

MAH B.Ed CET General Knowledge

Sample Paper – 2

Duration: 27 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 30

Instructions

- This paper contains **30** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the General Knowledge portion of **MAH B.Ed CET** entrance.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is **no negative marking** for incorrect or unattempted answers.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose carefully.
- Syllabus: Current Affairs, History, Geography, Science & Technology, Indian Polity, Maharashtra GK, and Literature at SSC/general awareness level.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

SECTION: GENERAL KNOWLEDGE (30 Questions × 1 Mark)

Q.1. COP-29, the UN climate summit held in 2024, took place in:

- (A) Dubai
- (B) Egypt
- (C) Baku, Azerbaijan
- (D) Glasgow

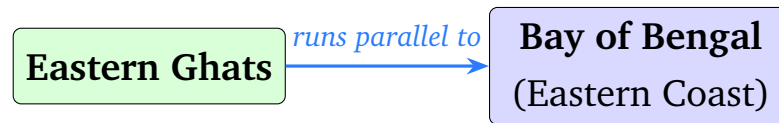
Q.2. The Partition of Bengal (1905) was ordered by which British Viceroy?

- (A) Lord Dalhousie
- (B) Lord Mountbatten
- (C) Lord Ripon



(D) Lord Curzon

Q.3. The Eastern Ghats run parallel to which coast of India?



(A) Eastern coast (Bay of Bengal)

(B) Western coast

(C) Northern plains

(D) Southern tip only

Q.4. Newton's First Law of Motion is also called:

(A) Law of Acceleration

(B) Law of Inertia

(C) Law of Gravitation

(D) Law of Action-Reaction

Q.5. India's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement commits to achieving net-zero emissions by:

(A) 2050

(B) 2060

(C) 2070

(D) 2045

Q.6. The Fundamental Duties of Indian citizens are enshrined in:

(A) Article 12

(B) Article 32

(C) Article 44

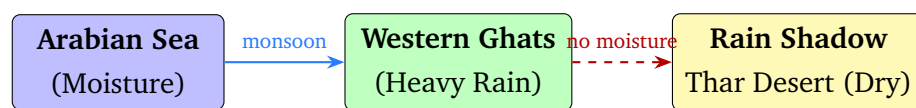
(D) Article 51A



Q.7. The Treaty of Mangalore (1784) was signed at the end of the Second Anglo-Mysore War. Tipu Sultan signed it with:

- (A) The British East India Company
- (B) The Marathas
- (C) The Nizam of Hyderabad
- (D) The French

Q.8. The Thar Desert (Great Indian Desert) in Rajasthan is primarily caused by:



- (A) Its proximity to the Arabian Sea
- (B) Rain-shadow effect of the Aravalli Range and monsoon wind patterns
- (C) Proximity to the Himalayan cold winds
- (D) Dense forest cover blocking moisture

Q.9. Edward Jenner developed the world's first vaccine, which was against:

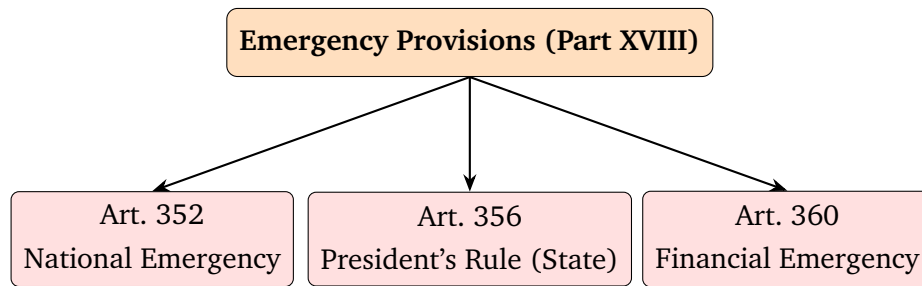
- (A) Tuberculosis
- (B) Cholera
- (C) Smallpox
- (D) Plague

Q.10. The ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 (50-over), hosted by India, was won by:

- (A) India
- (B) South Africa
- (C) England
- (D) Australia

Q.11. Article 352 of the Indian Constitution empowers the President to proclaim:





- (A) President's Rule in a state
- (B) Financial Emergency
- (C) National Emergency
- (D) Constitutional Emergency

Q.12. The Indian National Congress was founded in:

- (A) 1885
- (B) 1892
- (C) 1900
- (D) 1878

Q.13. According to the Köppen classification, India has how many major climate types?

- (A) 3
- (B) 4
- (C) 5
- (D) 6

Q.14. The quantum mechanical model of the atom (electron cloud model) was formulated by:

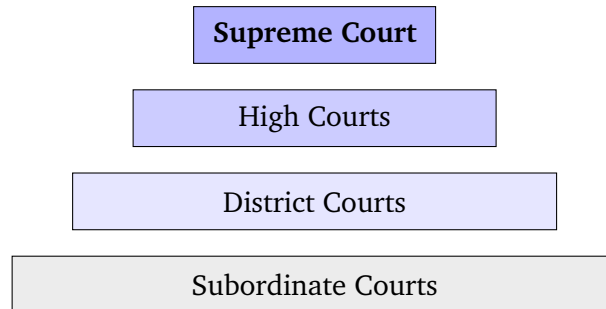
- (A) Niels Bohr
- (B) Erwin Schrödinger
- (C) Ernest Rutherford
- (D) Max Planck



Q.15. The Digital India programme was launched in:

- (A) 2015
- (B) 2014
- (C) 2017
- (D) 2019

Q.16. The power of judicial review in India is exercised primarily by:

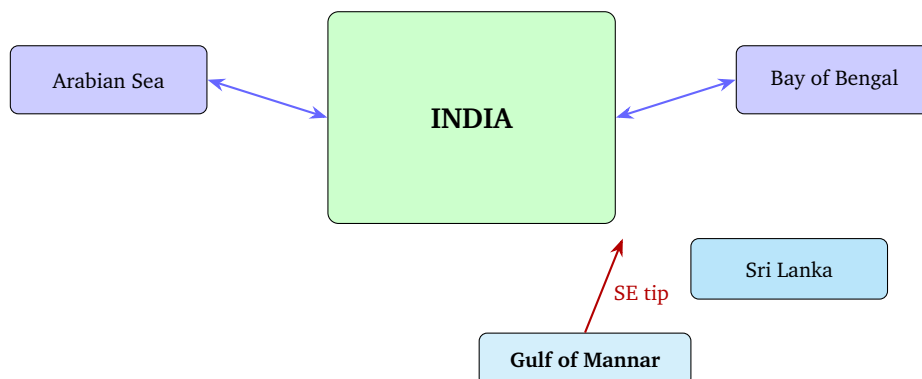


- (A) Parliament
- (B) President
- (C) Attorney General
- (D) Supreme Court and High Courts

Q.17. The Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (13 April 1919) was ordered by:

- (A) Lord Chelmsford
- (B) Lord Dyer
- (C) General Reginald Dyer
- (D) Lord Montagu

Q.18. The Gulf of Mannar lies between India and:



- (A) Maldives
- (B) Sri Lanka
- (C) Bangladesh
- (D) Myanmar

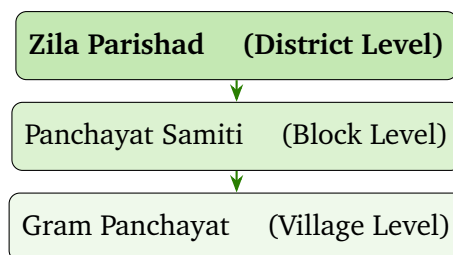
Q.19. Electricity is generated from sunlight using:

- (A) Photovoltaic (PV) cells
- (B) Fuel cells
- (C) Thermoelectric generators
- (D) Hydraulic turbines

Q.20. The government body responsible for regulating and promoting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy in India is:

- (A) SEBI
- (B) RBI
- (C) NITI Aayog
- (D) DPIIT (Dept. for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade)

Q.21. The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (1992) gave constitutional status to:



- (A) Urban local bodies
- (B) Co-operative societies
- (C) Panchayati Raj institutions
- (D) State Finance Commissions



- Q.22.** Dr. B.R. Ambedkar served as the Chairman of which committee that drafted the Indian Constitution?
- (A) Union Powers Committee
 - (B) Drafting Committee
 - (C) Advisory Committee
 - (D) Fundamental Rights Committee
- Q.23.** Sai Baba of Shirdi is revered because he preached:
- (A) Only Hindu philosophy
 - (B) Only Islamic Sufi teachings
 - (C) Only Buddhist values
 - (D) Unity of all religions (Hindu–Sufi composite tradition)
- Q.24.** The novel “The Inheritance of Loss,” which won the Booker Prize in 2006, was written by:
- (A) Kiran Desai
 - (B) Arundhati Roy
 - (C) Jhumpa Lahiri
 - (D) Anita Desai
- Q.25.** The Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (Self-Reliant India Mission) was launched primarily to:
- (A) Boost foreign imports
 - (B) Privatised public sector enterprises
 - (C) Promote domestic manufacturing and reduce import dependence
 - (D) Increase defence spending
- Q.26.** The Right to Information (RTI) Act, which empowers citizens to seek information from public authorities, was enacted in:
- (A) 2002



- (B) 2005
- (C) 2007
- (D) 2010

Q.27. Raigad Fort, the capital of the Maratha Empire, is associated with:

- (A) Peshwa Bajirao I
- (B) Aurangzeb
- (C) Nana Phadnavis
- (D) Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

Q.28. Premchand's epic Hindi novel "Godan" (Gift of a Cow) was written in:

- (A) Bengali
- (B) Urdu
- (C) Hindi
- (D) Marathi

Q.29. The state animal of Maharashtra is the:

- (A) Indian Giant Squirrel (Shekru)
- (B) Bengal Tiger
- (C) Indian Elephant
- (D) Gaur (Indian Bison)

Q.30. Arvind Adiga's debut novel, which won the Booker Prize in 2008, is:

- (A) The God of Small Things
- (B) The White Tiger
- (C) A Fine Balance
- (D) Midnight's Children



DETAILED SOLUTIONS

Sol.1.

Solution

Concept — International Climate Conferences (COP): The Conference of the Parties (COP) is the supreme decision-making body of the UNFCCC. COP-29 was held in **November 2024 in Baku, Azerbaijan**, focusing on climate finance commitments for developing nations.

Key Facts:

- COP-26 (2021): Glasgow, UK — Glasgow Climate Pact adopted.
- COP-27 (2022): Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt — Loss and Damage Fund established.
- COP-28 (2023): Dubai, UAE — Agreement to transition away from fossil fuels.
- COP-29 (2024): Baku, Azerbaijan — New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance (\$300 bn/year).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Dubai): Dubai hosted COP-28 in 2023, not COP-29.
- Option B (Egypt): Egypt (Sharm el-Sheikh) hosted COP-27 in 2022.
- Option D (Glasgow): Glasgow hosted COP-26 in 2021.

Final Answer: COP-29 (2024) was held in Baku, Azerbaijan ⇒ C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 1](#)

Sol.2.

Solution

Concept — Partition of Bengal (1905): The Partition of Bengal was announced on 16 October 1905 by **Lord Curzon** (Viceroy, 1899–1905), dividing Bengal into East Bengal (with Assam) and West Bengal. Officially for administrative efficiency, it was widely seen as a “divide and rule” strategy.

Key Facts:

- Sparked the Swadeshi Movement (1905–1911) and boycott of British goods.
- Annulled in 1911 under Viceroy Lord Hardinge II.
- Gave rise to extremist nationalism: the Lal-Bal-Pal trio (Lajpat Rai, Tilak,



Pal).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Lord Dalhousie): Known for Doctrine of Lapse (1848–1856); annexed Indian princely states.
- Option B (Lord Mountbatten): Oversaw Indian independence and partition of India in 1947.
- Option C (Lord Ripon): Known for Local Self-Government Act 1882 and Ilbert Bill controversy.

Final Answer: Partition of Bengal (1905) was ordered by Lord Curzon ⇒ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 2](#)

Sol.3.

Solution

Concept — Eastern Ghats: The Eastern Ghats are a discontinuous range of hills that run roughly parallel to the **eastern coast (Bay of Bengal)** of India, passing through Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu.

Key Facts:

- Highest peak: Jindhagada Peak (1,690 m) in Andhra Pradesh.
- Major rivers (Godavari, Krishna, Mahanadi) cut across the Eastern Ghats.
- Less elevated and more discontinuous than the Western Ghats.
- Major tribes: Kondhs, Chenchus, Savaras, Bondas.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Western coast): The Western Ghats run parallel to the western coast, not the Eastern Ghats.
- Option C (Northern plains): Ghats are coastal hill ranges; not associated with northern plains.
- Option D (Southern tip only): Eastern Ghats extend along the full eastern coast, not just the tip.

Final Answer: Eastern Ghats || Eastern Coast (Bay of Bengal) ⇒ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 3](#)



Sol.4.

Solution

Concept — Newton's Laws of Motion: Newton's First Law states that a body at rest stays at rest, and a body in uniform motion continues so, unless acted upon by an external force. This property is called **Inertia**, so the law is also called the **Law of Inertia**.

Key Facts:

- First Law (Law of Inertia): No net force $\Rightarrow$ no change in state of motion.
- Second Law ($F = ma$): Net force equals mass times acceleration (Law of Acceleration).
- Third Law: Every action has an equal and opposite reaction (Law of Action-Reaction).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Law of Acceleration): This is Newton's Second Law ($F = ma$).
- Option C (Law of Gravitation): A separate law relating gravitational force between masses.
- Option D (Law of Action-Reaction): This is Newton's Third Law.

Final Answer: Newton's First Law = Law of Inertia $\Rightarrow$ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 4](#)

Sol.5.

Solution

Concept — India's Climate Commitments (NDC): India's updated Nationally Determined Contribution (submitted 2022) commits to achieving **net-zero carbon emissions by 2070**, announced by PM Narendra Modi at COP-26, Glasgow (November 2021).

Key Facts:

- 500 GW non-fossil fuel electricity capacity by 2030.
- 50% of electricity from non-fossil sources by 2030.
- Reduce emissions intensity of GDP by 45% (from 2005 levels) by 2030.
- India is the third-largest emitter of CO₂ globally.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (2050): Net-zero target of the USA and the European Union — not India.
- Option B (2060): China's net-zero target year.
- Option D (2045): Sweden's target; India has not adopted 2045.

Final Answer: India's net-zero target year = 2070 ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 5](#)

Sol.6.

Solution

Concept — Fundamental Duties (Article 51A): Fundamental Duties were added by the **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976**, based on the Swaran Singh Committee recommendation. They are listed in **Article 51A** under Part IV-A of the Constitution.

Key Facts:

- Originally 10 duties; 11th added by 86th Amendment Act (2002) regarding education of children.
- Not justiciable (courts cannot directly enforce them) but morally binding.
- Modelled on similar provisions in the USSR Constitution.
- Article 12: Defines “State” for Fundamental Rights (Part III).
- Article 32: Right to Constitutional Remedies (“Heart and Soul” per Ambedkar).
- Article 44: Uniform Civil Code (a Directive Principle, not a duty).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Art. 12): Defines “State” under Part III (Fundamental Rights).
- Option B (Art. 32): Empowers citizens to approach Supreme Court for enforcement of Fundamental Rights.
- Option C (Art. 44): Directive Principle on Uniform Civil Code; not a Fundamental Duty.

Final Answer: Fundamental Duties are enshrined in Article 51A ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 6](#)



Sol.7.

Solution

Concept — Second Anglo-Mysore War (1780–1784): The Second Anglo-Mysore War ended with the **Treaty of Mangalore** (11 March 1784), signed between Tipu Sultan and the **British East India Company**. It was one of the rare instances where an Indian ruler effectively dictated terms to the British.

Key Facts:

- First Anglo-Mysore War (1767–69): Treaty of Madras — British humiliated.
- Second War (1780–84): Treaty of Mangalore — mutual restoration of territories.
- Third War (1790–92): Treaty of Seringapatam — Tipu lost half his territory.
- Fourth War (1799): Seringapatam stormed; Tipu Sultan died; Mysore restored to Wodeyars.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (The Marathas): Tipu fought the Marathas, but the Treaty of Mangalore was with the British.
- Option C (Nizam of Hyderabad): The Nizam was a British ally; not a direct party to this treaty.
- Option D (The French): France gave Tipu diplomatic and some military support but was not party to the treaty.

Final Answer: Treaty of Mangalore (1784) = Tipu Sultan and British East India Company ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 7](#)

Sol.8.

Solution

Concept — Formation of the Thar Desert: The Thar Desert is primarily the result of the **rain-shadow effect**. The southwest monsoon carries moisture from the Arabian Sea and deposits it on the windward (western) side of the Western Ghats. The Aravalli Hills run *parallel* to the monsoon direction (NE–SW) rather than perpendicular, so they fail to intercept rain-bearing clouds, leaving the Thar region extremely arid.

Key Facts:

- World's 7th largest desert; annual rainfall < 150 mm.
- Extends across Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab (India) and into Pakistan.
- Extreme diurnal temperature range: daytime up to 50°C , cold nights.
- Also called "Great Indian Desert."

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Proximity to Arabian Sea): Coastal proximity brings moisture, not aridity.
- Option C (Himalayan cold winds): Himalayas block cold north winds; they do not cause the Thar Desert.
- Option D (Dense forest cover): Thar has sparse scrub vegetation; forests cannot block moisture here.

Final Answer: Thar Desert = rain-shadow effect + Aravalli orientation $\Rightarrow$ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 8](#)

Sol.9.

Solution

Concept — World's First Vaccine: Edward Jenner (1749–1823), an English physician, developed the world's first vaccine in **1796** against **Smallpox**. He observed that milkmaids who contracted cowpox became immune to smallpox, and successfully inoculated a boy with cowpox material.

Key Facts:

- Coined the term "vaccine" (from Latin *vacca* = cow).
- Smallpox declared eradicated by WHO in **1980** — the only human disease eradicated by vaccination.
- BCG vaccine (Tuberculosis): developed by Calmette and Guérin in 1921.
- Cholera vaccine: developed by Louis Pasteur (c. 1880); Waldemar Haffkine also contributed.
- Plague vaccine: developed by Waldemar Haffkine in 1897.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Tuberculosis): BCG vaccine developed by Calmette and Guérin (1921), not Jenner.



- Option B (Cholera): Cholera vaccine credited to Pasteur/Haffkine — much later.
- Option D (Plague): Plague vaccine by Waldemar Haffkine (1897), not Jenner.

Final Answer: Edward Jenner's first vaccine = against Smallpox ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 9](#)

Sol.10.

Solution

Concept — ICC Cricket World Cup 2023: The ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 (50-over format) was hosted by India (5 Oct – 19 Nov 2023). **Australia** won the tournament, defeating India in the final at Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad, by 6 wickets.

Key Facts:

- Final (19 Nov 2023): Australia beat India by 6 wickets.
- Player of the Tournament: Travis Head (Australia).
- Leading run-scorer of the tournament: Virat Kohli (India).
- Australia became 6-time ODI World Cup champions (1987, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2015, 2023).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (India): India reached the final but lost to Australia.
- Option B (South Africa): South Africa did not reach the final.
- Option C (England): Defending champions, knocked out in the semi/group stage.

Final Answer: ICC CWC 2023 winner = Australia ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 10](#)



Sol.11.

Solution

Concept — Emergency Provisions (Part XVIII): Part XVIII of the Indian Constitution (Articles 352–360) deals with Emergency provisions. **Article 352** specifically empowers the President to proclaim a **National Emergency** on grounds of war, external aggression, or armed rebellion.

Key Facts:

- Art. 352: National Emergency (war / external aggression / armed rebellion).
- Art. 356: President's Rule in a State (failure of constitutional machinery).
- Art. 360: Financial Emergency (threat to financial stability of India or any part thereof).
- National Emergency proclaimed thrice: 1962 (India–China War), 1971 (India–Pakistan War), 1975 (internal disturbance, under Indira Gandhi — most controversial).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (President's Rule): Covered under Article 356, not Article 352.
- Option B (Financial Emergency): Covered under Article 360, not Article 352.
- Option D (Constitutional Emergency): Not a formal constitutional term; sometimes used colloquially for President's Rule.

Final Answer: Article 352 = National Emergency ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 11](#)

Sol.12.

Solution

Concept — Founding of Indian National Congress: The Indian National Congress (INC) was founded on **28 December 1885** in Bombay (now Mumbai) by **A.O. Hume** (retired British ICS officer), Dadabhai Naoroji, and Dinshaw Wacha. The first session was presided over by Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee.

Key Facts:

- First session: 28–30 December 1885, Bombay (72 delegates).
- First President: Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee.



- Initially moderate in approach (petitions and constitutional methods).
- Later became radical with the Lal-Bal-Pal trio (Lajpat Rai, Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (1892): No major Congress founding event; INC was already 7 years old.
- Option C (1900): INC well-established by 1900.
- Option D (1878): Year of Vernacular Press Act — INC not yet founded.

Final Answer: Indian National Congress founded in 1885 ⇒ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 12](#)

Sol.13.

Solution

Concept — Köppen Climate Classification in India: India exhibits **6 major climate types** under the Köppen classification, reflecting its vast geographical diversity from the Thar Desert to the Himalayas.

Key Facts:

- Am (Tropical Monsoon): Western Ghats coast, northeastern India.
- Aw (Tropical Savanna / Wet and Dry): Most of peninsular India.
- BSh (Semi-arid Steppe): Parts of Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Deccan Plateau.
- BWh (Hot Desert): Thar Desert (Rajasthan).
- Cwa (Humid Subtropical): Northern plains, Gangetic belt.
- ET (Alpine / Tundra): High-altitude Himalayan zones.

Why other options are wrong:

- Options A, B, C (3, 4, 5): All undercount India's actual climate diversity; the correct number is 6.

Final Answer: India has 6 major Köppen climate types ⇒ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 13](#)



Sol.14.

Solution

Concept — Quantum Mechanical Model of the Atom: The quantum mechanical (electron cloud) model was formulated by **Erwin Schrödinger** in **1926**. His wave equation treats electrons as probability clouds (orbitals) rather than fixed circular orbits, superseding Bohr's model.

Key Facts:

- Schrödinger Wave Equation (time-independent): $\hat{H}\psi = E\psi$.
- Shared Nobel Prize in Physics 1933 with Paul Dirac.
- Werner Heisenberg: Uncertainty Principle (1927), complementary to Schrödinger's model.
- Bohr Model (1913): Fixed circular orbits; explains H spectrum but limited to hydrogen.
- Rutherford Model (1911): Nuclear model with orbiting electrons (solar-system analogy).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Niels Bohr): Proposed fixed circular orbits (Bohr model, 1913) — superseded.
- Option C (Ernest Rutherford): Proposed the nuclear (planetary) model of the atom (1911).
- Option D (Max Planck): Proposed quantum theory and Planck's constant h ; not the electron cloud model.

Final Answer: Electron cloud model = Erwin Schrödinger $\Rightarrow$ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 14](#)

Sol.15.

Solution

Concept — Digital India Programme: The Digital India programme was launched by PM Narendra Modi on **1 July 2015**, aiming to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.

Key Facts:

- Launch date: 1 July 2015.
- Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Me-



itY).

- Three key vision areas: Digital Infrastructure, Digital Governance and Services, Digital Literacy.
- Key initiatives: BharatNet, DigiLocker, UMANG, MyGov, e-Hospital, Aadhaar.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (2014): BJP government formed in May 2014; Digital India launched the following year.
- Option C (2017): Incorrect year.
- Option D (2019): Incorrect year; associated with PM Modi's second term.

Final Answer: Digital India launched in 2015 ⇒ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 15](#)

Sol.16.

Solution

Concept — Judicial Review in India: Judicial review is the power to examine the constitutionality of legislative and executive actions. In India it is primarily exercised by the **Supreme Court** (Articles 32, 131–136) and **High Courts** (Article 226). It is a basic feature of the Constitution (Kesavananda Bharati case, 1973).

Key Facts:

- Article 13: Laws inconsistent with Fundamental Rights are void.
- Article 32: SC issues writs to enforce Fundamental Rights.
- Article 226: High Courts issue writs for any purpose (broader than SC's writ jurisdiction).
- Concept was inspired by the US model, but Indian judicial review is qualified — Parliament has more deference in certain socio-economic matters.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Parliament): Parliament enacts laws; it cannot declare its own laws unconstitutional.
- Option B (President): Gives assent to bills; does not exercise judicial review.
- Option C (Attorney General): India's chief legal adviser; appears in courts on behalf of Union but does not exercise judicial review.



Final Answer: Judicial review = Supreme Court and High Courts ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 16](#)

Sol.17.

Solution

Concept — Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (13 April 1919): On Baisakhi Day, Brigadier-General **Reginald Dyer** ordered his troops to open fire without warning on a peaceful gathering at Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar. The massacre became a turning point in India's independence struggle.

Key Facts:

- Official British death toll: 379; Indian estimates exceed 1,000.
- Background: Rowlatt Act (1919) suppressed civil liberties, sparking protests.
- Hunter Commission (1919–20): Censured Dyer, but British House of Lords initially supported him.
- Rabindranath Tagore renounced his knighthood in protest.
- Udham Singh (1940): Shot Michael O'Dwyer (Lt. Governor of Punjab who endorsed Dyer) in London as an act of revenge.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Lord Chelmsford): Viceroy of India at the time; did not personally order the massacre.
- Option B (Lord Dyer): There is no title "Lord Dyer" — his rank was Brigadier-General.
- Option D (Lord Montagu): Secretary of State for India; later called the massacre "terrorism" but was not the perpetrator.

Final Answer: Jallianwala Bagh Massacre ordered by General Reginald Dyer ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 17](#)



Sol.18.

Solution

Concept — Gulf of Mannar: The Gulf of Mannar is a large shallow bay forming part of the Indian Ocean, lying between **India's southeastern coast (Tamil Nadu)** and the island of **Sri Lanka**. It is renowned for its rich marine biodiversity.

Key Facts:

- Palk Strait lies to the *north* of the Gulf of Mannar between India and Sri Lanka.
- Adam's Bridge (Rama Setu): Chain of limestone shoals linking SE India to NW Sri Lanka.
- Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve (est. 1989): 21 uninhabited islands, coral reefs, seagrasses, marine turtles.
- Major nearby port: Thoothukudi (Tuticorin), Tamil Nadu.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Maldives): Maldives lies to India's southwest, in the Lakshadweep Sea/Arabian Sea.
- Option C (Bangladesh): Borders northeastern India; no connection to the Gulf of Mannar.
- Option D (Myanmar): Borders northeastern India; shares no maritime boundary near the Gulf of Mannar.

Final Answer: Gulf of Mannar lies between India and Sri Lanka ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 18](#)

Sol.19.

Solution

Concept — Solar Energy Conversion: Electricity is generated from sunlight through the **photovoltaic (PV) effect**: photons from sunlight knock electrons free in a semiconductor material (typically silicon), creating an electric current. Arrays of PV cells form solar panels.

Key Facts:

- Photovoltaic effect discovered by Edmond Becquerel (1839).
- Silicon is the most widely used semiconductor in PV cells (>90% of solar panels).



- India's National Solar Mission (JNNSM): Part of National Action Plan on Climate Change.
- Rajasthan leads India in installed solar capacity; India targets 500 GW renewables by 2030.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Fuel cells): Convert chemical energy (hydrogen + oxygen) to electricity; no direct sunlight required.
- Option C (Thermoelectric generators): Convert a heat gradient (temperature difference) to electricity.
- Option D (Hydraulic turbines): Convert kinetic/potential energy of water to electricity (hydropower).

Final Answer: Sunlight → electricity via Photovoltaic (PV) cells ⇒ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 19](#)

Sol.20.

Solution

Concept — FDI Policy in India: The **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)**, under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, is the nodal department for formulating, implementing, and reviewing India's FDI policy. It publishes the Consolidated FDI Policy and Press Notes.

Key Facts:

- DPIIT was previously DIPP (Dept. of Industrial Policy and Promotion); re-named in 2019.
- Publishes the Consolidated FDI Policy (updated periodically).
- Administers "Make in India," "Startup India," and "Ease of Doing Business" initiatives.
- RBI: Manages forex transactions under FEMA; not the FDI policy framer.
- SEBI: Regulates securities markets (stocks, bonds, mutual funds) — unrelated to FDI policy.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (SEBI): Securities market regulator; does not frame or administer FDI policy.



- Option B (RBI): Manages monetary policy and overseas investment regulations, not FDI policy formulation.
- Option C (NITI Aayog): Policy think tank; advises government but does not regulate or promote FDI directly.

Final Answer: DPIIT is responsible for FDI policy in India ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 20](#)

Sol.21.

Solution

Concept — 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (1992): The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 (effective 24 April 1993) added Part IX and the Eleventh Schedule to the Constitution, giving **constitutional status and protection to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)**.

Key Facts:

- Three-tier structure: Gram Panchayat (village) → Panchayat Samiti (block) → Zila Parishad (district).
- Mandatory reservation for SC, ST, and women (minimum one-third of seats).
- State Election Commission to conduct Panchayat elections.
- State Finance Commission to review Panchayat finances every 5 years.
- 24 April observed as “Panchayati Raj Diwas.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Urban local bodies): Covered by the **74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992**.
- Option B (Co-operative societies): Covered by the **97th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2011**.
- Option D (State Finance Commissions): Created by the 73rd Amendment but are a mechanism within it, not the primary institution granted constitutional status.

Final Answer: 73rd Amendment = constitutional status to Panchayati Raj institutions ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 21](#)



Sol.22.

Solution

Concept — Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was appointed Chairman of the **Drafting Committee** of the Constituent Assembly on 29 August 1947. He is revered as the “Father of the Indian Constitution.”

Key Facts:

- Constituent Assembly established: December 1946 under the Cabinet Mission Plan.
- Drafting Committee formed: 29 August 1947 (7 members, chaired by Ambedkar).
- Constitution adopted: 26 November 1949 (now “Constitution Day”).
- Constitution effective: 26 January 1950 (Republic Day).
- Union Powers Committee: Chaired by Jawaharlal Nehru.
- Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights and Minorities: Chaired by Sardar Patel.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Union Powers Committee): Chaired by Jawaharlal Nehru — dealt with division of powers between Union and States.
- Option C (Advisory Committee): Chaired by Sardar Patel — dealt with Fundamental Rights and minorities.
- Option D (Fundamental Rights Committee): Also under Sardar Patel’s Advisory Committee.

Final Answer: Dr. Ambedkar chaired the Drafting Committee ⇒ B

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 22](#)

Sol.23.

Solution

Concept — Sai Baba of Shirdi: Sai Baba of Shirdi (c. 1838–1918) was a revered spiritual master who lived in Shirdi (Ahmednagar district, Maharashtra). He is worshipped by both Hindus and Muslims for preaching **unity of all religions**, embodying a Hindu–Sufi composite spiritual tradition.

Key Facts:

- Famous saying: “*Sabka Malik Ek*” (One God for all).
- Two core teachings: *Shraddha* (faith) and *Saburi* (patience/perseverance).
- Lived in a mosque he named “Dwarkamai” (a Hindu name for an Islamic prayer space).
- Observed both Hindu festivals and Islamic practices.
- Shirdi Sai Baba Temple: among India’s richest temples by donation volume.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Only Hindu): Incorrect — he equally honoured and practised Islamic traditions.
- Option B (Only Islamic Sufi): Incorrect — he equally honoured Hindu traditions and festivals.
- Option C (Only Buddhist): Sai Baba is not primarily associated with Buddhism.

Final Answer: Sai Baba preached unity of all religions (Hindu–Sufi composite)

⇒ D

Answer: (D)

[Go Back to Q 23](#)

Sol.24.

Solution

Concept — Man Booker Prize 2006: The Man Booker Prize 2006 was awarded to **Kiran Desai** for her novel *The Inheritance of Loss*. She became the youngest woman to win the Booker Prize (at age 35) and the first daughter of a Booker-shortlisted author (Anita Desai) to win it.

Key Facts:

- Novel set in the Darjeeling Hills (Kalimpong region) in the 1980s.
- Themes: imperialism, immigration, class, and inequality.
- Kiran Desai’s first novel: *Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard* (1998).
- Arundhati Roy: Booker Prize 1997 for *The God of Small Things*.
- Jhumpa Lahiri: Pulitzer Prize 2000 for *Interpreter of Maladies* (short stories).
- Anita Desai (Kiran’s mother): Three-time Booker shortlisted; never won.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Arundhati Roy): Won Booker 1997 for *The God of Small Things*.



- Option C (Jhumpa Lahiri): Won Pulitzer (2000); not the Booker.
- Option D (Anita Desai): Kiran's mother; shortlisted for Booker thrice but did not win.

Final Answer: *The Inheritance of Loss* (Booker 2006) = Kiran Desai ⇒ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 24](#)

Sol.25.

Solution

Concept — Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan: Launched by PM Narendra Modi on 12 May 2020 (during the COVID-19 pandemic), Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (Self-Reliant India Mission) aims to make India self-reliant by **promoting domestic manufacturing, boosting local industries, and reducing import dependence.**

Key Facts:

- Announced alongside a Rs. 20 lakh crore special economic package.
- Five pillars: Economy, Infrastructure, Technology-driven system, Vibrant Democracy, Demand.
- Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes: key mechanism to boost domestic production.
- Priority sectors: electronics, pharmaceuticals, solar panels, defence, textiles, food processing.
- Companion initiatives: “Vocal for Local,” “Make in India,” “Ek District Ek Utpad.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Boost foreign imports): Contrary — the mission aims to *reduce* import dependence.
- Option B (Privatise public sector): While disinvestment is a separate policy, privatisation is not the overarching goal of Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- Option D (Increase defence spending): Defence is one sector; not the primary goal of the mission.

Final Answer: Atmanirbhar Bharat = promote domestic manufacturing, reduce import dependence ⇒ C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 25](#)



Sol.26.

Solution

Concept — Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005: The RTI Act was passed by the Indian Parliament (May 2005) and came into full force on **12 October 2005**. It empowers citizens to request information from any public authority within 30 days (48 hours in life/liberty matters).

Key Facts:

- Passed: May 2005; operative from: 12 October 2005.
- Central Information Commission (CIC) established to hear second appeals and complaints.
- Applies to all public authorities (Union, State, and local bodies).
- Exemptions: National security, sovereignty, personal privacy, trade secrets, cabinet papers.
- Replaces the Freedom of Information Act, 2002 (which was never operationalised).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (2002): Freedom of Information Act 2002 was passed but never brought into force.
- Option C (2007): Incorrect year.
- Option D (2010): Incorrect year.

Final Answer: RTI Act enacted and operative from 2005 ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 26](#)

Sol.27.

Solution

Concept — Raigad Fort and the Maratha Empire: Raigad Fort (Raigad district, Maharashtra) was the **capital of the Maratha Empire** under **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj**. He was coronated here on 6 June 1674 and made Raigad his royal capital until his death in 1680.

Key Facts:

- Elevation: 820 m; originally called “Rairi.”
- Coronation of Shivaji: 6 June 1674 at Raigad.
- Shivaji’s death: 3 April 1680 at Raigad Fort.



- Built by Chandrarao More; captured and extensively renovated by Shivaji.
- Raigad has a ropeway and is a major heritage tourism site in Maharashtra.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Peshwa Bajirao I): Ruled from Pune (Shaniwar Wada, 1720–1740); not associated with Raigad.
- Option B (Aurangzeb): Captured Raigad briefly in 1689 after Shivaji's death; it was never his capital.
- Option C (Nana Phadnavis): 18th-century Maratha statesman; associated with Pune, not Raigad as capital.

Final Answer: Raigad Fort = capital of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj ⇒ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 27](#)

Sol.28.

Solution

Concept — Premchand's Godan: *Godan* (published 1936) is Munshi Premchand's masterpiece novel, written in **Hindi**. It portrays the life and struggles of Hori Ram, an Indian peasant whose lifelong dream is to own a cow. The novel is a landmark of Hindi social realism.

Key Facts:

- Full name: Dhanpat Rai Shrivastava; pen name: Premchand.
- Born: 31 July 1880, Lamhi near Varanasi; Died: 8 October 1936.
- Known as "Upanyas Samrat" (Emperor of the Novel) in Hindi literature.
- Although some early works were in Urdu, *Godan* was specifically written in Hindi.
- Other notable novels: *Nirmala*, *Gaban*, *Rangbhoomi*, *Sevasadan*.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Bengali): Bengali literary tradition is separate; Premchand wrote from UP in Hindi/Urdu.
- Option B (Urdu): Premchand's early works were in Urdu, but *Godan* specifically is in Hindi.
- Option D (Marathi): Premchand was from Uttar Pradesh and did not write in Marathi.



Final Answer: *Godan* by Premchand = written in Hindi ⇒ C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 28](#)

Sol.29.

Solution

Concept — State Animal of Maharashtra: The state animal of Maharashtra is the **Indian Giant Squirrel** (*Ratufa indica*), popularly known as **Shekru**. It is a large, colourful tree squirrel found in the dense forests of the Western Ghats (Sahyadri) of Maharashtra.

Key Facts:

- Scientific name: *Ratufa indica*.
- Total length up to 1 metre (including bushy tail); weight up to 2 kg — India's largest squirrel.
- Key habitat: Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary (Pune), Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary (Kolhapur).
- State Bird of Maharashtra: Green Imperial Pigeon (Hariyal).
- State Flower: Jarul (*Lagerstroemia speciosa*).
- State Tree: Mango (*Mangifera indica*).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Bengal Tiger): National animal of India; not the state animal of Maharashtra.
- Option C (Indian Elephant): State animal of Karnataka and Jharkhand; not Maharashtra.
- Option D (Gaur / Indian Bison): State animal of Bihar; also found in Maharashtra but not the state animal.

Final Answer: State animal of Maharashtra = Indian Giant Squirrel (Shekru) ⇒

A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 29](#)



Sol.30.

Solution

Concept — Man Booker Prize 2008: The Man Booker Prize 2008 was awarded to **Arvind Adiga** for his debut novel *The White Tiger*. Written as letters from Balram Halwai to the Chinese Premier, it traces a poor villager's rise to become an entrepreneur through morally complex means.

Key Facts:

- Arvind Adiga: Born 1974 in Madras (Chennai); educated at Columbia University and Magdalen College, Oxford.
- Published 2008 — his debut novel.
- Themes: class struggle, corruption, poverty, the “two Indias” (darkness vs. light).
- Adapted into a Netflix film (2021), directed by Ramin Bahrani.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (*The God of Small Things*): Arundhati Roy; Booker Prize 1997.
- Option C (*A Fine Balance*): Rohinton Mistry; Booker shortlisted 1995 — did not win.
- Option D (*Midnight's Children*): Salman Rushdie; Booker 1981 and “Booker of Bookers” (1993, 2008).

Final Answer: Arvind Adiga's Booker (2008) debut = *The White Tiger* ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 30](#)



Answer Key

(Click on any answer letter to jump to its detailed solution)

Q.No	Ans	Q.No	Ans	Q.No	Ans	Q.No	Ans	Q.No	Ans
1	C	2	D	3	A	4	B	5	C
6	D	7	A	8	B	9	C	10	D
11	C	12	A	13	D	14	B	15	A
16	D	17	C	18	B	19	A	20	D
21	C	22	B	23	D	24	A	25	C
26	B	27	D	28	C	29	A	30	B

