solution

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

The Indian National Congress was founded on 28 December 1885 at Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit College in Bombay (now Mumbai). Allan Octavian Hume, a retired British Indian Civil Service officer, is credited as the principal founder. He was assisted by Dadabhai Naoroji and Dinshaw Wacha in organising the first session. Womesh Chunder Bonnerjee (W.C. Bonnerjee) served as the first president of the Indian National Congress. The Congress was initially conceived as a safety valve for educated Indian discontent and as a constitutional platform for presenting Indian grievances to the British government.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 11.

- **(A)** The INC was founded in Bombay (Mumbai), not Pune (Poona); Bal Gangadhar Tilak was a prominent later leader of the Congress, not its principal founder.
- **(B)** The INC was founded in Bombay, not Calcutta; Dadabhai Naoroji was a co-organiser but not the principal founder; and W.C. Bonnerjee (not Surendranath Banerjea) served as the first president.
- **(D)** Surendranath Banerjea led the Indian National Association (a separate organisation); the INC was founded in Bombay, not Madras.

Final Answer: The INC was founded in Bombay in December 1885 by A.O. Hume, with W.C. Bonnerjee as the first president. ⇒ **C**

Solution

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

The Anti-Defection Law was introduced in India through the 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1985, which inserted the Tenth Schedule into the Indian Constitution. This Schedule lays down the grounds for disqualification of members of Parliament and State Legislatures on account of defection from their party. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha (or the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, and their respective State counterparts) is the authority empowered to decide questions of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule. The law was enacted in response to the widespread practice of “aaya ram gaya ram” politics — the destabilising phenomenon of frequent party-switching by legislators in the 1960s–70s.



Why the other options are wrong:**Solution 12.**

- (A) The 42nd Constitutional Amendment (1976) was a sweeping amendment during the Emergency that dealt with Fundamental Duties, Directive Principles, and judiciary-legislature relations — not the Anti-Defection Law.
- (B) The 44th Constitutional Amendment (1978) restored fundamental rights diluted by the 42nd Amendment and restored judicial review; it did not introduce any anti-defection provisions.
- (C) The 61st Constitutional Amendment (1988) lowered the voting age from 21 to 18 years; it had no connection to the Anti-Defection Law or the Tenth Schedule.

Final Answer: The Anti-Defection Law was incorporated by the 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985, as the Tenth Schedule. ⇒ D

Solution

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

Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) was launched on 23 September 2018 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It provides a health cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation at empanelled public and private hospitals. The scheme targets the bottom 40% of India's population, covering approximately 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families (around 55 crore beneficiaries) as identified through the Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011. It is considered the world's largest government-funded health assurance scheme by coverage.

Why the other options are wrong:**Solution 13.**

- (B) The health cover is Rs. 5 lakh, not Rs. 2 lakh; and PM-JAY covers both secondary and tertiary hospitalisation, not just secondary care.
- (C) The annual health cover is Rs. 5 lakh, not Rs. 10 lakh; PM-JAY does not cover outpatient (OPD) care and targets the bottom 40% of families, not 80% of the population.
- (D) The coverage amount is Rs. 5 lakh, not Rs. 3 lakh; and PM-JAY covers both secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation, not exclusively tertiary care.

Final Answer: PM-JAY provides Rs. 5 lakh per family per year, covering approximately 55 crore beneficiaries from the bottom 40% of India's population. ⇒ A

Solution

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



The Paris Agreement, adopted at COP21 in Paris, France, in December 2015, sets out the global framework for climate action from 2020 onwards. Article 2 of the Agreement specifies the temperature goal: to hold the increase in the global average temperature to “well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.” India ratified the Paris Agreement in October 2016. The 1.5°C target is emphasised because scientific consensus shows it significantly reduces climate risks, particularly for small island states and vulnerable ecosystems, compared to a 2°C rise.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 14.

- (A) A 3°C target is not stipulated in the Paris Agreement and would represent a catastrophically dangerous level of warming far beyond what is agreed. The Agreement specifically aims for well below 2°C.
- (C) The Paris Agreement does not mandate achieving net-zero emissions globally by 2030; countries have their own Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with varying timelines. Net-zero is a long-term goal, not mandated by 2030.
- (D) The Paris Agreement does not aim to reduce temperatures by 1°C from current levels; it focuses on limiting the rise above pre-industrial levels. It also does not mandate specific carbon capture technologies.

Final Answer: The Paris Agreement targets well below 2°C warming above pre-industrial levels, with efforts to limit it to 1.5°C. ⇒ B

Solution

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

Aditya-L1 was launched by ISRO on 2 September 2023 using the PSLV-C57 rocket. It was placed in a halo orbit around the Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 1 (L1) — a special gravitational balance point located approximately 1.5 million km from Earth in the direction of the Sun. The L1 point provides an unobstructed and continuous view of the Sun without any occultation or eclipses, making it ideal for solar observation. The mission studies the solar corona, solar wind, coronal mass ejections, and extreme ultraviolet and X-ray flux from the Sun, which affect satellite operations and Earth’s magnetic field.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 15.

- (A) L2 is in the anti-sunward direction (away from the Sun) and is used by missions like the James Webb Space Telescope for deep-space observation. Aditya-L1 is at L1, which directly faces the Sun.
- (B) L4 is a stable Lagrange point approximately 150 million km from Earth (60 degrees ahead of Earth in its orbit). Aditya-L1 is not at L4; the approx-



imately 150 million km figure and “triangular position” description correspond to L4 or L5, not to Aditya-L1’s actual location.

- (D) L5 is a stable Lagrange point trailing Earth in its orbit (60 degrees behind). Aditya-L1 is not at L5; it is at L1, approximately 1.5 million km from Earth toward the Sun.

Final Answer: Aditya-L1 is positioned at the Sun-Earth L1 Lagrange point, approximately 1.5 million km from Earth. ⇒

Solution

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

“Midnight’s Children” by Salman Rushdie, published in 1981, won the Booker Prize that same year (1981). In 1993, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Booker Prize, a special prize called the “Booker of Bookers” was created, and “Midnight’s Children” was selected as the best novel to have received the Booker Prize in its first 25 years. The novel received this recognition again in 2008 as the “Best of the Booker” selected by popular vote from all 40 previous Booker Prize winners for the prize’s 40th anniversary. The novel remains Rushdie’s most celebrated work.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 16.

- (A) The Pulitzer Prize is an American award primarily for American works of journalism and arts; “Midnight’s Children” by the British-Indian Salman Rushdie did not win the Pulitzer Prize.
- (B) Salman Rushdie has not won the Nobel Prize in Literature. The 1993 Nobel Prize in Literature was awarded to Toni Morrison (USA), not Salman Rushdie.
- (C) The International Booker Prize (formerly the Man Booker International Prize) recognises the best translated fiction from any language into English; “Midnight’s Children” was written in English and won the Booker of Bookers, not the International Booker.

Final Answer: “Midnight’s Children” won the Booker of Bookers Prize in 1993, on the 25th anniversary of the Booker Prize. ⇒

Solution

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

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam served as the 11th President of India from 25 July 2002 to 25 July 2007. He was elected with overwhelming support from both the ruling



NDA alliance and the opposition Congress. Before the presidency, he served as the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India and as Scientific Adviser to the Defence Minister. He is credited with developing India's SLV-3 (Satellite Launch Vehicle), playing a key role in the IGMDP (Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme), and contributing to the Pokhran-II nuclear tests of 1998. He was affectionately called "Missile Man of India" and "People's President."

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 17.

- (B) The 10th President of India was K.R. Narayanan (1997–2002), who was the one who succeeded Shankar Dayal Sharma (9th President). Kalam was the 11th, not the 10th.
- (C) The 12th President of India was Pratibha Patil (2007–2012), who succeeded Kalam. Kalam served from 2002 to 2007 — he did not succeed K.R. Narayanan in 2007 as stated in option C.
- (D) The 13th President was Pranab Mukherjee (2012–2017), not Kalam. Kalam served only until 2007. Ram Nath Kovind was the 14th President (2017–2022).

Final Answer: Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam was the 11th President of India, serving from July 2002 to July 2007. ⇒ A

Solution

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

The Commonwealth Secretariat is headquartered at Marlborough House in London, England, and was established in 1965. As of 2022, the Commonwealth of Nations has 56 member states following the admission of Togo and Gabon at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in June 2022 in Kigali, Rwanda — making them the first member states with no constitutional link to the British Empire. These 56 members span six continents and represent approximately 2.5 billion people, about one-third of the world's population. Commonwealth Day is observed on the second Monday in March each year.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 18.

- (A) The Secretariat is at Marlborough House in London, England, not in Edinburgh, Scotland. The membership of 53 was the figure before Togo and Gabon joined in 2022, bringing the total to 56.
- (C) The Secretariat is in London, not Canberra, Australia. The membership is 56 (post-2022 CHOGM), not 54.
- (D) The Secretariat is in London (Marlborough House), not in New York near the UN complex. The membership is 56, not 52.



Final Answer: The Commonwealth Secretariat is at Marlborough House, London; the Commonwealth has 56 member states as of 2022. ⇒ **B**

Solution

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

The Battle of Plassey on 23 June 1757 was fought between Robert Clive, commanding the forces of the British East India Company, and Siraj ud-Daulah, the Nawab of Bengal. The battle was decided as much by the treachery of Mir Jafar — the commander of Siraj's forces who had entered into a secret agreement with Clive — as by military prowess. The EIC's decisive victory gave it effective control over Bengal's vast revenues, and Mir Jafar was installed as the puppet Nawab of Bengal. This victory is widely regarded as the foundation of British colonial power in India.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 19.

- **(A)** Sir Eyre Coote was a British commander who fought later battles (e.g., the Battle of Wandiwash in 1760 against French forces). He did not command at Plassey in 1757; Robert Clive did. Mir Qasim was a later Nawab who came after Mir Jafar.
- **(B)** Lord Wellesley was Governor-General from 1798 to 1805 — more than four decades after Plassey. The Battle of Plassey was commanded by Robert Clive, not Wellesley.
- **(D)** Warren Hastings became the first Governor-General much later, from 1773 onwards. Shuja ud-Daulah was the Nawab of Awadh, not Bengal; and the battle was fought against the Nawab of Bengal (Siraj ud-Daulah), not Awadh.

Final Answer: Robert Clive of the British East India Company defeated Siraj ud-Daulah, the Nawab of Bengal, at the Battle of Plassey in 1757. ⇒ **C**

Solution

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

Article 39A was inserted into the Constitution by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976 under Part IV (Directive Principles of State Policy). It directs the State to ensure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunity and to provide free legal aid by suitable legislation or schemes to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities. To give effect to Article 39A, the Legal Services Authorities Act was enacted in 1987, establishing the National



Legal Services Authority (NALSA) which became operational in 1995.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 20.

- (A) Article 39 contains sub-clauses (a) through (f) directing State policy on distribution of material resources and prevention of wealth concentration; it does not specifically mandate free legal aid.
- (B) Article 32 is a Fundamental Right (not a Directive Principle) that grants citizens the right to constitutional remedies and to approach the Supreme Court. It deals with enforcement of fundamental rights, not free legal aid.
- (C) Article 43A directs the State to secure participation of workers in the management of industrial undertakings through suitable legislation; it has nothing to do with free legal aid.

Final Answer: Article 39A mandates the State to provide free legal aid; NALSA (National Legal Services Authority) gives effect to this directive. ⇒ **D**

Solution

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

PM-KISAN (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi) was launched on 24 February 2019 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh. Under this scheme, the Central Government provides income support of Rs. 6,000 per year to all eligible farmer families. This amount is paid in three equal installments of Rs. 2,000 each, released every four months (approximately in April, August, and December) directly into the beneficiary's Aadhaar-linked bank account through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). The scheme covers all farmer families with cultivable land across India, irrespective of landholding size, subject to exclusion criteria.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 21.

- (B) The annual support under PM-KISAN is Rs. 6,000, not Rs. 4,000. It is paid in three equal installments, not two; and there is no crop loss supplement under this scheme.
- (C) The annual support is Rs. 6,000, not Rs. 8,000. The disbursement is in three installments, not four; and the Aadhaar-linking is for authentication, not a conditional requirement blocking payment.
- (D) The annual support is Rs. 6,000, not Rs. 12,000. It is paid in three installments every four months (not six monthly installments), and it is not linked to crop insurance compliance under PMFBY.

Final Answer: PM-KISAN provides Rs. 6,000 per year in three equal installments of Rs. 2,000 each, transferred directly to farmers' bank accounts. ⇒ **A**



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

The High-Level Committee on “One Nation, One Election” was constituted by the Government of India in September 2023, under the chairmanship of former President of India Ram Nath Kovind. The committee submitted its comprehensive report in March 2024, recommending a two-phase approach: first, holding simultaneous elections for the Lok Sabha and all State Legislative Assemblies; and second, synchronising elections to local bodies (Municipal Corporations and Panchayats) within 100 days of the general elections. The Union Cabinet accepted the recommendations of the committee in September 2024.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 22.

- (A) Justice (Retd.) Deepak Gupta was not the chairman of this committee. The High-Level Committee on One Nation One Election was chaired by former President Ram Nath Kovind, not by a retired Supreme Court judge.
- (C) N.K. Singh chaired the 15th Finance Commission (2017–2020), which had a different mandate altogether. He was not associated with the One Nation One Election committee.
- (D) Ratan Watal served as Principal Economic Adviser to the Government of India during 2015–2017. He was not associated with chairing the High-Level Committee on simultaneous elections.

Final Answer: The One Nation One Election High-Level Committee was chaired by former President Ram Nath Kovind; its report was accepted in September 2024.

⇒ **B**

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

Aman Sehrawat won the Bronze medal in Men’s Freestyle Wrestling (57 kg category) at the Paris 2024 Olympics. Born on 16 July 2003, he was 21 years old during the Paris Olympics (August 2024). This made him the youngest Indian to win an individual medal at the Olympic Games, surpassing the previous record. He is a product of the Chhatrasal Stadium wrestling academy in Delhi. His achievement was particularly significant as it came in a weight category and under a format where India had not previously had an individual Olympic medallist at such a young age.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 23.

- (A) Several Indian wrestlers had won Olympic medals before Aman Sehrawat — most notably K.D. Jadhav (Bronze, Helsinki 1952), Sushil Kumar (Bronze



2008, Silver 2012), and Bajrang Punia (Bronze, Tokyo 2020). Aman was not the first Indian wrestler to win an Olympic medal.

- **(B)** While Aman's specific 57 kg category record at the Olympics may be unique, his primary historic distinction widely recognised is being the youngest Indian to win an individual Olympic medal — which is the factually cited record.
- **(D)** Bajrang Punia won a Bronze medal in wrestling at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, so Aman is not the first Indian male wrestler to win an Olympic medal since Sushil Kumar. Aman's distinction is his age, not being the first since Sushil.

Final Answer: At 21 years of age, Aman Sehrawat became the youngest Indian to win an individual Olympic medal at Paris 2024. ⇒ C

Solution

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

The Tropic of Cancer passes through exactly 8 Indian states from west to east: Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Tripura, and Mizoram. It divides India into the tropical zone (south of the Tropic) and the subtropical zone (north of the Tropic). Approximately half of India lies in the tropical zone. The Tropic of Cancer also passes through the Rann of Kutch in Gujarat. It does NOT pass through Assam, which lies to the north of the Tropic's path through Tripura and Mizoram.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 24.

- **(A)** Only 6 states are listed; this option is missing Tripura and Mizoram, which the Tropic passes through in the northeast. The correct count is 8 states.
- **(B)** Only 7 states are listed; this option is missing Mizoram. The Tropic of Cancer passes through Mizoram as the 8th and easternmost state.
- **(C)** The Tropic of Cancer does NOT pass through Assam. Assam is geographically located too far north for the Tropic's path through the northeast (which goes through Tripura and Mizoram). Listing 9 states including Assam is incorrect.

Final Answer: The Tropic of Cancer passes through 8 Indian states: Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Tripura, and Mizoram. ⇒ D



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

The civilian honours of India are ranked in the following order from highest to lowest: (1) Bharat Ratna, (2) Padma Vibhushan, (3) Padma Bhushan, and (4) Padma Shri. The Padma Awards were instituted by the Government of India in 1954. The awards are announced on 26 January (Republic Day) each year by the President of India, and the formal Investiture Ceremony is held at Rashtrapati Bhavan typically in March or April. They recognise exceptional and distinguished service of a high order to the Nation in any field including arts, literature, science, sports, social work, medicine, and public affairs.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 25.

- (B) Padma Vibhushan is the second highest civilian award, not the highest. The highest civilian award of India is the Bharat Ratna, which ranks above Padma Vibhushan.
- (C) Padma Vibhushan is the second highest (after Bharat Ratna), not the third. The third highest is Padma Bhushan. Additionally, Padma Awards are announced on 26 January (Republic Day), not 15 August.
- (D) Padma Vibhushan does NOT rank on par with the Bharat Ratna; the Bharat Ratna is unambiguously superior. Padma Awards are also announced on 26 January, not 15 August (Independence Day).

Final Answer: Padma Vibhushan is the second highest civilian award of India (after Bharat Ratna), announced on 26 January. ⇒ A

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

BrahMos is a joint venture between India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya (NPOM), operating through the BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited company. The missile is named after the Brahmaputra River of India and the Moskva River of Russia. BrahMos is a supersonic cruise missile that operates at approximately Mach 2.8 — nearly three times the speed of sound — making it one of the world's fastest operational supersonic cruise missiles. It has a range of approximately 290–500 km and can be launched from ships, submarines, aircraft, and land-based mobile platforms.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 26.

- (A) BrahMos is an India-Russia joint venture, not India-USA. DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) and Raytheon are American defence entities that have no role in the BrahMos programme.



- (C) BrahMos is not a France-India collaboration. MBDA is a European missile manufacturer (owned by Airbus, BAE Systems, and Leonardo) with no role in BrahMos development; France and India have separate defence cooperation agreements.
- (D) BrahMos is not an India-Israel collaboration. Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) develops its own separate missile systems. BrahMos operates at approximately Mach 2.8, not Mach 4.5.

Final Answer: BrahMos is a joint venture of India (DRDO) and Russia (NPO Mashinostroyeniya), operating at approximately Mach 2.8. ⇒ **B**

Solution

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

Sweden officially became the 32nd member of NATO on 7 March 2024, completing the accession process that began after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Finland had joined NATO as the 31st member on 4 April 2023. Sweden's path to membership was initially delayed by objections from Hungary and Turkey, which were eventually resolved through diplomatic negotiations. Sweden's accession ended the country's more than 200-year-old tradition of military non-alignment, dating back to the Napoleonic Wars. With Sweden's entry, all five Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden) are now NATO members.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 27.

- (A) Sweden joined as the 32nd member (not 33rd), and the accession date was 7 March 2024 (not June 2024). Finland was the 31st member, and Sweden became the 32nd.
- (B) Sweden did not join as the 31st member; Finland joined as the 31st member in April 2023. Sweden joined as the 32nd member in March 2024 — after Finland, not before.
- (D) Sweden did not join NATO in 2022; it applied in 2022 but the formal accession process took until March 2024. The 30th member count is also incorrect.

Final Answer: Sweden joined NATO as its 32nd member state on 7 March 2024. ⇒ **C**

Solution

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



The Regulating Act of 1773 was the first British parliamentary legislation to directly regulate the East India Company's affairs in India. Its most significant administrative innovation was the creation of the office of the Governor-General of Bengal, with Warren Hastings becoming the first person to hold this position in 1774. The Act also made the Governors of Bombay and Madras Presidencies subordinate to the Governor-General of Bengal, creating a centralised command structure. Additionally, it established the Supreme Court of Judicature at Calcutta (Fort William) in 1774, with Sir Elijah Impey as the first Chief Justice — the first common law court in India.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 28.

- (A) The position of Viceroy of India was created much later, by the Government of India Act of 1858, following the 1857 revolt. The Regulating Act of 1773 created the Governor-General of Bengal, not the Viceroy.
- (B) The Indian Civil Service (ICS) as a formal institution was not created by the Regulating Act of 1773. Open competitive examinations for civil servants were introduced much later under the Charter Act of 1833 and fully implemented from 1855 onwards.
- (C) The system of dual government in Bengal through Diwani and Nizamat separation was established in 1765 through the Allahabad Treaty (under the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II), which preceded the Regulating Act by eight years.

Final Answer: The Regulating Act of 1773 created the position of Governor-General of Bengal; Warren Hastings was the first (1774). ⇒ **D**

Solution

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

The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) is a statutory body established in 1965 under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare. It recommends Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for 23 major agricultural commodities: 7 cereals (paddy, wheat, jowar, bajra, maize, ragi, barley), 5 pulses (gram, arhar/tur, moong, urad, lentil), 7 oilseeds (groundnut, rapeseed/mustard, toria, soyabean, sunflower, sesamum, safflower), and 4 commercial crops (sugarcane, cotton, raw jute, copra). The CACP submits separate reports for Kharif and Rabi seasons; the final MSP is approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) headed by the Prime Minister.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 29.

- (B) The National Commission for Farmers (NCF), chaired by M.S. Swaminathan (2004–2006), made recommendations for agricultural reforms in-



cluding an MSP of C2+50%; however, it is the CACP, not the NCF, that is the statutory body mandated to formally recommend MSP each season.

- (C) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) is the primary procurement agency that buys grains at MSP from farmers; it implements MSP but does not recommend it. The recommendation comes from CACP.
- (D) APEDA (Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority) focuses on the promotion and export of agricultural products; it has no role in recommending Minimum Support Prices for domestic agricultural commodities.

Final Answer: MSP for 23 major crops is recommended by CACP (Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices) and approved by CCEA. ⇒ A

Solution

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

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was established under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010. It is a specialised body equipped with the expertise to handle environmental disputes, set up for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection, conservation of forests and other natural resources, enforcement of environmental legal rights, and relief and compensation for damage to persons and property caused by environmental violations. The principal bench of the NGT is located in New Delhi, with additional regional benches in Pune (Western Zone), Bhopal (Central Zone), Chennai (Southern Zone), and Kolkata (Eastern Zone).

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 30.

- (A) The NGT was established under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010, not the Environment Protection Act of 1986. The EPA 1986 is a comprehensive environmental framework legislation but did not create the NGT. Also, the principal bench is in New Delhi, not Chennai.
- (C) The NGT was not established under the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972, which primarily deals with the protection of wild animals, birds, and plants. Also, the principal bench is in New Delhi, not Mumbai.
- (D) The NGT was not established under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act of 1974, which deals with the prevention and control of water pollution. Also, the principal bench is in New Delhi, not Kolkata.

Final Answer: The NGT was established under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010; its principal bench is in New Delhi. ⇒ B



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	D	9	A	10	B
11	C	12	D	13	A	14	B	15	C
16	D	17	A	18	B	19	C	20	D
21	A	22	B	23	C	24	D	25	A
26	B	27	C	28	D	29	A	30	B

