

MH CET LAW General Knowledge & Current Affairs

Sample Paper – 7

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. Which of the following correctly describes the outcome of the Third Battle of Panipat (1761)?

- (A) The Maratha Confederacy decisively defeated the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb.
- (B) The British East India Company defeated Tipu Sultan and annexed Mysore.
- (C) Ahmad Shah Abdali (Durrani) comprehensively defeated the Maratha Confederacy, ending Maratha expansion northward.
- (D) The Sikh Misls jointly repelled an Afghan invasion and secured Punjab.

Q2. Under which Article of the Indian Constitution is the Finance Commission established, and how frequently is it constituted?

- (A) Article 264; every 3 years



- (B) Article 270; every 4 years
- (C) Article 312; every 6 years
- (D) Article 280; every 5 years

Q3. Which island contains India's only confirmed active volcano and is located in the Andaman group of islands?

- (A) Barren Island
- (B) Havelock Island
- (C) Neil Island
- (D) North Sentinel Island

Q4. What is the total investment target of the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP), launched by the Government of India in December 2019?

- (A) Rs. 50 lakh crore
- (B) Rs. 111 lakh crore
- (C) Rs. 75 lakh crore
- (D) Rs. 200 lakh crore

Q5. India's first successful nuclear test in 1974, code-named "Smiling Buddha" (Operation Smiling Buddha / Pokhran-I), was authorised by which Prime Minister?

- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (B) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- (C) Indira Gandhi
- (D) Rajiv Gandhi

Q6. India has won the ICC Cricket World Cup twice. Which of the following correctly identifies both victorious captains and the respective years?

- (A) Sunil Gavaskar (1975) and Sourav Ganguly (2003)



- (B) Kapil Dev (1987) and MS Dhoni (2011)
- (C) Kapil Dev (1983) and Sachin Tendulkar (1996)
- (D) Kapil Dev (1983) and MS Dhoni (2011)

Q7. India's first Vande Bharat Express (Train 18) was inaugurated in February 2019. On which route did it first operate?

- (A) New Delhi – Varanasi
- (B) Mumbai – Ahmedabad
- (C) Chennai – Bengaluru
- (D) Kolkata – Patna

Q8. After whom is the Dronacharya Award – India's highest honour for sports coaches – named?

- (A) Dronacharya, a legendary king of ancient India mentioned in the Ramayana
- (B) Dronacharya, the legendary guru of the Pandavas and Kauravas in the Mahabharata
- (C) Dronacharya, a modern Olympic coach who trained India's first gold medallist
- (D) Dronacharya, a Sanskrit poet who composed the Arthashastra

Q9. How many times a year is the Bihu festival celebrated in Assam, and which of the following correctly lists all three celebrations?

- (A) Once a year – Rongali Bihu only
- (B) Twice a year – Rongali Bihu and Magh Bihu
- (C) Three times a year – Rongali (Bohag), Kongali (Kati), and Bhogali (Magh) Bihu
- (D) Four times a year – one for each season



- Q10.** Where is the headquarters of OPEC (Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) located, and what is India's membership status in OPEC?
- (A) Geneva, Switzerland; India is a founding member
 - (B) Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; India joined OPEC in 2005
 - (C) Dubai, UAE; India holds observer status in OPEC
 - (D) Vienna, Austria; India is not a member of OPEC
- Q11.** Who was appointed as the first Governor-General of Bengal under the Regulating Act of 1773, and what role did he play in consolidating British power in India?
- (A) Warren Hastings – first Governor-General of Bengal; introduced administrative reforms and consolidated British territorial control
 - (B) Lord Cornwallis – first Governor-General; introduced the Permanent Settlement of Bengal
 - (C) Lord Wellesley – first Governor-General; established the subsidiary alliance system
 - (D) Lord Dalhousie – first Governor-General; applied the Doctrine of Lapse
- Q12.** Which Article of the Indian Constitution establishes the Supreme Court of India, and what is the maximum sanctioned strength of its judges (including the Chief Justice)?
- (A) Article 214; up to 21 judges including the Chief Justice
 - (B) Article 124; up to 34 judges (Chief Justice + 33 other judges)
 - (C) Article 143; up to 25 judges including the Chief Justice
 - (D) Article 131; up to 30 judges including the Chief Justice
- Q13.** Historically, which country has been one of the largest sources of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) equity inflows into India, largely owing to a



Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) that made it a preferred routing destination?

- (A) United States of America
- (B) United Kingdom
- (C) Mauritius
- (D) Germany

Q14. How many internationally recognised biodiversity hotspots does India have, as identified by Conservation International?

- (A) One (Western Ghats only)
- (B) Two (Western Ghats and Eastern Himalayas)
- (C) Three (Western Ghats, Indo-Burma, and Eastern Himalayas)
- (D) Four (Western Ghats & Sri Lanka, Indo-Burma, Himalaya, and Sundaland/Nicobar Islands)

Q15. Which Indian organisation primarily developed the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), and which ageing aircraft is Tejas Mk-1A replacing in the Indian Air Force?

- (A) HAL (Hindustan Aeronautics Limited); replacing the MiG-21
- (B) DRDO; replacing the Jaguar
- (C) BEL (Bharat Electronics Limited); replacing the MiG-29
- (D) ISRO; replacing the Mirage 2000

Q16. Which prestigious sports award did Indian women's hockey captain Rani Rampal receive in 2020, and what milestone did she help the team achieve at the Tokyo Olympics 2020?

- (A) Arjuna Award; India won the gold medal in hockey at Tokyo Olympics 2020



- (B) Khel Ratna (Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna) Award; India reached the women's hockey semifinal at Tokyo Olympics 2020
- (C) Dronacharya Award; India won a bronze medal in hockey at Tokyo Olympics 2020
- (D) Padma Shri; India qualified for the final of women's hockey at Tokyo Olympics 2020

Q17. Vikram Seth's novel "A Suitable Boy", published in 1993, is notable for which of the following distinctions?

- (A) It won the Man Booker Prize and was the first Indian novel written in English
- (B) It is the shortest novel ever written by an Indian author in the English language
- (C) It is one of the longest novels ever published in the English language, set in post-partition India of the 1950s
- (D) It was banned in India for its political commentary and later adapted into a Bollywood film

Q18. How many member countries does the East Asia Summit (EAS) have, and which of the following correctly identifies major non-ASEAN members?

- (A) 10 member countries; only ASEAN nations participate
- (B) 12 member countries; India and China are the only non-ASEAN members
- (C) 16 member countries; India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and New Zealand
- (D) 18 member countries; India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, USA, and Russia

Q19. What significant right did the East India Company gain through the



Treaty of Allahabad (1765), signed after the Battle of Buxar (1764)?

- (A) Diwani rights (right to collect revenue) over Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa
- (B) The right to station British troops in all Mughal provinces
- (C) Sovereignty over the entire Bengal Presidency
- (D) The right to appoint British governors in all Indian provinces

Q20. Which Article of the Indian Constitution provides for the Attorney General of India, and what is one key privilege he enjoys in relation to Parliament?

- (A) Article 52; he can preside over joint sessions of Parliament
- (B) Article 76; he can participate in Parliamentary proceedings but does not have the right to vote
- (C) Article 105; he can introduce money bills in the Lok Sabha
- (D) Article 88; he can initiate impeachment proceedings against judges

Q21. Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), what is the minimum population threshold for an unconnected habitation in plain areas to be eligible for all-weather road connectivity?

- (A) 100 persons
- (B) 250 persons
- (C) 500 persons
- (D) 1,000 persons

Q22. Which landmark trade agreement between India and the UAE was signed in February 2022, significantly boosting their bilateral trade relationship?

- (A) Free Trade Agreement (FTA)
- (B) Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT)



- (C) Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Pact
- (D) Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

Q23. PV Sindhu created history in 2019 by becoming the first Indian woman to win the BWF (Badminton World Federation) World Championships gold medal. Where was the championship held?

- (A) Basel, Switzerland
- (B) Jakarta, Indonesia
- (C) Tokyo, Japan
- (D) Birmingham, England

Q24. Which of the following correctly describes the course and drainage of the Narmada river?

- (A) It flows eastward and drains into the Bay of Bengal near Kolkata
- (B) It flows westward through a rift valley and drains into the Gulf of Khambhat (Arabian Sea)
- (C) It originates in the Aravalli Range and drains into the Rann of Kutch
- (D) It flows southward through the Deccan Plateau and drains into the Palk Strait

Q25. Who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2023, and for what cause was she recognised?

- (A) Malala Yousafzai of Pakistan; for her advocacy of girls' education
- (B) Greta Thunberg of Sweden; for her climate change activism
- (C) Narges Mohammadi of Iran; for her fight against the oppression of women and promotion of human rights
- (D) Aung San Suu Kyi of Myanmar; for her struggle for democracy

Q26. How many satellites constitute India's regional navigation satellite sys-



tem NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation), and what is its coverage area beyond India's borders?

- (A) 4 satellites; coverage up to 500 km beyond India's borders
- (B) 5 satellites; coverage up to 800 km beyond India's borders
- (C) 6 satellites; coverage up to 1,000 km beyond India's borders
- (D) 8 satellites; coverage up to 1,500 km beyond India's borders

Q27. India's "Act East" Policy, announced at the East Asia Summit in 2014 by PM Narendra Modi, evolved from which earlier policy, and on which regions does it primarily focus?

- (A) Evolved from the "Look East" Policy (1991); focuses on ASEAN, Japan, South Korea, and Australia
- (B) Evolved from the "Gujral Doctrine" (1996); focuses on South Asian neighbours
- (C) Evolved from the "Non-Alignment" Policy (1961); focuses on African nations
- (D) Evolved from the "Neighbourhood First" Policy (2014); focuses on SAARC countries

Q28. What is the Hardy-Ramanujan number, and on which date is National Mathematics Day observed in India to commemorate Srinivasa Ramanujan's birth anniversary?

- (A) 1729; observed on 26 January
- (B) 1729; observed on 22 December
- (C) 1089; observed on 22 December
- (D) 1729; observed on 15 August

Q29. The Poona Pact of 1932, signed between Mahatma Gandhi and B.R. Ambedkar, replaced which controversial provision of the Communal Award?



- (A) It replaced the provision granting reserved constituencies for Muslims with joint electorates
- (B) It replaced the provision for an all-India federation with a unitary system
- (C) It replaced separate electorates for depressed classes with reserved seats in general (joint) electorates
- (D) It replaced the provision for provincial autonomy with direct Central rule

Q30. According to India's 2022 tiger census conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India and the NTCA, how many tigers were counted in India, and which state recorded the highest tiger population?

- (A) 2,967 tigers; Uttarakhand has the highest count
- (B) 3,000 tigers; Karnataka has the highest count
- (C) 3,500 tigers; Assam has the highest count
- (D) 3,167 tigers; Madhya Pradesh has the highest count



Detailed Solutions

Solution

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

The Third Battle of Panipat was fought on 14 January 1761 between Ahmad Shah Abdali (also known as Ahmad Shah Durrani) of Afghanistan and the Maratha Confederacy, led by Viswasrao and Sadashivrao Bhau (Bhau Sahib). It was one of the largest battles of the 18th century in terms of troops engaged. The Maratha army suffered a catastrophic defeat, ending their ambition to dominate northern India, and thousands of Maratha soldiers and commanders, including Viswasrao and Bhau Sahib, were killed.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Solution 1.**
- (A) Aurangzeb died in 1707 – more than 50 years before the Third Battle of Panipat; the Marathas never fought Aurangzeb at Panipat.
 - (B) Tipu Sultan was defeated in the Fourth Anglo-Mysore War (1799) at Seringapatam, not at Panipat.
 - (D) While the Sikh Misls were active in the 18th century, they did not fight at the Third Battle of Panipat on either side.

Final Answer: Ahmad Shah Abdali defeated the Marathas at the Third Battle of Panipat (1761). ⇒ **C**

Solution

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

Article 280 of the Indian Constitution mandates that the President shall constitute a Finance Commission within two years of the commencement of the Constitution and thereafter at the expiry of every fifth year or earlier. The Finance Commission recommends the distribution of net tax proceeds between the Union and the States (vertical devolution) and among the States (horizontal devolution). The 15th Finance Commission (2021–26) was chaired by N.K. Singh.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Solution 2.**
- (A) Article 264 deals with interpretation of financial matters between the Union and States; it does not establish the Finance Commission. There is no “every 3 years” provision.
 - (B) Article 270 deals with taxes levied and distributed between the Union and States; the Finance Commission is constituted every 5 years, not every 4 years.
 - (C) Article 312 deals with All India Services; it has no connection to the



Finance Commission or a 6-year cycle.

Final Answer: Finance Commission is established under Article 280, constituted every 5 years. ⇒ **D**

Solution

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

Barren Island, located in the Andaman Sea about 135 km northeast of Port Blair, is the only confirmed active volcano in South Asia and the entire Indian subcontinent. It is part of the Andaman Islands and is uninhabited due to volcanic activity. The volcano has had multiple eruption episodes, including notable ones in 1991, 1994–95, 2005, 2008, and continuing into the 2020s.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 3.

- (B) Havelock Island (now Swaraj Dweep) is known for its beaches and tourism, not volcanic activity.
- (C) Neil Island (now Shaheed Dweep) is a coral island with no volcanic feature.
- (D) North Sentinel Island is known for the Sentinelese tribe who live in isolation; it has no active volcano.

Final Answer: Barren Island in the Andaman group is India's only active volcano. ⇒ **A**

Solution

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

The National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 31 December 2019 (for the period 2019–2025). It aims to channel an investment of **Rs. 111 lakh crore** (approximately \$1.4 trillion) across sectors including energy, roads, railways, urban infrastructure, rural infrastructure, digital infrastructure, and social sector. The NIP was introduced to support India's goal of becoming a \$5 trillion economy.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 4.

- (A) Rs. 50 lakh crore significantly underestimates the NIP's stated investment target.
- (C) Rs. 75 lakh crore is not the correct NIP figure; this is a commonly confused number.
- (D) Rs. 200 lakh crore overshoots the NIP target by nearly double.

Final Answer: The National Infrastructure Pipeline targets Rs. 111 lakh crore



investment (2019–2025). ⇒ **B**

Solution

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

Operation Smiling Buddha (also known as Pokhran-I) was India's first successful nuclear test, conducted on 18 May 1974 at the Pokhran Test Range in the Thar Desert, Rajasthan. It was authorised by Prime Minister **Indira Gandhi**. The test made India the sixth country (after the USA, USSR, UK, France, and China) to successfully detonate a nuclear device. India officially described it as a "peaceful nuclear explosion."

Why the other options are wrong:

- Solution 5.**
- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru championed India's nuclear programme but died in 1964 – ten years before Pokhran-I.
 - (B) Lal Bahadur Shastri served as PM from 1964 to 1966 and did not authorise any nuclear test.
 - (D) Rajiv Gandhi was PM from 1984 to 1989; Pokhran-II (Operation Shakti) in 1998 was authorised by Atal Bihari Vajpayee, not Rajiv Gandhi.

Final Answer: Operation Smiling Buddha (1974) was authorised by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. ⇒ **C**

Solution

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

India has won the ICC Cricket World Cup (50-over) twice. The first victory came in **1983** under the captaincy of **Kapil Dev**, defeating the West Indies in the final at Lord's Cricket Ground, London. The second victory was in **2011** under **MS Dhoni**'s captaincy, defeating Sri Lanka in the final at Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai. India also won the T20 World Cup in 2007 (under MS Dhoni) and 2024 (under Rohit Sharma).

Why the other options are wrong:

- Solution 6.**
- (A) Sunil Gavaskar never captained India to a World Cup victory; India did not win the 1975 World Cup.
 - (B) India did not win the 1987 World Cup (won by Australia); Sourav Ganguly captained India to the 2003 World Cup final but India lost to Australia.
 - (C) Sachin Tendulkar was not the captain when India won; India did not win the 1996 World Cup (won by Sri Lanka).

Final Answer: India won the ICC Cricket World Cup in 1983 (Kapil Dev) and 2011



(MS Dhoni). ⇒

Solution

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

India's first Vande Bharat Express (originally called Train 18), an indigenously designed and manufactured semi-high-speed train, was inaugurated on **15 February 2019** by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It commenced operations on the **New Delhi – Varanasi** route. The train is built by the Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai, features a distributed propulsion system, automatic doors, GPS-based passenger information system, and onboard WiFi.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 7.

- **(B)** The Mumbai – Ahmedabad route is associated with the under-construction High Speed Rail (Bullet Train) project, not the first Vande Bharat.
- **(C)** The Chennai – Bengaluru route received a Vande Bharat service later; it was not the inaugural route.
- **(D)** The Kolkata – Patna corridor was not the inaugural route for the Vande Bharat Express.

Final Answer: The first Vande Bharat Express ran on the New Delhi – Varanasi route (inaugurated February 2019). ⇒

Solution

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

The Dronacharya Award is India's highest honour for sports coaches, instituted in 1985 by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, and presented on **National Sports Day** (29 August – the birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand). It is named after **Dronacharya** (also spelled Drona), the legendary teacher (guru) of the Pandavas and Kauravas in the Hindu epic Mahabharata. Dronacharya is regarded as the epitome of the ideal teacher-coach relationship in Indian tradition.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 8.

- **(A)** Dronacharya is not a character from the Ramayana; he appears exclusively in the Mahabharata.
- **(C)** The award is named after a legendary figure from ancient Indian mythology, not a modern Olympic coach.
- **(D)** The Arthashastra was composed by Chanakya (Kautilya), not Dronacharya.



Final Answer: The Dronacharya Award is named after the legendary guru Dronacharya of the Mahabharata. ⇒ **B**

Solution

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

Bihu is the most important festival of Assam, celebrated **three times a year**: (1) **Rongali (Bohag) Bihu** in mid-April, marking the Assamese New Year and the start of the paddy sowing season; (2) **Kongali (Kati) Bihu** in mid-October, a sombre festival of restraint during the growing season when granaries are empty; and (3) **Bhogali (Magh) Bihu** in mid-January, a harvest festival of feasting and community bonding. Bihu dance is a UNESCO-recognised intangible cultural heritage of Assam.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 9.

- (A) Bihu is not celebrated just once a year; there are three distinct Bihu celebrations annually.
- (B) While Rongali and Magh Bihu are the most celebrated, Kongali Bihu is an equally recognised third celebration.
- (D) There is no “four seasons, four Bihus” tradition; Bihu is celebrated exactly three times annually.

Final Answer: Bihu is celebrated three times a year – Rongali, Kongali, and Bhogali Bihu. ⇒ **C**

Solution

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

OPEC (Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) was founded in 1960 and has its headquarters in **Vienna, Austria**. India is **not a member** of OPEC as India is one of the world’s largest oil *importers*, not an exporter. OPEC membership is restricted to significant net oil-exporting nations. OPEC+ is a broader alliance that includes OPEC members plus other oil-exporting nations such as Russia, Mexico, and Kazakhstan.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 10.

- (A) OPEC’s headquarters is in Vienna, Austria, not Geneva, Switzerland. India is not a founding member.
- (B) Riyadh is where Saudi Aramco is based, but OPEC is headquartered in Vienna. India did not join OPEC in 2005 (it has never been a member).
- (C) OPEC is not based in Dubai. India does not even hold observer status in



OPEC.

Final Answer: OPEC is headquartered in Vienna, Austria; India is not a member of OPEC. ⇒

Solution

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

Warren Hastings was appointed the first Governor-General of Bengal under the **Regulating Act of 1773**, serving from 1773 to 1785. He undertook significant administrative, judicial, and revenue reforms, helped suppress the Rohilla War and the Anglo-Maratha conflicts, and consolidated British control in India. He later faced a famous impeachment trial in the British Parliament (1788–1795), lasting seven years, but was ultimately acquitted.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 11.

- (B) Lord Cornwallis introduced the Permanent Settlement (1793) and was the second Governor-General of Bengal; he was not the first.
- (C) Lord Wellesley introduced the Subsidiary Alliance system; he was Governor-General from 1798 to 1805, not the first holder of the position.
- (D) Lord Dalhousie applied the Doctrine of Lapse (1848–1856); he was Governor-General much later, not the first.

Final Answer: Warren Hastings was the first Governor-General of Bengal under the Regulating Act of 1773. ⇒

Solution

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

Article 124 of the Indian Constitution establishes the Supreme Court of India. As per the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2019, the maximum strength of the Supreme Court is **34 judges** – the Chief Justice of India plus up to **33 other judges**. The Supreme Court has original, appellate, and advisory jurisdiction, and its judges are appointed through the collegium system.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 12.

- (A) Article 214 establishes High Courts in the States, not the Supreme Court. The strength figure of 21 is incorrect.
- (C) Article 143 grants the President the power to seek the Supreme Court's advisory opinion; it does not establish the court. The strength figure of 25 is also incorrect.
- (D) Article 131 defines the Supreme Court's original jurisdiction; it does not



establish the court. The strength figure of 30 is incorrect.

Final Answer: The Supreme Court is established under Article 124 with a maximum of 34 judges (CJI + 33). ⇒ **B**

Solution

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

Mauritius has historically been one of the largest sources of FDI equity inflows into India, largely due to the India-Mauritius **Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA)**, which allowed investors routing capital through Mauritius to benefit from lower or nil capital gains taxes. As a result, a large volume of global investment was channelled through Mauritius-based special purpose vehicles. Singapore has also been a major FDI source for similar treaty reasons. The India-Mauritius DTAA was amended in 2016 to reduce treaty abuse.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 13.

- (A) The United States is a major source of FDI, but historically it has ranked below Mauritius and Singapore in equity inflow data due to treaty routing.
- (B) The United Kingdom invests significantly in India but does not top the FDI equity inflow charts.
- (D) Germany invests in India primarily through manufacturing sectors but is not among the top sources of FDI equity inflows historically.

Final Answer: Mauritius has historically been the largest source of FDI equity inflows into India due to tax treaty routing. ⇒ **C**

Solution

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

India is home to **four internationally recognised biodiversity hotspots** as identified by Conservation International: (1) **Western Ghats and Sri Lanka**, (2) **Indo-Burma** (covering Northeast India, Myanmar, and parts of Southeast Asia), (3) **Himalaya** (Eastern Himalayas), and (4) **Sundaland** (which includes the Nicobar Islands of India). India's rich biodiversity also includes over 45,000 plant species and 90,000 animal species.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 14.

- (A) Counting only the Western Ghats ignores three other internationally recognised hotspots in Indian territory.
- (B) Counting two hotspots omits the Indo-Burma region and Sundaland, which also cover Indian territory.



- (C) Three hotspots is still incomplete; Sundaland (Nicobar Islands) is the fourth hotspot that overlaps with India.

Final Answer: India has four internationally recognised biodiversity hotspots. ⇒

D

Solution

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

The Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) was primarily developed by **HAL (Hindustan Aeronautics Limited)** in collaboration with **DRDO's Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA)**. It is a single-engine, multirole, fourth-generation fighter aircraft built largely of composite materials. The Tejas Mk-1A variant is being inducted into the Indian Air Force (IAF) to replace the ageing **MiG-21** fleet – India's most accident-prone aircraft. An order of 83 Tejas Mk-1A aircraft was placed with HAL in 2021.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 15.

- (B) DRDO's ADA is the design agency, but HAL is the primary manufacturer; Tejas does not replace the Jaguar (which is being phased out separately).
- (C) BEL (Bharat Electronics Limited) produces avionics and electronic systems but did not develop or manufacture the Tejas airframe; Tejas does not replace the MiG-29.
- (D) ISRO is India's space agency and has no role in the Tejas programme; Tejas does not replace the Mirage 2000 (which is being upgraded, not replaced by Tejas).

Final Answer: Tejas LCA was developed by HAL and is replacing the MiG-21 in the Indian Air Force. ⇒ **A**

Solution

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

Rani Rampal, the former captain of the Indian women's hockey team, received the **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award** (India's highest sports honour, now renamed Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna) in **2020**. Under her captaincy, the Indian women's hockey team reached the **semifinals** of the Tokyo Olympics 2020 for the first time in 41 years, defeating Australia in the quarterfinals. India ultimately finished 4th after losing to Great Britain in the bronze medal match. Rani was born in Shahabad Markanda, Haryana.

Why the other options are wrong:



Solution 16.

- (A) Rani received the Khel Ratna, not the Arjuna Award (which she had received earlier in 2017). India did not win the gold medal in hockey at Tokyo.
- (C) The Dronacharya Award is for coaches, not players; India did not win the bronze medal at Tokyo (they lost the bronze medal match).
- (D) The Padma Shri is a civilian honour, separate from the sports awards; India did not reach the final of women's hockey at Tokyo.

Final Answer: Rani Rampal received the Khel Ratna Award 2020 and led India to the Tokyo 2020 hockey semifinal. ⇒ **B**

Solution

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

Vikram Seth's *A Suitable Boy*, published in **1993**, is one of the longest novels ever published in the English language, running to approximately **591,552 words** (1,349 pages in its first edition). Set in the fictional towns of Brahmpur and Calcutta in post-partition India of the early 1950s, it follows the story of Lata Mehra as her mother seeks a suitable husband for her. The novel was later adapted into a BBC television series in 2020. Vikram Seth's follow-up novel, *A Suitable Girl*, was eagerly anticipated.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 17.

- (A) *A Suitable Boy* did not win the Man Booker Prize (it was shortlisted in 1994 but did not win). It was also far from the "first Indian novel in English."
- (B) *A Suitable Boy* holds the record for one of the *longest*, not the shortest, novels by an Indian author.
- (D) The novel was not banned in India; it was a critically acclaimed best-seller.

Final Answer: *A Suitable Boy* (1993) by Vikram Seth is one of the longest novels in the English language. ⇒ **C**

Solution

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

The East Asia Summit (EAS) is a premier strategic forum for the Indo-Pacific region with **18 member countries**: the 10 ASEAN nations (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam) plus **India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, USA, and Russia**. India was a founding member of the EAS (inaugural summit, 2005). The USA and Russia



joined in 2011. The EAS is hosted by the ASEAN Chair and meets annually on the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 18.

- (A) EAS has 18 members, not 10; it is not exclusively ASEAN nations.
- (B) EAS has 18 members, not 12; there are multiple major non-ASEAN members beyond just India and China.
- (C) 16 members and the list omit the USA and Russia, which joined the EAS in 2011.

Final Answer: The East Asia Summit has 18 members, including India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, USA, and Russia. ⇒ **D**

Solution

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

The **Treaty of Allahabad (1765)** was signed after the **Battle of Buxar (1764)** between Robert Clive on behalf of the British East India Company and Mughal Emperor **Shah Alam II**. Under this treaty, the EIC was granted the **Diwani rights** – the right to collect land revenue – over **Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa**. This was a watershed moment as it gave the EIC economic control of one of the richest parts of the subcontinent. The Nawab of Awadh ceded Allahabad and Kara to Shah Alam II under a separate provision.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 19.

- (B) The Treaty of Allahabad did not grant the EIC the right to station troops in all Mughal provinces; the military power arrangement was more complex.
- (C) The EIC did not gain full sovereignty over the Bengal Presidency through this treaty; the Nawabs continued nominally.
- (D) The right to appoint British governors across India came much later through various Acts; this was not part of the 1765 treaty.

Final Answer: The Treaty of Allahabad (1765) granted the EIC Diwani rights (revenue collection) over Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa. ⇒ **A**

Solution

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

Article 76 of the Indian Constitution provides for the Attorney General of India, who is the highest law officer of the Union government. The President appoints the Attorney General; the appointee must be qualified to be a judge of the Supreme Court. The Attorney General represents the Union of India before the Supreme



Court. Importantly, the Attorney General has the right of audience in all courts throughout India and may **participate in the proceedings of Parliament** (both Houses and joint sittings), but does **not have the right to vote**.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 20.

- (A) Article 52 deals with the office of the President of India, not the Attorney General. The Attorney General does not preside over joint sessions.
- (C) Article 105 deals with the powers, privileges, and immunities of Members of Parliament; it does not relate to the Attorney General's powers.
- (D) Article 88 grants Ministers and the Attorney General the right to speak in Parliament, but initiating impeachment of judges is not among his powers.

Final Answer: The Attorney General of India is provided for under Article 76 and may participate in Parliamentary proceedings without voting rights. ⇒ **B**

Solution

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

The **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)**, launched in December 2000, aims to provide all-weather road connectivity to eligible unconnected rural habitations. The population threshold is **500 persons or more in plain areas** and **250 persons or more in hilly, tribal, and desert areas**. Under PMGSY-III (launched 2019), the focus shifted to consolidation and upgrading of existing rural roads. The scheme has helped construct over 7.5 lakh km of rural roads across India, significantly improving connectivity.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 21.

- (A) 100 persons is far below the PMGSY eligibility threshold; such small hamlets are covered separately under state-level schemes.
- (B) 250 persons is the threshold for hilly, tribal, and desert areas, not for plain areas; in plain areas the threshold is 500 persons.
- (D) 1,000 persons is too high and not the stated PMGSY threshold; this would exclude many mid-sized villages that the scheme is designed to connect.

Final Answer: PMGSY covers habitations with 500+ persons in plains (250+ in hilly/tribal areas). ⇒ **C**

Solution

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

India and the United Arab Emirates signed the **Comprehensive Economic Part-**



nership Agreement (CEPA) on 18 February 2022, which came into force on 1 May 2022. It was the first CEPA India signed in over a decade and covers trade in goods, services, and investments. Bilateral India-UAE trade has exceeded \$85 billion. Other milestones in India-UAE ties include the launch of UPI-based payments in the UAE (2023) and the UAE becoming India's third-largest trading partner.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 22.

- (A) A "Free Trade Agreement" (FTA) is a broader generic term; the specific agreement between India and UAE is officially designated a CEPA, which goes beyond a standard FTA to include services and investment chapters.
- (B) A Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) focuses specifically on investment protection; that is not what was signed in 2022.
- (C) A "Special Economic Zone Pact" describes bilateral SEZ cooperation; that is not the landmark 2022 trade agreement.

Final Answer: India and UAE signed the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in February 2022. ⇒

Solution

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

PV Sindhu became the first Indian woman to win the **BWF World Championships** gold medal at the **2019 BWF World Championships** held in **Basel, Switzerland**. She defeated Nozomi Okuhara of Japan in the final. Earlier, she had won silver at the 2017 and 2018 World Championships and bronze at the 2013, 2014, and 2019 editions. She also won a silver medal at the **Rio Olympics 2016** and bronze at the **Tokyo Olympics 2020**, becoming the first Indian to win consecutive Olympic medals in badminton.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 23.

- (B) Jakarta, Indonesia has hosted various BWF events, but the 2019 BWF World Championships were held in Basel, Switzerland.
- (C) Tokyo, Japan hosted the 2020 Olympics where Sindhu won bronze; the BWF World Championship gold was won in Basel.
- (D) Birmingham, England hosted the Commonwealth Games 2022 and BWF events on other occasions, not the 2019 World Championships.

Final Answer: PV Sindhu won the BWF World Championships gold in 2019 in Basel, Switzerland. ⇒



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

The **Narmada river** is unique among major peninsular rivers in that it flows **westward**, contrary to most peninsular rivers that flow eastward into the Bay of Bengal. The Narmada originates at **Amarkantak** in Madhya Pradesh, flows through Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra (briefly), and Gujarat, and drains into the **Gulf of Khambhat** (also called Gulf of Cambay), an arm of the **Arabian Sea**. It flows through a **rift valley** (a tectonic graben), flanked by the Satpura Range to the south and the Vindhya Range to the north.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 24.

- (A) The Narmada flows westward, not eastward; it drains into the Arabian Sea, not the Bay of Bengal near Kolkata.
- (C) The Narmada does not originate in the Aravalli Range (that is the Luni river region) and does not drain into the Rann of Kutch.
- (D) The Narmada does not flow southward through the Deccan Plateau; it flows westward through a rift valley.

Final Answer: The Narmada flows westward through a rift valley and drains into the Gulf of Khambhat (Arabian Sea). ⇒ **B**

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

The **Nobel Peace Prize 2023** was awarded to **Narges Mohammadi**, an Iranian women's rights activist and journalist. The Norwegian Nobel Committee recognised her "for her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her efforts to promote human rights for all." When the prize was announced in October 2023, Mohammadi was serving a lengthy prison sentence in **Evin Prison** in Tehran, Iran, having been imprisoned multiple times for her activism. Her family accepted the prize on her behalf in Oslo.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 25.

- (A) Malala Yousafzai won the Nobel Peace Prize in **2014** (jointly with Kailash Satyarthi); she did not receive it in 2023.
- (B) Greta Thunberg has been nominated multiple times but had not won the Nobel Peace Prize as of 2023.
- (D) Aung San Suu Kyi won the Nobel Peace Prize in **1991**; she was not the 2023 recipient.

Final Answer: The Nobel Peace Prize 2023 was awarded to Narges Mohammadi of Iran for her fight against the oppression of women. ⇒ **C**



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

NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation), developed by **ISRO**, is India's own regional navigation satellite system. It consists of **8 satellites** – 3 in geostationary orbit and 5 in geosynchronous orbit (including 1 spare). NavIC provides position accuracy of better than **20 metres** over a primary service area covering India and up to **1,500 km** beyond its borders. It has applications in transport, disaster management, fleet management, and India's defence sector, reducing dependence on the US GPS system for critical purposes.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 26.

- (A) NavIC has 8 satellites, not 4, and its coverage extends up to 1,500 km beyond India's borders, not just 500 km.
- (B) NavIC has 8 satellites, not 5; its coverage extends 1,500 km beyond India, not 800 km.
- (C) NavIC has 8 satellites, not 6; its coverage extends 1,500 km beyond India, not 1,000 km.

Final Answer: NavIC consists of 8 satellites and provides coverage up to 1,500 km beyond India's borders. ⇒ **D**

Solution**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q27](#)

India's "**Act East**" Policy was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the **East Asia Summit in 2014** in Naypyidaw, Myanmar. It evolved from the "**Look East**" Policy launched in 1991 by Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, which focused on economic integration with Southeast Asia. "Act East" is a more proactive and comprehensive approach emphasising trade, investment, cultural linkages, and security cooperation primarily with **ASEAN nations, Japan, South Korea, and Australia**. The policy also involves greater connectivity via the North-East region.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 27.

- (B) The **Gujral Doctrine** (1996) focused on improving relations with South Asian neighbours (Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Maldives); it is distinct from the Act East Policy.
- (C) The **Non-Alignment Policy** was a Cold War-era foreign policy; Act East is not its successor and does not target African nations.
- (D) The "**Neighbourhood First**" Policy focuses on immediate neighbours (SAARC countries), not on East and Southeast Asia.



Final Answer: Act East Policy evolved from the Look East Policy (1991) and focuses on ASEAN, Japan, South Korea, and Australia. $\Rightarrow$ **A**

Solution

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

The **Hardy-Ramanujan number** is **1729**, named after the famous anecdote in which Ramanujan instantly recognised that **1729** was the smallest number expressible as the sum of two cubes in two different ways: $1729 = 1^3 + 12^3 = 9^3 + 10^3$. This occurred when G.H. Hardy visited Ramanujan in the hospital and mentioned arriving in a taxi numbered 1729. **National Mathematics Day** is observed on **22 December** annually, commemorating Ramanujan's birth anniversary (22 December 1887). It was declared by PM Manmohan Singh in 2012.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 28.

- (A) 1729 is correct as the Hardy-Ramanujan number, but 26 January is Republic Day, not National Mathematics Day.
- (C) 1089 is not the Hardy-Ramanujan number; it is associated with a different mathematical curiosity (reversing a 3-digit number).
- (D) 1729 is correct as the Hardy-Ramanujan number, but 15 August is Independence Day, not National Mathematics Day.

Final Answer: The Hardy-Ramanujan number is 1729; National Mathematics Day is observed on 22 December. $\Rightarrow$ **B**

Solution

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

The **Poona Pact** was signed on **24 September 1932** between Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. It was necessitated by the **Communal Award** of British PM Ramsay MacDonald (August 1932), which had granted **separate electorates** for the "Depressed Classes" (Scheduled Castes). Gandhi opposed this, fearing it would further divide Hindu society, and went on a fast unto death. The Poona Pact replaced separate electorates with **reserved seats in joint (general) electorates**, with primary elections among Depressed Classes candidates – increasing the reserved seats from 71 to 147.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 29.

- (A) The Poona Pact was specifically about the Depressed Classes (Scheduled Castes), not about Muslim electorates; the Muslim separate electorates issue was handled separately.



- (B) The Poona Pact had nothing to do with the federal structure of India or central versus provincial administration.
- (D) Provincial autonomy was a feature of the Government of India Act 1935; it was not related to the Poona Pact.

Final Answer: The Poona Pact replaced separate electorates with reserved seats in joint (general) electorates for depressed classes. ⇒

Solution

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

India's **2022 Tiger Census**, released by Prime Minister Modi on International Tiger Day (29 July 2023), counted **3,167 tigers** across India – making India home to over 75% of the world's wild tiger population. Among all states, **Madhya Pradesh** recorded the highest count at **785 tigers**, followed by Karnataka (563) and Uttarakhand (560). India has 54 Project Tiger reserves. **Jim Corbett National Park** (Uttarakhand) is India's oldest tiger reserve, established in 1936.

Why the other options are wrong:

Solution 30.

- (A) The 2022 census count is 3,167, not 2,967; Uttarakhand ranks 3rd, not 1st, in tiger population.
- (B) The total is 3,167, not a rounded 3,000; Karnataka ranks 2nd, not 1st, in tiger population.
- (C) 3,500 overstates the count; Assam does not lead in tiger numbers (it has around 190–200 tigers).

Final Answer: India's 2022 tiger census found 3,167 tigers; Madhya Pradesh has the highest count. ⇒



Answer Key

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

