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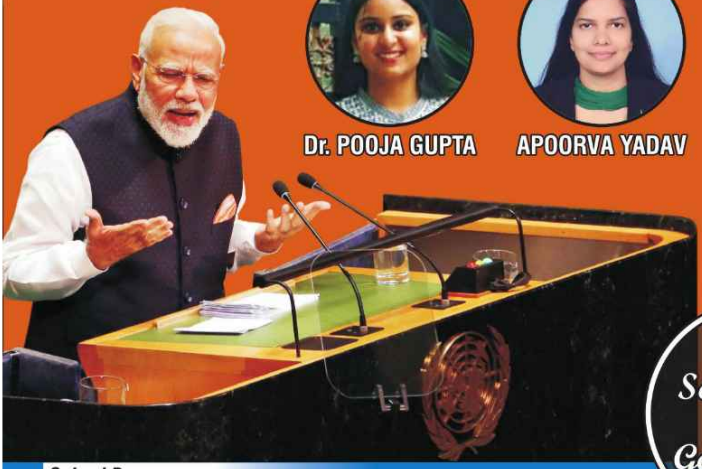
Dr. POOJA GUPTA

APOORVA YADAV

ABHITESH KUMAR



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EDITOR
Mahendra Jain

REGISTERED OFFICE
2/11-A, Swadeshi Bima Nagar
Agra–282 002

ADMINISTRATIVE AND EDITORIAL OFFICE
1, State Bank Colony
Opp. Van Chetna Kendra
Agra-Mathura Bye pass, Agra–282 005
Tel. : 2531101, 2530966,
Website : www.pdgroup.in
E-mail :
Editorial : publisher@pdgroup.in
Customer Care : care@pdgroup.in

BRANCH OFFICES

Delhi
4845, Ansari Road
Daryaganj, New Delhi–110 002
Tel. : (011) 23251844, 43259035

Kolkata
H-3, Block-B, Municipal Premises
No. 15/2, Galiff Street, P.S. Shyampukur,
Kolkata–700 003 Tel. : (033) 25551510

Hyderabad
16-11-23/37, Moosarambagh, Teegan Guda
Opp. RTA Office Main Road
Beside—Andhra Bank
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Tel. : (040) 24557283

Patna
Paras Bhawan (First Floor)
Khazanchi Road, Patna–800 004
Tel. : (0612) 2303340, M. : 09334137572

Lucknow
B-33, Blunt Square
Kanpur Taxi Stand Lane, Mawaiya
Lucknow–226 004
Tel. : (0522) 4109080, M. : 09760181118

Haldwani
8-310/1, A. K. House, Heeranagar
Haldwani, Distt.–Nainital–263 139
Uttarakhand, M. : 07060421008

Nagpur
1461, Juni Shukrawari, Sakkardara Road,
Opp. Hanuman Mandir,
Nagpur–440 009 (Maharashtra)
M. : 09370877776

Indore
30-31, Jinsi Haat Maidan, Near Baba Ramdev
Mandir, Malharganj, Indore-452 002 (M.P.)
Ph. : 9203908088

To Our Readers

Dear Readers,

It is with a sense of great delight that we are presenting to you the November issue of your favourite magazine **Pratiyogita Darpan.** As usual the present issue of the magazine also contains useful material relevant to competitive examinations. Our editorial board and the team of qualified authors take painstaking efforts to present the study material keeping in view the requirements of our esteemed readers. We are sure that if you read it intelligently and wisely, it will go a long way in equipping you with knowledge to face the gruelling battle of the examination and bring you sure success.

We always try to understand the demands and requirements of our readers, their suggestions and changes in the pattern and contents of the competitive examinations. We make all efforts to include them, as far as possible, in further issues of the magazine. It gives us great satisfaction to know that our readers have unanimously endorsed the utility of the magazine.

In the present issue a number of core articles on important national and international events contributed by reputed authors have been given. Some of the representative articles in the present issue of this magazine are : President Ram Nath Kovind's Nine-day Three-Nation Tour to Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia; PM Narendra Modi's Weeklong Visit to the United States, Takes Part in Different Events, Addresses 74th Session of UN General Assembly; India and Indonesia Relationship : Both Countries Call for Global Anti-terror Fight; UNCCD CoP14 Held in India; India At the Human Rights Council : Revocation of J&K's Special Status a Sovereign Decision; Turkey Hosts 5th Syria Summit; Sri Lanka Unveils South Asia's Tallest Tower, Funded by China; Amitabh Bachchan Gets Dadasaheb Phalke Award; US Open, 2019.

The most important section of the Magazine contains a number of question papers selected from various competitive examinations. These are fully solved with relevant hints and short, but clear-cut explanations. All efforts are made to give their error-free solutions. A careful study of and practice session with these papers will be very useful to face any competitive examination.

The columns **Compendium, Test Your Knowledge, Memorable Points** and **Concentric Quiz** have been widely appreciated as trusted tools for the benefit of our readers. An intelligent study and memorizing of their contents will be highly useful in solving questions in any future examination.

Pratiyogita Darpan gives you the best guidance and reading material. It is upto you to make the best use of it for a bright success in any competitive examination.

Read Pratiyogita Darpan regularly and intelligently. It gives you the power to master your career and shape your destiny.

With best wishes for your brilliant success and bright future.

Sincerely yours,

MAHENDRA JAIN
(Editor)

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PD/November/2019/8

Editorial

Become a New Man

Hamlet in Shakespeare's play of the same name describes the qualities of his father. In the end he says that he was a Man. Let us understand that Man is something greater and larger than a simple human being. We have, therefore, to strive to be a man in the real sense of the term. We can also call it a new man, meaning that we should cultivate in ourselves qualities and attributes that elevate us to a higher level of a human being, the new man. We should cultivate virtues and eschew vices. Man is a bundle of both positive and negative elements. In order to rise above the ordinary human being we should shun negative tendencies. We should be moral, ethical, spiritual, benevolent, self-sacrificing, large hearted and generous. Love, compassion and an all-embracing sympathy should characterise all our thoughts and actions . Equality, justice and humanity should be the hall mark of our actions and behaviour. And above all, we must rise above the material or the wordly progress and should aim at achieving inner development. History remembers only those who cultivated and practiced these attributes. Great seers and sages, saints and prophets became famous because they identified themselves with these virtues. They lived and died for humanity. We cannot, ordinarily, rise to that level but we can certainly make an earnest endeavour in that direction. God has gifted all of us with unlimited potential; the need is to make incessant striving, consistent pursuit and constant practice our guiding principle of life. The English poet William Wordsworth said that life is heading towards perfectibility. We can also be a part of that process. It is difficult but not impossible. Let us create a new man in us in order to make our lives more meaningful and more fruitful, not only to ourselves, but to the larger humanity.

In Vivek Churamani Jagat Guru Shankaracharya has written that a person going into the right direction makes himself a new person; thinking rightly and working rightly, he gets a new personality. Mahatma Gautam Buddha has also laid great emphasis on right thinking and right living. So the word right is of very great importance in our lives.

A disciple, who is altogether dejected, full of anxieties and with no hope, goes to his teacher by keeping constant company with Guru. He gets knowledge and wisdom and ultimately gets a new personality. Such a person gets a new personality, becomes all trouble free, gets a smiling face, becomes fearless and he finds it difficult to believe that he is the same person as before. In the words of the writer he becomes a person who is perfectly awake, living the life of a wise man and getting into the spirit of perfectibility.

Edwin Arnold in his famous book 'Light of Asia' has written that Mahatma Gautam Buddha is deeply moved by the sorrow pervading throughout the world. He renounces everything including his home, kingdom etc. and after leading a life of austerity, devotion and penance for sufficiently good time, he achieves Buddhahood, i.e., becomes wisdom personified.

With a point of result there is no difference between the above points of view. Probability in both the cases becomes a reality or possibility. The possibility becomes the reality and the future becomes present. Both of them give the same message that the human being has to become free, fearless and without any fetters. A free human being **means a man** not bound by book knowledge and he becomes a free and absolute person. This fundamental change is not only theoretical but practical because to become a complete and integrated man is the destiny of a human being. We should understand that this fundamental change is neither by chance nor comes about by self. It depends upon certain rules.

The above example denotes that the human being may take to any path but the ultimate result is the same, i.e., the ultimate destiny.

That the series of rising questions and their answers can satisfy the enquirer will be clear from the examples given below. The disciple asked the Guru where is the source of the light. 'The source of the light is the sun', was the reply of the Guru and at night when there is no sun the source of the light is the moon. On the night of Amavasya (dark night) when there is neither the sun nor the moon, the source of the light is the stars. On the rainy season when stars also disappear, the source of the light is the lamp. The question is when in the storm the lamp is put out and then what is the source, then the source of the light is in the soul. The source of self knowledge or inner light is indestructible above all. In the absence of this inner knowledge all the light is useless and meaningless. Hearing the words of Gurudev, the disciple came to know that when darkness envelops you and you are not able to see anything through, then you should awaken the inner source of light and burn the lamp of the book knowledge like beaten path which has been trodden by many travellers but it is certain that it gives inspiration to find a new path.

There is no end to questions, queries, doubts and not to **their** solutions. As a result there is neither an end to the achievement of the human being nor is there the limit to his progress. Usually the enquirer gets satisfied with the book knowledge and does not make any further effort but when he ceases to do so and continuously tries to get new knowledge the process of making a new man begins. The importance of the books is beyond dispute. Read books and lectures with full attention but take them all as a means only. The aim of education is not only to get book knowledge but to get through real knowledge of life and the world. The real aim of education is to make a human being, altogether a new man.

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Last Date : November 25, 2019
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DEBATE COMPETITION

Topic : **Opposition Has Failed in Due Discharge of Its Duty in Indian Politics**
Last Date : November 25, 2019
Prizes : ₹1,000/- Each (One in favour and One against)

Rules and Regulations :

- Participation is open to students and competitors only.
- Only one **complete and consolidated** entry on essay or debate competition will be accepted from one participant.
- Writings on essays and debates should be **strictly to the point and in simple, intelligible but forceful language.**
- Essays and Debates should be written in own hand and should be duly signed by the candidate. Printed and unsigned entries will not be accepted.
- Irrelevant details are to be avoided at all costs.
- The Essay/Debate should not exceed a word limit of 1500.
- The Essay/Debate accompanied by a passport size photograph must be sent by mail or courier.
- The selection committee will decide best entries and they will be awarded through cheque.
- Participant should mention the same name by which he/she is having Bank Account.
- The winners in Essay Contest will also receive an award certificate from Pratiyogita Darpan. The prize winning entries will be published in the forthcoming issues of Pratiyogita Darpan.
- A certificate should invariably be given under the scripts to the effect that **"this is my original work and is unpublished elsewhere".**

MEMORY RETENTION CONTEST

Win Attractive Prizes :

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(i) The first three participants who will send the most correct answers will get ₹ 600, 400 and 250 respectively.

(ii) Less than 75% correct answers will not deserve any prize from us.

MEMORY RETENTION CONTEST
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Nation This Month

- *Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Visits Japan, Talks Defence Ties with Japanese PM; Visits South Korea Also*
- *PM Narendra Modi's Two-day Visit to Russia*
- *India and Indonesia Relationship : Both Countries Call for Global Anti-terror Fight*
- *India Backs New Sub-regional Economic Bloc, Excluding Pak*
- *PM Modi, Nepal PM Jointly Inaugurate Motihari–Amlekhganj Petroleum Product Pipleline*
- *India at the UN Human Rights Council : Revocation of J&K's Special Status a Sovereign Decision*
- *President Ram Nath Kovind's Nine-day Three-Nation Tour to Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia*
- *UNCCD COP14 Held in India*
- *EU Parliamentarians Support India on Kashmir, Castigate Pak*
- *PM Modi's Week-long Visit to the United States : Takes Part in Diferent Events; Addresses 74th Session of UN General Assembly*

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Visits Japan, Talks Defence Ties with Japanese PM; Visits South Korea Also

Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on September 2, 2019 held fruitful discussions with the Japanese counterpart Takeshi Iwaya in Tokyo during which both sides resolved to further deepen bilateral defence and strategic ties.

Singh also met Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and conveyed to him India's commitment to further enhance defence engagements with Japan.

The Defence Minister was on a five day tour of Japan and South Korea. He left for South Korea the following day.

Defence Ministerial Dialogue

In the annual defence ministerial dialogue, Singh and Iwaya deliberated on the full spectrum of India-Japan defence cooperation "Had an extremely fruitful ministerial level dialogue with Japan's Defence Minister Takeshi Iwaya in Tokyo. We discussed the full spectrum of India-Japan defence cooperations." he tweeted. He said both sides will continue to work together to further deepen the defence ties. Singh was accompanied by a high-level delegation.

Union Minister for defence Rajnath Singh meets Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe in Tokyo on September 2, 2019.

Officials said the two sides also deliberated on the overall situation in the Indo-Pacific region where China has been increasing its military presence.

Malabar Maritime Exercises

India, Japan and the US have been part of the annual Malabar maritime exercise which is aimed at achieving greater inter-operability among the navies of the three countries. On his meeting with Abe, Singh said the meeting with the Japanese Prime Minister was 'excellent'. "India attaches the highest priority to our bilateral relationship with Japan. I conveyed to him the government of India's commitment to further enhance the defence engagements between both the countries," he tweeted.

He also said that regular interaction between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Abe put the special strategic and global partnership between India and Japan on a higher pedestal. "It has added a new strategic depth to our defence cooperation" he said.

SOUTH KOREA

From Japan, defence Minister Rajnath Singh reached South Korea on a three day visit on Septembber 5, 2019. He held talks with his South Korean counterpart Jeong Kyeong-Doo to boost bilateral defence ties, **particularly on enhancing cooperation between defence firms of the two countries and extending logistical support to each other's navies.**

On September 6, 2019 addressing CEOs of Korean and Indian defence industries, Singh said the two countries have formulated a forward looking roadmap to take the bilateral defence industry cooperation to the next level.

Singh invited the Korean industry to explore the feasibility of local production of items, used in main weapon system, imported by Indian Defence PSUs.

Earlier, Mr. Singh paid homage at the National Cemetry of Korea and also visited the War Memorial where he presented a copy of the citation received by the Indian 60th Para Field Hospital for its exceptional contributions during the Korea war.

Rajnath in Seoul

Defence minister Rajnath Singh and his Korean counterpart Jeong Kyeong-Doo shake hands during a meeting on September 6, 2019.

Special Strategic Partnership

During his talks with his S. Korean counterpart, Singh and Jeong noted that defence cooperation lies at the heart of the Special Strategic Partnership between India and South Korea.

MoUs Signed

India and South Korea signed two MoUs pertaining to defence cooperation during Mr. Singh's visit to the East Asian nation.

The MoUs are aimed at furthering defence educational exchanges and extension of mutual logistical support for the navies of both countries, as mentioned earlier.

PM Narendra Modi's Two-day Visit to Russia

PM Modi landed in Vladivostok, capital of the Russian Far East and the crossroads of a dynamic region. His visit to the Russian Far Eastern Region is the first by an Indian Prime Minister. He held annual summit meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin and attended the 5th Eastern Economic Forum as the chief guest at the invitation of President Putin. Modi was given a guard of honour upon his arrival in Vladivostok.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Russian President Vladimir Putin in far-eastern Russian port of Vladivostok on September 5, 2019.

Putin's Support to India Over Kashmir

Amid tensions with Pakistan over the revocation of special status to Jammu and Kashmir, Modi said India and Russia are both against 'outside influence' in internal matters of a nation.

Russia has backed India over its move on Article 370 and said that changes are within the framework of India's Constitution.

In talks with Putin Prime Minister Modi brought up the issue of revocation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status, foreign secretary Vijay Gokhale said. The PM 'explained the rationale' behind his government's decision, Gokhale added.

Pakistan has repeatedly attempted to internationalise the Kashmir issue by approaching its allies and tried to bring up the topic at the United Nations after the Indian government moved to abrogate provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution, which gave special status to Jammu & Kashmir, and bifurcate the state into two Union Territories. In response, India has maintained that Kashmir is an internal matter.

PM Modi in a joint statement with Russian President Vladimir Putin after the 29th India-Russia Annual Summit in Vladivostok, said that both the countries realise the importance of a multipolar world. "We are working together on many global forums like BRICS and SCO," he said.

15 Agreements Signed

Modi and Putin on September 4, 2019 discussed ways to strengthen relations between New Delhi and Moscow in various areas such as trade, defence, space, oil and gas and connectivity. The two sides signed 15 agreements/MoUs in areas such as defence, air, maritime connectivity, energy, natural gas, petroleum and trade.

President Putin agreed that India is one of the key partners of Russia and the relationship between the two nations is of "strategic and special privileged nature".

Energy Cooperation

The Russian leader highlighted energy cooperation between the two nations with a special mention of the Kudankulam nuclear power plant in Tamil Nadu. "We shipped 3·3 million tonnes of oil to India last year," he said.

Kudankulam, Putin said, is the flagship joint project in the India-Russia energy cooperation. "The first two units of Kudankulam are already operational. The work for the third and fourth unit is going on as per schedule," he said.

India and Russia decided to step up industrial cooperation and create new technological and investment partnership, especially in advanced high-tech areas, with an aim to increase bilateral trade to $ 30 billion by 2025.

India-Russia bilateral merchandise trade was about $ 8·2 billion during 2018-19.

According to a joint statement issued by the Russian government after 29th India-Russia Annual Summit, PM Modi and Putin also agreed that the work on promoting mutual settlements of payments in national currencies will be continued.

Earlier, Modi had thanked Putin for deciding to award him Russia's highest civilian award and said it was a matter of honour for 1·3 billion Indians.

5th East Economic Forum : India Extends $ 1 billion Line of Credit to Develop Russia's Far East

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 5, said India will walk shoulder-to-shoulder with Russia in its development of the Far East and announced a $ 1 billion line of credit for the development of the resource-rich region.

Addressing the plenary session of the **5th Eastern Economic Forum**, Prime Minister Modi said the friendship between Indian and Russia was not restricted to governmental interactions in capital cities, but was about people and close business relations.

"India's connections to Russia's Far East go back a long way. India was the first country to open a Consulate in Vladivostok. For the development of Far East, India will give line of credit worth $ 1 billion. My government has actively engaged East Asia as part of its 'Act East' policy. I firmly believe that today's announcement will add a new dimension to the economic diplomacy of the two countries," Modi said at a packed house.

The Prime Minister, in the presence of Russian President Vladimir Putin, also unveiled the "Act Far East" policy to boost India's engagement with Russia's Far East region.

"Let us deepen the bond between India and Russia even further. India is proud of the achievements of the Indian diaspora. I am sure here in the Russian Far East too the Indian diaspora will make an active contribution towards the region's progress," Modi said.

"India is a proud and active participant in the various activities of the Eastern Economic Forum. Participation has come from top levels of government and industry," he said.

India and Indonesia Relationship : Both Countries Call for Global Anti-terror Fight

India and Indonesia on September 5, 2019 'unequivocally condemned terrorism' and the 'selective approaches' in dealing with the global menace as India's External Affairs Minister **S. Jaishankar** held talks with his Indonesian counterpart Ratno Marsudi in Jakarta, capital of Indonesia.

Jaishankar was on a visit to Indonesia on September 4-6, 2019, his first visit to a South East Asian country. During the talks the two countries also affirmed their shared interests in the territorial integrity and unity.

Territorial Integrity and Unity

- "As democracies, who both confront the menace of terrorism, in our meeting today, we unequivocally reiterated our strongest condemnation of terrorism in all forms and manifestations," Jaishankar said in a press statement. "We expressed our strongest opposition to any selective approaches in dealing with this global menace," he said.
- India, during the meeting, called upon all countries "to stop providing state sponsorship to terrorism and to prevent their territories from being used for establishing terrorist safe havens."

  "We also affirmed our shared interests in the territorial integrity and unity of the two countries," he added.
- The two leaders discussed the entire gamut of bilateral ties and held talks on a number of regional, global, economic, political and security issues.

  "They (discussions) were very frank, they were very free, they were very comfortable and we exchanged views on variety of steps that we need to move our relationship even further, he said.

Act East and Indo-Pacific Policy

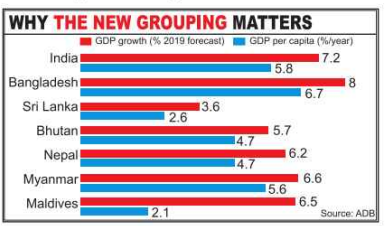
- Acknowledging that the two countries are close maritime neighbours, Jaishankar said that India values Indonesia as a key partner under our Act East and Indo-Pacific policy.

  "Improving connectivity between India and Indonesia, especially between Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Aceh Province of Indonesia is, therefore, a key strategic priority for both countries," he said in the statement.

India Backs New Sub-regional Economic Bloc, Excluding Pak

India is backing the revival of a new regional economic bloc, excluding Pakistan as New Delhi presses ahead to deepen ties and push regional integration under the South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC).

Given the hostilities between the two nuclear-armed neighbours and the frustration with the slow progress over the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), policy makers have decided to forge ahead with the new bloc of fast-growing south Asian countries such as Bangladesh and Myanmar.



"India is also keen about SASEC including Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Maldives and India. There will be a finance minister's meeting for the first time next spring in New Delhi. Regional integration and cooperation is very important. Bangladesh is doing very well," Takehiko Nakao, president of Asian Development Bank told the media.

Nakao said finance ministers from the new sub regional economic block will meet in New Delhi next spring to thrash out the strategy for the way ahead. The foundation of **SASEC** was laid way back in 2001 when Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal agreed for deeper cooperation to accelerate economic growth in the sub region.

PM Modi, Nepal PM Jointly Inaugurate Motihari–Amlekhganj Petroleum Product Pipeline

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Nepali counterpart K.P. Sharma Oli on September 10, 2019 jointly inaugurated the Motihari—Amlekhganj petroleum product pipeline via a video link.

- The over 60 km long pipeline is the first-ever cross-border petroleum product pipeline in the South Asia region, according to a video presentation made before the inauguration.
- As of now, tankers carry petroleum products from India to Nepal as part of an arrangement which is in place since 1973.

Close-bilateral Relations

"This India-Nepal energy cooperation project is a symbol of our close bilateral relations. It will help to enhance the energy security of the region and substantially cut down on transit costs," The Prime Minister's office said on September 9.

- In his address, Mr. Modi pointed out that the pipeline was constructed in 'record time'.
- While the deadline was 30 months, it was readied in just 15 months after the ground breaking ceremony was held last year during Mr. Oli's visit to India.

PM Narendra Modi and Nepal Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli inaugurating the pipeline through video conference on September 10, 2019.

- Every year the pipeline will carry two million metric tonnes of clean petroleum product at an affordable price to Nepal.
- **This pipeline was built just little over a year at the cost of ₹ 350 crore, the cost entirely borne by the Indian Oil Cooperation, an Indian Public Sector undertaking.**
- Mr. Modi pointed out that Mr. Oli had already announced the benefit of money saved will be passed on to the consumers. "The people of Nepal will benefit by this gesture", he said.
- Reiterating New Delhi's commitment to Nepal's development, Mr. Modi said bilateral projects conceived by the two countries are progressing well and he hopes to jointly inaugurate them with his Nepali counterpart in the coming days.

"Timely completion of projects is the priority of the two governments", Mr. Modi said. "People to people relations are the basis of our bilateral ties", the PM said.

He also accepted an invitation by Mr. Oli to visit Nepal.

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India at the UN Human Rights Council : Revocation of J&K's Special Status a Sovereign Decision

Key Highlights

- United Nations Human Rights Council holds its meeting on September 10, 2019 in Geneva.
- Pakistan complains to the world body against India's action annulling Article 370 and revoking of J&K's special status.
- It is purely an internal matter; no foreign power has the right to raise the issue at any world institution.
- Precautions taken for safety of people there, says India.

Revocation of Jammu & Kashmir's special status was a sovereign decision taken by the Indian parliament and the country cannot accept any interference in its internal affairs, India on September 10, 2019 asserted at the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC), while strongly rejecting Pakistan's 'malicious' campaign on the issue.

- In a clear reference to Pakistan, secretary (east) in the external affairs ministry Vijay Thakur Singh said there was a need to call out those who are misusing the UNHRC for malicious political agenda under the garb of human rights.

Vijay Thakur Singh (centre), secretary (east), MEA, makes a statement on Jammu & Kashmir at the UNHRC in Geneva.

- "They cry victim when they actually are the perpetrators," she said, rejecting Pakistan's charges against India on the issue at the 42nd session of the UNHRC. She said the recent legislative measures taken by India in Jammu & Kashmir were within the framework of its Constitution.
- "These decisions were taken by our Parliament after a full debate that was televised and enjoyed widespread support. We wish to reiterate that this sovereign decision, like other legislations passed by Parliament, is entirely internal to India. No country can accept interference in its internal affairs, certainly not India," Singh said.
- Earlier, Pakistan demanded an international investigation by the UN Human Rights Council into the situation in Kashmir and urged the world rights body not to remain 'indifferent' after India revoked Jammu and Kashmir's special status.
- Addressing the 42nd session of the UNHRC, the Indian delegation led by Vijay Thakur Singh, secretary (East), ministry of external affairs said, "The world is aware that the fabricated narrative comes from the epicentre of global terrorism, where ring leaders are sheltered for years. This country conducts cross border terrorism as a form of diplomacy.

India reiterated that Kashmir was its internal issue, and "as a result of recent legislative measures, progressive policies will now be fully applicable to our citizens in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh".

"These will end gender discrimination, better protect juvenile rights and make applicable rights to education, information and work, "Thakur said".

Pakistan's own Record of Treating Minorities Dismal

"Pakistan's gory record speaks for itself. This rhetoric will not distract international attention from Pakistan's persecution and elimination of religious and ethnic minorities—be it the Christians, Sikhs, Ahmadiyas and Hindus. This is the reason why Pakistan no longer publishes official statistics about its minorities as India does," said **Aryan, first secretary at the Permanent Mission of India at the UN in Geneva.**

Pakistan's Move to Internationalise Kashmir Issue Rejected

India on September 11, 2019 said that Pakistan's attempt to internationalise and politicize the issue at the UN Human Rights Council stood rejected. It also said that Pakistan needs to understand that repeating a lie four or five times does not turn it into a gospel truth.

President Ram Nath Kovind's Nine-day Three-Nation Tour to Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia

Indian President Ram Nath Kovind was on a nine-day three-nation tour to Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia in the second weak of September, 2019.

ICELAND

He arrived in Iceland on September 8, 2019. This was the first visit of an Indian President to Iceland since the visit of former president APJ Kalam in 2005.

President Kovind held talks with Iceland President Gudni Johannesson and Iceland Prime Minister Katrin Jakobsdottir. He delivered a lecture at University of Iceland on India-Iceland partnership towards making a greener planet.

Ram Nath Kovind and Iceland President Gudni Johannesson

Mr. Kovind thanked the Iceland government for understanding India's core concerns as he held talks with the country's president on strengthening bilateral political ties and economic partnership.

3 Agreements

After the talks, India and Iceland signed agreements and MoUs on fisheries collaboration, cultural cooperation and visa waiver for holders of diplomatic and official passport.

Kovind said India is keen to leverage Iceland's capacity in sustainable fishery, marine economy, shipping, green growth, energy, construction and agriculture sector.

He said, on the other hand, Indian Pharmaceutical, high-end IT, biotechnology, automobile and innovation companies will collaborate with icelandic enterprises.

Kovind congratulated President Johannesson on Iceland assuming the chair of the **Arctic Council** and conveyed India's desire to meaningfully contribute to its deliberations and outcomes. India invited Iceland to join the International Solar Alliance.

Terrorism

The two leaders agreed that terrorism poses a grave threat to humanity and committed to work together to strengthen the global fight against terrorism.

Kovind reiterated India's gratitude for the long-standing support that Iceland has expressed for India's candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council.

Environment

The Indian President expressed concern over the deteriorating environmental condition in the world. Kovind said, "I have been told that Iceland loses 40 square kilometers of glacial cover annually. In my own country, we are facing rapid melting of snow on the Himalayan peaks. He noted that both countries were making efforts to tackle global warming, calling Iceland a leading example of efforts to save the environment.

Hindi Chair

The President said all formalities for commencement of India-supported Hindi Chair at the University of Iceland have been completed. The teaching of Hindi language will begin shortly.

SWITZERLAND

After concluding his 'fruitful visit' to Iceland, President Ram Nath Kovind on September 12, 2019 reached Bern, the capital of Switzerland on the second leg of his three-nation trip. The President was invited to address the University of Bern on the theme **'India-Switzerland new age partnership connecting Himalayas and Alps'**.

President Kovind and Swiss President

Warm Welcome by Indian Diaspora

President Kovind met and greeted Indian Diaspora in Switzerland's Bern. He received a warm welcome by the Indian community. While addressing them, Mr. Kovind said, "Both India and Switzerland have world's largest and oldest democracy. India has 900 million electorates. There are 200 Swiss companies operating in India." The President said that people of Indian origin have played an important role in the development of Switzerland.

Earlier, the President addressed the University of Bern on the theme "India-Switzerland new age partnership connecting Himalayas with Alps."

President Kovind Invites Swiss Companies to Invest in India

Addressing the India-Switzerland business round table in Bern, President Kovind asked Swiss industry to visit India investment grid online portal to know about opportunities to invest in India. He said Switzerland is home to high-end technology and India is producing world class human capital. He said there is vast scope to combine our relative advantages in capital, technology, solar energy, automobiles, space and biotechnology.

During his talks with Swiss President **Maurer** earlier President Kovind stressed the need to enhance business links between the two countries leading to mutual growth and sustainability.

President Addresses Federal Council of Switzerland

President Kovind on September 13, addressed the Federal Council of Switzerland. He said the agreement on automatic exchange of tax information between India and Switzerland is a "very positive development" which will help fight the scourge of terrorism, which according to him is among the gravest challenges that the world faces today.

Nothing that India has been a victim of sponsored terrorism for decades, he said that tax evasion and money laundering have strong links with terrorism. The President also noted that India-Switzerland partnership has made significant progress. He stressed upon need to strengthen business links and forge stronger cultural connections between two nations.

Agreements

President also led the delegation level talks with Swiss President Maurer and witnessed the signing of three agreements, including technical cooperation on climate change, Science and technology alliance and **Renewal of Hindi Chair** at University of Lausanne.

The President on September 14 unveiled Mahatma Gandhi's statue in Villeneuve near Bern. Notably Mahatma Gandhi had visited Switzerland in 1931 on the invitation of Nobel Laureate Romain Rolland.

SLOVENIA

President Kovind arrived in Slovenian capital Ljubljana on September 16, 2019 after concluding his visit to Iceland and Switzerland. He received a ceremonial welcome in the Slovenian capital. Ljubljana upon his arrival in the city on September 16, 2019. During his two-day visit to this country, the President took part in the India-Slovenia business event and graced a reception hosted by the Indian community. This is the first ever visit by any Indian President to Slovenia after it gained

President Ram Nath Kovind and Slovenia President Borut Pahor.

Independence in 1991. During 2014 and 2018, trade between the two countries registered high growth with India enjoying a trade surplus. Pharmaceutical organic chemicals, mineral fuel, coffee, tea, spices, iron and steel are main items exported by India to Slovenia.

President Kovind Seeks Slovenia's Help in Fighting Cross-border Terrorism

President Kovind met his Slovenian counterpart **Borut Pahor**. Expressing gratitude towards him for extending his support to fight cross-border terrorism, he said that terrorism is one of the gravest challenges confronting humanity today and that the world should come together to defeat and destroy these evil forces.

He added that both the countries have agreed to work together to reform and strengthen multilateralism, and promote a multi-polar world.

"Slovenia and India share historic ties based on close cultural affinities and shared democratic values. President Pahor and I held wide-ranging discussions. We committed to further expand our bilateral ties and deepen our global partnership," President said.

The President thanked Pahor for the initiative of the **Slovenian** government to release postal stamp to commemorate the life of Mahatma Gandhi.

Seven Agreements

Seven MoUs and agreements were signed in the presence of President Kovind and Slovenian President Borut Pahor. These seven agreements are : Programmes of Cooperation in the fields of River Rejuvenation (Clean Ganga Mission), Culture, Investment, Science & Technology, Sports and Standards.

Indo-Slovenia Relations

- First time, Slovenia opened its embassy in India on August 1, 2002. Initially, this mission was headed by Charge d'Affaires it was later elevated to Ambassador level in September 2009. On the other hand, India started its resident mission in Ljubljana in February, 2007.
- Both countries have signed various high level agreements as a sign of warm bilateral relations.
- In 2014, the total bilateral trade in goods stood at Euro 213·03 million with India enjoying a trade surplus of Euro 7·19 million.

UNCCD COP14 Held in India

The 14th Conference of Parties (COP14) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) was held in Greater Noida, India from September 2 to September 13, 2019. 196 countries plus European Union participated in the Conference. Over 8000 persons from all over the world also participated in the Conference.

- On September 9, 2019, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi inaugurated the High Level Segment (HLS) of UNCCD COP 14 in the presence of heads of the UN and other international organizations, leaders of states and ministers from many countries.
- The Prime Minister thanked UNCCD for bringing the COP to India, the country whose deep cultural roots are connected to a loving and holistic relationship with nature. India is proud of its successes in land restoration using remote sensing and space technologies and is ready to share this knowledge with other countries. India is also establishing a centre of excellence for forest research to support south-south cooperation and knowledge-sharing. Mr. Modi also encouraged the COP participants to contribute to a global water action agenda that can support land degradation neutrality.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing a delegation of 196 countries at the UNCCD in Greater Noida on Sept. 9, 2019.

- UN Deputy Secretary-General Ms. Amina Mohammed reflected in her speech that one third of the time frame for delivering **Agenda** 2030 has already passed and the countries need to act with increased urgency and ambition to get rid of silos that stand in the way of multiple benefits that can be achieved through coordinated action on land, climate and biodiversity.
- Participants also strongly agreed with Mr. Ralph Gonsalves, the Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grendines, who said that there are no countries big or small when it comes to desertification and climate change, and the only way to tackle these problems is to act on them as one global family.
- The COP14 President, the Minister of Environment of India, Mr. Prakash Javadekar, expressed hope that discussions among international stakeholders during the HLS will generate innovative ideas to address the local, national and global land agenda with pragmatic and all-inclusive approach. UNCCD COP14 provides a unique opportunity to deliberate, coordinate and exchange ideas to resolve the major problems of desertification worldwide and reach a global consensus for adoption by the country parties.

Official Conference Agenda

The official conference agenda included the following—

1. People first
2. Security and stability
3. Turning plans into action
4. Enhancing resilience
5. Science at the service of nature
6. Pulling together on a global scale

Delhi Declaration

- The Conference of Parties (COP14) concluded on September 13, 2019. Delhi Declaration was issued at the closing of the 14th Conference of Parties (COP14) to the United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification.

- The two-page Delhi Declaration document states that parties will develop gender responsive programmes at local, national and regional levels to drive the implementation of the convention.
- Land-based solutions should be used for climate action and biodiversity conservation, the Declaration proposed. The implementation of the three Rio Conventions on Climate, Biodiversity and Desertification should be implemented in a mutually supportive manner, it said.
- The three conventions were formed following the Earth Summit in Rio de Janerio in 1992.
- Parties will also take a proactive approach to drought through implementation of drought preparedness plans, encourage local governments to adopt integrated land use management and land governance.
- UNCCD executive secretary Ibrahim Thiaw said that Delhi Declaration is a powerful document summarising the intent of the parties in countering land degradation. "My first takeaway is the close link between land, climate and biodiversity. The participants will take the message back to UN in New York so that the possibility of using land for climate change mitigation can be unlocked. Carbon belongs to soil," he said.
- Other takeaways according to him are : there is a business case for land restoration, parties have woken up to the severity of drought and decision on that is being taken and that land restoration will not be successful "unless we put people first," Thiaw added. COP 14 President and environment minister, Prakash Javadekar said the COP14 was 'flawless' with no controversies.
- A UNCCD Secretariat spokesperson in response to Hindustan Times questionnaire on the importance of COP14 and Delhi Declaration said : "A declaration is an expression of political will and commitment towards something. It provides a strong foundation for actions, but is not binding on any government. A political declaration captures points of convergence on the part of the Parties, and a commitment to act."

EU Parliamentarians Support India on Kashmir, Castigate Pak

European parliamentarians **Ryszard Czarnecki** and **Fulvio Martusciello** have backed India on the Kashmir issue during a special debate of the plenary of the European Parliament by describing it a great democracy and slammed Pakistan for harbouring terrorists. In a debate on the situation in Kashmir on September 17, 2019 Czarnecki, the member of the EU Parliament and European conservatives and Reformist Group in Poland called India the "greatest democracy of the world."

- "India is the greatest democracy of the world. We need to look at terrorist acts that took place in India, Jammu and Kashmir. These terrorists didn't land from the Moon. They came from the neighbouring country. We should support India," said **Czarnecki**.
- **Martusciello**, a member of EU Parliament and Group of European People's Party (Christian Democrats) in Italy, said Pakistan had threatened to use nuclear weapons which was a concern to the European Union.
- "Pakistan is where terrorists have been able to plan bloody terrorist attacks in Europe," said Martusciello while accusing Islamabad of human rights violations. Opening the debate on behalf of the Vice President of the European Commission, Federica Mogherini, EU Minister Tytti Tuppurainen said 'no one could afford another escalation in Kashmir.' The EU minister urged India and Pakistan to resolve Kashmir issue through talks, seeking a peaceful, political solution.
- India revoked J&K's special status on August 5. Reacting to India's move on Kashmir, Pakistan downgraded diplomatic ties with New Delhi and expelled the Indian High Commissioner.
- Pakistan has been trying to internationalise the Kashmir issue but India has asserted that the abrogation of Article 370 was its 'internal matter'.
- India has defended imposition of restrictions in the Kashmir Valley on the grounds that they were put to prevent Pakistan from creating more mischief through proxies and terrorists.

PM Modi's Week-long Visit to the United States : Takes Part in Different Events; Addresses 74th Session of UN General Assembly

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on a week-long visit of the United States of America in the last week of September, 2019. During this period he participated in various programmes including his meeting with the CEOs, Howdy Modi Event, Climate Action Summit, Bilateral meetings with different heads of government/ state and addressed the 74th UN General Assembly session.

Modi's First Stop in Houston : Round-table with Energy CEOs

Petronet signs MoU with Tellurian for import up to 5 million tonnes of LNG.

In his first engagement after arriving in Houston, PM Modi met the CEOs and senior executives of 17 global energy companies on September 21, 2019 for a round table discussion where they discussed ways to deepen cooperation as part of strategic partnership.

"The CEOs talked about enhancing their footprints in India. They lauded government's efforts towards **Ease of Doing** Business, steps taken towards deregulation in the sector, supported reforms and policies and were upbeat on the Indian economy," Ministry of External Affairs official spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said.

The combined net worth of these energy companies is US$1 trillion with a presence in 150 countries–all of them have some engagement with or presence in India.

They include : Baker Hughes, BP, Cheniere Energy, Dominion Energy, Emerson Electric Company, Exxon-

Mobil, Perot Group and Hillwood, IHS Markit, Lyondell Basell Industries, McDermott, Schlumberger, Tellurian, Total, Air Products Vinmar International and Westlake Chemicals.

According to the spokesperson, the CEOs were "thankful to the Government for the support and facilitation".

Signing of Tellurian and Petronet LNG Ltd. Deal

After the meeting, it was announced that US natural gas company Tellurian and India's largest LNG importer Petronet LNG Ltd have signed an MoU for imports up to 5 million tonnes of LNG from America.

The deal will also include PLL's equity investment in Tellurian's Driftwood project after further negotiations on the terms and size of the deal. The project includes natural gas production, gathering, processing and transportation facilities, along with a proposed 27·6 mtpa liquefaction export facility.

A statement from Tellurian said the MoU was signed in Modi's presence.

"Petronet, India's largest LNG importer, will be able to deliver clean, low-cost, and reliable natural gas to India from Driftwood. Increasing natural gas use will enable India to fuel its impressive economic growth to achieve Prime Minister Modi's goal of a $5 trillion economy while contributing to a cleaner environment." Tellurian's President and ECO Meg Gentle said in a statement.

Petronet, which has a market capitalisation of approximately $5·1 billion, developed the country's first LNG receiving and regasification terminal at Dahej, Gujarat (17·5 mtpa), and another in Kochi, Kerala (5 mtpa).

The meeting with the CEOs was held at Hotel Post Oak, and the MEA spokesperson said its "objective… was to deepen our energy cooperation as part of our strategic energy partnership."

Meeting with CEOs

The Prime Minister had a 'fruitful' meeting with the CEOs on the first day of his week-long US visit, MEA said.

"Getting straight to business. PM @narendramodi just concluded a fruitful interaction with top energy sector CEOs at a Roundtable meeting in #Houston. Discussion focussed on working together for energy security and expanding mutual investment opportunities between India & US," the MEA spokesperson said in a tweet.

Houston is known as the oil and gas capital of the US. India and the US had last year inked a strategic energy partnership to enhance collaboration.

Howdy Modi Event : PM Gets Rapturous Reception at the Event

24 lawmakers welcome him on stage at NRG Stadium in Houstont

PM Modi was accorded a rousing welcome at the crowded NRG stadium in Houston, Texas on September 22, 2019 where he addressed Indian American community along with US President Donald Trump. Mr. Modi entered the stage with folded hands and vowed to the 58,000 strong audience, thanking them for such an amazing welcome.

The 'Howdy Modi!' event began with a Sikh kirtan and then saw performances by Bharatnatyam, Garba, Bhangra dancers, and even one performance by a Houston cheerleading team, which included the first Indian American in them, as well as a 'Desi' tap dancer. The theme of the community event was 'Woven', and a film protrayed the dual cultures and sometimes divided loyalties of being second and third generation Indian-American community members.

Tens of thousands of Indian-Americans packed into the NRG stadium on September 22, 2019 for 'Howdy, Modi !' rally.

Watershed Moment

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that US President Donald Trump's attending the 'Howdy, Modi' event in Houston was a 'watershed moment' in the ties between New Delhi and Washington.

In a grand show of friendship and common vision, PM Modi and President Trump on September 22, 2019 shared the stage at a gala event replete with symbolism and substance, as the two leaders pledged to fight terrorism while heaping praise on each other's achievements.

Modi gave tacit support to Trump's 2020 re-election bid at the 'Howdy, Modi !' event, saying 'Abki baar, Trump sarkar'. "You can feel the strength and depth of the bonds between our two nations," Modi said in his speech to introduce Trump to a wildly cheering crowd of Indians living in the US.

"When I met him for the first time, Trump said India has a true friend in the White House. Your presence here is a great testimony to that," Modi said.

In response, Trump praised Modi's economic reforms and said these have lifted more than three million people out of poverty. "And that is an incredible number," he added. "In both India and the US, we're seeing something remarkable : Our people are prospering like never before because we are slashing bureaucracy and cutting red tape," Trump said.

The event got praise from an array of leaders. Alice G Wells, the acting assistant secretary of state for South and Central Asia, said the event was a tremendous display of bigger ideas and visionary leadership to further accelerate the Indo-US strategic partnership. Several other top American lawmakers also praised Modi for his "Howdy, Modi!" address.

PM Modi later posted pictures of the two leaders clasping hands, waving together to the Indian diaspora at the event. "Moments from Houston that will always remain a part of my memory. I thank all those who came for the #Howdy Modi programme… The event was lively, showcashing the special features of Indian culture and accomplishments of the Indian diaspora," he posted, along with pictures of the massive crowd cheering him.

Modi at UN Climate Meet

On September 23, 2019 PM Modi attended the UN Climate Change Summit in New York. He pledged to double non-fossil fuel target to 450 GW. Fully expressing India's bragging rights for installing solar panels on the roof of the United Nations building PM Modi told global leaders gathered at the climate change summit in New York that India would lead by example to forestall catastrophic developments.

"More needs to be done to tackle climate change. Need, not greed has been our guiding principle. People's movement in the need of the hour. An ounce of practice is worth more than a ton of preaching. The time for talking is over, the world needs to act now."

—Narendra Modi At the Climate Change Summit in New York

'More needs to be done to tackle climate change. Need, Not greed has been our guiding principle. Poeple's movement is the need of the hour," the Prime Minister urged world leaders, announcing India's decision to ban single use plastic and hoping this would raise awareness of single use plastic at the global level. "An ounce of practice is worth more than a ton of preaching," he said in English in a brief address that was mainly in Hindi.

Asserting that the "The time for talking is over, the world needs to act now," Modi told the gathering that India is going to increase the share of non-fossil fuel in its fuel mix and renewable energy capacity to 175 gigawatts by 2022, and further onwards to 450 gigawatts.

Both Trump and Modi arrived in New York for the UN summit after meeting on September 22 in Houston where the US and India pledged a fossil fuel (mainly LNG) supply and demand relationship stretching over the next 40 years.

Trump Attends Climate Summit, Listens to Modi

US President Donald Trump on September 23 made a brief unscheduled appearance at the UN Climate Action Summit and heard Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address on climate change. Trump was not scheduled to attend the summit. The president listened intently for about 10 minutes before departing for his religious freedom event. He also attended German chancellor Angela Merkel's speech and left without saying anything. The climate summit was part of the UN General Assembly and was planned to "discuss a leap in collective national ambition." Trump has repeatedly expressed doubt about the overwhelming scientific consensus on manmade causes of global warming.

Modi though maintained in his speech that India has provided clean cooking gas connections to 150 million families while talking about India's 'Jal Jeevan' mission for water resource development, water conservation and rain water harvesting. He also said India and Sweden were working in devising low carbon pathways for industries.

Leaders' Dialogue on Strategic Responses to Terrorist and Violent Extremist Narratives

During his address at the Leaders' Dialogue on Strategic Responses to Terrorist and Violent Extremist Narratives, held on the sidelines of the 74th UN General Assembly on September 23, 2019 Modi called for the institutionalisation of counterterrorism cooperation at the multilateral level and asserted that India will work towards enhancing ongoing cooperation and capacity building of friendly countries in this area.

"The Prime Minister said that terrorists should not be allowed to get funds and arms, for this objective to be realised," secretary (West) in the ministry of external affairs (MEA) A Gitesh Sarma told reporters after the meeting.

Need to Avoid Politicisation of Mechanisms Like UN Sanctions

Modi also asserted the need to avoid politicisation of mechanisms like UN sanction listings and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and said that these mechanisms need to be enforced. A terrorist attack anywhere in the world "should be considered terrorism–not good or bad terrorism. Not more or less", the Prime Minister said.

He said there should be a 'qualitative upgradation' in the ongoing cooperation and intelligence sharing through bilateral and regional frameworks. Sharing India's experience. Modi told the meeting that democratic values, diversity and inclusive development are the most important weapons against ideologies that promote terrorism, extremism and radicalism.

Global Solidarity

Modi called for global solidarity and readiness against terrorism in the same way as the world has shown solidarity against challenges like climate change. The meeting also took stock of the Christchurch Call to Action to eliminate terrorists and violent extremist content online.

India has supported the Christchurch Call to sanitize cyber-space from contents which promote and eulogise terrorism, hate and violence, Sarma said.

India's rising stature and strong democratic credentials increasingly resonate in multilateral fora and were very much exemplified by French President Emmanuel Macron's opening statement where he expressed appreciation for India's association to the Christchurch call, particularly as a democracy that represents over a billion people, he said.

Bilateral Meetings

Prime Minister Modi also held a series of bilateral meetings with several world leaders on the side lines of the UN General Assembly session, including with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte and Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad.

Bloomberg Global Business Forum

Prime Minister Modi on September 25, 2019 in New York pitched India as the ideal investment destination and said his government has taken several measures to improve the business environment in India. Speaking at the Bloomberg Global Business Forum in New York. Modi said India offers a golden opportunity for investment in the country. "If you want to invest in a market where there is scale, come to India… If you want to invest in start-ups with a huge market, come to India… If you want to invest in one of the world's largest infrastructure ecosystems, come to India," he told global corporates.

PM Narendra Modi being awarded the 'Global Goalkeeper Award, by Microsoft founder Bill Gates, in New York on September 24, 2019.

Earlier this month, the government had reduced the effective corporate tax rate to 25·17% from nearly 35%, bringing India at par with major global economies on taxation.

PM Modi said India is rapidly modernising its cities, equipping them with latest technology and citizen friendly infrastructure.

"Our infrastructure creation is expanding at a fast pace–from highways to metros, from railways to ports, from airports to logistics, each sector is seeing massive investment and tremendous potential," Modi said.

"Thus if you want to invest in urbanisation, come to India."

India has also opened its defence industry 'like never before' and sought investments in the sector, Modi said.

Four Factors

The Four Factors that make India reliable for investors are "democracy, demography, demand and decisiveness", he said.

India is aiming to become a $ 5 trillion economy by 2024-25. The Prime Minister said $ 1 trillion has been added to the economy in five years and the target is to make the country a $ 5 trillion economy.

Modi also said that 120 GW out of 175 GW renewable energy target has been achieved by India and the country was targeting 450 GW in the near future.

Inauguration of Gandhi Solar Park

Earlier in the day, the Prime Minister, along with UN chief Antonio Guterres and other world leaders, inaugurated the Gandhi Solar Park and Gandhi Peace Garden at the headquarters of the global body, underlining that his principles act as a moral compass as the world grapples with challenges of climate change, terrorism and corruption.

Modi remotely inaugurated the 50-Kilowatt Gandhi Solar Park and the Gandhi Peace Garden at the United Nations headquarters.

The special commemorative event 'Leadership Matters : Relevance of Gandhi in the Contemporary World' was hosted by Modi to mark Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary.

Receives Global Goalkeeper Award

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 24 dedicated to the 1·3 billion people of India **the Global Goalkeeper Award 2019** given to him by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in recognition of the effort he has spearheaded to provide toilets and promote sanitation in the world's second most populous nation.

"The honour is not mine but of the crores of Indians who not only fulfilled the Swachh Bharat dream but also made it a part of their daily lives," Modi said in a 15-minute speech at the award ceremony.

This is the third big international award for Modi, who won the Seoul Peace Prize 2018 for reducing social and economic disparity and rooting out corruption, and the 2018 UNEP Champions of the Champions of the Earth Award, the UN's highest environment honour for championing the International Solar Alliance.

Modi's Address to UN General Assembly

- It is imperative for the world to united against terrorism.
- Clean India Mission is an inspiration to the world, says Modi

On September 27, 2019 Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the UN General Assembly. In his address to the 74th session of the Assembly that combined elements of a campaign speech and a call to action, PM Modi showcased his government's developmental and environmental record and set out its agenda. He called for unity in combating terrorism and said the UN needed to adopt a new direction.

Clean India

"When a developing country is able to successfully implement the world's biggest sanitation campaign within the Clean India Mission building over 110 million toilets in just 5 years for its countrymen, all its achievements and outcomes are an inspirational message for the entire world," Mr. Modi said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on September 27, 2019.

"The largest number of supreme sacrifices made by soldiers of any country for UN peace-keeping missions is from India," Mr. Modi said, adding, "We belong to a country that has given the world, not war, but Buddha's message of peace."

Terrorism

On terrorism, Mr. Modi said, "The lack of unanimity amongst us on the issue of terrorism, dents those very principles, that are the basis for the creation of the UN. And that is why, for the sake of humanity, I firmly believe

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World This Month

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US, ASEAN Conduct First Joint Drills in Tense S. China Sea : First Asean-US Maritime Exercise

The United States and ten Southeast Asian countries kicked off maritime drills on September 2, 2019 as part of a joint exercise extending into the flashpoint South China Sea with eight warships, four aircraft and more than a thousand personnel. The first Asean—US Maritime Exercise (AUMX) between the regional bloc and Washington lasted for five days, starting at the **Sattahip Naval Base** in Thailand and ending in Singapore.

Competing Claims

The drills come at a time of stepped up US engagement in the region and tensions between China and Southeast Asian nations over the South China Sea, parts of which are claimed by ASEAN members **Brunei, Malaysia, Vietnam** and the **Philippines**.

Co-led by the US and Royal Thai navies, the exercise was reportedly stretched into "international waters in Southeast Asia, including the Gulf of Thailand and South China Sea "before concluding in Singapore, according to a statement from the US embassy in Bangkok.

Open Indo-Pacific

"AUMX builds greater maritime security on the strength of Asean, the strength of our navy-to-navy bonds, and the strength of our shared belief in a free and open Indo-Pacific," said Rear Admiral Joey Tynch, who over saw US Navy's security cooperation in Southeast Asia. The joint drills came under criticism for looping in Myanmar's navy in a rare show of inclusion despite Washington imposing sanctions on the nation's top army brass over the Rohingya crisis. All ten members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations reportedly took part in the exercises.

They were unfolding as a Chinese survey ship remained in waters claimed by Vietnam, prompting the Pentagon earlier to accuse Beijing of efforts to "violate the rules-based international order throughout the Indo-Pacific". China claims the majority of the South China Sea, often invoking its so-called nine-dash line as a supposed historical justification to the waters which are a key global shipping route.

US to Withdraw 5K Troops from Afghanistan, Shut Bases

The United States would withdraw almost 5,000 troops from Afghanistan and close five bases within about 4 months under a draft peace accord agreed with the Taliban, the chief US negotiator Zalmay Khalilzad said.

Draft Accord

In exchange for the phased withdrawal, the Taliban would commit not to allow Afghanistan to be used by militants to plot attacks on the US and its allies.

It includes provision for so-called 'intra-Afghan' talks to reach a broader political, settlement and end the fighting between the Taliban and the Western-backed government in Kabul. However, details of any future negotiations remain unclear, with the Taliban so far refusing to deal directly with the government.

Many Afghan government officials have resented the government's exclusion from the US-Taliban talks. There was some uncertainty about whether Ghani had been given a copy of the agreement, or simply shown it.

Japan to Police East China Sea

Japan will launch a special police unit equipped with submachine guns and helicopters to patrol disputed isles in the East China Sea - a source of tension between Tokyo and Beijing. The deployment near the tiny islands known as the 'Senkakus' in Japanese and the 'Diaoyu' in Chinese could take place early next year, media reported.

Italy's New Government Takes Oath

Italy's new government, Premier Giuseppe Conte and his Cabinet, took an oath on September 5, 2019 to defend Italy's interests in a ceremony presided over by the Italian President in the Quirinal presidential palace. Conte's first, 14-month-long coalition collapsed in August, 2019 after his right-wing League partner, led by Matteo Salvini pulled out. Ten ministers are from the populist 5-Stars Movement, Parliament's largest party. The centre-left Democrats have 9 ministers, and a tiny left-wing party has one.

Largest China-Pak Air Force Drill Held

Key Highlights

- It was a 15-day exercise which ended on September 6, 2019, it began on August 23, 2019.
- More than 50 Chinese and Pakistani fighter aircraft participated.
- It was hold in the north-western China.
- Both the Air Forces, the Chinese and the Pakistani, practised air superiority, suppression of ground targets, air attack and joint air defence training.

- More than 50 Chinese and Pakistani aircraft completed the most comprehensive and "confrontational" two-long joint exercises in northwestern China, a drill described by a military observer to be of **'real combat level'.**
- The 15-day exercise that ended on September 6, 2019 was the biggest joint air force exercise involving fighter aircraft of China and a foreign country, the Chinese military said, adding that it was also the most comprehensive in terms of equipment used and involved the most "complete combat unit".
- The large-scale Sino-Pak air exercise was held at an undisclosed location in north western China months after Indian and Pakistani air forcers engaged in a dogfight near the Line of Control following Indian air strikes on terror camps in Balakot.
- The annual joint training drill code-named "Shaheen (Eagle) VIII' kicked off on August 23 in an unnamed location in north western China, with both sides practising "air superiority, suppression of ground targets, air attack and joint air defence training," a Chinese air force statement carried by thepaper.cn said.
- Though an annual drill, this edition was the most comprehensive ever.

  "This joint training has realised the integration and unification of all forces and various types of troops… They (the personnel) feel that the two sides are constantly working together, the command planning capability is getting stronger and stronger, and the actual combat atmosphere is more intense," the statement said.
- The People's Liberation Army Air Force dispatched J-10C, J-16 and early warning aircraft as well as ground detachments covering ground-to-air missile, radar, airborne landing and communication to join the training. The Pakistani air force dispatched multiple types of aircraft, including the JF-17 Thunder, Mirage and early warning aircraft. The air arm of the PLA Navy also deployed aircraft to the joint training.

  "Based on the training progress so far, the Pakistani side has rich real-combat experience, while the Chinese side boasts advanced weapon and equipment systems and various cutting-edge technologies," Senior Colonel Du Wenlong told China military online.

Ukraine, Russia Swap Prisoners

Russia and Ukraine exchanged 35 prisoners each to the other country a move that could be a significant step towards easing Russia-Ukraine relations. At Boryspil airport in Kyiv, the prisoners were greeted by President Volodymyr Zelenskiy as they stepped off an airplane that brought them from Moscow.

Gulf Tensions : Iran Charged with Violating More Aspects of Nuclear Deal with West

Iran has begun using an array of advanced centrifuges to enrich uranium in violation of its 2015 nuclear deal, a spokesman said on September 7, 2019, warning that Europe has little time left to offer new terms to save the accord.

Its Programme is Peaceful : Says Iran

The comments by Behrouz Kamalvandi of the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran signal a further cut into the one year experts' estimate Iran would need to have enough material for building a nuclear weapon. Iran maintains that its programme is peaceful.

Iranian oil super tanker Adrian Darya 1 off the coast of Tartus in Syria.

Iran has been charged with already having breached the stockpile and enrichment level limits set by the deal while stressing it could quickly revert back to the terms of the accord if Europe finds a way for it to sell its crude oil abroad despite crushing US sanctions.

Iranian Oil Tanker Spotted Near Syria

The Iranian oil tanker Adrian Darya 1 at the centre of a dispute between Tehran and Western powers, which went dark off Syria earlier in the week, has been photographed by satellite off the Syrian port of Tartus, Maxar Technologies, a US space technology company said on September 7, 2019.

Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's Hero-Turned-Despot Passes Away

Robert Mugabe, the former guerilla hero-turned despot who ruled Zimbabwe for 37 years until the military forced him out of office passed away in hospital in Singapore, the country's President announced on September 6, 2019. He was 95.

Zimbabwe's former President Robert Mugabe died in a hospital in Singapore on September 6, 2019.

First heralded as a liberator who rid the former British colony of Rhodesia of white minority rule, Mugabe used repression and fear to govern until he was finally ousted by his previously loyal military general in November 2017.

"Mugabe was an icon of liberation, a pan Africanist who dedicated his life to the emancipation and empower-ment of his people. His contribution to the history of our nation and continent will never be forgotten," President Mnangagwa said.

'Revolutionary'

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa remembered Mugabe as 'liberation fighter' and a "champion of Africa's cause against colonialism".

The former political prisoner-turned guerilla leader swept to power in 1960 elections after a growing insurgency and economic sanctions forced the Rhodesian government to the negotiating table.

In office, he initially won international plaudits for his declared policy of racial reconciliation and for extending improved education and health services to the black majority.

Human Rights Violations

But that faded rapidly as Mugabe cracked down on his opponents. During the 1980s, he led an infamous campaign known as Gukurahundi during which an estimated 20,000 dissidents were killed.

Brexit Woes : Top Minister Quits in Blow for UK PM

After facing the embarrassment of his brother resigning early in September, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson suffered another blow when a senior cabinet minister, **Amber Rudd**, quit after questioning his handling of Brexit (Exit from the European Union) and the expulsion of MPs who voted against the government earlier in the same month (September).

British PM Boris Johnson (left) and Lawmaker Amber Rudd.

Jo Johnson, the PM's younger brother stepped down as minister early in September, reflecting unease in the ruling Conservative Pary over the direction of the government.

An opposition bill seeking to prohibit a deal Brexit was already passed by Parliament.

France Says EU Won't Approve Brexit Delay

France's foreign minister said on September 8, that the EU would not grant Britain an extension beyond October 31 to negotiate its exit from the bloc. "It's very worrying. The British must tell us what they want," Jean-Yves Le Drian told Europe 1 radio.

Rudd, who was works and pensions secretary, said in her resignation letter that PM Johnson expelling 21 party MPs was "an assault on decency and democracy" and "an act of political vandalism".

On September 8, 2019, Rudd said she decided to quit on two grounds : virtually no effort by the Johnson government to seek an agreement with Brussels; and the expulsion of lawmakers that has left many others unnerved.

Rudd's resignation indicates Johnson's dwindling authority in office, according to Labour chairman Ian Lavery, who said, "The PM has run out of authority in record time. His Brexit plan has been exposed as a sham."

Easier Visa Norms : UK Adds Architects, Web Designers, Vets to Jobs Facing Shortage

UK's Boris Johnson government on September 9, 2019 included web designers, architects and veterinarians in a list of professions that face a shortage in the United Kingdom and which involves easier visa norms to allow employers to recruit the required talent.

- The three professions have been included in the 'shortage occupation list'. It is easier to obtain a Tier 2 visa for a professional role mentioned in the list

because employers do not need to complete a resident labour market test and is also exempt from minimum salary thresholds.

- The Home Office said the changes mean that employers can advertise job vacancies for the occupations included to all nationalities, making it easier for them to access the international talent they need.

Indians already get most of UK work visas.

- Indian professionals are already given a majority of work visas issued.
- Immigration minister Seema Kennedy said : "Giving British based businesses the access to the brightest and best global talent is a key priority for this government. That is why we have made it easier for employers to hire the skilled workers, such as vets and web designers that this country needs to flourish".
- The Home Office has also streamlined English language testing to ensure that doctors, dentists, nurses and midwives who have already passed an English language test accepted by the relevant professional body, do not have to sit another test before entry to the UK on a Tier 2 visa.
- The change will ensure that hospitals and medical practices across the UK will be able to access the staff they need more quickly, the Home Office said.

The UK government is moving to a new skills-based visa system to be introduced after leaving the European Union, when EU citizens will not be able to move, live and work in the UK. They would be subject to similar visa norms applicable to Indian and other non EU citizens.

US Designates TTP Chief, 11 Others As Terrorists

The US has designated banned group Tehreek-e Taliban Pakistan's chief **Noor Wali Mehsud** along with 11 others as global terrorists and imposed sanctions on multiple and their supporters" as the US observed the 18th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

- US President Donald Trump issued an executive order, according to a press release from the US department, to strengthen the ability of the country to go after suspected terrorists and their financiers in "the most significant update of terrorist designation authorities since the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks."
- Along with Mehsud, "leaders of previously designated groups, including Hezbollah, Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, ISIS, ISIS-Philippines, ISIS-West Africa, and Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan" have been designated as Specially Designated Global Terrorists (SDGTs).
- "Noor Wali, also known as Mufti Noor Wali Mehsud, was named the leader of Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) in June 2018 following the death of former TTP leader Mullah Fazlullah," according to the state department. "Under Noor Wali's leadership, TTP has claimed responsibility for numerous deadly terrorist attacks across Pakistan.
- The state department additionally designated Hurras al-Din an al-Qaeda-affiliated group in Syria, as an SDGT.
- The department of the treasury designated 15 terrorists affiliated with ISIS, ISIS-Philippines, ISIS-Khorasan, al-Qaeda, Hamas and Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force under the same authority, according to the state department announcement.

9/11 Anniv : Qaida Chief Calls for Attacks

Al-Qaida leader Ayman al-Zawahri called on Muslims to attack US, European, Israeli and Russian targets in a speech on the 18th anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks. SITE Intelligence Group, which tracks online activity of jihadi groups, reported that in a video released by the militant group, the 68-year-old al-Zawahri also criticises 'backtrackers' from jihad, referring to former jihadis who changed their views in prison and called the 9/11 attacks unacceptable because innocent civilians were harmed. "If you want Jihad to be focused solely on military targets, the American military has presence all over the world, from the East to the West," he said. As an indicator of when the speech may have been recorded, al-Zawahri references President Donald Trump's recognition of the Golan Heights as Israeli territory, which was announced on March 25. He calls on Palestinians to seek "martyrdom" by attacking Israelis with a suicide vest in response.

Russia Hosts Taliban, Calls for Afghan Peace Talks to Restart

Following Donald Trump cancelling negotiations with the Taliban in the wake of fresh violence by it, Russia seems to be coming into the picture to try to ensure peace in Afghanistan. A Taliban delegation held talks with Russian officials after US negotiations with the Afghan insurgents collapsed, the Russian foreign ministry said on September 14, 2019.

"The Russian president's special representative for Afghanistan, Zamir Kabulov, hosted a Taliban delegation in Moscow", a ministry spokesman said.

"The Russian side stressed the need to relaunch negotiations between the US and the Taliban movement ", the spokesman said.

Taliban's Willingness for Dialogue

"For their part the Taliban confirmed their willingness to pursue dialogue with Washington", he added.

Until a week ago expectation had steadily mounted of a US-Taliban deal that would see the US drawdown of troop levels in Afghanistan and the Taliban offer security guarantees to keep extremist groups out.

But later US President Donald Trump revealed that he had cancelled an unprecedented meeting between the Taliban and himself at Camp David and declared the talks with the militants 'dead'.

With more than 13,000 US troops still in Afghanistan, Trump has been eager to end America's longest war, launched 18 years ago after the September 11 attacks.

But fears are now growing of increased violence with presidential elections in Afghanistan.

The vote, the fourth since the fall of the Taliban in 2001, was delayed twice this year.

Government forces and Taliban have been engaged in heavy exchanges across the nation, with the militants vowing to continue fighting and make the US regret walking away from talks.

Russian Efforts for Peace

Russia has been trying to influence the peace negotiations and staged two meetings in Moscow with Afghan political leaders at the start of the year.

Turkey Hosts 5th Syria Summit

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan welcomed his Russian and Iranian counterparts on September 16, 2019 for their latest summit on Syria, with attention focused on Damascus's push on the last rebel-held bastion of Idlib. Presidents Vladimir Putin and Hassan Rouhani met Erdogan in the capital Ankara for their fifth summit on the conflict since 2017. Iran and Russia have been staunch supporters of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, while Turkey has called for his ouster and backed opposition fighters.

Epoch Making Developments : Solomon Islands Breaks Taiwan Ties, Kiribati Follows Suit : History Has Its Own Logic

The Solomon Islands' government has cut official ties with Taiwan in a new blow to President Tsai Ing-wen, who is seeking re-election in January amid rising tensions with China. Taiwan now has formal relations with only 16 countries worldwide, but China claims Taiwan as its territory and says it has no right to formal ties with any nation. Taiwan's foreign minister, Joseph Wu, told reporters in Taipei on September 16, 2019 that it would immediately close down its embassy in the Solomon Islands and recall all of its diplomats. Wu said China was aiming to meddle with Taiwan's elections. Taiwan's foreign ministry said that the Solomon Islands Cabinet approved a resolution to recognise Beijing as the government of China. "We regret and condemn their government's decision to establish diplomatic relations with China", Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen said.

Sixth Country

The Solomon Islands was the sixth country to switch allegiance to China since Tsai took office in Taiwan in 2016.

China, which considers Taiwan to be part of its territory, wants to bring the island back into its fold under the "one country, two systems" framework.

After Solomon Islands Taiwan loses Kiribati as ally Nation

The Pacific island nation of Kiribati cut diplomatic ties with Taiwan on September 20, 2019, becoming the second country to do so this week and strengthening Beijing's hand.

Taiwan's foreign minister Joseph Wu said that Kiribati had officially notified his government of the decision. Kiribati is expected to recognise China, which has pledged billions of dollars in aid to help lure it and six other countries into switching allegiance since 2016, when Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen took office. Taiwan "deeply regrets and strongly condemns the Kiribati government's decision, which disregards the multifaceted assistance and sincere friendship extended by Taiwan to Kiribati over the years," Wu said.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang commended Kiribati's switch, which comes four days after the Solomon Islands, once Taiwan's largest ally in the South Pacific, severed ties in favour of China.

"This fully testifies to the fact that the one-China principle meets the shared aspiration of the people and constitutes an irresistible trend of the times," he said.

History has its Own Logic

With Kiribati also turning away, now only 15 countries worldwide have relations with Taiwan. History has its own logic.

Sri Lanka Unveils South Asia's Tallest Tower, Funded by China

Sri Lanka on September 16, 2019 unveiled South Asia's tallest tower, costing over $ 100 million, 80% of which has been funded by China under the controversial Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

- The 350-metre-tall 17 storey Lotus Tower, located in Colombo comprises a TV tower, a hotel, a telecommunications museum, restaurants, auditorium and a mall.

The Lotus Tower in the heart of Colombo is being constructed at the cost of $ 100 million, 80% of which has been funded by Chin under Belt and Road initiative.

- Local media reported that Sri Lanka and China signed the Lotus Tower agreement in 2012 to build the tower, with **China National Electronics Import and Export Cooperation** being the general contractor.
- Though still under construction Sri Lankan President Sirisena decided to open the tower to public.

Tunisian Ex-President Whose Fall Sparked Arab Spring Dies

Abidine Ben Ali,

Former Tunisian President **Zine El Abidine Ben Ali,** an autocrat who led the North African country for 23 years before being toppled by nationwide protests that unleashed revolt across the Arab world, died on September 19, 2019. He was 83.

Ben Ali, who had lived in Saudi Arabia since fleeing Tunisia in 2011, died in Jeddah. The former president was receiving treatment for prostate cancer and was hospitalised earlier. His body was transferred to Mecca, where he was buried on September 20, 2019.

Ben Ali's ouster on January 14, 2011, amid Tunisia's relatively peaceful "Jasmine Revolution" inspired what became known as the Arab Spring, a movement that saw several autocratic leaders swept from power. Ben Ali was widely detested and convicted repeatedly of corruption in Tunisia after he went into exile.

In a Setback for China, UN Adopts Afghan Resolution Without BRI

The UN Security Council has unanimously adopted a compromise resolution extending the UN political mission in Afghanistan. It drops a Chinese demand to include a reference to China's $ 1 trillion "belt and road" initiative but stresses the need for regional connectivity.

- China and Russia had clashed with the US and other Security Council members on September 16, 2019 over China's insistence on including its flagship global programme in the resolution. After negotiations dragged into September 16 night, a compromise was hammered out on September 17 morning.
- US ambassador to the UN Kelly Craft said the September 17 mandate adopted on September 17 had been updated to address new developments on the ground. But she added : "The reason we can't empower the mission with a stronger, substantive mandate today is a member's insistence on language that highlights national political priorities rather than ways in which we can most effectively assist the people and the government of Afghanistan."
- Germany's UN ambassador Christoph Heusgen said the resolution puts the Afghan people "in the centre".

The final language—drafted by Germany and Indonesia—adopted by the 15-member Council does not mention the project. "To our regret a few countries refused to keep the text of consensus previously agreed," said China's UN ambassador Zhang Jun, describing the adopted resolution as a technical rollover.

The resolutions mandating the mission in 2016, 2017 and 2018 all included a reference welcoming and urging efforts like **China's Belt and Road initiative** to facilitate trade and transit, but in March the US and some other council members said they could no longer accept that language.

The UNSC agreed then to a six month rollover of the mandate of the UN mission, known as **Unama** and that expired on September 17, 2019. A planned vote on September 16 was delayed to September 17 to allow for further negotiations as diplomats said China had signalled it was prepared to veto the text. To pass, a resolution needs nine votes in favour and no vetoes by the US, China, France, Russia and Britain.

The UN mission was helping Afghanistan prepare for September 28 elections and was pushing for talks between the Afghan government and the Taliban. Talks between the US and the Taliban militants on a US troop withdrawal fell apart earlier last month.

US Cuts $ 100 m Aid to Afghanistan Over Graft

US secretary of state Mike Pompeo says Washington is taking back $ 100 million intended for an Afghan energy infrastructure project, citing unacceptably high levels of corruption in the Afghan government. In a statement on September 19, 2019, Pompeo said the US will still finish the project that involves five power substations and a maze of transmission lines in southern Afghanistan, it just won't be spending the money through President Ashraf Ghani's government, blaming the "Afghan government's inability to transparently manage US government resources."

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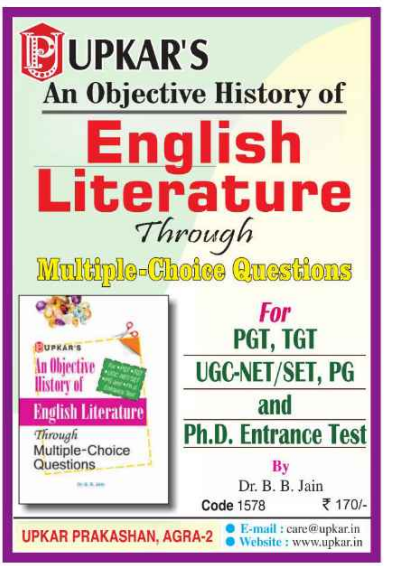


Regional News

Maharashtra/ Haryana

Assembly Polls Schedule for Maharashtra and Haryana Officially Unveiled

The Election Commission of India on September 21, 2019 officially announced the single-phase assembly polls schedule in Maharashtra and Haryana, both the BJP-ruled states. Maharashtra and Haryana will go to the Assembly polls on October 21, 2019 and the results will be declared on October 24. The Model Code of Conduct came into effect in the two states with the official announcement of the assembly polls.

Making the announcement at a press conference, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sunil Arora said the notification for the elections would be issued on September 27. The last date for filing of nominations would be October 4, and the nominations scrutinised the next day. The last date for withdrawal of candidature would be October 7.

The term of the Haryana Assembly, with 90 seats, ends on November 2 and that of the 288-member Maharashtra Assembly on November 9.

A total of 1·82 crore electors is Haryana and 8·95 crore in Maharashtra would cast their votes to elect the government in the respective states.

Byelections to 64 Assembly seats across States as well as the byelection to the Samastipur Lok Sabha constituency in Bihar would also be held on October 21, the Election Commission said.

This is the first round of assembly polls post General Elections 2019 in which PM Modi-led NDA registered

New Governors Appointed in Five States

President Ram Nath Kovind on September 1, 2019 appointed new Governors for five States-Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Kerala and Telangana.

Former Union Labour Minister Bandaru Dattatraya was appointed the Governor of Himachal Pradesh, replacing former BJP leader Kalraj Mishra who has been transferred to Rajasthan as the Governor. Kalraj Mishra replaced Kalyan Singh as Governor of Rajasthan.

Former Uttarakhand Chief Minister Bhagat Singh Koshyari was named the Governor of Maharashtra. Koshyari replaced Vidya Sagar Rao as Governor of Maharashtra.

Former Union Minister Arif Mohammed Khan became the Governor of Kerala. Mr. Khan, an ardent critic of instant triple talaq and advocate of reforming the Muslim personal law, replaced former Chief Justice of India P. Sathasivam as the Governor of Kerala.

Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan was appointed the Governor of Telangana, replacing E.S.L. Narasimhan in the Raj Bhawan of Telangana.

Tamil Nadu

'Digital Accelerator' Launched in Tamil Nadu to Boost Investment

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami on September 5, 2019 launched a 'Digital Accelerator' to boost investment in the state and assist entrepreneurs. The Accelerator will be operational with assistance from the American Tamil Entrepreneur Association. The State government will allocate 10% of the funds required for entrepreneurs to start business in the State through the 'Digital Accelerator' plan. CM Palaniswami further made it clear that a corpus of ₹ 50 crore would be earmarked for this plan.

CM Palaniswami also highlighted the points due to which Tamil Nadu remained an ideal destination for investments in various fields like aerospace, space, fintech, information technology etc.

Telangana

Telangana Declares 2020 as Year of Artificial Intelligence

Telangana government in September 2019 declared the year 2020 as the 'Year of Artificial Intelligence', promoting and organising various activities related to emerging technology throughout the year. Telangana government's decision comes in the backdrop of the emerging talent workforce and renewed focus by industry and other ecosystem players on this space in the past four to five years.

- Telangana government has signed up with NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India), which has come out with the 'National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence' to organize AI pilot projects in the state.
- During the celebration of the year 2020 as the Artificial Intelligence year, a lot of hackathons & meetings will be held and the Telangana government will give challenges and make available data sets on which companies can run algorithms.
- A Centre of Excellence in Data Sciences and AI will be set up in the state by NASSCOM (National Association of Software and Services Companies), a trade association of Indian Information Technology and Business Process Outsourcing Industry.
- IIT (Indian Institutes of Technology), Kharagpur is also coming up with its regional centre in Hyderabad to initiate first program in AI in Telangana.

Updates National and International

ACRONYMS

GIS	—	Geographic Information System
AUMX	—	Asean-US Maritime Exercise
OVL	—	ONGC Videsh Limited
UUKI	—	Universities UK International
SASEC	—	South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation
ISTRAC	—	ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command
UNHRC	—	United Nations Human Rights Council
NOAA	—	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
THE	—	Times Higher Education
CBDR	—	Common But Differentiated Responsibility
INDC	—	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
LMDCs	—	Like-Minded Developing Countries

APPOINTMENTS/NOMINATIONS

Promod Kumar Misra is New Principal Secretary to PM; P. K. Sinha New Principal Advisor

Promod Kumar Misra has been appointed the new principal secretary to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, an official statement said on September 11, 2019.

He took over the new assignment the same day, the statement said.

Misra was the additional principal secretary to the Prime Minister and was holding the rank of a Cabinet Minister.

P. K. Mishra

P. K. Sinha

Recently, Nripendra Misra had stepped down as the principal secretary to the Prime Minister.

Former cabinet secretary **P.K. Sinha** (64) who was earlier appointed as officer on special duty (OSD) in the Prime Minister's office, is the new principal advisor to the PM with effect from September 11, 2019.

Anurag Singhal : Trump Nominates Indian-American as Federal Judge

President Donald Trump has nominated Indian-American circuit court judge Anurag Singhal as a federal judge in Florida. Singhal is among the 17 judiciary nominations sent by the White House to the Senate. Singhal would replace Judge James I Cohn on the US district court for the southern district of Florida.

Singhal is the first Indian-American to be nominated to this position in Florida. Singhal, in his mid-50s, currently serves as a circuit in Broward County. Before his appointment, Singhal was in private practice where his practice focused on criminal defence.

Pak Jong Chon Appointed New Military Chief of North Korea

North Korea has named an army general with expertise in artillery as its new military commander in a move that an analyst said could signal plans for the development of new weapons **Pak Jong Chon** was appointed "Chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army,' KCNA announced late on September 6, 2019.

RKS Bhadauria will be Next IAF Chief

Air Marshal RKS Bhadauria will be the next Chief of Air Staff after the superannuation of incumbent B. S. Dhanoa, the government announced. "Government has decided to appoint Air Marshal RKS Bhadauria, PVSM, AVSM, VM, ADC presently Vice Chief of Air Staff as the next Chief of the Air Staff," Defence Ministry's Principal Spokesperson, said on Twitter.

PERSONS IN THE NEWS

Nicholas Soames : Grandson of W. Churchill

Fighting back tears, Churchill's grandson retires, slams UK PM.

Nicholas Soames

Rising to speak before a half-empty House on Commons on September 4, 2019, **Nicholas Soames**, the grandson of Winston Churchill, choked up, fighting back tears. Soames 71, has served in Parliament for 37 years. But he now was announcing his decision to retire from politics, a day after PM Boris Johnson had expelled him from the Conservative Party. He had joined a group of 21 Tory rebels who defied Johnson by voting against legislation that would pave the way toward blocking a no-deal Brexit. "I'm truly very sad that it should end in this way," Soames said.

The expulsion and resignation of Soames is especially searing given that Johnson, who cast him aside, considers Churchill one of his greatest heroes, and has written a biography of UK's wartime leader. Soames said that the purge was part of a plan by Johnson to wage an election as the candidate for the pro-Brexit crowd. "This has in my view all been planned".

Gulalai Ismail : Pak Activist Flees to US

Gulalai Ismail's campaigns to empower Pakistani girls have won her international awards and recognition as one of her country's foremost activists. But when she spoke out against sexual violence and disappearances allegedly carried out by the army in northwestern Pakistan, her fortunes quickly changed. The 32-year-old said she feared for her life. After four months on the run, she succeeded in eluding a vast hunt and has turned up in the US, where she is seeking asylum.

Pak Activist Flees to US

Wing Commander Anjali Singh

Wing Commander Anjali Singh has become the first woman in the country's military history to be posted in any Indian mission abroad, with the Indian Air Force (IAF) sending her to Moscow as deputy air attache.

Anjali Singh

She took charge of her new assignment on September 10. The 41-year old is an aeronautical engineer who served with fighter squadrons during her 17-year military career.

Until now, only male officers from the three services were appointed as military attaches in overseas Indian missions. The change came about during Nirmala Sitharaman's tenure as defence minister when she backed the proposal to give military women more global exposure. "Indian women have made their mark overseas since the time Chonira Belliappa Muthamma became first Indian woman diplomat decades ago. She made her mark and so shall Wing Commander Anjali Singh. It's a march forward… to Russia, with love", said Wing Commander Anupama Joshi, one of the first women to join the Air Force in 1993.

The Army and the navy will also appoint women officers as defence attaches in the near future depending on the candidates meeting the requirement.

"Wing Commander Anjali Singh joined @IndEmbMoscow on 10th Sep as the Deputy Air Attache. She enjoys the distinction of being the first female Indian Armed Forces Officer to be posted as a military diplomat in any of the Indian missions abroad," the Indian embassy in Moscow tweeted.

Singh hails from Bihar. She is married and has an eight-year-old son. Before moving to Moscow, she was posted in Jodhpur.

DEATHS

Veteran Jurist Ram Jethmalani Passes Away

Eminent jurist and former Union Minister Ram Jethmalani, who fought some of the most difficult criminal cases and defended the accused in the Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi assassination cases passed away on September 8, 2019. He died a few days before his 96th birthday on September 14.

Jethmalani served as a Union Law Minister and also an Urban Development Minister during the prime minister-ship of Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Jethmalani had the distinction of appearing in all types of cases—constitutional matters, difficult criminal cases or commercial offences. He was described as a legend of bar.

Born in Shikarpur in Sindh province (now in Pakistan) in 1923, Jethmalani obtained a law degree at 17. As a lawyer; he rose to fame in 1959 when he was prosecutor in the K. M. Nanavati *Vs* State of Maharashtra case in which a Naval Commander was tried for the murder of his wife's lover.

His other high-profile cases included the Indira Gandhi assassination case in which he appeared for the accused. He defended Rajiv Gandhi's assassin in Madras High Court in 2011; Harshad Mehta and Ketan Parekh in stock market scam cases; Delhi University professor SAR Geelani in the Parliament attack case in 2001; and represented Manu Sharma, son of an influential Congress leader, in the Jessica Lall murder case.

Robert Frank : Legendary Shutterbug Dies at 94

Robert Frank a trailblazing documentary photographer whose raw, piercing aesthetic placed him among the 20th century's greats, has died. He was 94 years old. The Swiss-born photographer rose to fame with the publication of his landmark book The Americans, an unflinching look at US society that proved hugely influential. A spokesperson from the Manhattan gallery Pace/MacGill said that Frank died overnight of natural causes in Inverness, Nova Scotia.

Rockstar Ric Ocasek Found Dead in New York Apartment

Ric Ocasek, famed frontman for The Cars rock band was found dead in a Manhattan apartment. The New York City police department said officers responding to a 911 call found the 75-year-old at about 4 pm 'local time on September 15, 2019. Ocasek, born Richard Theodore Otcasek in Baltimore in 1944, met bass player and future band mate Benjamin Or after moving to Cleveland for high school. The Cars hits in the late 1970s and 1980s included Just What I Needed, 'Shake, It Up and Drive'.

Ric Ocasek

Charlie Cole : The Photographer of Iconic 'Tank Man' Click Passes Away

Charlie Cole, one of the photographers who captured the famous 'Tank Man' on film during the Tiananmen Square protests in 1989, has died. He was 64.

He died in first week of September 2019 in Bali, Indonesia, where he had been residing, the BBC reported on September 13, 2019.

Cole was one of four photographers who captured the image on June 5, 1989, of a man standing in the way of a column of tanks, a day after many people died.

Cole won the 1990 World Press Photo award for his picture which became a defining image of the 1989 pro-democracy protests.

He took his picture for Newsweek with a telephoto lens from the balcony of a hotel, framing it so the man was only just in the bottom left corner.

Photographer Jeff Widener's June 5, 1989 click of a man blocking tanks near Tiananmen Square in Beijing. Charlie Cole, who died aged 64, was one of four photographers who captured the moment.

Cole later described how he had expected the man would be killed, and felt it was his responsibility to record what was happening. But the unidentified protester was pulled away from the scene by two men. What happened to him remains unknown.

Robert Hunter

Robert Hunter, the man behind many of the Grateful Dead's finest songs, has died at age 78. Grateful Dead drummer Mickey Hart says Hunter died on September 23 at his California home. Although proficient on a number of instruments including guitar, violin, cello and trumpet, Hunter never appeared on stage with the Grateful Dead. Hunter's songs included such classics as Truckin', Uncle John's Band, Box of Rain, and Ripple.

RESIGNATION

Trump Fires John Bolton as NSA

US President Donald Trump abruptly fired his National Security Advisor (NSA) John Bolton—the third person to occupy that post in three years—saying he disagreed with many of his (Bolton) suggestions. Mr. Bolton submitted his resignation, which was simply a formality.

President Donald Trump tweeted that he told John Bolton that his services are no longer needed at the White House. Bolton challenged Trump's version, suggesting that he had offered to quit first.

Trump did not elaborate what issue he and his third National Security Advisor disagreed over, but Bolton has long been regarded in Washington as an uber-hawk over everything from North Korea to Iran to the Taliban.

AWARDS AND HONOURS

20th International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards, 2019

20th International Indian Film Academy Awards were conferred in different categories for Hindi films on September 18, 2019 at a star-studded award ceremony in Mumbai.

Director Meghna Gulzar's movie **'Raazi'** was adjudged the Best Film in the 20th IIFA Awards. This outstanding movie is a story of a female Indian spy and the role has been played by Alia Bhatt who won the Best Actor (Female) honour for her leading role in Raazi. Ranveer Singh was honoured with the Best Actor (Male) award for his role of Sultan Alauddin Khilji in Padmaavat.

Alia Bhatt (Best Actress) and Ranveer Singh (Best Actor).

20th IIFA Awards : Major Winners

- **Best Film :** Raazi
- **Best Director :** Sriram Raghavan (Andha-dhun)
- **Best Actor (Female) :** Alia Bhatt (Raazi)
- **Best Actor (Male) :** Ranveer Singh (Padmaavat)
- **Best Actor in Supporting Role (Female) :** Aditi Rao Hydari (Pad-maavat)
- **Best Actor in Supporting Role (Male) :** Vicky Kaushal (Sanju)
- **Best Debut (Male) :** Ishaan Khatter (Dhadak)
- **Best Debut (Female) :** Sara Ali Khan (Kedarnath)
- **Best Lyrics :** Amitabh Bhattacharya (Dhadak)
- **Best Playback Singer (Female) :** Harshdeep Kaur and Vibha Saraf (Dilbaro from Raazi)
- **Best Playback Singer (Male) :** Arijit Singh (Ae Watan from Raazi)
- **Outstanding Contribution to Indian Cinema :** Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed Jafri 'Jagdeep'
- **Best Director in Last 20 Years :** Rajkumar Hirani
- **Best Film in Last 20 Years :** Kaho Na Pyaar Hai
- **Best Actor in Last 20 Years :** Ranbir Kapoor
- **Best Actress in Last 20 Years :** Deepika Padukone

P.T. Usha Honoured with IAAF 'Veteran Pin'

India's legendary track and field athlete P. T. Usha was on September 25, 2019 honoured with the 'Veteran Pin' by the IAAF, the world athletics governing body as an acknowledgement to her immense contribution to the sport. IAAF chief Sebastian Coe decorated her with the 'Veteran Pin' during the 52nd IAAF Congress in Doha.

P. T. Usha was one of the three athletes from Asia to get the honour.

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awards, 2019

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) announced the prestigious Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awards for outstanding services in the field of science and technology for 2019 on the occasion of CSIR Foundation Day on September 26, 2019. Total 12 scientists from different scientific institutions across India have been selected for the honour. The annual award carries a cash component of ₹ 5 lakh to each award winner.

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awards, 2019 : Winners		
Category	**Recipient**	**Affiliation**
Biological Sciences	1. Dr. Kayarat Saikrishnan	Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune.
	2. Dr. Soumen Basak	National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi
Chemical Sciences	3. Dr. Raghavan B. Sunoj	IIT, Bombay
	4. Dr. Tapas Kumar Maji	Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bengaluru
Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences	5. Dr. Subimal Ghosh	IIT, Bombay
Engineering Sciences	6. Dr. Manik Varma	Microsoft Research India, Bengaluru
Mathematical Sciences	7. Dr. Dishant Mayurbhai Pancholi	The Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Taramani
	8. Dr. Neena Gupta	Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata
Medical Sciences	9. Dr. Dhiraj Kumar	International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, New Delhi
	10. Dr. Mohammad Javed Ali	L. V. Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad
Physical Sciences	11. Dr. Aninda Sinha	IISc, Bengaluru
	12. Dr. Shankar Ghosh	Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai

Two Social Activists Including An Indian Get 11th International Hrant Dink Award

India's social activist **Agnes Kharshiing** and Turkish activist against male violence **Nebahat Akkoc** were honoured with the 11th International Hrant Dink Award in Istanbul on September 15, 2019. Hrant Dink Award is a Turkish honour in memory of Turkish-Armenian journalist Hrant Dink who was killed in 2007.

Meghalaya-based social activist Ms. Kharshiing was chosen for the honour for "defending the rights of the poor women, children and disadvantaged groups where she lives as well as for environmental rights." Ms Akkoc got the honour for "working to raise awareness about women's rights and to struggle against male violence."

Since 2009, the Hrant Dink Award is presented every year to individuals, organisations or groups that work for a world free from discrimination, racism and violence, and who take personal risks for achieving those ideals, break the stereotypes and use the language of peace and by doing so give inspiration and hope to others.

Amitabh Bachchan Chosen for Dadasaheb Phalke Award, 2018

Veteran actor and megastar Amitabh Bachchan was on September 24, 2019 unanimously chosen for the Dadasaheb Phalke award, the most prestigious honour of Indian cinema for 2018 for his immense contributions to and landmark achievements in Indian cinema. The top honour of Indian cinema very appropriately comes in the year that marks Mr. Bachchan's 50 years in Indian cinema. He made his debut in 1969 with Khwaja Ahmad Abbas' *'Saat Hindustani'*.

Recipient of several honours and accolades, including four national film awards and many filmfare honours, Mr. Bachchan was honoured with Padma Vibhushan in 2015, Padma Bhushan in 2001 and Padma Sri in 1984.

The Dada Saheb Phalke award carries a Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus), a shawl and a cash prize of ₹ 1,000,000. It is the 66th edition of Dadasaheb Phalke honour.

- Dadasaheb Phalke award was instituted by the government of India in 1969 in memory of Dada Saheb Phalke, veteran filmmaker.
- Actress Devika Rani was the first recipient of the coveted award.
- Dadasaheb Phalke is popularly referred to as the 'Father of Indian Cinema.'

Last Ten Recipients of Dadasaheb Phalke Award		
Edition	**Recipient**	**Year**
66th	Amitabh Bachchan	2018
65th	Vinod Khanna	2017
64th	K. Viswanath	2016
63rd	Manoj Kumar	2015
62nd	Shashi Kapoor	2014
61st	Gulzar	2013
60th	Pran	2012
59th	Soumitra Chatterjee	2011
58th	K. Balachander	2010
57th	D. Ramanaidu	2009

FIFA Football Awards, 2019 : Messi Crowned FIFA Men's Player of the Year

Barcelona forward Lionel Messi from Argentina was on September 23, 2019 crowned the FIFA Men's Player of the Year in Milan at the FIFA's annual awards ceremony. It was Messi's sixth FIFA Player of the Year award. He edged out Liverpool defender Virgil van Dijk of the Netherlands and Juventus' forward Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal to clinch the honour. Messi secured the top honour of FIFA with 46 ranking points to 38 for van Dijk and 36 for Ronaldo.

Lionel Messi

Megan Rapinoe of the USA was honoured with the FIFA Women's Player of the Year, beating her teammate Alex Morgan and England's Lucy Bronze to lift the honour. Rapinoe got the honour as a reward for leading the USA women's team as the champion of the FIFA Women's World Cup in July,

this year. Rapinoe claimed the honour with 46 ranking points to 42 for Alex Morgan and 29 for Lucy Bronze.

FIFA Football Awards, 2019 : Major Winners

- **FIFA Men's Player of the Year :** Lionel Messi (Argentina)
- **FIFA Women's Player of the Year :** Megan Rapinoe (USA)
- **Men's Coach of the Year :** Jurgen Klopp (Germany)
- **Women's Coach :** Jill Ellis (USA)
- **Men's Goalkeeper :** Alisson Becker (Brazil)
- **Women's Goalkeeper :** Sari van Veenendaal (Netherlands)
- **Puskas Award for Best Goal :** Daniel Zsori (Hungary)
- **Fair Play :** Marcelo Biesla and Leeds United

FIFA World XI

Men's World XI—Alisson Becker, Matthijs de Ligt, Sergio Ramos, Virgil van Dijk, Marcelo, Luka Modric, Frenkie de Jong, Eden Hazard, Cristiano Ronaldo, Kylian Mbappe, Lionel Messi.

Women's World XI—Sari van Veenendaal, Lucy Bronze, Nilla Fischer, Kelley O'Hara, Wendie Renard, Julie Ertz, Amandine Henry, Rose Lavelle, Marta, Alex Morgan, Megan Rapinoe.

Adam Harper Chosen for SASTRA Ramanujan Prize, 2019

Noted British mathematician Adam Harper, Assistant Professor with the University of Warwick, England was in September, 2019 chosen for the SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for 2019 for his outstanding contributions to analytic and probabilistic number theory. He will be honoured with the award on December 22, 2019, the birth anniversary of great Indian mathematician Ramanujan in whose memory the award was instituted in 2005.

The award carries a citation and a prize money worth $ 10,000.

- Every year, the SASTRA Ramanujan Prize is given by SASTRA university, Kumbakonam in Tamil Nadu to mathematicians from across the globe aged less than 32 years.
- The age limit of the awardee is kept 32 or less than 32 due to the fact that S. Ramanujan had achieved great success in mathematics at that specific age.

71st Primetime Emmy Awards

HBO's record-breaking fantasy epic **'Game of Thrones'** dominated American television's prestigious Emmy Awards for 2019 by sweeping 12 Emmys in different categories including the Emmy for best drama series at a spectacular award ceremony on September 22, 2019 in Los Angeles, the USA.

Ms Phoebe Waller-Bridge also stole the show by sweeping three Emmys including 'Outstanding Lead Actress in Comedy Series' for 'Fleabag'. She also picked up an Emmy for Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series for 'Fleabag' which also got the honour in Outstanding Directing for a Comedy Series Category.

71st Primetime Emmy Awards : Major Winners

- **Outstanding Comedy Series**—*Fleabag*
- **Outstanding Drama Series**—*Game of Thrones*
- **Outstanding Limited Series**—*Chernobyl*
- **Outstanding Lead Actress, Comedy**—Phoebe Waller-Bridge for *Fleabag*
- **Outstanding Lead Actor, Comedy**—Bill Hader for *Barry*
- **Outstanding Lead Actress, Drama**—Jodie Comer for *Killing Eve*
- **Outstanding Lead Actor, Drama**—Billy Porter for *Pose*
- **Outstanding Lead Actress, Limited Series or TV Movie**—Michelle Williams for *Fosse/Verdon*
- **Outstanding Lead Actor, Limited Series or TV Movie**—Jharrel Jerome for *When They See Us*
- **Outstanding Television Movie**—*Black Mirror : Bandersnatch*

Right Livelihood Award-2019

Swedish climate activist **Greta Thunberg**, Moroccan activist **Aminatou Haider**, Chinese lawyer **Guo Jianmei** and **Davi Kopenawa** of Brazil were chosen for the prestigious Right Livelihood Award for 2019 on September 25, 2019.

Thunberg got the Right Livelihood award, which is also referred to as the 'Alternative Nobel', for inspiring and amplifying political demands for urgent climate action reflecting scientific facts. She had been leading a peaceful movement since 2018 to draw world leaders' attention and seek immediate action against the climate change crisis.

Chinese lawyer Guo Jianmei got the honour in recognition of her work for women's rights in China. Aminatou Haider is a prominent human rights activist in Western Sahara while Davi Kopenawa is working for the protection of Amazon forest and its indigenous tribes.

Created in 1980, the annual Right Livelihood Award honours efforts that the prize founder, Swedish-German philanthropist Jakob von Uexkull, felt were being ignored by the Nobel Prize.

PM Modi Receives Global Goalkeeper Award, India's Payal Jangid Gets Changemaker Honour of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on September 25, 2019 conferred the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Goalkeeper award for the Swacch Bharat Abhiyan, a massive cleanliness movement of his government. Bill Gates presented the honour to PM Modi at an award ceremony in New York.

PM Modi receives the honour from Bill Gates on September 25, 2019.

India's Payal Jangid, a 16-year-old activist from Rajasthan associated with 'Bachpan Bachao Andolan' was honoured with the Changemaker award of the Bill and

Melinda Gates Foundation for her movement against child marriage in her region.

Gregory Rockson from Ghana and Aya Chhebi from Tunisia were other award winners at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation award ceremony.

CLIMATE CHANGE/ENVIRONMENT

Danes Raise € 2·4 Million in First Climate Telethon

Danes donated around € 2·4 million on September 14, 2019 for the planting of trees, in a telethon event described as the world's first to focus on the climate. For every donation of 20 Danish kroner one tree will be planted, and 20% of the funds raised will go to forest conservation efforts.

Indigenous Amazon Tribes Discuss How to Save their Lands and the Jungle

Under a thatched roof in the Amazon rainforest, warriors wielding bows and arrows, elderly chieftains in face paint and nursing mothers gathered to debate a plan that some hope will hold at bay loggers and invaders threatening the tribes of the Tembe.

Some travelled long distances on dirt roads that cut through the jungle, or in boats along a tributary of the Amazon river, all part of a 2, 766-sq-km Alto Rio Guama homeland that is under siege.

A man plays a horn during a meeting of Tembe tribes.

Some saw hope in the sustainable development plan presented at the meeting in the village of Tekohaw. It would include drones and other technology to curb encroachers while helping the Tembe profit by harvesting wood, bananas and berries.

Women and children performed a dance that they said would help give participants strength and understanding.

Life in the village seemed to have been put on hold so the Tembe tribes could debate the pros and cons of the project for hours, switching between Portuguese and their native Tupi-Guarani tongue.

EDUCATION

Indian Universities in Global Rankings

The new world university rankings came as a mixed bag for India, with no universities featured in the top 300 for the first time since 2012. However, the total number of entries from the country went up from 49 to 56 this year.

The high point for India was Indian Institute of Technology, Roper making it to the total 350 on its debut in the list. It now is the joint Indian topper with Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. In total there are six Indian Universities in the top 500 in this year's Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2020 as against five in 2019 rankings. Overall, University of Oxford continues to lead the pack for the fourth consecutive year.

Key Highlights

- There are six Indian Universities in the top 500.
- No Indian University makes it to the top 300 in global ranking.
- But number of entries rise from 49 to 56.
- IIT-Ropar makes a strong debut.

IIT-Ropar Makes Strong Debut

Indian Universities in top 500*

University	2020	2019
Indian Institute of Science	301-350	251-300
IIT, Ropar	301-350	NR
IIT, Indore	351-400	351-400
IIT, Bombay	401-500	401-500
IIT, Delhi	401-500	501-600
IIT, Khragpur	401-500	501-600

Global best	2020	2019
University of Oxford (UK)	1	1
California Institute of Technology (US)	2	5
University of Cambridge (UK)	3	2
Stanford University (US)	4	3
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (US)	5	4

Highlights :

- No Indian Institution in the top 300
- Ranking of Indian Institute of Science declines, marking first time that it is not in top 300 since 2012
- IIT-Ropar made it to top 350 in its debut participation
- In 2019, there were 5 Indian universities in top 500
- In 2020, there are 6 Indian universities in top 500
- Overall, 56 Indian universities feature in the table, up from 49 last year in a list of 1,300 universities
- India fifth most-represented nation in the rankings
- China is home to top two universities in Asia for first time
- University of Oxford comes top for the fourth year in a row; California Institute of Technology (Caltech) placed second

Individual ranks are allotted till rank 200; *Post 200th rank, institutions are placed in a cohort of 50 ranks

With the increase in number of Indian universities in the overall 1,300-university list from 92 countries, India is the fifth most represented nation in the rankings. 10 Indian universities which participated for the first time made it to the list. The fall of IISc from the 251-300 to 301-350 cohort this year is attributed to a significant dip in its citation impact score offsetting improvements in research environment, teaching environment and industry income. However, the Bengaluru-based institute still ranks highest among all others in India.

THE rankings editor Ellie Bothwell said : "India has a huge amount of potential in global higher education, given its rapidly growing youth population and economy and use of English-language instruction. The Indian government has strong ambitions to boost the global standing of its top universities and attract foreign students, academics and research collaboration.

According to THE, the best Indian institutions are generally characterised by relatively strong scores for teaching environment and industry income, but perform poorly when it comes to international outlook.

Apart from IISc, six other Indian universities fall into a power band this year, though the bulk of the nation's institutions more or less remained stable. There were a few who have risen, including IIT-Delhi and IIT-Kharagpur and Jamia Millia Islamia. Mainland China now hosts the top two universities in Asia with Tsinghua at 23rd place and Peking at 24th.

DEFENCE

IAF Inducts 8 Apache Attack Helicopters, Adds More Fire Power

Eight US-made Apache stealth attack helicopters, capable of firing missiles and rockets, were inducted into the Indian Air Force (IAF) on September 3, 2019 significantly boosting the force's combat capability at a time when India faces complex security challenges including cross border terrorism.

The eight helicopters, manufactured by aerospace major Boeing, were part of a multi-billion dollar deal India struck with the US government for 22 Apache AH-64E choppers nearly four years ago.

Air Chief Marshal Dhanoa near an Apache chopper during 'pooja' ceremony before its induction at the Pathankot Air Base on September 3, 2019.

In a brief address after induction of the fleet, Air Force Chief Air Chief Marshal B.S. Dhanoa said procurement of choppers with latest technology is a 'significant step' towards modernisation of the IAF.

"The Apache helicopters will enhance the operational capabilities of the IAF," he said at this strategically located air-base and added that the fleet will be deployed in India's western region.

The AH-64E Apache is one of the world's most advanced multi-role combat helicopters and is flown by the US army. The choppers are customized to suit IAF's future requirements.

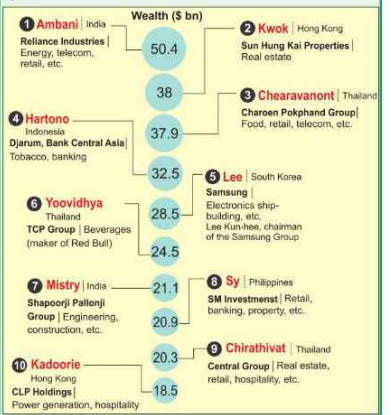
The helicopter is capable of delivering a variety of weapons, including air to ground Hellfire missiles, 70 mm Hydra rockets and air to air stinger missiles, officials said.

To add to its lethality, the helicopter carries a fire control radar, which has 360-degree coverage and a nose mounted sensor suite for target acquisition and night vision systems, they said. The chopper also carries one 30 mm chain gun with 1,200 rounds.

ASIA'S RICHEST 20

Wealth of 20 Richest Asian Families As Much As GDP of 20 Poorest Asian Nations

The combined worth of the 20 wealthiest business families of Asia is now more than $ 450 billion. The list, compiled by Bloomberg, is led by the Ambanis of India with Mukesh Ambani, the elder of the two sons of Reliance Industries founder Dhirubhai Ambani, individually at No. 17 on the Bloomberg Billionaires Index on the back of assets worth $ 48·9 billion. The Mistrys of the Shapoorji Pallonji Group and the Hinduja brothers, too, feature in the top-20 richest Asian families. **Here's a look at the families that hold the top 10 spots.**



Pockets of Affluence

The incredible wealth of the Asian business dynasties also stands out because many of them hail from low or middle income countries like India, Indonesia, Philippines where wide gaps prevail in wealth distribution. For example, according to a study by Credit Suisse, in India, the top 10% of households held 62% of the country's wealth in 2012 while in Indonesia, the top 10% households owned 36% of the country's wealth in 2014. Stark, too, is the gap in Hong Kong, where a 2016 household income report found that, monthly, the wealthiest 10% of households earn nearly 44 times more than what the poorest 10% make.

Standing on Solid Ground

The Bloomberg report, interestingly, points out how many of the top-20 richest Asian families "derive the bulk of their fortunes from property development". That is certainly true of the Hong Kong families represented in the list and would be something of a cause for concern for them given that anger over unaffordable housing is one of the factors fuelling the current protests in the Chinese territory and could lead to regulations to check their hold on the property market.

CLIMATE CRISIS

Climate Crisis is Changing Grasslands, Finds Study

Grasslands across the world are transforming due to the climate crisis factors such as rising carbon dioxide levels, hotter temperatures, extra nutrient pollution, or drought, a study says.

Climate Change

Looking at 105 grasslands experiments across the world, the plant species in these places began to shift after 10 years of exposure to one of the factors linked to climate change, according to a study carried out by researchers at the Michigan State University in the US.

Identity of Grasslands

The scientists found that the identity of grasslands can change drastically, without altering the number of species.

In nearly half the plots examined, individual plant species had changed, with the total number of species remaining the same.

However, in some plots, there was a transformation of the grasslands with entirely new species, the study, published in the journal **Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences** noted. Each of the 105 experiments tested at least one climate crisis factor and some looked at two or more of the factors.

MOST WANTED CITIES

Bangkok Tops List of Most Wanted Cities for Fourth Year

Bangkok ranked first in 2018 for the fourth straight year as the city with the most international visitors, according to an annual report by Mastercard released on September 4, 2019. Established in 2011, the Global Destination Cities ranks 200 cities based on visitor arrivals and cross-border spending. With almost 23 million international visitors last year, the Thai capital outpaced both Paris and London, which were second and third with just over 19 million visitors. Other top cities in order were : Dubai, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, New York, Istanbul, Tokyo and Antalya, Turkey. The report pointed to broad increases in international travel, with the total number of international visits up 76% since 2009.

IMMIGRATION

US Set to Revise Rules for Those Wanting US Citizenship

The US department of homeland security has taken the process of obtaining social media identification (user name or handle) a step forward. It proposes to expand its coverage to various forms to be filled in by those already in the US, such as those applying for a green card or citizenship.

- A notice was published in the Federal Register on September 4, 2019 and public comments were invited over the next 60 days.
- As reported by **The Times of India** in its edition of June 2, E-forms D-160 and D-260, which are used at the local US consulates and filled by applicants such as tourists, students and those heading to US for work from India, were revised to include a drop-down menu. It required applicants to list their user name or handle against the social media platforms used by them during the past five years.

  "The newly introduced proposal, in the context of applicability to the Indian diaspora in the US, will cover citizenship applications, applications for adjustment of status filed by those in the USA seeking to obtain green cards (such as H-1B workers, or those on intra-company transfers holding an L-1 visa). It will also apply to green card holders seeking re-entry permits (who wish to stay away from the US for two years)," explains Arlington-based Rajiv Khanna, a managing attorney at Immigration.com

USCIS Revising Citizenship Test

USCIS is revising and updating the Naturalisation Test, which all applicants seeking US citizenship must clear. The Immigration and Nationality Act requires an understanding of English and knowledge and understanding of US history and civics. Post pilot testing, in December 2020 or early 2021, the new Naturalisation Test will be rolled out for applicants.

Social Media Identification

- The proposal for seeking social media identifiers of those already in the US is a crucial development for the Indian diaspora, who in increasing numbers are opting for green cards and citizenship. While 60,000-odd Indians obtained green cards during the fiscal ended September 30, 2017, nearly 50,000 obtained US citizenship during this period.

  "While the proposal states that collection of social media user identification is mandatory to complete the DHS forms, it adds that USCIS (which is a unit of DHS) will continue to process a form where social media information is not answered, but failure to provide the requested data may delay the process. This leeway stems from the First Amendment, which applies to anyone within the US. It remains to be seen how the forms will be designed to accommodate those who do not provide social media identification," adds Khanna.
- In another recent move, US immigration officials are now permitted to create 'fictitious accounts or identities' to access social media accounts of people applying for green cards, citizenship, work visas, etc. Reports in the US media indicate that Facebook has stated that it does not permit creation of fake profiles and will not make any exception to its rules.

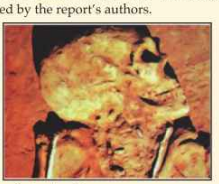
ARCHAEOLOGY

DNA Analysis of Rakhigarhi Remains Challenges Aryan Invasion Theory

A newly published archaeological study based on DNA analysis of skeletal remains at the Rakhigarhi site in Haryana has claimed that inhabitants of the Indus Valley Civilization (IVC) were **a distinct indigenous people** and challenges the theory of an "Aryan invasion" ending Harappan culture.

'No Trace of Steppe Pastoralists, Iranian Farmers'

- **'An Ancient Harappan Genome Lacks Ancestry from Steppe Pastoralists or Iranian Farmers'** is the first study of a genome from a Harappan site.
- The study reports an **ancient genome from the Indus Valley Civilisation** where one individual has been sequenced by the report's authors.



- It speaks of who the Harappans were.
- The report argues that the sampled ancient genomes from the Iranian plateau and Indus Valley Civilisation **descend from different groups of hunter gatherers** who began farming without being connected by substantial movement of people. In effect, the Harappan genome lacks Iranian farmers' ancestry.
- This also appears to imply that **farming began independently in India,** since the migrants who built the Harappan civilisation were not farmers when they came to India.
- **The DNA sequencing shows a mixture of people related to ancient Iranians (the largest component) and south-east Asian hunter-gatherers**.
- When the Harappan civilisation—comprising early Indians and West Asians was built, the **steppe pastoralists, understood to have brought the Indo-Aryan languages to India, were not present** in the region. It also, in effect, challenges the Aryan invasion theory.
- Report suggests that individual profile had little, if any, Steppe pastoralderived ancestry.

South Asian Group

- The study says IVC people were a South Asian group of indigenous people whose continuity of existence is traced back to before 7000 BC. The study which is based on the genome sample obtained from one individual whose skeleton was extracted, suggests no notable migration of people and claims to have dismantled the Aryan theory.

Flimsy Ground

- "The breakthrough research completely sets aside the Aryan migration-invasion theory. The skeleton remains found in the upper part of the Citadel area of Mohenjo Daro belonged to those who died due to floods and were not massacred by Aryans as hypothesised by Sir Mortimer Wheeler. The Aryan invasion theory is based on very flimsy grounds," said Vasant Shinde, former vice-chancellor of Deccan College, and one of the authors of the study. The team of 28 researchers was led by Vasant Shinde of Deccan College of Pune and included Vageesh Narsimhan and David Reich of Harvard Medical School and Niraj Rai of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences among others.
- The findings also lay bare the noteworthy progress the Indian culture had already made at the time, putting it on a par with the 2000 BC Mesopotamian civilisation. Among its key findings, the study suggests that farming was indigenous to India, contradicting an earlier belief that it was brought to the region through migrations from Iran, and most significantly that Harappan genes are present in varying quantities in all south Asians.
- The study argues that the DNA analysis shows that the people at Rakhigarhi, and the individual whose skeleton was examined, are from a population that is the largest source of ancestry for south Asians. "The Iranian-related ancestry in IVC derives from a lineage leading to early Iranian farmers, herders, and hunter gatherers before their ancestors separated, contradicting the hypothesis that the shared ancestry between early Iranians and south Asians reflects a large-scale spread of western Iranian farmers east," the study says, arguing that this contradicts significant migrations during the IVC period.

Spread of Indo-European Languages

- The study explains the spread of Indo-European languages to likely later migrations. "…a natural route for Indo-European languages to have spread into south Asia is from eastern Europe via central Asia in the first half of the 2nd millennium BCE, a chain of transmission that did occur as has been documented in detail with ancient DNA. The fact that Steppe pastoralist ancestry in south Asia matches that in Bronze Age eastern Europe provides additional evidence for this theory as it elegantly explains the shared distinctive features of Balto-Slavic and Indo-Iranian languages." The mature IVC was spread over north-west India between 2600-1900 BCE, Speaking to **TOI**, Dr Niraj Rai of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Paleosciences, who conducted the genetic research on the Rakhigarhi skeletons, defended the extrapolation of data on the basis of one genome sample.

MEDICS

NASA's New Technique Predicts Malaria

The NASA's is developing a new technique to forecast malaria outbreak in Myanmar from space, as the emergence of new drug-resistant strains in Southeast Asia threatens efforts to wipe out the disease globally.

Malaria cases and deaths plummeted by more than 90% in Myanmar between 2010 and 2017. World Health Organisation (WHO) figures show, a success largely

credited to better rural health services and wider use of treated bednets.

But the country still has a higher prevalence than its neighbours in the Mekong region. Several drug-resistant strains are taking hold across Southeast Asia and it is feared these could migrate to Africa where more than 90% of cases globally occur.

A malaria rapid test kit being shown.

To counter the threat, the NASA is deploying 'cutting edge' spatial technology to tackle malaria outbreaks before they happen. Scientist Tatiana Loboda is applying her expertise in geo-spatial modelling-coupled with a background in predicting wildfire outbreaks in the US - to identify potential hotspots so medicines and health workers can be mobilised in advance.

The satellites provide meteorological data, including land surface temperatures, atmospheric water content and information about land cover, including forest, shrubland, settlements or water. These are then combined with socio-economic data gathered by teams of researchers carrying out in-depth surveys with sample populations in the field.

The project is only in its third year but Loboda's team has already seen a high correlation between the rate of deforestation and the disease.

LITERATURE

Atwood Unveils Sequel

Canadian writer Margaret Atwood released the sequel to her award-winning 1985 novel The Handmaid's Tale, with The Testaments set to become a similar smash. Fans flocked to Waterstones' flagship bookstore in Piccadilly, central London, where Atwood, 79, read from her new novel to around 400 avid followers who could get their hands on the book at midnight. The sequel has already been nominated for the 2019 Booker Prize.

Margaret Atwood

JOURNALISM

Gandhi's Newspaper Reaches 100 Years

'I have owned a printing press, I have run Indian Opinion for a long period. But I have not identified myself as its editor. It is my first instance of being identified as an editor in the public and I have welcomed it. I am shivering. I know my responsibilities,' wrote M. K. Gandhi in the first edition of his first Gujarati newspaper 'Navajivan' which was published on September 7, 1919. The newspaper, which carried the message of the Mahatma to the masses during India's freedom struggle, completed 100 years of its foundation.

The Navajivan Trust behind Gujarat Vidyapith has preserved original printing press and has also re-printed first edition. India is celebrating 150th birth anniversary of the Mahatma this year. Officials at the trust said that Indulal Yagnik, a prominent freedom fighter and hero of Navgujarat Movement, had 'Navajivan and Satya' published and handed over to the Mahatma, after which the publication got a new name, Navajivan.

MIGRATION

New Study Sheds Light on Origins of Indo-European Languages

For decades, researchers have debated how Indo-European languages came to be spoken from the British Isles to South Asia.

File photo shows visitors walking at the UNESCO World Heritage site off Mohenjo Daro.

Now, a study of ancient human DNA shows the answer may lie with a mass migration of Bronze Age herders from the Eurasian Steppes, 5,000 years ago, westwards to Europe and east to Asia.

Vagheesh Narasimhan, co-author of the paper published in the journal Science, said the role of population movements over the past 10,000 years was key to understanding linguistic changes from hunter-gatherer activities to farming. "There's been a lot of DNA work, as well as archeological work, about both of these processes in Europe," the fellow at Harvard Medical School said.

A team of geneticists, archaeologists and anthropologists analysed the genomes of 524 ancient individuals from Central and South Asia. By comparing the genomes to one another, the team filled the gaps in our current understanding. The experts overcame challenges posed by the hot and humid climate to sequence a Bronze Age individual from South Asia.

The DNA belongs to a woman who lived four to five millennia ago buried at Rakhigarhi the biggest town of the Indus Valley Civilisation.

Based on their findings, the authors believe that modern South Asians are descended from the Harappan people who later mixed with steppe herders who migrated from the north.

TAXATION IN ANCIENT INDIA

Tax Codes Found in Verses of Ancient Indian Poet Kalidasa

IIM—A Professor's book elucidates economics in ancient India.

Meghadutam

Kalidasa, the great poet of ancient India, is renowned for turning a cloud into a messenger in his celebrated poem Meghadutam. But taxation seemed to be on his mind too as Kalidasa went on to compare the cloud to a government treasury in another of his epics, Raghuvamsham.

A portion reads; "Just as the Sun evaporates water, turns it into the form of clouds, and brings it in the following year in the form of rains for agriculture, so also government taxes people and brings it back in the form of public goods later."

This is one of several thoughts on economics explored by Satish Deodhar, professor of economics at Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A), in India's ancient literature authored before and after Chanakya's seminal work Arthashastra. Prof Deodhar's book **'Economic Sutra : Ancient Indian Antecedents to Economic Thought'** was published recently.

"The book was conceived during my student days. Prescribed books on economics authored by western economists and philosophers talk of Old Testament and Greek philosophers such as Plato and Aristotle but there was no mention of the Indian legacy," said Prof Deodhar. "I believed that in a country like India, with a history of more than 5,000 years, thoughts and discourses on economy must have taken place."

Chanakya's Arthshastra

History of India's contribution to economics is believed to be laid out first in Arthashastra around the 4th century BC. It covers economic policies of a nation along with statecraft and civil administration. "In that treatise too, Chanakya mentions that he owes his knowledge to sages and ancient literature—from Vedas to Mahabharata," said Prof Deodhar.

INTERNAL SECURITY

Greater Noida to House Country's First Central Police University

Key Highlights

- Centre give in-principle nod, 100 acres allotted to home ministry.
- The proposed university is being billed as one of the top achievements of the ministry in hundred days of the second Modi government.
- The university will offer undergraduate and post-graduate courses on policing.
- The university would be beneficial for all ranks in the force.

The country's first central police university will be set up by the Union Home Ministry off the Yamuna Expressway in Greater Noida. A ministry brochure said that the Centre had given in principle approval for the varsity and 100-acre plot had been identified in Sector Technozone for it.

The Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA) confirmed that the land had been allotted by the Centre at a cost of ₹ 372 crore.

According to an official GNIDA would provide all necessary support for the university.

The proposed university is being billed as one of the top 100 achievements of the ministry in 100 days of the second Modi government.

Courses

The university will offer undergraduate and post-graduate courses on policing, internal security, cyber-crime and forensic sciences. Sources said colleges from various states could be affiliated to this university. The country does not have a central university for police yet, though states like Rajasthan, Gujarat and Jharkhand have dedicated police varsities.

COURSES ON CYBERCRIME, FORENSIC SCIENCES

WHERE
Sector Techzone, Greater Noida

AREA	COST OF LAND
100 acres	**₹ 372 CRORE**

WHAT THE UNIVERSITY MAY HAVE

- UG and PG courses
- State-level colleges may be affiliated to it
- Focus on research and development
- Courses on policing, internal security, cybercrime and forensic sciences

Retired police officers welcomed the move, saying a central university would be beneficial for all ranks in the force, especially in the field of research and development. "Policing is an evolving social science. Social ethos determines the propensity of crime and currently, there is no emphasis on developing such society-oriented investigation and data collection. A central police university will help increase focus on developing skills and knowledge base related to behavioural sciences," said Sulkhan Singh, former DGP of Uttar Pradesh and former DG (training).

PALEONTOLOGY

Fossil of One of the World's Oldest Bird Species Discovered

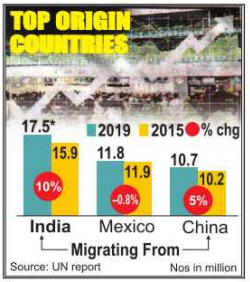
Scientists have discovered fossils of one of the world's oldest bird species in **New Zealand** that lived about 62 million years ago, soon after the dinosaurs died.

- Bony-toothed birds (Pelagornithids) an ancient family of huge seafaring birds were thought to have evolved in the Northern. Hemisphere—but that theory has been upended by the discovery of the family's old, but smallest member in North Canterbury, New Zealand.
- At 62 million-years-old, the newly-discovered Protodontopteryx ruthae, is one of the oldest named bird species in the world, the study published in the journal Papers in Palaeontology said. While its descendants were some of the biggest flying birds ever, with wingspans of more than five metres, Protodontopteryxruthae was only the size of an average gull, researchers said. Like other members of its family, the seabird had bony, tooth-like projec-tions on the edge of its beak, they said.
- The seabird fossil was identified by the same team that recently announced the discovery of a 1·6 metre-high giant penguin from the same site.

MIGRATION

At 17·5 Million, India Diaspora Remains Largest in the World

At 17·5 million, India's diaspora continues to be the largest in the world constituting 6·4% of the total world migrant population of 272 million in mid-2019.



While India's diaspora in absolute numbers has increased 10% from 15·9 million in 2015, as a share of total world migrant population, it's remained static, according to the UN's International Migrant Stock released on September 18, 2019. And it trails the 12% rise in total migrant population, which was 243 million in 2015.

UAE, US and Saudi Arabia with 3·4 million, 2·6 million and 2·4 million respectively were the top three destinations for Indians, according to **TOI's** analysis of the data. While the Gulf countries continue to have a high concentration of Indians, they've lost some of their drawing power, going by foreign ministry figures.

Indian Diaspora

As regards the Indian diaspora, more than 50,000 acquired US citizenship (a 10% rise over the previous year). Also 10,000 Indians acquired Canadian citizenship and 17,000 obtained British citizenship. These statistics showed a decline of 40% and 33% respectively.

ARCHAEOLOGY

New Study Connects Tamil Nadu with Indus Valley Civilization

Throwing new light on Tamil Nadu's possible connection and continuity with the Indus Valley Civilization (IVC) archaeological excavations at **Keezhadi**, on the periphery of Madurai, have yielded artefacts dating back to 580 BCE, some with graffiti marks similar to those believed to have evolved from the Indus script.

The findings of the fourth phase of excavations at Keezhadi, a sleepy village close to the **Vaigai** riverbed, released in a report of September 19, 2019 has the potential to alter the history of South India.

It also gives substance to a theory voiced by scholars and politicians in the state that Tamils may have descended from the Indus Valley civilization, as it declined and its people moved South.

The findings are also significant in that they provide material evidence to the Sangam period of Tamil literature, considered the golden era of Tamils. It further pushes the age of the Sangam period back to around 600 BCE, while it was previously considered to be between 200 BCE and 400 BCE. Further, of the more than 15,000 artefacts found on the site to date, none is of a religious nature, indicating that the civilization at Keezhadi had no interaction with Vedic culture.

Key Findings

- The excavation report gives substance to the theory that Tamils may have descended from the Indus Valley civilization, as it declined and its people moved South.
- The findings provide material evidence to the Sangam period of Tamil literature, considered the golden era of Tamils, and also push the age of the Sangam period back to around 600 BCE, while it was previously considered to be between 200 BCE and 400 BCE.
- Of the more than 15,000 artefacts found on the site so far, none is of a religious nature, indicating that the civilization at Keezhadi, on the periphery of Madurai, had to interaction with Vedic culture.

These could therefore contradict claims of some historians who have maintained that ancient Tamil culture and civilization was organically linked to the Vedic culture and civilization.

Carbon dating of artefacts was done at BETA Analytic Testing Laboratory, Florida, US while other experiments and analysis were carried out at the Geo-Sciences Department of University of Pisa, Italy and PG Research Institute, Deccan College, Pune.

Significant among the findings are pots and shards of pottery with Tamil Brahmi script, skeletal remains of animals, including that of a bull with a hump, gold ornaments, iron nails and spindles for weaving and a comb made of ivory besides sharp weapons made of bones. Further, the use of bricks and mortar as well as roof tiles in the construction of houses accompanied by proper drainage facilities and wells with terracotta rings indicate a sophisticated lifestyle the report says.

For the politicians of the Dravidian movement and some academicians, this new discovery is of great significance. Both, the former, who have claimed that IVC was Dravidian and the later, who subscribed to it, had to restrict themselves to theories in the absence of clinching archaeological evidence. One among them is professor Asko Parpola, leading Finnish Indologist for whom the Indus script is Dravidian. Now, Keezhadi which has offered more than thousand pieces of graffiti and letters, with some of them closely resembling the Indus script, may have provided just that sort of evidence.

More than anything else, the Keezhadi excavations shed new light in our understanding of the history and evolution of ancient Tamil society, says Sahitya Akademi awardee Su Venkatesan, who is the CPI(M) parliamentarian from Madurai.

GENEALOGY

Retracing Our Roots : Scientists Reconstruct Appearance of Denisovans, Our Ancient Relatives

We know what Neanderthals looked like. Now, thanks to ancient DNA, Israeli scientists have unveiled

the appearance of another of our ancient relatives. Few clues exist about the lives of the Denisovans–cousins of Neanderthals–who went extinct around 50,000 years ago : three teeth, a pinky bone, and a lower jaw.

But that was enough for researchers at Hebrew University in Jerusalem to recon-struct their appearance.

The mission was challenging according to Liran Carmel, one of the scientists leading the study. "It is difficult to start from DNA sequences and end up with an anatomical profile," he said.

If it were easy, cops around the world would be pulling DNA from crime scenes and drawing up profiles of the suspects he added.

Instead, his team reconstructed the appearance of the Denisovans after three years of examining the patterns of chemical changes in their ancient DNA. They then compared the motifs to those of the DNA of Neanderthals and modern man.

Using this method they highlighted 56 differences between the Denisovan and modern man and/or Neanderthals. "Denisovans are more similar to Neanderthals than to us because they are evolutionarily closer," he said.

TRAVEL

World's Largest Single-Building Terminal : Beijing's Mega Airport Opens Its Doors

Beijing's new $ 11·5 billion mega airport with the world's largest single-building terminal was inaugurated on September 25, 2019, less than a week ahead of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

The Beijing Daxing International Airport is touted as the world's largest airport by surface area. Designed by the Iraqi-born architect Zaha Hadid and located 46 km south of central Beijing, the airport with four runways is expected to handle-45 mn passengers annually by 2021, 72 mn by 2025, and 100 mn by 2040.

The airport spans 700,000 square metres, 630,000 flights are expected to operate annually, and parking space will be available for 150 aircraft.

PLACES IN THE NEWS

Chandigarh

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on September 20, 2019 presided over the 29th Northern Zonal Council meeting in Chandigarh. Representatives of member states of the Northern Zonal Council discussed drug addiction problem, water sharing, rehabilitation of dam oustees and other issues in the meeting.

Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Satya Pal Malik, Punjab Governor V.P. Singh Badnore, Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Himachal—Capt. Amarinder Singh, Manohar Lal Khattar, Ashok Gehlot and Jai Ram Thakur respectively, and Lt. Governor of Delhi Anil Baijal were among those who attended the meeting.

Bengaluru

Google on September 19, 2019 launched an 'Artificial Intelligence (AI) Research Lab in Bengaluru during its fifth edition of Google for India event. This lab in Bengaluru will tackle big technical problems. Google also made it clear that Manish Gupta, an SEM (Society for Experimental Mechanics) fellow would be the head of the lab.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

1. **Quichotte** —By Salman Rushdie.
   This novel of Rushdie is among six titles from around the world to be named on the shortlist of the 2019 Booker Prize for fiction released in London on September 3, 2019.
2. **Oh! Those Parsis; A to Z of the Parsi Way of Life**
   —By Berjis Desai, Zero Degree Publishing
3. **Air; Pollution, Climate Change and India's Choice between Policy and Pretence**
   —By Dean Spears, Harper Collins
4. **Days of My China Dragon**
   —By Chandrahas Chowdhary, Simon & Schuster
5. **Cosmos** —By Carl Sagan
6. **The Patient Assassin**
   —By Amita Anand, Simon & Schuster
7. **Patchwork Family**
   —By Mukta Sathe, Speaking Tiger Books
8. **Kuknalim : Naga Armed Resistance Movement**
   —By Nandita Haksar and Sebastian M Hungray, Speaking Tiger Books
9. **The Radiance of a Thousand Suns**
   —By Manpreet Sodhi Someshwar, Harper Collins
10. **The Prince** —By Samhita Ami, Juggernaut

IMPORTANT DAYS/WEEKS/YEARS

November - 2019

National Days

November	11	National Education Day (Birth Anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad)
November	14	Children's Day (Birth Anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru)
November	19	National Integration Day
November	26	National Law Day

International Days

November	5	World Tsunami Awareness Day
November	7	Infant Protection Day; World Cancer Awareness Day
November	9	Legal Service Day
November	10	World Science Day For Peace and Development
November	14	World Diabetes Day
November	21	World Fisheries Day, World Television Day

Employment And Career News

Staff Selection Commission

Invites online applications from eligible candidates for 'Stenographer Grade 'C' and 'D' Examination, 2019

Last Date for Submission of online Applications—October 18, 2019.

Age Limit (As on January 1, 2020)—(i) **Stenographer Grade 'C'** : Between 18 to 30 years.

(ii) **Stenographer Grade 'D'** : Between 18 to 27 years.

Relaxation in the upper age limit will be conceded as per the set government norms.

Essential Educational Qualifications—The candidates must have passed 12th standard or equivalent examination from a government approved Board or educational institution.

Scheme of Examination—There will be a computer-based written examination of Objective Type Multiple Choice questions only. The structure of computer based examination will be as follows :

Part	Subject	No. of Questions	Maximum Marks
I	General Intelligence & Reasoning	50	50
II	General Awareness	50	50
III	English Language and Comprehension	100	100

Successful candidates in the computer-based examination will be invited for 'Skill Test in Stenography'.

How to Apply—Applications are required to be submitted in online mode only at the official website of SSC headquarters *i.e.*,

https ://ssc.nic.in

Invites online applications from eligible candidates for 'Sub-Inspector in Delhi Police, CAPFs and Assistant Sub-Inspector in CISF Examination, 2019'.

Last Date for Submission of online Applications—October 16, 2019.

Age Limit—The age of the candidate should not be less than 20 years and not more than 25 years as on January 1, 2020. Relaxation in the upper age limit will be conceded as per the set government rules.

Essential Educational Qualifications—Educational qualification for all posts in the examination is Bachelor's degree from a government recognized university or equivalent.

Scheme of Examination—The examination will consist of Paper-I, Physical Standard Test (PST)/ Physical Endurance Test (PET), Paper-II and Detailed Medical Examination

FORTHCOMING COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS

2019

Haryana S.S.C. PGT Exam. (Oct.-Nov.)
Uttarakhand High Court, Nainital Civil Court Group 'D' Recruitment Exam., 2019 (13 Oct.)
IBPS Bank POs/MTs Preliminary Exam., 2019 (12, 13, 19 & 20 Oct.)
Army Public School Screening Exam., 2019 (PGT, TGT & PRT) (19-20 Oct.)
State Bank of India Specialist Officers Exam. (Online) (20 Oct.)
L.I.C. Assistant Recruitment Exam., 2019 (Online) (21-22 Oct.)
DSSSB Lower Division Clerk Exam. (24-25 Oct.)
State Level National Talent Search Exam. (NTSE) 2019-20 (For Class X) (3 Nov.)
State Level National Mean-cum-Merit Scholarship Exam., 2019-20 (For Class VIII) (3 Nov.)
Uttarakhand High Court Junior Assistant & Stenographer/ Personal Assistant Exam., 2019
(Online Closing Date : 15 Oct., 2019) (3 Nov.)
UPSSSC Junior Assistant (General Selection) Exam., 2019 (3 Nov.)
Uttarakhand Teacher Eligibility Test I & II 2019 (6 Nov.)
Bihar Secondary Teacher Eligibility Test (STET) 2019 (7 Nov.)
Reserve Bank of India Officer Grade 'B' Exam., 2019 (Phase-I) (9 Nov.)
SSC Multi-Tasking (Non-Technical) Staff Exam., 2019 (Tier-II-Descriptive Paper) (17 Nov.)
National Defence Academy & Naval Academy Exam., (I) 2019 (17 Nov.)
Uttar Pradesh Vidyagyan School Entrance Pre. Exam., 2019
(Online Closing Date : 15 Oct., 2019) (24 Nov.)
SSC Junior Hindi Translator Junior Translator, Senior Hindi Translator & Hindi Pradhyapak Exam., 2019 (Paper-I) (26 Nov.)
IBPS Bank POs/MTs (Main) Exam., 2019 (30 Nov.)
Uttarakhand Subordinate Services Commission Agriculture Officer Category-3 (Group C) Direct Recruitment Exam. (Dec.)
Reserve Bank of India Officer Grade 'B' Exam., 2019 (Phase-II) (1 Dec.)
UGC-NET/JRF Exam. (Dec. 2019) (2-6 Dec.)
Central Teacher Eligibility Test (CTET) Dec. 2019 (8 Dec.)
IBPS Bank Clerical Cadre Recruitment Exam. (Online) (7, 8, 14 & 21 Dec.)
Central Armed Police Forces/Delhi Police Sub-Inspector Exam. and CISF Assistant Sub-Inspector Exam., 2019
(Online Closing Date : 18 Oct., 2019) (11-13 Dec.)
NTA CSIR-UGC NET/JRF Exam. Dec. 2019 (15 Dec.)

2020

All India Sainik Schools Entrance Exam., 2020 (For Class VI & IX) (5 Jan.)
IBPS Bank Clerical Main Exam., 2019 (19 Jan.)
Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Entrance Exam., 2019 (Class VI) (11 Jan.)
SSC Stenographer Grade 'C' & 'D' Exam., 2019 (Online)
(Online Closing Date : 18 Oct., 2019) (5-7 May)

(DME). All these stages of the examination are mandatory.

Part	Subject	No. of Questions Maximum Marks
I	General Intelligence & Reasoning	50/50
II	General Knowledge & General Awareness	50/50
III	Quantitative Aptitude	50/50
IV	English Comprehension	50/50

Questions in Paper-I and Paper-II will be of Objective Multiple Choice Type.

How to Apply—Applications are required to be submitted in online mode only at the official webiste of SSC headquarters *i.e.,*

https ://ssc.nic.in

Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board

Invites online applications from eligible male candidates for recruitment to the posts of 'Fire Operator' in Delhi Fire Service department.

Last Date for Submission of online Applications—November 6, 2019.

Age Limit—27 years. Relaxation will be given as per the norms.

Essential Educational Qualifications—Candidates must have passed 'Matric Standard' from a government recognized Board or equivalent. Candidates should also possess valid license for driving heavy duty vehicles.

Number of Vacancies—706.

Mode of Selection—The selection shall be made through one Tier examination scheme and Physical Endurance Test (PET). There will be a written examination, comprising 200 Multiple Choice Objective Type Questions of one mark each.

How to Apply—Candidates must apply online through the website

http://dsssbonline.nic.in

For more details log onto the website :

http://dsssb.delhi.gov.in

Invites online applications from eligible candidates for recruitment to the posts of Assistant Teacher (Primary), Assistant Teacher (Nursery) and J.E. (Civil)

Last Date for Submission of online Applications—October 15, 2019.

Age Limit—The age of the candidate should not exceed 30 years. Relaxations in the upper age limit will be given as per the government norms.

Essential Educational Qualifications—

1. Assistant Teacher (Primary) :

(1) Senior Secondary (or its equivalent) with at least 50% marks and 2-years' Diploma in elementary education (by whatever name known) from a recognized Board.

Or

Senior Secondary (or its equivalent) with at least 45% marks and 2-years' Diploma in elementary education (by whatever name known) in accordance with the NCTE (recognition norms and prcedure) regulations-2002.

Or

Senior Secondary (or its equivalent) with at least 50% marks and 4-years' Bachelor of elementary education (B.El.Ed.).

Or

Senior Secondary (or its equivalent) with at least 50% marks and 2-years' Diploma in Education (special education) from a recognized Board.

Or

Graduation and 2-years' Diploma in elementary education (by whatever name known) from a recognized Board.

(2) Pass in the Central Teacher Eligibility Test (CTET) conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

(3) Must have passed Hindi or Urdu or Punjabi or English as a subject at Secondary Level.

2. Assistant Teacher (Nursery) :

(1) Senior Secondary School (Class Twelve) certificate or Intermediate or its equivalent with atleast 45% marks from a recognized Board/University.

(2) Diploma/Certificate in Nursery Teacher Education programme for a duration of not less than two years or B.Ed. (Nursery) from a recognized institute.

(3) Must have passed Hindi at Secondary Level.

3. Junior Engineer (Civil) : Degree in Civil Engineering from a recognized university.

Mode of Selection—The selection shall be made through one Tier/Two Tier examination.

How to Apply—Candidates must apply online through the website

http://dsssbonline.nic.in

For more details log onto the website :

http://dsssb.delhi.gov.in

Jharkhand Staff Selection Commission

Invites online applications from eligible candidates for 'Jharkhand General Graduate Level Combined Competitive Examination, 2019.

Last Date for Registration of online Applications—October 17, 2019.

Essential Educational Qualification—Candidates must possess a Bachelor's degree or equivalent from a government recognized university or educational institution.

Scheme of Examination—The examination will comprise two phases—Preliminary examination and Main examination. All the examinations will carry Objective Type Multiple Choice Questions only. There will be one paper of total 120 questions in the Preliminary examination. Successful candidates in the Preliminary examination will be invited to the Main examination.

How to Apply—Candidates can submit their online applications using the commission's website

www.jssc.nic.in

Uttarakhand Subordinate Service Selection Commission

Invites online applications for recruitment to the posts of 'Junior Assistant' and 'Stenographer/Personal Assistant'.

Last Date for Submission of online Applications—October 15, 2019.

Continued on Page 56

Sports World

CRICKET

India Red Clinches Duleep Trophy 2019-20

India Red emerged champion of the Duleep Trophy 2019-20, beating India Green by an innings and 38 runs on the fourth day of the final at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on September 7, 2019.

India Green scored 231 runs in its first innings of the final. India Red in reply scored 388 runs and took a 157-run lead on India Green which performed poorly in its second innings and scored only 119 runs. Thus India Red registered an innings and 38 runs victory to lift the Duleep Trophy 2019-20.

Apart from the two finalists, India Blue was the third team of this domestic cricket tournament. Priyank Panchal was the captain of the champion team while Faiz Fazal and Shubman Gill were the captains of India Green and India Blue respectively.

South Africa-India Bilateral T20I Series Ends Into A Draw

Three match South Africa-India Bilateral T20 International Series ended into draw (1-1) as South Africa registered a thumping nine wickets victory over India in the third and final T20I match of the series to level the series 1-1.

Batting first India set a modest target of 135 runs before South Africa in the third match on September 22, 2019 at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru. In reply South African Skipper Quinton de Kock's majestic 79 runs innings helped his team win the game easily by nine wickets with 19 balls to spare.

The first T20I match of the Series was abandoned due to heavy rain in Dharamshala on September 15.

India won the second T20 International match by seven wickets with six balls to spare on September 18, 2019 in Mohali to take a 1–0 lead in the Series.

Quinton de Kock, the South African Skipper was adjudged the Player of the Series. Virat Kohli was the captain of Indian team.

India Wins Under-19 Asia Cup Cricket Crown

India emerged champion of the under-19 Asia Cup Cricket Crown as it defeated Bangladesh by five runs in the closely-fought final on September 14, 2019 at the R. Premadasa Stadium in Colombo. India set a just 107-run target before Bangladesh to clinch the title. But India successfully defended it with phenomenal bowling performance from its left-arm spinner Atharva Ankolekar who scalped five wickets for just 28 runs and derailed Bangladesh's target hunt.

Dhruv Jurel was the skipper of the Indian team while Akbar Ali led the Bangladeshi team as captain.

TENNIS

US Open 2019

The 2019 US Open, fourth and final Tennis 'Grand Slam' tournament of the year was organized from August 26 to September 8, 2019 at the hard court of flushing meadows at Sir Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York. It was the 139th edition of the US Open.

Rafael Nadal and Bianca Andreescu : US Open 2019 Singles Champions.

Rafael Nadal of Spain emerged Champion of the 2019 US Open Men's Singles title as he outplayed Russia's Daniil Medvedev 7-5, 6-3, 5-7, 4-6, 6-4 in a closely-fought final on September 8, 2019 at the Arthur Ashe Stadium, New York. It was Nadal's fourth US Open Singles Crown as he had captured it in 2010, 2013 and 2017 before this one. Nadal received a glittering US Open trophy and the prize money worth $ 3·85 million for this title triumph. At 33, Nadal is the second oldest US Open (Men's) champion after Ken Rosewall who was 35 when he clinched it in 1970.

It was Nadal's 19th Grand Slam Singles title triumph and he is now one title shy of Roger Federer's all-time Men's Singles Grand Slam title record of 20 titles so far. It was Nadal's second Grand Slam title of the year as he had won his 12th French Open Singles title in June, this year.

Nadal pipped Italy's Matteo Berrettini in the semifinal while Medvedev prevailed over Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgharia.

Teenager Bianca Andreescu outplayed US tennis star Serena Williams 6-3, 7-5 in the final on September 7 to clinch the US Open Women's Singles title, becoming Canada's first Grand Slam Singles Champion.

Andreescu defeated Belinda Bencic in the semifinal while Serena outplayed Elina Svitolina of Ukraine in another semifinal. It was Andreescu's maiden Grand Slam final appearance.

Juan Sebastian Cabal and Robert Farah of Colombia clinched the US Open Men's Doubles title, beating Marcel Granollers of Spain and Horacio Zeballos of Argentina 6-4, 7-5 in the final.

Nadal's Grand Slam Titles (Singles)

Australian Open	—	2009
French Open	—	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018, 2019
Wimbledon Open	—	2008, 2010
US Open	—	2010, 2013, 2017, 2019

Top Five Men's Singles Grand Slam Title Winners (Till US Open 2019)					
Champions	Total	Australian Open	French Open	Wimbledon	US Open
Roger Federer	20	6	1	8	5
Rafael Nadal	19	1	12	2	4
Novak Djokovic	16	7	1	5	3
Pete Sampras	14	2	—	7	5
Roy Emerson	12	6	2	2	2

US Open 2019 : Results in Brief			
Event/Category	Winner	Runner-Up	Score
Men's Singles	Rafael Nadal (Spain)	Daniil Medvedev (Russia)	7-5, 6-3, 5-7, 4-6, 6-4
Women's Singles	Bianca Andreescu (Canada)	Serena Williams (USA)	6-3, 7-5
Men's Doubles	Juan Sebastian Cabal & Robert Farah (Both of Colombia)	Marcel Granollers (Spain) & Horacio Zeballos (Argentina)	6-4, 7-5
Women's Doubles	Elise Mertens (Belgium) & Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus)	Victoria Azarenka (Belarus) & Ashleigh Barty (Australia)	7-5, 7-5
Mixed Doubles	Jamie Murray (Britain) & Bethanie Mattek Sands (The USA)	Michael Venus (New Zealand) and Chan Hao-Ching (Chinese Taipei)	6-2, 6-3

In Women's Doubles final, Elise Mertens of Belgium and Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus emerged victorious to lift the title as they outplayed Victoria Azarenka of Belarus and Ashleigh Barty of Australia 7-5, 7-5 in the final.

Jamie Murray of Great Britain and Bethanie Mattek-Sands of the USA clinched the US Open Mixed Doubles title, beating Michael Venus of New Zealand and Chan Hao-Ching of Chinese Taipei 6-2, 6-3 in the final.

Naomi Osaka Wins Pan Pacific Open, 2019

Japan's Naomi Osaka clinched the WTA Pan Pacific Open Singles title on September 22, 2019 in Tokyo, beating Russia's Anastasia Pavlyuchen Kova 6-2, 6-3, in the summit clash. It is Osaka's first title since the Australian Open in January, this year.

She also became the first Japanese player to win the Pan Pacific title since Kimiko Date in 1995.

Europe Retains Laver Cup, 2019

Team Europe successfully defended its Laver Cup tennis title as it defeated Team World 13-11 on September 22, 2019 in Geneva. After Roger Federer secured a must-win victory for Team Europe, his teammate Alexander Zuerev ensured the Laver Cup title triumph for Europe by winning the final title-deciding super-tiebreaker rubber against Milos Raonic of Team World. After Roger's victory over John Isner of Team World, Zverev defeated Raonic 6-4, 3-6, 10-4 in the title deciding match and won the Laver Cup for Europe.

Laver Cup Champion European Team in Geneva.

Bjorn Borg was the captain of Team. Europe While John McEnroe was the captain of Team World.

- Laver Cup is a men's team tennis tournament played between two teams-Team Europe and Team World.
- It was the third edition of Laver Cup in 2019 and Europe won its third title in a row.

BADMINTON

Sourabh Clinches Vietnam Open Badminton Title

India's Sourabh Verma registered a thrilling three-game win over China's Sun Fei Xiang in the final to emerge champion of the $ 75,000 Vietnam Open BWF Tour Super 100 badminton tournament at Ho Chi Minh City on September 15, 2019.

Second seed Sourabh, who won the Hyderabad Open and Slovenian International earlier this year, recovered from a mid-game slump to beat Sun Fei 21-12, 17-21, 21-14 in the summit clash which lasted an hour and 12 minutes.

Sourabh outplayed Japan's Minoru Koga 22-10, 21-15 in the semifinal to set his encounter against Sun Fei for the title.

Lakshya Sen Wins Belgian International Challenges Singles Title

India's Lakshya Sen clinched the Belgian International Challenge Badminton Men's Singles title, beating second seed Victor Svendsen of Denmark 21-14, 21-15 in the final on September 14, 2019 at Leuven, Belgium.

China Open Badminton Championship, 2019

Triple World Champion Carolina Marin of Spain retained her China Open Women's Singles title with a 14-21, 21-17, 21-18 victory over second seed Tai Tzu-Ying of Taiwan in the summit clash on September 22, 2019 in Changzhou, China. Marin defeated Sayaka Takahashi of Japan in the semifinal of the China Open while Tai Tzu prevailed over local girl Chen Yufei in another semi final to set her title clash with Marin.

Japan's Kento Momota clinched the China Open Men's Singles title as he pipped Anthony Sinisuka Ginting of Indonesia 19-21, 21-17, 21-19 in the final to lift the title.

In an all Chinese final, Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong defeated Wang Yilyu and Huang Dongping 21-17, 13-21, 21-16 to win the China Open Mixed Doubles title.

The China Open Women's Doubles title also went to China when Chinese pair of Jia Yifan and Chen Qingchen defeated second seeded Japanese pair of Misaki Matsutomo and Ayaka Takahashi 21-14, 21-18 in the final to lift the title.

Marcus Fernaldi Gideon and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo of Indonesia lived up to their top seeding, winning the China Open Men's Doubles title after a 21-18, 17-21, 21-15 victory in the final over compatriot duo Mohammad Ahsan and Hendra Setiawan.

Korea Open Badminton Championship, 2019

Kento Momota of Japan won the Korea Open Badminton Men's Singles title, beating Chou Tien-Chen of Taiwan 21-19, 21-17 in the final on September 29, 2019 in Seoul.

In Women's Singles final of the Korea Open, China's He Bingjiao pipped Ratchanok Intanon of Thailand 18-21, 24-22, 21-17 to lift the title.

Korean pair of Kim So-yeong and Kong Hee-yong emerged champion of the Korea Open Women's Doubles title, beating compatriot duo Lee So-hee and Shin Seung chan 13-21, 21-19, 21-17 in the final.

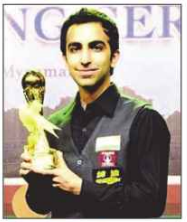
Indonesian pair of Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto clinched the Men's Doubles title of the Korea Open Badminton Championship, beating Japanese duo Takeshi Kamura and Keigo Sonoda 21-16, 21-17 in the final.

Thai pair of Dechapol Puavaranukroh and Sapsiree Taerattanachai won the Korea Open Mixed Doubles title, beating Chinese combination of Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong 21-14, 21-13 in the final.

BILLIARDS/ SNOOKER

Pankaj Advani Retains the IBSF World Billiards Championship 150-up Format Title, 2019

India's star Cueist Pankaj Advani continued his dominance in world billiards as he clinched his fourth consecutive world billiards title in the 150-up format at the IBSF World Billiards Championship on September 15, 2019 at Mandalay, Myanmar.



Pankaj Advani

In a repeat of the last year's final in terms of finalists and result of the final Advani defeated Nay Thway Oo of Myanmar 6-2 in the best of 11 frame title clash.

It was Advani's seventh title triumph in this format of IBSF World Billiards Championship and his 22nd World title overall. Advani has won at least one global event every year since 2014.

Laxman Rawat Wins World 6-Red Snooker Title

India's Laxman Rawat clinched the world 6-Red Snooker title, as he pipped Muhammad Asif of Pakistan 6-5 in the best of 11 frames final on September 21, 2019 in Mandalay, Myanmar.

In the women's final, Wongharuthai Nutcharat of Thailand defeated India's Amee Kamani 4-2 to clinch the title.

Pankaj Advani and Aditya Mehta Win IBSF World Snooker Team Championship

Indian duo Pankaj Advani and Aditya Mehta emerged champion of the IBSF World Snooker Team title as they prevailed over Thai team 5-2 in the summit clash on September 25, 2019 in Mandalay, Myanmar.

It is Advani's 23rd world title overall while Aditya claimed his maiden world event. For Advani, this title triumph has ensured that his name is now there on every IBSF world title on offer.

ATHLETICS

Kamworor Wins Copenhagen Half Marathon With A World Record

Kenya's Geoffrey, Kamworor sliced 17 seconds off the World half marathon record at the Copenhagen Half Marathon on September 15, 2019 as he won in 58 minutes 01 seconds in Copenhagen. Kamworor improved on the 58:18s record set in Valencia last year by another Kenyan Abraham Kiptum. Kamworor clearly likes the Danish capital as it was the scene of the first of his three World half marathon titles. Birhane Dibaba Adugna of Ethiopia won the women's race in 1:05:57s in Copenhagen taking almost two minutes off her lifetime best.

Sebastian Coe Re-elected As IAAF Chief, Adille Sumariwalla Re-elected Member of IAAF Council

Britain's **Sebastian Coe** was re-elected unopposed on September 25, 2019 as president of the IAAF for a second term. Coe, 62, the former Olympic and world champion middle-distance runner, was named head of the governing body of world athletics in 2015.

Coe, who took over the reins during a period of turmoil in world athletics, was re-elected by unanimous vote of the 203 delegates attending the International Association of Athletics Federations' Congress in Doha.

Athletics Federation of India (AFI) President Adille Sumariwalla was also re-elected as the member of the IAAF Council for a second four-year term. He received 121 votes to get elected as one of the 13 individual members of the IAAF Council.

Berlin Marathon 2019 : Ethiopian Athletes Sweep Titles

Ethiopian Kenenisa Bekele won his second Berlin marathon on September 29, 2019 in a time of two hours one minute and 41 seconds, just two seconds short of the World record.

Compatriots Birhanu Legese and Sisay Lemma finished second and third. Ashete Bekere, also from Ethiopia, won the Berlin Marathon's Women's race in 2:20:14s. Compatriot Mare Dibaba finished runner-up in the women's event.

CHESS

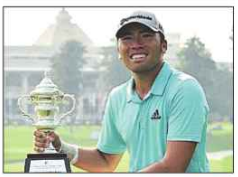
Koneru Humpy Wins First Leg of FIDE Women's Grand Prix Series At Skolkovo

Indian Chess prodigy Koneru Humpy won the first leg of the FIDE Women's Grand Prix Series after finishing her campaign unbeaten on September 22, 2019 at Skolkovo, Russia. Humpy played the final round a draw, which was needed for her success, against the reigning world champion and top seed Ju Wenjun of China. Third seed Humpy recorded five wins and six draws to finish with eight points from 11 rounds in the tournament.

GOLF

Rory Hie Clinches Classic Golf and Country Club International Championship

Rory Hie of Indonesia clinched the $ 300,000 Classic Golf and Country Club International Championship on September 15, 2019 at Gurugram, India as he registered a two-shot victory over Rashid Khan of India and Byung Jun Kim of South Korea who shared the runner-up position in the tournament.



Rory with the trophy on September 15.

It was Hie's maiden professional golf title, fetching him a glittering trophy and a prize money worth $ 54,000. Hie carded four-under 68 in the final round to score a tally of 21-under 267 to clinch the title.

FORMULA-1 RACE

Charles Leclerc Wins Belgian Grand Prix, 2019

Charles Leclerc of the Ferrari team won his maiden formula one race on September 1, 2019 when he won the Belgian Grand Prix at Spa-Fracorchamps. Leclerc was also the pole position holder in the race. He pipped Lewis Hamilton in a close-fight.

Leclerc dedicated his maiden Formula One victory at Belgian GP to his late friend, Anthoine Hubert.

Charles Leclerc Wins Italian GP, 2019

Charles Leclerc of Ferrari team emerged winner of the Italian Grand Prix, 2019 on September 8, 2019 at Monza as he outclassed Valtteri Bottas of Mercedes team in a very close contest. It is Leclerc's second F1 victory of his career. He won his maiden F1 race last week on September 1 in Belgium. Lewis Hamilton secured third position in the race. Leclerc held the pole position in the Italian GP.

Sebastian Vettel Wins Singapore GP, 2019

Sebastian Vettel of Germany emerged the winner of the Singapore Grand Prix, 2019 on September 22, 2019 in Singapore, ending his year-long wait for F1 victory. Vettel finished the Singapore GP in 01 hour, 58 minutes and 33·667 seconds. He was 2·641 seconds faster than runner-up and his Ferrari teammate Charles Leclerc who was the pole position holder at Singapore. Red Bull team's Max Verstappen finished third in the race.

It was Vettel's fifth victory in the Singapore GP.

Lewis Hamilton Wins Russian Grand Prix, 2019

Taking a giant stride towards his sixth Formula One World Championship, Mercedes' F1 driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain won the Russian Grand Prix, 2019 on September 29, 2019 at Sochi, Russia. He defeated his teammate and runner-up Valtteri Bottas by 3·829 seconds as he completed the race in 01 hour, 33 minutes and 38·992 seconds.

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc was the pole position holder in the Russia GP.

MISCELLANEOUS

Spain Wins Basketball World Cup, 2019

Spain defeated Argentina 95-75 in the final on September 15, 2019 in Beijing to clinch the Basketball World Cup, 2019. It is Spain's second basketball world title as it had been the champion in 2006 also. Ricky Rubio (25 points), Sergio Llull (15) and Marc Gasol (14) played key roles in the final for Spain's title triumph. Spain pipped Australia in the semifinal.

France defeated Australia 67-59 in the third place play-off to secure third position and bronze medal in the world for second successive time.

Panda Chosen the Mascot for Beijing Winter Olympics, 2022

China has chosen its most iconic animal—the panda—to be the official mascot of the Beijing Winter Olympics in 2022, the Winter Games organising committee announced on September 17, 2019. The mascot, named **"Bing Dwen Dwen,"** is a chubby giant panda wearing a suit of ice. The black and white bear has a "heart of gold and a love of all things winter sports," tweeted the Beijing Organising Committee for the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. For the 2022 Paralympic Winter Games, the mascot is a blushing red lantern named **"Shuey Rhon Rhon."** Beijing will be the first city to host both summer and winter Games, after winning the bid in 2015, beating underdog Almaty. Beijing hosted the summer Olympics in 2008.

Memorable Points

National

- Who has been appointed the new Chief of the IAF ? **➞ Air Marshal RKS Bhadauria**
  - ☞ The Centre government on September 19, 2019 appointed Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria as the 26th Chief of the Indian Air Force. He succeeds incumbent Air Chief Marshal B. S. Dhanoa as the Chief of IAF. Bhadauria, having more than 4,250 hours of flying experience on 26 types of fighter and transport aircraft, was a Chief test pilot for 'Tejas'. He will have a two-year tenure as the IAF Chief.
- Who has been elected chairman of the ABC for 2019-20 ? **➞ Madhukar Kamath**
  - ☞ Madhukar Kamath, Chairman Emeritus of DDB Mudra Pvt. Ltd., was unanimously elected Chairman of the Aubit Bureau of Circulation (ABC) for 2019-20 on September 20, 2019 in the 71st annual meeting of ABC. He has over four decades of experience in advertising and marketing. Devendra V. Darda of Lokmat Media Pvt. Ltd. was elected Deputy Chairman of the ABC. The ABC is a non-profit body that certifies and audits the circulations of major publications, including newspapers and magazines in India.
- Who has been elected the President of the INS for 2019-20 ? **➞ Shailesh Gupta**
  - ☞ Shailesh Gupta of Mid-Day newspaper was elected the President of the Indian Newspaper Society (INS) for 2019-20 at its 80th annual general meeting in Bengaluru on September 25, 2019. Shailesh Gupta succeeds Jayant Mammen Mathew of Malayala Manorama as the Chief of the INS, an apex body of the print media in India. Founded in 1939, the INS is the central organisation that promotes and safeguards the business interests of its member publications. L. Adimoolam of 'Health and the Antiseptic' was elected as the Deputy President of the INS while Anand Bazar Patrika's DD Purkayastha became Vice-President of the body.
- India recently successfully flight-tested the 'Astra' missile. The Astra is **➞ An air-to-air missile**
  - ☞ India on September 17, 2019 successfully flight-tested its indigenously developed air-to-air missile 'Astra' from Sukhoi-30 MKI off the coast of Odisha as a part of the user trials by the Indian Air Force. Designed by the DRDO, the beyond visual range Astra missile has a strike range of over 70 kms, engaging targets of different ranges and attitudes. It can fly towards the target at a speed of over 5,555 km per hour.
- Which film won the top honour of 'Best film' in the 20th IIFA Awards, 2019 ? **➞ Raazi**
  - ☞ 'Raazi', a Hindi movie based on India-Pakistan rivalry won the top honour of the 20th International Indian Film Academy Awards, 2019 by winning the Best film honour on September 18, 2019 at a glittering ceremony in Mumbai. Raazi directed by Meghna Gulzar is a story of an Indian female spy. Actress Alia Bhatt played the leading role of spy in the film. She won the best actress honour also for her role in Raazi. Ranveer Singh was honoured with the best actor honour for his leading role in 'Padmaavat'.
- What is India's rank on the Economic Freedom of the World Report, 2019 ? **➞ 79th rank**
  - ☞ The Economic Freedom of the World Report, 2019 based on economic freedom of 162 countries across the globe was released on September 13, 2019 by Fraser Institute of Canada and Centre for Civil Society, India. It placed India on 79th position, pointing out India's good improvement in economic freedom since 2018 report in which India was placed on 96th position. India's rank is much better than that of China (113th position) which is a major economy of the world, on the economic freedom report. Hong Kong and Singapore retained their first and second ranks respectively as the most free economies.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Commissioned INS Khanderi which is a **➞ Scorpene-class submarine**
  - ☞ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on September 28, 2019 commissioned the second Scorpene-class submarine INS Khanderi into the Indian Navy at the Mazagon Docks, Mumbai. INS Khanderi is the second Scorpene Class submarine built by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders under the P-75 project. The first of India's P-17 Shivalik-class frigate 'Nilgiri' and the aircraft carrier drydock were also commissioned into the Navy at the ceremony. INS Kalvari was the first Scorpene-class submarine commissioned into the navy in 2017.
- Which team emerged champion of the 25th Senior Women's National Football Championship title ? **➞ Manipur**
  - ☞ Defending champion Manipur emerged champion of the 25th Senior Women's National Football Championship as it pipped Railways 1-0 in the summit clash on September 24, 2019 in Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh. Bala Devi scored the lone goal of the final to help Manipur retain the title. It was Manipur's 20th title of senior women's national football event. Railways' Sanju was adjudged the Player of the tournament.

International

- Who has been named the new NSA of the US by President Donald Trump ? **➞ Robert O' Brien**
  - ☞ US President Donald Trump on September 18, 2019 named Robert O' Brien as the 'National Security Adviser (NSA) of the USA. He succeeds John Bolton on this post as President Trump removed him after sharp differences on many policies and issues. Mr. O' Brien is the fourth person to hold the post of NSA in the Trump administration. He is an attorney from Los Angeles and a foreign policy expert. He has also served as an alternative representative of the USA to the UN General Assembly in 2005.
- Who has been selected as the new Managing Director of the IMF ? **➞ Kristalina Georgieva**
  - ☞ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on September 25, 2019 formally selected Bulgarian economist and a former World Bank Chief Executive Officer Kristalina Georgieva as the new Managing Director (MD) of the IMF. Kristalina, the sole candidate for the top post of the IMF succeeds Christine Lagarde on this post. Lagarde was the first woman chief of the IMF and her successor Kristalina is the second female head of the 189-member global financial body. The head of the IMF has traditionally been a European since the IMF was created in 1945. Kristalina is also from Europe.
- Which film has been selected as India's official entry in the International Feature Film Category at the 92nd Oscar awards ? **➞ Gully Boy**
  - ☞ 'Gully Boy' directed by Zoya Akhtar was selected as India's official entry in the International Feature Film Category at the 92nd Academy Awards, popularly known as the Oscar, on September 21, 2019. The film is based on the struggle of an aspiring rapper, the role played by Ranveer Singh. Eminent actor-filmmaker Aparna Sen chaired the jury which decided on India's official entry to the Oscars, 2020. Gully Boy pipped 26 other movies in contention including *'Andhadhun', Article 15, Badhaai Ho, Anandi Gopal, Baba* and others.
- Which environmental activist got Amnesty International's Ambassador of Conscience Award ? **➞ Greta Thunberg**
  - ☞ Swedish environmental activist Greta Thunberg and 'The Fridays for Future Youth Movement' were honoured with the Amnesty International's Ambassadors of Conscience award on September 16, 2019 at the George Washington University, Washington. Thunberg and the Fridays movement got the honours for their work highlighting the need for urgent action to avert climate change crisis. Thunberg has been working in numerous parts of the world to spread awareness about global warming and climate change as threats to humans and has been asking world leaders to take concrete actions in this direction.
- Who has been honoured with the FIFA Men's Player of the Year award, 2019 ? **➞ Lionel Messi**
  - ☞ Barcelona forward Lionel Messi from Argentina was honoured with the prestigious FIFA Men's Player of the Year award on September 23, 2019 in Milan. He secured 46 ranking points to beat two other finalists—Virgil Van Dijk of the Netherlands and Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal to win the honour. It was Messi's sixth FIFA Player of the Year honour. Megan Rapinoe of the USA won her maiden FIFA Women's Player of the year honour, beating her teammate Alex Morgan and Lucy Bronze of England. Messi and his arch rival Ronaldo have dominated the top FIFA honour since 2008, with their string of honours only interrupted by Luka Modric in 2018.
- Which country emerged on top of the IMD World Digital Competitiveness Ranking, 2019 ? **➞ The USA**
  - ☞ The USA was adjudged the most digitally competitive economy of the world as it emerged on top of the IMD World Digital Competitiveness Rankings, 2019 released in September 2019. Singapore and Sweden secured second and third positions respectively on the list of digitally competitive economies based on 63 nations of the world. India was placed on 44th rank this year, improving its position by four places as it was ranked 48th in 2018 ranking. The Ranking measures the capacity and readiness of nations to adopt and explore digital technologies as a key driver for economic transformation in business, government and wider society.
- Who emerged champions of the US Open Singles titles, 2019 ? **➞ Rafael Nadal (Men's) and Bianca Andreescu (Women's)**
  - ☞ Spain's Rafael Nadal clinched the US Open Men's Singles title, 2019 as he pipped Daniil Madvedev of Russia 7-5, 6-3, 5-7, 4-6, 6-4 in the summit clash on September 8, 2019 at the Arthur Ashe Stadium, New York. It was Nadal's fourth US Open crown after his titles in 2010, 2013 and 2017 before this one in 2019. It was his 19th Grand Slam Singles title overall. Bianca Andreescu became the first Canadian to clinch a Grand Slam Singles crown when she clinched the US Open Women's Singles title with a 6-3, 7-5 victory in the final on Serena Williams of the USA. It was Andreescu's maiden Grand Slam final appearance.
- Which team emerged champion of the Solheim Cup this year ? **➞ Europe**
  - ☞ Europe emerged champion of the Solheim Cup with a thrilling 14·5-13·5 victory over the USA on September 15, 2019 at Gleneagles. It was Europe's sixth Solheim Cup title victory as it had won it in 1992, 2000, 2003, 2011 and 2013 before this one in 2019. Catriona Matthew was the captain of the European team while Juli Inkster led the US team as skipper. The Solheim Cup is a biennial golf tournament for professional women golfers contested between two teams—The USA and Europe. It was the 16th edition of this premier golf event in 2019.

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Economic Scenario

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- *Indian Economy Loses ₹ 1·17 Trillion Due to Smuggling*

RBI Makes it Mandatory for Banks to Link Retail, SME Loans to External Benchmark

With a view to allowing faster transmission of rate cuts to consumers, the Reserve Bank of India on September 4, 2019 said banks must mandatorily link retail and SME loans to an external benchmark from October 1, 2019 :

- The central bank observed that due to various reasons, the transmission of policy rate changes to the lending rate of banks under the MCLR framework had not been satisfactory.
- Existing loans and credit limits linked to the MCLR/base rate/BPLR will continue till repayment or renewal.
- Interest rate under external benchmark will be reset at least once in three months.
- Banks are free to choose one of the several benchmarks. However, a lender cannot adopt multiple benchmarks within a loan category.
- All new retail and MSME loans shall be linked to one of the following benchmarks :
  - Reserve Bank of India policy repo rate.
  - Government of India 3-months Treasury Bill yield published by the Financial Benchmarks India.
  - Government of India 6-months Treasury Bill yield published by the FBIL.
  - Any other benchmark market interest rate published by the FBIL.

Government's Holdings in PSU Banks are on Rising Trajectory

The Centre's holdings in public sector banks have seen steep ₹ 1·6 lakh crore erosion in value over the past five years, even as it pumped in a massive ₹ 2·5 lakh crore of capital into these banks. But aside from costing the Centre dearly, the huge capital infusion has also led to a peculiar situation.

Over the past five years, the stake of the government in many PSBs has shot up from 60-70 per cent to over 90 per cent. **Year after year, the government has been issuing shares in PSBs, in lieu of the capital it has been infusing. This has led to a sharp rise in its holdings in these banks.** Much of the sharp rise in government holdings has happened in the last two years, thanks to the humongous infusion of ₹ 1·96 lakh crore in 2017-18 and 2018-19 alone.

For instance, the government's holdings in Corporation Bank stood at 63·3 per cent in 2014-15. This has shot up to 93·5 per cent as of March 2019, with the Centre pumping in little over ₹ 15,000 crore into the bank over the past five years. The current market capitalisation of the bank is about ₹ 10,100 crore.

In the case of United Bank of India, the government's stake has gone up to 96·8 per cent from 82 per cent five years ago. The government has pumped in around ₹ 9,100 crore into the bank since 2014-15. In Oriental Bank of Commerce, the government has infused ₹ 10,500 crore over the last five fiscals, and its stake has shot up from 59 per cent to 87·5 per cent during this period. Similarly in Andhra Bank, the government's holding has moved up to 90·8 per cent in the 2019 fiscal from 61 per cent in March 2015.

Interestingly, many of the PSBs that have very high government holding are among the Centre's big bank merger candidates announced recently. For instance, OBC and United Bank are set to merge with Punjab National Bank. Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank are proposed to be merged with Union Bank.

High Stakes	Govt. Holding %		Capital infusion over five years (2014-15 to 2018-19) (₹ cr)*	Current market cap (₹ cr)#
	March-19	March-15		
State Bank of India	57·92	58·60	22,844	2,48,104
Oriental Bank of Commerce	87·58	59·13	10,557	8,920
Corporation Bank	93·50	63·33	15,193	10,100
Bank of Baroda	63·26	57·53	13,463	36,755
Canara Bank	70·62	69·91	7,127	14,910
UCO Bank	93·29	72·83	15,773	10,896
United Bank of India	96·83	82·00	9,138	7,131
Union Bank of India	74·27	60·47	10,257	9,926
Central Bank of India	91·20	81·46	13,682	7,881
Bank of Maharashtra	87·74	79·80	8,570	6,931
Syndicate Bank	84·66	69·24	8,778	8,373
Bank of India	89·10	64·43	30,399	21,660
Allahabad Bank	85·82	60·83	14,984	12,338
Punjab & Sind Bank	85·56	79·62	785	1,225
Andhra Bank	90·85	61·02	8,763	5,641
Indian Overseas Bank	92·52	73·80	15,317	9,005
Indian Bank	81·49	82·10	280	8,137
Punjab National Bank	75·41	59·86	24,342	28,821

* Lok Sabha query : # as of September 9, 2019.

The merger, it would appear, has eased the predicament of the government for now. But given that its stake in the proposed merged entities could still be 80-85 per cent (depending on the swap ratio), the Centre may be faced with a similar problem in future. In the recent merger announcement, the Centre has proposed to infuse ₹ 16,000 crore into PNB and ₹ 11,700 crore into Union Bank.

Global Slowdown Bug Bites India's Tourism Sector

India's tourism sector is the latest to be hit by the global economic slowdown headwinds. Foreign tourist arrivals grew a mere 2·12 per cent in the first half of calendar year 2019—the lowest for the comparable period in the last four years.

India received around 6·08 million foreign tourists between January and July 2019. The country received around 5·96 million foreigners during the same period in 2018. Consequently, the country's foreign exchange earnings (FEE) from tourism, too, grew only marginally, at 4 per cent in rupee terms to ₹ 1,16,872 crore (₹ 1,12,481 crore in January-July 2018) in the January-July 2019. In dollar terms, it reported a negative growth of 2 per cent at $ 16·75 billion ($ 17·05 billion in January-July 2018).

Major causes of slowdown in foreign tourist arrival in the first half of 2019 are following :

- Brexit in the UK.
- Recession fears in large parts of Europe and the US.
- Heightened tensions between India and Pakistan.
- Shutdown of Pakistan's air space for India-bound flights led to an increase in travel time and air fare.
- High visa charges.
- Strong competition from tourist destinations such as Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia and Vietnam.

India Moves up Six Places to 34th Position in Global Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index 2019

India moved up six places to the 34th position in the global Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report 2019 published by the World Economic Forum (WEF). India's ranking was the greatest improvement over 2017 among the top 25 per cent of all countries ranked in the report. India received 10.5 million foreign tourists in 2018. The government has set a target of 20 million FTAs and doubling of foreign exchange earnings by 2020.

India Drops Down in World Press Freedom Index, 2019

India has dropped two places on a global press freedom index to be ranked 140th out of 180 countries in the annual *Reporters Without Borders* analysis released on April 18, 2019, with the lead to just concluded general elections in India that flagged as a particularly dangerous time for journalists. Paris-based *Reporters Sans Frontieres* (RSF), *or Reporters With-out Borders*, is a non-profit organisation that works to document and combat attacks on journalists around the world. In its 2019 index, RSF finds that hatred of journalists has degenerated into violence, contributing to an increase in fear around the world.

Norway is ranked first in the 2019 Index for the third year running while Finland (up two places) has taken second place from the Netherlands (down one at 4th). An increase in cyber-harassment caused Sweden (third) to lose one place. In Africa, the rankings of Ethiopia (up 40 at 110th) and Gambia (up 30 at 92nd) have significantly improved from last year's Index.

At the bottom of the Index, both Vietnam (176th) and China (177th) have fallen one place and Turkmenistan (down two at 180th) is now last, replacing North Korea (up one at 179th).

South Asia in general features poorly on the index, with Pakistan dropping three places to 142, and Bangladesh dropping four places to 150. The number of countries regarded as safe, where journalists can work in complete security, continues to decline, while authoritarian regimes continue to tighten their grip on the media, RSF concludes.

India Jumps 11 Spots on Global Economic Freedom Index, 2019

India has jumped 11 spots on Global Economic Freedom index, 2019 from 2018's 96th spot to the current ranking of 79th. The latest gain is a

promising news for the Indian economy which is currently reeling under slowdown. **The Economic Freedom of the World Report 2019** surveyed a total of 162 countries. India's current ranking is better than one of the major economies of the World—China which stood at 113th. Two Asian countries *viz.* Hong Kong and Singapore continue their winning streak of last year with 1st and 2nd position respectively. New Zealand, Switzerland, the United States, Ireland, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and Mauritius are in the top 10 and have most economic freedom measured via a gamut of factors including levels of personal choice, ability to enter markets, the security of privately-owned property etc.

On the other hand, Iraq, Republic of Congo, Egypt, Syria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, Algeria, Sudan, Libya, and Venezuela are at the bottom of the list where economic freedom is most curbed. The rankings of some other major countries are Japan (17th), Germany (20th), Italy (46th), France (50th), Mexico (76th), India (79th), Russia (85th), China (113th), and Brazil (120th)

Here's how India scored in 2019 on key components of economic freedom :

- Size of government : 8·22.
- Legal system and property rights : 5·17.
- Access to sound money : 8·37.
- Freedom to trade internationally: 6·08.
- Regulation of credit, labour and business : 6·69.

The index published in Economic Freedom of the World measures the degree to which the policies and institutions of countries are supportive of economic freedom. The cornerstones of economic freedom are personal choice, voluntary exchange, freedom to enter markets and compete, and security of the person and privately owned property. Forty-two data points are used to construct a summary index and to measure the degree of economic freedom in five broad areas.

Area 1 : Size of Government—As government spending, taxation, and the size of government-controlled enterprises increase, government decision-making is substituted for individual choice and economic freedom is reduced.

Area 2 : Legal System and Property Rights—Protection of persons and their rightfully acquired property is a central element of both economic freedom and civil society. Indeed, it is the most important function of government.

Area 3 : Access to Sound Money—Inflation erodes the value of rightfully earned wages and savings. Sound money is thus essential to protect property rights. When inflation is not only high but also volatile, it becomes difficult for individuals to plan for the future and thus use economic freedom effectively.

Area 4 : Freedom to Trade Internationally—Freedom to exchange—in its broadest sense, buying, selling, making contracts, and so on—is essential to economic freedom, which is reduced when freedom to exchange does not include businesses and individuals in other nations.

Area 5 : Regulation of Credit, Labour and Business—Governments not only use a number of tools to limit the right to exchange internationally, they may also develop onerous regulations that limit the right to exchange, gain credit, hire, or work for whom you wish, or freely operate your business.

India Jumps 4 Places to 44th Rank in World Digital Competitiveness Rankings, 2019

According to a global report, 2019 on digital competitiveness, India rose from 48th place in 2018 to 44th rank in 2019 as the country has improved overall in all factors—knowledge, technology and future readiness to adopt and explore digital technologies—as compared to the previous year's ranking. The US was ranked as the world's most digitally competitive economy, followed by Singapore in the second place. Sweden was ranked third on the list, followed by Denmark and Switzerland in the 4th and 5th place, respectively. Others in the list of top-10 most digitally competitive economy include Netherlands in the 6th place, Finland (7th), Hong Kong SAR (8th), Norway (9th) and Republic of Korea (10th). The largest jump in the overall ranking was registered by China, moving from 30th to 22nd, and Indonesia, from 62nd to 56th.

The Ranking, generated by the IMD World Competitiveness Center, measures the capacity and readiness of 63 nations to adopt and explore digital technologies as a key driver for economic transformation in business, government and wider society. To evaluate an economy, WDCR examines three factors: Knowledge, the capacity to understand and learn the new technologies; technology, the competence to develop new digital innovations; and future readiness, the preparedness for the coming developments.

Relevance of RCEP for India

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), India's most-ambitious trade pact, is currently under negotiation. It includes the 10-nation bloc of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and their six free-trade partners—China, India, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. Twenty-eight rounds of talks have concluded, apart from eight minister-level meetings. Currently, it is broadly accepted that the RCEP will lead to tariffs being eliminated on 28 per cent of the traded goods to begin with. This will be followed by 35 per cent of all products being eliminated in phases.

Microfinance Industry Gets 'Code for Responsible Lending'

Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN) and Sa-Dhan, the RBI-recognised self-regulatory organisation and industry association for the microfinance industry, along with FIDC, have jointly released the 'Code for Responsible Lending' (CRL) for the micro credit industry. The CRL is sector-specific and entity-agnostic. The CRL was launched at Sa-Dhan's 15th Annual National Conference in New Delhi on September 16, 2019.

A significant development in CRL adoption was the signing up of the Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC), the self-regulatory

organisation for registered NBFCs. This makes CRL more inclusive in its coverage.

In addition to the CRL, a revised industry Code of Conduct (CoC) was also released for Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) that will act as a binding and compulsory set of principles with respect to lending practices. Meanwhile, the industry code has been strengthened in the areas of risk management, responsible lending, and HR practices, which includes training and client education.

Coverage of Bharat Bill Payment System Extended by RBI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has expanded the scope and coverage of Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) to include all categories of billers who raise recurring bills (except prepaid recharges) as eligible participants on voluntary basis. *Currently, BBPS covers bills of five segments—direct to home (DTH), electricity, gas, tele-com, and water.*

The objective of BBPS is to implement an integrated bill payment system that offers interoperable and accessible bill payment services to customers through a network of agents, enabling multiple payment modes, and providing instant confirmation of payment.

Players, including scheduled commercial banks, Regional Rural Banks/ Urban Cooperative Banks / State Cooperative Banks / District Central cooperative Banks / Payments banks / Small Finance Banks / BBPS providers and system participants, who cater to the requirements of bill payments as well as aggregation of payment services, are part of BBPS.

Union Government Promulgates Ordinance to Ban e-cigarettes

The Union government on September 19, 2019 banned all forms of nicotine-based electronic cigarettes in the country. The Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Ordinance, 2019 was promulgated to this effect on September 19, 2019.

Key features of the Ordinance are the following :

- Production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution and advertisement of e-cigarettes have been banned.
- These include all forms of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems, Heat Not Burn Products, e-Hookah and the like devices. These novel products come with attractive appearances and multiple flavours and their use has increased exponentially and has acquired epidemic proportions in developed countries, especially among youth and children.
- Any violation will constitute a cognizable offence, punishable with imprisonment up to one year or a fine up to ₹ 1 lakh or both for the first offence. Subsequent offences will attract imprisonment up to three years and a fine up to ₹ 5 lakh.
- While single possession will not be prosecuted, bulk storage of e-cigarettes shall be punishable with imprisonment up to six months or a fine up to ₹ 50,000 or both.
- The owners of existing stocks of e-cigarettes on the date of commencement of the Ordinance (*i.e.* September 19, 2019) will have to suomoto declare and deposit these stocks with the nearest police station.
- The Sub-Inspector of Police has been designated as the Authorized Officer to take action under the Ordinance.
- The Central or State Governments may also designate any other equivalent officer(s) as Authorized Officer for enforcement of the provisions of the Ordinance

e-cigarettes

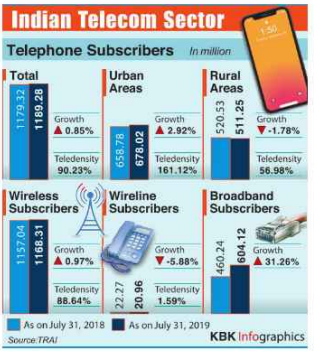
E-cigarette and Vape are electronic devices used for smoking. Instead of smoke from burning tobacco, an e-cigarette user inhales aerosol, commonly called vapour, produced from a combination of vape juice and atomiser. Hundreds of varieties of vape juice (with and without nicotine) and e-cigarettes are there in the market, mostly imported from China. More sophisticated e-cigarettes might have features to control the vapour flow, heating, large liquid tanks and replaceable parts.

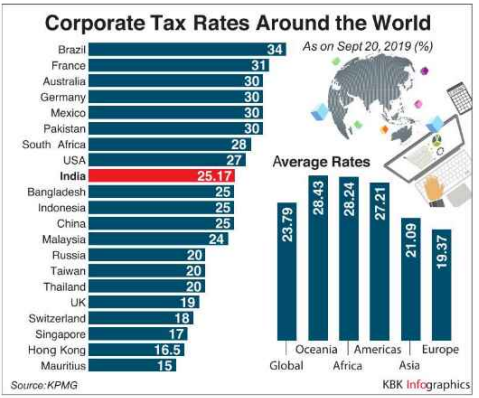
On pressing the on/off button, the battery powers the coil which heats up the cotton that is soaked in vape juice. When a user inhales, the air travel from the air vents through the cotton up to the mouth piece. Cotton burning in vape juice, which may be flavoured and/or contain nicotine, produces the vapour :

- Hundreds of e-cigarettes from Chinese makers like Kanger Tech, SMOK and Eleaf easily make it to India through imports
- Health hazard from vaping hasn't conclusively been proved. There is lack of scientific research because vaping, as a phenomenon, is only 3-5 years old
- Proponents sell vaping as an alternative to cigarettes, which are harmful, but studies show vapes also promote early smoking among teens
- In the US, Michigan and New York have banned vapes. UK maintains it is safe
- With India banning vapes, Marlboro-owned Juul and Philip Morris won't be allowed to launch here.

India's Corporate Tax Rate is Now Among the Lowest Globally

With the promulgation of Ordinance on September 20, 2019, a sharp cut in corporate tax rates, India is now among the countries that have a low corporate tax rate. Though the





incentive is only for companies that do not claim any exemption, it is a big move that brings India on par with peers in Asia and across the globe.

India's statutory rate for corporate tax is 22 per cent now, down from 30 per cent. For the current year, KPMG data shows that the statutory tax rate in Myanmar is 25 per cent, in Malaysia, it is 24 per cent, in Indonesia and Korea 25 per cent and Sri Lanka 28 per cent. Even Chinese companies cough up more. They pay a tax of 25 per cent and Brazil 34 per cent.The global average corporate tax rate is 23·79 now, and the Asian average is 21·09 per cent. Since 2003, while globally countries have witnessed sharp cuts in corporate taxes, in India, it had stayed around 30 per cent. The Central Government's corporate tax cut will aid new companies incorporated on or after October 1, 2019 to compete better globally.

Manufacturing companies incorporated after 1 October, 2019, will have the benefit of an even lower rate of 15 per cent (effective tax rate of 17·01 per cent). Also, companies not availing exemptions and tax incentives will not be required to pay minimum alternate tax (MAT).

The current move to cut taxes is going to make a hole in the government's tax kitty. Last year, as per the Budget estimates, the revenue foregone by the Centre on various tax incentives was ₹ 1·08 lakh crore. Now, with tax cuts, there will be an additional revenue loss of ₹ 1·45 lakh crore.

National Educational Alliance for Technology (NEAT) Scheme

Ministry of Human Resource Development has announced on September 19, 2019 a new Public Private Partnership Scheme, *National Educational Alliance for Technology* (NEAT) for using technology for better learning outcomes in Higher Education.

The objective is to use *Artificial Intelligence* to make learning more personalised and customised as per the requirements of the learner. This requires development of technologies in Adaptive Learning to address the diversity of learners.

- There are a number of start-up companies developing this and MHRD would like to recognise such efforts and bring them under a common platform so that learners can access it easily.
- Educating the youth is a National effort and MHRD proposes to create a National Alliance with such technology developing EdTech Companies through a PPP model.
- MHRD would act as a facilitator to ensure that the solutions are freely available to a large number of economically backward students.
- MHRD would create and maintain a National NEAT platform that would provide one-stop access to these technological solutions.
- EdTech companies would be responsible for developing solutions and manage registration of learners through the NEAT portal. They would be free to charge fees as per their policy. As their contribution towards the National cause, they would have to offer free coupons to the extent of 25% of the total registrations for their solution through NEAT portal. MHRD would distribute the free coupons for learning to the most socially/economically backward students.
- AICTE would be the implementing agency for NEAT programme.
- The scheme shall be administered under the guidance of an Apex Committee constituted by MHRD.
- Independent Expert Committees would be constituted for evaluating and selecting the EdTech solutions. MoUs will be signed with the shortlisted EdTech companies.
- Awareness programs would be taken up by MHRD to create awareness of the NEAT solutions to teachers and students.
- MHRD proposes to launch and operationalise NEAT in early November 2019.

Direct Tax Code Panel Suggests 4 Slabs, 35% I-T for ₹ 2 crore Income

The Direct Tax Code panel, headed by Akhilesh Ranjan, for drafting a new legislation on direct taxation has suggested an overhaul of personal income tax (I-T) slabs, to increase disposable income and give a fillip to consumer demand.

The Draft Legislation had Proposed

- Four tax brackets by introducing a new slab of 35 per cent for those earning an annual income of ₹ 2 crore and above.
- The increase in the threshold for exemption from income tax to ₹ 5

lakh a year from the current ₹ 2·5 lakh.

- Lower rates of 10 per cent for annual income between ₹ 5 lakh and ₹ 10 lakh,
- 20 per cent for income between ₹ 10 lakh and ₹ 20 lakh.
- For income of ₹ 20 lakh to ₹ 2 crore, the suggested rate is 30 per cent.

Currently, personal income is taxed at 5 per cent for income between ₹ 2·5 lakh to ₹ 5 lakh, at 20 per cent for income between ₹ 5 lakh and ₹ 10 lakh, and 30 per cent for an income of above ₹ 10 lakh. As such, there is no 10 per cent slab in the current scheme of things. If the recommendations are implemented, there will be no 5 per cent slab.

First Advance Estimates of Production of Major Kharif Crops for 2019-20

The First Advance Estimates of production of major Kharif crops for 2019-20 have been released on September 23, 2019 by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. As per First Advance Estimates, the estimated production of major crops during Kharif 2019-20 is as under :

Foodgrains : 140.57 million tonnes.

Rice : 100.35 million tonnes.

Nutri / Coarse Cereals : 32·00 million tonnes.

Maize : 19·89 million tonnes.

Pulses : 8·23 million tonnes.

Tur : 3·54 million tonnes.

Oilseeds : 22·39 million tonnes.

Soyabean : 13·50 million tonnes

Groundnut : 6·31 million tonnes

Cotton : 32·27 million bales (of 170 kg each)

Jute & Mesta : 9·96 million bales (of 180 kg each)

Sugarcane : 377·77 million tonnes

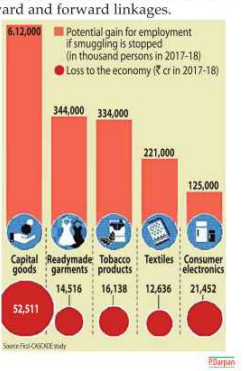
'UMMID' Initiative to Tackle Inherited Genetic Diseases of New Born Babies

The Union Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Health & Family Welfare, Dr. Harsh Vardhan on September 23, 2019 launched *UMMID (Unique Methods of Management and treatment of Inherited Disorders) initiative and inaugurated NIDAN (National Inherited Diseases Administration)* Kendras, which is being supported by Department of Biotechnology (DBT),M/o Science and Technology.

- DBT has started the UMMID Initiative which is designed on the concept of 'Prevention is better than Cure'.
- The UMMID initiative aims :
  - (i) To establish NIDAN Kendras to provide counselling, prenatal testing and diagnosis, management, and multidisciplinary care in Government Hospitals wherein the influx of patients is more,
  - (ii) To produce skilled clinicians in Human Genetics, and
  - (iii) To undertake screening of pregnant women and new born babies for inherited genetic diseases in hospitals at aspirational districts.
- As a part of this initiative, in the first phase, five NIDAN Kendras have been established to provide comprehensive clinical care.
  - (i) Training Centres at Madras Medical Mission- Chennai;
  - (ii) SGPGIMS-Lucknow; CDFD – Hyderabad;
  - (iii) AIIMS-New Delhi; MAMC-New Delhi;
  - (iv) NIIH- Mumbai and
  - (v) CMC Vellore
- These centres have been supported to provide training in Biochemical Genetics, Cytogenetics, Molecular Genetics, and Clinical Genetics to the clinicians from government hospitals.

Indian Economy Loses ₹ 1·17 Trillion Due to Smuggling

Indian economy loses ₹ 1·17 trillion due to smuggling in five key sectors, revealed a study. The study, conducted by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Ficci) and the Committee Against Smuggling and Counterfeiting Activities Destroying the Economy (CASCADE) measures this impact through impact of smuggling in five areas—textiles, tobacco products, readymade garments, capital goods, and consumer electronics taking into consideration their backward and forward linkages.



Continued from Page 44

Age Limit—The age of the candidate should not be less than 21 years and not more than 35 years as on January 1, 2019. Relaxation in the upper age limit will be given as per the set government norms.

Essential Educational Qualifications—

1. Junior Assistant : Candidates must possess a Bachelor's degree from a government recognized university or equivalent. Knowledge of Hindi and English Language is also required. Candidates must also possess working knowledge of computer. Candidates must have a typing speed on computer in Hindi of 25 words per minute.

2. Stenographer/Personal Assistant : Candidates must possess a Bachelor's degree from a government recognized university good knowledge of Hindi and English Languages and working knowledge of computer. Candidates must have a typing speed of 25 words per minute in Hindi and 80 words per minute in Hindi stenography.

Structure of Examination—There will be a written examination of 140 marks, carrying Objective Type Multiple Choice Questions. Candidates will have to clear their respective skill tests of typing and stenography.

How to Apply—Candidates can submit their applications, using the commission's website :

www.sssc.uk.gov.in

State of High Education in India (Key Results of the AISHE 2018-19)

- There are **993 Universities, 39931 Colleges and 10725 Stand Alone Institutions listed** on AISHE web portal.
- 385 Universities are privately managed. 394 Universities are located in rural area.
- 16 Universities are exclusively for women, 3 in Rajasthan, 2 in Tamil Nadu and 1 each in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.
- In addition to 1 Central Open University, 14 State Open Universities and 1 State Private Open University, there are 110 Dual mode Universities, which offer education through distance mode also and the maximum 13 of them are located in Tamil Nadu.
- The top 8 States in terms of highest number of colleges in India are Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.
- College density, *i.e.* the number of colleges per lakh eligible population (population in the age-group 18-23 years) varies from 7 in Bihar to 53 in Karnataka as compared to All India average of 28.
- 60·53% Colleges are located in Rural Area. 11·04% Colleges are exclusively for Women.
- Only 2·5% Colleges run Ph.D. programme and 34·9% Colleges run Post Graduate Level programmes.
- There are 34·8% Colleges, which run only single programme, out of which 83% are privately managed. Among these privately managed colleges, 38·1% colleges run B.Ed. Courses only.
- 77·8% Colleges are privately managed; 64·3% Private-unaided and 13·5% Private-aided. Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have about 88% Private-unaided colleges and Tamil Nadu has 87% Private-unaided colleges, whereas, Assam has 16·0%.
- 16·3% of the Colleges are having enrolment less than 100 and only 4·0% Colleges have enrolment more than 3000.
- **Total enrolment in higher education has been estimated to 37·4 million with 19·2 million male and 18·2 million female. Female constitute 48·6% of the total enrolment.**
- **Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Higher education in India is 26·3%, which is calculated for 18-23 years of age group. GER for male population is 26·3% and for females, it is 26·4%. For Scheduled Castes, it is 23% and for Scheduled Tribes, it is 17·2% as compared to the national GER of 26·3%.**
- Distance enrolment constitutes about 10·62% of the total enrolment in higher education, of which 44·15% are female students.
- About 79·8% of the students are enrolled in Undergraduate level programme. 1,69,170 students are enrolled in Ph.D. that is less than 0·5% of the total student enrolment.
- Maximum numbers of Students are enrolled in B.A. programme followed by B.Sc. and B.com. programmes. 10 Programmes out of approximately 187 cover 80·3% of the total students enrolled in higher education.
- At Ph.D. level, maximum number of students are enrolled in Science stream followed by Engineering and Technology. On the other hand at Post Graduate level maximum students are enrolled in Social Science stream and Management comes at number two.
- Uttar Pradesh comes at number one with the highest student enrolment followed by Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.
- Scheduled Casts students constitute 14·9% and Scheduled Tribes students 5·5% of the total enrolment. 36·3% students belong to Other Backward Classes. 5·2% students belong to Muslim Minority and 2·3% from Other Minority Communities.
- Highest share of foreign students come from the neighbouring countries of which Nepal is 26·88% of the total, followed by, Afghanistan (9·8%), Bangladesh (4·38%), Sudan (4·02%), Bhutan constitutes (3·82%) and Nigeria (3·4%).
- There are more than 78·0% colleges running in Private sector, aided and unaided taken together, but it caters to only 66·4% of the total enrolment.
- The total number of teachers in higher education are 14,16,299, out of which about 57·8% are male teachers and 42·2% are female teachers. At all-India level there are merely 73 female teachers per 100 male teachers.
- **40,813 Students were awarded Ph.D. level degree** during 2018 with 23,765 males and 17,048 females.
- B.A. (23·3 Lakh) degree has been awarded to maximum number of students. B.Sc. (11·60 lakh) is the second highest followed by B.Com. (9·6 lakh).
- At Post Graduate level M.A. pass number of students is maximum followed by M.Sc. and M.B.A.
- The highest number of students (23·30 lakh) have graduated in Arts courses.
- The share of Ph.D. student is highest in State Public University (34·3%) followed by Institute of National Importance (21·6%), State Private University (13·4%) and Deemed University-Private (21·6%) and State Private University (13·4%)
- Share of female students is lowest in Institutions of National Importance followed by State Private Open Universities, Deemed University-Government.

Inspiring Youth

"Absolute belief in my goal, clear vision and focused efforts are the secrets of my success."

Dr. Pooja Gupta

Topper—Civil Services Examination, 2018 (147th Rank)

"Pratiyogita Darpan" arranged an exclusive interview with Dr. Pooja Gupta who has been selected in Civil Services Examination, 2018, conducted by UPSC. She deserves high admiration and our heartiest congratulations on her glorious achievement. This important, thought-provoking and highly inspiring interview is being presented here in its original form.

PD—Achieving top slot in the coveted Civil Services Examination is no small feat; accept our heartiest congratulations on your splendid success.

Dr. Pooja—Thank you Pratiyogita Darpan team.

PD—In how many attempts have you achieved this success ?

Dr. Pooja—1st attempt.

PD—You achieved the desired success in this attempt; how do you visualize your previous attempts ?

Dr. Pooja—Not applicable, as this was my 1st attempt.

PD—What was your optional subject ?

Dr. Pooja—Anthropology

PD—While making final choice for optional subject, what's important and what's not ?

Dr. Pooja—I believe interest in the subject is the foremost criterion on that candidates should consider while choosing an optional.

PD—Give the basis of selecting the optional subject ?

Dr. Pooja—1. Interest in subject

2. Availability of content

3. Guidance in subject.

PD—'Success is sweet'–Were you confident of your success with top ranks and how did you react to this news ?

Dr. Pooja—It was my first attempt at UPSC CSE, so I was very anxious about the result. I have always heard that it takes multiple attempts to clear the most coveted exam. Hence, I was just praying for my name in the coveted PDF list. Finding my name among top ranks was nothing less than a dream that came true for me.

PD—Today, **IAS Toppers** are icons and lots of media coverage makes them popular. Before your success, what was your opinion about these toppers ?

Dr. Pooja—I always thought that the toppers were different from us. But today, this myth of mine has been busted.

Suffering keeps celestial fire alive in the heart.

—Dr. Pooja Gupta

My inspiration in UPSC CSE was not any specific topper but a Hungarian pistol shooter KAROLY TAKACS who was the first shooter to win two Olympic gold medals. He won these medals after his right hand was severely injured when a faulty grenade exploded in his hand during his time in military. The determination to win an Olympic medal led him to switch shooting with his left hand. He has been hailed as an Olympic hero by the International Olympic Committee. For me he is an epitome of perseverance and determination.

PD—Can you recall the exact moment when you realized the importance of Civil Services ?

Dr. Pooja—After my extremely good result in 10th grade exam of the Board, I was felicitated by the DCP of DELHI. It was at this stage, I decided to get into the topnotch service.

PD—Finally, at what point of time did you make up your mind to make career in 'Civil Services' ?

Dr. Pooja—When I started my graduation in 2012, I was not sure on what to do next. But as the years passed, I started to ponder upon my desire for making a career in civil services. A dream I had seen years ago. It was here I made up my mind to revive the dream and pursue it.

PD—Was CSE your planned decision or your parents' wish ?

Dr. Pooja—It was a well-planned decision and my parents fully supported me.

PD—Did you keep in mind some time-frame for the examination preparation and number of attempts ?

Dr. Pooja—I didn't think much on this. I finalized the goal and the only thing that I thought about was to move forward in execution.

PD—'Time Management'—is a key factor. How did you manage things ?

Dr. Pooja—I made a mental note of all the areas I had to cover with each stage of UPSC CSE. Utilizing even 15-20 minutes slots, during my internship in hospital and even while daily commute, helped me a lot.

PD—The first step is the most difficult; From where did you get the right advice ?

Bio-Data

Name—Dr. Pooja Gupta

Father's Name—Mr. Raj Kumar Gupta

Mother's Name—Mrs. Rekha Gupta

Date of Birth—5th January, 1994

Educational Qualifications—

10th—2010, CBSE Delhi, N.C. Jindal Public School, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi (CGPA 10)

12th—2012, CBSE Delhi, N. C. Jindal Public School, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi (94%)

Bachelor of Dental Surgery—2012-2017, GGSIPU Delhi, ESI Dental College and Hospital, Rohini, New Delhi (70%)

Dr. Pooja—Toppers talking on YouTube were my saviours on this.

PD—What was your approach towards Paper I (General Studies) and Paper II (Aptitude Test) during **Preliminary Examination** preparation ?

Dr. Pooja—For GS Paper I (General Studies)

I focused on clearing my basics. NCERT, PIB and PRS website, religiously following The Hindu newspaper, insights daily current affairs etc. were most important in my preparation of paper-1. I gave more time to this paper as I felt I could do fairly well in paper-2.

For GS Paper II (Aptitude Test) : I mostly focused on solving last few years' UPSC CSE question papers to understand the demand of paper.

PD—How did you manage to tackle the **'Negative Marking'** in Prelims?

Dr. Pooja—Practice and practice and practice.

PD—Was there any special effort for effective preparation for Essay Paper ? Which topic did you pick up this time and why did you choose this particular topic ?

Dr. Pooja—Essay was my strong area. So I never gave special attention to it. For section-1, I chose the topic "poverty anywhere is a threat to prosperity everywhere." Poverty is one issue which has always been close to my heart. So I chose this.

For section 2, I chose "customary morality cannot be a guide to modern life". Amongst all the others I could connect most with this topic.

PD—How did you prepare yourself for **Interview (Personality Test)** ? When and which Board did you face ? How did your interview go on, how long did it last and what were the questions asked during the Interview ?

Dr. Pooja—I focused on mock interviews and panel discussions.

I faced Vyas sir's Board. My experience was good as the Board was very cordial. Most of the questions were around my optional and my graduation.

Questions were on dentistry, oral health care condition in India, Ayushman Bharat scheme, tribes of India, their issues and conditions etc. Some questions were HR based, remaining ones from economics. Overall the interview experience was good. My interview lasted for 30 minutes and I was the first candidate on the day to face the Board.

PD—Were you preparing for other career opportunities as well while preparing for your ultimate goal *i.e.*, Career in Civil Services ?

Dr. Pooja—I am a registered dentist. So my only aim was civil services and I was not preparing for any other exam.

Personal Qualities

Favourite Person—My mother, who is my role model and my best friend.

Strong Point—Dedication and perseverance to goal.

Weak Point—Overthinking even when it is not required.

Hobbies—Cooking, watching cookery show, an avid traveller learns to explore people and places and lastly a voracious reader.

PD—While the changing economic environment offers immense lucrative career opportunities in various sectors, still what kept you motivated towards Civil Services ?

Dr. Pooja—I was asked this question in almost every mock and even in final interview. Dentistry gives a very lucrative career not only in India but also abroad. But the job satisfaction and opportunity to serve the nation that civil service provides is unparalleled

PD—In your opinion at which Educational Level should one start preparing for Civil Services and what should be the minimum period of time required to prepare for Civil Services Examinations ?

List of Books/Magazines

Preliminary Exam.

Paper-I (General Studies) :

- 6th-12th NCERTs
- Laxmikant for Polity
- Spectrum for Modern India
- Ancient India by R. S. Sharma
- Medieval India by Satish Chandra
- The Hindu Newspaper
- Shankar IAS for Environment

Main Exam.

- Nadeem Hasnain for Tribal India
- Prof. Xaxa Committee Report
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs Repot

Dr. Pooja—The earlier the better. I feel at least 1-1·5 years of dedicated preparation is a must.

PD—What is your opinion regarding the general view that Science subjects have better chance to score than Humanities ?

Dr. Pooja—I believe, it is simply a myth. Each subject gives fair chance to score if studied properly.

PD—What is the importance of medium of examination for exams like CSE ?

Dr. Pooja—Medium is simply a way to convey one's thoughts to the examiner.

PD—Does the educational, financial and demographic status of the family of an aspirant have any impact on the preparation ?

Dr. Pooja—It may or may not impact the preparation because it depends on the candidate, as to how he deals with them. Mental strength becomes extremely relevant here.

PD—In your opinion what role do the Competition Magazines play when you are preparing for an examination like Civil Services ?

Dr. Pooja—They play a pivotal role by keeping us updated with the relevant topics which one might have missed. Further, the success stories and interviews published in them keep the candidates motivated. They are helpful in streamlining the preparation.

PD—How do you find **Pratiyogita Darpan** ? Do you find it close to your expectations ?

Dr. Pooja—I found it of immense help. I used to read the current affairs and practice MCQs regularly. Further, the success stories helped me to counter my anxiety whenever I felt low during my preparation days.

Continued on Page 63

Inspiring Youth

"Strong determination, intelligent planning and continuous hard work are the secrets of my success."

Abhitesh Kumar

Topper—Delhi Judicial Services Exam., 2018 (3rd Rank)

"Pratiyogita Darpan" arranged an exclusive interview with Shri Abhitesh Kumar who has been selected in Delhi Judicial Services Examination, 2018. He deserves high appreciation and our heartiest congratulations on his shining success. This important, thought-provoking and highly inspiring interview is being presented here in its original form.

PD—Achieving top slot in the Judicial Services Examination is no small feat; accept our heartiest congratulations on your splendid success.

Shri Abhitesh—Thank you.

PD—Can you recall the exact moment when you realized the importance of Judicial Services ?

Shri Abhitesh—After completing graduation, I was looking around to choose a good carrier for myself. During that journey, I came to know about Law and the importance of judicial service.

PD—Finally, at what point of time did you make up your mind to make career in 'Judicial Services' ?

Shri Abhitesh—As I said above, I enrolled in Campus Law Centre, Delhi University to do LL.B and since then I have been living with my dream to become a Judicial Officer.

PD—You must have read toppers' interviews in newspapers/ magazines; what inspired you the most ? Any particular success story which influenced your journey to this result ?

Shri Abhitesh—I used to read success stories of the toppers of various examinations specially Civil Services and Judicial Services. Alongwith that, I also used to read the biography of successful persons and I'm deeply influenced by the struggle and success of Prof. Raghunath Anant Mashelkar.

PD—Was JSE your planned decision or your parents' wish ? Did you keep in mind some time-frame for the examination preparation and number of attempts ?

Shri Abhitesh—It was my decision to join Judicial Services. I was simply working hard with utmost honesty. Number of attempts was never my concern. My only aim was to become a judicial officer. However, it was my 4th attempt. In my initial two attempts, I had written mains but couldn't pass the exam. In my third attempt I had appeared for interview but again couldn't secure the place in merit list.

Inner urge is the soul of glory and triumph.

—Abhitesh Kumar

PD— Describe the exact moment when you came to know about the importance of Judicial Services ?

Shri Abhitesh—The job of imparting justice is always great and important for any society. Therefore, it is always close to my heart.

PD—What was your first step when you were really serious about making a career in Judicial Services ?

Shri Abhitesh—My first step was to get acquainted with the process of this examination. I had arranged study materials such as Bare Acts and other related books available in the market.

PD—Were you confident of your success in this examination and how did you react to this news of your success ?

Shri Abhitesh—This time, I was confident about my success as I had secured third highest marks in Mains and my effort was only to qualify mains. One of my friends informed me about my result and it was actually an emotional and pleasing moment for me. I am thankful to Almighty.

PD—In how many attempts have you achieved this success ? How do you visualize your previous attempts ?

Shri Abhitesh—This was my fourth attempt of Delhi Judicial Services Examination. This time I was more focussed and I had restricted myself only on core areas from where questions are usually asked. I had done writing practice throughout the examination process.

PD—Were you preparing for other career opportunities as well while preparing for your ultimate goal *i.e.*, Career in Judicial Services ?

Shri Abhitesh—I was not preparing for any other examination. During preparation, I got an opportunity to work in CBI as Assistant Public Prosecutor by passing an exam conducted by UPSC. My working in CBI helped me immensely to understand the nuances of law and its application. That is how my role in CBI acted as a stepping stone in achieving my ultimate goal.

PD—While the changing economic environment offers immense lucrative career opportunities in various sectors, still what kept you motivated towards Judicial Services ?

Shri Abhitesh—The field of law gives an equal opportunity to do something for the society in whatever capacity you wish to work. It totally depends on your orientation. Everybody has its own way to contribute to

the society. Diversity of work, role of imparting justice and also the respect attached to the post kept me motivated throughout the preparation.

Bio-Data

Name—Abhitesh Kumar

Father's Name–Shri Bageshwari Prasad Srivastava

Mother's Name—Mrs. Ranjana Verma

Educational Qualifications—

10th—2003, CBSE, Mahaviri Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Siwan (56·80%)

12th—2005, CBSE, Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Munger (54·60%)

B.A.—2008, DDU Gorakhpur University Digivijaynath PG College (53·27%)

LL.B.—2013, Delhi University, Campus Law Centre (62·53%)

LL.M.—2018, Delhi University, Faculty of Law (61·46%)

Previous Selections—

Assistant Public Prosecutor, Central Bureau of Investigation through UPSC in 2015.

PD—What's important that needs attention and what's not ? Share your thoughts and opinions.

Shri Abhitesh—Before starting preparation every candidate should ask himself "Why he/she wants to become a judicial officer". This is very important because judicial service is not just a job but a passion. It demands great amount of dedication and sacrifice. You cannot simply get motivated from outer world and qualify this exam. One has to keep motivated oneself from inside and internalization is very important. The preparation of this exam takes time so the candidate should not get hopeless by one or two failures. Consistent hard work is the key to pass judicial services examination.

PD—'Time-Management'—is a key factor, how did you manage things ?

Shri Abhitesh—Time management is indispensable for Judicial Services Examination. Like others, I had also faced problem in managing time. In this respect my strategy was to do writing practice as much as possible. I had practiced writing answers of previous years' question papers and also by referring to sample question paper available in market. I had also joined mains test series for improving the time management. In mains examination, one needs to have good writing speed because nobody can afford to leave even a single question irrespective of mark assigned to it.

PD—Was Judicial Services Examinations a planned thing for you?

Shri Abhitesh—It was a planned thing from me. I had been working on it since joining LL.B. in Delhi University. My only wish was to become a Judicial Officer.

PD—List some of the Magazines, News papers, Books etc. which you read for 'General Studies' during preparation.

Shri Abhitesh—I had read Pratiyogita Darpan, Economic and Political Weekly and The Hindu Newspaper for the preparation of this exam.

PD—How did you prepare yourself for Interview ? When and which Board did you face ? How did your interview go on, how long did it last and what were the questions asked during the Interview ?

Shri Abhitesh—Interview for judicial services examination is almost based on legal knowledge. So I had not prepared for it. My preparation for prelims and mains was sufficient for interview. But if you are working somewhere, you must have thorough knowledge about the institution and the relevant work. As I was Assistant Public Prosecutor in CBI, I was asked many questions about the functioning of CBI and also about my work.

Every candidate should keep in mind that interview board is very smart and it is not healthy to play bluff. If you don't know answer, simply say no. Inter-view is a personality test and one does not need to panic about it.

PD—What is the importance of medium of examination for exams like JSE ?

Shri Abhitesh—Medium of Delhi Judicial Service Examination is English only. This examination doesn't offer any other language as medium. However, one needn't scare with the medium. Simple and lucid expression is required to write answers. Conceptual clarity on topics and sequence of answer writing is important. There is no requirement of using tough words and artistic expression.

Personal Qualities

Strong Point—Perseverance and Discipline.

Weak Point—I am little emotional.

Hobbies—Cooking and Reading.

PD—Does the educational, financial and demographic status of the family of an aspirant have any impact on the preparation ?

Shri Abhitesh—Not very much. However, support of family makes the target easier. Guidance is important for the preparation. I had also taken guidance from seniors and some judicial officers. Coaching is not really required. I had not joined any coaching for the preparation. Self-study is sufficient.

PD—Pratiyogita Darpan, the largest read Career & Competition magazine has been the top choice of aspirants; what is your opinion about it ?

Shri Abhitesh—Without any second thought, Pratiyogita Darpan is best magazine for preparation. I have been reading this magazine since 2009. Its contents are best in terms of covering current affairs and also the topics for essay.

PD—What is the secret of your success ?

Shri Abhitesh—There is no substitute for hard work. Proper planning is inevitable as the syllabus is huge and conceptual clarity on the subjects is required to write answers. Regular writing practice and reading all legal developments is very important.

PD—To whom would you like to give the credit for your success ?

Shri Abhitesh— I give credit of my success to the Almighty and my wife Mrs. Bhawna. Alongwith them there are many people who directly and indirectly contributed to my success.

PD—Any suggestion/advice you would like to give to the future aspirants.

Shri Abhitesh—There is no substitute for hard work. Don't go for short-cuts. Pursuing dream is the best job of this world. These are simple pieces of advice to all future aspirants.

PD—Thank you very much and wishing you all the best for your future endeavours.

Inspiring Youth

"Strong will-power, continuous hardwork and matchless guidance are the secrets of my success."

Apoorva Yadav

Topper—Uttar Pradesh P.C.S. Exam., 2017 (12th Rank)

"Pratiyogita Darpan" arranged an exclusive interview with Ms. Apoorva Yadav who has been selected in UPPCS Examination, 2017. She deserves high admiration and our heartiest congratulations on her glorious achievement. This important, thought-provoking and highly inspiring interview is being presented here in its original form.

PD—Achieving top slot in the coveted Civil Services Examination is no small feat; accept our heartiest congratulations on your splendid success.

Ms. Apoorva—Thank You so much.

PD—Medium for writing in the examination.

Ms. Apoorva—English

PD—Medium for Personality Test.

Ms. Apoorva— English.

PD—In how many attempts have you achieved this success ?

Ms. Apoorva—It was my fourth attempt.

PD—You achieved the desired success in this attempt; how do you visualize your previous attempts ?

Ms. Apoorva—My earlier attempts were learning experience for me. As past is the key to present, I learnt from my past mistakes and corrected them.

PD—What was your optional subject ?

Ms. Apoorva—Optional Subject : Philosophy and History.

PD—While making final choice for optional subject, what's important and what's not?

Ms. Apoorva—Personal interest in the subject that you can read for long hours without getting tired.

PD—Give the basis of selecting the optional subject ?

Ms. Apoorva—Keen interest of learning new things from that subject should be the basis to select optional.

PD—What preference in services have you opted for and any particular reason for that priority ?

Ms. Apoorva—My first preference was Deputy Collector. Nature of job to mingle with people, and solve their problems were the motivating factors behind this choice.

Nature succeeds in genius.
—Ms. Apoorva Yadav

PD—'Success is sweet'—Were you confident of your success with top ranks and how did you react to this news ?

Ms. Apoorva—No one is completely confident in these exams. Since I was giving UPSC also, I did not have much time to prepare for UPPCS 2016. But, I gave my attempt with all the positivity with whatever knowledge I had. When results came, I was extremely happy and satisfied.

PD—Did you keep in mind some time-frame for the examination preparation and number of attempts ?

Ms. Apoorva—No, I just wanted to clear this exam. I did not think of any such things.

PD—'Time-Management' is a key factor. How did you manage things ?

Ms. Apoorva—Since in UPSC we write 20 questions in 3 hours, so it helped in UPPCS to write 15 questions within the same time.

PD—The first step is the most difficult; from where did you get the right advice ?

Ms. Apoorva—I would say that the first step is the easiest today when we have huge study material available on internet. After sometime during preparation we feel the pressure to maintain consistency.

Initially, I joined coaching for UPSC for guidance, but did not join specific coaching for UPPCS.

PD—What was your approach towards Paper I (General Studies) and Paper II (Aptitude Test) during **Preliminary Examination** preparation?

Ms. Apoorva—For Preliminary Examination, rather than NCERTs and standard text-books like Laxmikanth and Spectrum, one should focus on three main things in UPPCS *i.e.* Previous years' papers, contemporary issues and annual compilation of current affairs.

PD—How did you manage to tackle the **'Negative Marking'** in Prelims ?

Ms. Apoorva—Generally with increased level of competition, I preferred attempting more questions, but prior practice with mocks is necessary.

PD—What shift did you adopt in your strategy for **Main Examination** (Written) ?

Ms. Apoorva—For Main Examination, I tried to improve my score in Hindi and optional subjects.

For optionals, I kept the sources minimum and solved previous years' papers.

Tried to attempt all questions with reasonable quality, drew diagrams, charts etc.

For History, I used Baliyan Sir's class notes and for Philosophy, I was immensely benefited with printed class notes of Patanjali IAS and Mitra IAS.

Bio-Data

Name—Apoorva Yadav

Father's Name—Mr. Gopi Singh Yadav

Mother's Name—Ms. Premkanti

Date of Birth—10th November, 1990

Educational Qualifications—

10th—2003, UP Board, SRBB Inter College, Etah (64·6%)

12th—2005, UP Board, SRBB Inter College, Etah (79·2%)

B. Tech.—2009, UPTU, IEC-CET (76·1%)

PD—Was there any special effort for effective preparation for Essay Paper ?

Ms. Apoorva—I just collected points, diagrams and quotes for general topics like women, education, farmers etc. One should write on the topic one is familiar with.

PD—How did you prepare yourself for **Interview (Personality Test)** ?

Ms. Apoorva—I revised my optional subjects alongwith current affairs. Mock Interviews helped a lot in this.

PD—Were you preparing for other career opportunities as well while preparing for your ultimate goal *i.e.*, Career in Civil Services ?

Ms. Apoorva—I was preparing for UPSC alongwith UPPCS.

PD—While the changing economic environment offers immense lucrative career opportunities in various sectors, still what kept you motivated towards Civil Services ?

Ms. Apoorva—I wanted to work with people and do something for the society. Civil Services suited my criteria.

PD—What is your opinion regarding the general view that Science subjects have better chance to score than Humanities ?

Ms. Apoorva—No, it is not like that. Marks depend on the level of preparation and command over subjects. People get equally good marks with Philosophy, Sociology as well as Mathematics and Physics.

PD—How do you find **Pratiyogita Darpan** ?

Ms. Apoorva—Pratiyogita Darpan's Indian Economy is really helpful in these exams. It helps to solve many questions.

PD—What is the secret of your success?

Ms. Apoorva—Be fearless and courageous in these examinations irrespective of level of preparation. Attempt exam with full confidence; for me practicing Mocks/Test Series before exams helped a lot.

PD—To whom would you like to give the credit for your success ?

Ms. Apoorva—My family, my friends and teachers for their support and faith.

Personal Qualities

Favourite Person—My mother

Strong Point—Positive attitude, determination

Weak Point—Self critical

Hobbies—Reading self-help books, cooking

PD—Any suggestion/advice you would like to give to the future aspirants.

Ms. Apoorva—Have faith in yourself. Keep going even if you are scared. Do not fear in attempting questions.

PD—Thank you very much and wishing you all the best for your future endeavours.

PDarpan

Continued from Page 59

PD—What is the secret of your success ?

Dr. Pooja—Impeccable commitment to my goal and putting right efforts at the right time, I think, worked for me. Instead of appearing for multiple exams I focused my attention entirely on UPSC CSE and streamlined my efforts. This saved my time and efforts and helped in yielding result within 1 year. Firm belief in the Almighty and support of my family and friends were also very helpful.

PD—To whom would you like to give the credit for your success ?

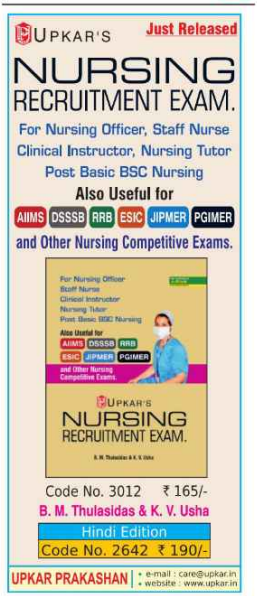
Dr. Pooja—Firstly, to my parents and my sister who supported me immensely throughout this period. They believed in me and my dream which was a major morale booster for me. Next I would extend my sincere thanks to my mentors and all other friends (seniors) who were my constant support throughout my journey.

PD—Any suggestion/advice you would like to give to the future aspirants.

Dr. Pooja—Before starting your journey in civil services first identify your WHY. Once this WHY is clear then direct your entire energy and resources to only one goal *i.e.*, Civil Services. To keep distractions and fears at bay, be always in touch with your family and friends. Believe in yourself each day and motivate yourself constantly. At last remember that "Civil services is a means to an end and not an end in itself."

PD—Thank you very much and wishing you all the best for your future endeavours.

PDarpan



Special Feature

School Education Quality Index, 2019

—Dr. Prerna Dixit

The School Education Quality Index (SEQI) has been developed to evaluate the performance of States and Union Territories (UTs) in the school education sector. The Index aims to bring an outcomes focus to education policy by providing States and UTs with a platform to identify their strengths and weaknesses and undertake requisite course corrections or policy interventions. In line with NITI Aayog's mandate to foster the spirit of competitive and cooperative federalism, the index strives to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and best practices across States and UTs.

Aim and Purpose of SEQI

SEQI aims to drive policy reforms that will improve the quality of school education. The Index seeks to institutionalise a focus on enhancing education outcomes by driving improvements in learning levels, access, equity, infrastructure and governance processes.

The index recognises that school education is a subject on the Concurrent List and that State-level leadership is crucial for improving outcomes in a cost-effective manner. The index will serve as a regular and transparent review of the status of school education quality across the States and UTs.

Developed through a collaborative process including key stakeholders such as MHRD, the World Bank and sector experts, the index consists of 30 critical indicators that assess the delivery of quality education.

Index Categories and Domains

SEQI is based on a set of indicators that measure the overall effectiveness, quality and efficiency of the Indian school education system. The index encourages States/UTs to improve their scores by showing progress across these aspects.

Summary of Index Categories and Domains

To facilitate like-to-like comparisons, States and UTs have been grouped as Large States, Small States and Union Territories. Within each of these groups, the indicator values have been appropriately scaled, normalized and weighted to generate an overall performance score and ranking for each State and UT.

States and UTs are ranked on their overall performance in the reference year 2016-17, as well as on the change in their performance between the reference year and base year (2015-16). The rankings present incredible insights on the status of school education across States/UTs and their relative progress over time.

- There are large variations in the overall scores for States and UTs as well as in 1. how they perform in different category areas in the reference year (2016-17).
- Kerala, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Assam are the best-performing large States, each achieving an overall performance score above 60·0 per cent.
- Kerala has the highest overall performance score of 76·6 per cent. Uttar Pradesh ranks last among the large States, with an overall performance score of 36·4 per cent.
- States' overall performance may hide variations in their performance on the underlying categories. Of the 20 large States, 10 perform better on the Outcomes category, with the most noticeable performance differences observed in the cases of Karnataka, Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh.
- The other large States perform better on the Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes category, with the most noticeable performance differences observed in the cases of Odisha, Punjab and Haryana.
- In the Outcomes category, Karnataka leads the large States, with a score of 81·9 per cent while Uttar Pradesh has the lowest score of 34·1 per cent.
- In the Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes category, Kerala has the highest score of 79·0 per cent while Jharkhand comes in last with a score of 21·0 per cent.
- Manipur, Tripura and Goa are the top-performing small States, each achieving an overall performance score above 55 per cent. Manipur has the highest overall performance score of 68·8 per cent. Arunachal Pradesh ranks last, with an overall performance score of 24·6 per cent.
- Among small States, the overall performance score varied from 68·8 per cent for Manipur to 24·6 per cent for Arunachal Pradesh. In UTs, the overall performance score ranged from 82·9 per cent for Chandigarh to 31·9 per cent for Lakshadweep.

Category	Domain	Number of Indicators	Total Weight
1. Outcomes	1.1 Learning Outcomes	3	360
	1.2 Access Outcomes	3	100
	1.3 Infrastructure & Facilities for Outcomes	3	25
	1.4 Equity Outcomes	7	200
2. Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes	Covering student and teacher attendance, teacher availability, administrative adequacy, training, accountability and transparency	14	280
Total		**30**	**965**

- Of the eight small States, seven perform better on the Outcomes category, with the most noticeable performance differences observed in the cases of Manipur, Tripura and Goa. Sikkim is the only small State that performs better on the Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes category.
- Manipur ranks first among the small States on the Outcomes category, with a score of 82·1 percent. Arunachal Pradesh has the lowest score, at 27·2 per cent. In the Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes category, Mizoram has the highest score of 47·5 per cent while Arunachal Pradesh ranks last with a score of 18·3 per cent.
- A small group of States and UTs significantly outpace all others in their rates of improvement.
- Out of the 20 large States, 18 improved their overall performance score between 2015-16 and 2016-17. Five of these States (Haryana, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Gujarat) showed high rates of improvement, with increases of 18·5, 16·8, 13·7, 12·4 and 10·6 percentage points respectively
- Among the eight small States, five showed an improvement in their overall performance score between 2015-16 and 2016-17, of which three stood out (Meghalaya, Nagaland and Goa), with gains of 14·1, 13·5 and 8·2 percentage points respectively.
- All seven UTs showed an improvement in their overall performance score between 2015-16 and 2016-17. Three of them (Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Puducherry) stood out for the size of the increase, with gains of 16·5, 15·0 and 14·3 percentage points, respectively.
- Chandigarh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli are the top-performing UTs, with each achieving an overall performance score above 50·0 per cent. Chandigarh has the highest overall performance score of 82·9 per cent while Lakshadweep ranks last, with an overall performance score of 31·9 per cent.
- Of the seven UTs, four perform better on the Outcomes category, with the most noticeable performance difference observed in Dadra & Nagar Haveli. Delhi, Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep perform better on the Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes category.
- Consistent with its overall score, Chandigarh is also the best-performing UT on the Outcomes and Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes categories, with scores of 88·4 per cent and 69·5 per cent respectively. Lakshadweep received the lowest score (28·9 per cent) on the Outcomes category while Dadra & Nagar Haveli received the lowest score (33·5 per cent) on the Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes category.
- Within the Outcomes category, there is a high degree of variation in State and UT performance on Learning Outcomes, Access Outcomes and Infrastructure & Facilities for Outcomes. On the other hand, there is little variation in Equity Outcomes.
- Karnataka leads the large States on the Outcomes category, with a score of 81·9 per cent. Uttar Pradesh scores the lowest at 34·1 per cent.
- Manipur ranks first among the small States on the Outcomes category, with a score of 82·1 per cent. Arunachal Pradesh has the lowest score at 27·2 per cent. Chandigarh is the best performing UT on the Outcomes category, with a score of 88.4 per cent, while Lakshadweep received the lowest score (28·9).
- Scores on the Outcomes category are primarily driven by Learning Outcomes, which receives more than 50 percent of the total weight assigned to this category. In addition to the challenges of improving learning outcomes, the results highlight that educational access and infrastructure are continuing issues for States/UTs and require additional focus and investments.
- In the Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes category, overall performance is primarily driven by scores for school leadership, teacher availability and transparency in teacher/school leader recruitment.
- The Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes category accounts for about 30 per cent of the overall score. It includes indicators related to student and teacher attendance systems, availability of in-service teacher professional development, school leadership, accountability, transparency in teacher recruitment and financial discipline.
- Kerala leads the large States in the Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes category, with a score of 79·0 per cent, while Jharkhand has the lowest score of 21·0 per cent.
- Mizoram ranks first among small States, with a score of 47·5 per cent, while Arunachal Pradesh ranks last with a score of 18·3 per cent. Chandigarh is the best-performing UT, with a score of 69·5 per cent, while Dadra & Nagar Haveli received the lowest score of 33·5 per cent.
- Investments to strengthen performance on Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes category indicators could have an immediate positive impact on a State/UT's SEQI scores and, over the medium term, also enhance their education outcomes.

SEQI serves as a useful tool to assess the success of India's school education system. The index comprises indicators that will help steer a State/UT's efforts to improve the delivery of quality education. It is hoped that the index provides instructive feedback to States/UTs and non-governmental service providers to drive crucial reforms and encourage innovation in cost-effective policy approaches. SEQI is envisioned as a dynamic instrument that will continue to evolve. Over time, the relevance of the existing indicators and the availability of data for new indicators will be factored into the index design. In particular, the linkages between policy actions and SEQI indicators will be analyzed to reflect the efforts made by States and UTs to improve school education. It is hoped that the index will help facilitate the sharing of best practices and drive improvements in the delivery of quality education across India.

PSargan

Focus 1

Consumer Protection (Amendment) Act, 2019 : A New Era of Consumer Protectionism

—Dr. S.S.S. Chauhan

The Parliament on August 6, 2019 gave its nod to the landmark Consumer Protection Bill, 2019 which aims to protect the rights of consumers by establishing authorities for timely and effective administration and settlement of consumers' disputes. The Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on 30th July, 2019 and was passed by the Rajya Sabha on August 6, 2019 through a voice vote. The Bill got President's assent on August 9, 2019 The Bill has replaced the more than three decades old Consumer Protection Act, 1986. With the publication of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 in the Gazette of India on August 9, 2019, the new law paved the way for the creation of an effective regime of consumer protection. The new Act has added some new and innovative provisions which were missing in the earlier Act of 1986.

New Provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019

- Creation of Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA).
- E-Commerce has been brought under the purview of consumer protection Act.
- Consumer redressal forums at district and state level have been re-designated District Consumer Commission and State Consumer Commission respectively.
- Monetary limits of complaint cases at district, state and national level enhanced.
- Complaint can now be lodged in the residential /business area of the complainant.
- Product Liability provision has been brought under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.
- Settlement of disputes through mediation is also permissible under the new Act.
- Toughest provisions, including severe penalty on the person endorsing it, against misleading advertisement.

Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA)

The Central Government shall establish a Central Consumer Protection Authority to regulate matters relating to violation of rights of consumers, unfair trade practices and false or misleading advertisements which are prejudicial to the interests of public and consumers and to promote, protect and enforce the rights of consumers as a class. The Central Authority shall consist of a Chief Commissioner and such number of other Commissioners to be appointed by the Central Government to exercise the powers and discharge the functions under this Act :

- The headquarters of the Central Authority shall be in the National Capital Region of Delhi
- The Central Authority shall have an Investigation Wing headed by a Director-General for the purpose of conducting inquiry or investigation under this Act as may be directed by the Central Authority.
- The District Collector may, on a complaint or on a reference made to him by the Central Authority or the Commissioner of a regional office, inquire into or investigate complaints regarding violation of rights of consumers as a class, on matters relating to violations of consumer rights, unfair trade practices and false or misleading advertisements, within his jurisdiction and submit his report to the Central Authority or to the Commissioner of a regional office.

Powers and Functions of Central Authority

The Central Authority shall :

- protect, promote and enforce the rights of consumers as a class, and prevent violation of consumers' rights under this Act;
- prevent unfair trade practices.
- ensure that no false or misleading advertisement is made of any goods or services which contravenes the provisions of this Act.
- ensure that no person takes part in the publication of any advertisement which is false or misleading.

The Central Authority shall :

- inquire or cause an inquiry or investigation to be made into violations of consumer rights or unfair trade practices, either *suo motu* or on a complaint received or on the directions from the Central Government;
- file complaints before the District Commission, the State Commission or the National Commission;
- intervene in any proceedings before the District Commission or the State Commission or the National Commission, as the case may be, in respect of any allegation of violation of consumer rights or unfair trade practices;
- review the matters relating to, and the factors inhibiting enjoyment of, consumer rights, including safeguards provided for the protection of consumers under any other law for the time being in force and recommend appropriate remedial measures for their effective implementation;
- recommend adoption of international covenants and best international practices on consumer rights to ensure effective enforcement of consumer rights;
- have the power to :
  - * recalling of goods or withdrawal of services which are dangerous, hazardous or unsafe;
  - * reimbursement of the prices of goods or services so recalled to purchasers of such goods or services;
  - * discontinuation of practices which are unfair and prejudicial to consumers' interest;

* issue directions and penalties against false or misleading advertisement;
* impose penalty in the following manner : (i) upto ₹ Ten lakh against manufacturer or endorser for false or misleading advertisement; (ii) Upto ₹ Fifty lakh for every subsequent contravention by a manufacturer or endorser : (iii) prohibit the endorser of a false or misleading advertisement from making endorsement of any product or service for a period which may extend to one year.

Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission

Under the provisions of the new Consumer Protection Act 2019 the nomenclature, organisational pattern, powers and functions of the district consumer forum and state consumer commission have been changed in the following manner :

District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission :

1. The State Government shall establish a District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, to be known as the District Commission, in each district of the State.
2. Each district commission shall consist of a President and not less than two and not more than such number of members as may be prescribed, in consultation with the Central Government.
3. The District Commission shall have jurisdiction to entertain complaints where the value of the goods or services paid as consideration does not exceed one crore rupees.
4. Any person aggrieved by an order made by the District Commission may prefer an appeal against such order to the State Commission on the grounds of facts or law **within a period of forty-five days from the date of the order.**

State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission : The State Government shall establish a State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, to be known as the State Commission, in the State :

1. Each State commission shall consist of a President and not less than four and not more than such number of members as may be prescribed, in consultation with the Central Government.
2. Subject to the other provisions of this Act, the State Commission shall have jurisdiction :
   * to entertain complaints where the value of the goods or services paid as consideration, exceeds **rupees one crore, but does not exceed rupees ten crore;**
   * to entertain complaints against unfair contracts, where the value of goods or services paid as consideration does not exceed **ten crore rupees;**
   * to entertain appeals against the orders of any District Commission within the State.
   * to call for the records and pass appropriate orders in any consumer dispute which is pending before or has been decided by any District Commission within the State, where it appears to the State Commission that such District Commission has exercised a jurisdiction not vested in it by law, or has failed to exercise a jurisdiction so vested or has acted in exercise of its jurisdiction illegally or with material irregularity.
   * on the application of the complainant or of its own motion, the State Commission may, at any stage of the proceeding, transfer any complaint pending before a District Commission to another District Commission within the State if the interest of justice so requires.
3. Any person aggrieved by an order made by the State Commission in exercise of its powers may prefer an appeal against such order to the National Commission **within a period of thirty days from the date of the order** in such form and manner as may be prescribed.

National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission

The Central Government shall establish a National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, to be known as the National Commission :

1. The National Commission shall ordinarily function at the National Capital Region.
2. The National Commission shall consist of a President and not less than four and not more than such number of members as may be prescribed.
3. No President or members shall hold office as such after he has attained such age as specified in the rules made by the Central Government which shall not exceed :
   (a) in the case of the President, the age of seventy years
   (b) in the case of any other member, the age of sixty-seven years.
4. Neither the salary and allowances nor the other terms and conditions of service of President and members of the National Commission shall be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.
5. The National Commission shall have jurisdiction :
   (a) to entertain :
   (i) complaints where the value of the goods or services paid as consideration exceeds **rupees ten crore**
   (ii) complaints against unfair contracts, where the value of goods or services paid as consideration exceeds **ten crore rupees**
   (iii) appeals against the orders of any State Commission
   (iv) appeals against the orders of the Central Authority
   (b) to call for the records and pass appropriate orders in any consumer dispute which is pending before or has been decided by any State Commission where it appears to the National Commission that such State Commission has exercised a jurisdiction not vested in it by law, or has failed to exercise a jurisdiction so

vested, or has acted in the exercise of its jurisdiction illegally or with material irregularity.

6. On the application of the complainant or of its own motion, the National Commission may, at any stage of the proceeding, in the interest of justice, transfer any complaint pending before the District Commission of one State to a District Commission of another State or before one State Commission to another State Commission.
7. Any person, aggrieved by an order made by the National Commission may prefer an appeal against such order to the **Supreme Court within a period of thirty days from the date of the order :**

The District Commission, the State Commission or the National Commission shall not admit a complaint unless it is filed within two years from the date on which the cause of action has arisen.

Mediation

1. The State Government shall establish a consumer mediation cell to be attached to each of the District Commissions and the State Commission of that State.
2. The Central Government shall establish a consumer mediation cell to be attached to the National Commission and each of the regional Benches.
3. Pursuant to mediation, if an agreement is reached between the parties with respect to all of the issues involved in the consumer dispute or with respect to only some of the issues, the terms of such agreement shall be reduced to writing accordingly, and signed by the parties to such dispute or their authorised representatives.
4. The mediator shall prepare a settlement report of the settlement and forward the signed agreement along with such report to the concerned Commission.
5. Where no agreement is reached between the parties within the specified time or the mediator is of the opinion that settlement is not possible, he shall prepare his report accordingly and submit the same to the concerned Commission.
6. The District Commission or the State Commission or the National Commission, as the case may be, shall, **within seven days of the receipt of the settlement report**, pass suitable order recording such settlement of consumer dispute and dispose of the matter accordingly.
7. Where the consumer dispute is settled only in part, the District Commission or the State Commission or the National Commission, as the case may be, shall record settlement of the issues which have been so settled and continue to hear other issues involved in such consumer dispute.
8. Where the consumer dispute could not be settled by mediation, the District Commission or the State Commission or the National Commission, as the case may be, shall continue to hear all the issues involved in such consumer dispute.

Product Liability

1. The provisions of sections 82-87 shall apply to every claim for compensation under a product liability action by a complainant for any harm caused by a defective product manufactured by a product manufacturer or serviced by a product service provider or sold by a product seller.
2. A product liability action may be brought by a complainant against a product manufacturer or a product service provider or a product seller, as the case may be, for any harm caused to him on account of a defective product.
3. A product manufacturer shall be liable in a product liability action, if :
   (a) the product contains a manufacturing defect; or
   (b) the product is defective in design; or
   (c) there is a deviation from manufacturing specifications; or
   (d) the product does not conform to the express warranty; or
   (e) the product fails to contain adequate instructions of correct usage to prevent any harm or any warning regarding improper or incorrect usage.
4. A product manufacturer shall be liable in a product liability action even if he proves that he was not negligent or fraudulent in making the express warranty of a product.
5. A product service provider shall be liable in a product liability action, if :
   (a) the service provided by him was faulty or imperfect or deficient or inadequate in quality, nature or manner of performance which is required to be provided by or under any law for the time being in force, or pursuant to any contract or otherwise; or
   (b) there was an act of omission or commission or negligence or conscious withholding of any information which caused harm; or
   (c) the service provider did not issue adequate instructions or warnings to prevent any harm; or
   (d) the service did not conform to express warranty or the terms and conditions of the contract.
6. A product seller who is not a product manufacturer shall be liable in a product liability action, if :
   (a) he has exercised substantial control over the designing, testing, manufacturing, packaging or labelling of a product that caused harm; or
   (b) he has altered or modified the product and such alteration or modification was the substantial factor in causing the harm; or
   (c) he has made an express warranty of a product independent of any express warranty made by a manufacturer and such product failed to conform to the express warranty made by the product seller which caused the harm; or

(d) the product has been sold by him and the identity of product manufacturer of such product is not known, or if known, the service of notice or process or warrant cannot be effected on him or he is not subject to the law which is in force in India or the order, if any, passed or to be passed cannot be enforced against him; or

(e) he failed to exercise reasonable care in assembling, inspecting or maintaining such product or he did not pass on the warnings or instructions of the product manufacturer regarding the dangers involved or proper usage of the product while selling such product and such failure was the proximate cause of the harm.

Offences and Penalties

1. Whoever fails to comply with any direction of the Central Authority under sections 20 and 21 of Consumer Protection Act 2019, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **six months or with fine which may extend to twenty lakh rupees, or with both.**
2. Any manufacturer or service provider who causes a false or misleading advertisement to be made which is prejudicial to the interest of consumers shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **two years and with fine which may extend to ten lakh rupees;** and for every subsequent offence, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **five years and with fine which may extend to fifty lakh rupees.**
3. Whoever, by himself or by any other person on his behalf, manufactures for sale or stores or sells or distributes or imports any product containing an adulterant shall be punished, if such act :
   (a) does not result in any injury to the consumer, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **six months and with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees;**
   (b) causing injury not amounting to grievous hurt to the consumer, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **one year and with fine which may extend to three lakh rupees;**
   (c) causing injury resulting in grievous hurt to the consumer, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **seven years and with fine which may extend to five lakh rupees; and**
   (d) results in the death of a consumer, with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than seven years, but which may extend to **imprisonment for life and with fine which shall not be less than ten lakh rupees.**
4. The offences under clauses (*c*) and (*d*) of sub-section (*1*) shall be cognizable and non-bailable.
   Notwithstanding the punishment under sub-section (*1*), the court may, in case of first conviction, suspend any licence issued to the person referred to in that sub-section, under any law for the time being in force, for a period up to two years, and in case of second or subsequent conviction, cancel the licence.
5. Whoever, by himself or by any other person on his behalf, manufactures for sale or stores or sells or distributes or imports any spurious goods shall be punished, if such act :
   (a) causing injury not amounting to grievous hurt to the consumer, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **one year and with fine which may extend to three lakh rupees;**
   (b) causing injury resulting in grievous hurt to the consumer, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **seven years and with fine which may extend to five lakh rupees;**
   (c) results in the death of a consumer, with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than **seven years, but may extend to imprisonment for life and with fine which shall not be less than ten lakh rupees.**

e-commerce

For the purposes of preventing unfair trade practices in e-commerce, direct selling and also to protect the interest and rights of consumers, the Central Government may take such measures in the manner as may be prescribed.

All the loopholes in the three decade old Consumer Protection Act have been plugged in the new Consumer Protection Act, 2019. But the implementation of the Act is not free from legal hurdles which can jeopardise the interests of the consumers in the same manner as the other laws have failed to take care of poor and down trodden class. Scattered nature of consumers with little or no knowledge of the legal provisions will find it hard to win the legal battle against powerful lobby of manufacturers and service providers.

PDarpan

Focus 2

Reforms in Medical Education in India : NMC Act, 2019

—Madhulika Singh

Medical profession is one of the most prestigious, noble and lucrative professions around the world. It has attained the symbol of status. That is reason thousands of youths try their luck every year to get admission in MBBS/BDS/BAMS/BHMS courses as well as in post graduate courses. Various flaws in regulatory framework of medical education made the system as one of the most corrupt and poorly managed systems in the country. Medical Council of India (MCI), apex regulatory body of medical education and profession, was dissolved in 2010 following corruption charges against its President Dr. Ketan Desai by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The Central government brought the National Medical Commission Bill, 2019 which is being touted as the biggest reform in the history of medical education in India. The NMC Bill was passed by Lok Sabha on July 29, 2019 and by Rajya Sabha on August 1, 2019. It got assent of the President of India on August 8, 2019.

National Medical Commission Act 2019

NMC is an Act to provide for a medical education system :

- That improves access to quality and affordable medical education, ensures availability of adequate and high quality medical professionals in all parts of the country;
- That promotes equitable and universal healthcare that encourages community health perspective and makes services of medical professionals accessible to all the citizens;
- That promotes national health goals;
- That encourages medical professionals to adopt latest medical research in their work and to contribute to research;
- That has an objective periodic and transparent assessment of medical institutions and facilitates maintenance of a medical register for India and enforces high ethical standards in all aspects of medical services;
- That is flexible to adapt to changing needs and has an effective grievance redressal mechanism and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The main provisions of the NMC Act 2019 are following :

The National Medical Commission

The Central government shall constitute the National Medical Commission which will be headquartered in New Delhi. The Commission shall be a body corporate. The Commission shall consist of the following persons to be appointed by the Central Government :

(a) Chairperson, who shall be medical professional of outstanding ability, proven administrative capacity and integrity, possessing a postgraduate degree in any discipline of medical sciences from any University and having experience of not less than twenty years in the field of medical sciences, out of which at least ten years shall be as a leader in the area of medical education.

(b) Ten ex-officio Members : The following persons shall be the ex officio Members of the Commission :

(i) The President of the Under-Graduate Medical Education Board;

(ii) The President of the Post-Graduate Medical Education Board;

(iii) The President of the Medical Assessment and Rating Board;

(iv) The President of the Ethics and Medical Registration Board;

(v) The Director General of Health Services, Directorate General of Health Services, New Delhi;

(vi) The Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR);

(vii) A Director of any of the All India Institutes of Medical Sciences, to be nominated by the Central Government;

(viii) Two persons from amongst the Directors of Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh; Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, Puducherry; Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai; North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong; and All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Kolkata; to be nominated by the Central Government

(viii) One person to represent the Ministry of the Central Government dealing with Health and Family Welfare, not below the rank of Additional Secretary to the Government of India

(c) Twenty-two part-time Members : The following persons shall be appointed as part-time Members of the Commission :

- Three Members to be appointed from amongst persons of ability, integrity and standing, who have special knowledge and professional experience in such areas including management, law, medical ethics, health research, consumer or patient rights advocacy, science and technology and economics.
- Ten Members to be appointed on rotational basis from amongst the nominees of the States and Union territories in the Medical Advisory Council for a term of two years.
- Nine members to be appointed from amongst the nominees of the States and Union territories, under clause (e) of sub-section (2) of section 11, in the Medical Advisory Council for a term of two years.

Chairperson, part-time members and the secretary of the NMC shall be appointed by the Central government on the recommendations of a search committee consisting of :

(a) The Cabinet Secretary—Chairperson;
(b) Three experts-as members, possessing outstanding qualifications and experience of not less than twenty-five years in the field of medical education, public health education and health research, to be nominated by the Central Government;
(c) One expert-as a member, from amongst the part-time Members.
(d) One person-as a member, possessing outstanding qualifications and experience of not less than twenty-five years in the field of management or law or economics or science and technology, to be nominated by the Central Government;
(e) The Secretary to the Government of India in charge of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, to be the Convener—Member.

Term of Office : The Chairperson and the part-time Members of the National Medical Commission, other than the part-time Members appointed under clauses (b) and (c) of sub-section (4) of section 4, shall hold office for a term not exceeding four years and shall not be eligible for any extension or re-appointment. Central government will have exclusive power to remove the Chairperson and or any other member of the NMC.

Powers and functions of the NMC : The Commission shall perform the following functions, namely :
(a) Lay down policies for maintaining a high quality and high standards in medical education;
(b) Lay down policies for regulating medical institutions, medical researches and medical professionals;
(c) Assess the requirements in healthcare, including human resources for health and healthcare infrastructure and develop a road map for meeting such requirements;
(d) Promote, coordinate and frame guidelines and lay down policies by making necessary regulations for the proper functioning of the Commission, the Autonomous Boards and the State Medical Councils;
(e) Ensure coordination among the Autonomous Boards;
(f) Take such measures, to ensure compliance by the State Medical Councils of the guidelines framed and regulations made under this Act for their effective functioning under this Act;
(g) Exercise appellate jurisdiction with respect to the decisions of the Autonomous Boards;
(h) Lay down policies and codes to ensure observance of professional ethics in medical profession and to promote ethical conduct during the provision of care by medical practitioners;
(i) Frame guidelines for determination of fees and all other charges in respect of fifty per cent. of seats in private medical institutions and deemed to be universities which are governed under the provisions of this Act;
(j) Exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be prescribed.

The Medical Advisory Council

The Central Government shall constitute an advisory body to be known as the Medical Advisory Council. The Council shall consist of :

Chairperson : the Chairperson of the NMC shall be the ex officio Chairperson of the Council.

Members :
- every member of the Commission shall be the ex officio members of the Council;
- one member to represent each State, who is the Vice-Chancellor of a health University in that State, to be nominated by that State Government;
- one member to represent each Union territory, who is the Vice-Chancellor of a health University in that Union territory, to be nominated by the Ministry of Home Affairs in the Government of India;
- one member to represent each State and each Union territory from amongst elected members of the State Medical Council, to be nominated by that State Medical Council;
- The Chairman, University Grants Commission;
- The Director, National Assessment and Accreditation Council;
- Four members to be nominated by the Central Government from amongst persons holding the post of Director in the Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management and the Indian Institute of Science.

Functions of the Medical Advisory Council

(1) The Council shall be the primary platform through which the States and Union territories may put forth their views and concerns before the Commission.

(2) The Council shall advise the Commission on measures to determine and maintain, and to coordinate maintenance of the minimum standards in all matters relating to medical education, training and research.

(3) The Council shall advise the Commission on measures to enhance equitable access to medical education.

National Examination

National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test : There shall be a uniform National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test for admission to the undergraduate and postgraduate super-speciality medical education in all medical institutions. The National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test will be conducted in English and in other languages.

National Exit Test (NEXT) : A common final year undergraduate medical examination, to be known as the National Exit Test shall be held for granting licence to practice medicine as medical practitioners and for enrolment in the State Register or the National Register.

Any person with a foreign medical qualification shall have to qualify National Exit Test for the purpose of obtaining licence to practice medicine as medical practitioner and for enrolment in the State Register or the National Register.

The National Exit Test shall be the basis for admission to the post-graduate broad based-speciality medical education in medical institutions.

Autonomous Boards

The Central Government shall constitute the following Autonomous Boards, under the overall supervision of the NMC, to perform the functions assigned to such Boards :

(a) The Under-Graduate Medical Education Board (UGMEB) : The UGMEB will perform the following functions :

- Determine standards of medical education at undergraduate level;
- Develop competency based dynamic curriculum at undergraduate level;
- Develop competency based dynamic curriculum for addressing the needs of primary health services, community medicine and family medicine to ensure healthcare in such areas;
- Frame guidelines for setting up medical institutions for imparting undergraduate courses, having regard to the needs of the country and the global norms;
- Determine the minimum requirements and standards for conducting courses and examinations for undergraduates in medical institutions, having regard to the needs of creativity at local levels, including designing of some courses by individual institutions;
- Determine standards and norms for infrastructure, faculty and quality of education in medical institutions providing undergraduate medical education;
- Facilitate development and training of faculty members teaching undergraduate courses;
- Facilitate research and the international student and faculty exchange programmes relating to undergraduate medical education.

(b) The Post-Graduate Medical Education Board (PGMEB) : PGMEB shall perform the following functions

- Determine the standards of medical education at the postgraduate level and super-speciality level;
- Develop competency based dynamic curriculum at postgraduate level and super-speciality level with a view to developing appropriate skill, knowledge, attitude, values and ethics among postgraduates and super-specialists to provide healthcare, impart medical education and conduct medical research;
- Frame guidelines for setting up medical institutions for imparting postgraduate and super-speciality courses, having regard to the needs of the country and global norms;
- Determine the minimum requirements and standards for conducting postgraduate and super-speciality courses and examinations in medical institution;
- Determine standards and norms for infrastructure, faculty and quality of education in medical institutions conducting post-graduate and super-speciality medical education;
- Facilitate development and training of the faculty members teaching postgraduate and super-speciality courses;
- Facilitate research and the international student and faculty exchange programmes relating to postgraduate and super-speciality medical education;
- Promote and facilitate post-graduate courses in family medicine.

(c) The Medical Assessment and Rating Board(MARB) : The MARB will perform the following functions :

- Determine the procedure for assessing and rating the medical institutions for their compliance with the standards laid down by the Under-Graduate Medical Education Board or the Post-Graduate Medical Education Board;
- *Grant permission for establishment of a new medical institution, or to start any postgraduate course or to increase number of seats*
- Carry out inspections of medical institutions for assessing and rating such institutions;
- Conduct, or where it deems necessary, empanel independent rating agencies to conduct, assess and rate all medical institutions, within such period of their opening, and every year thereafter;
- *Take such measures, including issuing warning, imposition of monetary penalty, reducing intake or stoppage of admissions and recommending to the Commission for withdrawal of recognition, against a medical institution for failure to maintain the minimum essential standards specified by the Under-Graduate Medical Education Board or the Post-Graduate Medical Education Board.*

(d) The Ethics and Medical Registration Board (EMRB) : The EMRB will perform the following functions :

- Maintain National Registers of all licensed medical;
- Regulate professional conduct and promote medical ethics;
- Develop mechanisms to have continuous interaction with State Medical Councils to effectively promote and regulate the conduct of medical practitioners and professionals;
- *Exercise appellate jurisdiction with respect to the actions taken by a State Medical Council.*

Composition : Each Autonomous Board shall consist of a President and two whole-time Members and two part-time Members.

Term of Office : The President and Members (other than part-time Members) of each Autonomous Board shall hold the office for a term not exceeding four years and shall not be eligible for any extension or re-appointment

Community Health Providers

The NMC may grant limited licence to practice medicine at mid-level as Community Health Provider to such person connected with modern scientific medical profession who qualifies such criteria as may be specified by the regulations. Provided that the number of limited licence to be granted under this sub-section shall not exceed one-third of the total number of licenced medical practitioners registered .

The Community Health Provider who is granted limited licences may practice medicine to such extent, in such circumstances and for such period, as may be specified by the regulations. The Community Health Provider may prescribe specified medicine independently, only in primary and preventive healthcare, but in cases other than primary and preventive healthcare, he may prescribe medicine only under the supervision of medical practitioners.

Contentious Issues Regarding the NMC

The entire medical community-Under graduate and Post-graduate students, residents, junior doctors, Consultants and the teachers of the medical institutions—as well as the leaders of the opposition parties are opposing the proposed provisions of the Act. Although, the NMC Act has now become a law it has not been notified by the Central government. The major issues of contention are the following :

Entire Organisational Structure is dominated by nominations : Changing the composition of the new proposed medical regulation body from being an elected to a centrally nominated one, will give government at the Centre an upper hand .Political intervention and favouritism will increase. Under the IMC Act, two-thirds of MCI's members were elected. The NMC comes with a heavy control by the Union government. The Centre, through a search committee, will select who gets to head and be members of National Medical Commission, national and state medical councils, and empowered autonomous boards, which will be formed under the NMC.

Allowing the Community Health Providers to prescribe allopathic medicines : The biggest sticking point under the NMC Act is to provide the licence to mid-level practitioners to practise modern medicine in primary and preventive care. It will increase the quackery in the field of treatment. Here is a catch. Qualified doctors are not willing to serve in poorly served rural areas on the pretext of poor healthcare facilities on the one hand while on the other they oppose the scheme of Community Health Providers.

EXIT : Students of MBBS courses are opposing the EXIT. To streamline the system of examination, the NMC Act proposes one exam. the final MBBS exam. which will serve multiple purposes of an exit exam to give licences to a doctor to practise medicine, as an entrance exam for admission in post-graduate courses and a screening test for foreign medical graduates. The doctors allege that this streamlining is as good as diluting the current stringent checks and balances that a medical student goes through to be able to practise.

In the current MBBS final year examinations, a student has a theory paper, after which he has a practical exam, where he examines patients and four examiners assess him or her.

The student then has a viva. After clearing all of these the doctor gets a degree and a licence to practise. Under NMC, there is no clarity on what the nature of the common exam would be, since the purpose of all exams which are clubbed are completely different.

Giving Freehand to Private Medical Colleges in terms of determination of fees : Another issue in the NMC ACT which is being perceived as pro-private medical colleges is the clause of government regulating fewer seats in private medical colleges. India currently has over 506 medical colleges, out of which, 279 are run privately, offering 53% of all MBBS seats in the country. The NMC

Continued on Page 76

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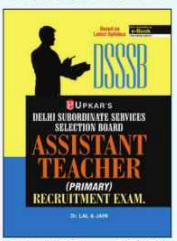

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Focus 3

Big Doze of Reforms to Mitigate Recessionary Trends in Indian Economy

—Dr. Deepti

In the backdrop of slowdown of economy to six year low 5% growth rate in the first quarter (April-June) of 2019-20 preceded by a modest growth of 5·8% in fourth quarter of 2018-19, 6·6% in third quarter of 2018-19, and rising unemployment, slowdown in exports, slowdown in revenue collection and increasing pressure on the fiscal deficit, Government of India announced several measures to boost up the economy. Besides these measures, RBI has obliged the government by transferring ₹ 1·76 lakh crore from its surpluses and reserve funds and reduction in policy repo rate to 5·4% in the Third Bi monthly review of Monetary policy of 2019-20. It was the fourth cut in the repo rate in a row in 2019.

Key measures of ongoing reforms are following :

FDI Limits further liberalised, 2019

Union Cabinet approved the liberalised FDI cap on August 28,2019 in the following key sectors of the economy :

- 100% FDI has been allowed under automatic route for sale of coal, for coal mining activities including associated processing infrastructure subject to provisions of Coal Mines (special provisions) Act, 2015 and the Mines and Minerals (development and regulation) Act, 1957 as amended from time to time, and other relevant acts on the subject. **"Associated Processing Infrastructure" would include coal washery, crushing, coal handling, and separation (magnetic and non-magnetic).**
- 100% FDI has been allowed under automatic route in contract manufacturing.
- With a view to provide greater flexibility and ease of operations to Single Brand Retail Trading entities (SBRT), it has been decided that all procurements made from India by the SBRT entity for that single brand shall be counted towards local sourcing, irrespective of whether the goods procured are sold in India or exported. Further, the current cap of considering exports for 5 years only is proposed to be removed, to give an impetus to exports.
- 'Sourcing of goods from India for global operations' can be done directly by the entity undertaking SBRT or its group companies (resident or non-resident), or indirectly by them through a third party under a legally tenable agreement.
- Entire sourcing from India for global operations shall be considered towards local sourcing requirement. (And no incremental value).
- Retail trading through online trade can also be undertaken prior to opening of brick and mortar stores, subject to the condition that the entity opens brick and mortar stores within 2 years from date of start of online retail. Online sales will lead to creation of jobs in logistics, digital payments, customer care, training and product skilling.
- 26% FDI has been permitted under government route for uploading/ streaming of News & Current Affairs through Digital Media on the lines of print media.

RBI's Bailout Package for Central Government

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on August 26, 2019 approved a payout of ₹ 1·76 lakh crore to the government from its surplus and reserves, after an expert committee chaired by former Governor Bimal Jalan made its recommendations to the central bank. The record transfer, including a surplus of ₹ 1·23 lakh crore for 2018-19, will boost the government's finances at a time it strives to tackle a nearly five-year low economic growth with lakhs of estimated job cuts across sectors, and defend its ambitious target of containing fiscal deficit at 3·3 per cent of the GDP. The pay-out will likely help the government meet its tax revenue shortfall and fund higher spending.

1. The transfer will includes ₹ 52,640 crore from RBI's surplus capital, whereas the dividend includes ₹ 28,000 crore already transferred to the government in February, 2019.
2. The surplus transfer, commonly called 'dividend', is almost double the previous record of ₹ 65,896 crore. In the previous year, the RBI transferred ₹ 50,000 crore, while in 2016-17, the dividend was only ₹ 30,659 crore because of demonetisation.
3. The transfer of surplus from the RBI should help offset the expected shortfalls in various tax revenues in 2019-20 and aid the government in meeting its fiscal deficit target.
4. The RBI payout is much larger than government estimates. In its Budget for the financial year 2019-20, the government has estimated a dividend payment of ₹ 90,000 crore from the RBI. While in actual total transfor will be ₹ 1·76 crore.

Export Promotion Measures, 2019

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on September 14, 2019 announced the following measers to boost up the exports :

- A new scheme **Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Product (RoDTEP)** to incentivise exporters at an estimated cost of ₹ 50,000 crore to the exchequer will be started. RoDTEP will replace the existing incentive schemes and "will more than adequately incentivise exporters than the existing schemes put together".

- Export finance will be actively monitored by an inter-ministerial working group in the Department of Commerce.
- Priority sector lending norms are being revised by the RBI. It will release an additional ₹ 36,000 crore to ₹ 68,000 crore as export credit under priority sector.
- Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) will expand the scope of export credit insurance scheme. This initiative is expected to cost ₹ 1,700 crore annually and will enable reduction in overall cost of export credit including interest rates, especially to MSMEs.
- *Free Trade Agreement (FTA) Utilisation Mission* would be set to help exporters optimally utilise the concessional tariffs under trade pacts which India has signed with several countries.
- Annual mega shopping festivals will be organised in the country at four places focusing on sectors like handicraft, yoga, tourism, textiles and leather.

Reform Measures to Boost up Realty Sector, 2019

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on September 14,2019 announced the following measures to boost up realty sector :

- A ₹ 10,000 crore special window will be created to provide last-mile funding for completion of ongoing housing projects which are not NPAs or facing bankruptcy proceedings under NCLT. The government will contribute ₹ 10,000 crore for the special window and roughly the same amount is expected from outside investors. This window will help in completion of affordable and middle income housing projects. The fund will be managed by professionals.
- The interest rate on housing building advance will be lowered and linked to the 10-year G-sec yields.
- External commercial borrowing (ECB) guidelines will also be relaxed to help housing developers obtain overseas funds.

Tax Relief to Corporate Sector-Mini Budget 2019-20

The Government has brought in the **Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance 2019** to make certain amendments in the Income-tax Act 1961 and the Finance (No. 2) Act 2019. This was announced by the Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt Nirmala Sitaraman during the Press Conference in Goa on September 20, 2019. The salient features of these amendments are as under :

(a) In order to promote growth and investment, a new provision has been inserted in the Income-tax Act with effect from FY 2019-20 which allows any domestic company an option to pay income-tax at the rate of 22% subject to condition that they will not avail any exemption/ incentive. The effective tax rate for these companies shall be 25·17% inclusive of surcharge & cess. Also, such companies shall not be required to pay Minimum Alternate Tax.

(b) In order to attract fresh investment in manufacturing and thereby provide boost to 'Make-in-India' initiative of the Government, another new provision has been inserted in the Income-tax Act with effect from FY 2019-20 which allows any new domestic company incorporated on or after 1st October 2019 making fresh investment in manufacturing, an option to pay income-tax at the rate of 15%. This benefit is available to companies which do not avail any exemption/incentive and commences their production on or before 31st March, 2023. The effective tax rate for these companies shall be 17·01% inclusive of surcharge & cess. Also, such companies shall not be required to pay Minimum Alternate Tax.

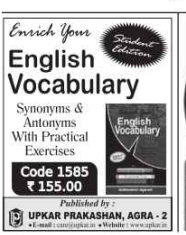
(c) A company which does not opt for the concessional tax regime and avails the tax exemption/ incentive shall continue to pay tax at the pre-amended rate. However, these companies can opt for the concessional tax regime after expiry of their tax holiday/exemption period. After the exercise of the option they shall be liable to pay tax at the rate of 22% and option once exercised cannot be subsequently withdrawn. Further, in order to provide relief to companies which continue to avail exemptions/ incentives, the rate of Minimum Alternate Tax has been reduced from existing 18·5% to 15%.

(d) In order to stabilise the flow of funds into the capital market, it is provided that enhanced surcharge introduced by the Finance (No.2) Act, 2019 shall not apply on capital gains arising on sale of equity share in a company or a unit of an equity oriented fund or a unit of a business trust liable for securities transaction tax, in the hands of an individual, HUF, AOP, BOI and AJP.

(e) The enhanced surcharge shall also not apply to capital gains arising on sale of any security including derivatives, in the hands of Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs).

(f) In order to provide relief to listed companies which have already made a public announcement of buy-back before 5th July, 2019, it is provided that tax on buy-back of shares in case of such companies shall not be charged.

(g) The Government has also decided to expand the scope of CSR 2 per cent spending. Now CSR 2% fund can be spent on incubators funded by Central or State Government or any agency or Public Sector Undertaking of Central or State Government, and, making contributions to public funded Universities, IITs, National Laboratories and Autonomous Bodies (established under the auspices of ICAR, ICMR, CSIR, DAE, DRDO, DST, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology) engaged in conducting research in science, tech-



Corporate Tax Reforms Through an Ordinance, 2019

(Tax Rate in %)

HOW CORPORATE INDIA WILL BE TAXED	New manufacturing companies	Existing Companies			Minimum Alternate Tax	
		Without exemptions and deductions at new rates	With exemptions and deductions at existing rates		New rate	Old rate
			Companies with turnover < ₹ 400 crores in FY 17-18	Others		
Corporate tax rate	15	22·00	25·00	30·00	15·00	18·50
After surcharge						
Total income ₹ 1-10 crore	16·50	24·20	26·75	32·10	16·05	19·80
Total income > ₹ 10 crore			28·00	33·60	16·80	20·72
After health & education cess						
Total income < ₹ 1 crore	17·16	25·17	26·00	31·20	15·60	19·24
Total income ₹ 1-10 crore			27·82	33·38	16·69	20·59
Total income > ₹ 10 crore			29·12	34·94	17·47	21·55

Note : The rates are applicable for domestic companies.

nology, engineering and medicine aimed at promoting SDGs.

The total revenue foregone for the reduction in corporate tax rate and other relief estimated at ₹ 1,45,000 crore.

37th GST Council Meet Recommends Rate Cuts on Various Items, 2019

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on September 20, 2019 announced the reduction of GST rates on a slew of items after 37th meeting of GST Council. All rate changes would be effective from 1 October, 2019. The key sectors which would benefit from GST rate cuts are **hotels, gems & jewellery, defence** and **automobiles.** Key highlights of the meeting are following :

- A uniform GST rate of 12 % will be levied on woven/non-woven polyethylene bags.
- GST council cuts tax rates on job work in diamond industry to 1·5% from 5%.
- In a major boost to gems and jewellery sector, the Council recommended to reduce GST on cut and polished semi-precious items to 0·25 per cent from 3 per cent now.
- GST Council cuts tax on hotel room tariffs of ₹ 1,000 to ₹ 7,500/ night to 12%; those above ₹ 7,500 to 18%.
- The GST on caffeinated beverages has been hiked to 28% plus additional cess of 12% as against the current rate of 18 per cent.
- GST council cuts tax rates for outdoor catering to 5% from 18%.
- GST Council recommends lower 12% cess on 1,500 cc diesel, 1,200 cc petrol vehicles with capacity to carry up to 13 people.
- A uniform GST rate of 12% will be levied on woven/non-woven polyethylene bags.
- The Council has reduced rates for cups and plates made from leaves and hides to nil.
- The tax on almond milk has been set at 18%.
- GST rate hiked on railway wagon, coaches from 5% to 12%.
- Exemption from GST/IGST is being given on import of specified defence goods not being manufactured indigenously, it's being extended only up to 2024.
- Supply of goods & services to FIFA & other specified persons also exempted for U17 Women's World Cup in India.
- GST rate on slide fasteners has been reduced from 18% to 12%.
- GST on marine fuel reduced from 18% to 5%.
- GST reduced from 12% to 5% on wet grinders consisting of stone as a grinder.
- GST reduced from 5% to nil on dried tamarind.

Business community welcome the measures announced by the Central Government. But, independent thinkers, economists and other analysts have taken these reforms with a pinch of salt. Economists feel that the government is working on measures that catar to the "supply-side of operations" while demand creation has been grossly ignored, which is a concern as supply growth without demand is no good. Shubhada Rao, Chief Economist YES Bank is of the view that for the supply-side changes to yield benefits, people need to have cash in their hands (purchasing power). However, the current spree of job losses combined by record-high unemployment rate has severely affected the supply-demand ratio in the country—a key reason behind the economic slowdown.

It is right time for the government to think over the demand side of the economy. Prof. J.M. Keynes' concept of 'Pump priming' during the recession gives us a clue to revive the economy.

PDorpan

Continued from Page 73

Act proposes that the government can regulate fee in only up to 50% undergraduate seats in private medical colleges. This means that the government will have no control on the fee structure on more than 18,000 seats. The private medical college seats, the fee for which the state governments currently regulate, are as good as government college seats. By reducing control over the fee structure of these seats, the government is robbing a chance from the poor children to pursue medicine and are giving it to the rich.

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World Panorama

India and France : Reliable Partnership

—Arunoday Bajpai

In the last past few years India and France have gradually strengthened their mutually beneficial strategic partnership. France has stood firm with India on many crucial occasions. In the aftermath of India's surgical strike in Balakot, Pakistan in February, 2019, France offered her most vocal support for India. After that France was instrumental in the process of declaring Masood Azhar as the global terrorist by the UN in April, 2019. In the wake of constitutional changes made by India in Kashmir and Pakistan's opposition to the same, France extended her unflinching support to India. India and France are also developing close strategic partnership in the western side of Indian Ocean, where France has some Indian Ocean territories. India is also purchasing the advance fighter jet Rafale from France. Both also have a civil nuclear cooperation agreement in place.

Modi's Visit to France

It was in this background that Indian Prime Minister Modi's recent visit to France assumes significance. During this journey Modi visited France twice within a week. First he visited France on 22-23 August, 2019 to hold a bilateral summit with the French President Emmanuel Macron and second time he visited Biarritz, France at the invitation of Macron to participate in the G-7 Summit held on 25 and 26 August, 2019. The G-7 is a group of seven rich countries, known as club of rich (the US, England, France, Italy, Japan, Canada, and Germany). Indian Prime Minister explained India's action and stand on Kashmir to the leaders and evoked favourable response from them.

During the bilateral Summit, Modi and Macron underlined the fact that their strategic partnership, started way back in 1998, is enduring, trustworthy, like-minded, and all-encompassing. Both decided to give a new ambition to this partnership by opening it to new areas of cooperation. Both leaders have discussed many issues of mutual interests. The Joint statement underlines the following major points :

(1) Both leaders expressed satisfaction with the progress in economic and trade relations. They also decided to further jointly strengthen work on solving trade and investment issues of concern for the French and Indian companies, including by additional ways and mechanisms. Leaders jointly agreed that the high-level France-India economic and financial dialogue should be reactivated as quickly as possible.

(2) Both leaders decided to deepen their space cooperation including planetary exploration or human spaceflight, especially training medical support personnel for Indian astronauts, who will be part of India's manned space mission by 2022. They also hailed the launch of a Space Climate Observatory that further enhances Indo-French cooperation on combating climate change, besides TRISHNA joint mission and accommodating Argos in Oceansat 3.

(3) In the field of nuclear energy, they expressed satisfaction with ongoing negotiations for the establishment of six nuclear power plants by France in Jaitpur, Maharastra. They also commended the joint partnership in International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactors (ITER) and European Council for Nuclear Research (CERN) projects.

(4) France and India also have a robust defence partnership. The leaders appreciated the success of the 2019 editions of the Varuna naval and the Garuda air exercises, as well as the preparations for the Shakti exercise, which will be held in autumn in India, France and India are determined to further strengthen the cooperation between their armed forces. They reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen cooperation in defence industry field and extended their support to existing and upcoming partnerships between the defence companies of the two countries in the spirit of 'Make in India' and for the mutual benefit of both countries.

(5) France and India agreed to significantly enhance people-to-people contacts and cultural exchanges. It was agreed to set up a regular dialogue on consular matters, which will facilitate exchange and mobility. They decided that the Indo-French cooperation in the field of culture will be realised through participation in each other's major cultural events.

(6) France and India hold Knowledge summit on regular basis. This summit helps structure academic and scientific partnerships with corporate entities on crucial issues, such as aerospace, renewable energy, green chemistry, smart cities, agriculture, marine sciences, and Artificial Intelligence. They appreciated the successful conclusion of the second Knowledge Summit in Lyon, France in 2019.

Multilateral Issues

(1) France and India reaffirmed their shared commitment to effectively combat climate change and loss of biodiversity. They look forward for the success of the Climate Action Summit convened by the United Nations Secretary General on 23rd September 2019 and to encourage the global efforts towards combating climate change. They also urged all developed countries to scale up their contributions to Green Climate Fund in its first replenishment cycle in line with their commitments.

(2) The two countries reaffirmed their joint commitment to accelerate development and deployment of renewable energy. They noted with

satisfaction the progress made by the International Solar Alliance so far in capacity building and sharing of best practices to harness solar energy among the member nations.

(3) France and India agreed to work actively towards giving an impetus to new international, regional, national and local commitments in view of the major international events of 2020, notably the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Marseille and the COP15 to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

(4) Both leaders agreed that oceans play an important role in combating climate change, preserving biodiversity, and development, and, acknowledging the link between environment and security, decided to enlarge the scope of their maritime cooperation to address these issues.

(5) In the light of the recently concluded 14th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, in September 2019 in New Delhi, and the 25th anniversary of the Convention signed in Paris in June 1994, both leaders felt the urgent necessity of sustainably transforming the use of Mother Earth.

(6) They jointly reiterated their strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms including cross-border terrorism and terror-related events in both countries. They urged the international community to strengthen the efforts to counter and prevent terrorist financing. They also called upon world community to work together for rooting out terrorist safe havens and infrastructure, disrupting terrorist networks and their financing channels, and halting cross-border movement of terrorists belonging to Al Qaeda, Daesh/ISIS, Jaish-e-Mohammed, Hizbul Mujahideen, Lashkar-e-Taiba, and their affiliates.

(7) The maritime security cooperation between France and India is a domain of excellence in their strategic partnership. They appreciated the effective implementation of the Joint Strategic Vision of India-France Cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region, adopted in March 2018. Both reiterated their shared commitment to maintaining the freedom of navigation, particularly in the Indo-Pacific zone.

What is India's Nuclear Docrtine ?

In the wake of constitutional changes made by India in the status of Jammu and Kashmir in August, 2019, Pakistan opposed India's action and threatened global community for a impending nuclear war between the two countries. It reiterated again and again that Pakistan is a nuclear power and two countries are headed for a nuclear war, which would be disastrous for the entire world. India considers Pakistan's nuclear threat as nuclear blackmail. In reaction, India's Home Minister did not rule out the possibility of reconsidering her no-first use principle, which says that India would not be first to launch a nuclear attack. It would use nuclear weapons only in retaliation. This has brought a new focus on the features of India's Nuclear Doctrine.

India's Draft Nuclear Doctrine was declared on August 17, 1999 by Indian national security advisor Brajesh Mishra, which was prepared by the National Security Advisory Board on Indian Nuclear Doctrine. The doctrine is not formally approved by the government of India but it outlines India's rationale and intentions regarding the development of its minimum nuclear deterrent. The draft doctrine contains eight sections :

1. The Preamble :

(a) The doctrine states that India's primary objective is to achieve economic, political, social, scientific and technological development within a peaceful and democratic framework. This requires an environment of durable peace and insurance against potential risks to peace and stability. Thus, India's Security is an integral component of its development process.

(b) Autonomy of decision making in the developmental process and in strategic matters is an inalienable democratic right of the Indian people and India will guard this right.

2. Objectives :

(a) As a matter of self-defence in the absence of global nuclear disarmament, India's strategic interests require effective, credible nuclear deterrence and adequate retaliatory capability. This requires maximum credibility, survivability, effectiveness, safety and security.

(b) India shall pursue a doctrine of credible minimum nuclear deterrence. In this policy of 'retaliation only', the survivability of our arsenal is critical.

(c) The fundamental purpose of Indian nuclear weapons is to deter the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons by any State or entity against India and its forces.

(d) India will not be the first to initiate a nuclear strike, but will respond with punitive retaliation should deterrence fail.

(e) India will not resort to the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against States which do not possess nuclear weapons, or are not aligned with nuclear weapon powers.

(f) Deterrence requires that India maintains a sufficient, survivable and operationally prepared nuclear force, and a robust command and control system.

3. Nuclear Forces : India's nuclear forces will be effective, enduring, diverse, flexible, and responsive to the requirements in accordance with the concept of credible minimum deterrence.

4. Credibility and Survivability : The credibility, effectiveness and survivability of nuclear weapons are central to India's nuclear deterrent.

5. Command and Control : Nuclear weapons shall be tightly controlled and released for use at the highest political level (PMO). The authority to release nuclear weapons for use resides in the person of the Prime Minister of India, or the designated successor(s).

6. Security and Safety : India would maintain maximum security and safety of nuclear weapons.

7. Research and Development : India should step up efforts in research and development to keep up with technological advances in this field.

8. Disarmament and Arms Control : Global, verifiable and non-discriminatory nuclear disarmament is a national security objective.

In brief, India's nuclear doctrine justifies the possession of nuclear weapons by India on the ground of self-defence in view of the absence of universal disarmament and surrounding nuclear threat to her security. However, it will not be first to use nuclear weapons nor will use these weapons against a non-nuclear weapon state.

(8) Both leaders felt that full compliance with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) on the Iranian Nuclear Programme was needed to ensure regional and international peace and security.

During this visit India and France signed **four agreements** for cooperation in the field of solar energy, skill development, advanced computing, and joint maritime domain awareness.

Indo-French Roadmap on Cybersecurity and Digital Technology

With the expansion of internet and its applications, the cyber security has emerged as a major challenge both within and across nations**. India and France have signed a Roadmap on 22, 2019** for strengthening cooperation in the field of Cyber security, which contains the following main points :

(1) Both leaders support the role of digital technology as a transformative tool in their societies, to foster economic growth, sustainable development and secure enhanced internet access which is essential to bridge digital divide.

(2) Both advocated a vision of digital technologies that empowers citizens, reduces inequalities, and promotes sustainable development, International security and diplomatic efforts.

(3) They affirmed their commitment to an open, reliable, secure, stable and peaceful cyberspace. International law, and in particular the Charter of the United Nations, is applicable and is essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open, secure, peaceful and accessible Digital environment.

(4) Both recognised the shared responsibility of a wide variety of actors, in their respective roles, to improve trust, security and stability in cyberspace.

(5) Both countries will work for the promotion of an inclusive and transparent, open Digital environment by preserving a multi-stakeholder and multilateral approach to the Internet that respects the interests of all stakeholders including.

(6) They also reinforced their cooperation, notably through the sharing of information between their cyber security agencies, in order to prevent malicious activities, undertake immediate corrective response, mitigate their potential impact and identify their causes.

(7) In order to ensure the security of digital tools and processes, they decided to share information on the legal and regulatory framework and best practices, including on the protection of Economic Information Infrastructure impacting national security.

(8) They decided to coordinate their regulatory frameworks for the protection of their economic information infrastructure.

(9) Both decided to strengthen their cooperation in fighting cyber crimes with focus on sharing of information, evidence collection, the identification of offenders, particularly malware developers, hosting platform providers or broadcasters.

(10) For a robust cyber security mechanism, they decided to go for strengthening their cooperation in the following areas :

(a) Cooperation on digital governance.
(b) Regulation of artificial intelligence.
(c) Prevention of manipulation of information.
(d) Protection of personal information.
(e) Reduction of digital divide.
(f) Indo-French digital partnership.
(g) Economic exchanges and innovation in Digital Sector.
(h) Research, training and education in the field of cyber security.
(i) Promoting Artificial intelligence initiative.

Russia and India's Act Far East Policy

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the launch of India's Act Far East Policy at Vladivostok, Russia, while participating as Chief Guest in the 5th **East Economic Forum** meet on 5 September, 2019 which was organized by Russia. It is the first ever visit to Vladivostok (Far East) by any Prime Minister. The Russian region of Far East covers the vast area between Baikal Lake and the Pacific Ocean with cold Siberian climate. This region Russia is not developed and Russia wants to attract foreign investments for the rapid development of the region. Thus there is mutuality of interests between India's desire to gain foothold in this region and Russian plan for development of the region.

Implications of Act Far East Policy

Indian Prime Minister's announcement of Act Far East policy is in tune with India's earlier policy of Look East (now Act East). Indian Act East policy focused on strengthening multidimensional relations with ASEAN members of South East Asia. India has scored considerable success in the Act East Policy since its launch in 1991. The region of Far East remained uncovered under the existing policy, though India tried to improve her relations with eastern countries like Japan, South Korea and Russia on bilateral basis. Thus, the announcement of the new Act Far East Policy by India gives a new anchor for her to strengthen her foothold in the region. Though the contours of Act Far East Policy are not now well defined, but its implications may be analyzed. The region of Far East holds significance to India for the following reasons :

(1) The region is rich in natural resources like oil, gas, gold, diamond, timber and other resources. India's ONGC-Videsh has already invested $6 billion in Sakhalin for oil production. India needs to diversify her oil import sources for energy security.

(2) The Far East straddled in the north-west of the strategic Indo-Pacific region is important for India, as it would increase her strategic reach in the region. As Chabahar in the east of Indo-pacific is important for India, so is the Vladivostok in the North of the Indo-Pacific region. India and Russia have decided to construct a shipping lane from **Vladivostok to Chennai, which would reduce the distance from the existing 40 days to 24 days.** More significantly, this new connectivity will pass though near the South China

Sea and would boost the prospect of another connectivity project between India and Japan linking Pacific Ocean with Indian Ocean. **Thus, observers feel that India's new connectivity with Vladivostok will dilute the hegemony of China's BRI in the region.**

(3) Russia wants to develop the Far East region by attracting foreign investment. Modi **has announced investment of $1 billion in this region for development. The investment will be made in the form of LOC (Lines of credit or soft loan) on easy terms.** This will add another feather in traditional India-Russian strategic partnership. India already established her Consulate in Vladivostok way back in 1992. Last Month India's Commerce Minister visited the region along with many state Chief Ministers for exploring the cooperation avenues in **agriculture and skill development**. This is for the first time that India has offered cheap lines of credit to a developed country.

(4) India's Act Far East policy essentially involves Japan as major partner. It should be noted that Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe was also invited to the Eastern Economic (Forum (EEF) meet by Russia. India has close ties with both Russia and Japan, but these two countries have many differences of strategic significance. Japan and Russia have dispute over the sovereignty of Kuril Island in the northern Japan. Japan did not commit to make any investment in the Russian scheme of infrastructure development of the Far East. On the other hand, though Japan has expressed her desire to be part of China's BRI yet she is also a close US strategic ally. In the light of these complex strategic arrangements, India may play a mediatory role between Japan and Russia. If Japan is not involved in the Act Far East Policy along with Russia, it is likely to have limited impact in the region.

(5) India's Act Far East is likely to have a deep bearing on India's involvement in the Indo-Pacific, which has assumed importance in recent years. Any connectivity between India and Far East must pass through the heart of the Indo-pacific. For example the proposed Vladivostok-Chennai maritime route would also pass through this region including the South China Sea. So far, India's involvement with the Indo-Pacific has been in tune with the US strategic plans in the region. In 2017, the US president Trump has revived the idea of Quadrilateral strategic partnership among four actors : the US, India, Japan and Australia. China is very apprehensive of such initiatives as she views them as a strategy for her containment. Thus the strategic interests of the US, China, India and Russia would come into sharp focus in India's Act Far East Policy sooner or later. India will have to find out the ways as to how, while remaining engaged with the US in the Indo-Pacific, to manage the involvement of Russia in the new policy which is an integral part of Indo-pacific ? As the things move further these issues would come into sharp focus.

India and Russia : Natural Allies

India and Soviet Union (Now Russia since 1991) have been **'natural allies'** during cold war and consistently maintained a balance strategic relationship during the post-cold war era. Their gradual evolution to their ideological and strategic affinity spans around hundred years in modern times, even before independence of India. The following are the main factors for close ties and natural friendship between the two countries :

1. The modern Soviet Union emerged in 1917 following the Bolshevik revolution (Communist revolution), which was welcomed by India leaders during national movement. Since then, the process of ideological affinity gradually evolved and strengthened over the time. India's socialist orientations, mixed economy, and planned development during cold war era were inspired by Soviet Union. Jawahar Lal Nehru visited Russia in 1927 and was much impressed by the success of Planning in Soviet Union. Back home much before India's independence Congress set up national planning committee in 1938 under the chairmanship of Nehru. The modern Planning commission of India is successor of this planning committee. India's socialist orientations were disliked by the capitalist world led by the US.
2. Again, India followed the policy of non-alignment, which aimed at opposing imperialism, colonialism, apartheid and supporting a balance global economic order. These objectives suited Soviet Union as she has never been a colonial power. Thus, India's policy of non-alignment made Soviet Union as the natural ally of all third word developing countries, which followed the policy of non-alignment. On the other hand US Foreign Secretary termed India's Non-alignment as 'immoral'.
3. Within this ideological symmetry, the Soviet Union played important role in 1950s in India's development : Bhilai Steel Plant, Bhakra Nagal hydroelectric project to name a few. The Soviet Union has always supported India's sovereignty over Kashmir, Indian claims over Goa against Portugal, maintained a neutral stand during the 1962 Indo-China war, and transferred MiG-21 jet fighter technology to India in 1962, which was denied to China. As a reciprocal gesture, India too expressed muted criticism of Soviet military intervention in Hungry in 1956 and in Czechoslovakia in 1968, and later in Afghanistan in 1979. Subsequently, Russia emerged and continues to be the largest supplier of defence material and technology to India. Russia also plays important role in India's energy sector. The **Kudankulam Nuclear plant** in Tamil Nadu state of India is launched with Russian assistance.
4. A major turning point in their relationship came in 1971 when India and Soviet Union signed Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation to hedge against the American threat during Indo-Pak war, 1971. It is the Soviet Union that always used her veto in India's favour at the UN.

It was in this background of ideological affinity, mutually beneficial economic and strategic partnership that both continue to maintain a balanced partnership even in the post-cold war era, when India has developed strategic partnership with the US also. It is not without reason that India defied the US sanctions to go ahead with S-400 deal with Russia in 2019. Of course, this balance is a great achievement but it also a future challenge for India's diplomacy.

Modi-Putin Bilateral Summit

India and Russia have the arrangement for the regular annual summits with leaders alternatively visiting each other's countries. Thus, Indian prime Minister also participated in the bilateral summit with his counterpart Putin in Vladivostok on 4th September, before participating in

East Economic Forum meet on 5th September, 2019. Both leaders discussed a number of bilateral, regional and global issues during this summit. At the **jubilee 20th Annual Summit**, both leaders noted progressive development of the Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership between India and Russia. India-Russia ties have successfully coped with the turbulent realities of the contemporary world. They have never been and will not be susceptible to outside influence. At this occasion, both countries signed 15 general agreements and 35 commercial cooperation agreements. The important points of the Joint Statement titled '***Reaching New Heights of Cooperation through Trust and Partnership***' are :

(1) Both leaders agreed to the expansion of bilateral trade to the tune of $ 30 billion by the year 2025. Both sides expressed their interest in expanding the participation of Russian business in 'Make in India' program and that of Indian companies in investment projects in Russia. The two Leaders welcomed the holding of the 2nd edition of the India-Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue on 10 July 2019 in New Delhi. The Strategic Economic Dialogue has emerged as a promising mechanism aimed at promoting cohesive and mutually beneficial economic cooperation across core sectors by way of structured and continuous interaction between our two countries.

(2) Modi expressed India's desire to cooperate with Russia in the Arctic. India is also ready to play a significant role in the Arctic Council.

(3) In the field of nuclear energy, both leaders noted the pace of progress achieved in the construction of the remaining four of the six nuclear power plants at Kudankulam. They also appreciated the joint construction of the Rooppur NPP in Bangladesh and expressed their readiness to expand similar cooperation in third countries.

(4) Both leaders decided to forge cooperation in geological exploration and joint development of oil and gas fields in Russia and India, including offshore fields. They will continue their work to develop the ways of delivering energy resources from Russia to India, including a long-term agreement for sourcing Russian crude oil, the possible use of the Northern Sea Route and a pipeline system. They noted the prospects of Nayara Energy Limited increasing the capacity in Vadinar oil refinery. India and Russia agreed to consider the prospects for expanding cooperation in hydro and thermal power, energy efficiency as well as for designing and constructing facilities that generate energy from non-conventional sources.

(5) Russia hailed the results of the 2018 All India Tiger Estimation, which proved that India with 2967 tigers. was home to 75 per cent of the global tiger population. The Indian Side welcomed the Russian Side's initiative to hold the Second International Tiger Conservation Forum in 2022 (also called the Second Tiger Summit, the first Summit was held in Saint-Petersburg in 2010). Acknowledging their leadership role in tiger conservation efforts, both Sides agreed to hold High Level Tiger Forum in India in 2020, involving tiger range countries, conservation partners and other stakeholders.

(5) Both leaders expressed their commitment to upgrading their defence cooperation, including by fostering joint development and production of military equipment, components and spare parts, improve the after-sales service system and continue holding regular joint exercises of the Armed Forces of the two countries.

(7) The other areas identified for cooperation are : transport infrastructure, railways, transport education and training, space cooperation (Russian support to India's first manned mission Gaganyan), cultural exchange programmes, education, information technology and cyber security, science and technology and multilateralism and strengthening of UN system.

Thus, Modi's visit to Vladivostok may be termed as historic and path breaking. Though, India and Russia enjoy the rare close ties since the days of cold war days, yet there is no room for complacency, simply because the friendship among nations should not be taken as *given*. It has to be continuously upgraded and renewed with the changing situation. India has close ties with the US also, thus she needs to continuously balance her ties with Russia in coming years also. Russia and India are required to be sensitive to each other's core issues and interests to endure their friendship which has withstood the vicissitudes of cold war era.

Pilarpan

Endangered Tribal Languages

Ministry of Tribal Affairs envisages to identify and enlist endangered tribal languages across the country in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories (UTs) with a view to preserving and promoting the same. Presently, Ministry of Tribal Affairs extends support to State Governments/UTs for development of bilingual Primers under the Scheme 'Support to Tribal Research Institutes' for enhancement of learning achievement level amongst the Scheduled Tribe Students.

So far 82 language primers have been developed by various State Governments as detailed below :

State	Primers Details	Language/Tribe covered
Tripura	14 Primers	Kokborak, Halam, Mog, Garo, Kuki, Mizo
Odisha	5 Primers	Juang, Kisan, Koya, Oram, Saora
Maharashtra	11 Primers	Gondi, Halbi, Kokni, Kolami, Korku, Madiya, Mavchi, Pardhi, Pawari, Thakri
Madhya Pradesh	15 Primers	Halbi, Kudhukh, Bhili, Gondi, Korku
Kerala	6 Primers	Kattunaikan, Paniyan
Chhattisgarh	5 Primers	Kukudu, Praja, Halbi, Bharia
Jharkhand	5 Primers	Kukudu, Khadia, Khorat
Telangana	5 Primers	Gondi, Koya, Kolami, Kondh, Banjara
West Bengal	16 Primers	Olchiki, Kuduk

Personality Development

Master the Skill of Studying

—I.M. Soni

Have you ever seriously thought that there is difference between an educated and a literate man ? The former has an 'educated' mind and heart; the latter is only 'literate' because he knows the three rs—reading, writing and arithmetic.

Hordes of candidates who throng to examination centers for various college, university and competitive examinations, do not belong to the former category. They belong to the latter. No wonder, they are counted, like horses which fail to win the race, as they also ran.

Art of studying is a skill, you can acquire it.

You may not like it but the examination system is a part of your life. You cannot escape it. The professional world demands proof of mental power, plus clusters of information, before it showers favours on you.

You fail to make the mark in interview, written examination or group discussion not because you are not up to the mark but because you have not adopted the skill of studying. Glancing through is not studying.

Determination and stickability help many even if they are below average intelligence. Techniques help.

Define your goal. Get in touch with the right guide. Get a copy of the regulations governing the examination. This will tell you the subjects you have to study.

Go for professional coaching or training. It is easy to fall in the trap of untrained, non-professional high flaunting commercial institutes. It is better and safe to enroll with some reputed college or institute for guidance. Enroll with a correspondence course of a reputed university.

Engage a professional personal tutor rather than being treated as one in a herd in a commercial coaching centre.

How many hours of a day or week can you give to your studies ? Make allowance for delays and interruptions, breaks or other activities. Stick to the schedule.

Without a time-table, you are likely to spend much time in making up your mind, in getting books and falling into the proper mood for work. Mood is a tyrant. Tame it or it tames you!

If model answers are supplied, compare them with your own. Then putting them aside, attempt the questions yourself.

Revise all lessons the same day as far as possible. Rates of forgetting are highest during the eight hours immediately afterwards.

Read original text books, not cheap 5-minute guides and 'keys'. Read a chapter thrice. Once quickly getting the feel of it. Second, carefully, third make a summary of your own. If there are summaries at the end of a chapter, absorb them.

Throughout your preparation think positively. Look upon your study as an intellectual challenge, not a mental torture.

In study, nothing succeeds like success. Link present with future knowledge. Build a bridge between what you know now and what you hope to learn.

Apply this principle at the beginning of your study. This means reviewing in your mind and writing down what you know of a subject before you begin; also questions of which you do not know the answers.

Apply this principle before you start reading a book and ask yourself how much you already know of the subject. When you resume reading, ask yourself what you have learned already from the book. Communicate it to someone what you have learned in a way of fixing it in your own mind. You digest knowledge when you give it.

You learn as much by mixing freely and exchanging ideas with fellow-students who are pursuing a similar course. If you join a group of six attending the same course, you are getting the benefits of six minds.

Build up index-system of the information you have acquired. You may have a filing cabinet with a separate file for each different aspect of the main subjects. Or you can work out the same on a card-index system.

When anything new strikes you, note it and put it in a compartment. You carry information without burdening your mind. Spend an hour browsing your material. It is rewarding.

You read two kinds of books in two different ways. The first kind is the basic textbook, where essential information is imparted, the principles are taught, foundations are laid. This must be studied carefully. From this you acquire the minimum information with which you make further progress.

The second kind gives you background material. It contributes to your development, knowledge and subject mastery. You are stimulated to go further in the subject.

So books ought to be read quickly. Often at the beginning of a subject, you are scared by the number of books that have been written about it, or even by the number you are advised to read. You can speed up the rate at which your eye travels over the page. You can learn how to master paragraph more or less at a glance.

Learning is like the work of the sower. If you scatter enough seeds some of them are bound to grow.

Code on Wages, 2019 : An Overview

—Bhumika Sharma

Introduction

The Second National Commission on Labour in its report in June, 2002 had recommended that the existing set of labour laws should be broadly amalgamated into the following groups, namely : industrial relations; wages; social security; safety; and welfare and working conditions Accordingly, the Central government framed the Code on Wages in the first step. The Code on Wages Bill was earlier introduced in the Lok Sabha on 10th August, 2017 and was referred to Parliamentary Standing Committee which submitted its Report on 18th December, 2018. However, owing to dissolution of 16th Lok Sabha, the Bill had lapsed. Therefore, a fresh Bill namely The Code on Wages Bill, 2019 has been drafted inter alia, after considering the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee and other suggestions of the stakeholders The Code on Wages, 2019 Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. The Bill received the assent of the president on 21st August, 2019.

Objectives of Code on Wages, 2019

The Code on Wages, 2019 aims to amend and consolidate the laws relating to wages and bonus and matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Code intends to amalgamate, simplify and rationalise the relevant provisions of the four central labour enactments relating to wages, namely :

- The Payment of Wages Act, 1936
- The Minimum Wages Act, 1948
- The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965
- The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976.

Comparison of Code on Wages, 2019 with Previous Relevant Legislations

The Code on Wages, 2019 has borrowed the legislative provisions from the above named four legislations in the following manner :

Table 2 below further mentions the features present in all of the four earlier legislations and now are a part of the new Code.

Duties of Employers under the Code on Wages, 2019

Amongst the various salient features of the Code on Wages, 2019 the duties of employers are important. The various duties spread over the entire Code are discussed below :

1. **Employer not to discriminate on the ground of gender under Section 3 :**

- There shall be no discrimination in an establishment or any unit thereof among employees on the ground of gender in matters relating to wages by the same employer, in respect of the same work or work of a similar nature done by any employee.
- The employer shall not reduce the rate of wages of any employee for the purposes of complying with the above provision; and
- The employer shall not make any discrimination on the ground of sex while recruiting any employee for the same work or work of similar nature and in the conditions of employment. The Section permits exception where the employment of women in such work is prohibited or restricted by or under any law for the time being in force.

2. **Payment of Minimum Rate of Wages by Employer Under Section 4 :**

- The employer shall not pay to any employee wages less than the minimum rate of wages notified by the appropriate Government.

3. **Payment of Wages under Sections 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 :**

Section 15. Employer to pay wages in specified modes : All wages shall be paid in current coin or currency notes or by cheque or by crediting the wages in the bank account of the employee or by the electronic mode.

Table 1. Code on Wages, 2019 vis-à-vis Earlier Legislations

S. No.	Feature	Relevant Section under the Code on Wages, 2019	Similar / Original Provision before Code on Wages, 2019	
			Earlier Repealed Legislation	Relevant Section
1.	Prohibition of discrimination on ground of gender	Sections 3-4, Chapter I	The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976	Sections 4-5
2.	Payment of minimum rate of wages and related matters	Sections 5-14, Chapter II	The Minimum Wages Act, 1948	Sections 3-5, 10-17,
3.	Mode of Payment of Wages and related matters	Sections 15-25, Chapter III	The Payment of Wages Act, 1936	Sections 3-13
4.	Payment of Bonus	Sections 26-41, Chapter IV	The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965	Sections 3-21

Table 2. Code on Wages, 2019 vis-à-vis Earlier Legislations						
S.No.	Feature	Relevant Section under the Code on Wages, 2019	Similar Provision Under Repealed Legislations			
			Relevant Section under The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976	Relevant Section under The Minimum Wages Act, 1948	Relevant Section under The Payment of Wages Act, 1936	Relevant Section under The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965
1.	Advisory Board	Section 42, Chapter V	Section 6	Sections 7-9	—	—
2.	Responsibility of employer for payment of various dues	Sections 43-44, Chapter VI	—	—	—	—
3.	Authority to hear claims	Section 45, Chapter VI	Section 7	Section 20	—	—
4.	Single Application	Section 45(5)	—	Section 21	Section 16	—
5.	Reference of disputes	Section 46, Chapter VI	—	—	—	Section 22
6.	Audit	Section 48, Chapter VI	—	—	—	Section 25
7.	Appellate Authority	Section 49, Chapter VI	—	—	Section 17	—
8.	Records, returns and notices to be maintained by Employer	Section 50, Chapter VI	Section 8	Section 18	Sections 13A, 25	Section 26
9.	Inspector cum Facilitator	Section 51, Chapter VII	Section 9	Section 19	Sections 14,14A	Section 27
10.	Offences and Penalties	Sections 52-56, Chapter VIII	Sections 10-11	Sections 22-22C	Sections 20-21	Sections 28-30
11.	Bar of Suits	—	—	Section 24	Section 22	—
12.	Contracting Out any amount or bonus to be void	Section 60, Chapter IX	—	Section 25	Section 23	—
13.	Exemption of employer from liability in certain cases	Section 63, Chapter IX	—	Section 23	—	Section 36

Section 16. Fixing of Wage period by employer : The employer shall fix the wage period for employees either as daily or weekly or fortnightly or monthly subject to the condition that no wage period in respect of any employee shall be more than a month. It further provides that different wage periods may be fixed for different establishments.

Section 17. Employer to follow prescribed time-limit for payment of wages : The employer shall pay or cause to be paid wages to the employees, engaged on :

- daily basis, at the end of the shift;
- weekly basis, on the last working day of the week, that is to say, before the weekly holiday;
- fortnightly basis, before the end of the second day after the end of the fortnight;
- monthly basis, before the expiry of the seventh day of the succeeding month.
- Where an employee has been removed or dismissed from service; or retrenched or has resigned from service, or became unemployed due to closure of the establishment, the wages payable to him shall be paid within two working days of his removal, dismissal, retrenchment or, as the case may be, his resignation.

Section 18. Deductions by employer only for specified purposes and maximum limit : Deductions from the wages of an employee shall be made in accordance with the provisions of this Code, and may be made only for the purposes specified under the Code. The total amount of deductions which may be made in any wage period from the wages of an employee shall not exceed fifty per cent of such wages.

Section 19. Employer may impose fines :

- The employer may only impose fines in respect of those acts and omissions on his part as the employer, with the previous approval of the appropriate Government or of such authority as may be prescribed.
- A notice specifying such acts and omissions shall be exhibited in such manner as may be prescribed, on the premises in which the employment is carried on.
- No fine shall be imposed on any employee until such employee has been given an opportunity of showing cause against the fine or otherwise than in accordance with such procedure as may be prescribed for the imposition of fines.
- The total amount of fine which may be imposed in any one wage-period on any employee shall not exceed an amount equal to three per cent of the wages payable to him in respect of that wage-period.
- No fine shall be imposed on any employee who is under the age of fifteen years.
- No fine imposed on any employee shall be recovered from him

by instalments or after the expiry of ninety days from the day on which it was imposed.

- Every fine shall be deemed to have been imposed on the day of the act or omission in respect of which it was imposed.
- All fines and all realisations thereof shall be recorded in a register to be kept in such manner and form as may be prescribed; and all such realisations shall be applied only to such purposes beneficial to the persons employed in the establishment as are approved by the prescribed authority.

4. **Duty of employer to pay Bonus under Sections 26 and 39 :**

- **Minimum bonus to be paid under Section 26** :
  - ✷ Every employer shall make payment to every employee, drawing wages not exceeding such amount per mensem (as determined by notification, by the appropriate Government) who has put in at least thirty days' work in an accounting year, an annual minimum bonus calculated at the rate of eight and one-third per cent. of the wages earned by the employee or one hundred rupees, whichever is higher whether or not the employer has any allocable surplus during the previous accounting year. Where the wages of the employee exceeds such amount per mensem, as determined by notification by the appropriate Government, the bonus payable to such employee shall be calculated as if his wages were such amount, so determined by the appropriate Government or the minimum wage fixed by the appropriate Government, whichever is higher.
  - ✷ Where in respect of any accounting year, the allocable surplus exceeds the amount of minimum bonus payable to the employees under that sub-section, the employer shall, in lieu of such minimum bonus, be bound to pay to every employee in respect of that accounting year, bonus which shall be an amount in proportion to the wages earned by the employee during the accounting year, subject to a maximum of twenty per cent of such wages.
- **Time-limit for Payment of Bonus under Section 39 :**
  - ✷ All amounts payable to an employee by way of bonus under this Code shall be paid by crediting it in the bank account of the employee by his employer within a period of eight months from the close of the accounting year. The section further provides that the appropriate Government or such authority as the appropriate Government may specify in this behalf may, upon an application made to it by the employer and for sufficient reasons, by order, extend the said period of eight months to such further period or periods as it thinks fit; so, however, that the total period so extended shall not in any case exceed two years.
  - ✷ Where there is a dispute regarding payment of bonus pending before any authority, such bonus shall be paid, within a period of one month from the date on which the award becomes enforceable or the settlement comes into operation, in respect of such dispute. The section further provides that if, there is a dispute for payment at the higher rate, the employer shall pay eight and one-third per cent of the wages earned by the employee as per the provisions of this Code within a period of eight months from the close of the accounting year.

5. **Responsibility of the Employer to pay the dues under Sections 43 and 44 :**

- **Payment of various dues to every employee under Section 43 :** Every employer shall pay all amounts required to be paid under this Code to every employee employed by him. Where such employer fails to make such payment in accordance with this Code, then, the company or firm or association or any other person who is the proprietor of the establishment, in which the employee is employed, shall be responsible for such payment.
- **Payment of undisbursed dues in case of death of employee under Section 44 :** All amounts payable to an employee under this Code shall, if such amounts could not or cannot be paid on account of his death before payment or on account of his whereabouts not being known be paid to the person nominated by him in this behalf in accordance with the rules made under this Code; or where no such nomination has been made or where for any reasons such amounts cannot be paid to the person so nominated, be deposited with the such authority, as may be prescribed, who shall deal with the amounts so deposited in the manner as may be prescribed.

6. **Duty regarding maintaining register, display of notices and issue of wage slips etc. under Section 50 :**

- Every employer of an establishment to which this Code applies shall maintain a register containing the details with regard to persons employed, muster roll, wages and such other details in such manner as may be prescribed.
- Every employer shall display a notice on the notice board at a prominent place of the establishment containing the abstract of this Code, category-wise wage rates of employees, wage period, day or date and time of payment of wages, and the name and address of the Inspector-cum-Facilitator having jurisdiction.
- Every employer shall issue wage slips to the employees in such form and manner as may be prescribed.

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Welfare Economy Article

Innovative Measures for Ensuring Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation in Rural Areas

—Dr. Arpita Sharma and Dr. Adita Sharma

In India majority of population is facing the problem of drinking water supply as people are not getting virus and bacteria free water. This type of water is a major cause of diseases like diarrhoea, cholera, typhoid, and amoebiasis. Thus, we can say that drinking water supply through the proper sources is a major issue. Uptill now in the rural areas people are not getting safe drinking water. In rural areas majority of population is illiterate. They do not know about safe drinking water supply practices. Due to lack of knowledge, information and education on various aspects people are suffering from various types of problems related to health. Data revealed that one-fifth of India's population uses folded cloth filters to remove sediments and larger contaminants. Past researches suggest that 20 per cent of rural and urban people boil their water, 34 per cent filter through cloth or net, 21 per cent use a candle filter, 13 per cent people use a high-tech filter, and 9 per cent respondents use a tap filter.

The Ministry of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation aims to cover 90 per cent rural households with piped water supply and 80 per cent rural households with tap connections by 2022. The Estimates Committee of Parliament (2015) observed that piped water supply was available to only 47 per cent of rural households.

New Innovative Technologies for Drinking Water

Government, scientists and experts have initiated various technologies and innovative measures for drinking water supply. These are given as follows :

(1) Reverse Osmosis Technology : RO is the most widely used water purification method. This method is used to remove dissolved salts, impurities and germ from water. The semi-permeable membrane separates germs and dissolves chemicals from water.

(2) Ultra Filtration Water Purifier : This types of purifiers removes all colloidal particles, most pathogenic organism and turbidity. It removes all germs and bacteria.

(3) Candle Filter Purifier : This has very basic operating mechanism. Candle has minute pores. The particle which has larger size than pores get blocked out and can not pass in clean water. It does not require any electricity for operation.

(4) Activated Carbon Filter Purifier : This type of water purifier has carbon filter. Carbon filter removes chemical like Chlorine, pesticides and impurities.

(5) Rice husk ash (RHA) filtration : This type of filter is used for treatment of iron, fluoride and microbial contaminated water.

(6) TERI defluoridation unit : This type of unit solves the fluoride problem. The designed units consist of two buckets equipped with taps and a sieve on which a cotton cloth was placed. Concentrations of alum and lime were added to the raw water and at the same time, and dissolved by stirring manually.

(7) Auroquasafe : 'AuroAquasafe' contains a chlorine compound, aluminium salts that act as coagulants for water treatment. This is powder mixture that removes arsenic, iron, fluoride, pathogenic organisms.

(8) Rural Filter : This technology is developed by Tata Consultancy Services Innovation Labs. This technology does not require electricity or regular user intervention. The key ingredients are a matrix of pebbles, cement, and rice husk ash, a by-product of the paddy industry. This has little or no value to the rice growers and this was a highly effective filtration medium.

(9) SEUF Household sand filter : This is a household and community level iron removal filter. This has been developed by Socio Economic Unit Foundation and introduced in South India in rural households. The filter uses a 2 cm bed of charcoal above a 40 cm thick layer of river sand on a gravel bed with an aeration mechanism at the top. This type of filter is easy to use by rural women.

(10) Household biosand filter : This type of filters consists of layers of sand and gravel through which filtration of water takes place. Water is poured into a diffuser on top of the filters and travels slowly through the sand bed and several layers of coarse sand and gravel, and collects in a pipe at the base of the filter.

Facts Regarding Drinking Water Supply

1. Smart Cities Mission and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) focus on reducing Non-Revenue Water.
2. Majority of water resources in India is utilized for irrigation purpose. Some innovative methods like sprinkler, cloud based micro irrigation system, drip irrigation, rainwater harvesting are being adopted to reduce water wastage.
3. According to Ministry of Water Resources, India receives an average annual rainfall of 1170 mm but stores only 6 per cent of rain water.
4. As per the data revealed by Asian Development Bank, India will have a water deficit of 50 per cent by 2030.
5. According to Central Ground Water Control, Arsenic Water has affected 900 million people in India.
6. Government of India has announced a target to install 1

million solar pumps for irrigation and drinking water by 2021.

7. On January 2018, total 142,000 solar pumps have been deployed in India.

Government Programme for Drinking Water

Government has initiated various programmes and policies for drinking water supply. These are given as follows :

(1) National Rural Drinking Water Programme (1st April, 2009) : The National Rural Drinking Water Programme is a centrally sponsored scheme. The main aim of this programme is to provide adequate and safe drinking water to the rural population of the country. This program focuses on the creation and sustaining of rural drinking water infrastructure in the country. The Ministry is hopeful to achieve 'Har Ghar Jal' by 2030. The main aim is to provide safe and adequate drinking water to each rural household. Up till now in rural areas, rural people have been provided water supply through Hand Pumps, Tube Wells and pipe. In future, Government is planning to provide rural drinking water through balanced mix of sustainable surface and ground water based resources.

(2) International Centre for Drinking Water Quality (ICDWQ) : The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India set up an International Centre for Drinking Water Quality at Joka, Kolkata. The basic aim of the Society is to work in the area of identification, mitigation and management of drinking water quality related problems in India. The main focus is on arsenic and fluoride and to provide inputs for policy level decision making. The Centre will focus mainly on research and development activities, assessment of various treatment technologies, training, networking with all related organizations, promoting doctoral and post-doctoral studies on drinking water quality issues etc. It will cater both to rural and urban areas in India.

(3) National Water Quality Sub-Mission (NWQSM) (22nd March, 2017) : On 22nd March, 2017, National Water Quality Sub-Mission was launched by the Ministry of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation. The main aim of this programme is to provide safe drinking water to about 28,000 arsenic/fluoride affected habitations. The schemes under the NWQSM are given as follows : (a) Surface water based piped water supply scheme, (b) Safe ground water based piped water supply scheme and (c) Community Water Purification Plants (CWPPs).

(4) National Water Quality Sub-Mission on Arsenic and Fluoride (2017) : This Mission was started to provide safe drinking water to about 28,000 affected tenancies in country by 2021.

(5) Har Ghar Jal (2017) : This scheme was started with a mission to provide piped drinking water supply to all households by 2030.

(6) Indian Water Portal : This portal provides the full data about training, conferences, seminar related to drinking water supply and its challenges, waste water system etc.

Some Drinking Water Experiments

(1) SULABH JAL : This is India's biggest experiment of bottled, potable drinking water. The river Ganga and Ponds water is being treated at three villages in North 24 Parganas, Murshidabad and Nadia districts of West Bengal. This water is being provided to the villagers for just 50 paise per litre. This is for the first time in India that water sourced from the country's most sacred river is being purified and sold in bottles.

(2) Water Atm : This is solar connected system and automated water dispensing units, which provide communities with 24/7 safe water access.

Different Conventions Related to drinking Water

(1) Indian Water Technology Meet (2017) : This event was organized in Bengaluru on 16-17 November, 2017. This meet provides a platform for manufacturers and sellers, community and contractors to share their views regarding technologies of safe drinking water.

(2) 4th National Summit Sustainable Water and Sanitation (2019) : This summit was held in Bengaluru on 10-11 January, 2019. The main theme of this conference was "Modernizing Innovation in Water and Sanitation. This summit will serve as capacity building platform to share the views regarding strategic knowledge and information about water supply and sanitation.

Role of Information Communication Sources for Drinking Water Supply

(1) Media Campaigns : Two serials like 'Darwaza Band' and 'Shaucha Singh' were telecast through electronic and print media to promote adoption of sustainable sanitation behaviour. "Toilet Ek Prem Katha" serial was also designed and its purpose is to promote sustainable sanitation practices.

(2) Information, Education and Communication through Social Media : To achieve the target of drinking water supply, Information, Education, Communication [IEC] are necessary. Social media like twitter, Facebook, WhatsApp, HIKE, Instagram are used to share information related to drinking water. There are different mobile apps which are giving information about various new technologies related to drinking water supply. Video Conferencings were also organized in the line departments for effective implementation of the programmes.

(3) Mobile App : The mRWS mobile App has been developed by the Ministry in technical collaboration with NIC. User can upload the photographs of beneficiaries and sources through mobile phone. This mobile app is useful for providing the data related to sources for drinking water.

Thus, we can say that Government has initiated various programmes and policies for drinking water supply. Scientists and experts have also innovated various technologies for drinking water. To make a great achievement in the programme, rural people also should be involved in each and every steps.

Pllapan

Legal Article

Outlawing of Triple Talaq is Highly Commendable

—Sanjeev Sirohi, Advocate

"It is a happy moment for not just me but for Muslim society as a whole. We have been freed of an evil custom. Generations of women have suffered due to instant triple talaq. They have been thrown out of their house overnight and made to go through hell."

—**Shayara Bano** who litigated in Apex Court to outlaw it.

It is most heartening to note that the triple talaq has been finally outlawed ! But the passage of the bill has been far from smooth. The ruling dispensation that is NDA led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad showed a steely resolve, firm determination and grit to make sure that women get their basic rights and those men who insult them by resorting to triple talaq are not able to escape the long arms of the law ! It took three attempts to make sure that ultimately it becomes a law !

Kudos to the Centre for taking such a historic initiative! It left no stone unturned to make sure that more and more members from different parties support this historic triple talaq bill to ensure that women don't keep on suffering endlessly in silence as has been happening for past 72 years ! Jawaharlal Nehru had the guts to usher in reforms in Hindu law and Hindu Marriage Act 1955 was passed and he very rightly ensured that Hindus who both male and female could marry as many as they want earlier were restricted to just one and if they violated they could be punished for a term of seven years for which Hindus must always be grateful to him and should salute him as it is because of this that the population has been controlled to a very large extent. But he did not do anything to ensure that polygamy is similarly banned among Muslims also which would have benefited them also and their population could have been brought under control ! However, now PM Narendra Modi has done to Muslims what Jawaharlal Nehru could never do to ensure that Muslim women benefit by making sure that triple talaq bill gets passed in Parliament and finally becomes a law.

To put things in perspective, it is most heartening to note that "The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019" better known as the Triple Talaq Bill finally got President Ram Nath Kovind's assent on August 1, 2019. Hence it has now become a law which shall be binding on Muslims. This is no less than a boon for Muslim women who earlier were subjected to the mercy of the whims and fancies of their husbands who could dump them whenever they wanted !

As it turned out, it must be mentioned here that with this assent of President, this historic Bill has replaced the triple talaq ordinance promulgated in February 2019. It was on July 25 that Lok Sabha passed this historic Bill with 303 votes in favour and 82 against. It was on July 30, 2019 that the 245-member Upper House that is Rajya Sabha voted in favour of the Bill.

The Triple Talaq Bill has been a bone of contention and a point of friction between the Narendra Modi led NDA government and the Opposition since December 2017, when the government first tabled this historic legislation in the Lok Sabha. The Bill followed a Supreme Court judgment by which the Supreme Court in a 3 : 2 majority verdict struck down the age-old regressive and abominable practice under which a Muslim man could divorce his wife by uttering the word 'talaq' thrice in one sitting and declared it as void and illegal.

What a complete mockery does this make of women ! Should it be allowed to permit under any circumstances ? Certainly not. If it was not made a penal offence then certainly it would not serve as an adequate deterrent. The worst sufferers in such case would have been none other than women themselves.

It also cannot be lost on us that many opposition parties have opposed this historic Bill on the ground that it criminalizes the triple talaq and this will break marriages more quickly. What they very conveniently forget is that even Hindus earlier could marry as many as they wanted both men and women but it was outlawed and they were made liable to be punished under Section 494 of IPC for imprisonment which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine! Then why so much of brouhaha for a three year bailable jail term for Muslims now ?

It would be fair to ask : if the law was not made penal, would it have served its desired purpose of protecting Muslim women from being subjected to arbitrary divorces ? It goes without saying that certainly not. It would have been toothless and the offence against women would have continued unabated as rightly pointed out by the Law Minister !

The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019

- The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019 was passed by Lok Sabha on July 25, 2019 and Rajya Sabha on July 30, 2019. It got President of India's assent on August 1, 2019 It replaced an Ordinance promulgated on February 21, 2019.
- The Bill makes all declaration of talaq, including in written or electronic form, to be void (*i.e.,* not enforceable in law) and illegal. It defines talaq as talaq-e-biddat or any other similar form of talaq pronounced by a Muslim man resulting in instant and irrevocable divorce. Talaq-e-biddat refers to the practice under Muslim personal laws where pronouncement of the word

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Indian Constitution Article

Territory of the Union

—A. Bajpai

The decision of the Union Government to abolish the special status of Jammu & Kashmir and further division of the state into two Union Territories on 5 August, 2019 has raised a nation-wide debate on the nature and justification of changes. The two Union Territories carved out of the state of Jammu & Kashmir are : Jammu & Kashmir and Laddakh. The division of the state into two Union Territories has been made by the parliament under the provisions of Article 3 of the Indian Constitution. The UT of Jammu & Kashmir has been given a State Assembly in the similar manner as the UTs of Delhi and Puducherry, but the subject of law and order has been assigned to the Union Government. This is for the first time that a full state has been downgraded to the status of UT due to special circumstances. With these changes, the number of states in India has come down to 28, but the number of Union territories has increased to nine. Thus, at present Indian Union consists of **28 states and nine Union Territories.**

The term territory of the nation refers to the territorial domain of India over which she exercises sovereignty. Defined in such terms under international law, the territory of Indian Nation includes all such areas where her sovereignty extends. Besides, India has also adopted a federal setup by dividing the powers between the Union and its constituent states under the provisions of the Constitution. That is why it is called Union of India. However, there is distinction between the terms 'Union of India' and 'Territory of India'. The term 'Union of India' includes only the States which are members of federal system and share distribution of power with Union under the VIIth schedule of the Constitution, whereas the term 'territory of India' refers to entire territory over which the sovereign rights of India extend.

The constitutional provisions regarding the territories of India and their alteration are given in Articles 1 to 4. Article 1 of the Constitution says, "India, that is Bharat, shall be Union of States." It means the official name of India is Bharat and it is constituted as 'Union of States'. The term 'Union of States' was deliberately opted in place of Federation of States by the Constituent Assembly. According to Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, the Chairman of Drafting Committee, it implied two things :

First, the federal system in India was not the result of agreement among the constituent units *e.g.,* States as happened in the USA.

Second, the constituent units of the union have no freedom to secede from the union.

Article 1(2) of the Constitution provides that the States and the territories thereof shall be as specified in the First Schedule. Thus the first schedule of the Constitution lists the names of states and the centrally administered union territories.

Article 1(3) of the Constitution prescribes that the territories of India shall comprise the following categories :

1. The territories of the states as prescribed in the First Schedule.
2. The union territories (centrally administered) as given in the first schedule.
3. Such other territories as may be acquired by India in future.

Historical Background of Adjustment and Reorganization of Territories

At the time of independence of the country in August 1947, the territories of India were largely grouped into two broad categories : British Indian territories and territories of Indian States (native states). The British Indian territories consisted of the following :

1. Nine Governors' provinces.
2. Five Chief Commissioners' provinces.
3. Some tribal areas, frontier regions and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

These British Indian territories were directly administered by the British government in India. The second category of Indian territories consisted of 552 native states ruled by native princes. These states were also called princely states. Of these nearly hundred were big princely states which included princely states like Hyderabad, Kashmir, Mysore, Travancore and Baroda. The British crown held paramount power over these princely states. These states enjoyed considerable freedom in internal affairs so long as it did not hamper British Imperial interests. To keep watch on its interests the British government appointed political agents in princely states. The political agents of the British government interfered in the affairs of these states only when British Imperial interests were at stake or when the administrative machinery was at the verge of collapse or when gross misadministration was carried out.

(A) Integration of Princely States : As the country became independent on August 15, 1947, the paramount power of British Crown lapsed on that date under the Section 7(1) of Indian Independence Act, 1947. The Act declared that as from the appointed day (15 August, 1947) the suzerainty of His Majesty (British Crown) over the Indian states lapsed along with all powers and responsibilities. Thus, after the independence, these states were free to join either of the dominions (Pakistan and India created by dividing British Indian territories) or to remain independent and free. However, it was not pragmatic for them to remain independent in the prevailing conditions at that point of time. For a newly independent country like India, it was a Herculean task to integrate these princely states with varied administrative structures and size with the Indian Union. It was due to the leadership and statesmanship of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel that most of the princely states were integrated with the Indian Union without much

difficulty. However, three states namely Junagarh, Hyderabad and Jammu and Kashmir posed difficult problems for some time. Finally, the state of Junagarh was integrated with India after the escape of the Muslim ruler to Pakistan. A referendum was held which favoured its merger with India. The state of Hyderabad ruled by Nizam was integrated with India by means of police action in 1948. Ihe state of Jammu & Kashmir was integrated with India in 1947 after its ruler signed Instrument of Accession in the face of tribal infiltration organized by Pakistan across the border.

The territorial adjustment of princely states with Indian states was done through either integration or merger. In the process of integration two or more princely states joined together and formed one viable administrative unit. Rajasthan, Saurashtra and Travaneore-Cochin states are the result of the process of integration. On the other hand, under the process of merger, some small states merged with neighbouring British Indian provinces. The merger of Seraikella in Bihar and Pudukkotah in Madras province are some examples of merger process.

The detailed picture of integration and merger of princely states is given below :

1. 216 states with a population of about 19 million were merged with neighbouring British Indian provinces which were designated as part 'A' states.
2. Some 275 states with a population of about 35 million were integrated to create new viable administrative units. These newly created units were called part 'B' states.
3. 61 princely states not covered under above categories due to their special conditions were constituted as centrally administered areas and were called part 'C states.

The Islands of Andaman and Nicobar were placed under a separate category called part 'D' state.

The territorial integration of princely states not only brought uniformity, simplicity and viability in the units but also simplified the political organization of India. Thus, when the Constitution of India was adopted in the Constituent Assembly, it contained the following four categories of states in the first schedule—

Part 'A' states—(1) Assam, (2) Bihar, (3) Bombay, (4) Madhya Pradesh, (5) Madras, (6) Orissa, Punjab, (8) U.P., (9) West Bengal.

Part 'B' states—(1) Hyderabad, (2) Jammu & Kashmir. (3) Madhya Bharat, (4) Mysore. (5) PEPSU (Patiala and East Punjab States Union), (6) Rajasthan. (7) Saurashtra, (8) Travancore-Cochin.

Part 'C' states—(1) Ajmer, (2) Bilaspur, (3) Bhopal, (4) Coorg, (5) Delhi, (6) Himachal Pradesh, (7) Kutch, (8) Manipur, (9) Tripura. (10) Vindhya Pradesh.

Part 'D' states—(1) Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(B) Reorganization of States : The integration of princely states in the Indian union by the efforts of Indian leaders solved the existing problems of political integration of India to some extent. However, after independence in the background of democratic process, regional feelings based on linguistic consideration were gradually strengthened. The regional feeling riding on the newly consolidated linguistic identity became a new challenge before the Indian union and demanded urgent attention. The S. K. Dar Commission was appointed to examine the case of reorganization of states on linguistic basis which was demanded in southern states. The Dar Commission submitted its 56 page report on Dec. 1U, 1948. It suggested against the reorganization of states on linguistic basis. Instead the commission supported the criterion of administrative convenience for the reorganization of states.

However, the report of the commission faced stiff opposition from those regional groups which demanded reorganization of states on linguistic basis. Consequently, at Jaipur session of the Congress, the decision was taken to appoint J.V.P. Committee in 1948 to re-examine the issue of linguistic organization of states. **The J.V.P. Committee (Jawahar Lal Nehru, Vallabh Bhai Patel and Pattabhi Sitaramya as members)** submitted its report on April 1, 1949, that rejected the criterion of language for the reorganization of states. However, the report conceded that if public opinion (particularly with reference to Telugu speaking people) is insistent and overwhelming, we as democrats have to submit to it subject to certain limitations in regard to the good of India as a whole. In brief, the J.V.P. Committee was ambivalent while rejecting the language as the criterion for reorganization of states.

The kind of ambivalence on the part of senior leadership gave major boost to the agitation of Telugu speaking people of Madras state, which were adamant to create a separate state for Telugu speaking people called Andhra Pradesh. The climax of this agitation reached when Potti Sriramlu died on December 15, 1952 after 56 days hunger strike for the cause of Andhra Pradesh. This resulted in the creation of the first stale on linguistic basis for Telugu speaking people called Andhra Pradesh on October 1, 1953. The creation of Andhra Pradesh on linguistic basis in 1953 had a chain reaction as many other regions demanded creation of states on linguistic basis particularly in South India. The political leadership was not in a position to resist this demand on either moral or on political-legal ground. The result was the appointment of State Reorganization Commission in December 1953 to go into the entire question of reorganization objectively and dispassionately. The Commission was headed by Justice Fazl Ali and its two members were H. N. Kunzru and K.M. Pannikkar. The Commission after thorough study, submitted its recommendations on September 30, 1955, which laid down the following four major principles as the basis of reorganization :

1. Preserving and strengthening the security and unity of the country.
2. Financial, economic and administrative viability.
3. Linguistic and cultural homogeneity.
4. Scope for successful working of plans of development.

On the basis of above principles, the Commission recommended the abolition of classification of states into part A, B or C states. Instead, it recommended two fold categories namely states and union territories. Accordingly, the Commission recom-

mended final organization of 16 states and 3 union territories. The report of the Commission was placed before the two Houses of Parliament which accepted the report with minor modifications. The recommendations of the Commission were given the practical shape by passing the States Reorganization Act, 1956 and 7th Amendment which came into effect on November 1, 1956.

According to the provisions of this Act provinces were organized in 14 states and 6 union territories. The 14 states were—Andhra Pradesh, Assam. Bihar, Bombay, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala. Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Mysore, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The 6 union territories were—Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Laccadive, Amindive and Minicoy Islands.

(C) Creation of More New States : The major reorganization of states in India by the Act of 1956 satisfied popular demands to a great extent and introduced fundamental change in the political map of India, yet it did not eliminate the demands for creation of new states from various quarters. It should be noted that the status of a state granted to people of a region bestows various benefits along with a sense of identity and scope for realizing political ambition to regional leadership.

Before discussing the creation of new states after 1956, it seems worthwhile to analyze the provisions of the Constitution for the creation of new' states.

Article 2 of the Constitution deals with the admission or establishment of new states, which are not part of existing territory of India. It lays down that the "Parliament may by law admit into the union, or establish, new states on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit." The provisions of this Article were applied in modified form only once so far when Sikkim was admitted to Indian Union in 1975 as an Associate state by 35th Constitution Amendment Act 1974.

Article 3 is concerned with the formation of new states and alteration of areas, boundaries or names of existing states. According to this article, Parliament may by law form a new state by dividing the territory of a state or uniting two or more states, increase or diminish the area of a state and alter the name or boundary of any state. The Article further lays down that no bill for the above purposes shall be introduced in the Parliament without the prior recommendation of the President, who before giving such recommendation shall refer the bill to the legislatures of the affected states. However, the President is not bound by the opinion of the states expressed in the legislature. It seems the very purpose of referring such bill to state legislature is to know the feeling of people and leaders of the state on the proposed measures. Thus, the President shall refer such bill to state legislature but he is not bound by the opinion or advice of the state. **Thus, a state may be bifurcated by the Parliament without the consent of the state**. Further, the President may fix the time limit by which the concerned state legislature has to express its opinion.

The provisions of Article 4 are more far reaching, which lays down

Important Facts

- 552 princely states were integrated with Indian Union after independence by way of merger or integration. Sardar Ballabhbhai Patel played a major role in this process.
- Junagarh was the only state which wax integrated with India after popular referendum.
- Hyderabad princely state was integrated in India in 1948 by police action.
- For integration of princely states the 'Instrument of Accession' was signed by the rulers of these states.
- Jammu & Kashmir was integrated in India in 1947 but some part of its territory called Pak Occupied Kashmir (POK) always remained under the control of Pakistan. However, India makes legal claim over POK. The area of POK is 78114 sq. km out of which 5180 sq. km. was handed over to China by Pakistan in 1963.
- Andhra Pradesh was the first state created on the basis of language in 1953 after the death of Potti Sriramlu.
- Dar Commission (1948) and J.V.P. Committee (1949) rejected the linguistic basis for the reorganization of states.
- States Reorganization Commission (1955) headed by Fazl Ali accepted the linguistic basis for the reorganization of states. On the basis of its recommendations, a major reorganization of states was carried out in 1956.
- Sikkim is the only, state which wax admitted as Associate state in 1975. It was an entirely new category and separate article 2A was added in the Constitution. This article was repealed in 1975 itself.
- Goa and Daman Diub the only Union Territory was bifurcated in 1987 to create a separate state—Goa and a Union Territory—Daman and Diu.
- Pondicherry is the only state or union territory whose territorial areas are scattered. It consists of four areas—Pondicherry in Tamil Nadu. Karaikal, 150 km. South of Pondicherry in Tamil Nadu. Yanam in Andhra Coast and Mahe in Kerala, West Coast.
- Chandigarh is the only union territory* which is the capital of two states—Punjab and Haryana.
- China occupied Indian territory called Axai Chin in Western sector in 1962 war and it claims some part of the territory in Eastern sector in Arunachal Pradesh. Total area occupied by China is 37555 sq. km.
- Kachchadiub the small Island in Indian Ocean which is disputed between India and Sri Lanka.
- Some parts of the areas called Re Beruberi were ceded by India to Pakistan under agreement by 9th Constitutional Amendment, 1960. The Supreme Court upheld the transfer of this territory through Constitutional Amendment but some part of this ceded territory are still retained by West Bengal by Agreement with Bangladesh government.
- Teen Bigha corridor was given by India to Bangladesh under agreement. The territory was a part of West Bengal.
- India also acquired some territorial areas from Pakistan through agreements in 1958 and 1959 and merged the same into the States of Punjab, Assam and West Bengal under the provisions of the Acquired Territories (Merger) Act 1960.
- Under International Law Indian sovereignty also extends to territorial sea which extends to 12 nautical miles from the coastal land boundary.

that any law made by Parliament under Articles 2 and 3 may have effect of changing the provisions of the Constitution, but it shall not be treated as Amendment under Article 368. It means the Parliament may pass any law under Article 2 or 3 by a simple majority without following the difficult procedure of Amendment prescribed in Article 368.

It should be pointed out that leaving the case of Sikkim, in all cases, the reorganization and creation of new states in India have been effected under the provisions of Article 3. In most cases the principle has been to address popular demands but keeping in view the financial and administrative viability of the proposed new states. Since 1956, as many as 14 more states have been created either bifurcating the existing states or by way of converting the existing Union Territories into new states or by acquiring territories left by foreign powers namely Portugal and France.

Since the demand for the creation of new states kept on rising, many states were created either by dividing the existing states or by conferring the status of states to the existing union territories. From 1956 to 1975, eight more states were created increasing the number of states from 14 to 22. In 1960, the State of Bombay was divided and Maharashtra and Gujarat states were created. In 1962, the State of Nagaland was carved out from the State of Assam. The State of Punjab was bifurcated to establish two states—Punjab and Haryana and one union territory—Chandigarh in 1966. The union territory of Himachal Pradesh was given the status of state in 1971. A major reorganization of North- Eastern areas was carried out in 1971 by the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganization) Act. 1971. Three states namely Manipur, Tripura and Meghalaya and two union territories namely Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh were created after dividing the State of Assam in 1971 under this Act. In 1975, Sikkim was first admitted as an Associate state but converted to a full state in the same year.

Between 1975-1987, three new states were created increasing the number of states from 22 to 25. The union territory of Mizoram was elevated to a state in 1986. Arunachal Pradesh was also elevated to a state in 1986. The union territory of Goa, Daman and Diu was bifurcated in 1987 by which state of Goa and union territory of Daman and Diu were created. It should be noted that Goa was liberated from Portugal in 1961 and was admitted as union territory in 1962. Pondicherry and other French possessions were acquired by India from France under agreement with France in 1956. Pondicherry was made union territory in 1962.

Between 1987 till date three more states have been created in 2000 as a result of popular demand and agitation. The State of Chhattisgarh was carved out from Madhya Pradesh, the state of Uttaranchal from Uttar Pradesh and the State of Jharkhand was carved out from Bihar. After the reorganization of the state of Jammu & Kashmir in August, 2019 into two Union Territories, there are 28 states and nine Union Territories as part of the Indian Union. Some other regions still struggling for separate statehood are : Gorkhaland (West Bengal), Saurashtra (Gujarat) Vidarbha (Maharashtra), Harit Pradesh, Poorvanchal, Bundelkhand and Rohilkhand (All in Uttar Pradesh) and Bodoland in Assam. PDarpan

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Conclusion

Code on Wages, 2019 is the first Labour Code passed by the Parliament amongst the four proposed Codes. The Code as passed has harmonized the provisions under the four central legislations. It has effectively simplified the scattered provisions, making it easier for both the employers and the employees. The duties of employers have also been specified under the Code-namely non-discrimination on grounds of gender in respect of wages and recruitment; payment of minimum wages, procedure and mode of payment of wages, payment of bonus, payment of all dues and the duty regarding registers, display of notice etc. Let us hope that the Code on Wages, 2019 protects the rights of workers effectively and efficiently.

PDarpan

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'talaq' thrice in one sitting by a Muslim man to his wife results in an instant and irrevocable divorce.

- **Offence and Penalty :** The Bill makes declaration of talaq a cognizable offence, attracting up to three years' imprisonment with a fine. (A cognizable offence is one for which a police officer may arrest an accused person without warrant.) The offence will be cognizable only if information relating to the offence is given by : (i) the married woman (against whom talaq has been declared), or (ii) any person related to her by blood or marriage.
- The Bill provides that the Magistrate may grant bail to the accused. The bail may be granted only after hearing the woman (against whom talaq has been pronounced), and if the Magistrate is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for granting bail.
- The offence may be compounded by the Magistrate upon the request of the woman (against whom talaq has been declared). Compounding refers to the procedure where the two sides agree to stop legal proceedings, and settle the dispute. The terms and conditions of the compounding of the offence will be determined by the Magistrate.
- **Allowance :** A Muslim woman against whom talaq has been declared, is entitled to seek subsistence allowance from her husband for herself and for her dependent children. The amount of the allowance will be determined by the Magistrate.
- **Custody :** A Muslim woman against whom such talaq has been declared, is entitled to seek custody of her minor children. The manner of custody will be determined by the Magistrate.

To conclude, in the 21st century why should women not have the same rights as men ? Why should a woman suffer at the hands of man as he likes, whenever he likes, wherever he likes and how he likes without any hindrance whatsoever ? Why when polygamy was banned among Hindus in 1955 has it not been banned 54 years later in 2019 ? It is for Centre to answer! Hindus have gained as the population has come under control but Muslims still are suffering because of it not being outlawed. It must take the great initiative in this direction also as rightly pointed out by Arif Mohammad Khan ! Let's hope so ! PDarpan

Climate Change Article

Effect of Climate Change on Agriculture, Biodiversity and Food Security

—Dr. R.S. Sengar

The term 'global warming' is a specific example of the broader term climate change, which also includes global cooling. In common the term refers to recent warming and implies a human influence. The UNFCCC uses the term climate change for human caused change and climatic variability for other changes. The anthropogenic term was also used for when climate change was affecting or focusing on human induced changes.

Climate Change and Variability

Climate change is the variation in either mean state of the climate or in its variables persisting for an extending period, typically decades or longer. It encompasses temperature increase (global warming) and decrease (global cooling), sea level rise, changes in precipitation pattern, and increased frequencies of extreme weather events. Climatic variability refers to sudden and discontinuous seasonal or monthly or periodic changes in climate or its components without showing any specific trend of temporal change. Thus climate change follows a specific pattern of change in climate or its variables over the time.

Mechanism of Global Warming

Global warming and climate change has emerged as an important global concern cutting across geographical and national boundaries. Global warming is defined as the increase in the temperature of globe due to transmission of incoming short-wave radiation from the sun and the absorption of outgoing long-wave radiation from the earth by GH gases. The phenomenon is called Greenhouse effect or more precisely called 'Natural greenhouse effect'. The term 'Greenhouse effect' is derived from the phenomenon of warming effect that takes place inside greenhouses (glasshouses) used for off-season cultivation in temperate areas. An increase in the concentration of greenhouse gases such as CO_2, CH_4, N_2O in the atmosphere is thought to have been responsible for increasing the air temperature. This is called as "Enhanced greenhouse effect", which is the additional effect induced by human activities.

Evidences of Global Warming

(A) Physical Evidence

- Rise in atmospheric temperature (land & sea).
- Rise in sea water level and melting of glaciers.
- Occurrence of climatic extremes & natural disaster.
- Spatial pattern of climate (rain fall & temperature) has changed markedly.
- Number of cloudy days has reduced drastically.
- PH of seawater has decreased substantially.

(B) Biological Evidence

- Early blossoming of trees.
- Appearance of grasses in Antarctic.
- Changes in cropping pattern from wheat to maize.
- Causality in Europe due to high temp.
- Vulnerability of frog to devastating fungus.
- Killing of large Limb tree population in Senegal.
- Spatial shifting of marine fish population in Bay Island.
- Northward movement of ticks and bleaching of corals.

Causes of Global Warming

Greenhouse gas emission : Most of the observed increase in globally averaged temperature since the midcentury is very likely due to the observed increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentration through greenhouse effect. Industries, energy, transportation, vehicles, intensive agriculture etc. contribute to GHG emission. Energy and industries contribute 72% and agriculture alone accounts for 28% to total GHG emission. Solar variation combined with volcanoes have probably had small effect from pre-industrial to 1950. This natural phenomenon has supported the changes in climate.

Deforestation : Rapid deforestation has led to depletion in CO_2 fixation through photosynthesi thereby leading to increase in the atmospheric CO_2 level, as forest is a major biological sink of CO_2.

Population : A major cause of global warming through developmental activities.

Global Warming Scenario

(A) Global temperature

- Since 1979, land temperature has increased about twice as fast as ocean temperature (0·25°C per decade against 0·13°C per decade).
- Global average temperature near the earth surface rose by 0.75°C ± 0·18°C (0·56-0·92°C) during the 20th century relative to period 1860-1900.
- The last 50 years have reported to be warmest in the last 1300 years.
- The last eleven of twelve years have been reported warmer since 1980.
- The magnitude of increase in temperature has been reported to be higher at high latitude as compared to low latitude.
- The rate of increase in atmospheric temperature was due to both maximum and minimum temp.

(B) Greenhouse gases

- The level of atmospheric CO_2 has increased from 280 ppm in 1850 to 385 ppm presently (+37%). The major sources of CO_2 emission are fossil fuel burning in industries, energy production, transportation, and due to deforestation.
- Agriculture is not the source of CO_2 emission. It has increased

@ 2·33 ppm every year during the last decade.

- CO_2 accounts for about 65% of total GHG emission in India. The present atmospheric level of greenhouse gases (GHG) is around 423 ppm and their cumulative rate of emission is around 3·30%, which is very high compared to the past rate of emission of these gases (0·5-1·0%).
- Carbon dioxide alone accounts for 55-60% contribution in global warming but has lowest warming potential.
- Methane concentration increased (a) 149% since 1850 (1·94 ppm).
- Methane accounts for 15-20% contribution in global warming with 21-25 times higher warming potential compared to CO_2. It accounts for 31% of total GHG emission in India.
- Agriculture contributes about 78% of total methane emission in India. The ruminant animals like cattle and buffaloes are the largest contributors (59%) of methane emission followed by rice paddy fields (23%) in India.
- Nitrous oxide concentration in the air has increased substantially but now there is no further increase. It contributes only 4% to total GHG emission with 5% contribution to global warming and about 140 times greater warming potential as compared to CO_2.
- Agriculture contributes about 84% to total N_2O emission in India.
- These levels are considerably higher at any time during the last 650000 Years.
- Ozone concentration has been doubled as compared to 1850 level.

(A) Rise in sea water level : Sea water level has increased by 75mm in the last century.

(B) Rainfall : The number and frequencies of extreme rainfall, floods, droughts & cyclone have increased especially during the last 50 years.

Measures to Reduce Green-House Gas Emission from Agriculture

- Improve management of rice paddies production through judicious use of organic manure, fertilizers, irrigation water, nitrification inhibitors, fertilizer placement and their scheduling.
- Improve management of live-stock population especially ruminants and its diet.
- Increase soil organic carbon through minimal tillage and residue management.
- Improve energy use efficiency in agriculture through better designs of machinery, and by resource conservation practices.
- Change land use by increasing area under bio-fuels, agro-forestry but not at the cost of food production.

Projections of Global Warming Scenario

- There is a general agreement that temperature is likely to rise by 1·1 to 6.4°C by the end of 21st century with a probable 2·0-4·5°C range if CO_2 concentration doubles from pre-industrial level, with a best estimate of about 3°C, and is very unlikely to be less than 1·5°C.
- Values substantially higher than 4·5°C cannot be excluded. Best estimate for low scenario (B1) is 1·8°C (likely range is 1·1°C to 2·9°C), and for high scenario (A1FI) is 4·0°C (likely range is 2·4°C to 6·4°C).
- Projected warming in 21st century expected to be greatest over land and at most high Northern latitudes and least over the Southern Ocean and parts of the North Atlantic Ocean.
- In the next two decades a warming of about 0·2°C per decade is projected.
- Even if all future emission of GHG were stopped now, a further warming of about 0·1°C per decade would be expected.
- It is likely that future tropical cyclone will become more intense with large peak wind speed and heavier rain.
- Increases in the amount of precipitation are very likely in high latitude, while decreases are likely in most subtropical land regions, continuing observed patterns in recent trends.
- The projected sea level rise by the end of this century is likely to be 18-59 cm with an additional 10 cm-20 cm possible if recent melting of polar ice sheets continues.

Impacts of Global Warming

(A) Physical impacts

- Melting of glaciers may cause flooding followed by droughts in near future.
- Water availability may be another severe social and agri-cultural problem due to greater loss of moisture through evapo-transpiration and more demand for drinking/industry and irri-gation.
- Coastal inundation due to sea level rise and water expansion may lead to greater loss of coastal biodiversity especially mangrove plant/animal species responsible for coastal ecosystem protection.
- Occurrence of natural calamities such as severe storms, floods, droughts, cyclone, tsunami, hurricane etc. could be more frequent due to global warming.
- Changes in Carbon/nitrogen dynamics of soil and increase in loss of nitrogen due to greater volatilization.

(B) Biological impacts.

Direct and Indirect Effects of Rising CO_2

- C3 crops are benefited while C4 crops are unaffected, but positive effect is manifested only when other factors are not limited.
- Photosynthetic rate of C_3 crops increased mainly due to reduced photorespiration.
- Growth and productivity of C3 crops increased directly by rising CO_2 level but may be offset by increased atmospheric temperature and C3 weeds in C3 crops.
- Input (fertilizers, irrigated water) and natural resource (radiation, water) use efficiency of C3 crops is enhanced under rising CO_2, level.
- C3 crop plants behave physiologically like C4 plants without changing their biochemical pathway.
- Biomass, leaf area and yield of C3 crops are increased signifi-

cantly without proportional increase in nitrogen uptake, which leads to greater nitrogen use efficiency but lower protein content both in straw and seeds/grains.

- C/N ratio of C3 plants is likely to increase thereby depleting nutritional quality especially protein content.
- More beneficial for fodder, sugarcane, potato, root foliage crop where sink is not a limiting factor.

Direct and Indirect Effect of Warming

- Global warming may be beneficial for alpine regions mainly by expanding arable lands and extending crop growth duration, but harmful for temperate, subtropical and tropical regions.
- High temperature may reduce growth and yield of both C3 and C4 crops at their growing sites mainly due to fostering growth and developmental processes leading to shortening of crop growth duration.
- Global warming reduces growth and productivity of both C_3 and C_4 crops owing to increase in the rate of both dark and photo-respiration (respiratory losses).
- Flowering and fruiting of several temperate crops *viz.*, apple, cabbage, cauliflower potato, carrot, cherry, plum, etc. may be severely affected by warming.
- Contrary to CO_2, fertilization, global warming reduces resource utilization efficiency of crops mainly due to low biomass and grains/seeds production.
- High temperature may lead to spatial and temporal loss of crop biodiversity.
- Chemical integrity and both physical and nutritional quality especially sweetness and compaction of protein and starch of valuable food and fruit crops may be reduced substantially.
- Geographical shifting of temperate crops from their traditional areas of cultivation to upper latitude for acquiring optimum thermal regime for flowering and fruiting.
- Spread of existing disease and insect pests and emergence of new biotypes and diseases.
- Greater crop/weed competition for their growth and productivity.

(C) Social impacts : Migration of population from warmer prone areas to urban areas in search of jobs.

(D) Economic impacts : Reduction in agricultural income due to low productivity and higher cost of production.

Impact of Climate Change on Crops Productivity and Quality

- Rising atmospheric CO_2 to the level of 660 ppm increased rice yield by 6-50%, photosynthetic rate by 20-60%. while decreased transpiration rate and stomatal conductance approximately 16 and 33% respectively. But expanding leaf surface finally offset the benefit of water economy effect.
- The productivity of rice reduced by 10% for every 1°C increase in growing season mean temperature between 30 & 40°C.
- The rise in minimum temperature caused greater reduction in rice grain yield as compared to negligible effect of rise in maximum temperature.
- The yield of wheat, maize, sorghum and soybean reduced by 5% for every 1°C rise in mean daily temperature.
- High temperature caused detrimental effect on reproductive organs such as pollen and spikelets, while the growth of vegetative organs like leaf and stem is stimulated by high temperature.
- Both rice and wheat plants appear to be most sensitive to high temperature. As it induces high percentage of pollen and spikelet sterility. Exposure to high temperature of a time span of few hours can greatly reduce pollen viability and therefore cause irreversible yield loss.
- High temperature and CO_2, caused alteration in the chemical integrity of tissues and physical and nutritional quality characteristics of seeds, grains such as amylose, protein and the ratio of amylose/amylopectin, chalkiness and higher C/N ratio in grains.
- The protein content of rice grain grown under elevated CO_2 reduced markedly, while chalkiness of kernel was increased.

Impact of Global Warming on Milk Production

The studies on the impact of high temperature and humidity on milk production of cattle and buffaloe carried out at National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal under the Network project on climate change indicated that small change in Temperature-humidity Index (THI) due to rise in atmospheric temperature is not likely to affect both the physiological function and milk production of cattle and buffalo significantly, but also milk production and reproductive function of cattle as well as buffaloes are likely to be affected adversely by projected temperature rise of 2-6°C by the end of this century. The negative impact of warming on milk production is likely to be more in northern India than in other parts. The crossbreed cattle showed maximum hyper-thermal sensitivity followed by buffalo and indigenous cattle.

Implications of Global Warming for Crops : IPCC 2007

- Increases in the frequency of droughts and floods are projected to affect production negatively, especially in subsistence sectors at low latitudes.
- Crop yields to increase slightly at mid to high latitudes for temperature increase of 1-3°C, and then decrease beyond that.
- At lower latitudes, crop yields tend to decrease for even small temperature increases (1-2°C).
- Globally, the potential for food production is projected to increase with increases in 1-3°C temperature, but to decrease above this.

Projected Impacts of Global Warming on Indian Agriculture

- Productivity of most crops may decrease due to increase in temperature and decrease in water availability especially in Indo-gangetic plains.

Continued on Page 127

Environmental Article

Desertification and Land Degradation

—Dhiraj Pandey

Desertification and land degradation are major threats to agricultural productivity in our country. "Desertification and loss of biological potential will restrict the transformation of dry lands into productive ecosystem. Climate change will further challenge the livelihood of those living in these sensitive ecosystems and may result in higher levels of resource scarcity.

The process of desertification and land degradation are accelerating due to over-exploitation of natural resources accentuated by the impacts of climate change and increasing human and livestock population. Desertification, decline in the biological or economic productivity of the soil in arid and semi arid areas resulting from various factors, including human activities and variations in climate is going ahead with an re-educated pace. Desertification refers to the formation and expansion of degraded soil, not to the advancing movement of the current deserts.

Land degradation is a process in which the value of the biophysical environment is affected by combination of human-induced processes acting upon the land. Also environmental degradation is the gradual destruction or reduction of the quality and quantity of human activities animals activities or natural means example water causes soil erosion, wind, etc. It is viewed as any change or disturbance to the land perceived to be deleterious or undesirable. Land degradation has accelerated during the 20th century due to increasing and combined pressures of agricultural and livestock production (over-cultivation, overgrazing, forest conversion), urbanization, deforestation and extreme weather events such as droughts and coastal surges which salinate land. Desertification is a form of land degradation, by which fertile land becomes desert.

Land is a vital resource for producing food, preserving forests and biodiversity, facilitating the natural management of water systems and acting as a carbon store. Appropriate land management can protect and maximize these services for society. Conversely, desertification, along with climate change and the loss of biodiversity were identified as the greatest challenges to sustainable development during the 1992 Rio Earth Summit.

Major Causes of Desertification and Land Degradation

Overgrazing, over-exploitation, deforestation, inappropriate irrigation, population pressure, urbanisation, poverty, inequitable sharing of resources are a major cause of desertification and land degradation under dryland conditions.

The degradation was the result of loss of vegetation due to deforestation, cutting beyond permissible limits, unsustainable fuel wood and fodder extraction, shifting cultivation, encroachment on forest lands, forest fires and overgrazing.

Other factors leading to large-scale degradation comprise, "extension of cultivation to lands of low potential or high natural hazards, non-adoption of adequate soil conservation measures, improper crop rotation, indiscriminate use of agro-chemicals, improper planning and management of irrigation systems and excessive extraction of groundwater."

- **Overgrazing :** Overgrazing occurs when plants are exposed to intensive grazing for extended periods of time, or without sufficient recovery periods. Overgrazing reduces the usefulness, biodiversity, and productivity of the land and is one cause of desertification and erosion. Animal grazing is a huge problem for many areas that are starting to become desert biomes. If there are too many animals that are overgrazing in certain spots, it makes it difficult for the plants to grow back, which hurts the biome and makes it lose its former green glory.
- **Over-exploitation :** Overexploitation, also called overharvesting, refers to harvesting a renewable resource to the point of diminishing returns. Continued over-

- Twenty-five per cent of India's total land is undergoing desertification while 32 per cent is facing degradation that has affected its productivity, critically affecting the livelihood and food security of millions across the country.
- As much as 105·19 million hectares (Mha) of the country's total geographical area of 328·73 Mha is being degraded while 82·18 Mha is undergoing desertification.
- The major forms of land degradation include soil erosion (which accounts for over 71 per cent of the total degradation) and wind erosion (10.24 per cent). The other major forms of land degradation are water-logging and salinity-alkalinity.
- In its fifth National Report on Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought, the government has conceded that land degradation continues to be a major environmental concern for the country with consequent implications for sustainable development.
- Rajasthan accounts for the most desertified land (23 Mha), followed by Gujarat, Maharashtra and Jammu and Kashmir (13 Mha each) and Orissa and Andhra Pradesh (5 Mha each).
- 68 per cent of the country is prone to drought, and this will be further heightened because of the impact of climate change, particularly in dry lands.
- 146·82 Mha of the country's total area is suffering from different kinds of land degradation, including water erosion (93·68 Mha), wind erosion (9·48 Mha), waterlogging (14·30 Mha), salinity or alkalinity (5·94 Mha), soil acidity (16.04 Mha) and other complex reasons (7·38 Mha).

exploitation can lead to the destruction of the resource.

- **Deforestation :** Deforestation occurs when forests are converted to non-forest areas without making adequate forestry for urbanization, agriculture and other reasons. It implies permanent destruction of forests and woodlands for domestic, industrial and mechanical needs. Between 2015-18, a whopping 20,000 hectares of forest land, almost the size of Kolkata has been used for developmental activities such as mining, thermal power plants, dams, road, railways and irrigation projects. A total of 20,314·12 hectares of forest land was diverted in three years 2015-2018 (till December 13, 2018). Telangana topped the list with 5,137·38 hectares of forest land diverted, followed by Madhya Pradesh with 4,093·38 hectares and Odisha with 3,386·67 hectares of forest area diverted. The three states together account for over 62 per cent (12,617·43 hectares) of the total forest land diverted during the said three-year period.
- **Inappropriate Irrigation :** Inappropriate irrigation is probably the most common cause of desertification and soil degradation. Nearly all irrigation water contains some salt. If an irrigation system lacks a good drainage system, then the salt accumulates in the soil. Eventually, the salt reaches levels toxic to most plants. This problem is now jeopardising about one-third of the world's irrigated land.
- **Farming Practices :** Some farmers do not know how to use the land effectively. They may essentially strip the land of everything that it has before moving on to another plot of land. By stripping the soil of its nutrients, desertification becomes more and more of a reality for the area that is being used for farming.
- **Population Pressure :** The population in some desert areas is increasing. In places where there are developments in mining and tourism, people are attracted by jobs. An increased population is putting greater pressure on the environment for resources such as wood and water.
- **Stripping the land of resources :** If an area of land has natural resources like natural gas, oil, or minerals, people will come in and mine it or take it out. This usually strips the soil of nutrients, which in turn kills the plant life, which in turn starts the process toward becoming a desert biome as time goes on.
- **Urbanisation :** As mentioned above, development can cause people to go through and kill the plant life. It can also cause issues with the soil due to chemicals and other things that may harm the ground. As areas become more urbanized, there are less places for plants to grow, thus causing desertification.
- **Climate Change :** Climate change plays a huge role in desertification. As the days get warmer and periods of drought become more frequent, desertification becomes more and more eminent. Unless climate change is slowed down, huge areas of land will become desert; some of those areas may even become uninhabitable as time goes on.
- **Natural Disasters :** There are some cases where the land gets damaged because of natural disasters, including drought. In those cases, there isn't a lot that people can do except work to try and help rehabilitate the land after it has already been damaged by nature.

Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas Released

Desertification and land degradation are major threats to agricultural productivity in our country. Combating desertification and land degradation is one of the thrust areas identified by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India, New Delhi. Space Applications Centre (SAC), ISRO, Ahmedabad along with 19 concerned partner institutes has carried out an inventory and monitoring of desertification of the entire country using Indian Remote Sensing Satellites (IRS) data in Geographical Information System (GIS) environment.

The maps and salient findings compiled in the form of an Atlas were released on the occasion of "World Day to Combat Desertification", on June 17, 2016 jointly organized by MoEF&CC, and Arid Zone Forest Research Institute (AFRI) at Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

This Atlas presents statewise desertification and land degradation status maps depicting land use, process of degradation and severity level. This was prepared using IRS Advanced Wide Field Sensor (AWiFS) data of 2011-13 and 2003-05 time frames in GIS environment. Area under desertification/land degradation for the both time frames and changes are reported statewise as well as for the entire country. The outputs are helpful in prioritizing areas to be taken up for minimizing the impact of desertification and land degradation.

It may be noted that India is signatory to the United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD). The country is committed to combating desertification and land degradation and intends to achieve land degradation neutral status by 2030. MoEF&CC is the nodal Ministry for the implementation of the UNCCD. The status of India's desertification and land degradation is an important contribution to India's report to the UNCCD. Besides, concerned policy makers, regional planners and researchers can also use this Atlas as a ready reference.

India Faces a Growing Crisis of Land Degradation

Nearly 30% of its land area, as much as the area of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra put together, has been degraded through deforestation, over-cultivation, soil erosion and depletion of wetlands.

This land loss is not only whittling away India's gross domestic product by 2·5% every year and affecting its crop yield, but also exacerbating climate change events in the country which, in turn, are causing even greater degradation.

India has pledged to restore 5 million hectares of degraded land by 2030. But this is just 1·5% of the country's geographical area, 28·5 percentage points less than the total land left degraded.

Continued on Page 100

Compendium

Indian Polity and Constitution

★ Which Article of the Constitution of India deals with the 'Power of President to Consult Supreme Court' ?
—Article 143

★ Which Article of the Constitution of India deals with the 'All India Services' ? **—Article 312**

★ The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed from his office only in a manner and on the grounds prescribed for removal of
—Judge of the Supreme Court

★ An Election Commissioner can be removed from his office on the recommendation of
—The Chief Election Commissioner

★ 'Judicial Activism' is related to
—Public Interest Litigation

★ Who was elected the permanent President of the Indian Constituent Assembly ?
—Dr. Rajendra Prasad

★ Who has the power to summon or prorogue the Houses of Parliament and to dissolve the House of People (Lok Sabha) Under Article 85 ?
—The President of India

★ The idea of Preamble in the Indian Constitution is inspired by the Constitution of **—The USA**

★ Which Schedule of the Constitution of India deals with the languages recognised by the Constitution ?
—8th Schedule

★ The sanctioned strength of the total judges in the Supreme Court has been increased from 31 to
—34 Judges (including CJI)

Indian National Movement

★ Who is the author of the book 'History of British India' ? **—James Mill**

★ Which prominent figure of the Indian National Movement was associated with the 'New India' and the 'Commonweal' newspapers ? **—Annie Besant**

★ Which Indian leader was described as the 'Father of Indian Unrest' by Valentine Chirol ?
—Bal Gangadhar Tilak

★ Who was the British Governor-General when the notorious Vernacular Press Act was passed ?
—Lord Lytton

★ Who was the Governor-General at the time of Government of India Act (1935) ?
—Lord Willingdon

★ A peaceful crowd gathered in Jallianwala Bagh on April 13, 1919, when the horrible Jallianwala Bagh event occurred, to protest the arrest of two Indian leaders. They were
—Dr. Satyapal and Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew

★ Motilal Nehru and Chittaranjan Das founded the Swaraj Party with the programme of
—Council Entry

★ Who regarded Chittaranjan Das as his political guru ?
—Subhash Chandra Bose

★ In 1942 who appealed to the Britishers to leave India in God's hand ? **—Mahatma Gandhi**

★ Sir Michael O'Dwyer was shot dead on March 13, 1940 in London by **—Udham Singh**

History and Culture of India

★ 'Milindapanho', a great book on Buddhist doctrines is in the form of dialogues between
—Buddhist scholar Nagasena and King Menander

★ 'Suttapitaka', a part of the holy Tripitaka of Buddhism is a collection of the
—Religious discourses of Mahatma Buddha

★ Which Sultan of Delhi introduced the 'Dagh and Huliya' system in his military ?
—Sultan Ala-ud-din Khilji

★ Which Upanishada carries Yajnavalkya-Gargi dialogue ? **—Vrihadarnyaka Upanishada**

★ The list of the names of the Sultans of Delhi prepared under the orders of Sultan Firoz Shah Tughlaq, begins with the name of— **—Sultan Iltutmish**

★ Who is the author of the book 'Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi' ?
—Ziauddin Barni

★ Who was the Sultan of Delhi at the time of Timur's invasion ? **—Nasiruddin Mahmud Tughlaq**

★ Sidhu and Kanhu were the leaders of
—The Santhal Revolt

★ In which land revenue system, was a direct settlement made between the British Government and the peasants ? **—The Ryotwari System**

★ Who led the Kuka revolt in Punjab ?
—Bhagat Jawahar Mal

Economic Affairs of India

★ Which Indian State emerged on top of the SARAL index in 2019 ? **—Karnataka**

★ Who has become the new Director-General of 'SCOPE', the apex body of Central Government owned Public Enterprises ? **—Atul Sobti**

★ CVC constituted a panel to examine bank fraud of over ₹ 50 crore. Who will be the head of the panel ?
—T.M. Bhasin

★ The Central nodal agency for implementing price support operations for commercial crops is
—NAFED

★ The Income Tax in India is **—Direct and Progressive**

★ The main reason for the high growth of money supply in India since 1990 is **—Foreign Borrowing**

★ The difference between GDP and NDP is
—Consumption of fixed capital

★ Loans provided by banks to farmers, small traders come under the category of
—Priority Sector Lending

★ Devaluation of currency will be more beneficial if
—Prices of exports remain constant

★ Who appoints a banking 'Ombudsman' ?
—Reserve Bank of India

Geography (India and the World)

★ The lines which are drawn joining places having equal height from mean sea level are called
—Contours

★ Most of the clouds in the tropical rainforest are of
—Cumulus Type

★ Who is author of the book, 'Urban Geography' ?
—Griffith Taylor

★ 'Basalt' and 'Felsite' are the examples of
—Aphanitic Igneous Rocks

★ 'Black Forest' and 'Vosges' mountains exist in
—Germany

★ The sub-tropical high pressure belt is the source for the **—Trade Winds**

★ The two major west flowing rivers of India are
—The Narmada and the Tapi

★ Which lake is a typical lagoon separated from the sea by the Sriharikota Island ? **—Pulicat Lake**

★ Kolar gold mine is located in **—Karnataka**

★ Khetri copper mines are located in **—Rajasthan**

Science & Technology

★ The focal length of the lens of a normal human eye is about **—25 cm**

★ Sugar in blood and urine is tested with
—Benedicts Solution

★ 'Calcium Sulphate' is commonly known as
—Plaster of Paris

★ The pigment that protects plants from damage by UV radiation is **—Carotenoid**

★ Rutherford's scattering experiment proved the presence of **—Nucleus in Atom**

★ Measles is a disease caused by a **—Virus**

★ Which vein carries oxygen-rich blood from the lungs to the heart ? **—Pulmonary Vein**

★ Diamond is harder than graphite because of
—Difference of Crystalline Structure

★ Larva of mosquito is known as **—Wriggler**

★ The number $6{\cdot}023 \times 10^{23}$ is called
—Avogadro's Number

Agriculture

★ Yellow colour in Turmeric is caused due to the presence of **—Curcumin**

★ Pungency in 'Radish' is caused due to the presence of
—Isocynate

★ Heart rot disease in 'Sugarbeet' is caused due to the deficiency of **—Boron**

★ Who is the author of the book 'Soil and Water Conservation Research in India' ?
—Dr. V.V. Dhruv Narayan

★ Why is gypsum used in crop of mustard ?
—For Supplying Sulphur

★ In rice crop, new leaves turn into yellow white due to deficiency of **—Iron**

★ CS-52 and CS-54 are salt tolerant varieties of
—Indian Mustard

★ Central Soil Salinity Research Institute is located in
—Karnal

★ Nepthalene Acetic Acid is used to control malformation in **—Mango**

★ The process of soil formation is called **—Pedogenesis**

Environment, Biodiversity, Climate Change etc.

★ Which film was adjudged the best environmental film in the 66th National Film Awards ?
—The World's Most Famous Tiger

★ Which country honoured the passing of 'okjokull', its first glacier lost to climate change ? **—Iceland**

★ Who is the author of the book 'The Great Derangement : Climate Change and the Unthinkable' ?
—Amitav Ghosh

★ Who propounded the concept of 'Environmental Determinism' ? **—Friedrich Ratzel**

★ Who is the author of the book, 'The Climatic Factor' ?
—Huntington

★ The term 'Ecosystem' was first used by A.G. Tansley in **—1935**

★ Three major components of an ecosystem are
—Energy, Biotic and Abiotic

★ 'Silent Spring' is a famous book on environmental science written by **—Rachel Carson**

★ The levels through which food energy passes from one group of organisms to the other group are called
—Trophic Level

★ Hemis National Park is located in **—Ladakh**

Communication

★ Which remedy is used to overcome the adverse impact of the node in communication ?
—Short Circuiting

★ Which is not a positive communication vehicle ?
—Being more Personal

★ Formal guidelines and authority hierarchies are examples of which function of communication ?
—Organization

★ The creative function of communication is important in **—Propaganda**

★ Body language is a form of mental and physical ability of **—Human non-verbal Communication**

★ What is 'Entropy' in communication ?
—Break-down in Verbal Communication

★ Sending skills in human communication may be sub-divided in **—Speaking and Writing**

★ Classroom speech is considered as a
—Non-technical Medium

★ In an organisation, the two basic correspondence methods are **—Internal and External**

★ For effective interpersonal communication, one must not be **—General**

Sports and Games

★ The first test match of the inaugural ICC World Test Championship 2019–21 was played between
—Australia and England

★ Who became the first World Badminton Champion from India ? **—P.V. Sindhu**

★ Which team emerged champion of the Durand Cup, the prestigious football title in India, this year ?
—Gokulam Kerala FC

★ PM Narendra Modi launched the 'Fit India Movement' on **—National Sports Day (August 29, 2019)**

★ Who were honoured with the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Honour, 2019 ?
—Deepa Malik and Bajrang Punia

★ How many sportpersons were honoured with the Arjun Awards in 2019 ? **—19 Sportspersons**

★ Who was adjudged the UEFA Men's Player of the Year 2018-19 ? **—Virgil Van Dijk**

★ Who is the first Indian woman to win an individual Olympic medal ? **—Karnam Malleshwari**

★ 'Ace Against Odds' is the autobiography of
—Sania Mirza

★ 'Fed Ex Cup' and 'Augusta Masters' are coveted trophies of the game of **—Golf**

Miscellany

★ Which film was adjudged the Best Feature Film in the 66th National Film Awards ?
—'Hellaro', a Gujarati Film

★ Which Indian Journalist has been honoured with the Ramon Magsaysay Award, 2019 ? **—Ravish Kumar**

★ Which Indian pilot became the first woman of the world to fly solo across the Pacific and the Atlantic oceans recently ? **—Aarohi Pandit**

★ 'Mask Dance' and 'War Dance' are popular folk dances of **—Arunachal Pradesh**

★ Crude density of population is also known as—
—Arithmetic Density

★ Who is the author of the book, "A Voice of Freedom" ? **—Nayantara Sehgal**

★ 'International Nurse Day' is observed on— **—May 12**

★ Where was the Group 7 (G7) Summit, 2019 organized ? **—Biarritz (France)**

★ Income Tax in India was introduced by
—James Wilson

★ 'Istanbul' was formerly known as **—Constantinople**

Pitanpan

Continued from Page 97

For countries like India that are highly vulnerable to climate change, land degradation is a critical issue. Degraded land loses its capacity to absorb carbon-dioxide (CO_2), a green-house gas (GHG) that is the biggest factor in worsening global warming.

Over 600 million people risk the impact of climate change in India and if land degradation is not addressed, the problem could get more acute. The country is home to 18% of the world's population with only 2·4% of its land.

Solutions

IPCC's special report on land and climate change also evaluated some solutions to use land as a tool against global warming :

- There are two types of solutions: Those with immediate impact such as conservation of wetlands, rangelands and mangroves which absorb huge stocks of GHGs like CO_2 from the atmosphere. There are other solutions that are more long-term : Planting of trees, reforestation and afforestation.
- Avoiding, reducing and reversing desertification would enhance soil fertility and increase carbon storage in soils and biomass while benefiting agricultural productivity and food security. Prevention of desertification is, however, preferable to attempts to restore degraded land.
- Over 30% of food is wasted or lost globally, which contributes to 10% of total GHG emissions from human activities. A number of response options such as increased food productivity, dietary choices and food losses and waste reduction can reduce the demand for land conversion. This could free land and create opportunities for enhanced implementation of other strategies listed here.
- Creation of windbreaks through afforestation, tree planting and ecosystem restoration programmes that can function as 'green walls' and 'green dams' that reduce dust and sandstorms and sand dune movement.

Pitanpan

Environment/Biodiversity/Climate Change and Disaster Management Round-up

Blooming of Microalgae Kills Coral Reefs in Gulf of Mannar

Scientists found dead Noctiluca scintillans along the shore in the Mandapam region when they conducted the survey.

Key Facts :

- The absence of secondary algae in the reef areas of Shingle Island confirmed the recent death of these coral colonies due to the smothering effect of the microalgae while settling, they said.
- Acropora, Montipora, Pocillopora, Porites, Favia, Favites and Goniastrea were the worst affected coral genera, they said.
- "Mortality was high in Acropora and Montipora colonies in Shingle Island, while the Acropora colony was less affected in Krusadai Island," they observed.
- The impact of the bloom was less in the nearby Krusadai Island, the scientists said. Out of 120 colonies observed at the depth of 0·5-4 metres, only 12 colonies of sizes 10-20 cm were found dead on the shoreward side of the island, they said.
- A greenish settlement was seen on coral colonies and other benthic communities including macro algae, coralline algae and sponges, the scientists said. "Because of this disturbance, corals started secreting excessive mucus, causing mucus sheathing," a scientist added.
- Mucus sheathing was also found around Pullivasal, Poomarichan, Manoliputti, Manoli and Hare islands in the Mandapam group but the intensity was comparatively less, Mr. Patterson said, citing the survey.
- Coral reefs in the Kilakarai region had suffered bleaching when a similar severe bloom was witnessed in October 2008, he added.
- During the recent survey, the scientists also found the dissolved oxygen content in the reef area in Shingle and Krusadai islands to be between 1 and 2 ml/l and it was between 3 and 4 ml/l in the other islands of the Mandapam group, he said.
- As the decomposed microalgae cells released toxic ammonia gas, the chances of ciliate propagation which killed fish eggs were high, he said and suggested regular monitoring. The SDMRI, on its part, had taken up continuous monitoring of reef areas and environmental parameters, he said.

Mawlynnong, 'Asia's Cleanest Village

The cleanest village in India, Mawlynnong Village is also known as God's Own Garden and for all the right reasons.

Key Facts :

- In 2003, Mawlynnong was awarded the title of the **cleanest Village in Asia** by *Discover India*.
- Alongside cleanliness, the village has achieved a lot-be it 100 per cent literacy rate, or a women empowerment scenario that the rest of the world can only dream of.
- Cleanliness is a way of life in Mawlynnong Village! All houses here have functional toilets since 2007; there are bamboo dustbins all over the village; even the dry leaves fallen from the trees go straight into the dustbin, plastic bags are banned, and smoking is prohibited.
- The rules are strictly followed and the defaulters are charged heavily.
- That's not all, Mawlynnong gets its own manure which is converted from the garbage dug into a pit.
- People not only clean their houses, they step out to sweep the roads and planting trees is a part of their lifestyle too.
- The cleanest village in Asia, Mawlynnong is mainly inhabited by Khasi tribe, the famous tribe which has left behind the patriarchal rule of the society.
- Here the children of the family get their mother's surname, and the wealth is passed down from the mother to the youngest daughter of the family.
- Mawlynnong proves that women empowerment and 100 per cent literacy rate, both are achievable. Extending warm hospitality to their guests also happens to be one of the most well-known qualities of the natives of Mawlynnong.
- The Living Root Bridges in Mawlynnong have been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Hanging on a river, the bridges are made by connecting the aerial roots of one massive rubber tree with another.

World Ozone Day

Commonly known as the 'World Ozone Day', September 16 commemorates the Montreal Protocol that was signed on this date by 24 UN member nations in 1987, to limit and ultimately phase out the production of manmade chemicals like chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and 95 other ozone-depleting materials.

Key Facts :

- The slogan for this year "Ozone: All that is there between You and UV" is meant to show how human activity can impact the ozone layer and ultimately, the survival of the Earth and its environment as we know it.
- According to the UN, the Montreal Protocol has led to the phase-out of 99% of ozone-depleting chemicals in refrigerators, air-conditioners and many other products.

- Parts of the ozone layer have recovered at a rate of 1-3% per decade since 2000, according to the Scientific Assessment of Ozone Depletion.

India Among Hotspots of Antibiotic Resistance in Animals : Study

India and China are among the hotspots of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in animals domesticated for food threatening the health of consumers in regions where meat intake is rapidly increasing, according to a study.

Key Facts :

- Antibiotic resistance in animals has increased by 50 per cent since 2000, according to the study, published in the journal Science on September 19, 2019.
- The researchers, from the Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP) in the US, noted that regions including north-eastern India, north-eastern China, northern Pakistan, and Iran were hostspots for AMR.
- AMR is becoming more prevalent globally, as meat consumption was increasing in countries with low and middle level incomes, the study noted.
- The researchers said that animals consumed three times as many antibiotics as humans, and that AMR in animals has dramatically increased in the last two decades.
- "Between 2000 and 2018, the proportion of antimicrobials that were more than 50 per cent resistant increased from 15 per cent to 41 per cent in chickens, and from 13 per cent to 34 per cent in pigs.
- China and India were both found to be hotspots of AMR. Brazil and Kenya are rapidly emerging as hotspots.
- In India alone, antibiotic resistant infections killed about 56,000 babies from blood infections every year, and could take many more lives around the world.
- In the developing countries, large-scale meat production systems routinely used antibiotics for growth promotion and disease prevention, to meet the growing demand for animal protein.
- Overconsumption of antibiotics in animals raised for meat is linked to an increase in antibiotic resistant infections not only in animals, but also in humans.
- The trends and maps developed from the study offer a baseline for policy makers in the above mentioned countries to improve surveillance, and to continue monitoring rates of AMR among food animals.
- The results of the study can be used to target interventions in hotspots where AMR is increasing or emerging.
- With increasing use of medically important antibiotics, the drugs could become less effective in the future for sick animals and humans who need them to survive.

Vaishno Devi Shrine to have Own Disaster Response Force by September 2020

The Mata Vaishno Devi shrine, a religious pilgrimage atop a hilltop that attracts lakhs of devotees from across the world every year, will get a dedicated in-house disaster response force by September 2020. Nearly 86 lakh pilgrims visited the shrine, atop the Trikuta hills in Reasi district of Jammu region, last year, highest in the last five years.

Key Facts :

- According to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB), training of the board staff who will be the first respondents in case of any eventuality has already begun at the headquarters of 7th battalion of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) in Punjab.
- The six week training of the first batch of 25 staff started on May 18, 2019 and is almost heading for completion and planning to train 180 employees by September next year to prepare a dedicated disaster response force for the shrine.
- The shrine board and the NDRF signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) early this year keeping in mind the hilly terrain and need to impart advanced disaster management training to the shrine board staff in batches to keep them in a state of readiness for effectively and promptly responding to any disaster situation.
- NDRF said the force is not charging any fee for the training of the shrine board staff to ensure a quick response in the wake of any fire incident, earthquake, landslides or any other emergency situation.
- To further augment the disaster management preparedness, an NDRF team would conduct a comprehensive audit of the disaster management stores set up by the board at various locations on the track and in the Bhawan area so that, wherever required, these are further replenished and strengthened by adding latest gadgets and equipment.
- The shrine board is also planning to set up an emergency operation centre as part of its disaster preparedness.

About Disaster Response Force

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) is a specialised force constituted "for the purpose of specialist response to a threatening disaster situation or disaster" under the Disaster Management Act, 2005. In 2006 NDRF was constituted with 8 Battalions. At present, National Disaster Response Force consists of 12 battalions, three each from the BSF and CRPF and two each from CISF, ITBP and SSB. Each battalion has 18 self-contained specialist search and rescue teams of 45 personnel each including engineers, technicians, electricians, dog squads and medical/paramedics. The total strength of each battalion is 1,149. All the 12 battalions have been equipped and trained to respond to natural as well as man-made disasters. Battalions are also trained and equipped for response during chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) emergencies. These NDRF battalions are located at 12 different locations in the country based on the vulnerability profile of country and to cut down the response time for their deployment at disaster site.

Rhino Protection Force Deployed in Kaziranga

Kaziranga National Park in Assam has introduced its first ever security force dedicated solely to protecting the Indian one-horned rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*). The 430 sq. km park is home to two-thirds of the global one-horned rhino population, which is one of the main wildlife draws in the state. The Special Rhino Protection Force (SRPF) was deployed on July 1, 2019 to protect the gentle animals against the threat of poaching.

Kaziranga National Park (KNP), has recorded a drop in poaching in last two years. But park authorities said threat level due to poaching remained still high. According to KNP records, between 2017-18 seven rhinos were poached and during 2018-19 six rhinos were poached. In the current year (2019-20) one rhino was poached so far, whereas in 2016-17 alone, 12 rhinos were poached.

Poaching of rhinos has been a constant threat because of high demand for the pachyderm's horn in the international grey market for wildlife body parts. The horns are smuggled through Myanmar for use in traditional medicines mainly in China and Vietnam. Located on the flood plains of Brahmaputra, every monsoon large swathe of Kaziranga is inundated. This is the time when rhinos are highly vulnerable to poaching when the animals move to highlands in the adjoining Karbi Anglong district.

Key Facts :

- The SRPF is like an additional force (apart from the AFPF) trained specifically for operations related to the rhino, with modern arms and ammunition—a big boost to the fight against poachers."
- The squad, who are also trained in input-based raid operations, will be deployed across eight areas—Agratoli, Bagori, Burapahar, Panpur, Bokakhat, Kohora, Gomeri and Biswanat—to protect, according to a 2018 census, over 2,413 rhinos.
- The 82-constable SRPF underwent 43 weeks of training before assuming their duties at Kaziranga.
- Among the 82 personnel of the Special Rhino Protection Force (SRPF) are eight women.
- Akin to the Assam Forest Protection Force (formed in 1986, for forest and wildlife security), the SRPF's introduction is the result of a collaboration between Central and state governments, on the initiative of the National Tiger Conservation Authority.
- The relatively young SRPF constables, on reaching the age of 40, will be relieved of their rhino-protection duties and allowed to join the AFPF.

About Kaziranga National Park (KNP)

Kaziranga National Park is a national park in the Golaghat and Nagaon districts of the state of Assam, India. The sanctuary, which hosts two-thirds of the world's great one-horned rhinoceroses, is a World Heritage Site. According to the census held in March 2018 which was jointly conducted by the Forest Department of the Government of Assam and some recognized wildlife NGOs, the rhino population in Kaziranga National Park is 2,413. Kaziranga is home to the highest density of tigers among protected areas in the world, and was declared a Tiger Reserve in 2006 (now the highest tiger density is in Orang National Park, Assam). The park is home to large breeding populations of elephants, wild water buffalo, and swamp deer. Kaziranga is recognized as an Important Bird Area by Bird Life International for conservation of avifaunal species. Located on the edge of the Eastern Himalaya biodiversity hotspot, the park combines high species diversity and visibility.

Kaziranga is a vast expanse of tall elephant grass, marshland, and dense tropical moist broadleaf forests, criss-crossed by four major rivers, including the Brahmaputra, and the park includes numerous small bodies of water. The park celebrated its centennial in 1998 after its establishment in 1905 as a reserve forest.

- Their job profile includes protecting the striped cat since Kaziranga is also a tiger reserve.
- The Assam government would be paying the salaries of the SRPF members and the amount would be reimbursed by the National Tiger Conservation Authority, which recommended setting up of the special force.
- The process of setting up the special force was started in 2015. The recruits were given the appointment letter in July 2018 after which they were trained at the Forest Guard School in eastern Assam's Makum.
- The recruits also underwent weapons training at the 9th Assam Police Battalion in Nagaon district.

Mosaic Mission : Unprecedented in Scale and Ambition

Scientists from 17 nations will take part in the year-long mission as they anchor the ship to a large piece of Arctic sea ice to study climate change.

The MOSAiC mission, which stands for Multidisciplinary drifting Observatory for the Study of Arctic Climate, comes about 125 years after Norwegian explorer Fridtjof Nansen first managed to seal his wooden expedition ship, Fram, into the ice during a three-year expedition to the North Pole.

Mission Objective : Impact of climate change on the Arctic and how it could affect the rest of the world.

Key highlights of the proposed mission :

- In a couple of months, the German icebreaker R.V. Polarstern, a hulking ship will set out for the Arctic packed with supplies and scientific equipment for a year-long mission to explore the planet's frigid far north.
- The icebreaker will be the base for scientists from 17 nations studying the impact of **climate change** on the Arctic and how it could affect the rest of the world.
- Scientists plan to sail the ship into the Arctic Ocean, anchor it to a large piece of sea ice and allow the water to freeze around them, effectively trapping themselves in the vast sheet of white that forms over the North Pole each winter.

Continued on Page 114

Important Concepts in News

Art and Culture

Pulikkali

Pulikkali (Tiger Dance), also known as the Kuduvaklai dance, is one among the folk art forms of Kerala. On the fourth day of Onam festival, artists paint their bodies like tigers with stripes of yellow, red and black and dance to the rhythm of traditional percussion instruments such as thakil, udukku and chenda.

The main theme of this folk art is tiger hunting with participants playing the role of tiger and hunter. The make-up for the same is applied using oil paints and is said to be extremely hard to remove. Regardless, every year during Onam, the streets of Thrissur attract people from across the State and the world to view this special event.

The origin of Pulikkali dates back to over 200 years, when the Maharaja Rama Varma Sakthan Thampuran, the then Maharaja of Cochin, is said to have introduced the folk art, who wanted to celebrate Onam with a dance that reflected the wild and macho spirit of the force. Later, Konar of (Pattalam Road) used to celebrate with great fervour. They popularised the folk genre with steps and body language peculiar to a tiger being stalked by a hunter, enacting a play of the hunter and the beast. Along with the celebrations, they used to perform the art form decked as tigers with peculiar steps resembling the tiger, then known as 'Pulikkettikali' which was immensely enjoyed by the locals. Pulikkali in Thrissur is held in memory of this event.

Longpi Pottery

Longpi Pottery or Stone pottery is a traditional craft from Manipur. Longpi derives its name from the village Longpi in Manipur, India. Thankul Naga tribes practice this exceptional pottery style. A single village of 400 houses in the district Ukhrul of North-East Manipur, with perhaps just 200 artisans plying the craft, is the nerve center of Longpi earthernware. Longpi Pottery is traditionally known as Longpi Ham, informs the publicity literature of Tribes India. These giant sized potteries are also called 'royal pottery' because only the royalty and the rich of Manipur could afford it. The origins of the technique of making Longpi Pottery are attributed to Goddess Panthobi. The inhabitants of Ukhrul district of Manipur region credit the Goddess as the mother of artifact-making that includes pottery making. It represents a process towards our creation is what they believe. That is why Longpi Pottery is necessarily used in performing rituals on festive occasions like childbirth and marriage. Specially designed for specific purposes, Longpi Pottery is used both for cooking and storing foodstuff.

The material used in Longpi is made from a mixture of Black serpentinite stone and weathered rock which are mixed in a three to one ratio. This black stone pottery is actually made from weather rock and serpentinite, found abundantly in the banks of the river in Longpi, The strength is provided by the Serpentinite rock and the weathered rock acts as a binding agent. The paste formed from these is then rolled by hand into desired shapes. The structures of saucer cups, kettle, frying pan, fruit bowls, cooking pot etc. are put in a kiln and set on fire for around five to nine hours till it reaches 900 C. After which it is polished with local leaves called pasania pachiphylla ('Chiro Na' in local lingo) which provides the luster to its surface. There is no use of chemicals, machines or wheel in the making of this pottery and hence its very hygienic. It is also known to prevent morning sickness for pregnant women. Besides its medicinal values it holds an elite status in Manipur and is used during major occasions like marriage and Luira festival.

Henzae

Henzae is a traditional and ancient form of singing which is practiced by Kashmiri Pandits at their festivals. It appears to have archaic features that suggest it is the oldest form of Kashmiri folk singing. Alongside the proverb and the riddle it certainly is one of the earliest items of folklore in the Kashmiri language. It signifies a conventional type of the ceremony chant called vanavun, sessions of which cover, in toto or in part, series of socio-cultural concomitants of ritual associated with various stages or steps in the ceremony concerned, particularly zarakaasay (tonsure), maekhal (sacred thread-investiture) and khaandar (wedding). The word, in fact, preserves a Kashmiri variant of the Prakrit vocative hanje meaning 'O lady or ladies'. It obviously, connotes a significant reference to the mode of starting a session of ceremony chant, by addressing a worthy equal or a band of worthy equals. In course of time, however, the word came to signify a specific type of ceremony chant rendered by a select group of Kashmiri women of the Pandit community, joined by other women sitting around. The elderly lady who leads the group is held in high esteem as vanavangar (a competent lady specialising in ceremony chant.)

The conventional rendering of the chant known as henzae is surprisingly reminiscent of the Sama Vedic legacy which seems to have lingered on in the Valley of Kashmir as an interplay of the traditional tones : the uddata (accented), anuddata (unaccented) and svarita (circumflex). *i.e.*, the high pitch, the low pitch and the even pitch peculiar to Sama recitation. Obviously the old Sama chant underwent a series of transformation during its transmission at the folk level, and reached us as an echo of the ancient convention trans-shaped by various pressures of innovation in tune with the changing times. The echo thus preserved in the henzae has become a

vital link of the flexible present with the stratified past.

Science and Technology

Spaser

The world's smallest laser that is 10 times smaller than the wavelength of light has been produced. Scientists have called it a 'spaser.' Spaser is an acronym for surface plasmon amplification by stimulated emission of radiation. A spaser is effectively a nanoscale laser with subwavelength dimensions and a low-Q plasmonic resonator, which sustains its oscillations using stimulated emission of surface plasmons. The concept of stimulated emission to sustain plasmonic oscillations in a resonator was first described by David Bergman and Mark Stockman in 2003.This comes nearly 50 years since lasers were first created.

Spasers are capable of producing laser-like light. But the way the laser and spaser produce light is totally different. While the conventional laser amplifies light, a spaser amplifies only the surface plasmons—tiny oscillations in the density of free electrons on the surface of metals.

Scientists had first proposed the spaser concept six years ago. A spaser is the smallest possible quantum amplifier and generator of optical fields on the nanoscale.

e-cigarettes

Electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) or non-combustible **tobacco** products are known by many names—vapes, e-hookahs, electronic cigarettes and e-pipes. E-cigarettes may be manufactured to look like traditional cigarettes and are marketed as tobacco-free nicotine delivery devices. Instead of burning tobacco leaves like in traditional cigarettes, an e-cigarette, which is a battery-operated device, produces aerosol by heating a solution containing nicotine among other things. The device contains nicotine and flavours in the form of liquid which is primarily composed of solvents such as glycerol and/or propylene glycol. The aerosol containing a suspension of fine particles and gases simulates cigarette smoke. Following a puff, the aerosol is delivered to the user's mouth and lungs and the rest is exhaled.

On September 18, 2019, the Union Cabinet approved the promulgation of the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertisement) Ordinance, 2019 with immediate effect.

Zero Budget Natural Farming

Zero budget natural farming (ZBNF) is a method of chemical-free **agriculture** drawing from traditional Indian practices. It was originally promoted by Maharashtrian agriculturist and Padma Shri recipient Subhash Palekar, who developed it in the mid-1990s as an alternative to the Green Revolution's methods driven by chemical fertilizers and **pesticides** and intensive irrigation. He argued that the rising cost of these external inputs was a leading cause of indebtedness and suicide among farmers, while the impact of chemicals on the environment and on long-term fertility was devastating. Without the need to spend money on these inputs —or take loans to buy them—the cost of production could be reduced and farming made into a 'zero budget' exercise, breaking the debt cycle for many small farmers.

Instead of commercially produced chemical inputs, the ZBNF promotes the application of *jeevamrutha*—a mixture of fresh desi cow dung and aged desi cow urine, jaggery, pulse flour, water and soil—on farmland. This is a fermented microbial culture that adds nutrients to the soil, and acts as a catalytic agent to promote the activity of microorganisms and earthworms in the soil. About 200 litres of *jeevamrutha* should be sprayed twice a month per acre of land; after three years, the system is supposed to become self-sustaining. Only one cow is needed for 30 acres of land.

A similar mixture, called *bijamrita*, is used to treat seeds, while concoctions using neem leaves and pulp, tobacco and green chillis are prepared for insect and pest management.

The ZBNF method also promotes soil aeration, minimal watering, intercropping, bunds and topsoil mulching and discourages intensive irrigation and deep ploughing. Mr. Palekar is against vermicomposting, which is the mainstay of typical organic farming, as it introduces the most common composting worm, the European red wiggler (*Eisenia fetida*) to Indian soils. He claims these worms absorb toxic metals and poison groundwater and soil.

Defence/Internal Security

Kargil to Kohima (K2K) Ultra-Marathon-'Glory Run'

To commemorate 20th year of Kargil Victory and to live up to the true tradition and motto of IAF *i.e.*, "Touch the Sky with Glory", a unique expedition Kargil to Kohima (K2K) Ultra-Marathon-'Glory Run' is being undertaken by IAF from Kargil War Memorial, Drass (J&K) to Kohima War Cemetery, Kohima (Nagaland). Kohima and Kargil are the two forward most outposts of India in the East and in the North where two of the fiercest battles were fought in 1944 and 1999 respectively. K2K—Glory Run commenced on September 21, 2019 will culminate on 6 Nov., 19. In this unique tryst, a team of 25 Air Warriors will cover a distance of more than 4500 km in 45 days by running an average of 100 km per day. The aim of the expedition is to promote awareness for Pedestrian Safety and recently launched Fit India Movement by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and also to pay tribute to the brave hearts who have made the supreme sacrifice for our motherland.

ASTRA

Air-to-Air missile, ASTRA, has been successfully flight-tested on 16 September, 2019 off the coast of Odisha. The missile was launched from Su-30 MKI as a part of User trials. The live aerial target was engaged accurately demonstrating the capability of first indigenous air-to-air missile. The mission profile was executed in a text book manner. Various Radars, Electro-Optical Tracking System (EOTS) and Sensors tracked the missile and confirmed its engagement with target.

Astra is an indigenous Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Astra missile with a range of over 70 km. The missile can fly towards its target at a speed of over 5,555 kilometres per hour. It has a 15 kg high-explosive pre-fragmented warhead.

The Astra missile has been developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation along with 50 other public and private organisations, involved at various stages of its development. Modifications of the Sukhoi-30 MKI jets to accommodate Astra missiles has been carried out by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

MAITREE–2019

Exercise MAITREE, the annual bilateral joint exercise between Indian Army (IA) and Royal Thailand Army (RTA) commenced on 16 September, 2019 at the Foreign Training Node (FTN), Umroi, Meghalaya. The aim of exercise is joint training of troops in counter terrorism operations in both jungle terrain and urban scenario. Exercise MAITREE-2019 has been the face of long standing bilateral ties between India and Thailand since 2006.

The 14 days exercise will be conducted under the framework of United Nations mandate. Both contingents will share their valuable experiences in the conduct of counter terrorism operations in form of lectures, drills, demonstrations and skill-at-arms with an aim to refine tactics, techniques and procedures. The exercise will culminate with a 48 hours joint exercise which will showcase the planning and execution of joint skills of soldiers while conducting any counter terrorism operation.

Polity and Governance

Northern Zonal Council

Union Minister for Home Affairs, Shri Amit Shah chaired the 29th meeting of the Northern Zonal Council (NZC) at Chandigarh, on September 20, 2019. The Northern Zonal Council comprises the States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, and Rajasthan, Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Government of NCT of Delhi. Chief Ministers from the member States in the Zone along with two Ministers each, Administrators of Union Territories, Chief Secretaries and senior officers from the State Governments and the Central Government attended the meeting.

The Council takes up issues involving Centre and States and one/many States falling in the Zone. The Zonal Councils thus provide a forum for resolving disputes and irritants between Centre and States and among many States in the Zone. The Zonal Councils discuss broad range of issues which include boundary related disputes, security, infrastructure related matters like road, transport, industries, water and power etc., matters pertaining to forests & environment, housing, education, food security, tourism, transport etc.

Five Zonal Councils were set up in the year 1957 under Section 15-22 of the States Reorganization Act, 1956. Union Home Minister is the Chairman of each of these five Zonal Councils and Chief Ministers of the host State (to be chosen by routine every year) is the Vice-Chairman. Two more Ministers from each State are nominated as Members by the Governor.

Interdisciplinary Centre for Energy Research (ICER)

Interdisciplinary Centre for Energy Research (ICER) is one of the youngest centres at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc). It was conceived to take up socially relevant research in line with national-level missions of the Government of India, which will directly benefit the people of the nation and the world. The Centre hosts faculty members from different departments having diverse engineering and science backgrounds, pursuing cutting-edge research in the broad area of energy. Translational research carried out by ICER faculty members has resulted in technology transfers in India and abroad. Apart from a doctoral program, extensive skill development programs have also been conducted by the Centre in line with national requirements. ICER has so focused on research breakthroughs and developing sustainable technologies for renewable energy, combustion, concentrated solar power (CSP), next-generation solar photovoltaic (PV), novel energy storage technologies, hydrogen, biofuels and bio-mass.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana

In another major effort to secure the lives of the farmers, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 12 September, 2019 launched the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana at Ranchi, the Capital of Jharkhand. The Scheme shall secure the lives of 5 crore Small and Marginal Farmers by providing a minimum pension of ₹ 3000 per month, to those who attain 60 years of age.

Economy/Finance

Corporate tax

Corporate tax is levied on the income earned by the companies, whether domestic or foreign. The Income Tax Act, 1961 is liable for charging corporate tax in India. Worldwide income of the companies registered in the country is taxed under this. In the case of foreign companies, only the income received or accrued in India is taxed under corporate taxation.

For the purpose of calculation of taxes under Income tax act, the types of companies can be defined as under :

Domestic Company : Domestic company is one which is registered under the Companies Act of India and also includes the company registered in the foreign countries having control and management wholly situated in India. A domestic company includes private as well as public companies.

Foreign Company : Foreign company is one which is not registered under the companies act of India and has control & management located outside India.

Lump Sum Turn Key

Lump sum turn key (LSTK) is a combination of the business-contract concepts of lump sum and turn key. Lump sum is a noun which means a complete payment consisting of a single sum of money while turn key is an adjective of a product or service which means product or service will be ready to use upon delivery.

In the construction industry, LSTK combines two concepts. The LS (lump sum) part refers to the payment of a fixed sum for the delivery under *e.g.,* an EPC contract. The financial risk lies with the contractor. TK (turn key) specifies that the scope of work includes start-up of the facility to a level of operational status. Ultimately the scope of work will define just exactly what is needed.

Continued on Page 127

Latest Schemes of Bihar Government

—Dhiraj Pandey

New Schemes	Main Features
Bihar Jal Jivan Hariyali Campaign, 2019	• Bihar government has launched Jal Jivan Hariyali Campaign to minimize the bad effects of climate change on the lives of people and to protect environment. • This abhiyan will be launched on 2 October, 2019 which is 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. • Revenue and Land Reforms Department (RLRD) will identify land to kick off Jal Jeevan Hariyali Campaign. • In this abhiyan, govt. will focus on ensuring adequate water availability and plantation of trees which are essential for living. • This campaign will enable the state govt. to tackle the problem of environment pollution as well as drought in the state. • In this Jal Jivan Hariyali Abhiyan in Bihar, the state govt. will focus on rainwater harvesting, rejuvenation of water bodies, groundwater recharge and plantation of trees on massive scale. • All the small ponds which have been dried due to changing climatic conditions would be revived. Jal Jeevan Hariyali Campaign will ensure that there are less incidents of floods and drought by maintaining a proper balance with nature. • In the 1st phase, govt. will identify ponds, flood water harvesting areas and wells and will rejuvenate them. • All the areas reserved for ponds which have been illegally occupied by people would be made enroachment free till December 2019. • Plantation of trees will be done at the sides of roads along with planting of trees at government and private places. • In order to utilize solar energy, the state govt. will install solar panels at the top of all government buildings. To achieve the objective of Jal Jivan Hariyali mission, govt. will spread mass awareness about this campaign. Satellite mapping technique would be utilized to boost the progress of Jal Jeevan Hariyali Abhiyan.
Mukhyamantri Vridhjan Pension Yojana, 2019	• Bihar on June 14, 2019 became the first state to launch a universal old-age pension scheme in which each interested person at the age of 60 years and above, irrespective of their financial, family or caste status, will get a sum of ₹ 400 per month directly in his/ her bank account. • This universal old-age pension scheme (Mukhyamantri Vridhjan Pension Yojana) comes into force from 1st April 2019. • Each male and female at the age of 80 years and above will get a pension of ₹ 500 per month directly in his/ her bank account under Bihar government's new scheme. • In other states, old-age pensions are provided only to the members of either BPL family or SC/ST or widows or disabled persons. But in Bihar, each male and female above 60 years, if they are not getting any other pension either from the state or the central government, will be entitled to get old-age pension under the new scheme christened as "Mukhyamantri Vridhjan Pension Yojana." • Addressing the launch event, Nitish said the state government would make an additional expenditure of ₹ 1,800 crore per annum on this scheme.
Patrakar Samman Yojana	• The Bihar Government has announced financial assistance to journalists post-retirement. • The Chief Minister launched the Bihar Patrakar Samman Yojana on February 13, 2019 for the journalists who have worked in any journals or channels for at least twenty years. • Bihar Patrakar Samman Yojana, also known as Bihar Journalist's Honour Plan, is an initiative where the Government offers a pension for financial assistance of ₹ 6,000. • If the respective journalists are deceased, then his untested wife is entitled to receive half the sum, that is ₹ 3,000 per month under the scheme. • The pension scheme established by the government is especially for all senior journalists of the state, through which financial assistance will be provided to all journalists, and they will be motivated to make them self-sufficient. • Those individuals who are already taking a pension from the EPFO are not qualified to receive funds from the scheme. • The pension funds would be directly deposited in the bank account of the candidate. • In the event of the death of the applicant, the wife is entitled to receive half the pension amount.
Mukhyamantri Gram Parivahan Yojana	• Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on October 9, 2018 launched Mukhyamantri Gram Parivahan Yojana for rural transportation and connectivity. • Five people from each Panchayat will be given loans with 50% of the cost or maximum ₹ 1 lakh as subsidy on purchasing of passenger vehicles. • Three out of the five beneficiaries from each Panchayat will be from SC/ST and the remaining two from the EBC group. • Under it, youth belonging to the Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Extremely Backward Classes (EBC) will be provided grants of up to 50 per cent or ₹ 1 lakh to buy auto-mobiles with a seating capacity of four to 10. • Mukhyamantri Gram Parivahan Yojana (MGPY) 2019 will provide better and increased connectivity between Panchayats and block headquarters.

	● The primary focus is on providing better transport facilities to general public and to provide job opportunities for unemployed SC/ST/EBC people. ● The scheme has certain conditions by which only people of SC/ST/EBC can apply, the minimum age should be 21 years and the beneficiary should not be a government employee.
Bihar Mukhyamantri Gramin Awas Yojana (MGAY)	● Bihar government on October 9, 2018 launched Mukhyamantri Gramin Awas Yojana for SC/ST/OBC families in Bihar. ● Under this scheme, the state govt. will provide an assistance of ₹ 1.2 lakh for rebuilding of homes to those people who have been allotted houses before 1996 under Indira Awas Yojana or other housing scheme. ● The primary objective of Mukhyamantri Gramin Awas Yojana (MGAY) in Bihar is to benefit poor people to live in good houses. Till the time people do not have their own roof, the benefits of other welfare schemes of Bihar government also go waste. Rural development department will provide assistance amount directly into the bank account of beneficiaries. All the people who have been allotted new houses under Indira Awas Yojana or other housing schemes before FY 1996 can now avail financial assistance of ₹ 1·2 lakh for reconstruction purposes. This is because the houses given to the allottees are now in disreputable conditions and need to be reconstructed. Particularly, people belonging to SC / ST / OBC category reside in these houses.
Mukhyamantri Vaas Sthal Kray Sahayata Yojana	● Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Gramin (PMAY-G) is providing financial assistance of ₹ 1,20,000 to the rural people for construction of new homes. But some people belonging to SC / ST / OBC category do not have the land to build their own homes. So they are deprived of availing the benefits of PMAY-G housing scheme. Govt. has prepared the complete list of such people from the Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011 data. ● Now the state govt. will provide an assistance of ₹ 60,000 to such SC/ST/OBC category people in order to enable them to purchase their own land. This would make them eligible to avail the benefits of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Gramin and realize their dream of having their own house. Govt. will not charge any registration fees on the purchase of these lands. ● Bihar Mukhymantri Vaas Sthal Kray Sahayata Yojana (MVSKSY) was launched for SC/ST/OBC people to provide assistance of ₹ 60,000 to purchase land for own houses; this scheme will enable people to avail assistance of ₹ 1·2 lakh for construction of new houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Gramin (PMAY-G) housing scheme.
Civil Service Incentive Scheme	● Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Aug 14, 2018, launched several schemes for students hailing from Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Backward and Extremely Backward class and Minority, including the once in which cash incentive would be provided to them after cracking preliminary exams of UPSC and state services. ● Under the 'Civil Service incentive scheme', students- belonging to SC, ST, Backward and EBC categories—cracking Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC) preliminary test will get ₹ 50,000 from this year for preparing for mains examination and interview. ● Similarly, students of these categories cracking PT exam conducted by UPSC will get ₹ 1 lakh for helping them for mains and interview. ● The scheme will be applicable to the people of minority community if any section or caste among them falls under EBC category.
Bihar Rajya Fasal Sahayata Yojana (Farmers Bima Yojna)	● Bihar Rajya Fasal Sahayata Yojana is an initiative of the Government of Bihar, the purpose of which is to incentivize the farmers in the event of crop damage. It is the first instance that a scheme of this kind is implemented by a State Government. ● The Bihar Cabinet on June 6, 2018 gave its nod to "Bihar Rajya Fasal Sahayta Yojana" to provide financial assistance to farmers for their crop damage. ● The new scheme will replace the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana and will be implemented from Kharif 2018, ● The scheme, Bihar Rajya Fasal Sahayata Yojana, is touted to have a wider coverage than the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana that covers farmers who have taken loans from national and cooperative banks or financial institutions. ● Farmers are reprieved from remitting any premium, as the scheme is intended for the purpose of assistance and not insurance. ● If a farmer's rate of production is less than 20% of the threshold limit, he/she will receive a sum of ₹ 7,500 per hectare for a maximum of two hectares. ● If a farmer's loss in production exceeds 20%, he/she will be incentivized with a Sum of ₹ 10,000 per hectare for a maximum of two hectares. ● The scheme is not restricted to farmers who have availed loans from nationalized banks, Cooperative banks and other institutions; as borrowers from other agencies are also covered. ● The scheme will be implemented on the Kharif season of 2018, which would fall on the months of July-October.
Mukhyamantri Harit Krishi Sanyantra Yojana	● The Bihar government is all set to offer assistance to farmers with the implementation of Mukhyamantri Harit Krishi Sanyantra Yojana. ● This decision was taken in the Bihar Cabinet Committee meeting held on 24 August, 2018 . ● Under this scheme, state government will make sure that farmers, who don't have their own agricultural machines can get these directly from the state government. After the implementation of this scheme, they will no longer have to pay more rent for each agricultural machine, booked from other farmers. As the rent is very low, farmers will not have to worry about additional financial burdens. ● The state government, in cooperation with the Primary Agriculture Cooperative Credit Society will create Krishi Sanyantra Bank. Farmers will be able to book farming machinery directly from these banks on rent.

	• An estimate states that the state government will have to shell out as much as ₹ 20 lakhs for the construction of each Agriculture Machineries Bank. • The Bihar authority will offer 50% of the total expenditure to the Primary Agriculture Cooperative Credit Society as credit. The remaining 50% will be granted in the form of contributions or endowments. The state government has already set aside a whopping ₹ 1692.60 crore for the implementation of this project. • Apart from machines, which assist the farmers in growing and harvesting the crops, farmers will be able to attain irrigational machines from these machinery banks.
Mukhyamantri Kanya Utthan Yojana	• The Government of Bihar initiated Mukhyamantri Kanya Utthaan Yojana (MKUY) on August 3, 2018 with the vision of promoting women's economic empowerment and social empowerment. • The ambitious 'Mukhyamantri Kanya Utthan Yojana' will be run by three departments - education, health and social welfare. • The primary objective of the Mukhyamantri Kanya Utthaan Yojana is to eliminate child mortality rate, female foeticide and child marriage cases in society. • This scheme aims to inspire girls towards education and will provide them financial help right from their birth till they get graduated through which the girls may get a better life. • The Government has made the scheme available to all girls of Bihar state without any discrimination. • Mukhyamantri Kanya Utthan Yojana is a major initiative to stop child marriage. Under this scheme, govt. will provide ₹ 5000 on the birth of a girl child, ₹ 10000 after completion of inter school examinations (unmarried) and ₹ 25000 on passing graduation degree. • This scheme is applicable upto 2 girl children of a single family. This is a universal scheme for all girls without any discrimination on the basis of caste, religion and income.
Bihar Victim Compensation Scheme 2018	• Cabinet Committee has approved the Bihar Victim Compensation Scheme 2018. Under this scheme, all the rape and acid attack victims in Bihar will get an increased compensation of ₹ 7 lakh from the existing ₹ 3 lakh. • This decision is taken after the directions issued by the Union Home Ministry following the decision of honourable Supreme Court given in February 2016. • Law department has proposed this Bihar Victim Compensation (Amendment) Scheme 2018. This scheme is the modified version of the previous Bihar Victim Compensation Scheme, 2014. In June 2018, Central Govt. and National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) jointly formed a new policy offering ₹ 5 lakh for Rape and ₹ 7 lakh for Acid Attack Victims. • Central government had then asked the states to devise their compensation amount accordingly. So, this increment in the previous Victim Compensation Scheme has become imperative after amendment in the Centre's Compensation Scheme on the lines of Supreme Court decision.
Bihar Start-Up Policy, 2017	• At the 4th Bihar Entrepreneurship Summit (BES), organised by Bihar Entrepreneurs Association, on March 21, 2017, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar released Bihar Start-up Policy 2017. • The aim of the policy is to enable Bihar to emerge as the most preferred destination for startups and entrepreneurs. • The policy has four primary pillars called YUVA. Y stands for 'Yes to startups' (this includes awareness, networking and mentoring campaign). U is for 'Unleashing regulatory enablers for supporting startups', V stands for 'Vibrancy in the education system to encourage and facilitate startups', and, finally, A stands for 'Access to financing and incubation support'. • The startup policy has set up a nodal agency with an initial corpus of ₹ 500 crore. Startups will receive financial assistance up to ₹ 10 lakh as an interest-free loan for 10 years. • The entrepreneur will contribute five percent of this financial assistance. The policy also states that it will facilitate access to angel investors, provide free-of-cost valuation for startups, and that the government will also bear all costs associated with filing domestic patents. • The project management unit is to specifically handhold SC /ST /women /differently-abled entrepreneurs in setting up their ventures. • An additional 15-percent incentive for SC/ST/differently-abled, and five percent for women-run enterprises is also set down in the policy. • Financial assistance is to be given to incubators too and the policy stipulates a reimbursement of the cost of incubating a startup, up to ₹ 2 lakh.
Bihar Mukhayamantri Alpasankheyak Rozgar Rin Yojana	• Bihar govt. has launched Mukhayamantri Alpasankheyak Rozgar Rin Yojana 2019 for minorities. • Subsequently, this scheme will create employment opportunities for the alpasankhyaks (Minorities) belonging to families having modest income. Accordingly, govt. will allocate ₹ 100 crore per year for employment generation from FY 2017-18. • The state govt. has amended the guidelines of Chief Minister Minorities Employment Loan Scheme. Now, these new guidelines will boost the employment opportunities for minority candidates (Muslim, Sikh, Parsi, Buddhist & Christians). • Under this scheme, unemployed candidates can avail loan amount up to ₹ 5 lakh for businesses & Startups. Bihar govt. will utilize the funds as Revolving funds. • The candidates have to repay their loans in 20 equal quarterly instalments. This scheme will provide benefits to the unemployed youths through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) in their bank accounts.
Mukhyamantri SC / ST Udyami Yojana in Bihar	• The objective of **Mukhyamantri SC/ST Udyami Yojana** is to provide better opportunities of employment to the youth of the state. Bihar CM SC/ST Enterprenurship scheme will set up self employment for the educated unemployed youth of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes classes.

	• The one and only objective of Mukhyamantri SC/ST Udyami Yojana is to promote the better employment opportunities and set up self employment for the educated unemployed youth of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes classes. • This scheme will surely improve the employment ratio and serve a better livelihood to SC/ST Youth of the state. • Under the Bihar Chief Minister Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Entrepreneurs scheme a number of benefits such as a loan of 5 lakhs will be made available to them without any interest, provision to grant up to 50% of the cost of the project.
Mukhyamantri Swayam Sahayata Bhatta Yojana	• Mukhyamantri Swayam Sahayata Bhatta Yojana or the Chief Minister Self Allowance scheme is a new initiative of state government of Bihar. • Under this initiative, state government would financially assist the unemployed youth to find a job. • Under the Swayam Sahayata Bhatta Yojana, Bihar government would provide a financial assistance of ₹ 1000 to each unemployed youth for two years to find a job. • The scheme named as "Mukhyamantri Nischay Swayam Sahayata Bhatta Yojana" was started on trial basis from 15th September. But, the scheme has been formally launched on 2nd October. • Under this scheme, two schemes are being implemented namely student credit card scheme and Kaushal Vikas Yojana in the state. • The main objective of the scheme is to financially help the 12th pass unemployed youth during their job search. The assistance amount at the rate of Rs. 1000 per month will be provided to the eligible candidate for a maximum period of two years.
Student Credit Card (SCC) Scheme	• The Student Credit Card (SCC) Scheme is implemented in Bihar state with the intention of providing feasible financial support to the students who are about to be engaged in their higher educational studies. • The Bihar government had launched the SCC scheme on October 3, 2016. • Under this SCC scheme, the eligible students will be given credit card, by using that students can avail free educational loan from the banks. • The main objective of the scheme is to provide students of Bihar with enough financial support so that they can pursue their higher studies. • This scheme encourages the financially weak students to carry on with their studies. • Students avoid educational loan because of the heavy interest rate charged by the banks, but the Student Credit Card scheme provides an interest free loan. • The government of Bihar is aiming at providing the students credit cards to many deserving students in Bihar.
Kushal Yuva Program	• The Bihar Skill Development Mission (BSDM) has launched a unique skill training programme by the name of 'Kushal Yuva Program' which would enhance the employability Skills of all aspirants in the age group of 15-28 years (Age limit for SC/ST, OBC & People with Disabilities is as follows: SC/ST - 33 years, OBC - 31 years, PwD - 33 years), who have passed at least 10th Class irrespective of their having attained higher education or their currently pursuing higher education. • Soft Skills training would comprise Life skills, Communications Skills (English & Hindi) and Basic computer literacy which in turn would enhance their employability and act as a value addition to the various domain specific training endeavours currently being implemented in Bihar. • The state government of Bihar has launched Kushal Yuva Program along with the student credit card scheme and Swayam Sahayata Bhatta Yojana for students and the unemployed in the state. Under the Kushal Yuva Program, the state government would be providing skill training to the youth. Youth of 15-25 age group who have passed class 10th or class 12th or have dropped out of formal education and are looking for jobs are eligible to apply for this scheme. • The program will be a 240 hour training program spanning across three months. The courses offered under the program will be job ready skill development courses to make the candidates more confident and suitable for employment. • The course will focus on the basic computer literacy, language skills and soft skills. The candidates will receive a certificate after the successful completion of the course.
Har Ghar Bijli Yojana	• Har Ghar Bijli Yojana is a new scheme under the Nischay Schemes portfolio launched by the state government of Bihar. • "Har Ghar Bijli" Nishchay was launched on 15th November, 2016. • The state government has directed the agencies and officials to implement the schemes on priority basis. • The main objective of the scheme is to provide free electricity connections to each and every home in the state. • The households which do not have an electricity connection till yet will be included under the scheme. • The state government aims to provide electricity connections to 50 Lakh households under the Har Ghar Bijli Yojana. • The scheme will be implemented by the year 2018. • Har Ghar Bijli Yojana was the last of the 7 schemes to be launched under the Seven Nischay schemes. • About 50% of APL (Above Poverty Line) families in rural Bihar who do not have electricity connections will be covered under the free electricity connection scheme. • The BPL families in the state are already being covered under the Central Government's Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana.

Present Scenario of Research and Development Activities in Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries : At a Glance

Undoubtedly ! Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sectors have played a prominent socio-economic role in India, as well as a significant role in generating gainful employment in the rural sector, particularly among the landless, small and marginal farmers and women, besides providing cheap and nutritious food to millions of people. Overall the various activities of the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sectors have contributed not only to the food basket and draught animal power, but also by maintaining ecological balance—a dire need in '21st' century. Livestock sector is an important sub-sector of Agriculture in Indian economy.

India has vast resource of Livestock and Poultry, which plays a significant/vital role in improving the socio-economic conditions of rural masses. As per the '19th' Livestock Census—2012, there are about 300 million bovines, 65·07 million sheep; 135·2 million goats and about 10·3 million pigs. The cattle not only produce milk, but as stated earlier, they contribute to the draft power for tillage, cartage and other operations, which is the dire need of Farming System, mainly the use of cow/buffalo dung *e.g.*, FYM and compost-organic manure, so as to maintain Organic Carbon (O.C.) in the soil.

Based on the Annual Report 2018-19, of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DoAH, D&F) under the Ministry of Agricul-ture and Farmers Welfare (Mo A&FW, GoI), several activities were done during the year in the various fields R&D. These can safely be expressed in a nutshell as :

Major Achievements and New Directions

☞ **Organizational Set-up / Infrastructure and Functional Activities of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare—Government of India – GoI)**

- In the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DoAH, D&F) under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, GoI), there are two separate Departments namely; (i) Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying and (ii) Department of Fisheries.
- In the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, the chief post is of 1-Secretary (AHD) and under the Secretary, several posts are *e.g.*, 1-Joint Secretary (LH); 1-JS (C&DD); 1-JS (NLM), 1-JS (Admn.) and 1-Adviser (Statistics) etc.
- In the Department of Fisheries, the chief post is of 1-Secretary (Fisheries) and under the 1-Secretary (Fisheries), several posts *e.g.*, 1-JS (Fisheries), 1-JS (Administration) etc. are functioning.
- Under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoAFW), the Deptt. of A.H, D&F (GoI) is located at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001 (Hq.), with website—www.ahdf.nic.in for correspondence.
- Functional Activities—The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DoAH, D&F, GoI) is responsible for all matters relating to Livestock production, preservation, protection & improvement of stocks, dairy development, matters related to the Delhi Milk Scheme and the National Dairy Development Board. It also looks after all matters related to fisheries and 'National Fisheries Development Board' (NFDB).
- During the year 2017-18, the production of major Livestock Products—All India can be expressed as—

Milk (Million tonnes)	176·3
Eggs (Million No's)	95, 217
Wool (Million kgs)	41·5
Meat (Million tonnes)	7·7

- Empowerment of Women—The Department of AH, D&F (GoI) does not have any specific scheme designated for empowerment of women. However, the Deptt. has always emphasized on providing benefits to women engaged in AH, Dairying and Fisheries. The Deptt. has created its own 'Gender Budget Cell'. The various Mission/Schemes are working towards women beneficiaries *e.g.*, Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS); National Livestock Mission (NLM) and Blue Revolution–IDMF (Fisheries Sector) etc.

Facts : At a Glance :

Related to Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

- Under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW – GoI) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries came into existence on February 1, 1991 (on merging of two Divisions of the Deptt. of Agriculture Co-operation *viz.*, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development into a separate Department.
- 'National Dairy Development Board' (NDDB), Anand (Gujarat) set up in 1965 and declared-as a Statutory Body Corporate in 1987 under the NDDB Act–as a premier Institution of Dairy Development in the country.
- Grievances Cell—Set up in the Department to look into grievances of the people, headed by Joint Secretary level officer.
- Vigilance Unit—'Vigilance Awareness Week' – organized from 29 Oct. to 3rd Nov., 2018; with Theme of Eradicate Corruption – Build a New India" by the Deptt.

Know About–Father of White Revolution in Milk Production Sector

Dr. Verghese Kurien—'Father of White Revolution and Milkman of India

- Dr. Verghese Kurien (born on Nov. 26, 1921 in Kozhikode, Kerala; Died on Sept. 9, 2012 at 90 years age in Nadiad, Gujarat).
- Dr. Kurien graduated in Science from Loyola College of Chennai (T.N.) Engineering from Guindy College of Engineering in Chennai and later on came to Anand (Gujarat) in 1949 and gave services to 'Institute of Rural Management', Anand from 1979 to 2006. Founder Chairman of 'NDDB' (National Dairy Development Board), served 33 years from 1965 to 1998. Started 'Operation Flood' in milk sector from Ist in 1970 to 1994 (III stage).
- Awarded—Padma Vibhushan; Padma Bhushan, Padma Shree; Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership, World Food Prize etc. awards.
- Dr. Kurein established 'Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation' (GCMMF) in 1973 and Dairy Products—Milk, Ghee, Cream, Curd are produced as Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation namely 'Amul' and created a history.

- The Department (DoAH, D&F, GoI) is implementing / various Schemes for the development of Schedule Tribes; Schedule Castes and Women benefiting from these Schemes; namely—SCSP (Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan) and TSP (Tribal Sub-Plan). The Department has earmarked ₹ 329·30 crore in 2018-19.
- With regard to trade matters, as a 'Part of Flagship Programme' "Ease of Doing Business", 5 new additional entry ports were notified and existing entry ports were also designated for import of livestock products.
- 'Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fisheries' (CICEF), Bangalore (Karnataka) - established in January, 1968 under technical and manpower is playing a good role with assistance from FAO and UNDP (United Nations Development Programme).

Conclusion

Based on the Annual Report 2018-19 of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries — DoAH, D&F under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoAH D&F, GoI), following points can be concluded in brief as :

(1) On 28th August, 2019, '9th' Convocation of U.P. Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwa Vidhyalaya Evam Gou Anusandhan Sansthan, Mathura (U.P.) was organized under the chairmanship of U.P. Governor–Chancellor Anandi Ben Patel; Chief Guest—Dr. Mangla Rai (Ex - DG. - ICAR); Vice-chancellor - Dr. G. K. Singh etc. and awarded-awards to intelligent students and also gave the message to improve country through basic / fundamental education.

(2) India continues to be the largest producer of milk in the world. During the year 2017-18, the milk production was accrued 176·3 million tonnes, with annual growth rate of 6·62% (V/s 165·4 million tonnes in 2016-17), indicating a good achievement.

(3) During the financial year 2017-18, the total fish production in India is estimated at 12·61 million Metric tonnes. India has vast potential for fisheries and aquaculture.

(4) 'World Fisheries Day' on 22 Nov. 2018 was organized, at Gyan Bhawan, Ashok International Convention Centre, Patna (Bihar) and on 9-10 July, 2018, the National Fish Farmers Day, at National Fish Development Board, Hyderabad was also organized. Besides these, there are several achievements of the year.

Memorable Points : Related to Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

- Milk Production was achieved 176·3 million tonnes during 2017-18 (V/s 165·4 million tonnes of 2016-17) with growth rate of 6·62%.
- The per capita availability of milk is around 375 gm/day in 2017-18.
- **19th** Livestock Census was conducted in 2012 and **18th** Livestock census in 2007 (at an Interval of 5 years conducted).
- The Coastal Aquaculture Authority **(CAA)** - under the Coastal Aqua Culture Act, 2005, vide Gazette Notification on **22nd** Dec., 2005.
- Veterinary Council of India **(VCI)** - established under Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984.
- National Fisheries Development Board **(NFDB)** Hq. Hyderabad (AP) - set-up in September 2006.
- **'Hindi Fortnight'** observed by the **DoAH, D&F** from 1st to 15th September, 2018.
- **Rashtriya Gokul Mission**—implemented w.e.f. Dec., 2014 for indigenous bovine breeds Conservasion & Development.

Objective Questions

1. The 'Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM)' has been implemented for development and conservation of Indigenous Bovine Breeds since …… (Dec.), mainly to 80% rural poor upliftment.
   (A) 2014 (B) 2015
   (C) 2016 (D) 2017
2. In Haryana, 'CHRS' (Central Herd Registration Scheme) Unit Rohtak was established in—
   (A) 1950 (B) 1955
   (C) 1963 (D) 1965
3. The 'CCBF' (Central Cattle Breeding Farm), Alamadhi, Chennai (Tamil Nadu) was established in the year ……, so as to promote Murrah breed of buffalo in southern region of India—
   (A) 1970 (B) 1971
   (C) 1972 (D) 1973
4. Under 'Central Herd Registration Scheme' (CHRS) in the Department (DoAH, D&F), how many 'CHRS' Units are located in the country ?
   (A) 4 CHRS Units
   (B) 8 CHRS Units
   (C) 10 CHRS Units
   (D) None of the above

Answers

1. (A) 2. (C) 3. (D) 4. (A)

Prominent Historical Personalities of India

—Danish Bilal

King Bhoja

King Bhoja was one of the greatest and most popular rulers of the Paramara dynasty. He ascended the throne around the beginning of the eleventh century after the death of his father and King Sindhuraja in 1000 AD. He faced stiff challenges from Chandelas and Chalukyas but he kept his empire safe from his foes for more than 50 years of his rule. He fought many battles but he could not conquer any new territory except Konkan.

King Bhoja Paramara supported the Hindushahi ruler Anandapala against Mahmud Ghazni and in 1008 he sent an army to assist Hindushahi ruler against Mahmud. Around 1019 King Bhoja provided shelter to Anandapala's son Trilochanpal when the latter was facing tough challenge from Mahmud. In 1043, Bhoja joined a confederacy of native Rajput-Chiefs against the Turks and got success also. They regained Hansi, Thanesar, Nagarkot and other areas from the Turks. In brief he ruled his kingdom successfully despite many military ups and downs till 1055 A.D.

Apart from being a great ruler and top military genius, King Bhoja is best remembered for his literary works and as a patron of art and literature. He penned more than 23 books on different subjects and topics. **Saraswati Kanthbharan, Yukti Kalpataru** and **Samrangansutradhar** are some great books by king Bhoja. He founded a Sanskrit college within the precincts of the Saraswati temple and invited men of letters like **Dhanapala** and **Uvrata** to his court. He also founded 'Bhojapur' city near Bhopal. He made Dhara (A now Dhar) as his capital.

Zain-ul-Abidin

Zain-ul-Abidin was a great, very powerful and popular king of Kashmir in the 15th century. Zain-ul-Abidin, originally known as 'Shahi Khan', was the son of Sultan Sikandar of Kashmir. Shahi Khan deposed his brother Ali Shah as the King of Kashmir and himself became king in 1420. Shahi Khan took the title of Zain-ul-Abidin.

Unlike his father, Zain-ul-Abidin adopted a secular, liberal and reformative policy in his rule. He launched many administrative and other reforms in his state. For law and order, he enforced the system of responsibility of the village communities for local crimes. He reduced tax rates and regulated the price of commodities with some measures to stabilize currency also. He also built many buildings related to public works for the welfare of people.

He adopted a policy of religious freedom, toleration, justice and equality. He abolished Jizya tax on Hindus. He gave security and religious freedom to Hindus in his state.

Zain-ul-Abidin himself was a great scholar of Persian, Tibetan and other languages, and a patron of art, literature and music. The Mahabharat and the Rajatarangini were translated into Persian from Sanskrit during his rule. Several other books of Arabic and Persian were translated into Hindi. In brief his rule was a golden period of the history of Kashmir. Zain-ul-Abidin passed away on 1470 and was succeeded by his son 'Haider Shah'.

- Zain-ul-Abidin is referred to as 'The Akbar of Kashmir' for his liberal policies for his people.
- He is also lovingly called, 'Bud Shah'.

Kashmir was conquered and annexed to the Mughal empire of Akbar in 1586.

Raja Bhagwan Das

Raja Bhagwan Das, also called Bhagwant Das, was a close friend and a very reliable commander of emperor Akbar. He was the son of Raja Bharmal, the Kacchwaha ruler of Amber and brother of Mughal empress Mariam-uz-Zamani, popularly known as Jodha Bai.

Raja Bhagwan Das was an important pillar of the Mughal empire from 1562 to 1589 till his death. As an able military genius, he played an important role in the territorial expansion of the Mughal empire from Gujarat to Kabul and Kashmir. He himself successfully led the Mughal forces in many battles. He achieved an important and high rank in the royal court of Akbar due to his immense ability and devotion to the Mughal empire. Raja Bhagwan Das was next only to the Prime Minister and held 5,000 mansabdar rank in Akbar's court. He served as the Governor of Lahore.

When Akbar went to Kashmir, he appointed a central administration committee of three members to take decisions of Kingdom in his absence. Raja Bhagwan Das, Todar Mal and Qulij Khan were the members of that trusted committee of Akbar. Akbar also accorded a high title 'Amir-ul-umra' to him. Thus anyone can easily understand the high position and prestige of Raja Bhagwan Das in Akbar's royal court. His death in 1589 was a great shock to the emperor.

Abul Fazal, another leading figure of Akbar's court said, "Raja Bhagwan Das was endowed with uprightness, weight of counsel and courage."

Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar

Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar was a prominent social reformer and a great educationist in the 19th century from Bengal. He was born at Birsingha village of Midnapore in Bengal on September 26, 1820. His father's name was Thakurdas Bandyopadhyay. He successfully completed his law education in 1839. At a young age of just 21 years,

he became the head of the Sankrit department in 1841 in the prestigious Fort William College. He had earned a huge fame as a Sanskrit scholar there. He recommended many changes in education system and they were well received by the authorities.

Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar severely critized child marriage, polygamy, illiteracy and other social evils prevalent in that time society. He also promoted the widow remarriage system in the society. His relentless efforts in support of the widow remarriage system finally resulted in the Widow Remarriage Act, 1856. The first lawful Hindu widow remarriage among the upper castes was celebrated in Calcutta on December 7, 1856 under the supervision and with the blessings of Ishwar Chandra. He also made efforts in the field of education as he opened many schools to provide education to all. In brief, he made lifelong efforts for the upliftment of women and weaker sections of the society. He died on July 29, 1891.

Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar

- Ishwar Chandra earned the title of **'Vidyasagar'** which means **'Ocean of Knowledge'** for his huge knowledge of numerous subjects, especially Sanskrit.
- He also wrote a book **'Barno Porichoy'** (Introduction to the Letter). In this book, he explained the basic structure of Bengali language in basic grammatical sense.

Pherozeshah Mehta

Pherozeshah Mehta was a luminary figure of the Indian National Movement in its early phase. He was born on August 4, 1845 in Bombay (Now Mumbai). Merwanji Mehta was his father. He studied law in England for four years and was called to the bar in 1868 A.D.

He became the commissioner of the Bombay Municipality in 1873. He became the member of the Governor-General's Supreme Legislative Council in 1893. Being a liberal leader of the elite intellectual class of Indians, he wanted reforms and changes in the life of his fellow countrymen through constitutional reforms and getting more rights from the British through dialogue. He vehemently opposed violence. He along with K.T. Tailang and Badruddin Tyabji founded the Bombay Presidency Association in 1885 in Bombay. He was one of the founding members of the Indian National Congress. He fought a relentless battle in a peaceful manner to ensure rights for Indians from the British government. He died on November 5, 1915 in Bombay.

Pherozeshah Mehta

- Pherozeshah Mehta was elected the President of the Indian National Congress in 1890 in its Calcutta session.
- He was an important member of the Bombay Triumvirate, comprising K.T. Tailang and Badruddin Tyabji also as members.
- He was the founder of the Bombay Chronicle, an English paper.
- He was also a key founding figure of the Central Bank, a swadeshi bank.
- He was knighted in 1904.
- He was appointed the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bombay.

Rahimtullah Muhammad Sayani

Rahimtullah Muhammad Sayani was one of the architects of the structure of the Indian National Movement in pre-Gandhian time. He was born on April 5, 1847 in Kutch to a Khoja Muslim family. He took the M.A. degree in 1868 and completed L.L.B. in 1870. Soon he became a luminary figure in the legal field.

He was elected the President of the Bombay Municipal Corporation in 1888. He became the Sheriff of Bombay in 1885. He also remained the member of the Bombay Legislative Council and the Imperial Legislative Council.

Rahimtullah Sayani

Rahimtullah Sayani was one of the founding members of the Indian National Congress. In 1896, he was unanimously elected the President of the INC for its Calcutta (Now Kolkata) session. His presidential address hailed by a contemporary journal as the "best delivered so far" was notable for the close attention it paid to the economic and financial aspects of the British rule in India and its repercussions on Indians. He was the second Muslim after Badruddin Tyabji to become the President of the INC. When Rahimtullah Sayani was the President of the INC, Vande Mataram, the patriotic song by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay was sung for the first time at the Congress session in 1896 in its Calcutta sessions.

Rahimtullah Sayani passed away on June 4, 1902 at Bombay (Now Mumbai).

PDarpan

Continued from Page 103

- As temperatures drop and the days get shorter, they'll race against time to build temporary winter research camps on the ice, allowing them to perform tests that wouldn't be possible at other times of the year or by satellite sensing.
- By combining measurements on the ice with data collected from satellites, scientists hope to improve the increasingly sophisticated computer models for weather and climate predictions.
- The interdisciplinary work spans several fields of science, including physics, chemistry and biology. Its overarching purpose to answer key questions around global warming means there's no time for national rivalry.

Funding of the mission : The mission has received funding from U.S. institutions such as the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and NASA.

PDarpan

Trade And Industry

1. Indian economy grew by just ..... in the first quarter of 2019-20.
   (A) 5% (B) 5·5%
   (C) 6·3% (D) 4·9%
2. As per new classification of Economies done in July 2019 by the World Bank, economies having per capita Gross National income less than US $ ..... are known as low income economies.
   (A) US $ 995 (B) US $ 1025
   (C) US $ 1035 (D) US $ 1045
3. As per new classification of Economies done in July 2019 by the World Bank, Indian economy is in the group of—
   (A) Low income
   (B) Lower-Middle Income
   (C) Upper –Middle Income
   (D) High Income
4. Reserve Bank of India has transferred from its reserve funds ..... to government of India in the month of August 2019.
   (A) ₹ 1·76 lakh crore
   (B) ₹ 1·52 lakh crore
   (C) ₹ 1·19 lakh crore
   (D) ₹ 0·99 lakh crore
5. In the month of August 2019, Government of India allowed 100% FDI through automatic route in which sector ?
   I. Coal mining and associated infrastructure
   II. Contract manufacturing
   III. Digital media
   IV. Defence production
   Correct code is—
   (A) I and II only
   (B) III and IV only
   (C) I and III only
   (D) I and IV only
6. As of September 9, 2019 which nationalized bank has highest market capitalization ?
   (A) Punjab National Bank
   (B) Bank of Baroda
   (C) Bank of India
   (D) Allahabad Bank
7. Government of India's holdings was highest in which public sector bank in March 2019 ?
   (A) State Bank of India
   (B) United Commercial Bank of India
   (C) United Bank of India
   (D) Indian Overseas Bank
8. Which public sector bank has lowest ownership of Central Government as of March-2019 ?
   (A) State bank of India
   (B) Bank of Baroda
   (C) Canara Bank
   (D) Union Bank
9. Which of the following offences under recently implemented Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act ,2019 bears highest penalty ?
   (A) Unauthorized use of vehicles without license
   (B) Drunken driving
   (C) Dangerous driving
   (D) Disobedience of orders of authorities
10. Akhilesh Ranjan Panel on Direct Tax Code suggested no tax upto the annual income—
    (A) ₹ 3 lakh (B) ₹ 4 lakh
    (C) ₹ 5 lakh (D) ₹ 7·5 lakh
11. Which sector of Indian economy registered slowest growth rate at constant prices (2011-12) in the first quarter of 2019-20 ?
    (A) Manufacturing
    (B) Agriculture
    (C) Mining and quarrying
    (D) Construction
12. As per Reserve Bank of India's Annual report 2018-19 total value of which type of currency note is highest in 2019 ?
    (A) ₹ 2000 note
    (B) ₹ 500 note
    (C) ₹ 200 note
    (D) ₹ 100 note
13. Survey for Seventh Economic Census commenced from July 29, 2019 from which state/UT ?
    (A) Delhi
    (B) Gujarat
    (C) Uttar Pradesh
    (D) Tripura
14. Akhilesh Ranjan Panel on Direct Tax Code recommended highest rate of income tax at 35% for the annual income above—
    (A) ₹ 2 crore
    (B) ₹ 1·5 crore
    (C) ₹ 1·0 crore
    (D) ₹ 0·50 crore
15. Which of the following provisions have been added for the first time in India in recently notified Consumer Protection (Amendment), 2019 ?
    (A) Creation of Central Consumer Protection Authority
    (B) Inclusion of E-commerce
    (C) Inclusion of product liability
    (D) All of the above
16. As per the Fourth Advance estimates of major crops, total production of foodgrains has been estimated at 284·95 million tonnes in 2018-19. Which of the following crops has recorded a record production ?
    (A) Rice & Wheat
    (B) Wheat & Nutri cereals
    (C) Nutri cereals & Pulses
    (D) Tur & Gram
17. India imports maximum crude petroleum from—
    (A) Saudi Arab
    (B) Iraq
    (C) United Arab Emirate
    (D) Iran
18. Which of the following has not been prepared by the NITI Aayog ?
    (A) 15-year Vision document (2017-2031)
    (B) 7-year Strategy document (2017-2024)
    (C) 3-year Action Agenda (2017-18 to 2019-20)
    (D) None of the above

Continued on Page 134

Multiple Choice Questions

Current Questionnaire

1. Which of the following sectors of the Indian economy has not felt the heat of recession in mid 2019-20 ?
   (A) Smart phone
   (B) Branded garments
   (C) FMCG sector
   (D) Agricultural commodities

2. As per RBI's guidelines all new loans to MSMEs, retail loans-such as housing loans, vehicle loans and consumer loan must be linked with external benchmark rate :
   I. Reserve Bank of India policy repo rate.
   II. Government of India 3-months Treasury Bill yield published by the Financial Benchmarks India (FBIL).
   III. Government of India 6-months Treasury Bill yield published by the FBIL.
   IV. Any other benchmark market interest rate published by the FBIL.
   Correct code is—
   (A) Any one of the Above
   (B) Only I
   (C) Only II
   (D) Only I, II and III

3. An international conference ANGAN was held on September 9, 2019 in New Delhi. ANGAN focuses on—
   (A) Energy Efficiency in Building Sector
   (B) Working of Anganwari system
   (C) Improving nutritional status of under five years children
   (D) Energy efficiency in agricultural sector

4. Which day is observed as 'International Day for South-South Cooperation' ?
   (A) August 15
   (B) September 12
   (C) October 5
   (D) October 19

5. India's rank in Global Economic Freedom index, 2019 is—
   (A) 96th (B) 85th
   (C) 79th (D) 64th

6. India's rank in Global Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index 2019 is—
   (A) 34th (B) 47th
   (C) 53rd (D) 69th

7. Who among the following has floated the idea of 'One-Nation One-Language' ?
   (A) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
   (B) President Ramnath Kobind
   (C) Home Minister Amit Shah
   (D) HRD Minister Ramesh Pokharyal Nishank

8. Certain measures have been announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in mid of 2019-20 to boost up the economy. Which of the following is/are correct in this regard ?
   I. ₹ 50000 crore package for export sector.
   II. ₹ 20000 crore package for housing sector.
   III. Rollback of the surcharge on foreign and domestic portfolio investors.
   Correct code is—
   (A) Only I
   (B) Only II
   (C) Only I and II
   (D) I, II and III
   (E) Only II and III

9. NISHTHA initiative is related to—
   (A) Ethics in public life
   (B) Holistic advancement of teachers and principals
   (C) Creating sense of responsibility among public servants
   (D) Making party members committed to their leaders

10. 'Leather Mission' has been launched by—
    (A) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
    (B) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
    (C) Khadi and Village Industry Commission
    (D) Confederation of Indian Industry

11. Consider the following facts about Kosi-Mechi project and choose the correct code given below :
    I. The Centre has approved Kosi-Mechi river linking project with an outlay of ₹ 4900 crore.
    II. It is India's second river linking project after Ken–Betwa river linking project.
    III. Mechi is an important tributary of Mahanadi.
    IV. Kosi river originates in Tibet, flows through Nepal and causes havoc in Bihar during monsoon.
    Correct code is—
    (A) Only I
    (B) Only I and II
    (C) Only I, II and III
    (D) I, II, III and IV

12. AS per the provisions of National Medical Commission Act, 2019 which of the following bodies will give permission to establish a medical college or run a new course ?
    (A) National Medical Commission
    (B) Under-Graduate Medical Education Board
    (C) Medical Assessment and Rating Board
    (D) Ethics and Medical Registration Board

13. Under the new set up of medical education and medical practice in India which of the following body/bodies will be autonomous ?
    I. Under-Graduate Medical Education Board
    II. Medical Assessment and Rating Board
    III. Ethics and Medical Registration Board
    IV. Post-Graduate Medical Education Board

(A) Only II
(B) Only I and II
(C) I, II, III and IV
(D) Only IV

14. Which of the following statements is/are correct about India Child Well-being Index 2019 ?
I. India Child Well-being Index has been released by World Vision India and IFMR LEAD.
II. Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh are the top three states in this Index.
III. Madhya Pradesh is the worst performer.
(A) Only I is correct
(B) Only I and II are correct
(C) I, II and III are correct
(D) None of the above is correct

15. Government of India allowed 100 per cent FDI through automatic route in which sector of the economy ?
I. Contract manufacturing
II. Commercial Coal mining
III. Coal processing and coal washing
(A) Only I
(B) Only I and II
(C) I, II and III
(D) Only II

16. Consider the following statements and choose the correct code given below :
I. India imports 83 per cent of its petroleum oil needs.
II. Saudi Arabia is its second-biggest supplier after Iraq.
II. India is the world's third-largest oil consumer.
(A) Only III is correct
(B) Only I and III are correct
(C) I, II and III are correct
(D) Only III is correct

17. Recently 'Dalbergia sisoo' was in the news. Which of the following statements is correct about it ?
(A) India, along with Nepal and Bangladesh wants, Dalbergia sisoo', commonly known as rosewood or sheesham, to be delisted from the CITES' list of threatened varieties
(B) At the COP meeting in Johannesburg in 2016 the entire genus of Dalbergia, including Dalbergia sisoo was placed under Appendix II
(C) Any item of COP (CITES) appendix can not be exported without obtaining a certificate from CITES or an equivalent authority
(D) All of the above

18. Government of India announced key measures in the month of August-September 2019 to boost the economy. These focused on :
I. Automobile sector and further easing of business environment.
II. Amalgamation of ten public sector banks and infusion of ₹ 70000 crore in PSU banks for recapitalization.
III. ₹ 50000 crore and ₹ 20000 crore package for export sector and housing sector respectively.
IV. Lowering corporate tax on domestic companies.
Correct code is—
(A) I, II, III and IV
(B) Only I, II and III
(C) Only I and II
(D) None of the above

19. 'Code for Responsible Lending has been released on September 16, 2019 by—
I. Microfinance Institution Network (MFIN).
II. Sa-Dhan, The RBI recognized self-regulatory organization.
III. Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC).
Correct code is—
(A) I, II and III
(B) Only I and II
(C) Only I
(D) None of the above

20. Which of the following policy tools can address economic slowdown more effectively and efficiently in the era of low interest rate ?
I. Monetary policy
II. Fiscal policy
(A) Only I
(B) Only II
(C) Both I and II
(D) Neither I nor II

21. Interest on Employees Provident Fund for the financial year 2018-19 has been fixed at—
(A) 9·65% (B) 8·65%
(C) 7·65% (D) 7·5%

22. Consider the Assertions (A) and Reason (R) and choose the correct code given below :
Assertion (A) : Lower rural food inflation does more bad than good for the rural population.
Reason (R) : Majority of rural population relies for their income on the production of foodgrains and fruits and vegetables
(A) Assertion (A) and Reason (R) both are correct and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(B) Assertion (A) and Reason (R) both are correct and Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) Assertion (A) is correct, but Reason (R) is incorrect
(D) Assertion (A) is incorrect, but Reason (R) is correct

23. Higher inflationary trend in which of the following segments bring their affordability under question for rural people ?
(A) Food and beverages
(B) Basic healthcare and education
(C) Housing
(D) Fuel and light

24. The term 'Kadaknath' was in the news in mid 2019 for which of the following reasons ?
(A) It is a children's film that won many awards in international film festivals
(B) It is famous fiction by a tribal woman
(C) It is a chicken breed which is popular in parts of central India, particulary in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, for its nutritional and medicinal value
(D) None of the above

25. Which of the following countries are the members of Quad, or the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue ?
(A) The US, India, Australia and Japan
(B) The UK, China, France, and India
(C) France Germany, China, and Italy
(D) Russia, South Africa, India, Brazil

26. Consider the following statements and choose the correct code given below :
I. Share of allied sectors-Animal Husbandry, fisheries etc. in GDP of agricultural sector is about 40%.
II. Share of Allied sectors-animal husbandry, fisheries etc. in institutional credit is about 7%.
(A) Only I is correct
(B) Only II is correct
(C) I and II both are correct
(D) Neither I nor II is correct

27. According to the annual brand valuation report by global advisory firm Duff & Phelps brand value of Indian Premier League (IPL) in 2019 is—
(A) ₹ 47,500 crore (US $ 6·8 billion)
(B) ₹ 41,800 crore (US $ 6·3 billion)
(C) ₹ 35,600 crore (US $ 5·09 billion)
(D) ₹ 28,300 crore (US $ 4·05 billion)

28. As per RBI's report Gross Non-Performing Assets in agriculture loans were……of outstanding gross advances in agriculture sector, on March 31, 2019.
(A) 4·78% (B) 5·9%
(C) 8·44% (D) 9·24%

29. As per an Ordinance issued by the Government of India on September 20, 2019 which of the following changes have been made in corporate rate tax structure for existing companies ?
I. For existing domestic companies corporate tax reduced to 22% if they forgo all exemptions.
II. Effective tax rate, inclusive of cess and surcharge, on existing companies will be 25·17%.
III. No Minimum Alternate tax on existing companies
IV. Business companies enjoying tax holidays currently continue paying tax at old rate; can opt for the new rate of 22% when the tax holiday expires.
(A) Only I and II
(B) Only II and IV
(C) Only I, II and III
(D) I, II, III and IV

30. Government of India announced on September 20, 2019 which of the following sops for local domestic companies incorporated after October 1, 2019 ?
I. To pay tax at 15% if they forgo exemptions.
II. These companies are required to begin production by March 31, 2023.
III. Effective tax rate on such new companies is 17·01% inclusive of cess and surcharge.
IV. No Minimum Alternative Tax on such companies.
(A) I, II, III and IV
(B) Only I, II and III
(C) Only I and II
(D) Only I

31. Which of the tax reliefs has been announced by the Finance Minister on September 20, 2019 for capital market players ?
(A) Enhanced surcharge on capital gains on sale of equity/equity oriented funds for domestic investors has been withdrawn
(B) Enhanced surcharge scrapped on sale of securities, including derivatives by Foreign Portfolio Investors
(C) Tax on buyback of shares announced prior to July 5, 2019 scrapped
(D) All of the above

32. GST Council in its 37th meeting reduced GST on hotels in the following manner :
I. No GST on room tariff upto ₹ 1000.
II. Daily room tariff beyond ₹ 7500 will attract GST @ 18% against the existing 28%.
III. GST on room tariff between ₹ 1000 and ₹ 7500 reduced to 5% from existing 12%.
Correct code is—
(A) Only I and II
(B) Only II and III
(C) I, II and III
(D) Only I

33. Composition Scheme under GST is applicable to businesses with a turnover up to—
(A) ₹ 1·0 crore
(B) ₹ 1·5 crore
(C) ₹ 2·0 crore
(D) ₹ 2·5 crore

34. Which of the leading tour operators of the world collapsed in September 2019 ?
(A) Thomas Cook Inc
(B) Cox & Kings
(C) Audley Travel
(D) G Adventures

35. Which of the following statements is correct about the hearing of bail pleas and transfer petitions ?
(A) A single-judge bench to hear appeals of bail and anticipatory bail.in cases related to offences entailing jail term up to seven years
(B) A double-judge bench to hear appeals of bail and anticipatory bail in cases related to offences entailing jail term up to seven years
(C) Single–judge bench to hear transfer petitions
(D) Both (A) and (C)

36. Who proposed the idea of a multipurpose identity card for citizens with all utilities like passport, Aadhar, driving licence and bank accounts ?
(A) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
(B) Union Home Minister Amit Shah
(C) Registrar General and Census Commissioner Sailesh
(D) Union Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation D.V. Sadanand Gowda

37. Under 'On-Tap' licensing for new Small Finance banks, minimum capital requirement is—
(A) ₹ 100 crore (B) ₹ 200 crore
(C) ₹ 300 crore (D) ₹ 500 crore

38. Akhilesh Ranjan panel on Direct Tax Code has not suggested the following change in income tax slabs ?
(A) 0% income tax on the annual income up to ₹ 5 lakh
(B) 10% income tax on the annual income more than ₹ 5 lakh, but up to ₹ 10 lakh

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Solved Paper

UGC-NET/JRF EXAM., 2019

(Held on 21-6-2019)

Education

(Paper-II)

1. The four 'D' model of dream, discover, design and deliver will be the best fit with which of the following models of teacher education ?
   (A) Concept attainment model
   (B) Competency based model
   (C) Inquiry oriented teacher education model
   (D) Jurisprudence model

2. In a research study, the effect of three independent variables such as gender-socioeconomic status of the family and locus of control on scholastic performance in social studies was to be ascertained. The dependent variable was measured using an interval scale. Which of the following statistical techniques will be considered appropriate for this data ?
   (A) 'F' test (B) 't' test
   (C) 'T' test (D) 'H' test

3. निम्नांकित में से कौनसी गुणवत्तापरक शोध की प्रमुख विशेषता है ?
   (A) परिप्रेक्ष्य आधारित आगमनात्मक और अर्ध प्रदायी
   (B) परिकल्पना आधारित निगमनात्मक और परीक्षणमूलक
   (C) निगमनात्मक-सह-आगमनात्मक आधारित उपागम और समान्यीकरण
   (D) निगमनात्मक पृच्छा, जिसमें परीक्षण किए जाने वाले सिद्धांत और परिकल्पना पर ध्यान केन्द्रित होता है

4. In the following two sets. Set-I mentions various commissions on education and Set-II indicates chief recommendations :

   Set-I (Commissions)
   (a) Secondary Education Commission (1952-53)
   (b) Education Commission (1964-66)
   (c) National Commission of Teacher (1980)
   (d) High-powered Commission on Teacher Education (2012)

   Set-II (Recommendations)
   (i) Establishment of 'School Complex' with a nodal school
   (ii) Improving quality of pre-service and in-service Teacher Education
   (iii) Establishment of Extension Services Department
   (iv) Provision of in-service training of specified short period and its linkage with career promotion

   Match the two sets and give your answer from the options given below :

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
(B)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)
(C)	(iii)	(i)	(iv)	(ii)
(D)	(iv)	(iii)	(ii)	(i)

5. In a school set up, emphasis is laid on giving a message that teacher alone is the knowledge resource. This is called :
   (A) an explicit curriculum
   (B) hidden curriculum
   (C) teacher-directed curriculum
   (D) learner-centred curriculum

6. Who defined democracy as a form of government of the people, for the people and by the people ?
   (A) Mahatma Gandhi
   (B) Abraham Lincoln
   (C) John F. Kennedy
   (D) George Washington

7. The focus of concern of sociology of education, in classical approach has been on :
   (A) class conflict resolution
   (B) political freedom
   (C) social construction of reality
   (D) resources and social networks

8. In terms of Buddhist philosophy, which of the following is contributive to right knowledge (Pragya) ?
   (A) Right faith and right resolve
   (B) Right resolve and right speech
   (C) Right thought and right concentration
   (D) Right living and right effort

9. At semester end, a teacher wants to assess the learning outcomes of his/her students. Which of the following test formats will be considered appropriate in this regard ?
   (A) Portfolio assessment
   (B) Formative assessment
   (C) Peformance assessment
   (D) Summative assessment

10. **Assertion (A) :** Teacher education curriculum has to give enough scope to learners for developing their own logical thinking and problem solving ability.
    Reason (R) : The learners today need considerable freedom to explore, enquire and investigate.
    Select the correct option :
    (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
    (B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
    (C) (A) is true, but (R) is false
    (D) (A) is false but (R) is true

11. Which one of the following explains the meaning of digital culture ?
    (A) The way computer and mobile are used
    (B) The way people live, work, play and learn with ICT
    (C) The way people interact with smart technology
    (D) The way students learn from technology

12. Identify the main objectives of Quality Council of India (QCI) from the statements given below :
    (a) To lead nationwide quality movement through national quality campaign
    (b) To evolve suitable performance appraisal systems
    (c) To develop capacities for implementing and institutionalizing continuous quality improvement

(d) To develop, establish and operate national accreditation programmes
(e) To collaborate with other stakeholders of higher education
(f) To build capacities in the areas of regulation, conformity assessment and accrediation

Select your answer from the codes given below :
(A) (c), (d), (e) and (f)
(B) (b), (c), (d) and (e)
(C) (a), (c), (d) and (f)
(D) (b), (d), (e) and (f)

13. In a testing survey of class X students with N = 500, their mean was observed as 80 and standard deviation as 8. Assuming normality of distribution of their scores, how many students would be below the score of a student getting 88 ?
(A) 171 (B) 421
(C) 84 (D) 16

14. A teacher develops an achievement test with items saturated with high difficulty value and widely divergent content domain. This may be called an example of :
(A) placement type of assessment
(B) formative assessment
(C) diagnostic assessment
(D) summative assessment

15. Which among the following areas as listed below gets high weightage in NAAC ratings of educational institution ?
(A) Curriculum
(B) Research
(C) Teaching
(D) Innovation

16. A school teacher plans a research study to find out the relationship between level of aspiration and socio-economic status of student's parents. Which type of research design will be appropriate for this study ?
(A) Experimental research design
(B) Descriptive research design
(C) Non-experimental research design
(D) Historical research design

17. In terms of personality dynamics, which of the following statements best explain the nature and character of one's personality ?
(a) Human behaviour does not occur randomly
(b) Human personality represents an integration of traits
(c) Personality is that which permits a prediction of what a person will do
(d) Man's behaviour is conditioned by his individual racial history and aspiration
(e) In personality formation, creative self of a person gives meaning to life

Select your answer from the options given below :
(A) (a), (d) and (e)
(B) (b), (c) and (d)
(C) (a), (b) and (c)
(D) (c), (d) and (e)

18. Below are given the steps involved in policy formulation :
(a) Planning of policy implementation
(b) Making a policy decision
(c) Evaluation of policy options
(d) Analysis of the existing situation
(e) Subsequent policy cycles
(f) Generation of policy options
(g) Policy impact assessment

Arrange them in a logical order and answer the question from the options given below :
(A) (a), (b), (c), (g), (f), (e) and (d)
(B) (g), (f), (e), (d), (c), (b) and (a)
(C) (d), (f), (c), (b), (a), (g) and (e)
(D) (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g)

19. **Assertion (A) :** Emotionally intelligent children are found to be good in problem solving.
Reason (R) : Emotional intelligence implies the capacity to integrate and manage the emotion.
In the light of the above statements choose the correct option :
(A) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are correct but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) (A) is true, but (R) is false
(D) (A) is false, but (R) is true

20. Below are given the two sets. Set-I lists the models of instructional design and Set-II contains their explanations :

Set-I (Models)
(a) ADDIE (b) ASSURE
(c) Gagne (d) Dick Carey

Set-II (Explanations)
(i) It starts with instructional goals and ends with summative evaluation
(ii) Catering for the specific needs of every learner rather than using general resources
(iii) A process that offers a step-by-step frame-work to assess training and educational material
(iv) Emphasis on information processing of mental events and learning outcome

Match the two sets and indicate your answer from the codes given below :

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(i)	(iii)	(ii)	(iv)
(B)	(iii)	(ii)	(iv)	(i)
(C)	(iv)	(i)	(iii)	(ii)
(D)	(ii)	(iv)	(i)	(iii)

21. Who among the following thinkers propagated the idea of education of the most talented ?
(A) Emanuel Kant
(B) John Paul Sartre
(C) Aristotle
(D) Plato

22. Which of the following is directly related to quality enhancement of teacher education programme ?
(A) Excursions, tours and trips
(B) Study of ICT by the pupil teachers
(C) Emphasis on internship session with in built feedback
(D) Specialized talks on various topics

23. Which of the following represent ICT integrated strategy ?
(a) Flipped teaching-learning
(b) Blended teaching-learning
(c) Edusat-based teaching learning
(d) Video conferencing
(e) Collaborative teaching-learning
(f) Peer tutoring

Indicate your answer from the codes given below :
(A) (b), (c) and (d)
(B) (b), (c) and (e)
(C) (a), (b) and (d)
(D) (a), (b), (c) and (d)

24. Which among the following is the main objective of assessment ?
(A) Collect information systematically to judge students' characteristics

(B) To find out the weakness of teaching-learning system
(C) To relate various collected information about students
(D) To obtain data about learning difficulties

25. In terms of Shewhart cycle, Set-I gives its stages, while Set-II specifies related actions :

Set-I (Stages of cycle)

(a) Plan (b) Do
(c) Check (d) Act

Set-II (Related actions)

(i) Chalk out a change or test
(ii) Observe the effects of the change or test
(iii) Improve change or test with new knowledge
(iv) Carry out the change or test

Match the two sets and give your answer from the options given below :

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
(B)	(i)	(iv)	(ii)	(iii)
(C)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)
(D)	(ii)	(i)	(iii)	(iv)

26. Which of the following components of pre-service teacher education programme has a greater scope for experiential learning ?
(A) Pedagogy courses through use of discussions
(B) Foundation courses through critical exposure
(C) Reflective reading based on great thinkers' work
(D) Internship through school attachment

27. The constructivist approach to 'Instructional design' will lay strees on which of the following action words ?
(A) Control, observe and measure
(B) Explore, enquire and interpret
(C) Collect, analyse and predict
(D) Describe, Depict and develop

28. Which of the following are the characteristic features of e-learning ?
(a) Empowering learner to absorb personal accomplishment
(b) Promoting self-initiated learning
(c) Enhancing cognitive flexibility
(d) Providing multiple channels of acquiring knowledge
(e) Nurturing exprience-based learning
(f) Assisting teacher with high degree of coverages to deliver the content regularly

Choose your answer from the codes given below :
(A) (b), (c), (a) and (d)
(B) (c), (a), (e) and (b)
(C) (d), (e), (b) and (c)
(D) (a), (b), (d) and (f)

29. Which of the following statements correctly describe the process of adjustment ?
(a) Adjustment is two-directional process
(b) During the process of adjustment the instances of conflict and frustration may be perceived in both normal and abnormal personalities
(c) Adjustment involves conformity to norms
(d) Adjustment depends more on positive rather than negative reinforcement
(e) Collective unconscious plays a significant role in an individual's adjustment

Indicate your answer from the options given below :
(A) (b), (c) and (d)
(B) (c), (d) and (e)
(C) (a), (b) and (c)
(D) (a), (d) and (e)

30. In randomly constituted two groups-experimental and control, a researcher obtains the following results after using a parametric 't' test :

Value of t = 3 for N = 300

On the basis of this evidence which decision in respect of substantive research hypothesis and the null hypothesis will be justified ?
(A) Accepting the null hypothesis and accepting the research hypothesis
(B) Rejecting the null hypothesis and rejecting the research hypothesis
(C) Accepting the null hypothesis and rejecting the research hypothesis
(D) Rejecting the null hypothesis and accepting the research hypothesis

31. Which of the following factors affect curriculum change ?
(a) Socio-cultural context
(b) Political concerns
(c) National priorities
(d) Religious affiliation
(e) Stakeholder's needs and aspirations

Indicate your answer from the options given below :
(A) (b), (d) and (c)
(B) (a), (c) and (e)
(C) (c), (a) and (d)
(D) (d), (b) and (a)

32. Identify the specific features associated with macro level financing from the list given below :
(a) Total economy-based concept
(b) Unceasing chain of activity
(c) Addressing a large entity
(d) Time frame specified
(e) Having direct effect on an individual
(f) Minimum scope for risk
(g) Stressing needs of an individual

Choose your answer from the options given below :
(A) (a), (c), (d) and (f)
(B) (b), (d), (f) and (g)
(C) (c), (e), (f) and (g)
(D) (d), (e) (f) and (g)

33. As per the principle of span of control, how many teachers can be effectively supervised by a teacher-supervisor ?
(A) Any number of teachers
(B) 4-6 teachers
(C) 6-10 teachers
(D) Maximum 15 teachers

34. Five E's instructional model of constructivism has been developed on the basis of which of the following theoretical basis of learning ?
(A) Learning emerges from the sequence of events in a class
(B) Learning occurs through the search for epistemological structure of understanding
(C) Learning is contingent upon the socio-emotional enrivonment in the class
(D) Learning is perceived as a change in behaviour as a result of teacher motivation

35. Which of the following statement best explain the concept of curriculum ?

(a) Curriculum is a handbook for setting question paper
(b) Curriculum means a relevant set of learning experiences
(c) Curriculum has to be in consonance with the objectives of education
(d) Curriculum is a network of techniques
(e) Curriculum implies transactional as well as evaluation strategies
(f) Curriculum is a guide for teachers and evaluators

Indicate your answer from the options given below :
(A) (b), (d), (e) and (f)
(B) (c), (d), (e) and (f)
(C) (b), (c), (e) and (f)
(D) (a), (b), (e) and (f)

36. A teacher presents information by accessing from E-learning portals while displaying confidence in the domain of concerned knowledge. This may involve which of the following ?
(A) Non-observance of ethicality
(B) Inappropriate information coverage
(C) Lack of harmony and relevance
(D) Lack of technical skill

37. In the following two sets of the information. Set-I lists the style of leadership on the managerial grid, while Set-II enumerates their charateristics :

Set-I (Styles of leadership)
(a) Impoverished leadership
(b) Country club leadership
(c) Task-oriented leadership
(d) Team leadership
(e) Middle of the road leadership

Set-II (Characteristics)
(i) Autocratic-workers have to complete the task, nothing else
(ii) Compromises made to achieve acceptable performance
(iii) Laissez-faire-minimal concern for both the workers and the task
(iv) Focusses on creating safe, comfortable working environment, minimal conflict
(v) Staff/workers closely involved in decision-making and feel valued

Match the two sets and give your answer from the codes given below :

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
(A)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
(B)	(ii)	(i)	(iv)	(v)	(iii)
(C)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(v)	(ii)
(D)	(iv)	(iii)	(ii)	(i)	(v)

38. From the list of the statements given below, identify the main characteristics which are related with leader-member exchange theory :
(a) Views leadership as a process.
(b) Focuses on the vertical dyadic relationship.
(c) Explains the effects of leadership on members, teams and organisation.
(d) Cares for the development of priviledged groups in the workplace.
(e) Points out what strengthens and weakens the leadership dynamics.
(f) Assesses how values affect the group dynamics.

Select your answer from the codes given below :
(A) (f), (e), (d) and (c)
(B) (a), (b), (c) and (e)
(C) (b), (c), (d) and (e)
(D) (c), (d), (e) and (f)

39. In the following two sets, Set-I mentions the stages of cognitive development as given by Piaget and Set-II specified the distinctive cognitive features :

Set-I (Stage of cognitive development)
(a) Sensory motor stage
(b) Pre-operational stage
(c) Concrete operational stage
(d) Formal operational stage

Set-II (Distinctive cognitive features)
(i) Hypothesis making and hypothesis testing
(ii) Transductive reasoning
(iii) Object permanence
(iv) Reversibility concept
(v) Arguing a case with evidence collected

Match the two sets and select your answer from the options given below :

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(iii)	(ii)	(iv)	(i)
(B)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(v)
(C)	(v)	(iv)	(iii)	(ii)
(D)	(iv)	(iii)	(ii)	(i)

40. In which of the programmed instructional design, the sequence of frames follows a demonstrate, prompt and release pattern ?
(A) Linear programmes
(B) Branching programmes
(C) Mathetics programmes
(D) Computer assisted learning and teaching programmes

41. For the use of 'online libraries' in an effective manner, which of the following poses a potential threat to quality ?
(A) Non-availability of online repositories
(B) Non-availability of E-portfolios
(C) Want of qualified librarian
(D) Lack of technical skill of the user

42. What is the distinctive feature of case study research ?
(A) Arriving at generalizations
(B) Presenting a detailed case history
(C) Developing an in-depth understanding of the case
(D) Helping solve the problem of the case

43. Which one of the following statement represents the theory given by Elton Mayo ?
(A) Men can work tirelessly like machines
(B) Given a chance, no man wants to work
(C) Enhance relation with people in the organisation to improve productivity
(D) High wages ensure larger output

44. Which of the following will form the basis for self-evaluation for a student teacher ?
(a) Student's level of participation
(b) Satisfaction of parents about students progress
(c) Students peformance in the test
(d) Student-teacher perception about himself/herself
(e) Peer group feedback
(f) Feedback from mentor

Select your answer from the codes given below :
(A) (a), (b) and (c)
(B) (a), (c) and (d)
(C) (a), (d) and (f)
(D) (a), (c) and (d)

45. In which of the following areas is the contribution of Savitribai Phule highly acclaimed ?
(A) Upliftment of Scheduled Castes
(B) Resettlement of poor people
(C) Education of women
(D) Education of the slum children

46. In Sankhya the equilibrium of the three gunas is called :
(A) Purusa
(B) Mahat
(C) Prakriti
(D) Subtle essences

47. In ensuring sustainable curriculum change and improvement, whose role is crucial in the Indian contex ?
(a) Role of student's feedback
(b) Role of teacher's feedback
(c) Role of parents' reactions
(d) Role of educational authorities
(e) Role of public in general
Give your answer from the following options :
(A) (a), (d) and (e)
(B) (a), (b) and (d)
(C) (a), (c) and (e)
(D) (c), (d) and (e)

48. "Educational practice void of dreams, dissent and pronouncement is neutral and accomodating." In terms of this statement, the focus of concern in educational should be on :
(A) Developing neutrality
(B) Promoting impersonal engagement in learning process
(C) Ensuring deeper personal engagement of learners
(D) Teacher's role to be that of a spectator

49. For identifying the training needs of in-service teachers, which of the following strategies is most appropriate ?
(A) Using strength, weakness, opportunity and challenge analysis
(B) Using 'can-do-will do' analysis
(C) Using interaction analysis
(D) Using 'action research' cycle

50. In which of the following modes of testing, a student is given optimum scope for displaying his/her accomplishment ?
(A) Speed test
(B) Power test
(C) Accuracy test
(D) Standard test

51. Which of the following are the essential features of a module ?
(a) It is self-sufficient
(b) Attending contact classes
(c) Self-learning
(d) Self-evaluation
(e) Statements of learning outcomes
(f) Submission of project work
Choose your answer from the codes given below :
(A) (a), (b), (d) and (f)
(B) (a), (c), (d) and (f)
(C) (b), (c), (d) and (e)
(D) (a), (c), (d) and (e)

52. For curriculum development at the college/university level which of the following relfects the intentions of UGC ?
(a) Curriculum should be linked with life situations
(b) Curriculum should be changed every year, if not possible, every three years
(c) Curriculum should be content centric
(d) Choice based credit system should from part of university curriculum
(e) Semesterized curriculum provides more of meaningful engangement of the learnest
Give your answer from the options given below :
(A) (a), (b) and (c)
(B) (b), (c) and (d)
(C) (c), (d) and (e)
(D) (b), (d) and (e)

53. Which of the following set of traits is most appropriate for effective leadership ?
(A) Knowledge, Vision and Relationship
(B) Achievement drive, self-confidence and charisma
(C) Cognitive ability, emotional maturity and flexibility
(D) Creativity, honesty and knowledge of the task

54. Which one of the following statements clearly articulates the meaning of unit cost ?
(A) Total expenditure by the institution
(B) Total expenditure divided by total number of teachers
(C) Total expenditure divided by total number of students
(D) Total income-total expenditure of the school

55. Which one of the following statements gives the meaning of quality circle ?
(A) Parents and teachers voluntarily coming forward to help school in management
(B) Teachers forming a team to help school in management
(C) Alumni coming forward to help school in management
(D) Students of the school voluntarily coming forward under the guidance of teachers to help school in management

56. If a teacher is to be evaluated for his/her teaching by the learners, which specific group of the learners should be selected from the class ?
(A) Those who have dropped out
(B) Those who are good achievers and regular in the class
(C) Those who are good achievers but are irregular in the class
(D) Those who assess the personality of teachers

57. Which of the following is the main assumption of Charles Galloway system of observation ?
(A) Verbal training should be enriched
(B) Verbal communication is the adequate base of teaching-learning process
(C) Non-verbal events do not matter much in the classroom
(D) Non-verbal communication can be more effective during interaction in the classroom

58. Who among the following Indian thinkers has contributed towards the concept of integral education ?
(A) Gijubhai Badhera
(B) Swami Vivekananda
(C) Mahatma Gandhi
(D) Sri Aurobindo

59. Identify the characteristics of psychological behaviour according to cognitive field theory of learning and motivation :
(a) An overt purposive act
(b) Reinforcement contingent response
(c) An attitudinal shift
(d) Behaviour with longer latency
(e) A change in the perceived value of an object
(f) Behaviour showing associative shifting
(g) A new relationship established between two or more events

Select from the options to given your answer :
(A) (a), (c), (e) and (g)
(B) (a), (b), (c) and (d)
(C) (d), (e), (f) and (g)
(D) (b), (c), (d) and (e)

60. In developing seven 'multiple intelligences'. Gardner made some important observations. Identify such observations from the list given below :
(a) Intelligence is not entirely genetic
(b) Intelligence is a part of acquired behaviour
(c) Intelligence is not fixed at birth
(d) There is little or no hope for developing intelligence
(e) Intelligence can be nurtured and grown
Give your answer by selecting from the option given below :
(A) (a), (b) and (d)
(B) (a), (c) and (e)
(C) (c), (d) and (e)
(D) (a), (d) and (e)

61. A researcher gives two tests—one in English language and another in Mathematics. He/She finds the mean and standard deviation of each of the two groups $n = 100$, as follows :

	English	Mathematics
Mean	50	60
Standard deviation	10	12

Assuming the curve for the two distributions overlapping, how many students in English language are below the mean of those in Mathematics ?
(A) 34 (B) 84
(C) 16 (D) 32

62. From the list given below, identify the contextual factors which tend to affect teacher development in India :
(a) Teacher's ability level is low
(b) Teachers lack a sense of ownership with schools
(c) The schools are lacking in adequate ICT support
(d) Teachers' commitment to teaching profession is doubtful
(e) The modern society is averse to teacher status
(f) There is little or no scope for capacity building for teachers
Indicate your answer from the options given below :
(A) (a), (b) and (c)
(B) (b), (c) and (d)
(C) (c), (e) and (f)
(D) (a), (d) and (c)

63. The purpose of ICT integration is for :
(A) optimising learning outcomes
(B) enhancing students' involvement in learning
(C) promoting concerns for economy in use of resources
(D) reducing workload of teachers in terms of transactional hours

64. A teacher researcher has obtained data from a questionnaire used for teachers and head teachers in the form of a contingency table of 3×3 for anxiety and awareness levels. Which statistical test will indicate whether the two variables are interdependent ?
(A) Wilcoxon signed rank test
(B) Spearman's rank difference method of correlation
(C) Eta coefficient
(D) Chi-square test

65. Which one of the following correctly defines a relfex behaviour ?
(A) Response appears again and again as a result of the following consequences
(B) A known stimulus elicits a response definitively
(C) An unknown or unknnowable stimulus is an occasion for a response
(D) Response is withheld after the stimulus appears

66. From the following list, identify those which are relevant for the theory of rational choice :
(a) Aggregation of social behaviour
(b) Random behaviour
(c) Determinants of behaviour
(d) Prediction of behaviour
(e) Study of interest groups
(f) Behaviour problems associated with information
Indicate your answer from the codes. Select the correct option :
(A) (a), (b), (c) and (d)
(B) (a), (c), (d) and (e)
(C) (b), (c), (d) and (f)
(D) (a), (c), (d) and (f)

67. A teacher is faced with the problem of choosing the appropriate teaching method for the transaction of a course content. Which branch of philosophy will most appropriately describe his/her predicament ?
(A) Metaphysics
(B) Epistemology
(C) Axiology
(D) Logic

68. The principle of "the child, the school and education itself are shaped largely by social and cultural forces" was enunciated by :
(A) reconstructionism
(B) existentialism
(C) pragmatism
(D) perennialism

69. In the technique of Pearson Central counselling, the 'congruence' is related to :
(A) unconditional positive regard
(B) matching between facial expression and words
(C) empathy towards the client
(D) reflexive acts

70. From the list given below, identify the statements which appropriately describe the main characteristics of steps in scientific method :
(a) Identifying and defining the problem
(b) Defining the population and sampling procedure
(c) Selecting a sample
(d) Formulating hypothesis
(e) Collecting, organizing and analysing of data
(f) Fixing the framework for data analysis
(g) Formulating conclusions
(h) Verification, rejection or modification of the hypothesis
Indicate your answer from the codes given below :
(A) (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f)
(B) (a), (d), (c), (g) and (h)
(C) (c), (d), (e), (g) and (h)
(D) (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e)

71. Which of the following is to be placed at the peak of the 'curriculum triangle' while effecting a change ?
(A) Instructional objective change
(B) Learning experiences change
(C) Time perspective change
(D) Evaluation of learning outcomes

72. The concept of reflective journal in teacher education is supposed to be based on the idea of :
(A) providing reflection on curriculum and curricular activities
(B) providing more reflective space for quality learning
(C) providing more opportunities to use technology
(D) ensuring quality enhancement in colleges of education

73. In the following two sets of information, Set-I lists the agents of political socialization, while Set-II narrates their roles :
Set-I (Agents)
(a) Family (b) School
(c) Peer Group (e) Mass Media
Set-II (Roles)
(i) Provides opportunity for understading democratic processes
(ii) A source of political information and also an instrument for shaping political values and beliefs
(iii) Perpetuates values that support authorities
(iv) Influences teenagers lifestyle and attitude development
Match the two sets and indicate your answer from the options given below :

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
(B)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)
(C)	(iii)	(i)	(iv)	(ii)
(D)	(iv)	(iii)	(ii)	(i)

74. Which of the following statements most appropriately describes the concept of political modernization ?
(A) Political changes are necessary for the achievements of a specific objective
(B) A general process of change in the political sphere is closely related to other areas of society
(C) A political system's capacity to solve problems to initiate new policies etc
(D) Ability to learn better and how to perform political functions

75. "Nobody plans to fail but failure results from a failure to plan."
The connotative meaning of this may be more appropriately given by which of the following related areas of curriculum development ?
(A) Not spelling out needs and related issue
(B) Lack of recruitment and training of facilitators
(C) Lack in reporting resources
(D) Not mentioning intended outcomes in advance

76. Which of the following statements is related to the 'Human Capital Theory' ?
(A) It is useful for describing behaviour when two parties have access to different information
(B) It is the aggregate stock of competencies, knowledge, social and personal attributes
(C) It is education that raises wages simply because education level is a signal of worker's ability
(D) It holds a prominent position in a variety of management literatures

77. In CIPP model of curriculum, which one of the following is based on interactive modes of relationships ?
(A) Context (B) Input
(C) Process (D) Product

78. Which of the following set of activities will be considered most relevant for developing curricular framework in writing skill ?
(A) Construct, Reflect, Communicate, Construct and Asses
(B) Plan, Assess, Build and Reconstruct
(C) Plan, Construct, Communicate, Reflect and Assess
(D) Formulate, Construct, Prepare and Reflect

79. Which of the following features of social and emotional development characterize the stage of childhood ?
(a) Tendency of withdrawal from parents
(b) Intense self-awareness
(c) Less control over emotions
(d) Curiosity
(e) Feer and worry
(f) Conflict in motivation
Select your answer from the codes given below :
(A) (a), (b) and (c)
(B) (b), (c) and (d)
(C) (e), (d) and (f)
(D) (a), (d) and (e)

80. Which of the following is said to be the immediate knowledge in Jain philosophy ?
(A) Perceptual knowledge
(B) Inferential knowledge
(C) Knowledge derived from authority
(D) Clairvoyance

81. In the following two sets, Set-I mentions the suggested interventions of the Kothari Commission in respect of Teacher Education. Set-II provide the concerned target stage/group :
Set-I (Interventions)
(a) Two year training course
(b) One-year training cource having 230 working days
(c) Organization of summer institutes
(d) Correspondence courses and study leave
Set-II (Target Stage/Group)
(i) In-service training of staff
(ii) Unqualified teachers
(iii) Primary level (Pre-Service Training)
(iv) Secondary level (Pre-Service Training)
Match the two sets and answer from the codes given below :

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)
(B)	(iv)	(iii)	(ii)	(i)
(C)	(ii)	(i)	(iii)	(iv)
(D)	(i)	(ii)	(iv)	(iii)

82. A teacher organizes and reorganizes the presentation in a discussion session being conducted by her/him. This will be placed at which stage of the teaching act ?
(A) Preactive preparation stage
(B) Preactive planning stage
(C) Interactive stage
(D) Post active stage

83. According to Bruner discovery approach is a must for learning with components of which of the following ?
(A) Activation, maintenance and direction
(B) Stimulus situation, response and reinforcement
(C) Assimilation, accommodation and adaptation
(D) Self-motivation, beliefs, self-control and self-reaction

84. Which of the following are examples of applictaion of ET to open and distance learning courses ?
(a) Modular instructional materials
(b) Personal contact programmes
(c) Massive open online courses (MOOC)
(d) Edusat-based interactions
(e) Model lectures by an eminant scholar
(f) Visits to archives
Select your answer from the codes given below :
(A) (a), (c) and (d)
(B) (a), (b) and (c)
(C) (b), (c) and (e)
(D) (d), (e) and (f)

85. A researcher intends to study the adjustment problems of students who are slum dwellers. What should be the sampling procedure used for such a study ?
(A) Simple random sampling
(B) Stratified random sampling
(C) Systematic sampling
(D) Cluster sampling

86. Which of the following generic features can be associated with the approach of Jurgen Habermas ?
(a) Personalized approach for modifying teacher behaviour
(b) Emancipatory reflection
(c) Modes of discovering knowledge
(d) Ethical and moral concerns
(e) Hypothetical deduction
Indicate your answer from the options given below :
(A) (a), (b) and (d)
(B) (c), (d) and (e)
(C) (b), (c) and (e)
(D) (e), (a) and (c)

87. Which of the following are considered indicators of indirectness in Flander's interaction analysis ?
(a) Lecturing
(b) Giving direction
(c) Acceptance of feelings
(d) Praising or encouraging
(e) Criticizing or justifying authority
(f) Using student's ideas
Select your answer from the codes given below :
(A) (a), (b) and (d)
(B) (b), (c) and (e)
(C) (c), (e) and (f)
(D) (c), (d) and (f)

88. Which of the following statement explains the immediate concern with reference to the modern scenario ?
(A) Evaluating the curricular content at global level
(B) Designing curriculum according to each student
(C) Reconsidering the dimensions of already designed curriculum
(D) Keeping the theorectical curricular part at minimum level

89. Which of the following sequences correctly reflects Kolb's experiential teaching-learning ?
(A) Think, do, feel and watch
(B) Watch, feel, do and think
(C) Do, watch, feel and think
(D) Feel, watch, think and do

90. Below are given general steps for undertaking cost benefit analysis :
(a) Describing quantitatively the inputs and outputs of the programme/project
(b) Estimating the social costs and benefits of the inputs and outputs of the programme/projects
(c) Comparing the benefits and costs
(d) Specifying the programme/project clearly
What will be the appropriate sequence in this regard ? Choose your answer from the options given below :
(A) (a), (b), (c) and (d)
(B) (d),(a), (b) and (c)
(C) (c), (d), (a) and (b)
(D) (b), (c), (d) and (a)

Comprehension : (Q. 91 to 95)

Self-management was conceived as a cycle of management that called for schools to determine goals, formulate policies, make annual plan, allocate resources, implement plans of learning and teaching and evaluate outcomes. Noteworthy features were plans based on programmes that were defined by the normal patterns of work in the school, most of which were areas of the curriculum. There were clearly defined roles for different groups. The 'policy group' was normally the governing body, such as a school council, that set goals, formulate policies, approve budgets and share in the conduct of programme evaluations. 'Programme Teams', formed mostly of teachers, were also involved in each of these activities, but were mainly responsible for preparing programme plans and programme budgets. Programmes were implemented in the normal day-to-day work of the school. These teams played a major role in the evaluation of programmes.

91. Programmes were implemented by teachers :
(A) in usual situation
(B) in different situations
(C) any situations
(D) in specified situation

92. According to the passage, self-management originated as :
(A) determining of goals
(B) a guide to policy
(C) annual plan
(D) a cycle of management

93. Distinctive features of self-management were conceived as :
(A) normal pattern of work
(B) areas of curriculum
(C) patterns of work in the area of curriculum
(D) programmes in the school

94. In self-management :
(A) roles were different for each person
(B) goals were set clearly
(C) policies were formulated by others
(D) goals were set in a participative manner

95. In programme teams, there were mostly :
(A) policy makers
(B) teachers
(C) principals
(D) students

96. One of the main features of inclusive classroom is :
(A) teacher organizes the classroom with the scope of heterogeneity in the classroom
(B) teacher takes special care of disabled children
(C) teacher seeks the support of specialists to help the slow learners
(D) teacher shows sympathy to disabled children

97. While teaching, a teacher quite often observes that a student is having learning difficulties in comprehension, coupled with lack of concentration and showing symptoms of being hyper-active.

For such a case what will be the most plausible cause ?
(A) Paraplegia
(B) Quadriplegia
(C) Spina bifida
(D) Tourette syndrome

98. As mandated by an Act of Parliament, what are various objectives of the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) ?
(a) To conduct a survey on facilities available for technical education
(b) To regulate and monitor services given to perons with disability
(c) To achieve planned and coordinate development of teacher education system
(d) To standardise syllabi
(e) To maintain a Central Rehabilitation Register of all qualified professionals and personnel
(f) To lead nationwide quality movement
Select your answer from the codes given below :
(A) (b), (d) and (e)
(B) (a), (b) and (c)
(C) (c), (d) and (f)
(D) (d), (e) and (f)

99. Which of the following can be positive strength for normal children in inclusive classrooms ?
(A) Mental development becomes faster
(B) Social skills develop easily
(C) Motor skills develop easily
(D) Collaborative skills develop easily

100. As per National Sample Survey, what percentage of our population is counted as disabled ?
(A) 8 per cent (B) 2·8 per cent
(C) 4 per cent (D) 2·1 per cent

ANSWERS

1. (B)	2. (A)	3. (A)	4. (C)
5. (B)	6. (B)	7. (A)	8. (A)
9. (D)	10. (A)	11. (B)	12. (C)
13. (B)	14. (C)	15. (A)	16. (C)
17. (A)	18. (C)	19. (A)	20. (B)
21. (D)	22. (C)	23. (D)	24. (A)
25. (B)	26. (D)	27. (B)	28. (D)
29. (C)	30. (D)	31. (B)	32. (A)
33. (B)	34. (B)	35. (C)	36. (A)
37. (C)	38. (B)	39. (A)	40. (C)
41. (D)	42. (C)	43. (C)	44. (B,D)
45. (C)	46. (C)	47. (B)	48. (C)
49. (B)	50. (B)	51. (D)	52. (D)
53. (B)	54. (C)	55. (D)	56. (B)
57. (D)	58. (D)	59. (A)	60. (B)
61. (B)	62. (C)	63. (A)	64. (D)
65. (B)	66. (B)	67. (B)	68. (A)
69. (B)	70. (B)	71. (A)	72. (B)
73. (C)	74. (B)	75. (A)	76. (B)
77. (C)	78. (C)	79. (D)	80. (D)
81. (A)	82. (C)	83. (A)	84. (A)
85. (D)	86. (C)	87. (D)	88. (A)
89. (D)	90. (B)	91. (A)	92. (D)
93. (C)	94. (D)	95. (B)	96. (A)
97. (C)	98. (A)	99. (B)	100. (D)

PDarpan

Continued from Page 95

- Greater loss expected in Rabi as compared to Kharif season crops. Cultivation of wheat and other hypo-thermophilic crops like cauliflower, cabbage in central India and temperate crops like apple, cherry, plum, peach, in northern India are likely to be threatened by global warming.
- Reduced frequency of frost damage in Northern India is expected.
- Impacts on food quality could be variable depending on the magnitude of thermal increase and type of crop.
- Sustainability of endemic crops like Basmati rice and lichi could be severely affected by Gam'.
- Considerable effect on microbes, pathogens, and insects population and virulence.
- Increasing temperature would increase fertilizer requirement for the same production targets and result in higher GHG emis-sions, ammonia volatilization and cost of crop production.
- Increased frequencies of droughts, floods, storm and cyclones are likely to increase production variability.
- Increased water, shelter, and energy requirement for livestock.
- Increasing sea and river water temperatures are likely to affect fish breeding, migration and cost and quality of agricultural produce.

PDarpan

Continued from Page 106

Very large projects may be split into phases where a fixed price (lump sum) is agreed at the start of each phase. This reduces the overall project risk taken on by the contractor at the start of the project, and increases flexibility on the part of the project owner to adapt the project to changing circumstances.

APEDA

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) was established by the Government of India under the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act passed by the Parliament in December, 1985. The Authority, with its headquarters at New Delhi, is headed by a Chairperson. APEDA has been serving the agri-export community for 27 years. In order to reach out to the exporters in different parts of the country, APEDA has set up 5 Regional offices at Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Guwahati and 13 Virtual Offices at Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala), Bhubaneshwar (Odisha), Srinagar (J&K), Chandigarh, Imphal (Manipur), Agartala (Tripura), Kohima (Nagaland), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Raipur (Chhattisgarh), Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh) and Panaji (Goa). APEDA has been entrusted with the responsibility of export promotion and development of 14 agricultural and processed food product groups listed in the Schedule to the APEDA Act. In addition to this, APEDA has been entrusted with the responsibility to monitor the import of sugar as well.

APEDA has been actively engaged in the development of markets besides upgradation of infrastructure and quality to promote the export of agro products. In its endeavour to promote agro exports, APEDA, under its Plan Scheme titled 'Agriculture Export Promotion Scheme of APEDA' provides financial assistance to the registered exporters under sub-components of the Scheme-Market Development, Infrastructure Development, Quality Development and Transport Assistance.

PDarpan

Solved Paper

UGC-NET/JRF EXAM., 2019

(Held on 21-6-2019)

Economics

(Paper-II)

1. Under non-cooperative games, it is—
   (A) essential to understand one's opponent's point of view
   (B) not essential to understand one's opponent's point of view
   (C) essential to understand one's opponent's point of view and to deduce his likely responses accordingly
   (D) essential to understand one's opponent's likely responses

2. Which of the following methods of selecting a strategy is consistent with risk averting behaviour ?
   (A) If two strategies have the same expected profit, select the one with smaller standard deviation
   (B) If two strategies have the same standard deviation, select the one with smaller expected profit
   (C) If two strategies have the same standard deviation, select the strategy with larger coefficient of variation
   (D) If two strategies have different expected profits, select the one with the larger standard deviation

3. Match List-I with List-II—

   List-I
   (a) Various combinations that a consumer can purchase
   (b) Various combinations of two commodities providing equal satisfaction to consumer
   (c) A set of indifference curves
   (d) Point of tangency of a budget line on an indifference curve

   List-II
   (i) Indifference map
   (ii) Indifference curve
   (iii) Budget line
   (iv) Consumer's equilibrium

   Choose the correct option from those given below :

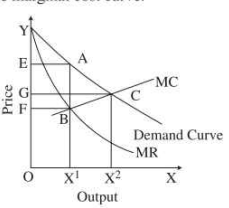
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(i)	(ii)	(iv)	(iii)
(B)	(iv)	(iii)	(i)	(ii)
(C)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)
(D)	(iii)	(ii)	(i)	(iv)

4. Which of the following statements are true regarding Cobb-Douglas production function ?
   (a) It is long period production function
   (b) It is short period production function
   (c) It is based on increasing returns to scale
   (d) Output elasticities with respect to factors are constant

   Select the correct option :
   (A) (a) and (c) (B) (a) and (d)
   (C) (b) and (c) (D) (c) and (d)

Directions—(Q. 5-7) Go through the following paragraph and diagram and answer the questions given below—

Monopoly charges a price above marginal cost, not all consumers who value the good at more than its cost, buy it. Thus, the quantity produced and sold by a monopoly is below the socially efficient level. The deadweight loss represented by the area of the triangle between the demand curve and the marginal cost curve.



5. Deadweight loss is represented by the area of—
   (A) X^1X^2CA (B) X^1BCX^2
   (C) OX^1AE (D) BAC

6. What price will be charged under monopoly ?
   (A) OF (B) X^2C
   (C) OE (D) OG

7. Which is the socially efficient level of production ?
   (A) OX^1 (B) OX^2
   (C) AX^1 (D) CX^2

8. The inconsistency of which one of the following criteria is labelled as Scitovsky Paradox ?
   (A) Little criterion
   (B) Pareto criterion
   (C) Bergson criterion
   (D) Kaldor-Hicks criterion

9. Pareto's marginal condition for efficiency in composition of output (product-mix) requires—
   (A) $MRTS^X_{L,K} = MRTS^Y_{L,K} = MRTS^Z_{L,K}$
   (B) $MRS^A_{X,Y} = MRS^A_{X,Z} = MRS^B_{X,Z}$
   (C) $MRTP_{X,Y} = MRS^A_{X,Y} = MRS^B_{X,Y}$
   (D) $MRTS^Y_{L,K} = MRS^A_{X,Y} = MRS^Z_{X,Y}$

10. The firms are competitive and profit maximizing the demand curve for labour is determined by—
    (A) the opportunity cost of worker's time
    (B) the value of marginal product of labour
    (C) offsetting income and substitution effect
    (D) the value of marginal product of capital

11. Why do individuals act in riskier ways after being insured ?
(A) Due to the problem of adverse selection
(B) Due to the problem of false confidence
(C) Due to the problem of moral hazard
(D) Due to the problem of screening costs

12. General equilibrium analysis determines—
(A) prices and quantities in all markets simultaneously
(B) prices and quantities in all markets simultaneously and explicitly takes feedback effects into account
(C) feedback effects
(D) prices in all markets

Directions—(Q. 13-15) Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow it :

Suppose that for a particular economy for some time period, investment was equal to 100, government expenditure was equal to 75, net taxes were fixed at 100 and consumption (C) was given by the consumption function :

$$C = 25 + 0.8\ Y_D$$

where Y_D is disposable income and Y is GDP.

13. What is the value of tax multiplier $\left(\frac{\Delta Y}{\Delta T}\right)$?
(A) – 3 (B) – 2
(C) – 5 (D) – 4

14. What is the level of equilibrium income (Y) ?
(A) 700 (B) 600
(C) 850 (D) 800

15. What is the value of the government expenditure multiplier $\left(\frac{\Delta Y}{\Delta G}\right)$?
(A) 5 (B) 4
(C) 6 (D) 3

16. Which of the following factors is NOT the cause for 'market failure' ?
(A) A symmetric information
(B) Public goods
(C) Externality
(D) Lack of demand

17. Which of the following is NOT part of Wiseman and Peacock hypothesis ?
(A) Concentration effect
(B) Displacement effect
(C) Inspection effect
(D) Taxation effect

18. Vertical equity in taxation means that—
(A) people in different income groups should be taxed equally
(B) people in different income groups should be taxed differently
(C) people in different groups should be charged proportionately
(D) unequal people should be treated equally

19. According to Marxian analysis the surplus value depends upon—
(A) surplus and necessary labour time
(B) necessary labour time only
(C) surplus labour time only
(D) nominal wage rate

20. Three pillars of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) are—
(a) trade and investment liberalization
(b) business facilitation
(c) economic and technical cooperation
(d) military cooperation
Choose the correct option :
(A) (a), (b), (d) (B) (a), (b), (c)
(C) (a), (c), (d) (D) (b), (c), (d)

21. The provision under the membership clause of the IMF is that any country can become a member, if—
(A) the country is willing to be a member of the World Bank and willing to pay all subscriptions in gold
(B) the country is willing to be a member of the WTO and willing to pay all subscriptions in gold
(C) the country is willing to be a member of the World Bank and willing to pay subscription
(D) the country is willing to be a member of UNO and willing to pay subscription

22. Which of the following is NOT the function of a capital market ?
(A) Mobilising savings into investment
(B) Channelising funds from less profitable to more profitable
(C) Mobilising funds from surplus units to deficit units
(D) Providing better returns to direct investors

23. As income falls, consumption declines but proportionately less than the decrease in income because the consumer desires to sustain previous standard of living. This is called—
(A) ratchel effect
(B) wealth effect
(C) demonstration effect
(D) income effect

24. By 'financial crowding out' economists mean—
(A) credit rationing
(B) what the government borrows cannot be used for private investment
(C) government borrowings drive up interest rate
(D) Reserve Bank of India controls on commercial bank lendings

25. Direct credit programmes introduced—
(A) security-oriented credit
(B) development-oriented credit
(C) purpose-oriented credit
(D) welfare-oriented credit

26. In the Balance of Payments Account, the transfer payments are included in which one of the following ?
(A) Capital Account
(B) Service Account
(C) Current Account
(D) Official Reserves Account

27. During a depression which of the following policy instruments should be used ?
(A) Taxes should be increased
(B) Taxes are kept unchanged and public expenditure is increased
(C) Public expenditure is reduced
(D) There should be a balanced budget

28. The long-term chronic unemployment arising from imbalance between the skills and other characteristics of workers in the

market and the needs of employers is known as—
(A) cyclical unemployment
(B) frictional unemployment
(C) structural unemployment
(D) seasonal unemployment

29. An increase in money supply will increase the demand for goods and services by—
(A) reducing government spending
(B) lowering the interest rate so that investment spending increases
(C) raising interest rate so that investment spending reduces
(D) increasing government spending on goods and services

30. The commodity or Net Barter Terms of trade are represented by the formula—
(A) $\frac{\text{quantity of exports}}{\text{quantity of imports}} \times 100$
(B) $\frac{\text{price} \times \text{quantity of exports}}{\text{price} \times \text{quantity of imports}} \times 100$
(C) $\frac{\text{volume of exports}}{\text{volume of imports}} \times 100$
(D) $\frac{\text{price index of exports}}{\text{price index of imports}} \times 100$

31. Match List-I with List-II—

List-I (Institutions)	**List-II (Established)**
(a) ICICI	(i) 1971
(b) IRBI	(ii) 1964
(c) IFCI	(iii) 1955
(d) IDBI	(iv) 1948

Choose the correct option from those given below :

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
(B)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)
(C)	(iii)	(i)	(iv)	(ii)
(D)	(iii)	(ii)	(i)	(iv)

32. An increase in fiscal spending leads to—
(A) a shift of Phillips curve to the left
(B) a shift of Phillips curve to the right
(C) movement along the Phillips curve such that unemployment rises inflation also rises
(D) Movement along Philips curve in such a way that shows the decline in employment rate with every increase in inflation rate

33. The concept of fiscal deficit implies which of the following ?
(A) Revenue and interest receipts minus revenue expenditure
(B) Revenue receipts and recovery of loans and other receipts minus total expenditure
(C) Receipts minus disbursement in Capital Account
(D) Total receipts minus total expenditure

34. In efficiency wage model, the real wage is set to—
(A) minimise the efficiency of worker per rupee of real wages received
(B) clear the labour market
(C) not to clear the labour market
(D) maximise the efficiency of worker per rupee of real of wages received

35. A tax is said to be direct, when—
(A) impact and incidence fall upon the same person
(B) only incidence falls upon the same person
(C) impact is shifted to another person
(D) person escapes from paying tax

36. A toll tax is a tax based on which of the following ?
(A) The benefit principle
(B) Horizontal equity
(C) Vertical equity
(D) Tax progressively

37. Which one of the following is NOT the method of debt redemption ?
(A) Refunding
(B) Repudiation
(C) Sinking fund
(D) Capital levy

38. In J. Robinson's growth model, capital accumulation depends on—
(A) saving-income ratio
(B) profit-wage relation and labour productivity
(C) profit-income ratio and capital productivity
(D) saving-investment ratio

39. Which one of the following items is included in the Capital Account of the balance of payments of a country ?
(A) Investment income
(B) Invisibles
(C) Commercial borrowings
(D) Private transfer

40. External drains leave which type of impact on commercial bank ?
(A) Lowers the reserve of bank
(B) Increases further deposits
(C) Increases credit creation
(D) Creates demand deposits

41. Match List-I with List-II—

List-I
(a) Accelerator and multiplier interaction
(b) Cambridge approach
(c) Life cycle hypothesis
(d) Efficiency wage model

List-II
(i) Modigliani, Ando and Brumberg
(ii) Akerlof and Yellen
(iii) Paul Samuelson
(iv) Alfred Marshal and A.C. Pigou

Choose the correct option from those given below—

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(i)	(iv)	(ii)	(iii)
(B)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)
(C)	(ii)	(i)	(iii)	(iv)
(D)	(iv)	(iii)	(ii)	(i)

42. Which one of the following does NOT determine the amount of years of schooling demanded by an individual to qualify for modern job ?
(A) The wage or income differential
(B) The probability of success in finding modern sector employment
(C) Opportunity cost of schooling
(D) Expansion of healthcare infrastructure in urban sector

43. The excess supply of a commodity above the no-trade equilibrium price gives one nation's—
(A) import demand for the commodity
(B) export supply and import demand for the commodity
(C) export supply of the commodity
(D) import supply of the commodity

44. The rational expectations hypothesis suggests that the forecasts that people make concerning future inflation rates—
(A) consistently overestimate the actual rate of inflation in the future
(B) are always correct
(C) consistently underestimate the actual rate of inflation in the future
(D) are correct on an average but are subject to errors that are distributed randomly

45. Which consideration does a commercial bank NOT keep in mind to manage its assets and liabilities ?
(A) Liquidity (B) Profitability
(C) Solvency (D) Equity

46. According to Marshall-Lerner condition for the foreign exchange market to be stable, the sum of the elasticities of demand for imports and the demand for exports should be—
(A) less than 1
(B) equal to zero
(C) equal to 1
(D) more than 1

47. The liquidity aggregates are classified as—
(A) L_1, L_2 and L_3
(B) M_1, M_2 and M_3
(C) NM_3
(D) M_1, M_2, M_3 and M_4

48. During recession which of the following measures is initiated ?
(A) Cutting taxes and boosting government spending
(B) Increasing taxes and decreasing government spending
(C) Keeping tax rates constant and increasing government spending
(D) Increasing tax rates and keeping government spending constant

49. A foreign exchange risk involves the transaction exposure, the accounting exposure and—
(A) the translation exposure
(B) the flexibility exposure
(C) the rigidity exposure
(D) the economic exposure

50. Which one of the following growth models takes technology as exogenous variable ?
(A) Solow model
(B) Robinson model
(C) Lucas model
(D) Todaro model

51. 'Immiserizing growth' is the term given by—
(A) Amartya Sen
(B) N. Kaldor
(C) Paul Krugman
(D) Jagdish Bhagwati

52. Match List-I with List-II—

List-I

(a) Theory of big push
(b) Warranted rate of growth
(c) Social dualism
(d) Endogenous growth thoery

List-II

(i) J. H. Boeke
(ii) Paul Romer
(iii) Rosenstein-Rodan
(iv) R. F. Harrod

Choose the correct option from those given below :

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)
(B)	(iii)	(i)	(iv)	(ii)
(C)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)
(D)	(iv)	(ii)	(iii)	(i)

53. Under which system is the central bank authorised by law to issue a fixed amount of notes against government securities and any excess is to be fully backed by gold/silver ?
(A) Maximum fiduciary system
(B) Minimum reserve system
(C) Fixed fiduciary system
(D) Maximum and minimum fiduciary system

54. Which of the following is an example of a public good ?
(A) Residential building
(B) National defence
(C) Restaurant meals
(D) Swimming pool of a house

55. Which is NOT the main objective of credit control ?
(A) Stabilization on general price level
(B) Promoting economic growth
(C) Ensuring adequate flow of credit to productive sectors
(D) Promoting economic welfare

56. Who among the following is not associated with the endogenous growth theory ?
(A) Robert Solow
(B) Paul Romer
(C) Rebelo
(D) Robert Lucas

57. Calculate the rate of effective protection by using the formula $g = \frac{t - a_i t_i}{1 - a_i}$ if $g = 0{\cdot}3$, $a_i = 0{\cdot}8$ and $t_i = 0$, then the value of t is—
(A) 0·2 (B) 0·3
(C) 0·1 (D) 0·4

58. Liquidity approach is also known by the name—
(A) Gurley-Shaw approach
(B) Radcliffe approach
(C) Traditional approach
(D) Monetarist approach

59. Which one is NOT axiom of inequality measures ?
(A) Principle of scale invariance
(B) Principle of equity
(C) Principle of translation invariance
(D) Axiom of decomposibility

60. Assume that an economy begins in macroeconomic equilibrium, then taxes are significantly decreased. As a result of this change—
(A) there is expansion and deflation in the economy
(B) there is recession and deflation in the economy
(C) there is expansion and inflation in the economy
(D) there is stagflation in the economy

Directions—(Q. 61 and 62) Consider the following table that gives the monthly per capita consumption expenditure (MPCE) of eight households and answer the questions given below :

TABLE

State	MPCE (in ₹) of 8 Households							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
State—A	950	1100	1000	975	750	775	790	1400
State—B	1250	1150	1400	1100	550	600	490	1200

The value of Z (poverty line MPCE cut off) is ₹ 800.

61. From the table calculate the estimates of Poverty Gap Ratio (PGR) for State—A and State—B and select the correct option—
(A) State—A : 0·133; State—B : 0·0119
(B) State—A : 0·153; State—B : 0·0135
(C) State—A : 0·0133; State—B : 0·119
(D) State—A : 0·0153; State—B : 0·135

62. Estimate of head count ratio in State—A and State—B are—
(A) State—A : 0·375; State—B : 0·375
(B) State—A : 0·475; State—B : 0·375
(C) State—A : 0·575; State—B : 0·575
(D) State—A : 0·385; State—B : 0·425

63. From the table calculate the estimates of Square Poverty Gap Ratio (SPGR) and then show that the SPGR in State—A is—
(A) same as in State—B
(B) higher than that in State—B
(C) lower than that in State—B
(D) significantly different from zero

64. A simultaneous equation model is exactly identified, if—
(A) unique numerical values of structural parameters can be obtained
(B) more than one numerical value can be obtained for some of the parameters of the structural equation
(C) unique solution of all the structural coefficients is not possible
(D) structural coefficient cannot be estimated

65. The cost function of a monopolist is C = 40 + 12X. Write his demand function as P = 60 – 3X. What is his profit maximising output level ?
(A) 12 (B) 11
(C) 8 (D) 9

66. Match List-I with List-II—

List-I

(a) Skewness
(b) Variance
(c) Earthquake
(d) F-test

List-II

(i) Dispersion
(ii) Random variation
(iii) Ratio of variances
(iv) Lack of symmetry

Choose the correct option from those given below :

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)
(B)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)
(C)	(i)	(iii)	(iv)	(ii)
(D)	(ii)	(i)	(iv)	(iii)

67. Second National Commission on Labour has recommended a three tier system including—
(A) Lok Adalats, Labour Courts and Labour Commission
(B) Lok Adalats, Labour Courts and Labour Relations Commission
(C) Lok Adalats, Labour Courts and Judicial Courts
(D) Lok Adalats, Labour Courts and Labour Inspectors

68. National Food Security Law covers—
(A) 65% of rural population
(B) 70% of rural population
(C) 75% of rural population
(D) 80% of rural population

69. "Under some conditions, it makes no difference to efficiency whether the polluter has a right to pollute or the victim has a right to clean air." This statement is related to the work of—
(A) G. Hardin (B) R. Coase
(C) N. Kaldor (D) Julian Simon

70. If $A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 5 & 5 \\ 3 & -11 & -5 \\ 3 & -5 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$, then $|A|$ is equal to—
(A) 15 (B) 16
(C) 27 (D) 20

71. Match List-I with List-II—

List-I

(a) Gauss-Markov
(b) Coefficient of determination
(c) $H_0 : B_2 = 0$, $H_1 : B_2 = 70$
(d) Heteroscedasticity

List-II

(i) R^2
(ii) One sided test
(iii) Goldfeld-Quandt test
(iv) BLUE

Choose the correct option from those given below :

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)
(B)	(i)	(ii)	(iv)	(iii)
(C)	(ii)	(iii)	(i)	(iv)
(D)	(iii)	(i)	(ii)	(iv)

72. In a two variable (X and Y) regression analysis, the regression coefficients are $b_{xy} = 0·6$ and $b_{yx} = 0·8$. If y is dependent variable and x is independent variable, what is the percentage of variations in Y explained by X ?
(A) 47% (B) 48%
(C) 49% (D) 36%

73. For a moderately skewed distribution, the value of mode is 10 and value of median is 20. Then the mean is—
(A) 15 (B) 30
(C) 25 (D) 35

74. Which age structure is important for demographic dividend ?
(A) 0-14
(B) 15-59
(C) 60 and above
(D) 0-14 and 60 and above

75. Who propounded optimum theory of population ?
(A) Robbins
(B) Dalton
(C) Cannan
(D) Carr Saunders

76. Market failure occurs in case of most of the environmental goods, because—
(A) environmental goods are rival products
(B) environmental goods are excludable products
(C) environmental goods are non-rival in production

(D) environmental goods are non-rival and non-excludable in consumption

77. **Assertion (A) :** The share of the non-commodity sector in the national income has been increasing in India.
Reason (R) : Industry and Agriculture have been growing at a relatively slower pace in India.
Choose the correct answer from the options given below :
(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) explains (A)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) does not explains (A)
(C) (A) is true, but (R) is false
(D) (A) is false, but (R) is true

78. In an open economy input-output model, the viability is examined by—
(A) Hawkins-Simon conditions
(B) Kuhn-Tucker conditions
(C) Dickey-Fuller test
(D) Goldfeld-Quandt test

79. What is the equation of corrected birthrate ?
(A) Corrected birthrate $= \frac{\text{Registered births in one year + Possible birth}}{\text{Mid year population}} \times 1{,}000$
(B) Corrected birthrate $= \frac{\text{Live births in one year}}{\text{Mid year population}} \times 1{,}000$
(C) Corrected birthrate $= \frac{\text{Number of female births}}{\text{Mid year population}} \times 1{,}000$
(D) Corrected birthrate $= \frac{\text{Registered births + Possible births}}{\text{Mid year female population}} \times 1{,}000$

80. When the null hypothesis is there as an equality, the level of significance is the probability of making—
(A) type II error
(B) type I error
(C) type I and II errors
(D) type I and III errors

81. Standard Error (SE) of Sample mean (x) in random sampling from an infinite population or in random sampling with replacement is given by—
(A) $SE = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sqrt{n}}$ where σ is the population standard deviation
(B) $SE = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n^2}}$ where σ is the population standard deviation
(C) $SE = \frac{\sigma^3}{\sqrt{n}}$ where σ is the population standard deviation
(D) $SE = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$ where σ is the population standard deviation

82. A linear programming problem can be solved by using—
(A) ARIMA techniques
(B) Simplex method
(C) Unit root method
(D) None of these

83. Which of the following is NOT correct with reference to the service sector of Indian economy ?
(A) Service sector has the largest share in the GDP
(B) Service sector has the largest share in employment
(C) Service sector's growth has been higher than growth of agriculture sector
(D) Productivity per worker in service sector is highest

84. "Education as investment in human resources plays an important role among the factors which contribute to economic growth." This statement was given by—
(A) New Education Policy, 1985
(B) Education Commission, 1966
(C) NCERT
(D) Supreme Court of India

85. In a binomial distribution, the probability of x successes in n trials in any order is given by—
(A) $p(x) = {}^nC_x p^x \cdot q^{n-x}$
(B) $p(x) = {}^nC_1 p^{2x} \cdot q^{n-1}$
(C) $p(x) = {}^nC_x p^2 \cdot q^{n-1}$
(D) $p(x) = {}^nC_x p^x \cdot q^{n-2}$

86. The IRR is the discount rate that equates the project NPV to ..... and benefit-cost ratio to.
(A) 1, 0 (B) 0, 1
(C) 0, 0 (D) 1, 1

87. Match List-I with List-II—
List-I
(a) World Environment Day
(b) World Wildlife Day
(c) World Water Day
(d) World Population Day
List-II
(i) 11th July
(ii) 5th June
(iii) 3rd March
(iv) 22nd March
Choose the correct option from those given below :

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
(B)	(iii)	(i)	(iv)	(ii)
(C)	(iv)	(iii)	(ii)	(i)
(D)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)

88. Applying OLS to simultaneous equations results in the parameters being—
(A) inefficient
(B) inconsistent
(C) biased
(D) biased and inconsistent

89. Multiplicative decomposition model is used to—
(A) deseasonalise the time series data
(B) build cost of living index
(C) test a hypothesis
(D) estimate probability

90. If AR = 15 and MR = 5, the price elasticity of demand is—
(A) 2·3 (B) 1·5
(C) 1·75 (D) 1

91. The RBI made Indian rupee fully convertible in current account transactions related to goods and services in the year—
(A) 1985 (B) 2002
(C) 1994 (D) 2011

92. Which of the following is NOT an instrument of capital market with special reference to India ?
(A) Equity share
(B) Debenture
(C) Gold ETF
(D) Commercial paper

93. Which of the following items completes the life table ?

Age	l_x	d_x	L_x	T_x	e_x^o
7	90,000	500	89,750	48,50,000	?

(A) 50·50 (B) 54·00
(C) 53·89 (D) 51·31

94. Under TRIPs protection for copyrights is for—
(A) 20 years after death of the author
(B) 30 years after death of the author
(C) 40 years after death of the author
(D) 50 years after death of the author

95. The correct relationship among Arithmetic Mean (AM), Geometric Mean (GM) and Harmonic Mean (HM) is—
(A) GM = AM + HM
(B) AM < HM
(C) $[GM]^2 = HM \times AM$
(D) AM = GM – HM

96. Match List-I with List-II—

List-I
(a) Thomos Doubleday
(b) Thomas Sadler
(c) Leibenstein
(d) Herbert Spencer

List-II
(i) Destiny theory
(ii) Biological theory
(iii) Diet theory
(iv) Motivation theory of population growth

Choose the correct option from those given below—

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
(B)	(iii)	(i)	(iv)	(ii)
(C)	(iv)	(iii)	(ii)	(i)
(D)	(iv)	(ii)	(i)	(iii)

97. Difference equation in concerned with—
(A) discrete changes
(B) continuous changes
(C) Both of the above
(D) None of the above

98. Which of the following is NOT part of the 'PM Kisan Samman Nidhi' scheme as announced on 1-02-2019 ?
(A) All farmers having land holdings up to 2 hectares are eligible under the scheme
(B) The scheme will be applicable from 1st April, 2019
(C) The government will transfer ₹ 6,000 per annum into the bank accounts of eligible beneficiaries
(D) The money will be given in three equal instalments of ₹ 2,000 each

99. The 'hedonic price' method measures the value of environmental assets through—
(A) using 'existence' of an environmental asset
(B) using linkages between variations of inhouse prices
(C) using WTP to value of environmental asset
(D) using WTA to value of environmental asset

100. In 2011 the proportion of urban population was more than 40 per cent in the States of—
(A) Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat
(B) Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra
(C) Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal
(D) Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat

Answers

1. (C)	2. (A)	3. (D)	4. (B)
5. (D)	6. (C)	7. (B)	8. (D)
9. (C)	10. (B)	11. (C)	12. (B)
13. (D)	14. (B)	15. (A)	16. (D)
17. (D)	18. (B)	19. (A)	20. (B)
21. (C)	22. (D)	23. (A)	24. (C)
25. (C)	26. (C)	27. (B)	28. (C)
29. (B)	30. (D)	31. (C)	32. (*)
33. (B)	34. (D)	35. (A)	36. (A)
37. (B)	38. (B)	39. (C)	40. (A)
41. (B)	42. (D)	43. (C)	44. (D)
45. (D)	46. (D)	47. (A)	48. (A)
49. (D)	50. (A)	51. (D)	52. (C)
53. (C)	54. (B)	55. (D)	56. (A)
57. (*)	58. (B)	59. (B)	60. (C)
61. (C)	62. (A)	63. (C)	64. (A)
65. (C)	66. (B)	67. (B)	68. (C)
69. (B)	70. (C)	71. (A)	72. (B)
73. (C)	74. (B)	75. (C)	76. (D)
77. (A)	78. (A)	79. (A)	80. (B)
81. (D)	82. (B)	83. (B)	84. (B)
85. (A)	86. (B)	87. (D)	88. (D)
89. (A)	90. (B)	91. (C)	92. (D)
93. (C)	94. (D)	95. (C)	96. (B)
97. (A)	98. (B)	99. (B)	100. (D)

* Bonus Marks

PDarpan

Continued from Page 115

19. Working Holiday Maker visa is issued by—
(A) USA
(B) Saudi Arab
(C) Australia
(D) UAE

20. As on September 15, 2019 Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) is—
(A) 18·75% (B) 18·50%
(C) 18·25% (D) 18·00%

21. Life Expectancy at birth in India for females during 2013-17 was—
(A) 67·8 years
(B) 70·4 years
(C) 73·7 years
(D) 71·2 years

22. Life Expectancy at birth in India for males during 2013-17 was—
(A) 67·8 years
(B) 70·4 years
(C) 73·7 years
(D) 71·2 years

23. Which Commercial bank in India has highest Gross Non-Performing Assets during 2018-19 ?
(A) IDBI Bank
(B) Indian Overseas Bank
(C) United Commercial Bank of India
(D) Central Bank of India

24. Which of following Public Sector Banks has not reported a net profit during the financial year 2018-19 ?
(A) State Bank of India
(B) Canara Bank
(C) Punjab National Bank
(D) Bank of Baroda

25. Share of value exports of goods and services in GDP of India in the financial year 2018-19 was—
(A) 15·7% (B) 19·7%
(C) 20·6% (D) 21·9%

Answers

1.	(A)	2. (B)	3. (B)	4. (A) 5. (A)
6.	(B)	7. (C)	8. (A)	9. (B) 10. (C)
11.	(A)	12. (B)	13. (D)	14. (A) 15. (D)
16.	(A)	17. (B)	18. (D)	19. (C) 20. (A)
21.	(B)	22. (A)	23. (A)	24. (C) 25. (B)

PDarpan

Solved Paper

HARYANA CIVIL SERVICES (Pre.) EXAM., 2017

(Held on 31-3-2019)

CSAT

Paper-II

Directions—(Q. 1–5) Read the information given below and answer the five items that follow—

In another tragic Indian Air Force accident, a Mirage 2000 trainer aircraft crashed on 01/02/2019 after taking off from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited airport in Bengaluru, killing two IAF officers. This aircraft was upgraded by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. This aircraft crashed soon after taking off, suggesting a possible problem with landing gear. The accident adds to a growing list of IAF aircraft crashes in recent years. The Bengaluru mishap comes days after a Jaguar fighter crashed in UP's Kushinagar. All of this is indicative of a deeper problem with aircraft inventory and maintenance. It's well known that IAF has a severe shortage of aircrafts. It's down to 30 fighter squadrons, which in another few years will be whittled further to 26. This has created a situation, where decades-old aircraft like the Mirage 2000 have to be upgraded to extend their operational lifespan. Of course, only experienced private players should get big-ticket contracts for defence production and maintenance.

The 'Jugaad' approach simply cannot continue. It undermines our defence preparedness and put our officers at risk. We need to ramp up indigenous production and create an American-style military-industrial complex. This requires greater participation of the private sector. Defense PSUs have a terrible track record as exemplified by the Light Combat Aircraft Tejas project, which has taken more than three decades to reach the induction phase.

1. The name of aircraft crashed in Bengaluru on 1/02/2019 is—
   (A) Jaguar 2019
   (B) Airbus 320
   (C) Mirage 2000
   (D) Tejas 2019

2. The approach used to increase the lifespan of aircraft is—
   (A) Total overhauling
   (B) Jugaad
   (C) Upgrading internal technology
   (D) Changing all defective parts

3. To setup, American-style military-industrial complex in India, which sector's participations are suggested ?
   (A) Government sector
   (B) Private sector
   (C) Autonomous bodies
   (D) Semi government sector

4. At present the number of fighter squadrons IAF has—
   (A) 25 (B) 26
   (C) 28 (D) 30

5. The aircraft crashed in Bengaluru was upgraded by—
   (A) Central Govt. military workshop in Delhi
   (B) Bengaluru Aeronautics Limited
   (C) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
   (D) Pune military-industrial workshop

6. The day of the week, on birth of Haryana state *i.e.* on 01.11.1966, is—
   (A) Friday (B) Saturday
   (C) Monday (D) Tuesday

7. A sum of ₹ 2,100 has to be used to give seven cash prizes to the students. If each prize is ₹ 20 less than its preceding prize, then number of times the maximum prize amount is more than minimum prize amounts, is—
   (A) 1·2 (B) 1·3
   (C) 1·5 (D) 2

8. If the interior angles of five-sided polygon are in the ratio 1 : 2 : 3 : 4 : 5, then sum (in degrees) of measures of smallest and largest angles, is—
   (A) 216 (B) 252
   (C) 108 (D) 324

9. A sum of ₹ 10 is lend to be returned in 11 monthly instalments of ₹ 1 each, interest being simple. The rate of interest charged, is—
   (A) $9\frac{1}{11}$ % (B) 10%
   (C) $21\frac{9}{11}$ % (D) 22%

10. There are 65 students in the class and ₹ 39 are to be distributed among them so that each boy gets 80 Paise and each girl gets 30 Paise. The ratio of number of boys to number of girls in the class, is—
    (A) 3 : 2 (B) 4 : 1
    (C) 2 : 3 (D) 1 : 4

Directions—(Q. 11 and 12)—Read the information given below and answer the two items that follow—

There are 120 musicians in a club and 5% of them can play all the three instruments *viz.*, guitar, violin and flute. It so happening that the number of musicians who can play only two of above mentioned instruments is 30. The 40 musicians can play guitar alone.

11. The musicians who can either play violin alone or flute alone are—
    (A) 40 (B) 38
    (C) 44 (D) 46

12. The musicians who can play only one or all three instruments, are—
    (A) 106 (B) 90
    (C) 88 (D) 86

13. In a factory capacity of a solution tank A is 70% of the capacity of the another tank B. If Tank A's full capacity is 14000 gallons and at one particular moment it is

80% full and Tank B is 40% full. How many more gallons of solution are in tank A than in Tank B ?

(A) 4200 Gallons
(B) 3200 Gallons
(C) 2800 Gallons
(D) 6300 Gallons

14. ABCD is a square of side $2\sqrt{2}$ cm and M, N are mid points of sides AB and AD respectively. Then the perimeter (in cm) of trapezium BDNM so formed, is—

(A) $2(3+\sqrt{2})$ (B) $2(2+\sqrt{2})$
(C) $2(1+\sqrt{2})$ (D) $2(1+3\sqrt{2})$

15. The least multiple of 7, which leaves a remainder of 4, when divided by 6, 9, 15 and 18, is—

(A) 844 (B) 704
(C) 364 (D) 94

Directions—(Q. 16–20) Read the information given below and answer the five items that follow—

The five cities A, B, C, D and E are connected by different modes of transport as follows—

(i) A and B by boat and rail
(ii) C and D by bus and boat
(iii) B and E by air only
(iv) A and C by boat only
(v) C and E by rail and bus

16. Without changing mode of transport, which mode of transport would help one to reach C starting from B ?

(A) Air (B) Bus
(C) Rail (D) Boat

17. If a person visits each of five cities starting from A, which city he visited twice ?

(A) D (B) C
(C) B (D) A

18. Between which two cities, maximum travel options are less than four ?

(A) (B, D) (B) (A, C)
(C) (B, C) (D) (A, B)

19. Which pair of cities are directly connected ?

(A) (A, E) (B) (A, D)
(C) (B, D) (D) (B, E)

20. The cities where one can't travel by air, are—

(A) A, B (B) A, D, E
(C) A, B, E (D) A, C, D

Directions—(Q. 21–25) Read the information given below and answer the five items that follow—

In each question below are given four statements followed by three conclusions numbered I, II and III. You have to assume the given statements to be true even if they seem to be deviate from commonly known facts. Read all the conclusions and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follows from the given statements, disregarding commonly known facts.

21. **Statements :**
All desks are pillars.
All pillars are circles.
Some circles are squares.
Some squares are rectangles.
Conclusions :
I. Some rectangles are pillars.
II. Some circles are desks.
III. Some squares are desks.
(A) Only I follows
(B) Only II follows
(C) Only III follows
(D) Only I and II follow

22. **Statements :**
Some plates are knives.
All knives are chains.
Some chains are wheels.
All wheels are poles.
Conclusions :
I. Some poles are chains.
II. Some wheels are knives.
III. Some chains are plates.
(A) Only I follows
(B) Only I and III follow
(C) Only I and II follow
(D) Only II and III follow

23. **Statements :**
Some roses are flowers.
Some flowers are buds.
All buds are leaves.
All leaves are plants.
Conclusions :
I. Some plants are flowers.
II. Some roses are buds.
III. No leaves are roses.
(A) Only I follows
(B) Only I and II follow
(C) Only I and III follow
(D) Only II and III follow

24. **Statements :**
Some shoes are socks.
All socks are towels.
All towels are bedsheets.
No bedsheet is blanket.
Conclusions :
I. No towel is blanket.
II. Some shoes are towels.
III. Some shoes are bedsheets.
(A) Only I and II follow
(B) Only I and III follow
(C) Only II and III follow
(D) All follow

25. **Statements :**
All chairs are tables.
All tables are telephones.
All telephones are cell phone
No cell phone is computer.
Conclusions :
I. All cell phones are tables.
II. Some chairs are computers.
III. No chair is computer.
(A) Only I follows
(B) Only II follows
(C) Only III follows
(D) Only either II or III follows

26. The number of times 3 appear, number writing from 1 to 1000, is—

(A) 243 (B) 246
(C) 297 (D) 300

Directions—(Q. 27–30) Read the information given below and answer the four items that follow—

Once, an ant who had come to drink at a stream, fell into the water and was carried away by the swift current. She was in great danger of drowning. A dove, perched on a nearby tree, observed the ant's danger and dropped a leaf into the water. The ant climbed onto this and was safely out. Sometime after this, a hunter, creeping through the bushes, saw the dove asleep and look a careful aim with his gun. He was about to fire, when the ant, who was nearby, crawled forward and bit him sharply on the ankle. The hunter missed his aim and the loud noise of the gun awakened the dove from her sleep. She saw the danger and flew swiftly away to safety. Thus, the ant repaid the dove, for having saved her life in the foaming current of the steam.

27. The ant repaid the dove by—

(A) Having love with dove
(B) Dropping leaf in water
(C) Saving the life of dove from animals
(D) Biting the hunter

28. The dove was in danger because—
(A) A hunter was about to shoot him
(B) There was some big animal nearby
(C) It had fallen off the branch
(D) Carried away by the swift current

29. The dove dropped a leaf into the water to—
(A) Drown the ant
(B) Save the ant
(C) Measure the current level
(D) Perch on it

30. The ant came to the stream to—
(A) Carry out some water for kids
(B) Look at the swift current
(C) Drink from it
(D) Take bath in it

31. The 'Shoe' is related to Leather in the same way as 'Rubber' is related to—
(A) Plastic (B) Latex
(C) Polythene (D) Sleeper

32. Nupur walks 9 km East, turns South-West and walks another 8 km. She again takes a turn towards North-West and walks another 4 km. In which direction from her starting point is she standing now ?
(A) South-East
(B) North-East
(C) West
(D) East

33. The sequence of missing alphabets in the series PQR _ | RSP_ | RS_ _ | SPQ _ is—
(A) SQQPR (B) TTSQR
(C) SSQQR (D) SQPQR

34. In Chess tournament each player will play with all other players twice. If total matches played in the tournament are 272, then the number of players who participated is—
(A) 16 (B) 17
(C) 19 (D) 23

35. If the word 'TEMPLE' is coded as 'VHQURL', then code for word 'SITARAM', is—
(A) ULXFXHU
(B) ULXFYHU
(C) ULXGXHV
(D) ULXFXHV

Directions—(Q. 36–39) Read the information given below and answer the four items that follow—

The modern civilization is completely depending on energy, which has therefore to be abundant and also economical. About 90% of the world's energy is supplied by oil, coal and natural gas, while nuclear, hydro, wind and solar power and biomass supply the rest. Coal, nuclear and hydro are used primarily to generate electricity while natural gas is widely used for heating. Biomass is used both for heating and cooking. The wind and solar power is the future's hope as they are sustainable energy sources. Oil powers almost all machines that move and that makes oil uniquely versatile. Oil powered airplanes carry 500 people across the widest oceans at nearly the speed of sound. Oil powered machines produce and transport food. Oil powered machines are ubiquitous. Clearly, we live in the age of oil but it is drawing to a close. According to data available if oil production remains constant until its gone, there is enough to last 42 years. Oil wells will produce less as they become depleted, which will make it impossible to keep production constant. Similarly, natural gas and coal will last another 61 years and 133 years respectively. Naturally, as they become scarce, they become expensive, leading to a worldwide energy crisis. If we are to survive on this planet, we have to make a transition to sustainable energy sources. The transition may be willy-nilly or planned the choice is ours.

The drawing era of limited and expensive energy will be very difficult for everyone on earth but will be even more difficult if it is not anticipated. It is of utmost importance that the public and policy makers understand the global energy crisis and act fast to ensure that the energy sources do not become extinct.

36. The theme of the passage is—
(A) Changing lives
(B) Looming energy crisis
(C) Energy resources
(D) Power in today's world

37. Biomass is an energy source used in—
(A) Agriculture
(B) Industry
(C) Homes
(D) Offices

38. The energy sources for the future are—
(A) Nuclear and hydro power
(B) Coal and natural gas
(C) Wind and solar power
(D) Oil and biomass

39. The survival of mankind will depend on—
(A) Maximum use of available energy resources
(B) Transition to sustainable energy resources
(C) Regulation placed on energy consumers
(D) Keeping the level of energy production constant

40. The difference between the interest received from two different banks on ₹ 750 for 2 years is ₹ 90. The difference between simple interest rate charged by two banks, is—
(A) 2% (B) 4%
(C) 6% (D) 8%

Directions—(Q. 41–45) The following 5 items are based on the following passage in English to test the comprehension of English Language and therefore these items do not have Hindi version.

"The emancipation of women," James Joyce told one of his friends, "has caused the greatest revolution in our time in the most important relationship there is that between men and women." Other modernists agreed : Virginia Woolf, claiming that in about 1910 "human character changed," and, illustrating the new balance between the sexes, urged, "read the 'Agamemnon,' and see whether your sympathies are not almost entirely with Clytemnestra." D. H. Lawrence wrote, "perhaps the deepest fight for 2000 years and more, has been the fight for women's independence."

But if modernist writers considered women's revolt against men's domination one of their greatest and deepest themes, only recently in perhaps the past 15 years has literary criticism begun to catch up with it. Not that the images of sexual antagonism that abound in modern literature have gone unremarked, far from it. But what we are able to see in

literary works depends on the perspectives we bring to them, and now that women–enough to make a difference – are reforming canons are interpreting literature, the landscapes of literary history and the features of individual books have begun to change.

41. The title, best describe the content of the passage, is—
(A) Towards a New Criticism
(B) Modernist Writers and the Search for Equality
(C) The Meaning of Literacy Works
(D) Transforming Literature

42. The author's attitude toward women's reformation of literary canons can best be described as one of—
(A) Skepticism
(B) Endorsement
(C) Indifference
(D) Ambivalence

43. The author quotes James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, and D.H. Lawrence primarily in order to show that—
(A) These were feminist writers
(B) Although well-meaning, they were ineffectual
(C) Modern literature is dependent on the women's movement
(D) The interest in feminist issues is not new

44. According to passage, women are changing literary criticism by—
(A) Nothing instances of hostility between men and women
(B) Studying the works of early twentieth century writers
(C) Reviewing books written by feminists
(D) Seeing literature from fresh points of view

45. The word not describe the meaning of 'emancipation', is—
(A) Freedom (B) Liberation
(C) Restraint (D) Freeing

46. The number of different pizza orders can a customer place, if he has options with 3 different crusts, 2 sauces and 10 different toppings are—
(A) 120 (B) 60
(C) 216 (D) 64

47. Kanika said to her friend that yesterday, I attended the birthday party of the son of the only son-in-law of my mother's mother. How is Kanika related to the man whose birthday party she attended ?
(A) Daughter (B) Mother
(C) Sister (D) Niece

48. The next number in series 2, 3/2, 10/3, 15/4, 26/5, …, is—
(A) $5\frac{5}{6}$ (B) $6\frac{1}{6}$
(C) $7\frac{5}{6}$ (D) $8\frac{5}{6}$

49. The three of the following are alike in a certain way so as to form a similar group. Which one does **not** belong to that group ?
(A) Plant (B) Branch
(C) Root (D) Leaf

50. If the sum of squares of 3 distinct numbers is 1, then the sum of their product taken two at a time, lies in between—
(A) $-\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 (B) $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$
(C) $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 (D) $-\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{2}$

51. The remainder when a number $2851 \times (2862)^2 \times (2873)^3$ is divided by 23, is—
(A) 5 (B) 17
(C) 18 (D) 19

52. The number of zeros at the end of the number obtained, by multiplying the numbers from 1 to 100 will be—
(A) 16 (B) 20
(C) 24 (D) 36

53. A person makes a profit of 20% by selling a article. The percentage change in profit, if he purchased the article at 20% less and sell it 10% more, is—
(A) 50% (B) 8%
(C) 15% (D) 20%

54. The triangle ABC with perimeter 56 and sides BC = $x + 1$, AB = $4x$ and AC = $5(x - 1)$ is of type—
(A) Right angle triangle
(B) Obtuse angle triangle
(C) Equilateral triangle
(D) Isosceles triangle

55. The first bunch of bananas has 1·3 times excess to as many bananas as in the second bunch. If difference of bananas in two bunches is 12, then total number of bananas in two bunches, is—
(A) 46 (B) 40
(C) 63 (D) 92

56. The sum of ages of a father and son is 45 years. Five years ago the product of their ages was four times the father's age at that time. The twice the difference, of father and son's age is—
(A) 72 (B) 45
(C) 90 (D) 54

57. In cyclic quadrilateral WXYZ, the measure of angle Z is 10 more than twice the average of the measures of other three angles. The measure of angle X, is—
(A) 150 (B) 30
(C) 120 (D) 60

58. Brand I solution of sugar syrup has 15% sugar and another brand II, solution has 5% sugar. The quantity in litres of the second solution, must be added to 20 litres of first solution to make a solution of 10%, is—
(A) 5 (B) 10
(C) 15 (D) 20

Directions—(Q. 59–60) Read the information given below and answer the two items that follow—

(i) P, Q, R, S, T and U are six members of a family, each of them are engaged in some different professions *viz.*, Doctor, Lawyer, Professor, Engineer, Pilot and Manager.

(ii) Each of them stay at home on different day of the week, starting from Monday to Saturday.

(iii) The Lawyer, in the family stay at home on Thursday.

(iv) R remains at home on Tuesday.

(v) P is a doctor by profession, does not stay at home on Wednesday and Saturday.

(vi) S is neither the Doctor nor a Professor and remains at home on Friday.

(vii) Q is the Engineer and T is the Manager.

59. Who is the Pilot ?
(A) S
(B) R
(C) U
(D) Can't be determined from given information

60. Which of the following combination is **correct** ?
(A) Pilot-Friday
(B) Lawyer-Tuesday
(C) Professor-Wednesday
(D) Engineer-Thursday

61. The probabilities of four mutually exclusive and exhaustive events A, B, C and D, satisfy the relation—
$2P(A) = 3P(B) = 4P(C) = 6P(D)$
The probability of event C is—
(A) 2/15 (B) 1/5
(C) 4/15 (D) 2/5

62. A student has 1234 marbles. He wants to arrange them in equal number of rows and columns. The minimum number of marbles that he need more for this purpose are—
(A) 62 (B) 9
(C) 3 (D) 1

63. Three persons A, B, C had different amount of money with them. C had an amount equal to the average of their total. A spent half of his money, B spent 2/3 of his money and C spent all of his money. The remaining amount with them is equal to half the amount, B initially have. The percentage of total amount spent by all together, is—
(A) 50% (B) 75%
(C) 80% (D) 90%

Directions—(Q. 64 and 65) Read the information given below and answer the two items that follow—

Five cities A, B, C, D and E are famous for one among : big gardens, rivers, educational institutions, mountains and scents but not in the same order.

(i) A and C has neither educational centers nor have big gardens.
(ii) B and E are not famous for rivers or mountains.
(iii) Scents and rivers have nothing to do with city A.
(iv) D and E are not famous for big gardens and rivers.
(v) D is not famous for educational institutions.

64. The city E is famous for—
(A) Rivers
(B) Big gardens
(C) Educational Institutions
(D) Scents

65. Which of the following city is famous for big gardens ?
(A) D (B) E
(C) C (D) B

Directions—(Q. 66–70) The following 5 items are based on the following passage in English to test the comprehension of English Language and therefore these items do not have Hindi version.

Both plants and animals of many sorts show remarkable changes in form, structure, growth habits and even mode of reproduction in becoming adapted to different climate environment, types of food supply, or mode of living. This divergence in response to evolution is commonly expressed by altering the form and function of some parts or parts of the organism, the original identity of which is clearly discernible. For example, creeping foot of the snail is seen in related marine pteropods to be modified into a flapping organ useful for swimming, and is changed into prehensile arms that bear sectorial disks in the squids and other cephalopods. The limbs of various mammals are modified according to several different modes of life for swift running (cursorial) as in the horse and antelope, for swinging in trees (arboreal) as in the monkeys, for digging (fossorial) as in the moles and gophers, for flying (volant) as in the bats, for swimming (aquatic) as in the seals, whales and dolphins and for other adaptations. The structures or organs that show main change in connection with this adaptive divergence are commonly identified readily as homologous, in spite of great alterations.

66. The most appropriate title for the passage, based on its content, is—
(A) Adaptive Divergence
(B) Evolution
(C) Unusual Structures
(D) Changes in Organs

67. The word that can be best substituted for 'homologous' without substantially changing the author's meaning, is—
(A) Altered
(B) Mammalian
(C) Corresponding
(D) Divergent

68. The creeping foot of the snail is seen in related marine pteropods to be modified into a flapping organ useful for—
(A) Biting
(B) Swinging
(C) Swimming
(D) Jumping

69. The author in this paragraph not provide information on—
(A) Factors causes change in organisms
(B) How are the horse legs related to seals flippers
(C) Limbs of various mammals
(D) Theory of evolution

70. The author's style can best be described as—
(A) Humorous
(B) Patronizing
(C) Esoteric
(D) Objective

Directions—(Q. 71 and 72) In each of the following two items, a statement is followed by some conclusion. Choose the correct answer for the conclusion.

71. **Statement :** After rice, raw cotton, cotton fabrics and carpets are a country's largest foreign exchange earners.
Conclusion : At first rice was country's largest foreign exchange earner. Subsequently it was replaced by raw cotton and cotton fabrics. Now both these commodities have been replaced by carpets.
(A) Definitely true
(B) Probably true
(C) Probably false
(D) Definitely false

72. **Statement** : The exercise has taught me that the silence is part of the spiritual discipline of a votary of truth. Proneness to exaggerate, to suppress or modify the truth willingly or unwillingly is a natural weakness of man and silence is necessary in order to suppress it.
Conclusion : Silence is very essential for spiritual growth. Without silence a man becomes gullible and distorts truth. For the discovery of truth, silence is very essential.

(A) Definitely true
(B) Probably true
(C) Probably false
(D) Definitely false

73. The sum of all four digit numbers obtained by using digits 1, 2, 3 and 4, is—
(A) 100000 (B) 60000
(C) 66600 (D) 66660

74. If average of four numbers is 20 and average of their squares is 500, then average of their products taken two at a time, is—
(A) 450 (B) 475
(C) 550 (D) 650

75. The incomes of A and B are in ratio 4 : 3 and their expenditure are in ratio 5 : 2. If each save ₹ 4,900, the expenses of B, is—
(A) ₹ 1,400 (B) ₹ 1,500
(C) ₹ 1,600 (D) ₹ 1,800

76. On selling an item at ₹ 40 per kg a loss of 10% is incurred. If total loss of the seller is ₹ 80, then weight of items sold in kg, is—
(A) 18 (B) 20
(C) 21 (D) 24

77. A shopkeeper claims to sell items at no profit no loss. If he underweight items 800 gram in place of one kg and adds 20% impurities, then his profit percentage will be—
(A) 20 (B) 30
(C) 50 (D) 55

Directions—(Q. 78–80) Answer the following three items based on five numbers 386, 752, 961, 573 and 839.

78. If in each number the second and the third digits are interchanged, what will be the sum of the first and third digits of the largest number ?
(A) 10 (B) 12
(C) 15 (D) 17

79. If in each number, unit and hundredth placed digits are interchanged, the lowest number so formed is—
(A) 375 (B) 257
(C) 161 (D) 169

80. The number at unit place, of sum of numbers at unit places of given five numbers, is—
(A) 1 (B) 2
(C) 3 (D) 5

81. Read the following two statements and answer the question given below—
Statement I : A and B together complete the work in 10 days.
Statement II : A takes five days more than B to complete the work.
How long would it take A to complete the work ? To answer the question, correct choice, is—
(A) Statement I alone is sufficient, but statement II alone is not sufficient.
(B) Statement II alone is sufficient, but I statement alone is not sufficient.
(C) Both statement I and II together are sufficient.
(D) Each statement alone is sufficient.

82. Four persons A, B, C and D share their prize amount of ₹ 1,00,000 in such a way that four times the A's, three times the B's, two times the C's and D's prize shares are equal. The sum of prize amounts of A and D is—
(A) ₹ 40,000 (B) ₹ 48,000
(C) ₹ 54,000 (D) ₹ 60,000

83. A piece of work can be done by 6 men and 5 women in 6 days or 3 men and 4 women in 10 days. It can be done by 9 men and 15 women in—
(A) 8 days (B) 5 days
(C) 3 days (D) 2 days

84. Suppose B takes 10% less time than A, to cover the same distance. If A walks at a rate of 9 km/h, then the speed of B in m/sec., is—
(A) $2\frac{7}{9}$ (B) $2\frac{1}{9}$
(C) $3\frac{7}{9}$ (D) $5\frac{5}{9}$

85. Two pipes A and B can fill a water tank in 24 minutes and 48 minutes respectively. If both the pipes are opened simultaneously, then after what time the pipe B must be closed so that tank will be filled in 16 minutes ?
(A) 8 (B) 10
(C) 12 (D) 16

86. The smallest number which when increased by 5 is completely divisible by 8, 11 and 24 is—
(A) 243 (B) 259
(C) 289 (D) 303

87. If $x \neq y$ and $(x + y)^2 = (x - y)^2$, then which of the following must be true ?
(A) $x + y = x - y$
(B) $x + y = -(x - y)$
(C) $x = 0$
(D) $xy = 0$

88. Krishna has some hens and goats. If the total number of animal heads are 81 and total number of animal legs are 234, then percentage of hens in total animals is—
(A) 45% (B) 54%
(C) $55\frac{5}{9}$ % (D) 59%

89. The average age of A and B is 20 years. If C were to replace A, average would be 19 and if C were to replace B, the average would be 21. The ages of C, B and A respectively are—
(A) 18, 20, 22 (B) 20, 18, 22
(C) 18, 22, 20 (D) 20, 22, 18

90. Three numbers are such that first is twice the second and is half of the third. If the average of three numbers is 56, the three numbers in order are—
(A) 48, 24, 96 (B) 96, 48, 24
(C) 94, 24, 48 (D) 48, 96, 24

Directions—(Q. 91–95) Below in each item, two statements I and II are given. These statements may be either independent causes or may be effects of independent cause or a common cause. One of these statements may be the effect of the other statement. Read both the statements and decide which of the following answer choice correctly depicts the relationship between two statements. Mark answer :
(A) if statement I is the cause and statement II is its effect.
(B) if statement II is the cause and statement I is its effect.
(C) if both statements I and II are independent causes.
(D) If both statements I and II are effects of independent causes.

91. **Statement I :** A few parents in the locality decided to stop sending their children to school by private vehicles.
Statement II : Two accidents of different private van carrying school children lead to deaths of few and injuries for many children.

92. **Statement I :** A Metro city observed the lowest temperature of the last decade accompanied by heavy fog during the week.
Statement II : Most of the flights from the city were indefinitely delayed causing panic among the passengers.

93. **Statement I :** In last five years the job market has improved for professionally qualified youth.
Statement II : Many youths are not able to get jobs up to their expectations.

94. **Statement I :** During peak hours' roads are overcrowded with vehicles causing traffic jams in most parts of the city.
Statement II : Many automobile companies are planning to launch low price vehicles.

95. **Statement I :** During evening hours' roads are overcrowded with vehicles causing very slow movement of vehicles.
Statement II : Air pollution level in the air has substantially increased in the recent past.

Directions—(Q. 96–100) The following 5 items are based on the following passage in English to test the comprehension of English Language and therefore these items do not have Hindi version.

Observe the dilemma of the fungus : it is a plant, but it possesses no chlorophyll. While all other plants put the sun's energy to work for them, combining the nutrients of ground and air into the body structure, the chlorophyll's fungus must look elsewhere for an energy supply. It finds it in those other plants which, having received their energy free from sun, relinquish it at some point in their cycle either to animals or to fungi.

In this search for energy the fungus has become the earth's major source of rot and decay. Wherever you see mold forming on a piece of bread, or a pile of leaves turning to compost, or a blown-down tree becoming pulp on the ground, you are watching a fungus eating. Without fungus action the earth would be piled high with the dead plant life of past centuries. In fact, certain plants which contains resins that are toxic to fungi will last indefinitely; specimens are redwood, for instance, can still be found resting on the forest floor centuries after having being blown down.

96. The word, best describe the fungus as depicted in the passage, is—
(A) Unevolved
(B) Sporadic
(C) Parasitic
(D) Toxic

97. The passage states all the following about fungi, except—
(A) They are vastly different from other plants
(B) They are poisonous to resin-producing plants
(C) They can't produce their source of energy
(D) They can't live completely apart from other plants

98. The line "you are watching a fungus eating" is best described as—
(A) Contradictory
(B) Erroneous
(C) Ironical
(D) Figurative

99. The author is mainly concerned with—
(A) Describing the actions of fungi
(B) Warning people of the dangers of fungi
(C) Writing an essay on fungi
(D) Explaining the long life of some redwoods

100. The fungus generate energy from—
(A) Sun
(B) Other plants
(C) Redwood
(D) Decay itself

Answers with Hints

1. (C) 2. (B) 3. (B) 4. (D) 5. (C)
6. (D)
7. (C) Let the minimum prize amount = ₹ a

As per question,

$$\frac{7}{2}[2a + (7-1)\,20] = 2100$$

$$2a + 120 = 600$$

$$2a = 480$$

$$a = ₹\,240$$

Then, maximum prize amount

$$= 240 + (7-1)\,20$$

$$= 240 + 120$$

$$= ₹\,360$$

Required answer

$$= \frac{360}{240} = 1{\cdot}5 \text{ times}$$

8. (A) Sum of interior angles of five sided polygon

$$= 180° \times (5-2)$$

$$= 180° \times 3 = 540°$$

Sum of smallest and largest angles

$$= \frac{540°}{(1+2+3+4+5)} \times (1+5)$$

$$= \frac{540°}{15} \times 6 = 216°$$

9. (C) Let rate of interest = R%

Amount to be paid

$$= 10 + \frac{10 \times R \times 11}{100 \times 12}$$

$$= 10 + \frac{11R}{120}$$

Total effective payment

= (₹ 1 + Interest on ₹ 1 for 10 months) + …

= (₹ 1 + Interest on ₹ 1 for 9 months) + …

= (₹ 1 + Interest on ₹ 1 for 1 month) + ₹ 1

$$= 11 + \frac{R(1 + 2 + \ldots\ldots + 10)}{1200}$$

$$= 11 + \frac{R\left(\frac{10 \times 11}{2}\right)}{1200}$$

$$= 11 + \frac{55R}{1200}$$

$$= 11 + \frac{11R}{240}$$

Then, $10 + \frac{11R}{120} = 11 + \frac{11R}{240}$

$$\frac{11R}{120} - \frac{11R}{240} = 1$$

$$\frac{22R - 11R}{240} = 1$$

$$\frac{11R}{240} = 1$$

$$R = \frac{240}{11}$$

$$= 21\frac{9}{11}\ \%$$

10. (A) Let no. of boys in the class $= x$

Then No. of girls $= (65 - x)$

As per question,

$$\frac{80x}{100} + \frac{30(65-x)}{100} = 39$$

$$80x + 1950 - 30x = 3900$$

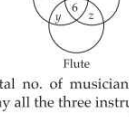
$50x = 1950$

$x = 39$

Required ratio $= 39 : 26$

$= 3 : 2$

For Q. 11 and 12 :



Total no. of musicians who can play all the three instruments

$= 120 \times \frac{5}{100} = 6$

$x + y + z = 30$

11. (C) Total no. of musician who can either play violin alone or flute alone

$= 120 - 30 - 6 - 40$

$= 44$

12. (B) Total no. of musicians who can play one or all three instruments

$= 40 + 6 + 44 = 90$

13. (B) Capacity of tank A

$= 14000$ gallons

Then, capacity of tank B

$= \frac{14000}{70} \times 100$

$= 20000$ gallons

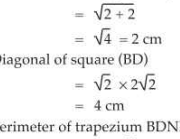
Required difference

$= \left(14000 \times \frac{80}{100}\right) - \left(20000 \times \frac{40}{100}\right)$

$= 11200 - 8000$

$= 3200$ gallons

14. (A) From Δ AMN :



$MN = \sqrt{(\sqrt{2})^2 + (\sqrt{2})^2}$

$= \sqrt{2+2}$

$= \sqrt{4} = 2$ cm

Diagonal of square (BD)

$= \sqrt{2} \times 2\sqrt{2}$

$= 4$ cm

Perimeter of trapezium BDNM

$= 4 + \sqrt{2} + 2 + \sqrt{2}$

$= 6 + 2\sqrt{2}$

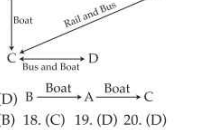
$= 2\left(3 + \sqrt{2}\right)$ cm

15. (C) LCM of 6, 9, 15 and 18 = 90

Least multiple of 7

$90 \times 4 + 4 = 364$

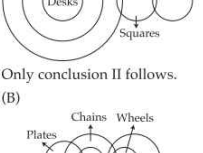
For Q. 16 to 20 :



16. (D) B $\xrightarrow{\text{Boat}}$ A $\xrightarrow{\text{Boat}}$ C

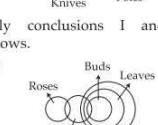
17. (B) 18. (C) 19. (D) 20. (D)

21. (B)



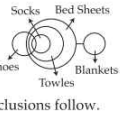
Only conclusion II follows.

22. (B)



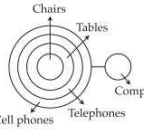
Only conclusions I and III follows.

23. (A)



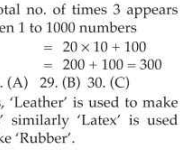
Only conclusion I follows.

24. (D)



All conclusions follow.

25. (C)



Only conclusion III follows.

26. (D) Total no. of times 3 appears between 1 to 1000 numbers

$= 20 \times 10 + 100$

$= 200 + 100 = 300$

27. (D) 28. (A) 29. (B) 30. (C)

31. (B) As, 'Leather' is used to make 'shoes' similarly 'Latex' is used to make 'Rubber'.

32. (A)

33. (D) P Q R **S** | **Q** R S P | R S **P Q** | S P Q **R**

34. (B) Let total no. of players who participated in chess tournament

$= x$

As per question,

$x(x-1) = 272$

$x^2 - x - 272 = 0$

$x^2 - 17x + 16x - 272 = 0$

$x(x-17) + 16(x-17) = 0$

$(x+16)(x-17) = 0$

$x = 17$

35. (A) As,

T	E	M	P	L	E
↓+2	↓+3	↓+4	↓+5	↓+6	↓+7
V	H	Q	U	R	L

Similarly,

S	I	T	A	R	A	M
↓+2	↓+3	↓+4	↓+5	↓+6	↓+7	↓+8
U	L	X	F	X	H	U

36. (B) 37. (C) 38. (C) 39. (B)

40. (C) Let rate of interest charged by first bank = R_1

and rate of interest charged by second bank = R_2

As per question,

$\frac{750 \times 2 \times R_1}{100} - \frac{750 \times 2 \times R_2}{100} = 90$

$15R_1 - 15R_2 = 90$

$15(R_1 - R_2) = 90$

Required difference,

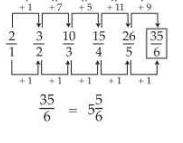
$(R_1 - R_2) = \frac{900}{15} = 6\%$

41. (A) 42. (B) 43. (D) 44. (D) 45. (C)

46. (B) Required number

$= 3 \times 2 \times 10 = 60$

47. (C)



48. (A)

$\frac{35}{6} = 5\frac{5}{6}$

49. (A) Rest of parts of tree.

50. (A) Let 3 distinct numbers are x, y and z

Then, $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$

[So, numbers (x, y, z) lie between -1 and 1)

$\because (x + y + z)^2$

$= x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2(xy + yz + zx)$

As $(x + y + z)^2 > 0$

Then, $1 + 2(xy + yz + zx) > 0$

$(xy + yz + zx) > -\frac{1}{2}$

$\therefore \quad -\frac{1}{2} < (xy + yz + zx) < 1$

51. (C) From remainder theorem

$$= \frac{2851 \times (2862)^2 \times (2873)^2}{23}$$

$$= \frac{22 \times (10 \times 10) \times (21 \times 21 \times 21)}{23}$$

$$= \frac{22 \times 8 \times 15}{23}$$

$$= \frac{2640}{23}$$

Required remainder = 18

52. (C) Required no. of zeros

$$= \frac{100}{5} + \frac{10}{5^2}$$

$$= 20 + 4 = 24$$

53. (D) Let cost price of an article = ₹ 100

Then selling price = ₹ 120

Profit = 120 – 100

= ₹ 20

New cost price = ₹ 80

New selling price $= 80 \times \frac{130}{100}$

= ₹ 104

Profit = 104 – 80

= ₹ 24

Required profit percentage change

$$= \frac{(24 - 20)}{20} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{4}{20} \times 100 = 20\%$$

54. (A) $4x + x + 1 + 5x - 5 = 56$

$10x - 4 = 56$

$10x = 60$

$x = 6$

Then, $AB = 4 \times 6 = 24$

$BC = 6 + 1 = 7$

$AC = 5(6 - 1) = 25$

$7^2 + 24^2 = 25^2$

(From Pythagoras Theorem)

$49 + 576 = 625$

$625 = 625$

So, ΔABC is a right angle triangle.

55. (D) Let no. of bananas in second bunch = x

Then, no. of bananas in first bunches = $1{\cdot}3\,x$

As per question,

$1{\cdot}3x - x = 12$

$0{\cdot}3x = 12$

$x = 40$

Total no. of bananas in both bunch

$= 40 + 40 \times 1{\cdot}3$

$= 40 + 52 = 92$

56. (D) Let age of father = x years and age of son = $(45 - x)$ years

As per question,

$(x - 5)(45 - x - 5) = (x - 5) \times 4$

$40x - x^2 - 200 + 5x = 4x - 20$

$x^2 - 41x + 180 = 0$

$x^2 - 36x - 5x + 180 = 0$

$x(x - 36) - 5(x - 36) = 0$

$(x - 5)(x - 36) = 0$

$x = 36$ years

Age of son = 45 – 36

= 9 years

Twice the difference between father and son's age

$= (36 - 9) \times 2$

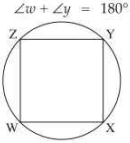
$= 27 \times 2$

$= 54$ years

57. (B) $\because \quad \angle x + \angle z = 180°$

$\angle z = 180° - \angle x$

and $\angle w + \angle y = 180°$



As per question,

$$\angle z = \left(\frac{\angle w + \angle y + \angle x}{3}\right) \times 2 + 10°$$

$$180° - \angle x = \left(\frac{180° + \angle x}{3}\right) \times 2 + 10°$$

$540° - 3\angle x = 360° + 2\angle x + 30°$

$5\angle x = 540° - 360° - 30°$

$5\angle x = 150°$

$\angle x = 30°$

58. (D) Let x litres of second solution must be added to 20 litres of first solution

As per question,

$$\frac{\left(20 \times \frac{15}{100}\right) + \left(x + \frac{5}{100}\right)}{20 + x} \times 100 = 10$$

$300 + 5x = 200 + 10x$

$5x = 100$

$x = 20$ litres

For Q. 59 and 60

Day	Person	Professions
Monday	P	Doctor
Tuesday	R	Professor
Wednesday	Q/T	Engineer/Manager
Thursday	U	Lawyer
Friday	S	Pilot
Saturday	Q/T	Engineer/Manager

59. (A) 60. (A)

61. (B) Let $2P(A) = 3P(B) = 4P(C) = 6P(D) = K$

$P(A) = \frac{K}{2}$,

$P(B) = \frac{K}{3}$,

$P(C) = \frac{K}{4}$,

$P(D) = \frac{K}{6}$

Ratio $= \frac{K}{2} : \frac{K}{3} : \frac{K}{4} : \frac{K}{6}$

$= 6 : 4 : 3 : 2$

Probability of event C

$$= \frac{3}{(6 + 4 + 3 + 2)}$$

$$= \frac{3}{15} = \frac{1}{5}$$

62. (A)

	36
3	1234
+ 3	9
66	334
6	396

Required minimum no. of marbles

$= 396 - 334 = 62$

63. (B) Let amount of three persons A, B and C are ₹ x, ₹ y and ₹ z respectively

As per question,

$$z = \frac{x + y + z}{3}$$

$3z = x + y + z$

$x + y = 2z$

and amount spent by all three persons

$$= \frac{x}{2} + \frac{2y}{3} + z$$

Remaining amount with them

$$\frac{x}{2}+\frac{y}{3}=\frac{y}{2}$$

$$\frac{x}{2}=\frac{y}{2}-\frac{y}{3}$$

$$\frac{x}{2}=\frac{3y-2y}{6}$$

$$\frac{x}{2}=\frac{y}{6}$$

$$\frac{x}{y}=\frac{1}{3}$$

Then, $1+3=2z$

$$z=\frac{4}{2}=2$$

Percentage of total amount spent by all together

$$=\frac{\left\{\frac{1}{2}+3\times\frac{2}{3}+2\right\}}{(1+3+2)}\times 100$$

$$=\frac{(0{\cdot}5+2+2)}{6}\times 100$$

$$=\frac{4{\cdot}5}{6}\times 100$$

$$=75\%$$

For Q. 64 to 65

City	Famous
A	Mountains
B	Big Garden
C	Rivers
D	Scents
E	Educational Institutions

64. (C) 65. (D) 66. (A) 67. (C) 68. (C)
69. (D) 70. (D) 71. (D) 72. (A)
73. (D) Total no. of ways $= 4! = 24$
Frequency of each digit which comes at unit place, tens place, hundred place and thousand place

$$=\frac{24}{4}=6$$

$\therefore$ Sum of digits which comes at unit place
$= 6(1+2+3+4)$
$= 6\times 10 = 60$
Sum of all four digits numbers
$= 60\times 1000 + 60\times 100 + 60\times 10 + 60$
$= 60000 + 6000 + 600 + 60$
$= 66660$
74. (*)
75. (A) Let income of A and B are ₹ $4x$ and ₹ $3x$ respectively
and their expenses are ₹ $5y$ and ₹ $2y$ respectively
As per question,

$$4x-5y=4900 \quad \ldots(1)$$

$$3x-2y=4900 \quad \ldots(2)$$

On solving equ. 1 and 2

$$x=2100$$

and $y=700$

Expenses of B $= 2\times 700$
$= ₹\ 1400$

76. (A) Loss incurred on selling an item

$$=\frac{40}{90}\times 100-40$$

$$=\frac{400}{9}-40$$

Weight of sold items $=\dfrac{80}{\frac{40}{9}}$

$$=2\times 9$$
$$=18\text{ kg}$$

77. (C) Profit when shopkeeper under weights the item's weight

$$=\frac{(1000-800)}{800}\times 100$$

$$=\frac{200}{800}\times 100=25\%$$

Required profit percentage

$$=25+20+\frac{25\times 20}{100}$$

$$=45+5=50\%$$

78. (C) New arrangement of numbers
368, 725, 916, 537, 893
Largest number $= 916$
Required sum $= 9+6=15$
79. (D) New arrangement of numbers
683, 257, 169, 375, 938
80. (A) Sum of unit digits
$= 6+2+1+3+9=21$
Required digit $= 1$
81. (C)
82. (D) Given that

$$4A=3B=2C=D$$

Then, $A=\dfrac{D}{4}$,

$B=\dfrac{D}{3}$,

$C=\dfrac{D}{2}$

and $D=\dfrac{D}{1}$

$$A:B:C:D=\frac{D}{4}:\frac{D}{3}:\frac{D}{2}:\frac{D}{1}$$

$$=3:4:6:12$$

Sum of prize amounts of A and D

$$=\frac{100000}{(3+4+6+12)}\times(3+12)$$

$$=\frac{100000}{25}\times 15=₹\ 60000$$

83. (C) Given that

$$6M+5F=6 \quad \ldots(1)$$

$$3M+4F=10 \quad \ldots(2)$$

Then, $36M+30F=30M+40F$

$$6M=10F$$

$$1M=\frac{5}{3}F$$

From equation 1—

$$6M+5F=10F+5F=15F$$

and $9M+15F=9\times\dfrac{5}{3}F+15F$

$$=30F$$

Required no. of days

$$=\frac{15\times 6}{30}=3\text{ days}$$

84. (A) Let B's speed $= y$ m/sec and time taken by A to cover the distance $= x$ sec
As per question,

$$9\times\frac{5}{18}\times x=y\times 0{\cdot}9\,x$$

$$y=\frac{50}{18}=\frac{25}{9}$$

$$=2\frac{7}{9}\text{ m/sec}$$

85. (D) Let after x minutes the pipe B must be closed
As per question,

$$\frac{16}{24}+\frac{x}{48}=1$$

$$\frac{32+x}{48}=1$$

$$x=48-32$$
$$=16\text{ min}$$

86. (B) LCM of 8, 11 and 24
$= 2\times 2\times 2\times 3\times 11$
$= 264$
Required smallest number
$= 264-5=259$
87. (D) $(x+y)^2=(x-y)^2$

$$x^2+y^2+2xy=x^2+y^2-2xy$$

$$4xy=0$$

$$xy=0$$

88. (C) Let total no. of hens $= x$
Then, total no. of goats $= (81-x)$
As per question,

$$2x+4(81-x)=234$$

$$2x+324-4x=234$$

$$324-2x=234$$

$$2x=90$$

$$x=45$$

Percentage of hens in total animals

$$=\frac{45}{81}\times 100$$

$$=\frac{500}{9}=55\frac{5}{9}\%$$

Continued on Page 150

Solved Paper

CHHATTISGARH P.S.C. (Pre.) EXAM., 2018

(Held on 17-2-2019)

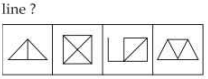
Aptitude Test

Paper-II

Directions—(Q. 1–6) Study the following and answer the questions.

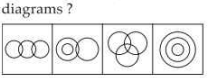
JY2–S£dEGM:7$HP9KLb@WQ13#CD©

1. How many such letters are there each of which is followed by a number or preceded by a number but not both ?
   (A) Four (B) Three
   (C) Two (D) One
2. How many English numerals are there in this arrangement ?
   (A) 7 (B) 5
   (C) 2 (D) 0 (None)
3. How many symbols represent the currencies of some countries ?
   (A) None (B) One
   (C) Two (D) Three
4. How many such symbols are there each of which is followed by a number or preceded by a letter but not both ?
   (A) Zero (B) One
   (C) Two (D) Three
5. 2YS is related to Ed£ in the same way as PHK is related to—
   (A) bQd (B) @bL
   (C) WQE (D) @bQ
6. How many such digits are there each of which is followed by a symbol or preceded by a letter but not both ?
   (A) Zero
   (B) One
   (C) Two
   (D) None of these
7. Which of the following figures can be drawn without lifting the pencil and without repeating a line ?



1 2 3 4

   (A) Only 1 and 3
   (B) Only 2 and 4
   (C) Only 1 and 2
   (D) Only 1, 3 and 4
8. The missing letters in the following letter series in order are—
   b_ _hj_n_rt
   (A) bcim (B) cfgo
   (C) dfgp (D) dflp
9. The value of
   $\frac{112}{\sqrt{196}} \times \frac{\sqrt{576}}{12} \times \frac{\sqrt{256}}{8}$ is—
   (A) 32 (B) 36
   (C) 28 (D) 24
10. The value of
    $\left(1-\frac{1}{3}\right)\left(1-\frac{1}{4}\right)\left(1-\frac{1}{5}\right)\ldots\left(1-\frac{1}{n}\right)$
    is—
    (A) $\frac{1}{n}$ (B) $\frac{2}{n}$
    (C) $\frac{2(n-1)}{n}$ (D) $\frac{2}{n(n+1)}$
11. Complete the following—
    YBV, TGT, OLR, JQP, ...
    (A) EVO (B) FVM
    (C) EVN (D) FVN
12. All Saturday and Sunday are holidays in a month. If the month is January, then how many total holidays are there in that month ?
    (A) 8
    (B) 9
    (C) 10
    (D) Incomplete information
13. Which diagram shows district, state and country in following diagrams ?

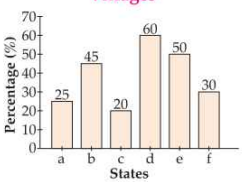


(A) (B) (C) (D)

14. At which time the hands of clock will meet together between 1 and 2 O'clock ?
    (A) 1 : 30 (B) $1 : 5\frac{5}{11}$
    (C) $1 : 10\frac{8}{11}$ (D) $1 : 10\frac{7}{10}$
15. If $\sqrt{3^n} = 81$, then $n = ?$
    (A) 81 (B) 9
    (C) 8 (D) 6

Directions—(Q. 16–20) Study the graph given below and then give the answer to the questions based on them.

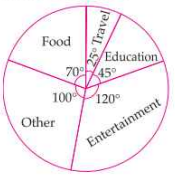
Percentage of Non-electrified Villages



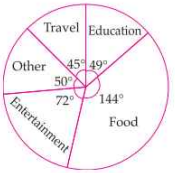
16. In which state percentage of electrified villages is double in comparison with state d ?
    (A) c (B) f
    (C) a (D) b
17. How many percentage of villages have electrified in state a ?
    (A) 65 (B) 25
    (C) 35 (D) 75
18. In which state percentage of electrified village is maximum ?
    (A) a (B) b
    (C) c (D) d
19. If Central Government decided to help immediate electrification and started from the state having minimum electrified villages, then which state will be fourth in preferential order ?
    (A) c (B) b
    (C) a (D) f

20. In how many states electrification of the villages have been completed atleast 60% or above ?
(A) Five (B) Three
(C) Four (D) Two

Directions—(Q. 21–25) The following charts shows the expenditures on different items of people of two countries (India and Nepal). Study them and find the correct answer of the questions given below—



Nepal



India

21. What is the ratio of expenditure on travel of Indian people and expenditure on travel of Nepal people ?
(A) 9 : 5 (B) 2 : 5
(C) 5 : 3 (D) 3 : 4

22. If the expenditure on education is ₹ 22 lakhs 50 thousand of Nepal people, then how much their expenditure is on entertainment ?
(A) ₹ 65 lakhs 30 thousands
(B) ₹ 50 lakhs 60 thousands
(C) ₹ 60 lakhs
(D) ₹ 10 lakhs 20 thousands

23. How many times is the expenditure of India to expenditure of Nepal on food ?
(A) More than half
(B) Less than half
(C) Less than two times
(D) More than two times

24. How much more is the percentage of total expenditure on entertainment in comparison to food of the people in Nepal ?
(A) 62·4%
(B) 71·5%
(C) 41·7%
(D) None of these

25. What is the approximate percentage of expenditure on other items of Indian people ?
(A) 22% (B) 14%
(C) 9% (D) 17%

26. On selling an article at ₹ 2,700 the loss is the same as the profit if it was sold on 10% profit, then what is the cost price of the article ?
(A) ₹ 2,700 (B) ₹ 3,000
(C) ₹ 3,300 (D) ₹ 3,600

27. The area of a rectangular field is 15 times the sum of its length and breadth. If its length is 40 metres, then what is the breadth of the field ?
(A) 20 metres
(B) 24 metres
(C) 25 metres
(D) Data is not sufficient

28. If an amount is doubled in three years at a given ratio of compound interest, then at the same rate of compound interest in how many years it will become sixteen times ?
(A) 24 years (B) 16 years
(C) 8 years (D) 12 years

29. The weight of a bucket full of water is 20 kg. If the bucket is half filled with water, then its weight is 14 kg. How many kg is the weight of empty bucket ?
(A) 6 kg (B) 7 kg
(C) 10 kg (D) 8 kg

30. Two pipes can fill a cistern in 2 and 3 hours respectively. If both the pipes are opened together, then the time taken to fill the cistern is—
(A) 2 hours 30 minutes
(B) 5 hours
(C) 50 minutes
(D) 1 hours 12 minutes

31. A train of length 250 metre crosses a pole in 12 seconds. How many kilometres/hour is the speed of the train ?
(A) 60 (B) 80
(C) 75 (D) 50

Directions—(Q. 32–34) The examination results of two schools A and B is given in the table below. Answer the following questions—

Class	School A		School B	
	Appeared	Pass	Appeared	Pass
IX	130	—	90	50
X	—	160	110	80
XI	160	150	—	105
XII	140	135	110	—
Total	630	550	430	340

32. How many per cent of the total number of students of both the school are pass ?
(A) 90·0 (B) 87·4
(C) 83·9 (D) 93·2

33. The number of passed students of Class X from both the school is—
(A) 310 (B) 255
(C) 250 (D) 240

34. Average of passed students of class IX and class X of school A is—
(A) 150·6 (B) 155·0
(C) 70·0 (D) 132·5

Directions—(Q. 35 and 36) In a certain code language :
(i) Pit dar na means you are good
(ii) dar tok pa means good and bad
(iii) tim na tok means they are bad

35. Which of the following statements may be removed in order to find the answer of the above question ?
(A) only (i)
(B) only (ii)
(C) either (i) or (ii)
(D) either (ii) or (iii)

36. Which code is used for 'they' in this language ?
(A) na (B) tok
(C) tim (D) pit

37. Prachi starting from place A towards east upto place B covered a distance of 10 feets, then she turned right and moved 3 feets, again she turned right and moved 14 feets. At how much distance from place A is she ?
(A) 4 feets (B) 5 feets
(C) 27 feets (D) 24 feets

38. If 5th January, 2012 was Monday, then which was the day on 31st March, 2013 ?
(A) Sunday
(B) Monday
(C) Tuesday
(D) None of these

39. If A means +, D means ÷, P means × and S means –, then 68A48D2S 8P10 = ?
(A) 46 (B) 64
(C) 12 (D) 500

Directions—(Q. 40-42)

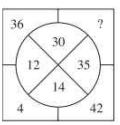
(i) A wooden cuboid has length 4 cm, breadth 3 cm and height 5 cm.
(ii) Opposite sides of 5 cm × 4 cm are coloured red.
(iii) Opposite sides of 4 cm × 3 cm are coloured blue.
(iv) Remaining two sides are coloured green.
(v) The cuboid is cut-off to divide into cubes of 1 cm × 1 cm × 1 cm.

40. How many cubes will have only one colour ?
(A) 12 (B) 16
(C) 22 (D) 28

41. How many cubes will have all the three colours ?
(A) 14 (B) 12
(C) 10 (D) 8

42. How many cube will have no colour ?
(A) Nil (B) 6
(C) 4 (D) 2

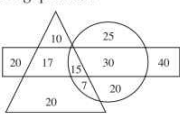
43. The correct number at the place of question mark is—



(A) 4 (B) 25
(C) 36 (D) 10

44. Four options are given. There is similarity in three excluding one. Find the option which differs—
(A) To hear (B) To climb
(C) To swim (D) To run

Directions—(Q. 45–47) Read the diagram given below. Choose the answer from the given options of the following questions—



Δ = No. of persons who drink tea
O = No. of persons who drink coffee
□ = No. of persons who drink wine

45. Number of those persons who drink only coffee—
(A) 25 (B) 45
(C) 20 (D) 90

46. Number of those persons who drink tea and coffee both—
(A) 7 (B) 17
(C) 20 (D) 25

47. Number of those persons who drink all, tea, coffee and wine—
(A) 15 (B) 32
(C) 22 (D) 24

48. **Direction :** Two arguments are given after a statement, you have to decide which argument is strong and which argument is weak.
Statement : Should the complete education for women and girls of all the age groups to be given free of cost in India ?
Argument I : No, it will weaken our present social structure.
Argument II : Yes, it only is way to regain the glory of Indian women.
(A) Only Argument I is strong.
(B) Only Argument II is strong.
(C) Either Argument I or Argument II is strong.
(D) Neither Argument I nor Argument II is strong.

49. The number $6n^2 + 6n$, where n is a natural number, is always divisible by—
(A) 18 (B) 12
(C) 6 (D) 6 and 12

50. Which of the following is odd one ?
12th January, 23rd January, 30th January, 5th September, 14th November.
(A) 23rd January
(B) 30th January
(C) 5th September
(D) 14th November

Directions—(Q. 51–54) Read the following information carefully and answer the questions—

Ajay, Avinash, Amit, Alok, Arun, Anil and Akhil are seven friends. They are studying engineering in different branches such as Mechanical, Chemical, Electronics, Computer Science, Information Technology, Biotech and Electrical not necessarily in the same order. Each of them also excel in one of the following games such as Football, Cricket, Hockey, Badminton, Squash, Volleyball and Lawn Tennis, again not necessarily in the same order. Amit plays Hockey and neither studies Electrical nor Information Technology. Arun studies Electronics and plays Volleyball. Ajay studies Biotech and does not play either Football or Squash. The one who studies Chemical plays Cricket. The one who plays Football studies Computer Science. Anil plays Squash. Akhil plays Badminton and studies Electrical Alok does not study Chemical.

51. What does Avinash study ?
(A) Chemical
(B) Information Technology
(C) Mechanical
(D) Electrical

52. Who plays Football ?
(A) Avinash (B) Arun
(C) Alok (D) Ajay

53. What does Anil study ?
(A) Chemical
(B) Information Technology
(C) Mechanical
(D) Computer Science

54. Which of the following game does Ajay play ?
(A) Cricket
(B) Football
(C) Badminton
(D) Lawn Tennis

55. Two fair dice are thrown independently by a player and needs a total of 5 to win the game. What will be his probability of winning the game ?
(A) $\frac{2}{3}$ (B) $\frac{1}{3}$
(C) $\frac{1}{5}$ (D) $\frac{1}{9}$

56. A plot of size 3 m × 2 m is dug upto depth of 1 m. The soil taken out was used to form a boundary of the said plot to a height of $\frac{1}{2}$ m with uniform thickness of the boundary, then the thickness of the boundary will be–
(A) $\frac{1}{2}$ m
(B) $\frac{3}{2}$ m

(C) $\frac{2}{3}$ m

(D) None of these

57. In a circle of radius a, the square of maximum size is drawn. Then the ratio of area of circle and the area of square will be—

(A) π

(B) $\frac{\pi}{2}$

(C) $\frac{2}{\pi}$

(D) None of these

58. From a circular plate of radius 5 cm, a disc of 3 cm radius was cut, whose centre is the same point as of plate. Now, have two items a disc and a washer. Find the ratio of area of disc with washer—

(A) $\frac{5}{3}$ (B) $\frac{1}{3}$

(C) $\frac{9}{16}$ (D) $\frac{16}{9}$

59. Find two numbers such that the difference between, square of their sum and sum of squares is 2—

(A) Only imaginary numbers

(B) No numbers

(C) One number positive and other negative

(D) None of these

60. How many pairs of natural numbers lying below 50 will satisfy the condition that the ratio of their difference to their sum is 2 : 7 ?

(A) 3

(B) 2

(C) 1

(D) None of these

61. Ram, Shyam and Hari can do a piece of work in 30, 45 and 60 days respectively. If they do the work together and earn ₹ 7,800, then what amount Ram will receive ?

(A) ₹ 3,800 (B) ₹ 3,600

(C) ₹ 3,400 (D) ₹ 3,200

62. A train with speed 40 km/hr crosses a man, moving in same direction of speed 25 km/hr in 48 seconds. What will be the length of train ?

(A) 50 metre (B) 100 metre

(C) 200 metre (D) 400 metre

63. Which number will appear in following square ?

3, 2, 9, 4, □, 8, 81, 16

(A) 27 (B) 21

(C) 18 (D) 15

64. Which of the following is an example of one-way communication ?

(A) A television programme

(B) A classroom situation

(C) A conference

(D) A meeting on an issue

65. Consider the following statements—

(i) A team leader need skill to assess strength and weaknesses of team members.

(ii) A tea leader need skill to develop specific individual goals and to establish a common goal for the team.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct ?

(A) Only (i)

(B) Only (ii)

(C) Both (i) and (ii)

(D) Neither (i) nor (ii)

66. चन्द्रमा का पर्यायवाची शब्द है–

(A) प्रभाकर (B) विश्वम्भर

(C) मधुकर (D) कलाधर

67. 'उपसर्ग' का विलोम शब्द है–

(A) उपादान (B) प्रत्यय

(C) अमंगल (D) विरक्त

68. 'कमल' का पर्यायवाची शब्द नहीं है–

(A) अरविंद (B) राजीव

(C) गिरीश (D) नीरज

69. 'ए' स्वर का प्रकार है–

(A) ह्रस्व स्वर (B) दीर्घ स्वर

(C) मूल स्वर (D) संयुक्त स्वर

70. निम्नलिखित में से 'तत्सम' शब्द है–

(A) घोटक (B) कपूत

(C) कोयल (D) धरम

71. 'एक तो करेला, दूजे नीम चढ़ा' लोकोक्ति का अर्थ है–

(A) करेले की बेल नीम पर चढ़ाई जाती है.

(B) करेले और नीम पास-पास उगते हैं

(C) गुणी की अच्छी संगत में पड़कर और गुणवान हो जाना

(D) बुरे का बुरी संगत में पड़कर और बुरा हो जाना

72. कौनसा शब्द सही है ?

(A) उज्ज्वल (B) उज्वल

(C) उज्जवल (D) उत्ज्वल

73. संधि-विच्छेद सही नहीं है–

(A) दुस्संधि – दुः + संधि

(B) कोऽपि – कः + अपि

(C) लम्बोष्ठ – लम्ब + ओष्ठ

(D) पावक – पो + अक

74. निम्नांकित में से शुद्ध रूप है–

(A) अंजली (B) कालीदास

(C) श्राप (D) अहल्या

75. 'आँख उठाकर न देखना' का सही अर्थ है–

(A) पलकें बंद रखना

(B) आँख न खोलना

(C) उपेक्षा करना

(D) तपस्या करना

76. छत्तीसगढ़ी लोकोक्ति को पूरा कीजिए–
खनिस-खपटिस पथरा, पाइस .....

(A) कोलिहा (B) छुछुवा

(C) मुसुवा (D) लमहा

77. 'बहादुर होने का दावा करना' के लिए छत्तीसगढ़ी मुहावरा क्या है ?

(A) छाती पीटना

(B) छाती फूलना

(C) छाती भरना

(D) छाती देखाना

78. छत्तीसगढ़ी मुहावरे में रिक्त स्थान की पूर्ति कीजिए–
पइसा-पइसा बर .....

(A) भरना (B) जीना

(C) रोना (D) तरसना

79. 'मोहित करना' के लिए छत्तीसगढ़ी मुहावरा क्या है ?

(A) मन हरियाना

(B) मन ला बोधना

(C) मन लेना

(D) मन ला राखना

80. छत्तीसगढ़ी लोकोक्ति में रिक्त स्थान की पूर्ति कीजिए–
लकड़हा डबरा म कनवा .....

(A) कोकड़ा (B) कौआ

(C) परेवा (D) मैना

81. छत्तीसगढ़ी लोकोक्ति के रिक्त स्थान की पूर्ति कीजिए–
हपटे बन के पथरा, फोरे घर के .....

(A) सील (B) लोढ़ा

(C) पीढ़ा (D) बेलना

82. छत्तीसगढ़ी लोकोक्ति के रिक्त स्थान की पूर्ति कीजिए–
कनवा-खोरवा बड़ा उपाई, ... मा चघके बन्दूक चलाई.

(A) सीढ़िया (B) छानी

(C) ऑट (D) दुवारी

83. 'छत्तीसगढ़ी का सम्पूर्ण व्याकरण' नामक ग्रन्थ में डॉ. विनय कुमार पाठक के साथ सहलेखक कौन है ?
(A) डॉ. विनोद कुमार वर्मा
(B) डॉ. विमल कुमार पाठक
(C) राघवेन्द्र दुबे
(D) विवेक तिवारी

84. छत्तीसगढ़ी लोकोक्ति के रिक्त स्थान की पूर्ति कीजिए–
राजा नलल विपत परिस तौ भूजे मछरी ..... म कूदिस.
(A) डबरा (B) तरिया
(C) नदिया (D) दहरा

85. छत्तीसगढ़ी जनउला का उत्तर दीजिए–
पानी के भीतर काँस के लोटा.
(A) सूर्य (B) चंद्रमा
(C) अंडा (D) नारियल

86. छत्तीसगढ़ी राजभाषा दिवस की तिथि बतलाइए–
(A) 28 नवम्बर (B) 14 अगस्त
(C) 21 फरवरी (D) 14 सितम्बर

87. 'डंडा' शब्द का बहुवचन क्या होगा ?
(A) डंडे
(B) डंडा
(C) डंडा मन
(D) बहुत सारे डंडे

88. 'निरोग' शब्द का विशेषण (छत्तीसगढ़ी) शब्द बनाइए–
(A) निरोकुल (B) निररोग
(C) निरोगिल (D) निरोगुल

89. 'बिछुवा' का अर्थ क्या है ?
(A) बिछिया (B) बिजहा
(C) बिच्छू (D) छूरी

90. निम्नलिखित में से कौनसा देशज उपसर्ग है ?
(A) कठ (B) बद
(C) अइन (D) सर

91. 'गुरतुर' में कौनसा प्रत्यय है ?
(A) उर (B) तुर
(C) ऊर (D) रतुर

92. 'टेहों' या 'टेहर्रा' किस पक्षी का नाम है ?
(A) नीलकंठ (B) मयूर
(C) तोता (D) बुलबुल

93. 'जनउला' का अर्थ क्या है ?
तनक से फुदकी फुदकत जाय,
नौ से औड़वा पारत जाय ।
(A) चाकू (B) चिमटी
(C) करछूल (D) सुई

94. छत्तीसगढ़ी में क्रियाविशेष शब्द है–
(A) चुटर्री (B) चुप्पा
(C) चुपेचाप (D) चुरपुर

95. निम्नलिखित में से कौनसा व्यंजन छत्तीसगढ़ी में अर्धस्वर है ?
(A) प् (B) र्
(C) य् (D) ल्

96. छत्तीसगढ़ी जनउला 'एक चिरई अइसा, पूछी मा दू पइसा' का क्या अर्थ है ?
(A) नीलकंठ (B) कोयल
(C) कबूतर (D) मयूर

97. 'विचार सीमित होना' के लिए छत्तीसगढ़ी मुहावरा क्या है ?
(A) कोइला होना
(B) कोचई-कांदा होना
(C) कोंदा होना
(D) कोरी-खरिखा होना

98. 'नपल्ली' क्या है ?
(A) मच्छर (B) मक्खी
(C) जोंक (D) छिपकिली

99. किस कवयित्री के प्रथम काव्य-संग्रह 'मोर अंगना के फूल' (2012) को विमर्श के साथ प्रकाशित छत्तीसगढ़ी काव्य-संग्रह की प्रथम कृति माना गया है ?
(A) शकुंतला शर्मा
(B) सरला शर्मा
(C) बसंती वर्मा
(D) अनुसूया अग्रवाल

100. 'तिरस्कृत होना' के लिए छत्तीसगढ़ी मुहावरा क्या है ?
(A) अघोरी होना
(B) अक्कल मा गोबर भरना
(C) अघा जाना
(D) अटर्रा होना

Answers with Hints

1. (B) 2. (D) 3. (C) 4. (D) 5. (B)
6. (D) 7. (D) 8. (D)

9. (A) $\frac{112}{\sqrt{196}} \times \frac{\sqrt{576}}{12} \times \frac{\sqrt{256}}{8}$

$= \frac{112}{14} \times \frac{24}{12} \times \frac{16}{8}$

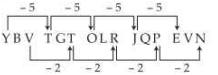
$= 8 \times 2 \times 2 = 32$

10. (B) $? = \left(1-\frac{1}{3}\right)\left(1-\frac{1}{4}\right)\left(1-\frac{1}{5}\right) \ldots\ldots \left(1-\frac{1}{n}\right)$

$? = \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{4}{5} \ldots\ldots \frac{(n-1)}{n}$

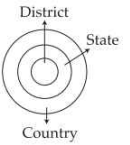
$? = \frac{2}{n}$

11. (C)



12. (D) The information about year is not given.

13. (D)



14. (B)

15. (C) $\sqrt{3^n} = 81$

$3^n = (81)^2$

$3^n = 3^8$

$\therefore \quad n = 8$

16. (A) 17. (D) 18. (C) 19. (D) 20. (B)
21. (A) 22. (C) 23. (D) 24. (D) 25. (B)

26. (B) Let the cost price of the article is ₹ x, then as per question—

$\frac{(x-2700)}{x} \times 100 = 10$

$100x - 270000 = 10x$

$90x = 270000$

$x = \frac{270000}{90}$

$x = 3000$

27. (B) As per question

$(L + B) \times 15 = L \times B$

$(40 + B) \times 15 = 40B$

$600 + 15B = 40B$

$25B = 600$

$B = 24$ metres

28. (D) 29. (D)

30. (D) Required time

$= \frac{2 \times 3}{2+3}$ hour

$= \frac{6}{5}$ hour

$= \frac{6}{5} \times 60$ minutes

$= 72$ minutes

$= 1$ hour 12 minutes

31. (C) Speed of train $= \frac{250}{12}$ m/s

$= \frac{250}{12} \times \frac{18}{5}$ km/hour

$= 75$ km/hour

For Q. 32 to 34 :

- Appeared in exam from school A (X)
  $= 630 - (130 + 160 + 140)$
  $= 630 - 430 = 200$
- Passed in exam from school B (IX)
  $= 550 - (160 + 150 + 135)$
  $= 550 - 445 = 105$
- Appeared in exam from school B (XI)
  $= 430 - (90 + 110 + 110)$
  $= 430 - 310 = 120$
- Passed in exam from school B(XII)
  $= 340 - (50 + 80 + 105)$
  $= 340 - 235 = 105$

32. (C) Required %
$$= \frac{(550+340)}{(630+430)} \times 100\%$$
$$= \frac{890}{1060} \times 100\% = 83{\cdot}9\%$$

33. (D) Required number
$= 160 + 80 = 240$

34. (D) Required average
$$= \frac{105+160}{2}$$
$$= \frac{265}{2} = 132{\cdot}5$$

35. (A) 36. (C) 37. (B) 38. (D)

39. (C) $? = 68 + 48 \div 2 - 8 \times 10$
$= 68 + 24 - 80$
$= 92 - 80 = 12$

40. (C) 41. (D) 42. (B) 43. (D) 44. (A)
45. (B) 46. (A) 47. (A) 48. (D) 49. (D)
50. (B) 51. (A) 52. (C) 53. (B) 54. (D)
55. (D) 56. (D) 57. (B)

58. (C) Area of Washer
$= \pi R^2 - \pi r^2$
$= \pi[5^2 - 3^2]$
$= \pi \times 8 \times 2$
$= 16\pi$ sq. cm
Area of circle $= \pi r^2$
$= 9\pi$ sq. cm
$$\text{Ratio} = \frac{9\pi}{16\pi} = \frac{9}{16}$$

59. (D) 60. (A)

61. (B) Ratio of work done by Ram, Shyam and Hari
$$= \frac{1}{30} : \frac{1}{45} : \frac{1}{60}$$
$= 6 : 4 : 3$
Ram will receive the required amount
$$= \frac{6}{(6+4+3)} \times 7800$$
$$= \frac{6}{13} \times 7800$$
$= 6 \times 600 = ₹\ 3600$

62. (C) Required length of train
$$= 15 \times \frac{5}{18} \times 20$$
$= 200$ metres

63. (A)

3	2	9	4	27	8	81	16
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
3^1	2^1	3^2	2^2	3^3	2^3	3^4	2^4

64. (A) 65. (C) 66. (D) 67. (B) 68. (C)
69. (D) 70. (A) 71. (D) 72. (A) 73. (D)
74. (D) 75. (C) 76. (B) 77. (D) 78. (D)
79. (B) 80. (A) 81. (A) 82. (B) 83. (A)
84. (D) 85. (A) 86. (A) 87. (B) 88. (C)
89. (D) 90. (A) 91. (B) 92. (A) 93. (D)
94. (C) 95. (C) 96. (D) 97. (B) 98. (D)
99. (C) 100. (D)

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(C) 20% income tax on the annual income more than ₹ 10 lakh, but up to ₹ 30 lakh
(D) 35% income tax on the annual income above ₹ 2 crore

39. Which of the following statements is/are correct about Pradhan Mantri Laghu Vyapari Maandhan Yojana ?
I. It came into force on the 22nd day of July 2019.
II. It was officially launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 12, 2019 in Ranchi.
III. Self-employed and working as shop owners, retail traders, rice mill owners, oil mill owners, workshop owners, commission agents, brokers of real estate, owners of small hotels, restaurants and other Laghu Vyaparis are under the orbit of this scheme.
IV. A Pension Fund has been established by the Central Government for the purposes of this Scheme which is being administered by Life Insurance Corporation of India.
(A) Only III is correct
(B) Only III and IV are correct
(C) I, II, III and IV are correct
(D) Only I and II are correct

40. Which of the following bodies is not being established under the provisions of Consumer Protection (Amendment) Act 2019—
(A) Central Consumer Protection Council
(B) Central Consumer Protection Authority
(C) District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission
(D) State Consumer Protection Authority

Answers with Hints

1. (A) 2. (A) 3. (A) 4. (B) 5. (C)
6. (A) 7. (C) 8. (D) 9. (B) 10. (C)
11. (D) 12. (C) 13. (C) 14. (C) 15. (C)
16. (C)
17. (D) Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora-CITES is an international agreement aimed at ensuring "that trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. Sheesham is widely used in Indian sub continent in the manufacturing of handicrafts and furniture doors in the houses.
18. (B) 19. (A) 20. (B) 21. (B) 22. (A)
23. (B) 24. (C) 25. (A) 26. (C) 27. (A)
28. (C) 29. (D) 30. (A) 31. (D) 32. (A)
33. (B) 34. (A) 35. (D) 36. (B) 37. (B)
38. (C) 39. (C) 40. (D)

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89. (B) $A + B = 20 \times 2 = 40$ years
$B + C = 19 \times 2 = 38$ years
$A + C = 21 \times 2 = 42$ years
Then,
$2(A + B + C) = 40 + 38 + 42$
$$A + B + C = \frac{120}{2} = 60 \text{ years}$$
C's age $= 60 - 40$
$= 20$ years
B's age $= 60 - 42$
$= 18$ years
C's age $= 60 - 38$
$= 22$ years

90. (A) Let three numbers are A, B and C
Given that, $A = 2B$ $B = \frac{A}{2}$
and $A = \frac{C}{2}$ $C = 2A$
Then, $\frac{A+B+C}{3} = 56$
$$A + \frac{A}{2} + 2A = 168$$
$A = 48$
$B = \frac{48}{2} = 24$
and $C = 2 \times 48 = 96$

91. (B) 92. (A) 93. (D) 94. (C) 95. (D)
96. (C) 97. (B) 98. (D) 99. (A) 100. (B)

PDarpan

BIHAR : Multiple Choice Questions

(Based on Economic Survey 2018-19)

1. Consider the following sentences regarding the Health services in Bihar—
   1. As on September 2018, three best districts in terms of health institutions per ten lakh population were—Jamui (1523), Sheikhpura (1512) and Sheohar (1416).
   2. In 2017-18, Khagaria (489), Madhepura (449) and Muzaffarpur (443) are the three districts with the highest average number of outpatients visiting hospitals per day.
   3. As regards doctors, there are now 3146 regular doctors in Bihar, against 7249 sanctioned posts, indicating a high vacancy ratio of 57 per cent.

   Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
   (A) Only 1
   (B) 2 and 3
   (C) 1 and 2
   (D) All of the above

2. Consider the following sentences regarding the literacy rate in Bihar—
   1. The literacy rate in Bihar is low at 61·8 per cent, with male literacy at 71·2 per cent and female literacy at 51·5 per cent (2011 census).
   2. The increase in literacy rate in Bihar was 17·9 percentage points between 2001 and 2011, compared to 10·9 percentage points for the entire country.
   3. The decadal increase of literacy rate in Bihar is not only the highest among all the decadal growth rates in Bihar since 1961, it is also the highest among all the states for the decade 2001-11.

   Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
   (A) 1 and 2 only
   (B) 2 and 3 only
   (C) 2 only
   (D) All of the above

3. Consider the following sentences regarding geography of Bihar—
   1. Located in the eastern part of India, Bihar has an area of 93·6 lakh hectares, accounting for nearly 3 per cent of the country's total geographical area.
   2. During 2018, the annual rainfall received due to the south-west monsoons in Bihar stood at 689·6 mms, which is about 20 per cent less than the long run average rainfall of 848·2 mms.
   3. About 56·55 per cent of the land was under cultivation in Bihar during 2016-17.

   Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
   (A) 1 and 2 only
   (B) 2 and 3 only
   (C) 2 only
   (D) All of the above

4. Consider the following sentences regarding agriculture in Bihar—
   1. Bihar is primarily a cereal economy, with more than 85 per cent of its gross cropped area under cereals.
   2. Bihar has achieved self-sufficiency in foodgrain production.
   3. Among the major cereals, an increasing trend in production can be seen for both maize and rice, registering growth rates of 6·0 and 4·0 per cent respectively, during the last five years.

   Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
   (A) Only 1
   (B) 2 and 3
   (C) 1 and 2
   (D) All of the above

5. A major boon for the vegetable producers of the state is—
   (A) Piedmont Swamp Soil
   (B) The Gangetic alluvial soil
   (C) Terai Soil
   (D) Sand soil

6. Vegetable production in the state constitutes close to 70 per cent of the total horticultural production in the state. Bihar ranks among all the states in terms of vegetable production—
   (A) Fifth (B) Sixth
   (C) First (D) Second

7. Consider the following sentences regarding the Agricultural Road Map III in Bihar—
   1. The establishment of organic corridor is part of the Agricultural Road Map III and it is envisaged to cover around 25,000 acres during the period 2017-22.
   2. For promotion of organic farming, farmers have been identified in villages along river Ganges in the districts of Patna, Nalanda, Bhagalpur, Vaishali, Samastipur, Begusarai, Lakhisarai, Khagaria and Munger.

   Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
   (A) 1 only
   (B) 2 only
   (C) Both 1 and 2
   (D) None of the above

8. In Bihar, the scheme of 'Mukhyamantri Tibra Beej Vistar Yojana' has helped farmers in the field of
   (A) Wheat cultivation
   (B) Paddy cultivation.
   (C) Maize cultivation
   (D) All of above

9. Consider the following sentences regarding Bihar's milk production—
   1. In absolute terms, Bihar's milk production increased to 92·41 lakh tonnes in 2017-18, increasing from 71·97 lakh tonnes in 2013-14.
   2. The major source of milk production in the state are cows which accounted for nearly 58·6 per cent of the total milk production, followed by buffaloes (39·2 per cent) and goat (2·2 per cent).

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 only
(B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

10. Consider the following sentences—
1. Presently, 24 universities are in existence in Bihar.
2. There are also 15 research institutes in Bihar.
3. In 2017, there were 28 engineering colleges in Bihar.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) Only 1
(B) 2 and 3
(C) 1 and 2
(D) All of the above

11. Consider the following sentences regarding Mukhyamantri Alpsankhyak Vidyarthi Protsahan Yojana—
1. Under Mukhyamantri Alpsankhyak Vidyarthi Protsahan Yojana, a sum of ₹ 43·34 crore was sanctioned which has benefited 38,518 students in 2017-18.
2. The Madarsa students passing Fauqania and Maulvi (only female) examination with first division from Bihar State Madarsa Education Board are being covered under this scheme.
3. In 2018-19, an amount of ₹ 33·00 crore has been sanctioned for 29,715 students under the scheme.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) Only 1
(B) 2 and 3
(C) 1 and 2
(D) All of the above

12. Consider the following sentences regarding child population—
1. In Bihar, 48 per cent of the population lies in the age group of 0-18 years.
2. The state accounts for 11 per cent of India's total child population.
3. The state is home to 4·98 crore children.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 2 only
(D) All of the above

13. Consider the following sentences regarding Bihar's economy—
1. Patna, Saran and Nalanda are the three most prosperous districts in Bihar.
2. Kishanganj, Sheohar and Araria are seen to be the three most economically disadvantaged districts in Bihar.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 only
(B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

14. **Directions**—Given below are two statements labelled as Assertion (A) and Reason (R).
Assertion (A) : In 2017-18, Bihar's revenue surplus has increased.
Reason (R) : This increase was due to increases in central grants and its share in the central divisible pool.
In the context of the two statements, which of the following is correct ?
(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) (A) is true but (R) is false
(D) (A) is false but (R) is true

15. **Directions**—Given below are two statements labelled as Assertion (A) and Reason (R)—
Assertion (A) : The public investment on infrastructure in Bihar has increased manifold in the last decade.
Reason (R) : The total developmental expenditure increased to ₹ 97,771 crore in 2017-18
In the context of the two statements, which of the following is correct ?
(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) (A) is true but (R) is false
(D) (A) is false but (R) is true

16. Consider the following sentences regarding agricultural sector in Bihar—
1. Around 74 per cent of the workforce in Bihar depend on agricultural and allied activities for their livelihood (Census of India, 2011).
2. The rich natural resources of the Gangetic plains offer substantial opportunities for high agricultural productivity to enhance the welfare of the rural population.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 only
(B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

17. The total geographical area of 93.6 lakh hectares of Bihar has three distinct agro-climatic zones —North-West, North-East and South. Consider the following sentences regarding agro-climatic zones of Bihar.
1. The North-West zone has 13 districts and the soil here is mostly loam or sandy loam.
3. The North-East zone has 8 districts and the soil here is loam or clay loam.
3. The South zone, having 17 districts and the soil is sandy loam, loam, clay and clay loam.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 and 2
(B) 1 and 3
(C) 1, 2 and 3
(D) None of the above

18. Consider the following sentences—
1. Bihar's agriculture is mainly rainfed, drawing its water resources from south-west monsoons.
2. In Bihar only around 57 per cent of the cultivated area in the state is irrigated.
3. Erratic rainfall and frequent occurrence of droughts and floods pose stress on crop production cycles and yields.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) Only 1
(B) 2 and 3
(C) 1 and 2
(D) All of the above

19. Consider the following sentences regarding Rainfall patterns in Bihar—
1. In 2018, Kishanganj received the highest rainfall of 1358 mms.
2. In 2018, the lowest rainfall was observed in the district of Jehanabad (395 mms).

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) Only 1
(B) 2 and 3
(C) 1 and 2
(D) All of the above

20. Consider the following sentences regarding sugarcane production in Bihar—
1. More than 55 per cent of the total sugarcane production in the state came from the district of West Champaran.
2. Sugarcane yield in Patna district was the highest at 92·14 tonnes per hectare and the lowest in Buxar at 48·83 tonnes per hectare.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) Only 1
(B) 2 and 3
(C) 1 and 2
(D) All of the above

21. Consider the following sentences regarding Horticulture sector in Bihar.
1. The gangetic alluvial soil of Bihar is fertile and helps farmers to produce vegetables at a low cost.
2. Nearly 40 per cent of the total litchi production in the country is from Bihar.
3. Vegetable production in the state constitutes close to 70 per cent of the total horticultural production in the state.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 2 only
(D) All of the above

22. Animal husbandry is one of the key sectors in rural income of Bihar, as it contributes—
(A) One-third of the total rural income
(B) Two-third of the total rural income
(C) One-fifth of the total rural income
(D) One-fourth of the total rural income

23. Consider the following sentences regarding industrial sector in Bihar.
1. Of the total number of industries in operation in India, share of Bihar was only 1·5 per cent in 2015-16.
2. The growth rate of such industries in Bihar was 10 per cent, much higher than the growth rate of 4 per cent at the all-India level.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 only
(B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

24. After Jharkhand received separate statehood, the mining and quarrying activities in Bihar have declined significantly. Consider the following sentences regarding Mining and Quarrying in Bihar.
1. In 2016-17, the state government aimed to raise ₹ 1100 crore revenue from the mining sector.
2. In 2017-18, the mining sector contributed ₹ 1030 crore to the state exchequer, as against the target of ₹ 1350 crore (76·3 per cent).

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 only
(B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

25. Bihar is among few states in India which are rich in historical and religious heritage. This richness of archaeological and religious places attracts thousands of tourists every year to Bihar. Consider the following sentences regarding Tourism in Bihar.
1. To harness the potential of tourism in a systematic manner, the Department of Tourism has identified eight tourism circuits in Bihar, such as Buddhist Circuit, Jain Circuit, Ramayana Circuit, Shiv Shakti Circuit, Sufi Circuit, Sikh Circuit, Gandhi Circuit, and Nature/Wildlife Circuit.
2. Between 2016 and 2017, there has been a growth of 13·4 per cent in the arrival of tourists.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 only
(B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

26. With the vision to increase the capacity of the system to deliver quality skill training and professional knowledge to the youth to enhance their employability, Bihar Skill Development Mission (BSDM) was constituted in—
(A) 2010 (B) 2011
(C) 2013 (D) 2014

27. In the recent past, the state government has invested substantially in the infrastructure sector. This investment is prioritized for—
(A) Transport sectors, specially the road sector
(B) Civil Aviation
(C) Irrigation Infrastructure
(D) Information Technology Infrastructure

28. Consider the following sentences—
1. Bihar was at the sixth position in terms of construction of NH and SH, and at fifth position in the context of other roads.
2. In terms of road density (per 100 square kilometer of area), Bihar was at the third position, after Kerala and West Bengal.
3. As on March 2017, Bihar reported 219 kms of road length per hundred sq. kms of geographical area, much above the all-India figure of only 143 kms.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 2 only
(D) All of the above

29. Consider the following sentences.
1. A total of 43 NHs, measuring 4917 kms, run through Bihar as on September, 2018.
2. As on September 2018, Patna (8·03 per cent), Muzaffarpur (5·28 per cent) and Madhubani (4·8 per cent) were lead districts in terms of share of NH.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 only
(B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

30. There is one Corporation—Bihar State Handloom and Handicraft Corporation—with 6 Regional Handloom Unions located in—
(A) Buxar, Ara, Sasaram, Bhabua, Siwan and Hazipur
(B) Patna, Darbhanga, Katihar, Madhubani, Chapra and Jehanabad
(C) W. Champaran, Sitamarhi, Rohtas, Aurangabad, Purnea and Mokama
(D) Nalanda, Sitamarhi, Siwan, Madhubani, Purnea and Bhagalpur

31. In 2017-18, the top 3 districts in power consumption were—
(A) Darbhanga, Supaul, Motihari
(B) Patna, Gaya and Nalanda
(C) Muzaffarpur, Purnea, Gaya
(D) Sheohar, Arwal and Sheikhpura

32. The total generation capacity of power as on March 2018 for the state was—
(A) 3889 MW
(B) 2831 MW
(C) 5634 MW
(D) 1784 MW

33. Most of Bihar's installed generation capacity is concentrated in—
(A) Hydroelectric Power Plants
(B) Thermal power plants
(C) Nuclear Power Plants
(D) Solar Power Plants

34. Consider the following sentences regarding Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) for Bihar—
1. In Bihar the three districts with the highest MPI are—Araria, Madhepura and Kishanganj.
2. In Bihar three districts with least MPI are—Patna, Siwan and Bhojpur.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 only
(B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

35. The rural development programmes in Bihar collectively cover—
(A) Employment, Housing, Sanitation and Food Security
(B) Employment, Agriculture, Irrigation and Food Security.
(C) Housing, Sanitation and Food Security
(D) Employment and Education

36. JEEVIKA is an initiative of the state government for—
(A) Inclusive growth in rural areas
(B) Poverty alleviation
(C) The Public Distribution System
(D) Disaster Management

37. To improve the economic and social conditions of the rural people, the State Government has been running Bihar Rural Livelihood Project since—
(A) 2007 (B) 2009
(C) 2014 (D) 2017

38. Among the states, the level of urbanisation in Bihar is—
(A) 9·89 per cent
(B) 11·3 per cent
(C) 17·9 per cent
(D) 23·7 per cent

39. Consider the following sentences regarding Level of Urbanisation in Bihar—
1. The state accounts for 8·6 per cent of India's total population, but it has only 3·1 per cent of country's total urban population.
2. Between 1961 and 2011, during a span of half a century, the level of urbanisation in Bihar has increased by only 3·9 percentage points, from 7·4 per cent (1961) to 11·3 per cent (2011).
3. Between 2001 and 2011, the number of towns in Bihar has increased from 130 to 199.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 2 only
(D) All of the above

40. Patna, as the capital city, has maintained its primacy in the state's urban system, as it accounts for—
(A) 24 per cent of state's urban population
(B) 34 per cent of state's urban population
(C) 14 per cent of state's urban population
(D) 44 per cent of state's urban population

41. A new scheme of town beautification plantation in Bihar which has been started by the Department of Environment and Forest from 2014 is—
(A) 'Har Parisar Hara Parisar'
(B) Hariyali
(C) Sahri soundryikaran yozna
(D) The Indira Awaas Yojana

42. Consider the following sentences regarding the demographic profile of Bihar and India—
1. The decadal growth rate of population in Bihar during 2001-11 was as high as 25·1 per cent, compared to only 17·6 per cent for India.
2. The density of population in Bihar (1106 persons/ sq. km.) is much higher in Bihar than in India (382 persons/ sq. km.).
3. Between 2001 and 2011, the urbanisation level in Bihar has increased by only 0·8 per cent, whereas the increase was a substantial 3·4 per cent for the entire country.

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) Only 1
(B) 2 and 3
(C) 1 and 2
(D) All of the above

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Solved Paper

I.B.P.S. BANK SPECIALIST OFFICER (Main) EXAM., 2018

(Held on 18-12-2018)

Reasoning

(Based on Memory)

Directions—(Q. 1–5) Study the following information carefully and answer the given questions—

Seven Women J, K, L, M, N, O and P live on seven different floors of a building, but not necessarily in the same order. Lowermost floor of the building is numbered 1, one above that is numbered 2 and so on till the topmost floor is numbered 7. Each of them likes different brands of clothes *viz.* Puma, Adidas, HR*x*, Fila, Nike, Levi's and Wrogn, but not necessarily in the same order.

J lives on an even numbered floor but not on 4th floor. Only two women live between M and the one who likes Nike. The one who likes HR*x* lives immediately below L. The one who likes Adidas lives on odd numbered floors above M. Neither O nor P, likes Fila. Three women live between L and the one who likes Adidas. The one who likes Puma lives immediately below the one who likes Wrogn. Only one women lives between K and N. The one who likes Nike lives immediately above J.

1. Who among the following likes Fila brand ?
   (A) J (B) L
   (C) M (D) N
   (E) None of the above
2. Which of the following brand P likes ?
   (A) Puma (B) Wrogn
   (C) Levi's (D) HR_x
   (E) None of the above
3. Who among the lives on topmost floor ?
   (A) K (B) N
   (C) M (D) P
   (E) None of the above
4. Four of the following five belong to a group in a certain way, find which of the one does not belong to that group ?
   (A) N (B) K
   (C) L (D) O
   (E) P
5. Which of the following combination is true ?
   (A) M-Wrogn (B) K-Puma
   (C) J-Adidas (D) L-Nike
   (E) K-Adidas
6. **Statements :** Some circles are square. All square are rectangle. All lines are rectangle.
   Conclusions :
   I. All lines are square.
   II. Some circle are rectangles.
   III. Some lines are circles.
   (A) Only I follows
   (B) Only II follows
   (C) Only III follows
   (D) Only I and II follow
   (E) None of the above
7. **Statements :** Some friends are trust. All trust are love. Some happy are trust.
   Conclusions :
   I. Some love are happy.
   II. Some friend are love.
   III. All love are trust.
   (A) Only I and III follows
   (B) Only II follows
   (C) Only I and II follows
   (D) Only III follows
   (E) None of the above
8. **Statements :** All ice are winter. Some snows is ice. Some winter are cold.
   Conclusions :
   I. All snow being cold is a possibility.
   II. Some ice are definitely not cold.
   (A) Only conclusion I follows
   (B) Only conclusion II follows
   (C) Either conclusion I or II follows
   (D) Neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows
   (E) Both conclusion I and conclusion II follows
9. **Statements :** Some blue are green. Some grey is blue. All green are white.
   Conclusions :
   I. Some grey is neither blue nor white is a possibility.
   II. All green are grey is a possibility.
   (A) Only conclusion I follows
   (B) Only conclusion II follows
   (C) Either conclusion I or II follows
   (D) Neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows
   (E) Both conclusion I and conclusion II follows
10. **Statements :** All trees are plant. No fruit is plant. All fruit are flower.
    Conclusions :
    I. Some plant which are flower are also tree.
    II. No flower is a tree.
    (A) Only conclusion I follows
    (B) Only conclusion II follows
    (C) Either conclusion I nor conclusion II follows
    (D) Neither conclusion I nor conlusion II follows
    (E) Both conclusion I and conclusion II follows

Directions—(Q. 11–15) This question consists of a question and two statements numbered I and II given below it. You have to decide whether the data given in the statements are sufficient to answer the question. Read both the statements and choose the most appropriate question.

(A) Data alone in statement I is sufficient to answer the question
(B) Data alone in statement II is sufficient to answer the question

(C) Data in both the statements are necessary to answer the question
(D) Data in statement I and statement II together are not sufficient to answer the question
(E) Either data in statement I or data in statement II are sufficient to answer the question

11. Among people J, K, L, M and O each having a different weight, who is the second lightest ?
I. Only three people are lighter than M. L is lighter than M. L is heavier than N but lighter than J. O is heavier than K.
II. K is lighter than only one person. J is heavier than L but lighter than M. M is not the heaviest. L is not the lightest.

12. Eight people are sitting in two parallel rows containing four people each, in such a way that there is equal distance between adjacent persons. In row-1 W, X, Y and Z are seated and all of them are facing south. In row-2 M, N, O and P are seated and all of them are facing north. Therefore in the given seating arrangement each member seated in a row faces another member of the other row. (Please Note : None of the information given is necessarily in the same order). Who amongst M, N, O and P faces Z ?
I. Z sits second to the left of X. Only one person sits between the one who faces Z and P. Only one person sits between N and O. N sits to the immediate right of P.
II. X sits to the immediate right of Y. X sits on one of the extreme ends of the row. O faces W. P sits to the immediate left of N.

13. Three boxes, U, V and W each having a different colour, Blue, Orange and Yellow are kept one above the other (but not necessarily in the same order). How many boxes (none/one/ two) are kept above V ?
I. Box V is kept immediately above box U. Yellow box is kept immediately above Blue box. V is not the blue box. U is not the Yellow box.
II. Only one box is kept between Yellow box and W. Orange box is kept immediately below U. Box V is kept on one of the positions above the orange box.

14. How is 'silver' definitely coded in the given code language ? (All the given codes are two letter codes only) :
I. 'make silver ornaments today' is written as 'ly xt sj br' and 'silver ornaments for ceremony' is coded as 'mp hk ax vj'.
II. 'ornaments in silver only' is coded as 'qf br hk ly' and 'only today for preparation' is coded as 'mp hk ax vj'.

15. Seven different plays—A, B, C, D, E, F and G have been scheduled on seven different days of the same week starting from Monday to Sunday. Which play will be held on Friday ?
I. Play A is scheduled on Wednesday. Only two plays are scheduled between plays A and D. Play E is scheduled immediately before B. More than two plays are scheduled before play B.
II. Play C is scheduled on Tuesday. Play D is scheduled on Saturday. Play A is scheduled immediately before Play E. The number of plays scheduled between E and F is equal to the number of plays scheduled between E and G.

Directions—(Q. 16–20) In this question, a statement and two conclusion is given. You have to decide which of the conclusion is true—
(A) Only conclusion I is true
(B) Only conclusion II is true
(C) Either conclusion I or II is true
(D) Both conclusion I and II are true
(E) Neither conclusion I nor II are true

16. **Statements :** $W > U \geq P = J \leq K < Q \leq V; S \geq U > T$
Conclusions : I. $P < V$
II. $V \geq T$

17. **Statements :** $D > F \geq E = J > K < C \leq B; E < A \leq G$.
Conclusions : I. $A = C$
II. $G > J$

18. **Statements :** $D < I = K \leq H; G < I$
Conclusions : I. $H > D$
II. $H > G$

19. **Statements :** $K = F < G < D \leq E > M; W \geq K; E \geq X$
Conclusions : I. $G < X$
II. $M > F$

20. **Statements :** $Q = S < N < P \leq R > M; W \geq Q; R \geq X$.
Conclusions : I. $W \geq P$
II. $R > Q$

Directions—(Q. 21–25) Read the given information carefully and answer the given questions—

A, B, C, D, E, F and G are working in the public sector bank. The rank of every person is different among MD, ED, CGM, GM, DGM, AGM and Officer not necessarily in the same order. They are appointed in the different cities among Mumbai, Delhi, Pune, Nagpur, Bengaluru, Kolhapur and Solapur not necessarily in the same order.

(Rank decreases moving from left to right as—MD, ED, CGM, GM, DGM, AGM and Officer).

There are only 3 persons with the rank higher than C but lower than the one working in the city Pune. A is DGM and working in Solapur. F is either ED or CGM and is working in Mumbai. The rank of D is higher than B but lower than the one working in Delhi. Neither D nor B is the AGM. E is working in Nagpur. Neither C nor AGM is working in Kolhapur. The rank of the one working in Pune is higher than the rank of the one working in Mumbai.

21. Who is the AGM ?
(A) E (B) D
(C) C (D) F
(E) G

22. Who works in Solapur ?
(A) A (B) B
(C) C (D) D
(E) F

23. Who works in Kolhapur ?
(A) E (B) D
(C) F (D) Officer
(E) AGM

24. …… works in Delhi.
(A) ED (B) MD
(C) GM (D) D
(E) E

25. Who is ED ?
(A) A
(B) The one who works in Pune
(C) C
(D) The one who works in Delhi
(E) The one who works in Nagpur

26. How many such pairs of letters are there in the word 'MISCONDUCT' each of which has as many letters between them in the word in the English alphabet ?
(A) One (B) None
(C) Two (D) Three
(E) More than three

27. In a number 86143259 if all digits are arranged in ascending order from left to right within the number then how many digits will remain on the same position ?
(A) One (B) None
(C) Three (D) Two
(E) Four

Directions—(Q. 28–32) Study the following information carefully and answer the question that follow—

Eight persons P, Q, R, S, T, U, V and W likes different fruits—Banana, Mango, Kiwi, Grapes, Orange, Apple, Guava and Papaya but not necessarily in the same order. Also, they have different salaries *i.e.*, 2000, 5000, 3000, 4500, 6533, 5523, 6400 and 7000 but not necessarily in the same order. U's salary is a perfect square. P likes Kiwi. Salary of the one who likes Mango is more than the one who likes Banana. Salary of the one who likes Guava is 2000. V's salary is an odd number. T likes Papaya and Q likes Apple. R's salary is 1500 more than Q's salary. W doesn't like Orange and Grapes. P's salary is 2·5 times of W's salary. V and U either likes Banana or Mango. R doesn't like Orange. T's salary is an odd number which is divisible by 3.

28. Who among the following like Guava ?
(A) V (B) P
(C) Q (D) R
(E) W

29. Difference between the amount of salary of the one who likes Grapes and V ?
(A) 1200 (B) 2033
(C) 2345 (D) 4000
(E) 3000

30. What is the salary of P ?
(A) 4500 (B) 5523
(C) 7000 (D) 5000
(E) 3000

31. U likes which of the following fruit ?
(A) Banana (B) Mango
(C) Orange (D) Grapes
(E) Guava

32. What is the salary of S ?
(A) 5000 (B) 2000
(C) 7000 (D) 3000
(E) None is true

33. (a) The department store owner put cameras for surveillance of the store.
(b) Many products were reported missing by the staff working in the departmental store.
(A) Statement (a) is the cause and Statement (b) is its effect
(B) Statement (b) is the cause and Statement (a) is its effect
(C) Both the Statements (a) and (b) are independent causes
(D) Both the Statements (a) and (b) are effects of independent causes
(E) Both the Statements (a) and (b) are effects of some common causes

Directions—(Q. 34–38) Study the following information carefully and answer the given question—

Eight people *viz.* U, V, P, O, R, J, A and B are sitting around a square table such that four people sit at the four corners of the table and four people sit in the middle of each of the four sides. The ones sitting at the corners of the table are facing the centre and the others sitting in the middle of the sides are facing outside (*i.e.*, opposite to the centre).

V is an immediate neighbour of P. P sits at one of the corners of the table. Only three people sit between A and O. A sits in one of the middle sides of the table. O is not an immediate neighbour of P. Only one person sits between B and O. There are two persons between K and O. J sits to the immediate right of B.

34. Four of the following five are alike in a certain way based on the given arrangement and thus form a group. Which one of the following does not belong to the group ?
(A) V (B) B
(C) P (D) A
(E) O

35. Who sits to the immediate right of V ?
(A) A (B) U
(C) O (D) P
(E) J

36. How many people sit between A and O when counted from the right of A ?
(A) Three
(B) More than three
(C) Two
(D) None
(E) One

37. Which of the following statements is true about J as per the given arrangement ?
(A) J sits to the immediate right of A
(B) V sits second to the left of J
(C) J faces outside
(D) Only two people sit between J and V
(E) None of the given options is true

38. Which of the given pairs represent the immediate neighbours of B ?
(A) K, J (B) J, U
(C) A, O (D) P, K
(E) U, K

Directions—(Q. 39–43) Study the following information carefully and answer the given question—

A word and number arrangement machine when given an input line of words and number rearranges them following a particular rule in each step.

The following is an illustration of an input and its rearrangement.

Input—mobile 34 under trade 42 27 head 58 arrow 62 77 digital.

Step I–trade mobile 34 under 42 27 head 58 arrow 62 digital 77.

Step II–trade mobile head 34 under 42 27 arrow 62 digital 77 58.

Step III–trade mobile head digital 34 under 42 arrow 62 77 58 27.

Step IV–trade mobile head digital arrow 34 under 42 77 58 27 62.

Step V–trade mobile head digital arrow under 42 77 58 27 62 34.

Step VI–trade mobile head digital arrow under 77 58 27 62 34 42.

And Step VI is the last step of the above input. As per the rules follows in the given steps, find out the appropriate steps for the given input.

Input—inspire 55 jump 86 view 22 74 angle fight 66 ride 14.

39. How many steps will be required to complete the rearrangement ?
(A) V (B) VII
(C) VI (D) IV
(E) None of the above

40. Which of the following would be at the seventh position from the left in step IV ?
(A) 22 (B) Inspire
(C) 14 (D) angle
(E) None of the above

41. Which step number would be the following output ?
view ride jump inspire 55 22 angle fight 14 86 66 74.
(A) IV (B) III
(C) V (D) II
(E) None of the above

42. In the last step, all the words get rearranged in alphabetical order, which of the following words will remain at its original position ?
(A) jump (B) fight
(C) inspire (D) ride
(E) No word

43. How many words/numbers are there between '74' and 'ride' in step II ?x
(A) Four (B) Five
(C) Two (D) Three
(E) Six

44. Indore and Bhopal, both in Madhya Pradesh, have emerged as the cleanest cities in the country as per a massive cleanliness survey in 2017, commissioned by the Union Urban Development Ministry.
Which of the following can be deduced from the given statement ?
I. There cannot be absolute campaign between the rankings of 2016 and for 2017 since the parameters have been tweaked.
II. All the other cities do not have the potential to be cleanest cities.
III. Other cities are not following Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.
(A) Only I and II
(B) Only III
(C) Only II and III
(D) All of the above
(E) None of the above

45. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has vowed his country will go 'above and beyond' the 2015 Paris accord on combating climate change ?
Which of the following can be inferred from the above statement ?
I. India is not in a condition to accept the Paris accord.
II. India has made a significant progress since 2015.
III. India understand the impact of carbon emissions on climate change and is willing to do more on the issue.
(A) Both I and III
(B) Both II and III
(C) All I, II and III
(D) Only III
(E) None of the above

Directions—(Q. 46–50) Study the given information carefully to answer the given question—

Ten people are sitting in two parallel rows containing five people each in such a way that there is equal distance between adjacent persons. In row-1 A, B, C, D and E are seated (not necessarily in the same order) and all of them are facing north. In row-2 P, Q, R, S and T are seated (not necessarily in the same order) and all of them are facing south. Therefore in the given seating arrangement each member seated in a row faces another member of the other row. Each one of them also likes different perfumes–Davidoff, Cheque, Brut, Gucci, Hollister, Titan, Police, Valentine, Yardley and Ferrari, but not necessarily in the same order.

S sits at one of the extreme ends of the row. A faces an immediate neighbour of S. Only one person sits between A and the one who likes Brut. T sits third to the right of P. P faces the one who likes Davidoff. C is an immediate neighbour of A. C faces Q.

The one who sits second to the right of Q likes Yardley. Only two people sit between the one who likes Yardley and the one who likes Valentino. B sits to the immediate right of E. D faces one of the immediate neighbours of the one who likes Gucci. The one who likes Police is an immediate neighbour of T. The one who likes Ferrari sits second to the right of the one who likes Hollister. P does not like Cheque.

46. As per the given arrangement, which of the given statements is true ?
(A) T is an immediate neighbour of the one who likes Brut
(B) None of the given statements is true
(C) Only one person sits between A and the one who faces T
(D) B faces the one who likes Titan
(E) A sits second to the right of E

47. As per the given arrangement, A is related to D in the same way as T is related to Q. Following the same pattern, to which is S related ?
(A) The one who likes Cheque
(B) P
(C) R
(D) The one who faces A
(E) The one who likes Yardley

48. Who amongst the following faces E ?
(A) Q (B) R
(C) S (D) T
(E) Other than those given as options

49. Who sits exactly between Q and the one who faces D ?
(A) R
(B) S
(C) T
(D) The one who likes Police
(E) The one who likes Titan

50. Who is second to the left of C ?
(A) The one who faces Q
(B) B
(C) A
(D) The one who likes Ferrari
(E) The one who likes Hollister

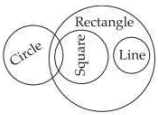
Answers with Hints

For Q. 1 to 5 :

7	N	Adidas
6	M	Fila
5	K	Wrogn
4	P	Puma
3	L	Nike
2	J	HR_x
1	O	Levi's

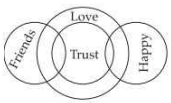
1. (C) 2. (A) 3. (B) 4. (E) 5. (D)

6. (B)



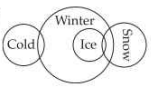
Conclusion I not follows
Conclusion II follows
Conclusion III not follows

7. (C)



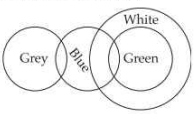
Conclusion I follows
Conclusion II follows
Conclusion III not follows

8. (A)



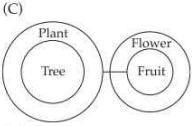
Conclusion I follows
Conclusion II not follows

9. (E)



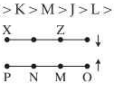
Conclusion I follows
Conclusion II follows

10. (C)



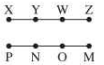
11. (C) I and II O > K > M > J > L > N

12. (E) (I)



M faces Z

(II)



M faces Z

13. (B) (I)
- W Orange
- V Yellow
- U Blue

or

- V Yellow
- U Blue
- W Orange

(II)
- V Yellow
- U Blue
- W Orange

No box is kept above V

14. (D)
(I) make silver ornaments today
ly/br ly/br
silver ornaments for ceremony
ly/br ly/br
(II) ornaments is silver only hk
only today for preparation hk
Neither I nor II gives code for 'silver'.

15. (A)
(I) Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun
A E B D
Play B held on Friday.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
F/G	C	A	E
or B	C	F/G	A
Fri	Sat	Sun	
B	D	G/F	
or E	D	F/G	

16. (A) 17. (B) 18. (D) 19. (E) 20. (B)

For Q. 21 to 25 :

Rank	Person	City
MD	G	Delhi
ED	D	Pune
CGM	F	Mumbai
GM	C	Bangalore
DGM	A	Solapur
AGM	E	Nagpur
Officer	B	Kolhapur

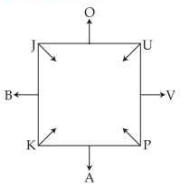
21. (A) 22. (A) 23. (D) 24. (B) 25. (B)
26. (D) OT, DI, NO
27. (D) 86143259—given number.
12345689—arranged as per ques.

For. Q. 28 to 32 :

P	Q	R	S
5000	3000	4500	7000
Kiwi	Apple	Grapes	Orange
T	U	V	W
5523	6400	6533	2000
Papaya	Banana	Mango	Guava

28. (E) 29. (B) 30. (D) 31. (A) 32. (C)
33. (B)

For. Q. 34 to 38 :



34. (C) 35. (D) 36. (A) 37. (D) 38. (A)

For. Q. 39 to 43 :

Input : inspire 55 jump 86 view 22 74 angle fight 66 ride 14

Step I : view inspire 55 jump 22 74 angle fight 66 ride 14 86.

Step II : view ride inspire 55 jump 22 74 angle fight 14 86 66.

Step III : view ride jump inspire 55 22 angle fight 14 86 66 74

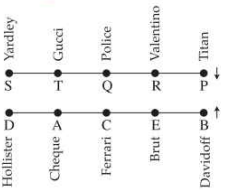
Step IV : view ride jump fight inspire 22 angle 14 86 66 74 55

Step V : view ride jump fight angle inspire 22 86 66 74 55 14

Step VI : view ride jump fight angle inspire 86 66 74 55 14 22

39. (C) 40. (D) 41. (B) 42. (E) 43. (A)
44. (E) 45. (B)

For. Q. 46 to 50 :



46. (D) 47. (D) 48. (B) 49. (C) 50. (E)

Corrigendum

Rajnath Singh is at present Defence Minister of India : The error is regretted. It was inadvertently left unaddressed October issue, Page 23.

Governor Kalraj Misra : Previously he was appointed Governor of Himachal Pradesh. Now he is Governor of Rajasthan September issue, Page 34.

Solved Paper

LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION A.A.O. (Pre.) EXAM., 2019

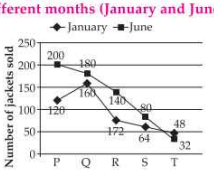
(Held on 4-5-2019)

Quantitative Aptitude

(Based on Memory)

Directions—(Q. 1 to 5) Refer to the graph and answer the given question :

The following graph refers to the number of jackets sold by various shops (P, Q, R, S and T) in two different months (January and June)



1. What is the respective ratio between the number of jackets sold by shop P in January and that sold by shop R in June ?
   (A) 4 : 9 (B) 5 : 9
   (C) 6 : 7 (D) 4 : 7
   (E) 5 : 8

2. Total number of jackets sold by shops S and T, together in June, is what per cent of the number of jackets sold by shop P in June ?
   (A) 50 (B) 72
   (C) 48 (D) 56
   (E) 42

3. What is the difference between the total number of jackets sold by shop P in January and June together and the total number of jackets sold by shop Q in the same months together ?
   (A) 40 (B) 20
   (C) 50 (D) 80
   (E) 60

4. Number of jackets sold by shop Q in August was 25% less than that sold in January and that sold in December was 80% more than that sold by the same shop in August. What was the number of jackets sold by shop Q in December ?
   (A) 208 (B) 212
   (C) 232 (D) 216
   (E) 218

5. What is the average number of jackets sold by shops Q, R and S in January ?
   (A) 128 (B) 142
   (C) 132 (D) 124
   (E) 148

6. The difference between the downstream speed and the upstream speed, of a boat is 10 kmph. If the boat can cover 70 km downstream is 3 hours 30 minutes, what is the speed of the boat in still water ? (in kmph)
   (A) 15 (B) 20
   (C) 25 (D) 10
   (E) 18

7. The respective ratio between Jia's age 7 years hence and her father's age 4 years hence, is 3 : 8. The sum of Jia's age 3 years ago and her father's age at that time was 38 years. What is Jia's present age ?
   (A) 16 years (B) 8 years
   (C) 12 years (D) 13 years
   (E) 19 years

Directions—(Q. 8 to 11) The question consists of a question and two statements I and II given below it. You have to decide whether the data provided in the statements are sufficient to answer the question. Read both the statements and mark the appropriate option. Give answer :

(A) If the data in statement I alone are sufficient to answer the question, while the data in statement II alone are not sufficient to answer the question.

(B) If the data in statement II alone are sufficient to answer the question, while the data in statement I alone are not sufficient to answer the question.

(C) If the data in statement I alone or in statement II alone are sufficient to answer the question.

(D) If the data in both the statements I and II are not sufficient to answer the question.

(E) If the data in both the statements I and II together are necessary to answer the question.

8. What is the cost price of the table which is marked at ₹ X ?
   I. On giving a discount of ₹ 1,200 a profit of 20% is earned.
   II. Had there been no discount on the table, a profit of ₹ 1,500 would have been earned.

9. What is the interest (in % p.a.) offered by scheme A (offering simple interest p.a.) ?
   I. Interest (in ₹) earned on scheme A on ₹ P after 2 years, is equal to the interest earned on ₹ 4,000 when invested for 2 years in scheme B (offering 10% p.a. compounded interest-compounded annually).
   II. Difference between the interests earned when ₹ P is invested in scheme A for 1 year and for 3 years is ₹ 840.

10. What is the value of 'D' ?
    I. To cover a distance of D km, travelling at 90 kmph, the car would have taken 2 hours 30 minutes less than the time it took travelling at 60 kmph.
    II. Travelling at 45 kmph, the car can cover (D-90) km in 8 hours.

11. Total population (male + female) in village A is 2,500. What per cent of total population in village A are literate ?

I. 75% of male and 80% of females in village A are literate. Number of males in the village are 50% more than that of females.

II. Number of female literates are 325 less than that of male literates. Number of males in the village are 500 more than the number of females.

12. Rumi invested a certain sum for 2 years in scheme X at 20% p.a. compound interest (compounded annually). He also invests an equal sum in scheme Y at 15% p.a. simple interest for 2 years. If the difference in the interests earned from schemes X and Y, is ₹ 350, what was the sum ?
(A) ₹ 2,000 (B) ₹ 1,200
(C) ₹ 2,500 (D) ₹ 4,000
(E) ₹ 3,000

13. The per cent profit earned by selling an article at ₹ 5,400 is equal to the per cent loss incurred on selling the same article at ₹ 3,600. What will be the per cent profit if the article is sold at ₹ 5,000 ?
(A) 11 1/9 (B) 7
(C) 15 (D) 9 1/6
(E) 12 1/9

14. A jar contains X litre of mixture of liquids A and B, in the respective ratio of 2 : 3. Six litres each of the liquids–A and B, was added to the mixture in the jar, as a result of which the quantity of liquid A was 18 litre less than that of liquid B. What is the value of X ?
(A) 100 (B) 75
(C) 90 (D) 80
(E) 60

15. In an exam, Anu scored 26% in the same exam Binni scored 60% and received 51 marks more than Anu, what was the total marks in the exam ?
(A) None of those given as options
(B) 180
(C) Cannot be determined
(D) 150
(E) 200

16. Ms. Desh kept aside 40% of her annual savings for a trip. Out of the remaining she gave 30% to her son, 20% to her mother and invests 15% in a scheme. At the end she is left with ₹ 42,000, beside the amount kept aside for the trip. What was her annual savings ?
(A) ₹ 2,40,000 (B) ₹ 1,80,000
(C) ₹ 1,20,000 (D) ₹ 2,00,000
(E) None of those given as options

Directions—(Q. 17 to 21) What approximate value will come in place of question mark (?) in the given question ? (you are not expected to calculate the exact value)

17. 61% of 744·79 – 50·02 = $?^2$
(A) 10 (B) 20
(C) 15 (D) 12
(E) 16

18. $9{\cdot}01^2 \div 5{\cdot}95 \times ? = 82{\cdot}13$
(A) 3 (B) 1
(C) 6 (D) 4
(E) 5

19. (4320·02 – 419·96) ÷ 12·99 = ?
(A) 350 (B) 250
(C) 300 (D) 100
(E) 200

20. 80·11 × ? ÷ 124·95 = 2125
(A) 2250 (B) 3320
(C) 1000 (D) 1600
(E) 920

21. $780 + 11 \times \sqrt{144{\cdot}01} + 59{\cdot}75 = ?$
(A) 910 (B) 500
(C) 970 (D) 650
(E) 750

22. Breadth of a rectangular plot is $1/5^{th}$ of the length of the plot. Inside the plot, a garden with an area of 15 m^2 is constructed occupying 1/3rd of the area of the plot. What is the perimeter of the rectangular plot ?
(A) 42 meter (B) 72 meter
(C) 48 meter (D) 36 meter
(E) 24 meter

23. A and B start a business with ₹ 3,000 and ₹ P respectively. At the end of six months from the start of the business, B leaves the business and C joins the business with a certain amount. The respective ratio between their profit shares, at the end of the year, was 5 : 4 : 3. How much money did C invest in the business ?
(A) ₹ 3,600 (B) ₹ 4,800
(C) ₹ 4,200 (D) ₹ 3,000
(E) ₹ 4,500

Directions—(Q. 24 to 29) Study the table and answer the given question.

Data regarding total student strength (Boys and girls) of schools—A, B and C in different years (2010 and 2015)

Year → / School ↓	2010		2015	
	% of boys out of total strength	Number of girls out of total strength	% of boys out of total strength	Number of girls out of total strength
A	75	200	70	480
B	60	220	45	660
C	80	400	75	300

24. Out of the total number of boys in schools A, B and C together in the year 2010, only 80% passed the annual exam. Out of the total number of boys in schools A, B and C together in the year 2015, only 75% passed the annual exam. What is the difference between the number of boys who passed from all the schools together in 2010 and that who passed in the year 2015 ?
(A) 108 (B) 104
(C) 112 (D) 120
(E) 106

25. What is the difference between average number of girls in schools B and C together in the year 2010 and the average number of girls in same schools together in the year 2015 ?
(A) 145 (B) 180
(C) 160 (D) 170
(E) 135

26. Number of boys in school B in year 2010 is what per cent of that in school A in the same year ?
(A) 55 (B) 52
(C) 65 (D) 54
(E) $64^1/_4$

27. What is the respective ratio between the number of boys in school B in year 2010 and the number of boys in the same school in the year 2015 ?
(A) 11 : 18 (B) 11 : 19
(C) 7 : 18 (D) 11 : 16
(E) 13 : 18

28. What was the total student strength in schools A and B together in the year 2015 ?
(A) 2600 (B) 2400
(C) 2800 (D) 2000
(E) 1800

29. In the year 2010, total student strength of school C was what per cent more than that of the same school in the year 2015 ?
(A) $63\frac{1}{3}$ (B) $60\frac{1}{6}$
(C) $66\frac{2}{3}$ (D) 60
(E) 50

Directions—(Q. 30 to 34) What number is wrong according to given number series pattern ?

30. 5 6 15 41 105 230 446
(A) 41 (B) 105
(C) 6 (D) 230
(E) 15

31. 3 5 10 20 39 63 100
(A) 10 (B) 63
(C) 5 (D) 20
(E) 39

32. 12 21 14 25 20 30 24
(A) 30 (B) 25
(C) 21 (D) 20
(E) 16

33. 2 3 7 22 89 448 2677
(A) 7 (B) 22
(C) 448 (D) 89
(E) 3

34. 2 5 10 18 30 48 70
(A) 10 (B) 5
(C) 48 (D) 18
(E) 30

35. The circumference of the base of a right circular cylinder is 88 cm, if the height of the cylinder is 21 cm, what is the volume of a right Circular cone whose height and radius are equal to that of the cylinder ? (in cm^2)
(A) 4312 (B) 3402
(C) 3436 (D) 4364
(E) 4228

Answers with Hints

1. (C) Required ratio
$= 120 : 140$
$= 6 : 7$

2. (D) Required percentage
$= \frac{(80+32)}{200} \times 100$
$= \frac{112}{2} = 56\%$

3. (B) Required difference
$= (160 + 180) - (120 + 200)$
$= 340 - 320 = 20$

4. (D) Total no. of jackets sold by shop Q in December
$= 160 \times \frac{75}{100} \times \frac{180}{100} = 216$

5. (C) Required average
$= \frac{160+172+64}{3}$
$= \frac{396}{3} = 132$

6. (A) Downstream speed of boat
$= \frac{70}{3{\cdot}5} = 20$ km/hr
Then, upstream speed of boat
$= 20 - 10$
$= 10$ km/hr
Speed of boat in still water
$= \frac{(20+10)}{2}$
$= \frac{30}{2} = 15$ km/hr

7. (B) Let Jia's present age = x years
Then, present age of Jia's father
$= [38 - (x - 3)] + 3$
$= 38 - x + 3 + 3$
$= (44 - x)$ years
As per question,
$\frac{x+7}{(44-x)+4} = \frac{3}{8}$
$8x + 56 = 144 - 3x$
$11x = 88$
$x = 8$ years

8. (E) **Statement I :**
Cost price of the table
$= \frac{(x-1200)}{120} \times 100$
$= ₹\left(\frac{5x-6000}{6}\right)$
Statement II :
Cost price of the table
$= ₹(x - 1500)$
From statement I and II
$\frac{5x-6000}{6} = x - 1500$
$5x - 6000 = 6x - 9000$
$x = 9000 - 6000$
$= ₹ 3000$
Cost price of the table
$= 3000 - 1500$
$= ₹ 1500$

9. (D) Let interest offered by scheme A = R%
Statement I :
$\frac{P \times R \times 2}{100} = 4000\left(1 + \frac{10}{100}\right)^2 - 4000$
$\frac{PR}{50} = 4000 \times \frac{11}{10} \times \frac{11}{10} - 4000$
$\frac{PR}{50} = 4840 - 4000 = 840$
$PR = 42000$
Statement II :
$\frac{3PR}{100} - \frac{PR}{100} = 840$
$\frac{2PR}{100} = 840$
$PR = 42000$

10. (C) **Statement I :**
$\frac{D}{60} - \frac{D}{90} = 2{\cdot}5$
$\frac{3D - 2D}{180} = 2{\cdot}5$
$D = 450$ km
Statement II :
$D - 90 = 45 \times 8$
$D = 360 + 90 = 450$ km

11. (A) Total population (Male + Female) in village A = 2500
Statement I :
Let no. of females in village A = x
Then, no. of males in village A
$= x \times \frac{150}{100} = 1{\cdot}5x$
According to statement :
$x + 1{\cdot}5x = 2500$
$2{\cdot}5x = 2500$
$x = 1000$
Literate females in village A
$= 1000 \times \frac{80}{100} = 800$
Literate males in village A
$= 1500 \times \frac{75}{100} = 1125$
Required percentage
$= \frac{(1125+800)}{2500} \times 100$
$= \frac{1925}{25} = 77\%$

12. (C) Let Sum = ₹ P
As per question,
$\left[P\left(1 + \frac{20}{100}\right)^2 - P\right] - \frac{P \times 15 \times 2}{100} = 350$

$$\left[\frac{36P}{25}-P\right]-\frac{30P}{100} = 350$$

$$\frac{11P}{25}-\frac{30P}{100} = 350$$

$$\frac{44P-30P}{100} = 350$$

$$\frac{14P}{100} = 350$$

$$P = ₹\,2{,}500$$

13. (A) Profit = 5400 – C.P.
and Loss = C.P. – 3600
As per question,
$$\frac{(5400-C.P.)}{C.P.}\times 100$$
$$= \frac{(C.P.-3600)}{C.P.}\times 100$$
$5400 - C.P. = C.P. - 3600$
$2C.P. = 9000$
$C.P. = ₹\,4500$
Required profit percentage
$$= \frac{(5000-4500)}{4500}\times 100$$
$$= \frac{500}{45} = \frac{100}{9} = 11\frac{1}{9}\%$$

14. (C) Quantity of liquid A in the jar
$$= \frac{2x}{5} \text{ litres}$$
Quantity of liquid B in the jar
$$= \frac{3x}{5} \text{ litres}$$
As per question,
$$\left(\frac{3x}{5}+6\right)-\left(\frac{2x}{5}+6\right) = 18$$
$$\left(\frac{3x+30}{5}\right)-\left(\frac{2x+30}{5}\right) = 18$$
$$\frac{3x+30-2x-30}{5} = 18$$
$$x = 90 \text{ litres}$$

15. (D) Total marks in the exam.
$$= \frac{51}{(60-26)}\times 100$$
$$= \frac{51}{34}\times 100 = 150$$

16. (D) Let annual savings = ₹ x
Then, amount for trip
$$= x\times\frac{40}{100} = ₹\,\frac{40x}{100}$$
Remaining amount
$$= \left(x-\frac{40x}{100}\right) = ₹\,\frac{60x}{100}$$
Amount gave to son
$$= \frac{60x}{100}\times\frac{30}{100} = ₹\,\frac{18x}{100}$$
Amount gave to mother
$$= \frac{60x}{100}\times\frac{20}{100} = ₹\,\frac{12x}{100}$$
and amount invested in a scheme
$$= \frac{60x}{100}\times\frac{15}{100} = ₹\,\frac{9x}{100}$$
As per question
$$\frac{60x}{100}-\frac{18x}{100}-\frac{12x}{100}-\frac{9x}{100} = 42000$$
$$\frac{21x}{100} = ₹\,42{,}000$$
$$x = ₹\,2{,}00{,}000$$

17. (B) 61% of 744·79 – 54·02 = ?²
$$745\times\frac{61}{100}-54 = ?^2$$
$$454-54 = ?^2$$
$$? = \sqrt{400} = 20$$

18. (C) $9{\cdot}01^2 \div 5{\cdot}95\times ? = 82{\cdot}13$
$81 \div 6\times ? = 82$
$13\times ? = 82$
$? \simeq 6$

19. (C) $? = (4320{\cdot}02 - 419{\cdot}96) \div 12{\cdot}99$
$= (4320-420)\div 13$
$= 3900\div 13 = 300$

20. (B) $80{\cdot}11\times ? \div 124{\cdot}95 = 2125$
$80\times ? \div 125 = 2125$
$80\times ? = 265625$
$? = 3320$

21. (C) $? = 780 + 11\times\sqrt{144{\cdot}01} + 59{\cdot}75$
$= 780 + 11\times 12 + 60$
$= 780 + 132 + 60 = 970$

22. (D) Let the length of the plot
$= x$ m
Then, breadth of the plot = $\frac{x}{5}$ m
As per question,
$$x\times\frac{x}{5}\times\frac{1}{3} = 15$$
$$x^2 = 225$$
$$x = 15 \text{ m}$$
Perimeter of the rectangular plot
$$= 2\left(15+\frac{15}{5}\right)$$
$$= 2(15+3)$$
$$= 2\times 18 = 36 \text{ meter}$$

23. (A) Let C invested in the business = ₹ x

A	B	C
3000×12	: P × 6	: $x\times 6$
6000	: P	: x

As per question,
$$x = \frac{6000}{5}\times 3$$
$$= ₹\,3600$$

For Q. 24–29 :

Year → / School ↓	2010		2015	
	Boys	Girls	Boy	Girls
A	600	200	1120	480
B	330	220	540	660
C	1600	400	900	300
Total	2530	820	2560	1440

24. (B) Total no. of boys who passed the annual exam in 2010
$$= 2530\times\frac{80}{100} = 2024$$
Total no. of boys who passed the annual exam in 2015
$$= 2560\times\frac{75}{100} = 1920$$
Required difference
$= 2024 - 1920 = 104$

25. (D) Average no. of girls in schools B and C together in 2010
$$= \frac{220+400}{2}$$
$$= \frac{620}{2} = 310$$
Average no. of girls in schools B and C together in 2015
$$= \frac{660+300}{2}$$
$$= \frac{960}{2} = 480$$
Required difference
$= 480 - 310 = 170$

26. (A) Required percentage
$$= \frac{330}{600}\times 100 = 55\%$$

27. (A) Required ratio
$= 330 : 540$
$= 11 : 18$

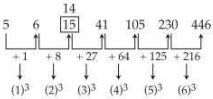
28. (C) Total student strength in schools A and B together in 2015
$= (1120 + 480) + (540 + 660)$
$= 1600 + 1200 = 2800$

29. (C) Required percentage
$$= \frac{(1600+400)-(900+300)}{(900+300)}\times 100$$

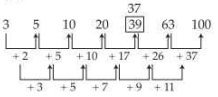
$$= \frac{(2000-1200)}{1200} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{800}{12} = \frac{200}{3} = 66\frac{2}{3}\%$$

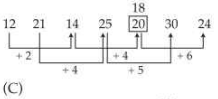
30. (E)



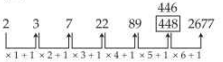
31. (E)



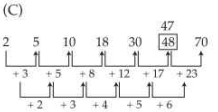
32. (D)



33. (C)



34. (C)



35. (A) Let the radius of right circular cylinder = r cm

Then, as per question

$$2 \times \frac{22}{7} \times r = 88$$

$$r = 7 \times 2$$

$$= 14 \text{ cm}$$

Volume of right circular cone

$$= \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{22}{7} \times 14 \times 14 \times 21$$

$$= 22 \times 2 \times 14 \times 7$$

$$= 4312 \text{ cm}^2$$

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Continued from Page 154

43. In terms of decadal growth rate of population in Bihar, the best performing districts are—
(A) Arwal, Darbhanga and Gopalganj
(B) Munger, Gopalganj and Buxar
(C) Purnea, Madhubani and West Champaran
(D) Siwan, Hazipur and Patna

44. The welfare of Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) is essential for holistic development of a society. Towards this, the state government has formed a separate Department in—
(A) April 2007 (B) April 2008
(C) April 2009 (D) April 2010

45. India Post got a licence to run a payments bank – the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) from the RBI—
(A) In August 2015
(B) In January 2016
(C) In March 2017
(D) In September 2018

46. Consider the following sentences regarding public health facility in Bihar—
1. In 2017-18, the number of patients visiting hospitals per month was 10,446.
2. In 2017-18, Khagaria (489), Madhepura (449) and Muzaffarpur (443) are the three districts with the highest average number of outpatients visiting hospitals per day.
3. Contrary to this, three worst performing districts are—Sheohar (145), West Champaran (151) and Buxar (186).

Which of the above sentence(s) is/are true ?
(A) Only 1
(B) 2 and 3
(C) 1 and 2
(D) All of the above

Answers

1. (D) 2. (D) 3. (D) 4. (D) 5. (B)
6. (C) 7. (C) 8. (B) 9. (C) 10. (D)
11. (D) 12. (D) 13. (C) 14. (A) 15. (A)
16. (C) 17. (C) 18. (D) 19. (D) 20. (D)
21. (D) 22. (C) 23. (C) 24. (C) 25. (C)
26. (B) 27. (A) 28. (D) 29. (C) 30. (D)
31. (B) 32. (A) 33. (B) 34. (C) 35. (A)
36. (B) 37. (A) 38. (B) 39. (D) 40. (C)
41. (A) 42. (D) 43. (A) 44. (A) 45. (A)
46. (D)

PDarpan

Test Your Knowledge

Answers with Hints

1. (A) 2. (C)
3. (C) General Assembly, Security Council, Economic and Security Council, Trusteeship Council, International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat are the main organs of the United Nations.
4. (B)
5. (A) Apartheid was a system of racial discrimination unique to South Africa imposed by the European colonizers.
6. (B)
7. (A) Pulakesin I was the founder of Chalukya Kingdom.
8. (B)
9. (D) Tajkrat-ul-muluk was written by Rafiuddin Shiraj. It deals with the Adilshahi rulers of Bijapur.
10. (A) 11. (A) 12. (B) 13. (B) 14. (C)
15. (D) 16. (A) 17. (C) 18. (A) 19. (B)
20. (B) Gogabeel an ox-bow lake in Bihar's Katihar district, has been declared as Bihar's first 'Community Reserve'. It is formed from the flow of river Mahanadi and Kankhar in the north and the Ganga in south east.
21. (D)
22. (B) Wrestler Bajarang Punia was awarded with Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award 2019.
23. (A) 99·92 km long underground oil pipeline between Motihari (Bihar) and Amlekhganj (Nepal) was inaugurated by Prime Ministers of both the countries on September 10, 2019 through video link.
24. (B) Dr. T. Sunderrajan has been appointed the Governor of Telangana.
25. (A) Sri Lanka captain Lasith Malinga has sensationally taken four wickets in four balls to become the first bowler in the world to claim five international hat-tricks, in a devastating blitz against New Zealand in Kandy.
26. (B)
27. (A) Anjali Singh has joined the Indian Embassy in Russia as the Deputy Air Attache.
28. (C) Ministry of Rural Development has launched a project of Skill based MGNREGA to make self reliant those workers who have availed 100 days employment.
29. (C) 30. (A) 31. (C) 32. (A) 33. (D)
34. (D) Article 32 relates to 'Right to constitutional remedies'.
35. (B) 36. (D) 37. (C) 38. (B)

PDarpan

Solved Paper

STATE BANK OF INDIA PROBATIONARY OFFICERS (Pre.) EXAM., 2019

(Held on 19-6-2019)

English Language

(Based on Memory)

Directions—(Q. 1–7) Read the following passage and answer the given questions. Certain words or phrases are given in bold to help you while answering some of the question.

They say there are two things that are certain in life : death and taxes. I would like to add a third : change. We may not like to admit it when times are good, and we forget the fact when times are bad, but it is inevitable that life keeps moving and everything changes. This includes our career path as we grow and evolve, learn new things and develop new passions. According to career statistics, the average person will change careers between five and seven times in their lifetime. Whatever the reason or amount of time we start something new, with social media a constant factor in our lives, any change of direction is now on show for all to see. Changing careers also requires reinventing your personal brands. People are concerned about what their existing network, including friends and family, would think of their new direction.

According to a professor in a renowned institute, on the road to reinventing your personal brand you should keep in mind that your past is as important a catalyst as you will. Acknowledge the past and ensure it is part of your story going forward. Even if the only …… between your past career and future endeavour is you and your personal experience, your honest insight is powerful, and if communicated effectively via storytelling, it offers a great opportunity to connect with not only your existing network but also an entirely new one. Ensuring the story presented to the world is consistent is also important. A simple Google search will help you discover if there are any gaps in your story online. Ensure you are communicating the change on all personal platforms so the message is consistent. Like a new outfit a new photo online in many ways is a digital representation of change and can help communicate your new journey visually. Take the time to share your change with your current network both personally and digitally. This can be in the form of a simple phone call, personal email, or as elaborate as a launch party. According to an article in the Marketing Research Journal, one of the biggest assets in anyone's life is a generous network. It is human nature to worry about what could go wrong, but the truth is, you might be delighted by an overwhelmingly positive response. You will never know until you put yourself out there. Strategies on how to reinvent your personal brand are plentiful but there is one factor that will ultimately determine success : self-belief.

1. Which of the following themes is/are touched upon in the passage ?
   (a) Need to reinvent one's personal brand.
   (b) Strategies available to reinvent personal brand.
   (c) Likely challenges while reinventing personal brand on social media.
   (A) Only (b) and (c)
   (B) Only (a)
   (C) All (a), (b) and (c)
   (D) Only (a) and (b)
   (E) Only (c)

2. Which of the following is the SAME in meaning to the word GENEROUS as used in the passage ?
   (A) hospitable
   (B) lavish
   (C) selfish
   (D) substantial
   (E) charitable

3. Which of the following can replace the word PRESENTED as used in the passage both contextually and grammatically ?
   (A) confer (B) granting
   (C) bestow (D) advice
   (E) None of those given as options

4. Which of the following is/are true regarding reinventing personal brand as per the given passage ?
   (a) There are only a handful of strategies to reinvent your personal brand which should be used intelligibly.
   (b) A visual representation on social media will help in promoting the change in personal brand.
   (c) To reinvent the personal brand one has to forget about the past.
   (A) Only (b)
   (B) All (a), (b) and (c)
   (C) Only (c)
   (D) Other than those given as options
   (E) Only (a) and (b)

5. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage ?
   (a) Most employees fear career change due to their lack of educational qualifications.
   (b) Changing one's career does not imply changing your personal brand and existing network.
   (c) Concern about the opinions of family, friends and colleagues can discourage persons from changing their careers.
   (A) All (a), (b), and (c)
   (B) Only (c)
   (C) Only (b) and (c)
   (D) None of (a), (b) and (c)
   (E) Only (b)

6. What does the author want to convey through the Marketing Research Journal article mentioned in the passage ?
(A) The importance of only taking into account your family's support in the decision of career change.
(B) None of those given as options
(C) The major reason for career change is lack of work-life balance
(D) People should go for counseling before any major change in career
(E) People should focus on and worry about past mistakes

7. In the passage there is a blank '.....' which indicates that something has been omitted. Which of the following words will fit the given blank both contextually and grammatically ?
(A) chance (B) sources
(C) perception (D) change
(E) link

8. In this question, three sentences are given (a), (b) and (c). Find out which of the sentence(s) is/are incorrect and mark your answer accordingly.
(a) Rock concerts are a maelstrom of energy with maximum noise and visual effects.
(b) The starving family's desperation for food forced them to steal bread from the market.
(c) The list is not comprehensive so detailed but tries to focus on the most salient points.
(A) Only (b) and (c)
(B) None of (a), (b) and (c) are incorrect
(C) Only (a) and (b)
(D) Only (c)
(E) Only (a) and (c)

9. In this question, three sentences are given (a), (b) and (c). Find out which of the sentence(s) is/are incorrect and mark your answer accordingly.
(a) The purpose of the research is to tried and find out more about the causes of the disease.
(b) The house itself was unimpressive but the location was spectacular.
(c) During the catastrophe among a thousand families lost their homes.
(A) Only (b) and (c)
(B) Only (b)
(C) Only (a) and (c)
(D) Only (c)
(E) All (a), (b) and (c)

Directions—(Q. 10–13) The sentence has a blank which indicates something has been omitted. Which of the following words given against the sentence, fits the blank in the given sentence both grammatically and meaningfully ?

10. Police dropped the charges against him because of ..... evidence.
(A) probation
(B) amplified
(C) insufficient
(D) adequate
(E) scarcely

11. Most often we ..... when faced with something we do not want to do.
(A) expiates
(B) impeded
(C) procrastinate
(D) encouraged
(E) advances

12. The two countries went through a period of ..... relations, but now they are allies.
(A) deceitfully (B) difficulty
(C) cordial (D) strained
(E) conniving

13. The economist deserves recognition for his work in ..... out the complexity of the causes of poverty.
(A) reaching (B) leading
(C) appearing (D) approaching
(E) figuring

Directions—(Q. 14–20) In the given passage, there are blanks, each of which has been denoted by (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F) and (G). Against each blank, five words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Please select the word which fits the blank appropriately in each case and mark that word as your answer.

The idea that ambitious young people should push themselves hard to advance their careers, particularly before they start families, is (A) in our culture. Young people who secure jobs are at elite banks and law firms commit themselves to (B) long hours, to the point that leading firms pat themselves on the back for sending summer interns out of the office between midnight and 7 am. Meanwhile, the idolization of the entrepreneurial spirit in the tech and start up world means that many people in their twenties and early thirties have (C) themselves that if they're lucky enough to do what they love, there's no need to stop working, to eat regular meals or even leave the office at all. "Hustle Culture" has led many young people to think of work as the (D) thing that gives their lives meaning. Tech workers have internalized the idea that work is not something you do to get what you want; the work itself is all. Once you've grown (E) to the idea that the only way to succeed is to work nonstop, it can be hard to step off the treadmill even as your career advances. But parenthood (F) a lot of people to reassess their work, leading them to at least attempt drawing firmer (G) to protect their time with their families.

14. Which of the following will replace (A) in the context of the passage ?
(A) implant (B) fixate
(C) ingrained (D) inflate
(E) importance

15. Which of the following will replace (B) in the context of the passage ?
(A) inhumanity (B) some
(C) purposely (D) merely
(E) completely

16. Which of the following will replace (C) in the context of the passage ?
(A) convinced (B) define
(C) made (D) thought
(E) ask

17. Which of the following will replace (D) in the context of the passage ?
(A) dominate (B) essentially
(C) alone (D) mainly
(E) primary

18. Which of the following will replace (E) in the context of the passage ?
(A) impacted (B) accustomed
(C) prepare (D) addict
(E) closes

19. Which of the following will replace (F) in the context of the passage ?
(A) spur (B) hinder
(C) cause (D) prompts
(E) motivation

20. Which of the following will replace (G) in the context of the passage ?
(A) conclusions
(B) boundaries
(C) ruled
(D) bordering
(E) edge

21. In this question, three sentences are given (a), (b) and (c). Find out which of the sentence(s) is/are correct and mark your answer accordingly—
(a) In a conventional repayment mortgage, the repayments consist of both capital and interest.
(b) The research shows that preschool children are capable of thinking in abstract terms.
(c) The consultant made it clear that forecasting is a basic ingredient of business planning.
(A) Only (a)
(B) Only (b)
(C) All (a), (b) and (c) are correct
(D) Only (c)
(E) Only (a) and (b)

Directions—(Q. 22–25) Which of the phrases given against the sentence should replace the word/ phrase given in bold in the sentence to make it grammatically correct ? If the sentence is correct as it is given and no correction is required, mark 'No correction required' as the answer.

22. The accident **occurs where** group was coming down the mountain.
(A) occurred while the
(B) happen when a
(C) did come upon the
(D) fell by when
(E) No correction required

23. The official statement from the government **stating of** spread of the deadly virus has been controlled.
(A) states these
(B) No correction required
(C) stating
(D) has state
(E) stated that the

24. The group could not present their paper as the laptop, where all the data **had been stored,** malfunctioned just before the session began.
(A) stored
(B) No correction required
(C) in stores
(D) in store
(E) will storing

25. Exposure to sunlight is important **synthesis to** essential vitamins in the body.
(A) to supplying
(B) synthesizer to
(C) No correction required
(D) for the synthesis of
(E) in supply off

Directions—(Q. 26–30) In this question, four words (A), (B), (C) and (D) are given in bold. One of these words (A), (B), (C) or (D) given in bold may either be wrongly spelt or inappropriate in the context of the sentence. Find out the word that is inappropriate or wrongly spelt, if any. That is your answer. If all the words given in bold are correctly spelt or appropriate in the context of the sentence, then mark 'All correct' as your answer.

26. The young **surgon** (A) **contemplated** (B) for days prior to the **arduous** (C) kidney transplant **operation** (D).
(A) (D) (B) (C)
(C) All correct (D) (B)
(E) (A)

27. The child's **behaviour** (A) in public is **unpardonable** (B) and he should be **reprimanded** (C) by his mother **immedeately** (D).
(A) (B) (B) (D)
(C) All correct (D) (C)
(E) (A)

28. We were **disgusted** (A) by the **elucidation** (B) made by the **intolerant** (C) **supremacist** (D).
(A) (D) (B) (C)
(C) All correct (D) (A)
(E) (B)

29. She tried to **rationalise** (A) why she had **violated** (B) traffic **regulations** (C) so that she would not **deceive** (D) a citation.
(A) (B) (B) All correct
(C) (D) (D) (A)
(E) (C)

30. **Investment** (A) in new product **development** (B) is an **essential** (C) **ambient** (D) of corporate success.
(A) (C) (B) (D)
(C) All correct (D) (A)
(E) (B)

Answers with Hints

1. (C) 2. (B) 3. (E) 4. (E) 5. (E)
6. (B) 7. (E) 8. (D)
9. (C) Sentence (A) The purpose of the research is to **tried** (x) and find out more about the causes of the disease. In the given sentence 'try' will be used instead of 'tried'.
Sentence (C) During the Catastrophe **among** (x) a thousand families lost their homes.
In the given sentence 'about'/ 'almost' will be used instead of 'among'.
10. (C) Insufficient
Insufficient—lack of
11. (C) Procrastinate
Procrastinate—Put off for another day.
12. (D) Strained
Strained—not friendly.
13. (E) Figuring
Figure out—find the solution to a problem after a lot of thought.
14. (C) 15. (C) 16. (A) 17. (E) 18. (B)
19. (A) 20. (A) 21. (C)
22. (A) Occurred.
23. (E) 24. (B) 25. (D)
26. (E) A surgon Correct spelling—Surgeon
27. (B) D immedeately X
Correct Spelling—immediately
28. (C) 29. (B) 30. (A)

Essay Contest

The Expanding Frontiers of India's International Relationships

—Priyanka Bhamre

For the country to progress in an adequate manner, the maintenance of international relations has been regarded as an imperative area, the main reasons have been, advancement in technologies, scarcities of resources, and so forth. With the impact of globalization, there have been developments of connections between India and other countries of the world. India is making an operative change from an exceptionally inward-oriented economy to a more world-wide integrated economy. As a result of new policies during the early 1990s, it has become one of the rapidly growing economies in the world.

Priyanka Bhamre

The foreign policy of India started taking shape immediately after Independence in 1947. Owing to centuries of suppression and autocracies, India started its foreign policy on very cautious and careful note. India's first Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, who was at the helm of external affairs of India, along with the leaders of those times nurtured India's foreign policy with the incorporation of legacy of Indian culture and aspirations of freedom struggle. To start with some of the prominent objectives of India's foreign policy can be enlisted as follows :

- Avoiding reliance on external powers.
- Decolonisation and fight against imperialism.
- Non-interference in the matters of other states.
- Domestic development as the subtle objective behind any foreign policy.
- Peaceful and mutual existence and cooperation with other countries of the world.
- Neutrality and non-alignment.

The Ministry of External Affairs of India (MEA), also known as the Foreign Ministry, is the government agency responsible for the conduct of **foreign relations of India.**

India faces serious economic and social issues as a result of centuries of economic exploitation by colonial powers. However, since gaining independence from Britain in 1947, India has become a newly industrialised country, has a history of collaboration with several countries, is a component of BRICS and a major part of developing world. India was one of the founding members of several international organisations—the United Nations, the Asian Development Bank, New Development BRICS Bank, and G-20 and the founder of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Act East Policy

In the post cold war era, a significant aspect of India's foreign policy is the Look East Policy. During the cold war, India's relations with its South East Asian neighbours were not so strong. After the end of the cold war, the government of India particularly realised the importance of redressing this imbalance in India's foreign policy. Consequently, the Narsimha Rao government in early nineties of the last century unveiled the look east policy. Initially it focussed on viewing political and economic contacts with the countries of East and South-East Asia.

At present, under the Look East Policy, the Government of India is giving special emphasis on the economic development of backward north eastern region of India taking advantage of huge market to ASEAN as well as of the energy resources available in some of the member countries of the ASEAN like Myanmar.

Look-East Policy was launched in 1991 just after the end of the cold war, following the dissolution of the Soviet Union. After the start of liberalisation, it was a very specific and strategic policy decision taken by the government in foreign policy. To quote Prime Minister Manmohan Singh "it was also a strategic shift in India's vision of the world and India's place in the evolving global economy". The foremost task of India's foreign policy is to enable the domestic transformation of India.

India-Bhutan Relationship

Historically, there have been close ties with India. Both countries signed a friendship treaty in 1940. Then the Indo-Bhutan Friendship Treaty was substantially revised under the Bhutanese King. India continues to be the largest trade and development partner of Bhutan. The hydropower sector is one of the main pillars of bilateral cooperation; exemplifying mutually beneficial synergy by providing clean energy to India and exports revenue to Bhutan.

Myanmar-India Relationship

India established diplomatic relations after Burma's independence from Great Britain in 1948. For many years, Indo-Burma relations were strong due to cultural links, flourishing commerce, common interests in regional affairs and the presence of significant Indian community in Burma. India is now a major customer of Burmese oil and gas. And India is one of the few countries that have provided military assistance to the Burmese junta.

Lord Palmerston of England once said. "There are no permanent friends, there are no permanent enemies, only permanent interests." This is particularly true for conducting a country's foreign policy. It needs to be remembered that morals, ideals, ethics and principles need to be meshed with considerations of practices and real politik. At this stage it would be useful to briefly recapitulate the remarkable changes that have occurred over the last decade or so on the international scene. The first aspect placed in this

Continued on Page 170

Debate Contest

Democracy in India has come into its own

In Favour

—Sadhana Singh

"We choose this system of parliamentary democracy deliberately; we choose it not only because, to some extent, we had always thought on those lines previously, but because we thought it was in keeping with our own old traditions also; naturally the old traditions, not as they were, but adjusted to the new conditions and new surroundings, we choose it also—let us give credit where credit is due—because we approved of its functioning in other countries, more especially the United Kindgom."

—Jawaharlal Nehru

Above quote by Nehru proves that Democracy in India has come into its own. Democracy implies the right of the people to self determination and faith in the rationality and ingenuity of the human mind. In a democracy, the people are their own masters. We have adopted a system of representative parliamentary democracy which has come into its own. The three words—representative, parliamentary and democracy—are the cardinal features of our political system. Democracy and representative institutions, however, are by no means entirely new to India. Existence of some deliberative representative bodies and democratic self-governing institutions could be traced back to as early as the vedic age (Circa 3000-1000 BC). During this period, the people themselves assembled together to decide the issues of governance. People, thus, exercised their power directly in deciding matters of state and this kind of polity could be called direct popular democracy. But with the gradual increase in the size and population of the political units and ultimately with the advent of modern Nation-States, it became impossible to arrange for the people to assemble at a place to discuss matters of the state and arrive at decisions smoothly.

The institutions—Sabha and Samiti—mentioned in Rigveda, may be said to have contained rudiments of Modern Parliament. These two institutions were differentiated from each other in their status and functions. The Samiti was the general assembly or house of the people, and the Sabha, a smaller and select body of elders, broadly corresponding to the Upper House in modern legislatures. There are enough indications in the vedic texts to suggest that the two bodies were closely associated with the affairs of the state and exercised considerable authority, influence and prestige. Some of the salient features in the functioning of modern Parliamentary democracies—free discussion and decision by the vote of the majority—are known to have existed. The decision by the majority was regarded as "inviolable, not be overridden, because where the many meet in an assembly and speak there with one voice, that voice or vote of majority is not to be violated by others. In fact, the foundational principle of ancient Indian society was that the government should be conducted not by the will of a solitary person, but jointly with the aid of councillors whose advice was to be respected. Vedic political theory recognized Dharma as the true sovereign. And Dharma was not religion but corresponded most closely to the modern concept of the Rule of Law. Dharma or the Rule of Law was upheld and enforced by the king. Ideally, the powers of the monarch were limited by the will of the people and the customs, usages and injunctions of Dharmasastra. The king was required to take an oath of loyalty to the law and the Constitution of the realm and to hold in trust the state for achieving the welfare of his people, both material and moral. While there can be no denying the fact that ancient Indian Polity was pre-dominantly monarchical, there were many instances of elective kingship and in any case, certain democratic institutions and practices were often in-built in the monarchical system.

There is ample historical evidence contained in the Aitareya Brahman, Panini's Ashtadhyayi, Kautilya's Asthashastra, the Mahabharata, inscriptions of Ashoka's pillers, writings of contemporary Greek historians and the Buddhist and Jain scholars, and the Manusmriti, of the existence of a number of functioning republics during the post-vedic period of history. Sovereignty in these republics, Samgha or Ganaraya as they were known, vested in a fairly large assembly which elected not only the members of the Executive but also military leaders. It controlled foreign affairs and decided issues of peace and war. Also, the popular aseembly exercised full control over the Executive. The Pali texts provide interesting details of the practice and procedure adopted in the assemblies of the ancient republics which according to some scholars, were marked with the underlying concepts of "legalism and constitutionalism of a most advanced type." Discussions in the assembly were marked by elements of purity, fairness, frankness and freedom. Voting was by tickets (Salaka)—clips of wood of different colours to represent different opinions. Complicated and serious matters were often referred to a Special Committee elected from among the members of the assembly. Grass-roots democracy found its expression in the existence and functioning of Regional Councils (Janapadas), City Councils (Paura Sabhas) and Village Assemblies (Grama Sabhas). These bodies administered local affairs with almost complete freedom of local initiative and self-governance. Arthashastra, Mahabharta and Manusmriti contain numerous references to the existence of Grama Sanghas. While the democratic institutions like Sabha and Samiti and the republican states later disappeared, at the village level Grama Sanghas, Grama Sabhas or

Panchayats survived and continued to function and flourish as effective institutions right through the rule of many Hindu and Muslim dynasties and till the advent of the British rule or even thereafter in one form or the other.

Parliamentary government and legislative institutions in their modern connotation owe their origin and growth to India's British connection for some two centuries. It would, however, be wrong to presume that the British institutions as such were at any stage transplanted in India. The Parliament of India and the parliamentary institutions as we know them today had an organic growth on the Indian soil. They grew through many relentless struggles for freedom from foreign rule and for establishment of free democratic institutions, and the successive doses of constitutional reforms grudgingly and haltingly conceded by the British rulers.

Later our democratic institutions witnessed several fundamental changes as per the requirement of those days. Through Charter Acts of 1833, 1853 and Indian Councils Act of 1861, our democracy was further streamlined and strengthened. The first faint beginnings of a Central Legislature for India are to be found in the Charter Act of 1833 which introduced important changes in the system of Indian administration and also in the legislative powers of the Indian Government.

Through the Charter Act of 1853, discussion in the Council, when acting in its legislative capacity, became oral instead of in writing, bills were referred to Select Committee and not to single members, legislative business was conducted in public instead of in secret and the reports of the proceedings were officially published. From the point of view of constitutional development, the 1861 Act did mark an advance over the previous position in that, for the first time since the advent of the British rule in India, it accepted the important principle of representation of non-officials in the legislative bodies. Also, hereafter the laws were made after due deliberation and were regular pieces of legislation which could be changed only by the same deliberative and public process by which they were made. Further, the formation of Indian National Congress in 1885, initiated the process of gradual relaxation of imperial control and the evolution of responsible government in India. Congress made gradual introduction of representative institutions in the country as the main plank of its platform.

At present, democratic institutions in India are functioning smoothly and harmoniously, with people exercising their will through elections from time to time.

The above account proves the notion that "DEMOCRACY IN INDIA HAS COME INTO ITS OWN."

PIBarpan

Continued from Page 168

category is the advent of globalization which has not only brought down barriers to movement of goods, capital, technology, people and investments across international borders but has also significantly promoted the exchange of thoughts, ideas, experiences and views amongst people in the world. India has also undergone a remarkable transformation over the last decade and is still expanding its frontiers. Our strategic goals are basically to enable the domestic transformations of India by accelerated growth and a strategic autonomy that safeguards the national interest at all times in this overall global context. On the contrary, our engagement with the world has accelerated and grown exponentially over last few years.

In terms of geography, India's foreign policy has always regarded the concept of neighbourhood as one of widening concentric circles around a central axis of historical and cultural commonalities. From this point of view, it has always given due priority to the development of relations with the countries of Asia. Bangladesh can be termed as a success story of our foreign policy over the last five years. Since the advent of Sheikh Hasina government, our relations in the area of security, strategic ties, economy, industry and investment have soared. It is expected that this positive trend will continue for the next few years since Sheikh Hasina government has recently extended its term of office by another 5 years. Bangladesh has been cooperating actively with us to control insurgency in our North Eastern States. This has brought considerable peace to the region so that the people and the governments in the states can engage themselves for improving living conditions of the people.

Looking beyond this immediate neighbourhood, we have also been expanding our circles of engagement, starting with South-East Asia, the Indian Ocean Region, West Asia, Central Asia, Africa and the World's major powers. With the world's fifth largest military expenditure, 2nd largest armed force, sixth largest economy by nominal rates and third largest economy in terms of purchasing power parity. India is a regional power, a nuclear power, a nascent global power and a potential super power.

India has growing international influences and a prominent voice in global affairs. If India becomes a $ 5 trillion economy by 2024, it will strengthen and transform Indian diplomacy. However, with changing times and its own requirement the perspective of Indian foreign policy has changed considerably. From NAM 20 years' treaty with USSR; from survival to assertion of authority in South Asia (as evident in the liberation of Bangladesh); from reliance on foreign powers for arms and ammunitions to being a nuclear power, from a marginal country to a leading country in G20, India's perspective and aspirations have been changing to formulate and change its foreign policy to cater to the changing world and changing times. India has been increasingly becoming proactive and vocal in the external arena.

Having already proven its worth in regional authority, it now aspires to play and has been playing a superpower role in the world forums.

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Concentric QUIZ

Special on Climate

1. Steppe climate is found in the—
   (A) Temperate grasslands
   (B) Tropical grasslands
   (C) Cold grasslands
   (D) None of the above
2. The equator ward winds of the upper air whirl are called—
   (A) Jet stream
   (B) NITC
   (C) Monsoon winds
   (D) None of these
3. Which of the following is the part of the China type of climate ?
   (A) South of yellow river
   (B) PO Basin
   (C) Denub basin
   (D) All the above
4. Which climate region is known for production of fruits ?
   (A) Monsoon
   (B) Western-European type
   (C) Mediterranean
   (D) None of the above
5. Hot desert climate is extended between—
   (A) 15° to 30° latitudes
   (B) 20° to 30° latitudes
   (C) 10° to 20° latitudes
   (D) None of the above
6. Which of the following countries does not have the monsoon climate ?
   (A) Bangladesh (B) Sri Lanka
   (C) Myanmar (D) Indonesia
7. Thornthwaite climate classification is mainly based on—
   (A) Vegetation zones
   (B) Precipitation and temperature
   (C) Soil zones
   (D) None of the above
8. Sabana region of Brazil is locally called—
   (A) Cerrado
   (B) Llanos
   (C) Pampas
   (D) None of the above
9. Minimum temperature is recorded between—
   (A) 1-2 a.m.
   (B) 2-3 a.m.
   (C) 4-5 a.m.
   (D) None of the above
10. Koppen scheme was based on—
    (A) Climate conditions
    (B) Vegetation zones
    (C) Rainfall and temperature
    (D) All the above
11. In the tropical climate, the mean temperature of a year is—
    (A) Above 18°C
    (B) Above 10°C
    (C) Above 20°C
    (D) None of these
12. Which climate zone is subjected to seasonal shifting according to migration of the Sun ?
    (A) Mediterranean climate
    (B) Monsoon climate
    (C) Equatorial climate
    (D) None of the above
13. Which type of climate dominates daily weather conditions of equator region ?
    (A) Cirrus
    (B) Cumulus
    (C) Nimbus
    (D) Cumulonimbus
14. Which of the following regions is not the part of monsoon climate region ?
    (A) Indian subcontinent
    (B) South-East Asia
    (C) Part of China and Japan
    (D) Indonesia
15. Which of the following wind-zones is called Hadley cell ?
    (A) Trade wind
    (B) Westerlies
    (C) Polar winds
    (D) None of the above
16. Winds, blowing in almost the same direction throughout the year, are called—
    (A) Chinook
    (B) Monsoon
    (C) Planetary winds
    (D) Local winds
17. In which of the following climate zones is the wheat crop extensively grown ?
    (A) China type
    (B) Savana type
    (C) Steppe type
    (D) All of the above
18. Coriolis flow tends to turn—
    (A) The flow of the air
    (B) The direction of the air
    (C) The velocity of the air
    (D) None of the above
19. Which of the following is not the type of the temperate cyclones ?
    (A) Dynamic cyclones
    (B) Thermal cyclones
    (C) Secondary cyclones
    (D) None of the above
20. Normal lapse rate in the atmosphere is—
    (A) 6·5 C per 1000 m
    (B) 5·0 C per 1000 m
    (C) 6·0 C per 1000 m
    (D) 6·1 C per 1000 m

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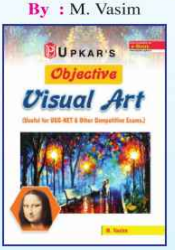

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CONCENTRIC QUIZ

(Special on Climate)

ENTRY FORM

Pratiyogita Darpan

Last date for sending November 15, 2019

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.....

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State ..... Pin Code No. ☐☐☐☐☐☐

Age..... Academic Qualification.....

Competition examination for which preparing

.....

- How would you rate our magazine on a scale of 1 to 5 ?

  ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

- Topics/Features you would like to see in forthcoming issues

  .....

  .....

- No. of Questions Solved

  .....

I have read and understood the rules of Concentric Quiz of Pratiyogita Darpan and agree to abide by them.

.....

(Signature)

ANSWERS FORM

Q. No.	A	B	C	D	Q. No.	A	B	C	D
1.	☐	☐	☐	☐	11.	☐	☐	☐	☐
2.	☐	☐	☐	☐	12.	☐	☐	☐	☐
3.	☐	☐	☐	☐	13.	☐	☐	☐	☐
4.	☐	☐	☐	☐	14.	☐	☐	☐	☐
5.	☐	☐	☐	☐	15.	☐	☐	☐	☐
6.	☐	☐	☐	☐	16.	☐	☐	☐	☐
7.	☐	☐	☐	☐	17.	☐	☐	☐	☐
8.	☐	☐	☐	☐	18.	☐	☐	☐	☐
9.	☐	☐	☐	☐	19.	☐	☐	☐	☐
10.	☐	☐	☐	☐	20.	☐	☐	☐	☐

Rules and Regulations

- All students or those appearing in competitive examinations can take part in this contest.
- Candidates taking part in quiz contest will necessarily have to send their entries by a fixed date. Entries are to be sent by ordinary post. Please mark your envelope **'Quiz–Pratiyogita Darpan'** on the top left hand side.
- Answers given only on the Entry Form of the magazine will be admissible.
- In the form there are four squares against each question number. Contestants should put a Tick (√) in the square for the answer they think is correct. Giving more than one answer to a question will disqualify it.
- Contestants should essentially write the number of questions they have solved.
- Marks will be deducted for wrong answers.
- The candidate sending the maximum number of correct answers will be given ₹ 800 as first prize. Next two candidates after that will get ₹ 600 and ₹ 400 as second and third prize respectively. If there are more than one candidate eligible for a prize, the amount will be equally distributed among them.
- The decision of the editor will be final and binding in all cases, and will not be a matter for consideration of any court and no correspondence will be entertained in this concern.
- Names of prize winners of Concentric Quiz alongwith the answers will be published in next issue of Pratiyogita Darpan.
- Pratiyogita Darpan reserves the right to terminate or extend the period of quiz, or to accept or reject any or all the entries at their absolute discretion without assigning any reason.
- Pratiyogita Darpan is not responsible for any postal delays, transit losses or mutilation of entries.
- Last date for the receipt of the entries of CONCENTRIC QUIZ in the office of Pratiyogita Darpan, 2/11A, Swadeshi Bima Nagar, Agra–282 002 (U.P.) is November 15, 2019.

PD/November/2019/172

RESULTS

Essay Competition

Topic : The Expanding Frontiers of India's International Relationships

Winners

First Prize Winner

Priyanka Bhamre
Parab Nagar
Nashik
Maharashtra–422 009

Second Prize Winner

Gayathri Byloppilly
Noida
Uttar Pradesh

Third Prize Winner

Astha Singh
Shankar Vihar
New Delhi–110 010

Debate Competition

Topic : Democracy in India has come into its own

Winners

In Favour

N.A.

Sadhna Singh
Indrapuri
New Agra, Agra

Against the Topic

No body submitted

Quiz Contest

CONCENTRIC QUIZ

(Special on Buddhist Art)

First Prize Winner

Miss Dilpreet Kaur
Muktsar Sahib
Punjab–152 026

Second Prize Winner

Mohd. Suhail
7, Block B. BSNL Colony SST Nagar
Patiala Near Shivalik Public School
Punjab–147 003

Third Prize Winner

Ritu Anand
Deen Dayal Nagar, Jhansi
Uttar Pradesh–284 003

Answers

1. (A)	2. (C)	3. (D)	4. (D)	5. (D)
6. (C)	7. (C)	8. (A)	9. (D)	10. (B)
11. (B)	12. (A)	13. (C)	14. (C)	15. (A)
16. (A)	17. (A)	18. (B)	19. (B)	20. (C)

UPKAR'S

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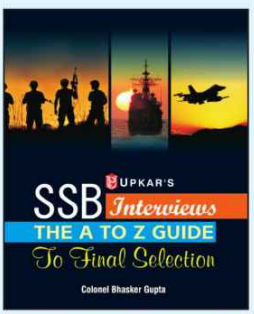

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By : Lt. Colonel Bhasker Gupta

UPKAR PRAKASHAN | 2/11 A, Swadeshi Bima Nagar, Agra-282 002. Ph. : 2530966, 2531101
E-mail : care@upkar.in • Website : www.upkar.in
• New Delhi 23251844, 43259035 • Hyderabad 24557283 • Patna 2303340 • Kolkata 25551510 • Lucknow 4109080 • Haldwani M. 07060421008 • Nagpur M. 09370877776 • Indore 9203908088

Mental Exercise

Test Your Knowledge

1. Indian shuttler P.V. Sindhu has become world champion in 2019 in badminton by defeating—
   (A) Japan's Nozomi Okuhara
   (B) Japan's Mayu Matsumoto
   (C) Japan's Akane Yamaguchi
   (D) Japan's TAI Tzu Ying
2. The first World Youth Conference on Kindness was held on August 23, 2019 in—
   (A) Bonn (Germany)
   (B) Istanbul (Turkey)
   (C) New Delhi (India)
   (D) Manila (Philippines)
3. Which of the following is not a main organ of the United Nations ?
   (A) General Assembly
   (B) UN Security Council
   (C) Food and Agriculture Organisation
   (D) International Court of Justice
4. Which of the following rulers of ancient India declared Buddhism as state's religion ?
   (A) Chandragupta Maurya
   (B) Ashoka
   (C) Samudra Gupta
   (D) Kumar Gupta
5. Apartheid is especially related to—
   (A) South Africa
   (B) West Indies
   (C) Middle East Countries
   (D) South East Asian Countries
6. Which of the following places does not have Asoka pillar Edict ?
   (A) Sanchi (B) Sopara
   (C) Sarnath (D) Mirath
7. Which of the following is not matched correctly ?
   (A) Pulakesin I—Maukharis
   (B) Mahendra Varman I — Pallava
   (C) Vasudeva I—Kushans
   (D) Mihirbhoj—Gurjar Pratihar
8. Khajuraho temples were built by—
   (A) Mahendra Pal
   (B) Yashovarman
   (C) Dantidurga
   (D) Arimall Deo
9. Which of the following is not a historical work of Amir Khusrau ?
   (A) Qiran-us-Saadain
   (B) Miftah-ul Fatuh
   (C) Nur Sipihr
   (D) Tajkrat-ul-Muluk
10. Which of the following spells out clearly the 'CLOUD' ?
    (A) Clarifying Lawful Overseas Use of Data
    (B) Clear Legal Overnight Use of Data
    (C) Cloning of Lawful Overseas Use of Data
    (D) Clarifying Lawful Over Use of Data
11. The Budapest Convention is a multilateral treaty addressing the issue of—
    (A) Cybercrime and international cooperation.
    (B) Funding of cross border crime
    (C) Controlling piracy in entertainment industry
    (D) Human trafficking
12. Under the policy of partial privatization of operations of Indian Railways, premium express train 'Tejas' between New Delhi and Lucknow is being run by—
    (A) Indian Railways itself
    (B) IRCTC
    (C) IRCON
    (D) ITDC
13. Which of the following is India's first indigenously developed vaccine ?
    (A) BCG
    (B) Rotavac
    (C) DPT
    (D) Injectable Polio vaccine
14. The India Child Well-being Index 2019 has been released by—
    (A) World Vision India
    (B) IFMR LEAD
    (C) Jointly by (A) and (B)
    (D) UNICEF
15. Aadi Mahotsav was celebrated on 17-25 August, 2019 in—
    (A) Port Blair (Andaman & Nicobar Island)
    (B) Jagdalpur (Chhattisgarh)
    (C) Koraput (Odisha)
    (D) Leh-Ladakh
16. Which State/States in India has/have enacted a law against mob lynching ?
    I. Rajasthan
    II. Manipur
    III. Madhya Pradesh
    IV. Chhattisgarh
    (A) Only I and II
    (B) Only I
    (C) Only I and III
    (D) Only I, III and IV
17. Which state in India has the highest Geographical Indication tags ?
    (A) Uttar Pradesh
    (B) West Bengal
    (C) Karnataka
    (D) Maharashtra
18. 'Gujaral doctrine' is related to foreign policy matters in—
    (A) India and South Asian countries
    (B) India and South East Asian countries
    (C) India and East Asian Countries
    (D) India and West Asian Countries
19. What was the theme of 45th Annual G7 summit held in Biarritz (France) from 24 to 26 August, 2019 ?
    (A) Fight against global terrorism
    (B) Fight against Inequalities
    (C) Fight against Malnutrition
    (D) Better Climate high longevity
20. 'Gogabeel' has been declared as a community reserve on August 2, 2019. It is in the state of—
    (A) Jharkhand
    (B) Bihar
    (C) Chhattisgarh
    (D) Madhya Pradesh

21. As on September 1,2019 the state exchequer has been bearing the burden of income tax of the serving chief ministers and their council of ministers in—
I. Himachal Pradesh
II. Haryana
III. Uttar Pradesh
IV. Madhya Pradesh
(A) Only I and II
(B) Only II and IV
(C) Only II, III and IV
(D) I, II, III and IV

22. Which of the following pairs is not matched correctly ?
(A) Deepa Malik-Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Puraskar (2019)
(B) Bajarang Punia-Arjun Award (2019)
(C) Mohinder Singh Dhillon-Dronacharya Award (2019)
(D) Arup Basak-Dhyan Chand Award (2019)

23. First cross border oil pipeline has been laid down in 2019 between .....and.....in South Asia.
(A) India, Nepal
(B) Bangladesh, Bhutan
(C) India, Bangladesh
(D) Bangladesh, Nepal

24. Which of the following pairs is not matched correctly ?
(A) Kalraj Mishra—Governor of Rajasthan
(B) Dr. T. Sunderrajan—Governor of Andhra Pradesh
(C) Arif Mohammed Khan—Governor of Kerala
(D) Bhagat Singh Koshiyari—Governor of Maharashtra

25. .....has become the first bowler in the world to claim five international hat-tricks ?
(A) Lasith Malinga (Sri Lanka)
(B) Jasprit Bumrah (India)
(C) Waseem Akaram (Pakistan)
(D) Shane Warne (Australia)

26. 'Hidden Hunger' means—
(A) No official data of people suffering from hunger
(B) Deficiency of micronutrients in diet
(C) Under consumption of food by a group of people
(D) Undeclared deaths due to inadequate quantity of food

27. .....has become India's first female military diplomat to be posted in any of the Indian missions abroad ?
(A) Wing Commander Anjali Singh
(B) Wing Commander Shaliza Dhami
(C) Air Marshal Padmavathy Bandopadhyay
(D) None of the above

28. Under which programme has government of India initiated a project of poverty alleviation through skill development ?
(A) National Rural Livelihood Mission
(B) National Urban Livelihood Mission
(C) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act programme
(D) Atal Innovation Mission

29. As per latest SRS data (2013-17) Expectancy of life at birth for women was 70·4 years as compared to 67·8 years for male. Women have better life expectancy as compared to men in both Rural and Urban areas, because :
I. Women stand to benefit more from the advances in health care and living conditions.
II. Women make fewer lifestyle choices that are bad for health.
Correct code is—
(A) Only I
(B) Only II
(C) Both I and II
(D) Neither I nor II

30. 'Shillong Declaration' is related to—
(A) E-Governance
(B) Protection of primitive languages
(C) Protection of threatened species of butterflies
(D) None of the above

31. During the rule of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb, whose duty was to see that people lived their lives in accordance with the 'Sharia' ?
(A) Ahadis (B) Mansabhdars
(C) Muhtasibs (D) Walashuhis

32. Nehru Report (1928) recommended that :
I. Dyarchy should be removed and a responsible rule be established.
II. A Supreme Court should be set up
III. Federal government should be established.
IV. Central legislature should be bi-cameral.
Correct code is—
(A) I, II, III and IV
(B) Only I, II and III
(C) Only I and III
(D) Only IV

33. Which of the following pairs is not matched correctly ?
(A) Devbernark inscriptions—Gupta dynasty
(B) Hathigumpha inscriptions—Kharvel dynasty
(C) Nasik inscriptions—Satvahana dynasty
(D) Madhuvan inscriptions—Vardhan dynasty

34. Which of the following Articles of the Indian Constitution was called as 'the very soul and heart of the Constitution 'by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar ?
(A) Article 15 (B) Article 21
(C) Article 29 (D) Article 32

35. What can be the maximum duration of totality for a solar eclipse ?
(A) 12·5 minutes
(B) 7 minutes 40 seconds
(C) 1 hour 42 minutes
(D) There is no maximum duration

36. Which of the following is not an ethnic group found in South America ?
(A) Mestizo (B) Mulatto
(C) Zambol (D) Zulus

37. Two pieces of metal when immersed in a liquid have equal upthrust on them, then—
(A) Both pieces must have equal weights
(B) Both pieces must have equal densities
(C) Both pieces must have equal volumes
(D) Both pieces are floating at the same depth

38. Which of the following is not an insecticide ?
(A) Parathion
(B) Sodium Chlorate
(C) Aldrin
(D) Methoxychlor

[See Answer See Page 164]

Civil Services Exam. : New Learning Opens New Horizons

—Atul Kapoor

An extensive process that anticipates maximum output from the candidates, Civil Services (Main) Examination 2019, just got over. This is the stage of examination that more or less determines your fate and how close you can get to your ambition.

A combination of your talent, hard work, imagination and a little bit of luck works at this stage.

In this context, 'Luck' is when your preparation meets opportunity. As a part of preparation-plan, you read a lot, observe from your surroundings and gather ideas from various sources and when you see some questions that are familiar with, it adds to your confidence.

Once you come across such situations, your mind opens up and things start looking manageable and you give your best in all the papers for Mains.

For Some, it Would be a Stepping Stone to Big Success

Not for everyone such would be the situation. Even if you were not able to perform up to your potential, remember that you have been doing what you really want. You worked hard to gain the knowledge that you acquired over a long period with relevant books, study material and newspapers.

If your Main Examination performance was not that great, keep in mind that the efforts you put in fell a little short and you have to work harder in the areas that need attention.

This is the time to relook at your next attempt and with newer strategies work hard to overcome all hurdles. As you have faced the exam, you know that efforts to acquire more knowledge are to be made right now in next few months. After Preliminary Examination you have limited time before Mains and most of that goes into revision and answer-writing practice.

To improve your performance, be consistent, sincere and systematic with your preparation.

Being Prepared or Being Organized to Face Some Random Questions or Anything Unpredictable

Be it Preliminary or Main Examination, preparation for Civil Services Examination is a big task; you have to learn, understand, anticipate and relate things. If you understand this fact, you are on the way to a bright career in 'Civil Services'.

UPSC is adopting an innovative approach and each time you face examination, there is something or the other that may surprise you.

Many candidates take a conventional approach and go by the advice from friends, seniors, and experts that in most of the cases point towards coverage of syllabus and spotting trend from previous years' question papers.

In such a setting, being selective while preparing doesn't help as forward-thinking is the name of the game. You need to look at current trends and understand the significance of comprehensive coverage of syllabus.

It is Challenging

I think that it is not a rising task for UPSC to select and recommend, from a big gamut of aspirants, 700 odd talented youngsters with clear mind who have worked hard for a long time and this effective selection process quite efficiently does it.

Leave aside some top rankers, now a days when the complete result is spread within 50-60 marks band, how can you take things casually ?

This is a different issue that some smart candidates sense the deficiency that reflects in first attempt and focus attention on the inadequacies to improve the show in the next attempt and somehow make things turn in their favour.

When I talk to aspirants, their target for General Studies is 420+ marks and anything beyond; it really makes things comfortable.

Have a well Planned Strategy for Main Examination ?

You have a set target for Main Examination to secure maximum marks you can get. First, analyze the opportunities available with four papers of General Studies, Essay and Optional Subject.

Be clear about the approach for each as you need content for each—for some static and for some being dynamic requires updated knowledge.

The dynamic approach that UPSC has adopted keeps you guessing and to effectively counter the surprise element in question papers you need to observe and gather ideas about the things around.

As per your preparation-plan when you read anything relevant, it opens up your mind and gives you a new insight into many important subjects/topics. In the beginning, you understand the theme and reading it again helps in memorizing the text.

As has been recommended, reading through limited resource and revising it again and again helps you more than laying hands on many books for a particular topic.

While reading, make short and crisp notes so that you can use them at a later date. Keep revising them and updating at regular intervals.

General Studies Holds the Key !

When I analyze marks at Main Examination level and even aggregate, I feel the General Studies marks make a big difference. Look at the General Studies score of **Srushti Jayant Deshmukh (AIR 5; CSE 2018)** who got the highest marks in GS this year – 470 mark that helped her grab 5th rank.

Yes, one who is able to take an edge at Main Examination (Written) level with good show in General Studies, stands to benefit and brightens chances of selection and equally good show with Optional Subject ensures top ranks.

No doubt, Optional Subject, Essay and even Interview (Personality Test) marks contribute and have power to influence your result still, General Studies with sheer 1000 marks weightage needs serious attention.

What's Crucial and Essential ?

A major benefit today has started becoming the biggest threat as candidates blindly follow the toppers' plan and approach. For years, candidates were getting attracted towards top rankers to know the strategies, books they referred to and study material they read, what to read and what not, from where they took guidance etc.

Getting relevant information about the way of preparation for Civil Services Examination is the key purpose for looking at toppers' views. It is really useful when you look at successful candidates' strategies and learn from their experience. You can get a sense of things that while many areas helped them, still there were a few mistakes and shortcomings at some point of time; still, managing to overcome all such things and amassing an aggregate that helped them grab top slots is certainly creditable.

But now, coaching institutes have made it quite convenient by putting toppers' answer sheets, essays on net and candidates have something off the rack.

The problem is that while preparing for Civil Services Examination majority of candidates look for ready-made material; just read it and move on to the next topic.

This is what invites trouble. Smart candidates understand how to make the best use of this and they look at the content, writing style, presentation technique. But, an average candidate just watches videos, collects photocopies of such stuff and downloads answer-sheets of toppers and piles up on his study-table.

Coherent Answers Need Knowledge that comes with Vast Reading

A term frequently used in Civil Services Examination arena is 'Information Overload' that still continues to trouble aspirants. With so many toppers, toppers groups to offer Gyan, it is 'Preparation Strategy Overload' that leaves many perplexed.

In such conditions, you need to understand what can work for you and accordingly take some clues from toppers' success-plan and make your own strategies.

We all are exposed to almost similar set of books recommended by toppers and those who go a little beyond, add some study-material provided by coaching institutes.

Understand the Examiner's Intent

There is a difference between reading readymade stuff and from standard text books and updating knowledge from various authentic sources to update facts and information.

Yes, when you read handy notes, you gain some knowledge, you know about topic but, you have that much of knowledge that has been served to you.

But, looking at present situation backgrounder has become more important when you have to write succinct answers.

You need to add something from your side to make a differentiation. If you are not able to do this, you are missing something.

The moment you advance, revise and recognize the associated facts, information and application, gradually clarity emerges and the divide between disciplines starts getting blurred. It gives you power to under-stand the examiners' expectation and what question actually demands.

At present, when UPSC has clear intent to select the best, now original thinking has taken the front seat and at each stage of the examination you will realize its importance.

You can get such articles and related information about Civil Services Examination preparation on www.iaspassion.com also where I contribute regularly.

Now, a little about those preparing for coming CSE 2020.

Harness the Power to Make a Difference in Your Life

Career in 'Civil Services' is a dream for many and for fresh candidates; sometimes it is a difficult decision when to start preparation.

It depends on you when you feel comfortable and confident to face this tough exam-plan. If you feel convinced, show courage to commence preparation and take the first step with limited resource you have. As you advance, things will fall in to place and you will get some insights about the books and study material that will perk up your efforts in the right direction.

As such, the biggest advantage is that in your first attempt there is no baggage of previous attempt.

Don't just limit yourself to blogs and strategies of the toppers, try to reach out to some friend or may be friends of your friends preparing for this examination. If you have any doubt regarding preparation, make efforts to clear your queries.

Understand the Exam-Plan

As you are getting ready to encounter a tough examination, you need to understand the exam-plan first and the intricacies involved.

As you have taken up a big task, you should not leave any stone unturned. First, be familiar with the syllabus at each stage of the examination.

A look at the previous years' question papers would reveal that UPSC's approach towards General Studies question papers has been quite simple and straight forward. Now, the innovative and creative approach of UPSC is known, your updated knowledge will help you in success.

General Studies Papers : Go an Extra Mile to Master it

The syllabus for General Studies is vast and vague; still, you have boundaries defined with syllabus. Now, bookish knowledge doesn't suffice the purpose; you have to be more rational and logical.

The essence is how beautifully questions are interconnected within and even across disciplines that bookish knowledge doesn't suffice the purpose.

Most of the questions asked in General Studies as well as optional subject papers were well defined within syllabus and a well read candidate would have found it within reach.

Keeping abreast of the latest and a grip on contemporary issues would have helped the most.

When it comes to Preliminary Examination, revision is the key and practice develops speed with accuracy. For Main Examination, answer writing practice does the wonders.

Essay Paper–Efforts : Rewards Ratio is Favourable

Essay has really become a game changer. After the new pattern of Main Examination came intio force, Essay is one area that has gained significance. It has been a high scoring paper and importance has been seen in many successful candidates' selection.

In past few years, the topics for Essay are related with common issues and are more or less predictable. In such a scenario, you can master it with practice. There are some general topics one would have touched upon while preparing for General Studies and these would have given comfort to candidates and thus would have provided them an opportunity to write efficiently.

Going by the trend, candidates gather lots of quotations, collect many points about some expected topics, practice to develop their own style of writing with emphasis on introduction and conclusion.

After a cursory look at the Main Examination 2019 Essay Question Papers the impression we get is that these were on expected lines and there were no major surprises.

All the topics for Essay were quite interesting and hopefully, most of the well prepared candidates would have performed well.

On earlier occasions also we have mentioned that the **Efforts : Rewards** ratio turns in favour as you don't need to read separately for Essay; your efforts for General Studies as well as some of the optional subject preparation deliver and with minimal effort specifically for this paper, candidates manage to get high in Essay Paper.

A careful look at important issues gives score you a chance to write Essay on an array of topics from diverse disciplines.

No doubt, you have to be a little creative and Essay writing practice makes you proficient. Writing essay on week-ends has become a habit for budding Civil Servants as part of preparation-strategy and getting it evaluated.

The more Essays you write, the more refined it gets and on any given day you are able to deal with any topic effectively.

In the next issue, we will touch upon the other significant part—Optional Subject and analyze the current trends.

Civil Services Examination is tough and has a gruelling exam-plan; be clear about it from the word go. It is your Goal and only you have to prepare for it diligently. At each stage, you need different sets of skills and competencies as obstacles at each stage of examination will not go away like that.

Work through all these stages of examination with confidence and hard work and realize your dreams by succeeding in your endeavour.

Wishing you luck !

All the best !

PDarpan

Continued from Page 22

that it is absolutely imperative that the world unites against terrorism, and that the world stands as one against terrorism."

Saying a fragmented world was in nobody's interest, Mr. Modi called for a new direction to multilateralism and to the UN, saying it was no longer possible, due to modern technology to be confined within one's borders.

Modi's UNGA Speech

In addition to the developmental themes he had brought up in speeches earlier at different events in the US. Mr. Modi reiterated India's leadership in the environmental arena, and reminded his audience that India has one of the lowest emissions on a per capita basis.

Revisiting a theme from his address at the Climate Action Summit on September 23, Mr. Modi declared a target of 450 GW of solar energy capacity for India (time-frames were not provided).

He also invited "all countries to join" the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure - an intiative India has launched with countries like the UK, Australia, Fiji and the Maldives to build infrastructure resistant to natural disasters.

His speech also included references to Mahatma Gandhi, and Swami Vivekananda. He also quoted Tamil poet Kaniyan Poongundranaar, saying, "Yadum, Ooray, Yaavarum Kelir" [we belong to all places and we belong to everyone]. Significantly, he called Tamil the world's 'most ancient' language.

Bipin Rawat Takes Over As Head of Chiefs of Staff Panel

He is now the senior - most of the three service chiefs.

The Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal B.S. Dhanoa, who retires on September 30, handed over the baton of Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee, to the Chief of the Army Staff, General Bipin Rawat, the Defence Ministry said in a statement. The ceremony was held in South Block.

Air Marshal R.K.S. Bhadauria takes over as Air Force chief from Mr. Dhanoa, after which Gen. Rawat will be the most senior service chief. In the present set-up the most senior chief functions as the Chairman of the panel.

Air Chief Marshal B.S. Dhanoa handing over the baton to the Chief of the Army Staff Gen. Bipin Rawat.

In a major decision aimed at military reforms and tri-service integration, Prime MInister Narendra Modi, in his last Independence Day address, announced the appointment of a Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) who will be above the three chiefs.

A high level committee, including the Cabinet Secretary and the Defence Secretary, has been appointed to finalise the modalities and charter of the new role, and the recommendations are expected to be submitted to the government in November, a defence source said.

The CDS will act as the single-point military adviser to the government on military and strategic issues.

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