

MAH B.Ed CET General Knowledge

Sample Paper – 6

Duration: 27 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 30

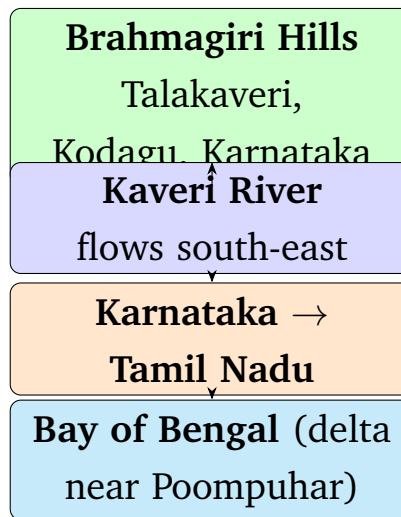
Instructions

- This paper contains **30 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)**.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is **no negative marking**.
- Each question has **exactly one** correct answer. Choose the best option.
- Syllabus: **Current Affairs, History, Geography, Science & Technology, Indian Polity, Maharashtra GK, Literature.**
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or any electronic devices is **strictly prohibited**.

Questions

- Q1.** India's first solar observation mission, Aditya-L1, was launched by ISRO in:
- A. September 2023
 - B. July 2022
 - C. January 2024
 - D. March 2023
- Q2.** The Champaran Satyagraha (1917), which was Mahatma Gandhi's first Satyagraha movement in India, was launched against:
- A. The salt tax imposed by the British
 - B. The indigo plantation system (tinkathia system) under British planters
 - C. The Rowlatt Act of 1919
 - D. The partition of Bengal
- Q3.** The Kaveri (Cauvery) river originates from the:





- A. Amarkantak Plateau, Madhya Pradesh
- B. Mahabaleshwar Hills, Maharashtra
- C. Brahmagiri Hills, Kodagu (Coorg), Karnataka
- D. Nilgiri Hills, Tamil Nadu

Q4. Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation states that the gravitational force between two bodies is:

- A. Directly proportional to the sum of their masses and to the square of the distance between them
- B. Inversely proportional to their masses and directly proportional to the distance
- C. Directly proportional to the product of their masses and directly proportional to the square of the distance
- D. Directly proportional to the product of their masses and inversely proportional to the square of the distance

Q5. India's first Biosphere Reserve, designated in 1986, is the:

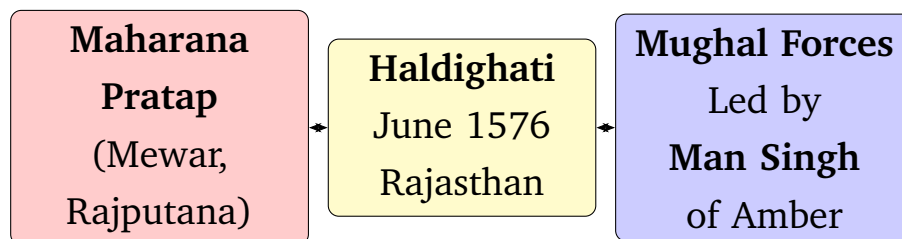
- A. Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve
- B. Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve
- C. Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve
- D. Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve



Q6. Under Article 13 of the Indian Constitution, any law that is inconsistent with or takes away Fundamental Rights shall be:

- A. Suspended until Parliament reviews it
- B. Void to the extent of the inconsistency
- C. Referred to the Supreme Court for review
- D. Repealed by the President

Q7. The Battle of Haldighati (1576) was fought between Maharana Pratap of Mewar and the Mughal forces led by:



- A. Akbar himself
- B. Birbal
- C. Man Singh of Amber
- D. Todar Mal

Q8. Kunchikal Falls, considered India's highest waterfall (455 m), is located in:

- A. Kerala
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Uttarakhand
- D. Karnataka

Q9. Ernest Rutherford's gold foil (alpha-particle scattering) experiment led to the discovery of:

- A. The atomic nucleus
- B. The electron
- C. The neutron

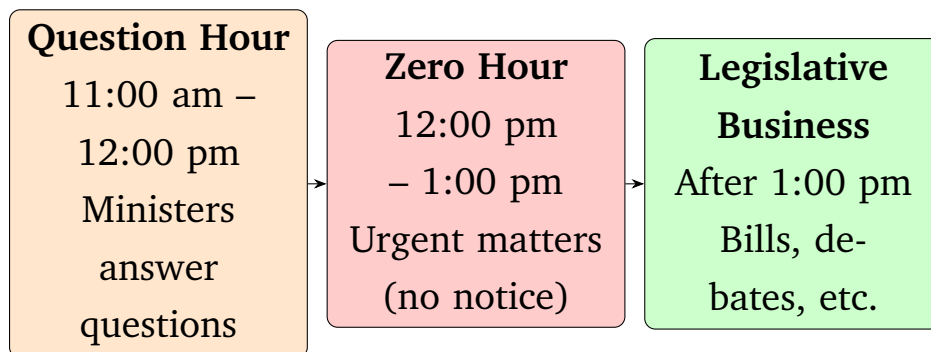


D. The proton

Q10. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) became a statutory body with regulatory powers under the SEBI Act in:

- A. 1988
- B. 1992
- C. 1995
- D. 2000

Q11. 'Zero Hour' in the Indian Parliament refers to the period:



- A. When no legislative work is done and the house is in recess
- B. Starting at midnight when emergency sessions are called
- C. Immediately after Question Hour (around 12 noon) when members raise urgent matters without prior notice
- D. When the President addresses both Houses in a joint sitting

Q12. The Indian National Army (Azad Hind Fauj), which fought for India's independence alongside Japan during World War II, was reorganised and commanded by:

- A. Bhagat Singh
- B. Lala Lajpat Rai
- C. Jawaharlal Nehru
- D. Subhas Chandra Bose

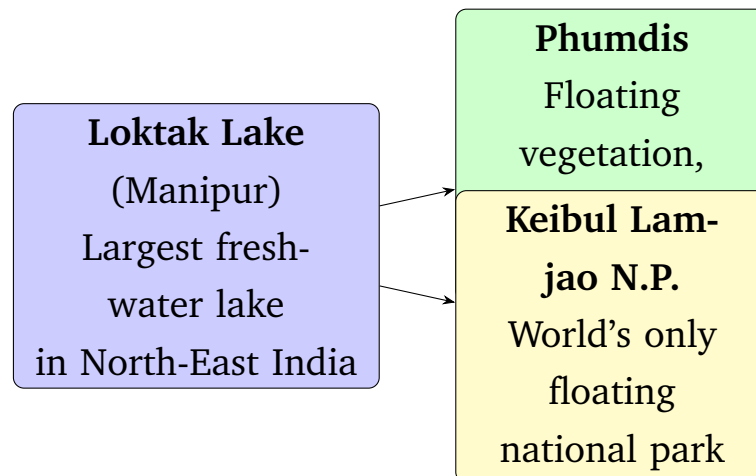


- Q13.** Nanda Devi (7,816 m), the highest peak located entirely within India, is situated in:
- A. Uttarakhand
 - B. Sikkim
 - C. Himachal Pradesh
 - D. Jammu and Kashmir
- Q14.** Which gas is the MOST significant contributor to the enhanced greenhouse effect causing global warming?
- A. Ozone (O_3)
 - B. Carbon dioxide (CO_2)
 - C. Nitrogen (N_2)
 - D. Argon (Ar)
- Q15.** The Unified Payments Interface (UPI), India's real-time digital payment system developed by NPCI, was launched in:
- A. 2014
 - B. 2015
 - C. 2016
 - D. 2018
- Q16.** The doctrine of 'Basic Structure' of the Constitution was established by the Supreme Court of India in the landmark case:
- A. Golak Nath vs State of Punjab (1967)
 - B. Minerva Mills vs Union of India (1980)
 - C. Maneka Gandhi vs Union of India (1978)
 - D. Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala (1973)
- Q17.** The 'Doctrine of Lapse', under which Indian states with no natural heir could be annexed by the British East India Company, was introduced by:
- A. Lord Dalhousie



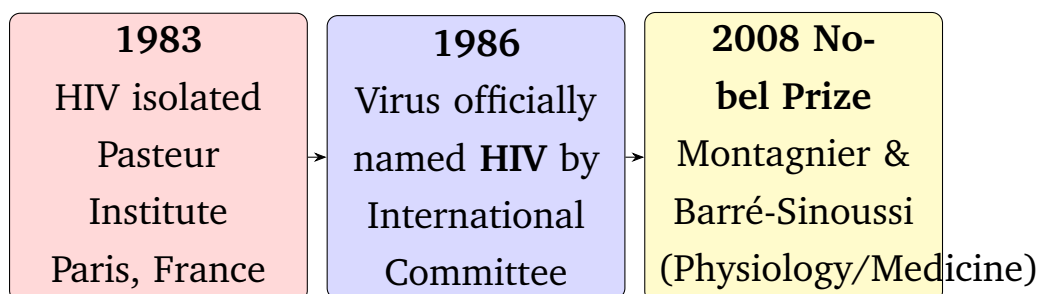
- B. Lord Wellesley
- C. Lord Cornwallis
- D. Lord Bentinck

Q18. Loktak Lake, famous for its floating phumdis (heterogeneous mass of vegetation, soil, and organic matter), is located in:



- A. Assam
- B. Manipur
- C. Meghalaya
- D. Tripura

Q19. HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, was first isolated and identified in 1983 by scientists at the Pasteur Institute in France. Which scientists received the 2008 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for this discovery?



- A. Robert Gallo and David Baltimore
- B. Peter Doherty and Rolf Zinkernagel
- C. Luc Montagnier and Françoise Barré-Sinoussi

D. Barry Marshall and Robin Warren

Q20. The 'Make in India' initiative, aimed at promoting manufacturing in India, was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in:

- A. May 2014
- B. January 2015
- C. August 2014
- D. September 2014

Q21. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India was established under the Protection of Human Rights Act in:

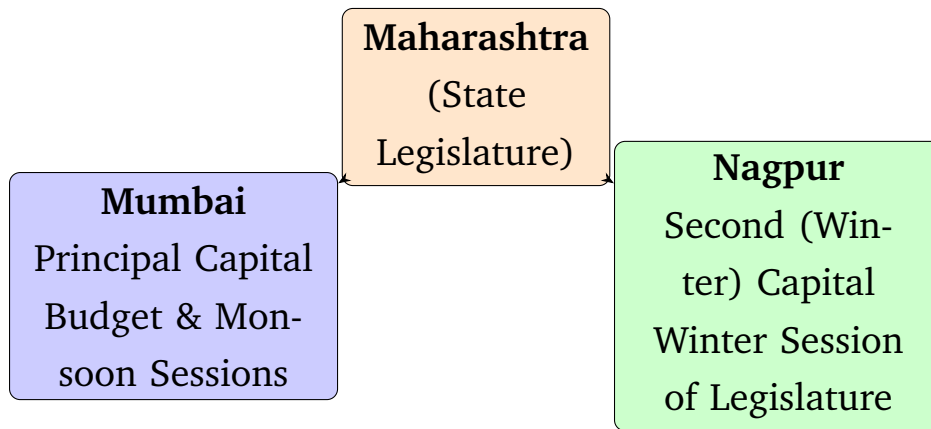
- A. 1993
- B. 1990
- C. 1995
- D. 2000

Q22. The Vernacular Press Act (1878), which imposed restrictions on Indian-language newspapers criticising the British government, was enacted by:

- A. Lord Bentinck
- B. Lord Lytton
- C. Lord Curzon
- D. Lord Ripon

Q23. Which city serves as the second (winter session) capital of Maharashtra, where the winter session of the Maharashtra Legislature is held?





- A. Pune
- B. Aurangabad (Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar)
- C. Nagpur
- D. Nashik

Q24. Which Marathi author and novelist, known for the seminal novel 'Kosala' (1963), was awarded the Jnanpith Award in 2015?

- A. V.S. Khandekar
- B. Kusumavati Deshpande
- C. Vishnu Saktharam Khandekar
- D. Bhalchandra Nemade

Q25. Insulin, the hormone used to treat diabetes, was discovered in 1921 by:

- A. Frederick Banting and Charles Best
- B. Wilhelm Roentgen and Henri Becquerel
- C. Louis Pasteur and Robert Koch
- D. James Watson and Francis Crick

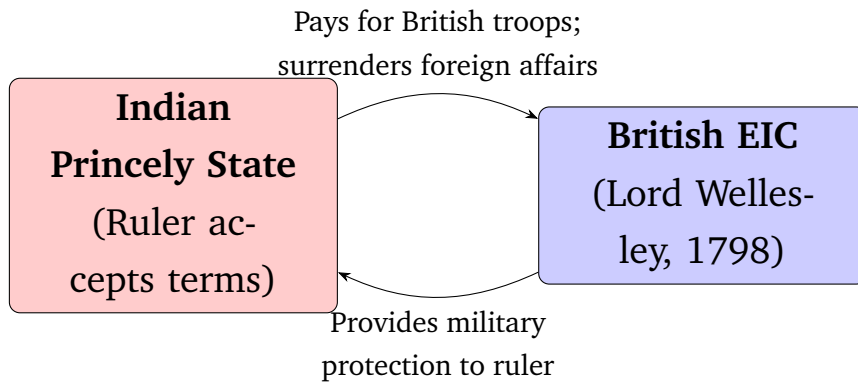
Q26. The special status of Jammu & Kashmir under Article 370 of the Indian Constitution was revoked by Parliament in:

- A. 2017
- B. 2019
- C. 2021



D. 2023

Q27. The 'Subsidiary Alliance' system, under which Indian rulers accepted British troops in their territory and paid for their upkeep, was introduced by:



- A. Lord Cornwallis
- B. Lord Dalhousie
- C. Lord Wellesley
- D. Lord Curzon

Q28. Kaziranga National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for the Indian one-horned rhinoceros, is located in:

- A. West Bengal
- B. Odisha
- C. Uttarakhand
- D. Assam

Q29. Kalsubai (1,646 m), the highest peak in Maharashtra, is located in which district?

- A. Ahmednagar
- B. Nashik
- C. Pune
- D. Satara



Q30. P.L. Deshpande (Pu La), one of the most beloved Marathi writers, humorists, and performers, is best known for the work:

- A. Shyamchi Aai
- B. Vyakti Ani Valli
- C. Mrityunjay
- D. Panipat



Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Concept — Current Affairs (Aditya-L1 Solar Mission): Aditya-L1 is India's first dedicated space-based solar observatory, designed to study the Sun from the L1 Lagrange point approximately 1.5 million km from Earth, allowing uninterrupted observation of solar activity.

Key Facts:

- Launched by ISRO on **2 September 2023** aboard PSLV-C57 from Sriharikota
- Successfully inserted into the L1 halo orbit on **6 January 2024**
- Carries 7 scientific payloads to study the solar corona, photosphere, and space weather
- Mission aim: understand solar dynamics and predict space weather events

Why other options are wrong:

- **B) July 2022** — Incorrect; the mission had not yet launched in 2022
- **C) January 2024** — This was when Aditya-L1 *arrived* at L1 orbit, not the launch date
- **D) March 2023** — No significant ISRO solar mission launched in March 2023

Final Answer: Aditya-L1 was launched in September 2023.

Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Q 1](#)

Q2.

Solution

Concept — History (Champaran Satyagraha, 1917): The Champaran Satyagraha was Gandhi's first civil disobedience movement in India after returning from South Africa. It targeted the oppressive tinkathia (three-twentieths) system that forced peasants to grow indigo on a fixed portion of their land for British planters.

Key Facts:

- Launched in **Champaran, Bihar** in **1917**
- Under the tinkathia system, farmers had to grow indigo on 3/20 of their landholding



- Gandhi's intervention led to the Champaran Agrarian Act (1918), abolishing the system
- This movement established Gandhi as a national leader in India

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) Salt tax** — The Dandi Salt March against the salt tax came in 1930, much later
- **C) Rowlatt Act** — Non-Cooperation Movement against Rowlatt Act took place in 1919–1920
- **D) Partition of Bengal** — This was opposed in 1905 by Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, and others

Final Answer: Champaran Satyagraha was launched against the indigo plantation (tinkathia) system.

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Q 2](#)

Q3.

Solution

Concept — Geography (Kaveri River): The Kaveri (Cauvery) is one of India's major south-flowing peninsular rivers. It is also called "Dakshina Ganga" (Ganga of the South) and is a lifeline for Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

Key Facts:

- Originates from **Brahmagiri Hills**, Talakaveri, **Kodagu (Coorg) district, Karnataka**
- Total length: approximately **800 km**; drains into the Bay of Bengal near Poompuhar
- Major tributaries: Harangi, Hemavati, Shimsha, Arkavathi (Karnataka); Bhavani, Amaravathi (Tamil Nadu)
- Kaveri water-sharing dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu is a long-standing issue

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) Amarkantak Plateau** — Origin of the *Narmada* and Son rivers, not Kaveri
- **B) Mahabaleshwar Hills** — Origin of the *Krishna* river
- **D) Nilgiri Hills** — The Nilgiris are in the Kaveri basin but are not its source



Final Answer: The Kaveri river originates from Brahmagiri Hills, Kodagu, Karnataka.

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Q 3](#)

Q4.

Solution

Concept — Science (Newton’s Law of Universal Gravitation): Newton’s Law states that every particle of matter attracts every other particle with a force that depends on their masses and the distance separating them.

Key Facts:

- Formula: $F = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$, where $G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2/\text{kg}^2$
- Force is **directly proportional** to the **product** of the two masses ($m_1 \times m_2$)
- Force is **inversely proportional** to the **square** of the distance (r^2) between centres
- The force acts along the line joining the two bodies (central force)

Why other options are wrong:

- A) Uses “sum of masses” (incorrect) and implies direct (not inverse) square dependence (incorrect)
- B) “Inversely proportional to masses” is the opposite of the correct statement
- C) “Directly proportional to the square of the distance” contradicts the inverse-square law

Final Answer: Gravitational force is directly proportional to the product of masses and inversely proportional to the square of the distance.

Answer: (D)

[Go Back to Q 4](#)



Q5.

Solution

Concept — Environment (Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve): India's Biosphere Reserve programme was launched in 1986 under UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme. The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve was the first to be designated in India.

Key Facts:

- Designated in **1986**; covers parts of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka
- Encompasses Mudumalai, Nagarhole, Bandipur, and Silent Valley National Parks
- Added to UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves in **2000**
- India currently has 18 Biosphere Reserves; 12 are in the UNESCO network

Why other options are wrong:

- **B) Nanda Devi** — India's *second* Biosphere Reserve, designated in 1988
- **C) Sundarbans** — Designated as a Biosphere Reserve in 1989
- **D) Gulf of Mannar** — Designated in 1989; first marine biosphere reserve in South Asia

Final Answer: The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (1986) is India's first Biosphere Reserve.

Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Q 5](#)

Q6.

Solution

Concept — Indian Polity (Article 13): Article 13 is the cornerstone of judicial review in India. It empowers courts to strike down any law inconsistent with the Fundamental Rights guaranteed under Part III of the Constitution.

Key Facts:

- Article 13(1): Laws in force before the Constitution are void to the extent they are inconsistent with Fundamental Rights
- Article 13(2): The State shall not make any law which takes away or abridges Fundamental Rights
- "Law" includes ordinances, orders, bye-laws, rules, regulations, notifications, customs, and usages
- This article is the basis of **judicial review** in India



Why other options are wrong:

- A) No “suspension pending review” mechanism is provided in Article 13
- C) Courts automatically declare such laws void; no referral to Supreme Court is required
- D) The President does not repeal such laws; courts strike them down

Final Answer: Under Article 13, a law inconsistent with Fundamental Rights is void to the extent of the inconsistency.

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Q 6](#)

Q7.

Solution

Concept — History (Battle of Haldighati, 1576): The Battle of Haldighati was a decisive engagement between Maharana Pratap Singh I of Mewar and the Mughal Empire under Emperor Akbar. Akbar sent his trusted general Man Singh I of Amber to lead the Mughal army.

Key Facts:

- Fought on **18 June 1576** in the Haldighati pass (Rajsamand district, Rajasthan)
- Mughal forces commanded by **Man Singh I of Amber** (Jaipur) and Asaf Khan
- Maharana Pratap’s famous horse **Chetak** was mortally wounded in this battle
- The battle was tactically inconclusive; Maharana Pratap escaped to continue resistance

Why other options are wrong:

- A) **Akbar himself** — Akbar did not personally lead forces at Haldighati; he was at Ajmer
- B) **Birbal** — Birbal (Raja Todar Mal Birbal) was a court poet and minister, not a battlefield commander
- D) **Todar Mal** — Akbar’s revenue minister; not the commander at Haldighati

Final Answer: The Battle of Haldighati (1576) was led against Maharana Pratap by Man Singh of Amber.

Answer: (C)



[Go Back to Q 7](#)

Q8.

Solution

Concept — Geography (Kunchikal Falls): Kunchikal Falls is a spectacular waterfall in the Shimoga (Shivamogga) district of Karnataka, formed by the Varahi River. It is the tallest waterfall in India by sheer drop.

Key Facts:

- Height: **455 metres** (1,493 feet) — highest waterfall in India
- Located on the **Varahi River**, Shimoga district, **Karnataka**
- The falls are often submerged due to the Mani hydroelectric project reservoir
- Also listed among the highest waterfalls in Asia

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) Kerala** — Athirappilly Falls in Kerala is famous but is only about 80 m high
- **B) Himachal Pradesh** — No significant high waterfall; Rahala Falls is there but much shorter
- **C) Uttarakhand** — Kempty Falls and Vasuki Falls are in Uttarakhand but much shorter

Final Answer: Kunchikal Falls, India's highest waterfall at 455 m, is in Karnataka.

Answer: (D)

[Go Back to Q 8](#)

Q9.

Solution

Concept — Science (Rutherford's Gold Foil Experiment): In 1909–1911, Ernest Rutherford, Hans Geiger, and Ernest Marsden bombarded a thin gold foil with alpha particles. The results overturned the Thomson “plum pudding” model and led to the nuclear model of the atom.

Key Facts:

- Most alpha particles passed straight through $\Rightarrow$ atom is mostly **empty space**
- A small fraction deflected at large angles $\Rightarrow$ a dense, positively charged **nucleus** exists at the centre
- Rutherford proposed the **nuclear model** (planetary model) in 1911
- Electrons orbit the nucleus (later refined by Bohr in 1913)



Why other options are wrong:

- **B) Electron** — Discovered by **J.J. Thomson** in 1897 using cathode ray tube experiments
- **C) Neutron** — Discovered by **James Chadwick** in 1932 via beryllium bombardment
- **D) Proton** — Rutherford identified it in 1919 in a separate nuclear reaction experiment, not the gold foil

Final Answer: Rutherford's gold foil experiment led to the discovery of the atomic nucleus.

Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Q 9](#)

Q10.

Solution

Concept — Economy (SEBI): SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) is the primary regulatory authority for the securities market in India. It was first set up as a non-statutory administrative body in 1988, then given statutory status in 1992.

Key Facts:

- Established as a **non-statutory body**: April 1988
- SEBI Act enacted: **30 January 1992** — granted statutory and autonomous powers
- Headquartered in **Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai**
- Protects investor interests, promotes orderly development of securities markets

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) 1988** — Year of its non-statutory formation, not its statutory status
- **C) 1995** — Incorrect; SEBI was already a statutory body by 1992
- **D) 2000** — Incorrect; eight years after SEBI's statutory establishment

Final Answer: SEBI became a statutory body in 1992 under the SEBI Act.

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Q 10](#)



Q11.

Solution

Concept — Indian Polity (Zero Hour): Zero Hour is a unique parliamentary convention in India that allows members to raise matters of urgent public importance immediately after Question Hour, without giving advance notice to the Speaker.

Key Facts:

- Not mentioned in the Constitution or Rules of Procedure; purely a **parliamentary convention** since 1962
- Begins around **12:00 noon** (hence the name “Zero Hour”) right after Question Hour ends
- Members can raise **any urgent matter** without the mandatory 10-day advance notice
- Each member gets a maximum of **3–5 minutes** to speak

Why other options are wrong:

- **A)** Zero Hour is not a recess; the house continues in session and is actively engaged
- **B)** Zero Hour has no connection to midnight or emergency sessions of Parliament
- **D)** Presidential address to a joint sitting is governed by Article 86, a completely separate occasion

Final Answer: Zero Hour is the period immediately after Question Hour (around 12 noon) for raising urgent matters without prior notice.

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Q 11](#)

Q12.

Solution

Concept — History (Indian National Army / INA): The INA (Azad Hind Fauj) was originally formed by Mohan Singh and Rash Behari Bose in 1942 from Indian prisoners of war in Singapore. Subhas Chandra Bose reorganised and led it from 1943 with the aim of liberating India from British rule.

Key Facts:

- **Subhas Chandra Bose** (Netaji) took command of the INA in **July 1943** in Singapore



- INA launched the **Imphal–Kohima Campaign** (1944) alongside Japanese forces
- INA's motto: "Ittehad, Itmad aur Qurbani" (Unity, Faith, Sacrifice)
- The post-war INA trials (1945–46) stirred tremendous nationalist sentiment across India

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) Bhagat Singh** — Executed in 1931 at Lahore; predates the formation of the INA
- **B) Lala Lajpat Rai** — Died in November 1928 from injuries sustained during the Simon Commission protests
- **C) Jawaharlal Nehru** — A Congress leader; he was imprisoned in India during WWII, not with INA

Final Answer: Subhas Chandra Bose (Netaji) reorganised and commanded the Indian National Army (INA).

Answer: (D)

[Go Back to Q 12](#)

Q13.

Solution

Concept — Geography (Nanda Devi): Nanda Devi is the highest peak located *entirely* within Indian territory. While K2 (8,611 m) and Kangchenjunga (8,586 m) are higher overall, they are either in disputed territory or on international borders.

Key Facts:

- Height: **7,816 m** (25,643 ft) — highest peak *entirely within* India
- Located in **Chamoli district, Uttarakhand**
- Surrounded by the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** (1988)
- Nanda Devi was closed to climbers in 1983 to protect its fragile ecosystem

Why other options are wrong:

- **B) Sikkim** — Kangchenjunga (8,586 m) is on the Sikkim–Nepal border, not entirely in India
- **C) Himachal Pradesh** — Highest peak there is Reo Purgyl (6,816 m), far lower



- **D) Jammu & Kashmir / Ladakh** — K2 (8,611 m) is in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (Gilgit-Baltistan)

Final Answer: Nanda Devi (7,816 m), India's highest peak within its territory, is in Uttarakhand.

Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Q 13](#)

Q14.

Solution

Concept — Science (Greenhouse Gases & Global Warming): The enhanced greenhouse effect is the trapping of excess heat in Earth's atmosphere due to rising concentrations of greenhouse gases from human activities. CO₂ is the largest single contributor.

Key Facts:

- CO₂ accounts for about **76%** of global greenhouse gas emissions (by CO₂-equivalent)
- Primary sources: burning fossil fuels, deforestation, cement production, land use change
- Other greenhouse gases: methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), fluorinated gases
- Global efforts: UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol, Paris Agreement target CO₂ reduction

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) Ozone (O₃)** — Stratospheric ozone shields UV rays; tropospheric ozone is a minor greenhouse gas but not the primary driver
- **C) Nitrogen (N₂)** — Makes up 78% of the atmosphere but is **not** a greenhouse gas at all
- **D) Argon (Ar)** — An inert (noble) gas with no greenhouse effect whatsoever

Final Answer: Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the most significant contributor to the enhanced greenhouse effect.

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Q 14](#)



Q15.

Solution

Concept — Current Affairs (UPI Launch): UPI (Unified Payments Interface) is a real-time payment system developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) that enables instant money transfers through mobile devices, transforming India's digital payment landscape.

Key Facts:

- UPI was officially launched on **11 April 2016** by RBI Governor **Raghuram Rajan**
- Developed by NPCI; allows bank-to-bank transfers using a Virtual Payment Address (VPA)
- By 2023, India accounted for approximately **40%** of global real-time digital payments
- UPI has been adopted internationally (Singapore, UAE, France, UK, etc.)

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) 2014** — NPCI was working on the framework; UPI had not yet launched
- **B) 2015** — Development and testing phase; public launch was in 2016
- **D) 2018** — UPI was already two years old and widely adopted by 2018

Final Answer: UPI was launched in 2016 by NPCI.

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Q 15](#)

Q16.

Solution

Concept — Indian Polity (Basic Structure Doctrine): The Basic Structure doctrine holds that certain fundamental features of the Indian Constitution are beyond Parliament's amending power. Even a constitutional amendment that destroys the basic structure is unconstitutional.

Key Facts:

- Established in **Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala (1973)** by a 13-judge constitutional bench
- Verdict: Parliament can amend *any* provision but cannot alter the "basic structure"
- Basic structure elements include: supremacy of the Constitution, judicial



review, federalism, democracy, secularism, separation of powers

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) Golak Nath (1967)** — Held Parliament cannot amend Fundamental Rights, but did *not* formulate the basic structure doctrine
- **B) Minerva Mills (1980)** — Reaffirmed and expanded basic structure; did not originate it
- **C) Maneka Gandhi (1978)** — Broadened the interpretation of Article 21 (right to life and liberty); a different context

Final Answer: The Basic Structure doctrine was established in *Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala* (1973).

Answer: (D)

[Go Back to Q 16](#)

Q17.

Solution

Concept — History (Doctrine of Lapse): The Doctrine of Lapse was a British annexation policy under which any Indian princely state whose ruler died without a natural heir would be annexed by the British East India Company, denying the right of adoption.

Key Facts:

- Introduced by **Lord Dalhousie** (Governor-General, 1848–1856)
- States annexed under this doctrine: Satara (1848), Jaitpur (1849), Sambalpur (1849), Baghat (1850), Nagpur (1853), **Jhansi** (1853), Awadh (1856)
- The annexation of Jhansi led to the involvement of Rani Lakshmibai in the 1857 Revolt
- Became a primary grievance fuelling the **Revolt of 1857**

Why other options are wrong:

- **B) Lord Wellesley** — Introduced the Subsidiary Alliance system (1798)
- **C) Lord Cornwallis** — Known for Permanent Settlement (1793) and the Cornwallis Code
- **D) Lord Bentinck** — Abolished Sati (1829); focused on social and administrative reforms

Final Answer: The Doctrine of Lapse was introduced by Lord Dalhousie.



Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Q 17](#)

Q18.

Solution

Concept — Geography (Loktak Lake): Loktak Lake is the largest freshwater lake in Northeast India, famous for its unique floating phumdis and the world's only floating national park.

Key Facts:

- Located near **Moirang, Bishnupur district, Manipur**
- **Phumdis:** heterogeneous floating masses of soil, organic matter, and vegetation
- **Keibul Lamjao National Park** (on phumdis) is the only floating national park in the world
- Designated a **Ramsar site** in 1990; home to the endangered **Sangai** (brow-antlered deer)

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) Assam** — Deepor Beel (Ramsar site) is in Assam; no phumdis
- **C) Meghalaya** — Umiam Lake is in Meghalaya; different features entirely
- **D) Tripura** — Rudrasagar Lake is in Tripura; does not have floating phumdis

Final Answer: Loktak Lake with its famous phumdis is located in Manipur.

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Q 18](#)

Q19.

Solution

Concept — Science (HIV Discovery & Nobel Prize 2008): HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) was first isolated in 1983 at the Pasteur Institute in Paris. The 2008 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine recognised this landmark discovery.

Key Facts:

- **Luc Montagnier** and **Françoise Barré-Sinoussi** isolated HIV from a lymph node biopsy of an AIDS patient in 1983
- They received **half** of the 2008 Nobel Prize; the other half went to Harald



zur Hausen (discovered HPV causes cervical cancer)

- Robert Gallo independently identified HIV/HTLV-III but the Nobel was not shared with him

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) Gallo and Baltimore** — Gallo co-identified HIV but did not win the Nobel; Baltimore won the 1975 Nobel for reverse transcriptase (different work)
- **B) Doherty and Zinkernagel** — Won the **1996 Nobel** for discovering how the immune system recognises virus-infected cells (MHC restriction)
- **D) Marshall and Warren** — Won the **2005 Nobel** for discovering *Helicobacter pylori* as the cause of peptic ulcers

Final Answer: Luc Montagnier and Françoise Barré-Sinoussi received the 2008 Nobel Prize for discovering HIV.

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Q 19](#)

Q20.

Solution

Concept — Economy (Make in India): Make in India is a national initiative launched to transform India into a global manufacturing hub, attract foreign direct investment, and create employment by facilitating ease of doing business.

Key Facts:

- Launched on **25 September 2014** by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi
- The logo is a lion made of gear/cog wheels — symbolising manufacturing strength
- Initially focused on 25 sectors; later expanded to cover 27 sectors including defence, railways, and electronics
- Part of a broader cluster of initiatives: Digital India, Skill India, Start-up India

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) May 2014** — PM Modi was sworn in as Prime Minister in May 2014; Make in India came four months later
- **B) January 2015** — Incorrect month and year; the initiative was already operational



- **C) August 2014** — Incorrect; the launch event was in September 2014

Final Answer: Make in India was launched on 25 September 2014.

Answer: (D)

[Go Back to Q 20](#)

Q21.

Solution

Concept — Indian Polity (NHRC): The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is a statutory quasi-judicial body established to protect and promote human rights in India, consistent with international obligations.

Key Facts:

- Established under the **Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993**
- Formally constituted on **12 October 1993**
- First Chairperson: Justice **Ranganath Misra** (former Chief Justice of India)
- Headquartered in **New Delhi**; can investigate complaints of human rights violations

Why other options are wrong:

- **B) 1990** — NHRC was not established in 1990; the Act itself came in 1993
- **C) 1995** — Incorrect; NHRC was fully operational from October 1993
- **D) 2000** — Incorrect; NHRC had already been functioning for seven years by 2000

Final Answer: NHRC was established under the Protection of Human Rights Act in 1993.

Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Q 21](#)



Q22.

Solution

Concept — History (Vernacular Press Act, 1878): The Vernacular Press Act was a censorship legislation enacted to muzzle Indian-language newspapers that were increasingly rallying public opinion against British rule, particularly during the Second Anglo-Afghan War and amid rising nationalist sentiment.

Key Facts:

- Enacted in **1878** by **Lord Lytton** (Viceroy of India, 1876–1880)
- Targeted non-English (vernacular) newspapers; English-language press was *exempt*
- Also dubbed the “**Gagging Act**” by Indian nationalists
- **Lord Ripon** repealed it in **1882**, a popular move that earned him Indian goodwill

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) Lord Bentinck** — Governor-General 1828–1835; known for abolishing Sati and banning Thuggee
- **C) Lord Curzon** — Viceroy 1899–1905; known for the Partition of Bengal (1905), not the 1878 Act
- **D) Lord Ripon** — Actually **repealed** the Vernacular Press Act in 1882; he was its opponent

Final Answer: The Vernacular Press Act (1878) was enacted by Lord Lytton.

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Q 22](#)

Q23.

Solution

Concept — Maharashtra GK (Nagpur as Winter Capital): Maharashtra has a bicapital arrangement. Mumbai is the principal seat of government, while Nagpur serves as the second capital, mandated by the Nagpur Pact (1953) as a condition for Vidarbha’s merger into Maharashtra.

Key Facts:

- **Nagpur** is the second (winter) capital of Maharashtra
- The **Winter Session** of the Maharashtra Vidhan Sabha and Vidhan Parishad is held in Nagpur every December



- This arrangement was enshrined in the **Maharashtra Reorganisation Act, 1960**
- Nagpur is also the headquarters of the RSS (Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh) and is known as the “**Orange City**”

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) Pune** — Maharashtra’s cultural capital; no state legislature sessions are held there
- **B) Aurangabad (Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar)** — Major city in Marathwada; not designated as a legislative capital
- **D) Nashik** — Known for Kumbh Mela and vineyards; not a capital city

Final Answer: Nagpur is the second (winter session) capital of Maharashtra.

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Q 23](#)

Q24.

Solution

Concept — Literature (Bhalchandra Nemade & Jnanpith Award): Bhalchandra Nemade is one of the most influential Marathi authors of the 20th century. His debut novel *Kosala* (1963) is a seminal work of Marathi modernist literature and launched a new era in Marathi fiction.

Key Facts:

- **Bhalchandra Nemade** won the **51st Jnanpith Award** (for the year 2014, announced in 2015)
- *Kosala* (1963) — semi-autobiographical, stream-of-consciousness novel; transformed Marathi literature
- He propounded the concept of “**Desivad**” (**Nativism**) in Marathi literary criticism
- Other works: *Bidhar*, *Hool*, *Zarila* (poetry); *Hindu* (novel tetralogy)

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) V.S. Khandekar** — Won the Jnanpith Award in **1974** for *Yayati*; a different Jnanpith laureate
- **B) Kusumavati Deshpande** — Noted Marathi scholar and author; has not received the Jnanpith Award



- **C) Vishnu Sakharam Khandekar** — Same as V.S. Khandekar; 1974 Jnanpith winner, not 2015

Final Answer: Bhalchandra Nemade, author of *Kosala*, received the Jnanpith Award in 2015.

Answer: (D)

[Go Back to Q 24](#)

Q25.

Solution

Concept — Science (Discovery of Insulin): Insulin, the hormone that regulates blood glucose levels, was discovered in 1921 at the University of Toronto, Canada. This discovery transformed diabetes mellitus from a virtually fatal disease into a manageable condition.

Key Facts:

- Discovered by **Frederick Banting** and **Charles Best** in the summer of **1921**
- John Macleod provided the laboratory; James Collip purified the extract
- First successful insulin injection given to diabetic patient **Leonard Thompson** on 11 January 1922
- Banting and Macleod received the **1923 Nobel Prize** in Physiology or Medicine

Why other options are wrong:

- **B) Roentgen and Becquerel** — Discovered X-rays (1895) and radioactivity (1896) respectively; unrelated to insulin
- **C) Pasteur and Koch** — Pioneers of microbiology and germ theory of disease; not connected to insulin
- **D) Watson and Crick** — Described the double helix structure of DNA in 1953; entirely different field

Final Answer: Insulin was discovered by Frederick Banting and Charles Best in 1921.

Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Q 25](#)



Q26.

Solution

Concept — Indian Polity (Abrogation of Article 370): Article 370 of the Indian Constitution granted special autonomous status to Jammu & Kashmir, exempting it from most provisions of the Constitution (except defence, foreign affairs, finance, and communications). It was abrogated in August 2019.

Key Facts:

- Revoked on **5 August 2019** through a Presidential Order under Article 370(3)
- The Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act 2019 bifurcated the state into two Union Territories: **J&K** (with legislature) and **Ladakh** (without legislature)
- Home Minister **Amit Shah** introduced the resolution in the Rajya Sabha
- The Supreme Court of India upheld the revocation in **December 2023**

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) 2017** — No action was taken; Article 370 was fully in force in 2017
- **C) 2021** — Incorrect; revocation had already occurred two years earlier in 2019
- **D) 2023** — The Supreme Court *upheld* the 2019 revocation in Dec 2023; it did not happen in 2023

Final Answer: Article 370 was revoked by Parliament on 5 August 2019.

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Q 26](#)

Q27.

Solution

Concept — History (Subsidiary Alliance): The Subsidiary Alliance was a diplomatic–military strategy introduced by Lord Wellesley to extend British paramountcy over Indian princely states without direct conquest, by making Indian rulers financially and militarily dependent on the British.

Key Facts:

- Introduced by **Lord Wellesley** (Governor-General, 1798–1805)
- Under this system, Indian rulers: (1) accepted British troops in their territory, (2) paid for their maintenance (subsidy), (3) surrendered control of foreign affairs



- First state to sign: **Hyderabad (1798)**; followed by Mysore, Tanjore, Awadh, Scindia, Holkar, etc.
- Made the British the **paramount power** in India; Indian rulers lost sovereignty

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) Lord Cornwallis** — Introduced the Permanent Settlement (1793) and the Cornwallis Code; preceded Wellesley
- **B) Lord Dalhousie** — Introduced the Doctrine of Lapse (1848); a successor of Wellesley
- **D) Lord Curzon** — Viceroy (1899–1905); partitioned Bengal; came much later than Wellesley

Final Answer: The Subsidiary Alliance system was introduced by Lord Wellesley (1798).

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Q 27](#)

Q28.

Solution

Concept — Geography (Kaziranga National Park): Kaziranga National Park in Assam is one of India's most celebrated wildlife sanctuaries and a global conservation success story for the Indian one-horned rhinoceros.

Key Facts:

- Located in **Golaghat and Nagaon districts, Assam**, along the Brahmaputra river floodplains
- **UNESCO World Heritage Site** since 1985
- Hosts approximately **2,613 rhinos** (Indian one-horned, *Rhinoceros unicornis*) — about 70% of the world's population
- Also a **Tiger Reserve**; significant populations of wild water buffalo, elephants, and swamp deer

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) West Bengal** — Sundarbans National Park (Royal Bengal tigers, Irrawaddy dolphins) is in West Bengal
- **B) Odisha** — Simlipal National Park and Chilika Lake are in Odisha; no Indian rhinos



- **C) Uttarakhand** — Jim Corbett National Park (first national park in India, 1936) is in Uttarakhand

Final Answer: Kaziranga National Park, known for Indian one-horned rhinoceros, is located in Assam.

Answer: (D)

[Go Back to Q 28](#)

Q29.

Solution

Concept — Maharashtra GK (Kalsubai Peak): Kalsubai is the highest peak of the Sahyadri (Western Ghats) ranges and thus the highest point in the entire state of Maharashtra. It is also a popular trekking destination.

Key Facts:

- Height: **1,646 m** (5,400 ft) — highest peak in Maharashtra
- Located in **Igatpuri taluka, Ahmednagar district**
- A temple of Goddess **Kalsubai** stands at the summit
- Often called the “**Everest of Maharashtra**”
- Part of the Kalsubai–Harishchandragad Wildlife Sanctuary

Why other options are wrong:

- **B) Nashik** — Kalsubai is near the Nashik district boundary but is administratively in Ahmednagar
- **C) Pune** — Famous peaks in Pune district include Sinhagad (1,312 m) and Rajgad, not Kalsubai
- **D) Satara** — Mahabaleshwar (1,372 m) and the Kas Plateau are in Satara; lower than Kalsubai

Final Answer: Kalsubai, Maharashtra’s highest peak (1,646 m), is in Ahmednagar district.

Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Q 29](#)



Q30.

Solution

Concept — Literature (P.L. Deshpande / Pu La): Purushottam Laxman Deshpande, universally known as “Pu La,” is one of the most beloved and versatile Marathi literary figures. He was simultaneously a novelist, playwright, actor, musician, film-maker, and humourist.

Key Facts:

- “**Vyakti Ani Valli**” (1966) — his most celebrated work; a collection of warm, humorous character sketches of ordinary people
- Other major works: *Batatyachi Chaal*, *Asami Asami*, *Ti Phulrani* (Marathi adaptation of George Bernard Shaw’s *Pygmalion*)
- Received **Padma Bhushan** in 1990; also received Maharashtra Bhushan award
- Known for his unique ability to find humour in everyday life with compassion

Why other options are wrong:

- **A) Shyamchi Aai** — Written by **Sane Guruji** (Pandurang Sadashiv Sane); a classic Marathi novel about maternal love
- **C) Mrityunjay** — Written by **Shivaji Sawant**; a retelling of the Mahabharata from Karna’s perspective
- **D) Panipat** — Written by **Vishwas Patil**; a historical novel about the Third Battle of Panipat (1761)

Final Answer: P.L. Deshpande (Pu La) is best known for *Vyakti Ani Valli*.

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Q 30](#)

Answer Key

Q.No	Ans	Q.No	Ans	Q.No	Ans	Q.No	Ans	Q.No	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

